FY 2003
HUD INCOME LIMITS
BRIEFING MATERIAL

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## FY 2003 INCOME LIMITS BRIEFING MATERIAL

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## I. OVERVIEW OF HUD PUBLIC HOUSING/ SECTION 8 INCOME LIMITS

## Overview

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is required by law to set income limits that determine the eligibility of applicants for HUD's assisted housing programs. The major active assisted housing programs are the Public Housing program, the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments program, and Section 202 housing for the elderly and Section 811 housing for persons with disabilities.

Income limits are calculated for metropolitan areas and non-metropolitan counties in the United States and its territories using the Fair Market Rent (FMR) area definitions used in the Section 8 program. They are based on HUD estimates of median family income, with adjustments for family size. Adjustments are also made for areas that have unusually high or low income to housing cost relationships.

The statutory basis for HUD's income limit policies is Section 3 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended. Attachment 1 provides the key excerpts relevant to income limits, which may be summarized as follows:

- Low-income families are defined as families whose incomes do not exceed 80 percent of the median family income for the area.
- Very low-income families are defined as families whose incomes do not exceed 50 percent of the median family income for the area.
- The 1998 Act amendments establish a 30 percent of median family income program targeting standard.
- Income limits for non-metropolitan areas may not be less than limits based on the State non-metropolitan median family income level.
- Income limits are adjusted for family size.
- Income limits are adjusted for areas with unusually high or low family income or housing-cost-to-income relationships.
- The Secretary of Agriculture is to be consulted prior to establishing income limits for rural areas, since these limits also apply to certain Rural Housing and Community Development Service programs.


## Median Income Estimates

Income limits start with the development of estimates of median family ${ }^{1}$ income for the 356 metropolitan areas and 2,302 non-metropolitan FMR/income limit areas (including U.S. territories). Attachment 2 provides a detailed explanation of how median family income estimates are calculated. The major steps are as follows:

- Decennial Census 2000 income distributions are aggregated to the FMR/income limit area level, and mid-1999 estimates of median family income (MFI) are estimated based on these data. ${ }^{2}$ (The Census asks for total income for 1999; the closest "as of" date for this reporting is mid-1999)
- The mid-1999 MFI Census-based estimate is updated to mid2000 using the Census Current Population Survey (CPS) P-60 series data for 1999 and 2000 .
- The American Community Survey (ACS) data for 2000 and 2001 were used to estimate state-level changes in family incomes. The ACS has larger samples than the CPS and provides more precise and localized income estimates, but it started too late to provide a good indicator of the change in incomes between mid-1999 and mid-2000.
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data are used to calculate if areas within a state deserve a higher or lower income change factor than the state average. The state-level ratio of the BLS and CPS/ACS changes is used to produce local change factors.
- Delays in the availability of BLS, CPS, and ACS data mean that estimates need to be trended to produce a current estimate. There is a one and three-fourths year difference between the "as of" date of the CPS/ACS income change factors developed by HUD and the "as of" date of the HUD income estimates. The trending factor used is 3.5 percent per year, which is based on the average change in MFI's between the last two Censuses.

[^1]- For the outlying territories, which lack CSP or ACS coverage, the BLS wage change data are used as a surrogate measure of income change.


## Accuracy of Median Income Estimates

The reliability of HUD income estimates can be measured by comparing FY 1999 HUD estimates with 2000 Census estimates. ${ }^{3}$ The "as of" dates that most closely approximate the mid-points in time of the MFI's for these two surveys differ slightly, and the estimation methodologies differ substantially. The FY 1999 HUD estimates were prepared in 1998 using 1990 Census data updated with 1989-1996 BLS and 1989-1997 CPS data. The 2000 Census estimates are based on income reported in early 2000 for calendar year 1999.

Attachment 3 provides information on comparisons of HUD and decennial Census estimates of median family income for 1999. While the time coverage is not identical, timing differences should account for no more than a 1-2 percent difference between income estimates. To summarize, Attachment 3 shows the following:

- The FY 1999 HUD estimate for the nation as a whole was 3.6 percent less than the 2000 Census national median family income, and 1.1 percent less than the Census CPS estimate used for updating decennial Census estimates. ${ }^{4}$ Most of the difference between the HUD and the decennial Census national estimates is that HUD uses CPS data to update decennial Census data.
- The HUD state non-metropolitan median income estimates used to set state minimum income limits were within 15 percent of the 2000 Census-based estimate for all States except Rhode Island and Vermont, where HUD estimates were significantly lower (24\% and 17\% respectively). The State estimates are of special interest because they are used to establish minimum income limits for about 55 percent of all non-metropolitan counties whose income limits would otherwise be lower.
- Standard deviations (i.e., a measure of the difference between Census and HUD estimates) were calculated by comparing HUD estimates with Census estimates. The standard deviations were:

[^2]- $\$ 2,328$ for State non-metropolitan median family income estimates;
- \$2,563 for metropolitan areas; and,
- \$3,288 for non-metropolitan counties.
- Fifty nine percent of the metropolitan areas had estimates within 5 percent of the Census estimate, and 90 percent had estimates within 10 percent. Almost thirty seven percent of the non-metropolitan areas had estimates within 5 percent of the Census estimates and 66 percent were within 10 percent.
- A large part of the differences in HUD and Census estimates are attributable to states that did not follow Census division income change patterns provided from CPS data. The Census divisions were the lowest geographical level at which income changes could reasonably be estimated until the start of the American Community Survey, which produces state-level estimates that HUD has started to use with its FY 2003 median family income estimates.


## Income Limit Calculations

HUD's Public Housing/Section 8 very low-income and lowincome limits are calculated in accordance with Section 3(b) (2) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended. The very-low income limits (usually based on 50 percent of MFI) are considered to have the strongest statutory basis, partly because they are so well-defined and have been the subject of specific legislative adjustments, and partly because other income limits are linked to their calculation. Because there are currently several legislated income limit standards (e.g., 30\%, 50\%, 60\%, $65 \%$, $80 \%$, $95 \%$, $100 \%$, $115 \%$, 125\%) which were intended to have progressive relationships, the very low income limits have been used as the basis for deriving other income limits (e.g., otherwise low-income limits would be less than very low income limits in areas where very low income limits had been adjusted upward by more than 60 percent because of unusually low area median family incomes).

Very Low-Income Limits: Very low-income limits are calculated using a set of formula relationships. The first step is to calculate a four-person income limit equal to 50 percent of the estimated area median family income. Adjustments are then made if this estimate is outside formula constraints.

More specifically, the very low-income limit for a fourperson family is calculated as follows:
(1) 50 percent of the area median family income is calculated and set as the preliminary four-person family income limit;
(2) if it is lower, the four-person income limit is increased to the amount at which 35 percent of it equals 85 percent of the annualized two-bedroom Section 8 FMR (this adjusts income limits upward for areas where rental housing costs are unusually high in relation to the median income);
(3) if it is higher, the four-person income limit is reduced to the greater of the amount at which 30 percent of it equals 100 percent of the two-bedroom FMR or 80 percent of the U.S. median family income level (this adjusts income limits downward for areas of unusually high median family incomes);
(4) to minimize program management problems, income limits are held at FY 2002 levels for areas where lower income limits would result because of FMR reductions; and,
(5) in no instance are income limits less than if based on the State non-metropolitan median family income level.

Table 1 summarizes the rules governing very low-income limit determinations:

Table 1
Summary of Income Limits Determinations for
FY 2003 Very Low Income Limits

|  | Type Income Limit <br> Calculation | Non-metro <br> Counties | Metropolitan <br> Areas |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Limits based on 50\% of local <br> median family income | 669 | 196 |
| 2. | Limits based on State <br> nonmetropolitan median <br> family income level | 1,273 | 33 |
| 3. | Limits increased to the <br> amount at which 35\% of 4- <br> person family's income <br> equals 85\% of the 2-bedroom <br> Section 8 FMR |  | 10 |
| 4. | Limits decreased to the <br> greater of 80\% of the U.S. <br> median family income or the <br> amount at which 30\% of a 4- <br> person family's income <br> equals 100\% of the 2-bedroom <br> FMR |  | 1 |
| $5 .$Limits maintained at last <br> year's level if they would <br> otherwise be decreased by <br> Census rebenchmarking or <br> reductions in FMRs |  | 1 |  |

In implementing the 1987 HCD Act amendment that established minimum income limits for non-metropolitan areas based on the State non-metropolitan median family income level, HUD used its discretion to apply this policy to metropolitan areas. This avoids the inequitable anomaly of assigning higher income limits to a non-metropolitan county than are assigned to an adjacent metropolitan area whose median family income is less than the State non-metro level but above the non-metro county's level.

