







HUD User data sets





U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Policy Development and Research

hud.gov | huduser.gov

This guide is intended to serve as a helpful reference tool for the data sets available from the HUD User Clearinghouse and on our website at huduser.gov. We have provided a brief description of each data set along with its web address, release date, format(s), and the timeframe to which the data applies.

For assistance, or to order by phone, please call our HUD User Help Desk at 800–245-2691, option 1, M–F, 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. eastern.

July 2019



TABLE OF CONTENTS

50th Percentile Rent Estimates	1
American Housing Survey (AHS)	1
Annual Adjustment Factors (AAF)	1
Components of Inventory Change (CINCH)	2
Consolidated Planning (CHAS Data)	2
Fair Market Rents (FMRs)	3
Geospatial Data Resources	3
Government-Sponsored Enterprise Data	4
Housing Affordability Data System (HADS)	4
Housing Discrimination Against Racial and Ethnic Minorities 2012	5
Income Limits	5
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Database	5
Metropolitan Area Look-Up	6
Moving to Opportunity (MTO)	6
Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects Income Limits	6
Multifamily Utility Allowance Factors	7
PHA Homelessness Preferences: Web Census Survey Data	7
Physical Inspection Scores	8
Picture of Subsidized Households	8
Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)	9
Qualified Census Tracts and Difficult Development Areas	9
Renewal Funding Inflation Factors	10
Rental Housing Finance Survey (RHFS)	10
Residential Finance Survey (RFS)	11

Sandy Damage Estimates by Block Group	.11
Small Area Fair Market Rents	.12
Special Tabulations of Households	.12
State of the Cities Data Systems (SOCDS)	.13
Jniform Relocation Act Income Limits	.13
JSPS Vacancies Data	.13
JSPS ZIP Code Crosswalk Files	.14
Jtility Allowances	.14

50TH PERCENTILE RENT ESTIMATES

huduser.gov/datasets/50per.html

Rent estimates at the 50th percentile (or median) are calculated for all Fair Market Rent areas. THESE ARE NOT FAIR MARKET RENTS. Under certain conditions, as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations (24 CFR 982.503(e)), these 50th percentile rents can be used to set success rate payment standards.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually, in October

Format: Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: Annual, 2001–2019

AMERICAN HOUSING SURVEY (AHS)

huduser.gov/datasets/ahs.html

The American Housing Survey (AHS) is the most detailed, recurring national housing sample survey in the United States. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the AHS to obtain up-to-date housing statistics for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It provides data on apartments, single-family homes, mobile homes, vacant homes, family composition, income, housing and neighborhood quality, housing costs, equipment, fuels, sizes of housing units, and recent movers. A nationally representative panel is interviewed every other year. Metropolitan area surveys are conducted on a rotating basis.

Anticipated Release Dates: Data are released approximately 12 months after data collection between May and September.

Formats: SAS, ASCII, online table creator

Periods Available: 1973–2017 on census.gov.

ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT FACTORS (AAF)

huduser.gov/datasets/aaf.html

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development establishes the rent adjustment factors — called Annual Adjustment Factors (AAFs) — on the basis of Consumer Price Index (CPI) data relating to changes in residential rent and utility costs.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: PDF, Microsoft Word

Periods Available: Annual, 1997–2019

COMPONENTS OF INVENTORY CHANGE (CINCH)

huduser.gov/datasets/cinch.html

The Components of Inventory Change (CINCH) reports are processed every 2 years, using data derived from the national American Housing Survey (AHS). The data compare the characteristics of individual housing units over time. This comparison allows researchers to see not only changes in the characteristics of housing units but also changes in the characteristics of occupants. Information is available on the characteristics of units added to and removed from the housing stock.

Anticipated Release Date: Every other year

Formats: PDF (all years), SAS and ASCII (2001–2013)
Periods Available: Biennially, 1985–2013, 2015–2017

CONSOLIDATED PLANNING (CHAS DATA)

huduser.gov/datasets/cp.html

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) annually receives "custom tabulations" of data from the U.S. Census Bureau that are largely not available through standard census products. These data, known as the CHAS data (Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy), demonstrate the extent of housing problems and housing needs, particularly for low-income households. The CHAS data are used by local governments to plan how to spend HUD funds, and may also be used by HUD to distribute grant funds. Elements of the CHAS data are available through CPD Maps, the online mapping tool from HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (egis.hud.gov/cpdmaps/).