Low-Income Limits: Most four-person low-income limits are the higher of 80 percent of the area median family income or 80 percent of the State non-metropolitan median family income level. Because the very low income limits are not always based on 50 percent of median, calculating low income limits as 80 percent of median would produce anomalies inconsistent with statutory intent (e.g., very low income limits could be higher than low income limits). The calculation normally used, therefore, is to set the four-person low-income limit at 1.6 (i.e., 80\%/50\%) times the relevant four-person very low-income limit. The only exception is that the resulting income limit may not exceed the U.S. median family income level (\$50,056 for FY 2003) except when justified by high housing costs. Use of very low-income limits as a starting point for calculating other income limits tied to Section (3)(b) (2) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 has the effect of adjusting income limits in areas where the very low income limits have been adjusted because of unusually high or low housing-cost-to-income relationships.

HUD has adjusted low-income limits for areas of unusually high or low income since passage of the 1974 legislation that established the basic income limit system now used. Underlying the decision to set minimum and maximum low-income limits is the assumption that families in unusually poor areas should be defined as low-income if they are unable to afford standard quality housing even if their incomes exceed 80 percent of the local median family income. Similarly, families in unusually affluent areas are not considered low-income even if their income is less than 80 percent of the local median family income level unless justified by area housing costs.

Table 2 summarizes the rules governing low-income limit determinations and how many areas are affected by each provision:

Table 2
Summary of Income Limits Determinations for FY 2003 Low Income Limits

|  | Type Income Limit <br> Calculation | Non-metro <br> Counties | Metropolitan <br> Areas |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Limits based on 80\% of local <br> median family income | 656 | 181 |
| $2 \cdot$ | Limits based on State <br> nonmetropolitan median <br> family income level | 1,273 | 33 |
| 3. | Limits increased for high <br> housing costs proportional <br> to such increases for very <br> low-income limits (i.e., set <br> at 80/50ths of the adjusted <br> very low-income limits) | 7 | 15 |
| 4. | Limits decreased because of <br> unusually high incomes in <br> relationship to housing <br> costs | 0 | 0 |
| $5 \cdot$ | Four-person base low-income <br> limit capped at the higher <br> of the U.S. median of <br> \$56,500 or 80/50ths of the <br> minimum 4-person very low- <br> income limit | 20 | 30 |
| $6 \cdot$Limits maintained at last <br> year's level if they would <br> otherwise be decreased by <br> Census rebenchmarking or <br> reductions in FMRs | 346 | 0 |  |

30 Percent of Area Median Family Income Limits: The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 established a new income limit standard based on 30 percent of median family income. The Act specified that the standard could be adjusted for areas of unusually high or low family income. Another statutory change was made in 1999 to clarify that these income limits should be tied to the Section 8 very low-income limits. The 30 percent income limits therefore are calculated as $30 / 50 t h s$ ( 60 percent) of the Section 8 very low-income limits. They are then checked against Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits, which provide the minimum entitlement income for elderly and disabled households. The one-person 30 percent income limits are increased if they would otherwise be less than the minimum SSI level.

## Family Size Adjustments

The statutory guidance governing income limits requires that income limits are to be higher for larger families and lower for smaller families. The same family size adjustments are used for all income limits. They are as follows:

Number of Persons in Family and Percentage Adjustments

| 1 | $\frac{2}{70 \%}$ | $\frac{4}{80 \%}$ | $\frac{5}{90 \%}$ | $\frac{6}{\text { Base }} \quad \frac{7}{108 \%}$ | $\frac{8}{116 \%}$ | $124 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |$\frac{132 \%}{}$

Income limits for families with more than eight persons are not included in the printed lists because of space limitations. For each person in excess of eight, 8 percent of the four-person base should be added to the eight-person income limit. (For example, the nine-person limit equals 140 percent [132 + 8] of the relevant four-person income limit.) Income limits are rounded to the nearest $\$ 50$.

## Income Limit Applications

HUD income limits apply to the following programs:

Program
Dept. of HUD:
Public Housing
All Section 8 Programs

Indian Housing (1996 Act)

Income Limits Standard

Very low-income or low-income standards

Very low-income or low-income standards
"Low-Income" is defined as the greater of 80\% of the median family income for the Indian area or of the U.S. national median family income

Section 202 Elderly and Section 811
Handicapped programs

Section 235
(Homeownership
program)
Section 236 (Rental
program) Low-income standard
Section $221(d)(3)$
(BMIR) (Below Market
Interest Rate
rental program)
Community Planning and Development programs

Very low-income or low-income standards
"95 percent" of area median income, or higher cost-based income limits
"95 percent" of area median income, defined as 95/80ths of low-income definition

Very low-income or low-income standards for current programs under management
HOME Investment
Partnerships Act of
1990

National
Homeownership Trust Act of 1990

Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident
Homeownership Act of 1990
"60 percent of median" and "65 percent of median" are used as income targeting and qualification requirements; both limits are tied to Section 8 income limit determinations
"95 percent" of median is referenced as the eligibility standard, with a "115 percent" of median standard for high cost areas

Affordability of units for current occupant of "moderate income" affects terms under which mortgage may be prepaid; "moderate income" is defined as 80-95 percent of median, with " 80 percent" defined as the Section 8 low-income standard

## Rural Housing and Community Development Service:

Rental and
ownership
assistance programs

## Dept. of Treasury:

Low Income Rental
Tax credits and Tax-exempt Rental Housing Bonds

Tax-exempt Mortgage Revenue Bonds for homeownership financing
"Difficult-to-
Develop" Area
Designation
"Qualified Census Tract" (Tax Credit Program Definition)
"Qualified Census
Tract" (Mortgage
Revenue Bond Program)

Assistance based on HUD Section 8 very lowincome or low-income standards, or income limits tied to these standards

Current standard is Section 8 very low-income standard or $120 \%$ of that definition (i.e., the " $60 \%$ " of median standard)

Generally set at $115 \%$ of area median income, with "115\%" defined as $230 \%$ of the Section 8 very low-income standard

Areas with the worst housing cost problems use the FMR-to-median family-income ratio as an indicator of problems; this designation is awarded to 20 percent of the metro and nonmetro areas (using HUD area definitions) with the most severe problems and is recalculated annually; such areas receive special additional tax benefits under this program

Areas, as defined by the Census, where $50 \%$ of all households have incomes less than 60 percent of the area median family income, adjusted for household size; such areas receive special additional tax benefits under this program; this calculation is based on 1990 Census data and income limit policies and area definitions in effect as of the date estimates are prepared

Areas, as defined by the Census, where $50 \%$ of all families have incomes less that 80 percent of the area median family income, based on 1990 Census data

## Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation:

Disposition of
Multifamily Housing
to Non-profit and

Not less that 35 percent of all dwelling units must be made available for occupancy and be affordable for low-income families, and at

| Public Agencies | least 20 percent must be made available for occupancy and be affordable for every lowincome families. An "affordable rent" is defined as the rent that would be paid by a family paying 30 percent of income for rent whose income is "65 percent of median". This 65 percent figure is defined in relation to the very low-income standard (i.e., normally as $65 / 50$ ths of the standard) |
| :---: | :---: |
| Disposition of | For rentals, priority is given to non-profits |
| Single Family | and public agencies that make the dwellings |
| Housing | affordable by low-income households. |
|  | Households who intend to occupy a dwelling as |
|  | their primary residence whose adjusted income |
|  | does not exceed 115 percent of area median |
|  | income, as determined by the Secretary of HUD, |
|  | are given a purchase priority for the first 3 |
|  | months a property is for sale. |

## Federal Housing Finance Board:

Rental program
funding Priorities

Homeownership
funding priorities

Very low-income, "60\% of median" (defined as 120\% of very low-income), and low-income standards used
$115 \%$ and $140 \%$ of median family income limits are used

Other Federal Banking Regulatory Provisions:

Targeting of loan
funds to low-income
households and
areas Varies by agency

Veterans Administration
Eligibility of
disability income support payments to veterans

Eligibility for non-service related income support payments is restricted to families with incomes below the HUD low-income standard

ATTACHMENT 1

U.S. HOUSING ACT OF 1937 PROVISIONS<br>RELATED TO INCOME LIMITS<br>(As Amended through 1999)

Section 3:
(a) (1) Dwelling units assisted under this Act shall be rented only to families who are low-income families at the time of their initial occupancy of such units....
(b) When used in this Act:
(1) The term "low-income housing" means decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings assisted under this Act....
(2) The term "low-income families" means those families whose incomes do not exceed 80 per centum of the median income for the area, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceiling higher or lower than 80 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of prevailing levels of construction costs or unusually high or low family incomes. The term "very low-income families" means lower income families whose incomes do not exceed 50 per centum of the median family income for the area, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 50 per centum of the median for the area on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes. Such ceilings shall be established in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture for any rural area, as defined in section 520 of the Housing Act of 1949, taking into account the subsidy characteristics and types of programs to which such ceilings apply. In determining median incomes (of persons, families, or households) for an area or establishing any ceilings or limits based on income under this Act, the Secretary shall determine or establish area median incomes and income ceilings and limits for Westchester and Rockland Counties, in the State of New York, as if each such county were an area not contained within the metropolitan statistical area in which it is located. In determining such area median incomes or establishing such income ceilings or limits for the portions of such metropolitan statistical area that does not include Westchester or Rockland Counties, the Secretary shall determine or establish area median incomes and income ceilings and limits as if such portion included Westchester and Rockland Counties. In determining areas that are designated as difficult development areas for the purposes of the low-income housing tax credit, the Secretary shall include Westchester and Rockland Counties, New York, in the New York City metropolitan area.

Section 16:
Sec. 16. (a) Income Eligibility for Public Housing
(2) (A) Targeting.-Except as provided in paragraph 4, of the public housing dwelling units of a public housing agency made available for occupancy in any fiscal year by eligible families, not less than 40 percent shall be occupied by families whose incomes at the time of commencement of occupancy do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families.
(4) (D) Fungibility Floor.- Notwithstanding any authority under subparagraph (A), of the public housing dwelling units of a public housing agency made available for occupancy in any fiscal year by eligible families, not less than 30 percent shall be occupied by families whose incomes at the time of commencement of occupancy do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families; except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the area median income on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

Sec. 16. (b) Income eligibility for Tenant-Based Section 8 Assistance
(1) IN GENERAL.-Of the families initially provided tenant-based assistance under section 8 by a public housing agency in any fiscal year, not less than 75 percent shall be families whose incomes do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families; except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the area median income on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

Sec. 16. (c) Income Eligibility for Project-based Section 8 Assistance
(1) Pre-1981 Act Projects.-Not more than 25 percent of the dwelling units that were available for occupancy under section 8 housing assistance payments contracts under this Act before the effective date of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981, and which will be leased on or after such effective date shall be available for leasing by lower income families other than very low-income families.
(2) Post-1981 Act Projects.-Not more than 15 per cent of the dwelling units which became available for occupancy under section 8 housing assistance payments contracts under this Act on or after the effective date of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981 shall be available for leasing by lower income families other than very low income families.
(3) Targeting.-For each project assisted under a contract for projectbased assistance, of the dwelling units that become available for occupancy in any fiscal year that are assisted under the contract, not less than 40 percent shall be available for leasing only by families whose incomes at the time of commencement of occupancy do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families.
(5) Exception.-The limitations established in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not apply to dwelling units made available under project-based contracts under section 8 for the purpose of preventing displacement, or ameliorating the effects of displacement.

Section 567 of the HCD Act of 1987 Amendment Affecting Section 3 of the 1937 Act:

[^3]Housing and Urban Development or the Secretary of Agriculture (as appropriate) shall use whichever of the following is higher:
(1) the median income of the county in which the area is located; or,
(2) the median income of the entire non-metropolitan area of the State.

## ATTACHMENT 2

## HUD METHODOLOGY FOR ESTIMATING FY 2003 <br> MEDIAN FAMILY INCOMES <br> (ECONOMIC AND MARKET ANALYSIS DIVISION, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, PD\&R)

FY 2003 HUD estimates of median family income are based on 2000 Census data estimates updated with a combination of local Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data, Census American Community Survey (ACS) State data, and Census Current Population Survey (CPS) data. Separate median family income estimates (MFIs) are calculated for all Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs), and nonmetropolitan counties.

The income adjustment factors used to update the 2000 Census-based estimates of Median Family incomes (MFIs) are developed in several steps. Census CPS and ACS survey data are used to develop national and state level estimates of change in median family incomes. BLS wage data used as an indicator of relative change within states. Annual data on median family incomes are available at the national and regional level from the CPS. Starting in 2000, state-level income data became available from the ACS, and ACS-based estimates will eventually be available for metropolitan areas and nonmetropolitan counties. CPS P-60 national data were used to cover the period between the 2000 Census and the first ACS data. Local BLS wage data are available to identify areas with income changes that are above or below average State-level changes.

The Census, ACS, and CPS estimates are all based on different samples, different timing, somewhat different methodologies, and produce somewhat different estimates. ${ }^{5}$ The year-to-year change for these data sets (e.g., the national CPS MFI from one year to the next) should, however, be reliable and reasonably consistent over time. The decennial Census has the largest samples, but is only available every 10 years and is sometimes subject to non-response bias. The ACS has relatively large samples, will produce annual estimates, and should be less subject to non-response bias than the Census. Because of smaller sample sizes, the CPS provides less precise estimates than the ACS.

Estimates of income need to be associated with a point in time. This poses the need to attribute an "as of" date to estimates when such dates are not explicitly defined. The 2000 Census income data, for instance, are based on questions regarding total income for 1999. For most households, income for a year is based on an income stream with at least some changes during year. For purposes of estimation, HUD therefore assumes that the 2000 Census income estimates have an "as of" date of mid-1999. For the same reason, it assumes that March CPS income estimates, which are based on responses to questions about the previous year's total income, also have a mid-year "as of" date.

ACS estimates present a more complex timing issue, because they are based on samples drawn throughout a year that ask about income for the previous 12 months. Adjustments are made to incomes collected prior to December to make them approximate December reporting. Income figures collected in January are inflated by the CPI change from January to December of that year, the February changes are inflated from February to December, etc. If median income changes during the year (which are not known when the estimates are done) exactly paralleled the CPI changes, an ACS-based median family income estimate would approximate a median family income estimate

[^4]based on surveying all respondents in December. That, in turn, means that the ACS income data have an approximate "as of" date of the middle of the year if median incomes changed at the same pace during the course of a year.

The importance of the "as of" assumptions becomes less important over time. After the initial income estimates are produced, annual updates are estimated using the same data sources. Any estimation error or bias associated with the "as of" assumptions effects only the first year a data series starts to be used. The impact of this type of bias cannot be measured but, since it is a fixed amount and incomes increase over time, the effect should be modest. The potential for bias is further mitigated by the fact that the CPI and CPS changes for the period in question were very similar at the national level.

The step-by-step normal procedures used to develop FY 2003 estimates are as follows:

1. The 2000 Census was used to estimate what is treated as a mid-1999 median family income point-in-time estimate.
2. The March 2000 and 2001 CPS surveys were used to measure the change in the national median family income level from mid-1999 to mid2000, which was 3.57 percent. (Divisional CPS estimates were not used, because it is questionable whether they improve estimation accuracy if used only for one year.)
3. The 2000 and 2001 American Community Surveys were used to estimate the change in national and State MFIs for the mid-2000 to mid-2001 period. (The national change for this period was 2.4 percent.) The ACS income change factors for the nation and each State for the 2000-2001 period were calculated as follows:
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ACS MFI (2001) = 1-year increase factor for
ACS MFI (2000) ACS Median Family Income
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4. The State and local (metropolitan areas and nonmetropolitan counties) BLS average wage changes for all employees for the 19992000 period were calculated:

BLS Wages (2000)
BLS Employees (2000)

$$
\begin{aligned}
&= 1 \text { year BLS wage } \\
& \text { increase factor }
\end{aligned}
$$

BLS Wages (1999)
BLS Employees (1999)
5. The sum of the 1999-2000 CPS MFI change and the 2000-2001 ACS State MFI change is compared with the 1999-2000 BLS wage change to provide a means of calculating a BLS wage adjustment factor. This factor, when multiplied by the State-level BLS wage change, produces the CPS/ACS 1999-2001 State change factor. The advantage of constructing this factor is that it provides a means of using BLS data to measure differential patterns of income change within a State which, in total, will equal the CPS/ACS measured change.