The CHAS data are derived from the American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year averages and are released annually.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually, in the summer

Formats: PDF, CSV, Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: 2000, 2005–07, 2006–08, 2005–09, 2006–10, 2008–10, 2009–11,

2007–11, 2008–12, 2009–2013, 2010–2014, 2011–2015

FAIR MARKET RENTS (FMRs)

huduser.gov/datasets/fmr.html

Fair Market Rents (FMRs) are used in the calculation of payment standard amounts for the Housing Choice Voucher program, determine initial renewal rents for some expiring Project-Based Section 8 contracts, establish initial rents for housing assistance payment (HAP) contracts, are the basis for flat rents in Public Housing, determine the maximum grant amounts in the Continuum of Care programs, and serve as rent ceilings for the HOME Investment Partnerships and the Emergency Solutions Grants programs. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development calculates and publishes FMRs annually for Office of Management and Budget metropolitan areas, some HUD defined subdivisions of OMB defined areas, and nonmetropolitan counties.

Note: In certain metropolitan areas, Small Area FMRs are required for the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually, in October

Formats: PDF, HTML, Microsoft Excel **Periods Available:** Annual, 1983–2019

GEOSPATIAL DATA RESOURCES

hudgis-hud.opendata.arcgis.com

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is a powerful technology for understanding, managing, analyzing, and visualizing U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) insured and assisted household data, and policy initiatives. Although GIS has been employed in varying degrees for many years throughout the Department, strategic efforts to provide an enterprisewide platform for geospatial data, tools, and expertise to address housing issues began in 2000, under the auspices of the Office of Policy Development and Research with the development of the Enterprise Geographic Information System (eGIS) platform. The platform supports a number of HUD program office initiatives and serves as the primary source for authoritative geospatial data, online services, and applications.

Anticipated Release Date: Data sets are updated according to release schedules.

Formats: File Geodatabase, Shapefile; available for download as: Representational State Transfer (REST) Services, Web Map Service Interface Standard (WMS), Keyhole Markup Language (KML), Comma Separated Values (CSV); and available to developers through the HUD eGIS Open Data Storefront Application Programming Interface (API). Users can access HUD's locational intelligence data and map services through HUD's eGIS Open Data Storefront, ArcGIS Online, ArcGIS Desktop, and ArcGIS Pro, QGIS, Google Earth, and many other commercial and open source applications.

Periods Available: Varies by data set, 2000-current

GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED ENTERPRISE DATA

huduser.gov/datasets/gse.html

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published extensive information on the mortgage purchases of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two Government-Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs) for which HUD had oversight responsibility through mid-2008. The information is intended to aid mortgage lenders, planners, researchers, and housing advocates in studying the flow of mortgage credit and capital in America's communities.

Anticipated Release Date: The Federal Housing Finance Agency, now overseeing the GSEs, releases the data.

Format: ASCII (self-extracting EXE)
Periods Available: Annual, 1993–2007

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY DATA SYSTEM (HADS)

huduser.gov/datasets/hads/hads.html

The Housing Affordability Data System (HADS) is a set of files derived from the 1985 and later national American Housing Survey (AHS) and the 2002 and later Metro AHS. This system categorizes housing units by affordability and households by income, with respect to the Adjusted Median Income, Fair Market Rent (FMR), and poverty income. It also includes housing cost burden for owner and renter households. These files have been the basis for the worst case needs tables since 2001. The data files are available for public use, as they were derived from AHS public-use files and the published income limits and FMRs.

Anticipated Release Date: Every other year

Formats: ASCII, SAS

Periods Available: Biennially, 1985–2013 (derived from AHS National Data), 2002–13 (derived

from AHS Metro Data)

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES 2012

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/hsg_discrimination.html

For much of the 20th century, discrimination by private real estate agents and rental property owners helped establish and sustain stark patterns of housing and neighborhood inequality. Beginning in the late 1970s, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has rigorously monitored trends in racial and ethnic discrimination in both rental and sales markets approximately once each decade through a series of nationwide, paired-testing studies. This summary report presents findings from the fourth such study, which applied paired-testing methodology in 28 metropolitan areas to measure the incidence and forms of discrimination experienced by black, Hispanic, and Asian renters and homebuyers.

Anticipated Release Date: This was a one-time survey.

Formats: SAS, PDF

Period Available: 2012 Summary Report

INCOME LIMITS

huduser.gov/datasets/il.html

Income limits are calculated for metropolitan areas and nonmetropolitan counties in the United States and its territories using the Fair Market Rent area definitions used in the Section 8 program. They are based on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 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.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: Microsoft Word, PDF, HTML, Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: Annual, 1990-2019

LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT DATABASE

lihtc.huduser.gov/

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) database is the only complete, national source of information on the size, unit mix, and location of individual projects. With continued support of the national LIHTC database, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development hopes to enable researchers to learn more about the effects of the tax credit program.