2-year MFI increase factor at State level from ACS and CPS = Ratio of State ACS\&P-60

1-year increase factor for
State BLS Wages

MFI changes to ratio of State BLS wage changes
6. Calculate the 1999-2001 increase factors for the individual metropolitan areas and nonmetropolitan counties by applying the CPS/ACS/BLS State-level factor from steps 5 to local BLS data:


Ratio of State Mid-1999 to mid-2001

* ACS\& P-60 $=$ adjustment factor

MFI to State for MSA or County
Local BLS Wages (1999)
BLS wages
7. Convert the step 6 mid-1999 to mid-2001 adjustment factor to a mid1999 to April 1, 2003 change factor by applying an annual trending figure of 3.5 percent for 21 months (i.e., mid-2001 to the mid-point of Fiscal Year 2003 [April 1, 2003]). This 6.125 percent trending is needed be because of lags in Bureau of Labor Statistics, ACS and P-60 Series data availability. (The 3.5 percent trending factor is based on national income change patterns over the 1990-2000 period; it is the $10^{\text {th }}$ root of the change in Census 1990 median family income to Census 2000 median family income.)
(Step 6 adj. factor) * $1.06125=$
mid-1999 to April 1, 2003 adjustment factor
8. Calculate median family incomes for FY 2003 by multiplying the step 1 Decennial Census-based estimate of median family income by the income adjustment factor derived in Step 7:

2000 Census Median Family Income * Step 7 factor = FY 2003 MFI est.
9. American Housing Survey data will be reviewed on an ongoing basis for information about area incomes. There was no metropolitan areas AHS in 2000, so as to avoid conflicts with Census taking.
10. During intercensal periods, median family income estimates are normally frozen if they would otherwise be less than the previous year's estimate. Since this year's estimates rebenchmark median family income estimates with the 2000 Census, some estimates are less than the 2002 estimates.

## ATTACHMENT 3

## COMPARISON OF FY 1999 HUD AND 2000 CENSUS MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME ESTIMATES

## Procedures:

- All estimates relate to median family incomes. The Census definition of "family" is used (i.e., two or more persons related by blood or marriage). Estimates relate to the universe of all families, and are not intended to apply to a specific family size. ${ }^{6}$
- HUD FY 1999 estimates were based on 1990 Census income data (mid-1989 income levels) updated with Census $\mathrm{P}-60$ Census Division level data, Bureau of Labor Statistics data, and American Housing Survey data (available only for a small number of metropolitan areas). Survey data for updating at the time the estimates were prepared were available only through mid-1997. The 1990 Census numbers were therefore updated to mid-1997 and trended to mid-FY 1999.
- The FY 1999 HUD median family income estimates have an estimation date of April 1, 1999. The 1990 Census median family income estimates have an average estimation date of July 1, 1989. HUD estimates were increase by 1 percent for the three-month difference. The 1 percent figure was used because it equals one-fourth of the annual income trending rate of 4 percent in use in that year.
- The comparison made is between the HUD estimates published for FY 1999, adjusted by 1 percent, and median family income estimates for mid-1999 derived from the 2000 Census.


## Findings:

1. State-level HUD estimates typically were within 15 percent of the Census estimates. All but three HUD State-wide estimates were within 15 percent. All but two HUD non-metro State estimate (non-metro Rhode Island and non-metro Vermont, 24\% and 17\% respectivley) were within a 15 percent range of the Census-based estimates. The highest estimation difference was 24 percent.
2. The standard error for State-level non-metropolitan estimates, which are used as the basis for setting income limits for over half the areas in the country, was $\$ 2,328$.
3. The standard error for all metropolitan areas was $\$ 2,563$ on a base of $\$ 49,996$. This error accumulated over a 10 -year estimation period during which incomes increased by over 55 percent. The nonmetropolitan standard error was $\$ 3,288$ on a base of $\$ 39,095$. When these estimates are weighted by the number of families in the respective areas, errors were about one-third less.
4. A summary comparison of HUD and Census median family income estimates shows the following:
[^5]
## FY 1999 HUD INCOME ESTIMATES COMPARED WITH 2000 CENSUS MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME ESTIMATES

| Percent HUD Estimates <br> Differ from Census | \# Metro <br> Areas <br> Percent Metro <br> Areas | \# Non-metro <br> Areas | Percent Non- <br> metro Areas |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 25\%+ High | 0 | $0.0 \%$ | 4 | $0.2 \%$ |
| 20-25\% High | 0 | $0.0 \%$ | 5 | $0.2 \%$ |
| 15-20\% High | 0 | $0.0 \%$ | 18 | $0.8 \%$ |
| 10-15\% High | 3 | $0.9 \%$ | 37 | $1.6 \%$ |
| 5-10\% High | 13 | $3.7 \%$ | 122 | $5.3 \%$ |
| Within 5\% | 206 | $57.9 \%$ | 849 | $36.9 \%$ |
| 5-10\% Low | 96 | $27.0 \%$ | 514 | $22.3 \%$ |
| 10-15\% Low | 27 | $7.6 \%$ | 352 | $15.3 \%$ |
| 15-20\% Low | 11 | $3.1 \%$ | 213 | $9.3 \%$ |
| 20-25\% Low | 0 | $0.0 \%$ | 104 | $4.5 \%$ |
| 25\%+ Low | 0 | $0.0 \%$ | 82 | $3.6 \%$ |
| Totals : | 356 | $100.0 \%$ | 2,300 | $100.0 \%$ |

5. Almost eighty percent of all HUD metropolitan area estimates were within 10 percent of the Census median income figures. Incomes were both over and under estimated, sometimes by relatively large amounts.
6. Sixty-four percent of all HUD non-metropolitan estimates were within 10 percent of the Census median income figures. Over 90 percent of all estimates were within 20 percent of the Census estimates.

## ATTACHMENT 4

AREAS WITH ADJUSTED FY 2003 VERY LOW INCOME LIMITS

|  | FY2003 MEDIAN | 50\% OF | 4 -PERSON | TYPE OF VLI |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| METROPOLITAN AREA | INCOME | MEDIAN | VLI LIMIT | ADJUSTMENT |
| Decatur, AL MSA | 48600 | 24300 | 26400 | Historical Exception |
| Huntsville, AL MSA | 59700 | 29850 | 30300 | Historical Exception |
| Montgomery, AL MSA | 51300 | 25650 | 26500 | Historical Exception |
| Tucson, AZ MSA | 48600 | 24300 | 24600 | Historical Exception |
| Yuma, AZ MSA | 38600 | 19300 | 20000 | State Median Based |
| Las Vegas, NV--AZ MSA | 54700 | 27350 | 28250 | Historical Exception |
| Memphis, TN--AR--MS MSA | 51000 | 25500 | 28650 | Historical Exception |
| Bakersfield, CA MSA | 42800 | 21400 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Chico--Paradise, CA MSA | 43900 | 21950 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Fresno, CA MSA | 41700 | 20850 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Los Angeles--Long Beach, | 50300 | 25150 | 28200 | High Housing Cost |
| Merced, CA MSA | 41400 | 20700 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Oakland, CA PMSA | 76600 | 38300 | 40050 | High Housing Cost |
| Orange County, CA PMSA | 70000 | 35000 | 37800 | Historical Exception |
| Redding, CA MSA | 43300 | 21650 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Salinas, CA MSA | 55600 | 27800 | 28550 | High Housing Cost |
| San Diego, CA MSA | 59900 | 29950 | 31900 | High Housing Cost |
| San Francisco, CA PMSA | 91500 | 45750 | 56550 | High Housing Cost |
| Santa Cruz--Watsonville, | 74600 | 37300 | 37850 | High Housing Cost |
| Ventura, CA PMSA | 73600 | 36800 | 37350 | Historical Exception |
| Visalia--Tulare--Portervi | 39100 | 19550 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Yolo, CA PMSA | 55100 | 27550 | 28500 | Historical Exception |
| Yuba City, CA MSA | 42200 | 21100 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| Boulder--Longmont, CO PMS | 81900 | 40950 | 43500 | Historical Exception |
| Denver, CO PMSA | 68000 | 34000 | 34950 | Historical Exception |
| Grand Junction, CO MSA | 45500 | 22750 | 25100 | State Median Based |
| Pueblo, CO MSA | 42400 | 21200 | 25100 | State Median Based |
| Danbury, CT PMSA | 95700 | 47850 | 45200 | Low Housing Costu |
| New London--Norwich, CT-- | 65400 | 32700 | 34400 | State Median Based |
| Stamford--Norwalk, CT PMS | 110500 | 55250 | 55350 | Historical Exception |
| Waterbury, CT PMSA | 64600 | 32300 | 34400 | State Median Based |
| Dover, DE MSA | 51800 | 25900 | 26050 | Historical Exception |
| Wilmington--Newark, DE--M | 70000 | 35000 | 37950 | Historical Exception |
| Washington, DC--MD--VA--W | 84800 | 42400 | 43500 | Historical Exception |
| Daytona Beach, FL MSA | 46600 | 23300 | 23350 | Historical Exception |
| Fort Lauderdale, FL PMSA | 56400 | 28200 | 30100 | Historical Exception |
| Fort Myers--Cape Coral, F | 51700 | 25850 | 26050 | Historical Exception |
| Fort Pierce--Port St. Luc | 49300 | 24650 | 26200 | Historical Exception |
| Jacksonville, FL MSA | 54900 | 27450 | 27800 | Historical Exception |
| Lakeland--Winter Haven, F | 45300 | 22650 | 23500 | Historical Exception |
| Miami, FL PMSA | 43800 | 21900 | 24100 | Historical Exception |
| Naples, FL MSA | 61400 | 30700 | 34900 | Historical Exception |
| Ocala, FL MSA | 40600 | 20300 | 20800 | Historical Exception |
| Orlando, FL MSA | 52700 | 26350 | 27350 | Historical Exception |
| Sarasota--Bradenton, FL M | 52600 | 26300 | 26700 | Historical Exception |
| Tallahassee, FL MSA | 54500 | 27250 | 28600 | Historical Exception |
| Tampa--St. Petersburg--Cl | 49700 | 24850 | 25250 | Historical Exception |
| West Palm Beach--Boca Rat | 60800 | 30400 | 31400 | Historical Exception |
| Atlanta, GA MSA | 68800 | 34400 | 35600 | Historical Exception |
| Chattanooga, TN--GA MSA | 48800 | 24400 | 25000 | Historical Exception |
| Boise City, ID MSA | 53600 | 26800 | 27250 | Historical Exception |
| Pocatello, ID MSA | 45600 | 22800 | 23450 | Historical Exception |
| Bloomington--Normal, IL M | 68100 | 34050 | 34650 | Historical Exception |
| Champaign--Urbana, IL MSA | 58700 | 29350 | 29800 | Historical Exception |
| Chicago, IL PMSA | 68700 | 34350 | 37700 | Historical Exception |
| Decatur, IL MSA | 51500 | 25750 | 27150 | Historical Exception |
| DeKalb County | 64000 | 32000 | 33950 | Historical Exception |
| Grundy County | 67800 | 33900 | 34750 | Historical Exception |
| Kankakee, IL PMSA | 54600 | 27300 | 27700 | Historical Exception |
| Kendall County | 73200 | 36600 | 43500 | Historical Exception |
| Peoria--Pekin, IL MSA | 56900 | 28450 | 28900 | Historical Exception |
| Rockford, IL MSA | 57900 | 28950 | 29900 | Historical Exception |
| Springfield, IL MSA | 58500 | 29250 | 32450 | Historical Exception |
| Elkhart--Goshen, IN MSA | 56600 | 28300 | 29650 | Historical Exception |
| Fort Wayne, IN MSA | 58500 | 29250 | 29900 | Historical Exception |
| Indianapolis, IN MSA | 62900 | 31450 | 32050 | Historical Exception |
| Kokomo, IN MSA | 60000 | 30000 | 30950 | Historical Exception |
| Lafayette, IN MSA | 58500 | 29250 | 29400 | Historical Exception |


| METROPOLITAN AREA FY | FY2003 MEDIAN INCOME | 50\% OF MEDIAN | 4-PERSON VLI LIMIT | TYPE OF VLI ADJUSTMENT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ohio County, IN | 59100 | 29550 | 30650 | Historical Exception |
| Terre Haute, IN MSA | 47500 | 23750 | 26000 | State Median Based |
| Louisville, KY--IN MSA | 56200 | 28100 | 28150 | Historical Exception |
| Cincinnati, OH--KY--IN PM | 64000 | 32000 | 32150 | Historical Exception |
| Cedar Rapids, IA MSA | 65700 | 32850 | 33550 | Historical Exception |
| Des Moines, IA MSA | 63900 | 31950 | 33450 | Historical Exception |
| Omaha, NE--IA MSA | 63300 | 31650 | 32200 | Historical Exception |
| Topeka, KS MSA | 54400 | 27200 | 29600 | Historical Exception |
| Wichita, KS MSA | 54600 | 27300 | 29500 | Historical Exception |
| Gallatin County | 48400 | 24200 | 28450 | Historical Exception |
| Grant County | 48300 | 24150 | 24500 | Historical Exception |
| Lexington, KY MSA | 56200 | 28100 | 28150 | Historical Exception |
| Pendleton County | 48400 | 24200 | 26350 | Historical Exception |
| Clarksville--Hopkinsville | 44300 | 22150 | 22200 | Historical Exception |
| Cumberland, MD--WV MSA | 43100 | 21550 | 27400 | Historical Exception |
| Hagerstown, MD PMSA | 54400 | 27200 | 27400 | Historical Exception |
| Barnstable--Yarmouth, MA | 58700 | 29350 | 30150 | State Median Based |
| New Bedford, MA PMSA | 52700 | 26350 | 30150 | State Median Based |
| Pittsfield, MA MSA | 56000 | 28000 | 30150 | State Median Based |
| Springfield, MA MSA | 56800 | 28400 | 30150 | State Median Based |
| Providence-Fall River | 58400 | 29200 | 33650 | State Median Based |
| Benton Harbor, MI MSA | 52100 | 26050 | 27550 | Historical Exception |
| Detroit, MI PMSA | 66700 | 33350 | 34950 | Historical Exception |
| Flint, MI PMSA | 55200 | 27600 | 27800 | Historical Exception |
| Grand Rapids--Muskegon--H | 60900 | 30450 | 30650 | Historical Exception |
| Minneapolis--St. Paul, MN | 75300 | 37650 | 38350 | Historical Exception |
| Rochester, MN MSA | 69200 | 34600 | 37150 | Historical Exception |
| Jackson, MS MSA | 50600 | 25300 | 26550 | Historical Exception |
| Lincoln, NE MSA | 62400 | 31200 | 31300 | Historical Exception |
| Reno, NV MSA | 62100 | 31050 | 31150 | Historical Exception |
| Bergen--Passaic, NJ PMSA | 78800 | 39400 | 39450 | Historical Exception |
| Jersey City, NJ PMSA | 51600 | 25800 | 30050 | Historical Exception |
| Middlesex--Somerset--Hunterdon | 86900 | 43450 | 43500 | Historical Exception |
| Vineland--Millville--Bridgeport | rt 49900 | 24950 | 25100 | Historical Exception |
| Santa Fe, NM MSA | 61800 | 30900 | 31550 | Historical Exception |
| Dutchess County, NY PMSA | 67800 | 33900 | 34050 | Historical Exception |
| Jamestown, NY MSA | 43600 | 21800 | 23650 | State Median Based |
| New York, NY PMSA | 51900 | 25950 | 31400 | Historical Exception |
| New York, NY PMSA | 90100 | 45050 | 45700 | Historical Exception |
| New York, NY PMSA | 86600 | 43300 | 43500 | Historical Exception |
| Charlotte--Gastonia--Rock | 61800 | 30900 | 32050 | Historical Exception |
| Goldsboro, NC MSA | 45200 | 22600 | 22650 | Historical Exception |
| Greensboro--Winston-Salem | 55500 | 27750 | 28050 | Historical Exception |
| Hickory--Morganton--Lenoi | 49800 | 24900 | 25750 | Historical Exception |
| Jacksonville, NC MSA | 41300 | 20650 | 22600 | State Median Based |
| Raleigh--Durham--Chapel H | 69800 | 34900 | 35650 | Historical Exception |
| Rocky Mount, NC MSA | 46200 | 23100 | 24400 | Historical Exception |
| Brown County | 48500 | 24250 | 26500 | Historical Exception |
| Cleveland--Lorain--Elyria | 59900 | 29950 | 30000 | Historical Exception |
| Dayton--Springfield, OH M | 57700 | 28850 | 30100 | Historical Exception |
| Steubenville--Weirton, OH | 46300 | 23150 | 25300 | State Median Based |
| Youngstown--Warren, OH MS | 49600 | 24800 | 25300 | State Median Based |
| Altoona, PA MSA | 46200 | 23100 | 23700 | State Median Based |
| Johnstown, PA MSA | 42200 | 21100 | 23700 | State Median Based |
| Williamsport, PA MSA | 47100 | 23550 | 23700 | State Median Based |
| Sumter, SC MSA | 45900 | 22950 | 23050 | State Median Based |
| Jackson, TN MSA | 47400 | 23700 | 24600 | Historical Exception |
| Johnson City--Kingsport-- | 42200 | 21100 | 21300 | Historical Exception |
| Knoxville, TN MSA | 49300 | 24650 | 26000 | Historical Exception |
| Nashville, TN MSA | 58300 | 29150 | 30800 | Historical Exception |
| Austin--San Marcos, TX MS | 66900 | 33450 | 35550 | Historical Exception |
| Brownsville--Harlingen--S | 30900 | 15450 | 20600 | State Median Based |
| Dallas, TX PMSA | 65000 | 32500 | 33250 | Historical Exception |
| El Paso, TX MSA | 37000 | 18500 | 20600 | State Median Based |
| Fort Worth--Arlington, TX | 60300 | 30150 | 30650 | Historical Exception |
| Houston, TX PMSA | 59100 | 29550 | 29800 | Historical Exception |
| Laredo, TX MSA | 32700 | 16350 | 20600 | State Median Based |
| McAllen--Edinburg--Missio | 28700 | 14350 | 20600 | State Median Based |