Anticipated Release Date: Late spring
Formats: HTML, dBase (self-extracting ZIP)

Periods Available: 1987–2017

METROPOLITAN AREA LOOK-UP

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/geotools.html

The Metropolitan Area Look-Up system provides users with a facility to select a state and county combination to determine if the selected county is part of an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defined Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA). The system has been updated with OMB area definitions published as of February 29, 2013.

Anticipated Release Date: Intermittent

Formats: HTML

Periods Available: 2013

MOVING TO OPPORTUNITY (MTO)

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/mto.html

Moving to Opportunity (MTO) is a unique, random-assignment research effort sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It was designed to help very low-income families with children living in public housing or Section 8 project-based housing in extremely poor neighborhoods relocate to "opportunity neighborhoods" for greater self-sufficiency and improved individual and family well-being. Final and interim reports, as well as demonstration data, have been made available.

Anticipated Release Date: This was a one-time survey.

Formats: PDF

Periods Available: Report covers September 1994 to August 1998.

MULTIFAMILY TAX SUBSIDY PROJECTS INCOME LIMITS

huduser.gov/datasets/mtsp.html

Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects (MTSP) Income Limits were developed to meet the requirements established by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-289) that allows income limits for projects placed in service by 2008 in certain areas to increase over time. The MTSP Income Limits are used to determine qualification levels, as well as to set maximum rental rates for projects funded with tax credits authorized under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) and projects financed with tax-exempt housing bonds issued to provide qualified residential rental development under section 142 of the Code.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: HTML, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, PDF

Periods Available: 2009-2019

MULTIFAMILY UTILITY ALLOWANCE FACTORS

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/muaf.html

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Housing permits owners/ agents to use Utility Allowance Factors (UAFs) for projects subject to the requirements found in Housing's Utility Analysis Notice. The notice describes when owners/agents of multifamily housing properties that receive a utility allowance may use the published UAFs to adjust these allowances. The data set is updated once per year and is published with an effective date. The data set is based on information published by the U.S. Energy Information Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Owners/agents will determine the utility and state specific UAF and apply the published UAF to the utility allowance being adjusted.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Format: Microsoft Excel

Period Available: 2015-2019

PHA HOMELESSNESS PREFERENCES: WEB CENSUS SURVEY DATA

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/pha_study.html

In 2012, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development administered a web-based survey to 3,988 public housing agencies (PHAs) that administer the Housing Choice Voucher program and/or operate public housing to understand the extent to which PHAs prioritize homeless households for these two forms of housing assistance. The self-administered survey, which achieved an 80 percent response rate, consisted of close-ended questions about the size of the PHA and the types of programs it administers, the existing preferences and limited preferences for homeless households and how they fit into the PHA's overall preference system, barriers the PHA perceives as limiting its ability to serve homeless households, the extent of PHA partnerships with organizations that provide services to people experiencing homelessness, whether the PHA participates in the local Continuum of Care (CoC), and other programs administered through the PHAs that could serve homeless households. The data represent a point-in-time "snapshot" of PHA policies in 2012.

Anticipated Release Date: This was a one-time survey.

Formats: PDF, SAS, Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: 2012

PHYSICAL INSPECTION SCORES

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/pis.html

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Real Estate Assessment Center conducts physical inspections of properties that are owned, insured, or subsidized by HUD, including public housing and multifamily assisted housing. This release provides a full, historical view of the results of those inspections, providing point-in-time property scores. Results are available for download as a comma-delimited data set. Separate data sets are available for public housing and for multifamily assisted properties.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: TXT, Microsoft Excel
Periods Available: 2011–2019

PICTURE OF SUBSIDIZED HOUSEHOLDS

huduser.gov/datasets/assthsg.html

This data set, also known as Assisted Housing: National and Local, allows users to sketch a picture of subsidized households across the United States. Assistance provided under HUD programs falls into three categories: public housing, tenant-based, and privately owned, project-based. Programs in the Picture data set include Public Housing, the Housing Choice Voucher Program, Moderate Rehabilitation, and the collection of multifamily programs such as Project-Based Section 8, Rental Assistance Payment, Below Market Interest Rate properties, Supportive Housing for the Elderly, and Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program.

Assisted Housing data are available through a query process for the nation, states, Core Based Statistical Areas (CBSAs), counties, cities, projects, census tracts, Public Housing Agencies, and Congressional Districts.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: Web-based guery tool, Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: 1970, 1993, 1996–1998, 2000, 2004–2008, 2009, 2012–2018 based

on 2010 Census geographies

PUBLIC USE MICRODATA SAMPLE (PUMS)

huduser.gov/portal/pumd/index.html

The Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data sets cover HUD's largest rental assistance programs: the Housing Choice Voucher Program, Public Housing, Project-Based Section 8, and the Section 202/811 Programs. The purpose of any release of data is to provide opportunities to the research community to produce in-depth analyses of the characteristics of households receiving HUD housing assistance. These data sets never identify individual households.

Qualified researchers may request data that could include family type, household income, race, gender, and other household and geographic characteristics. The sample size (5 percent) is large enough to be statistically valid and representative of states and the nation as a whole while small enough to preserve privacy. The Data Dictionary that provides information on the sampling design and variables is available at: huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/PUMS-Data-Dictionary.pdf.

Researchers requesting access to the PUMS data will be asked to provide an e-mail address, organization, organization website, and reason for accessing the tenant data. By requesting access to PUMS data, the researcher is acknowledging (1) a legitimate research purpose for the data and (2) that the data will not be used in an attempt to identify particular assisted households. Once the request is approved by HUD, the researcher will be sent a username/password that will give access to the data files.

By requesting the data, researchers are also granting PD&R permission to contact them by e-mail requesting comments and suggestions for improving the PUMS data set.

Anticipated Release Date: Upon request

Formats: SAS, CSV

Periods available: 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2017

QUALIFIED CENSUS TRACTS AND DIFFICULT DEVELOPMENT AREAS

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/qct.html

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Qualified Census Tracts must have 50 percent of households with incomes below 60 percent of the Area Median Gross Income or have a poverty rate of 25 percent or more. Difficult Development Areas (DDA) are designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and are based on Fair Market Rents, income limits, the 2010 census counts, and 5-year American Community Survey data. Beginning with the 2016 DDA designations, metropolitan DDAs use Small Area Fair Market Rents (FMRs) rather than metropolitan-area FMRs for designating metropolitan DDAs. Maps of Qualified Census Tracts are available at: huduser.gov/portal/sadda/sadda gct.html.

Anticipated Release Dates: Difficult Development Areas are updated upon release of 5-year ACS. Qualified Census Tracts may be updated simultaneously with Difficult Development Areas.

Formats: PDF, dBase, HTML
Periods Available: 2000–2019

RENEWAL FUNDING INFLATION FACTORS

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/rfif/rfif.html

Renewal Funding Inflation Factors are used in the allocation of Housing Choice Voucher funds among Public Housing Agencies. Prior to fiscal year 2012, these factors were called Annual Adjustment Factors. In the Fiscal Year 2012 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Appropriations bill, Congress changed the name of these factors in recognition of HUD's new methodology for calculating the factors, which now takes advantage of ongoing Office of Policy Development and Research's data aimed at better understanding the drivers of change in per-unit-costs (PUC) in the voucher program. Renewal Funding Inflation Factors have been developed to account for the expected annual change in average PUC in the voucher program using historical program data, coupled with several economic indices used to capture key components of the economic climate, which also assist in explaining the changes in PUC.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: PDF, Microsoft Excel Periods Available: 2012–2019

RENTAL HOUSING FINANCE SURVEY (RHFS)

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/rhfs/home.html

The purpose of the Rental Housing Finance Survey (RHFS) is to provide a current and continual measure of financial, mortgage, and property characteristics of multifamily rental housing properties in the United States. The survey provides information on the financing of multifamily rental housing properties with emphasis on new originations for purchase, refinancing, and loan terms associated with these originations. In addition, the survey includes information on property characteristics, such as number of units, amenities available, rental income, and expenditure information.

Anticipated Release Date: Survey was completed once

Formats: Microsoft Excel, PDF, CSV, SAS, online table creator available on census.gov.

Periods Available: 2012, 2015, 2018 available on census.gov. (Note: for data from earlier

years, see the Residential Finance Survey.)

RESIDENTIAL FINANCE SURVEY (RFS)

huduser.gov/datasets/rfs.html

The 2001 Residential Finance Survey (RFS) was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. The RFS is a followon survey to the 2000 decennial census designed to collect, process, and produce information about the financing of all nonfarm, residential properties.

Anticipated Release Date: Survey was completed twice

Formats: Self-extracting EXE, ASCII

Periods Available: 1991, 2001 (Note: for data from later years, see the Rental Housing

Finance Survey.)