|  | FY2003 MEDIAN | 50\% OF | 4-PERSON | TYPE OF VLI |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| METROPOLITAN AREA | INCOME | MEDIAN | VLI LIMIT | ADJUSTMENT |
| San Angelo, TX MSA | 43600 | 21800 | 22200 | Historical Exception |
| Waco, TX MSA | 45300 | 22650 | 23150 | Historical Exception |
| Kane County | 47300 | 23650 | 24200 | State Median Based |
| Culpeper County | 58600 | 29300 | 30700 | Historical Exception |
| Danville, VA MSA | 43000 | 21500 | 22700 | State Median Based |
| King George County | 63700 | 31850 | 31950 | Historical Exception |
| Lynchburg, VA MSA | 49300 | 24650 | 25000 | Historical Exception |
| Richmond--Petersburg, VA | 63800 | 31900 | 32950 | Historical Exception |
| Roanoke, VA MSA | 54400 | 27200 | 28150 | Historical Exception |
| Seattle--Bellevue--Everet | 71900 | 35950 | 38950 | Historical Exception |
| Yakima, WA MSA | 44900 | 22450 | 24350 | State Median Based |
| Appleton--Oshkosh--Neenah | 61700 | 30850 | 30950 | Historical Exception |
| Green Bay, WI MSA | 61500 | 30750 | 30950 | Historical Exception |
| Janesville--Beloit, WI MS | 58100 | 29050 | 29850 | Historical Exception |
| Madison, WI MSA | 71100 | 35550 | 35650 | Historical Exception |
| Milwaukee--Waukesha, WI P | 62600 | 31300 | 33600 | Historical Exception |
| Racine, WI PMSA | 59600 | 29800 | 32500 | Historical Exception |
| Sheboygan, WI MSA | 59400 | 29700 | 31350 | Historical Exception |
| Aguadilla, PR MSA | 15500 | 7750 | 9550 | High Housing Cost |
| Arecibo, PR PMSA | 16700 | 8350 | 13700 | Historical Exception |
| Caguas, PR PMSA | 20100 | 10050 | 11850 | High Housing Cost |
| Mayagüez, PR MSA | 17500 | 8750 | 11350 | High Housing Cost |
| Ponce, PR MSA | 16700 | 8350 | 13400 | Historical Exception |
| San Juan--Bayamón, PR PMS | 21500 | 10750 | 15050 | High Housing Cost |

## ATTACHMENT 5

AREAS WITH ADJUSTED FY 2003 LOW INCOME LIMITS

## METROPOLITAN AREA

Decatur, AL MSA
Huntsville, AL MSA
Montgomery, AL MSA
Anchorage, AK MSA
Tucson, AZ MSA
Yuma, AZ MSA
Las Vegas, NV--AZ MSA
Memphis, TN--AR--MS MSA
Bakersfield, CA MSA
Chico--Paradise, CA MSA
Fresno, CA MSA
Los Angeles--Long Beach, CA Merced, CA MSA
Oakland, CA PMSA
Orange County, CA PMSA
Redding, CA MSA
Salinas, CA MSA
San Diego, CA MSA
San Francisco, CA PMSA
San Jose, CA PMSA
Santa Cruz--Watsonville,
Santa Rosa, CA PMSA
Ventura, CA PMSA
Visalia--Tulare--Portervi
Yolo, CA PMSA
Yuba City, CA MSA
Boulder--Longmont, CO PMS
Denver, CO PMSA
Grand Junction, CO MSA
Pueblo, CO MSA
Bridgeport, CT PMSA
Danbury, CT PMSA
Hartford, CT MSA
New Haven--Meriden, CT PM
New London--Norwich, CT--
Stamford--Norwalk, CT PMS
Waterbury, CT PMSA
Dover, DE MSA
Wilmington--Newark, DE--M
Washington, DC--MD--VA--W
Daytona Beach, FL MSA
Fort Lauderdale, FL PMSA
Fort Myers--Cape Coral, F
Fort Pierce--Port St. Luc
Jacksonville, FL MSA
Lakeland--Winter Haven, F
Miami, FL PMSA
Naples, FL MSA
Ocala, FL MSA
Orlando, FL MSA
Sarasota--Bradenton, FL M
Tallahassee, FL MSA
Tampa--St. Petersburg--Cl
West Palm Beach--Boca Rat
Atlanta, GA MSA
Chattanooga, TN--GA MSA
Boise City, ID MSA
Pocatello, ID MSA
Bloomington--Normal, IL M
Champaign--Urbana, IL MSA
Chicago, IL PMSA
Decatur, IL MSA
DeKalb County

## FY2003 MEDIAN INCOME

48600
59700
51300
73600
48600
38600
54700
51000
42800
43900
41700
50300
41400
76600
70000
43300
55600
59900
91500
105500
74600
71500
73600
39100
55100
42200
81900
68000
45500
42400
75200
95700
73000
71000
65400
110500
64600
51800
70000
84800
46600
56400
51700
49300
54900
45300
43800
61400
40600
52700
52600
54500
49700
60800
68800
48800
53600
45600
68100
58700
68700
51500
64000
$50 \%$ OF MEDIAN

24300
29850
25650
36800
19300
27350
25500
21950
20850
25150

## 20700

38300
21650
27800
29950

## 52750

37300

## 35750

36800
19550
27550
21100
34000

## 22750

21200
37600
47850
36500
35500
32700
32300
32300
25900
35000
42400
23300
28200
25850
24650

## 27450

22650

## 21900

30700
20300
26350
26300
27250
24850
30400
34400
24400
26800 22800
34050
29350
34350
25750
32000

## 4-PERSON VLI LIMIT

42250
48500
42400
56500
39350
32000
45200
45850
36300
36300
36300
45100
36300
64100
56500
36300
45700
51050
90500
82100
60550
56500
56500
36300
45600
36300
56500
55900
40150
40150
56500
56500
56500
56500
55050
66950
55050
41700
56500
56500
37350
48150
41700
41900
44500
37600
38550
55850
33300
42700
45750
40400
50250
56500
40000
43600
37500
55450
47700
56500
43450
54300

## TYPE OF VLI ADJUSTMENT

Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Capped by US Median Historical Exception State Median Based Historical Exception Historical Exception State Median Based State Median Based State Median Based High Housing Cost State Median Based High Housing Cost Capped by US Median State Median Based High Housing Cost High Housing Cost High Housing Cost High Housing Cost High Housing Cost Capped by US Median Capped by US Median State Median Based Historical Exception State Median Based Capped by US Median Historical Exception State Median Based State Median Based Capped by US Median Capped by US Median Capped by US Median Capped by US Median State Median Based High Housing Cost State Median Based Historical Exception Capped by US Median Capped by US Median Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Capped by US Median Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Historical Exception Capped by US Median
Historical Exception Historical Exception

|  | FY2003 MEDIAN | 50\% OF | 4-PERSON | TYPE OF VLI |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| METROPOLITAN AREA | INCOME | MEDIAN | VLI LIMIT | ADJUSTMENT |
| Grundy County | 67800 | 33900 | 55600 | Historical Exception |
| Kankakee, IL PMSA | 54600 | 27300 | 44300 | Historical Exception |
| Kendall County | 73200 | 36600 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Peoria--Pekin, IL MSA | 56900 | 28450 | 46250 | Historical Exception |
| Rockford, IL MSA | 57900 | 28950 | 47850 | Historical Exception |
| Springfield, IL MSA | 58500 | 29250 | 51900 | Historical Exception |
| Elkhart--Goshen, IN MSA | 56600 | 28300 | 47450 | Historical Exception |
| Fort Wayne, IN MSA | 58500 | 29250 | 47850 | Historical Exception |
| Indianapolis, IN MSA | 62900 | 31450 | 51300 | Historical Exception |
| Kokomo, IN MSA | 60000 | 30000 | 49500 | Historical Exception |
| Lafayette, IN MSA | 58500 | 29250 | 47050 | Historical Exception |
| Ohio County | 59100 | 29550 | 49050 | Historical Exception |
| Terre Haute, IN MSA | 47500 | 23750 | 41600 | State Median Based |
| Louisville, KY--IN MSA | 56200 | 28100 | 45050 | Historical Exception |
| Cincinnati, OH--KY--IN PM | 64000 | 32000 | 51450 | Historical Exception |
| Cedar Rapids, IA MSA | 65700 | 32850 | 53700 | Historical Exception |
| Des Moines, IA MSA | 63900 | 31950 | 53500 | Historical Exception |
| Omaha, NE--IA MSA | 63300 | 31650 | 51500 | Historical Exception |
| Topeka, KS MSA | 54400 | 27200 | 47350 | Historical Exception |
| Wichita, KS MSA | 54600 | 27300 | 47200 | Historical Exception |
| Gallatin County | 48400 | 24200 | 45500 | Historical Exception |
| Grant County | 48300 | 24150 | 39200 | Historical Exception |
| Lexington, KY MSA | 56200 | 28100 | 45050 | Historical Exception |
| Pendleton County | 48400 | 24200 | 42150 | Historical Exception |
| Clarksville--Hopkinsville | 44300 | 22150 | 35500 | Historical Exception |
| Cumberland, MD--WV MSA | 43100 | 21550 | 43850 | Historical Exception |
| Hagerstown, MD PMSA | 54400 | 27200 | 43850 | Historical Exception |
| Barnstable--Yarmouth, MA | 58700 | 29350 | 48250 | State Median Based |
| Boston, MA--NH PMSA | 80800 | 40400 | 62650 | High Housing Cost |
| Lawrence, MA--NH PMSA | 74300 | 37150 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Lowell, MA--NH PMSA | 79700 | 39850 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| New Bedford, MA PMSA | 52700 | 26350 | 48250 | State Median Based |
| Pittsfield, MA MSA | 56000 | 28000 | 48250 | State Median Based |
| Springfield, MA MSA | 56800 | 28400 | 48250 | State Median Based |
| Providence--Fall River--W | 58400 | 29200 | 53850 | State Median Based |
| Ann Arbor, MI PMSA | 77700 | 38850 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Benton Harbor, MI MSA | 52100 | 26050 | 44100 | Historical Exception |
| Detroit, MI PMSA | 66700 | 33350 | 55900 | Historical Exception |
| Flint, MI PMSA | 55200 | 27600 | 44500 | Historical Exception |
| Grand Rapids--Muskegon--H | 60900 | 30450 | 49050 | Historical Exception |
| Minneapolis--St. Paul, MN | 75300 | 37650 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Rochester, MN MSA | 69200 | 34600 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Jackson, MS MSA | 50600 | 25300 | 42500 | Historical Exception |
| Lincoln, NE MSA | 62400 | 31200 | 50100 | Historical Exception |
| Reno, NV MSA | 62100 | 31050 | 49850 | Historical Exception |
| Nashua, NH PMSA | 77800 | 38900 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Bergen--Passaic, NJ PMSA | 78800 | 39400 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Jersey City, NJ PMSA | 51600 | 25800 | 48100 | Historical Exception |
| Middlesex--Somerset--Hunt | 86900 | 43450 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Monmouth--Ocean, NJ PMSA | 74100 | 37050 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Newark, NJ PMSA | 79000 | 39500 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Trenton, NJ PMSA | 76800 | 38400 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Vineland--Millville--Brid | 49900 | 24950 | 40150 | Historical Exception |
| Santa Fe, NM MSA | 61800 | 30900 | 50500 | Historical Exception |
| Dutchess County, NY PMSA | 67800 | 33900 | 54500 | Historical Exception |
| Jamestown, NY MSA | 43600 | 21800 | 37850 | State Median Based |
| Nassau--Suffolk, NY PMSA | 83700 | 41850 | 59450 | High Housing Cost |
| New York, NY PMSA | 51900 | 25950 | 50250 | Historical Exception |
| New York, NY PMSA | 90100 | 45050 | 57900 | High Housing Cost |
| New York, NY PMSA | 86600 | 43300 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Charlotte--Gastonia--Rock | 61800 | 30900 | 51300 | Historical Exception |
| Goldsboro, NC MSA | 45200 | 22600 | 36250 | Historical Exception |
| Greensboro--Winston-Salem | 55500 | 27750 | 44900 | Historical Exception |
| Hickory--Morganton--Lenoi | 49800 | 24900 | 41200 | Historical Exception |
| Jacksonville, NC MSA | 41300 | 20650 | 36150 | State Median Based |
| Raleigh--Durham--Chapel H | 69800 | 34900 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Rocky Mount, NC MSA | 46200 | 23100 | 39050 | Historical Exception |


|  | FY2003 MEDIAN | 50\% OF | 4-PERSON | TYPE OF VLI |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| METROPOLITAN AREA | INCOME | MEDIAN | VLI LIMIT | ADJUSTMENT |
| Brown County, OH | 48500 | 24250 | 42400 | Historical Exception |
| Cleveland--Lorain--Elyria | 59900 | 29950 | 48000 | Historical Exception |
| Dayton--Springfield, OH M | 57700 | 28850 | 48150 | Historical Exception |
| Steubenville--Weirton, OH | 46300 | 23150 | 40500 | State Median Based |
| Youngstown--Warren, OH MS | 49600 | 24800 | 40500 | State Median Based |
| Altoona, PA MSA | 46200 | 23100 | 37900 | State Median Based |
| Johnstown, PA MSA | 42200 | 21100 | 37900 | State Median Based |
| Williamsport, PA MSA | 47100 | 23550 | 37900 | State Median Based |
| Sumter, SC MSA | 45900 | 22950 | 36900 | State Median Based |
| Jackson, TN MSA | 47400 | 23700 | 39350 | Historical Exception |
| Johnson City--Kingsport-- | 42200 | 21100 | 34100 | Historical Exception |
| Knoxville, TN MSA | 49300 | 24650 | 41600 | Historical Exception |
| Nashville, TN MSA | 58300 | 29150 | 49300 | Historical Exception |
| Austin--San Marcos, TX MS | 66900 | 33450 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Brownsville--Harlingen--S | 30900 | 15450 | 32950 | State Median Based |
| Dallas, TX PMSA | 65000 | 32500 | 53200 | Historical Exception |
| El Paso, TX MSA | 37000 | 18500 | 32950 | State Median Based |
| Fort Worth--Arlington, TX | 60300 | 30150 | 49050 | Historical Exception |
| Houston, TX PMSA | 59100 | 29550 | 47700 | Historical Exception |
| Laredo, TX MSA | 32700 | 16350 | 32950 | State Median Based |
| McAllen--Edinburg--Missio | 28700 | 14350 | 32950 | State Median Based |
| San Angelo, TX MSA | 43600 | 21800 | 35500 | Historical Exception |
| Waco, TX MSA | 45300 | 22650 | 37050 | Historical Exception |
| Kane County | 47300 | 23650 | 38700 | State Median Based |
| Culpeper County | 58600 | 29300 | 49100 | Historical Exception |
| Danville, VA MSA | 43000 | 21500 | 36300 | State Median Based |
| King George County | 63700 | 31850 | 51100 | Historical Exception |
| Lynchburg, VA MSA | 49300 | 24650 | 40000 | Historical Exception |
| Richmond--Petersburg, VA | 63800 | 31900 | 52700 | Historical Exception |
| Roanoke, VA MSA | 54400 | 27200 | 45050 | Historical Exception |
| Seattle--Bellevue--Everet | 71900 | 35950 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Yakima, WA MSA | 44900 | 22450 | 38950 | State Median Based |
| Appleton--Oshkosh--Neenah | 61700 | 30850 | 49500 | Historical Exception |
| Green Bay, WI MSA | 61500 | 30750 | 49500 | Historical Exception |
| Janesville--Beloit, WI MS | 58100 | 29050 | 47750 | Historical Exception |
| Madison, WI MSA | 71100 | 35550 | 56500 | Capped by US Median |
| Milwaukee--Waukesha, WI P | 62600 | 31300 | 53750 | Historical Exception |
| Racine, WI PMSA | 59600 | 29800 | 52000 | Historical Exception |
| Sheboygan, WI MSA | 59400 | 29700 | 50150 | Historical Exception |
| Aguadilla, PR MSA | 15500 | 7750 | 15300 | High Housing Cost |
| Arecibo, PR PMSA | 16700 | 8350 | 21900 | Historical Exception |
| Caguas, PR PMSA | 20100 | 10050 | 18950 | High Housing Cost |
| Mayagüez, PR MSA | 17500 | 8750 | 18150 | High Housing Cost |
| Ponce, PR MSA | 16700 | 8350 | 21450 | Historical Exception |
| San Juan--Bayamón, PR PMS | 21500 | 10750 | 24100 | High Housing Cost |

ATTACHMENT 6-A


ATTACHMENT 6-B


## ATTACHMENT 7

FY 2003 MEDIAN FAMILY INCOMES FOR STATES, METROPOLITAN, AND NONMETROPOLITAN PORTIONS OF STATES

|  | TOTAL | FY 2003 METRO | NONMETRO | TOTAL | $\begin{array}{r} 1999 \\ \text { METRO } \end{array}$ | NONMETRO |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alabama | 46900 | 50600 | 39600 | 41866 | 45178 | 35392 |
| Alaska | 68200 | 73600 | 64800 | 59106 | 64188 | 55695 |
| Arizona | 52700 | 54600 | 40000 | 46840 | 48482 | 36239 |
| Arkansas | 43400 | 48900 | 38500 | 38768 | 43576 | 34741 |
| California | 60300 | 60900 | 45400 | 53597 | 54128 | 41832 |
| Colorado | 62200 | 64600 | 50200 | 56241 | 58317 | 46107 |
| Connecticut | 75400 | 75900 | 68800 | 65805 | 66083 | 60607 |
| Delaware | 62800 | 66700 | 50900 | 55407 | 58757 | 45214 |
| Dist. of Columbia | 52300 | 52300 | na | 46347 | 46347 | na |
| Florida | 50200 | 51000 | 41400 | 45675 | 46435 | 37621 |
| Georgia | 56700 | 63500 | 44300 | 49345 | 55110 | 39192 |
| Hawaii | 62200 | 65200 | 55100 | 57349 | 60142 | 50671 |
| Idaho | 46400 | 52500 | 42400 | 43698 | 48605 | 40907 |
| Illinois | 62200 | 65600 | 48200 | 55853 | 58901 | 43531 |
| Indiana | 56900 | 59300 | 52000 | 50317 | 52419 | 45939 |
| Iowa | 54900 | 61000 | 50800 | 48163 | 53536 | 44650 |
| Kansas | 52900 | 60800 | 44900 | 49646 | 57039 | 42281 |
| Kentucky | 46200 | 55500 | 38600 | 41054 | 49006 | 34673 |
| Louisiana | 46600 | 49300 | 39400 | 39798 | 42116 | 33557 |
| Maine | 47700 | 54800 | 44400 | 45188 | 52034 | 42029 |
| Maryland | 70700 | 72300 | 54700 | 62291 | 63641 | 48646 |
| Massachusetts | 72400 | 73100 | 60300 | 62024 | 62501 | 53012 |
| Michigan | 60500 | 63900 | 48300 | 53904 | 56909 | 43315 |
| Minnesota | 65100 | 72200 | 51700 | 57174 | 63222 | 46242 |
| Mississippi | 40700 | 48900 | 36500 | 37599 | 44952 | 33815 |
| Missouri | 54100 | 61200 | 43000 | 46127 | 52009 | 37039 |
| Montana | 43800 | 47200 | 42200 | 40545 | 43605 | 39145 |
| Nebraska | 55400 | 63800 | 48300 | 48133 | 55404 | 42143 |
| Nevada | 57600 | 57800 | 56000 | 51070 | 51162 | 50536 |
| New Hampshire | 66100 | 72400 | 58400 | 57967 | 63287 | 51551 |
| New Jersey | 74200 | 74200 | na | 65733 | 65733 | na |
| New Mexico | 43800 | 50100 | 36900 | 39480 | 45011 | 33588 |
| New York | 57400 | 58600 | 47300 | 52073 | 53149 | 43096 |
| North Carolina | 53000 | 57500 | 45200 | 46458 | 50290 | 40082 |
| North Dakota | 51800 | 59000 | 46800 | 43785 | 49854 | 39695 |
| Ohio | 56900 | 58700 | 50600 | 50044 | 51580 | 44769 |
| Oklahoma | 45900 | 50600 | 39400 | 40800 | 44859 | 35269 |
| Oregon | 56300 | 61100 | 45700 | 48751 | 52491 | 40819 |
| Pennsylvania | 56600 | 58800 | 47400 | 49236 | 51052 | 41696 |
| Rhode Island | 59100 | 58400 | 67300 | 53138 | 52636 | 59829 |
| South Carolina | 52400 | 55400 | 46100 | 44329 | 46777 | 39268 |
| South Dakota | 48800 | 55900 | 45200 | 43355 | 49922 | 40019 |
| Tennessee | 47200 | 51500 | 39800 | 43680 | 47585 | 37312 |
| Texas | 52100 | 54600 | 41200 | 45935 | 48132 | 36870 |
| Utah | 57100 | 60000 | 48400 | 51277 | 53843 | 43964 |
| Vermont | 55700 | 65600 | 52800 | 48776 | 57616 | 46214 |
| Virginia | 62500 | 68500 | 45400 | 54601 | 59750 | 40787 |
| Washington | 61200 | 64200 | 48700 | 54196 | 56860 | 43085 |
| West Virginia | 43000 | 49100 | 39100 | 36623 | 41683 | 33350 |
| Wisconsin | 58400 | 62100 | 52000 | 53282 | 56585 | 47514 |
| Wyoming | 51600 | 53700 | 50700 | 45712 | 46124 | 45506 |
| US | 56500 | 60300 | 45000 | 50056 | 53279 | 40547 |

ATTACHMENT 8-A
Distribution of Differences between HUD interpolated Medians -\& Census Published Medians - MSAs (100 Percent = Census Median)


* This outlier is a result of special New England MSA definitions that Census plans to revise in mid-2003.

ATTACHMENT 8-B
Distribution of Differences between HUD interpolated Medians -\& Census Published Medians - NonMetro counties (100 Percent = Census Median)



[^0]:    U.S. Dept. of HUD

    Office of Policy
    Development \& Research
    Revised: February 1, 2003

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Family refers to the Census definition of a family, which is a householder with one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. The definition of family excludes one-person households.
    ${ }^{2}$ HUD calculates median family incomes using released Census income data aggregations rather than published Census MFI's based on non-aggregated data. Estimates based on non-aggregated data are more accurate, but the Census MFI's figures are not available for all geographical groupings and cannot be accurately used to update estimates for areas with changes in OMB area definitions. The HUD and Census estimates differ by a fraction of a percent for areas with comparable geographies. (Attachment 8 shows these differences by state.)

[^2]:    3 The median family income for the nation as a whole increased 55 percent from 1990 to 2000.
    ${ }_{4}$ The Census 2000 MFI was $\$ 50,056$; the mid-1999 HUD-equivalent estimate was $\$ 48,278$ (the FY 1999 estimate plus 1 percent); the Census CPS estimate was $\$ 48,952$. See attachment 3 for an explanation of trending.

[^3]:    "For purposes of calculating the median income for any area that is not within a metropolitan statistical area (as established by the Office of Management and Budget) for programs under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the United States Housing Act of 1937, the National Housing Act, or title $V$ of the Housing Act of 1949, the Secretary of

[^4]:    ${ }^{5}$ The national MFI from the Census was $\$ 50,046$; the March 2000 CPS produced a MFI estimate of $\$ 48,952$; and the first ACS survey, which collected data during the course of 2000 and effectively represented a measurement a year after those of the other surveys, had a MFI estimate of $\$ 49,628$.

[^5]:    For purposes of HUD income limit calculations, median family income estimates are linked to a family size of four persons. For instance, the 50 percent of median, Very Low-Income limit for a family of four is usually set at 50 percent of the median family income for all families. HUD then adjusts this figure to assign higher income limits for larger families and lower income limits for smaller families. Actual median family incomes tend to be lower for larger families despite their higher costs, which is why actual relationships are not used.