SANDY DAMAGE ESTIMATES BY BLOCK GROUP

huduser.gov/maps/map_sandy_blockgroup.html

A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) housing inspection for renters was used to assess personal property loss and for owners to assess damage to their home as well as personal property in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. This inspection was done to determine eligibility for FEMA Individual Assistance. For both rental and owner inspections, if the property had flood damage, inspectors measured the height of the flooding. They indicated the highest floor of the flooding (for example, basement, first floor, second floor, etc.) and the height of the flooding in that room. In addition, for the units without flooding, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimated minor/major/severe damage based on the damage inspection estimates for real property (owner) and personal property (renter).

Anticipated Release Date: Assessment was completed once.

Format: HTML

Periods Available: 2013

SMALL AREA FAIR MARKET RENTS

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr/smallarea/index.html

Small Area Fair Market Rents are Fair Market Rents (FMRs) calculated for ZIP Codes within metropolitan areas. Small Area FMRs are required to set Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher payment standards in areas designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Other public housing agencies (PHAs) operating in non-designated metropolitan areas may opt-in to the use of Small Area FMRs. Furthermore, Small Area FMRs may be used as the basis for setting Exception Payment Standards — PHAs may set exception payment standards up to 110 percent of the Small Area FMR. PHAs administering public housing units may use Small Area FMRs as an alternative to metropolitan area-wide FMRs when calculating flat rents.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually, in October

Formats: Microsoft Excel, HTML Periods Available: 2011–2019

SPECIAL TABULATIONS OF HOUSEHOLDS

huduser.gov/datasets/spectabs.html

The Special Tabulations data retrieval system produces tabular statistical summaries of counts of households by tenure, income intervals, age of householder, size of household, and housing conditions.

For 1990 and 2000, the system contains decennial data for all counties and county equivalents in the United States, places with populations of 50,000 (subject to disclosure requirements), the nation, all states and the District of Columbia, and MSAs and PMSAs (except those in New England) based on the 1999 OMB definitions in effect at the time of the 2000 Census. Year 2000 data are also provided for selected areas in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Beginning in 2010, the system uses data from the Census ACS 5-year survey, which is available at the CBSA, State, and County level.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Format: HTMI

Periods Available: 1990 and 2000 (both derived from census long form), 2010, 2014–2017

STATE OF THE CITIES DATA SYSTEMS (SOCDS)

socds.huduser.gov/index.html

The State of the Cities Data Systems (SOCDS) consists of the following databases that cover metropolitan areas, central cities, and suburbs: Historical Census Data, Current Employment Statistics, County Business Patterns Data, FBI Crime Data, Building Permits Data, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data, Urban Public Finance Data, and Principal Cities Data.

Anticipated Release Dates: The Building Permits Data are updated monthly. HUD has insufficient resources to continue updating the remaining SOCDS at this time.

Format: HTML, Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: Periodic, 1970–2019

UNIFORM RELOCATION ACT INCOME LIMITS

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/ura.html

The Uniform Relocation Act Income Limits establish the extent of replacement housing assistance dependent on qualifying as low-income, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The act applies to all federal agencies that initiate action that forces households to relocate from their residence.

Anticipated Release Date: Annually

Formats: PDF, Microsoft Word Periods Available: 2004–2019

USPS VACANCIES DATA

huduser.gov/datasets/usps.html

Through an agreement with the United States Postal Service, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) receives counts of total and vacant business and residential addresses in the United States at the ZIP+4 (ZIP9) geographic level. HUD uses these data for a variety of purposes, including measuring and forecasting neighborhood change, assessing neighborhood needs, and measuring/assessing various HUD programs, such as the Community Development Block Grant, the American Dream Downpayment Initiative, and the Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program. HUD makes the vacancy data available at the census tract level to government and nonprofit organizations through its controlled access page on the HUD User website. Permitted users must register to obtain a username and password to access these data.

Anticipated Release Date: Quarterly

Formats: dBase

Periods Available: 2005-present

USPS ZIP CODE CROSSWALK FILES

huduser.gov/portal/datasets/usps_crosswalk.html

One of the many challenges that social science researchers and practitioners face is the difficulty of relating United States Postal Service (USPS) ZIP Codes to U.S. Census Bureau geographies. There are valuable data available only at the ZIP Code level that, when combined with demographic data tabulated at various census geography levels, could open up new avenues of exploration. To provide avenues for merging these data, the Office of Policy Development and Research has released the HUD-USPS Crosswalk Files. These unique files are derived from data in the quarterly USPS Vacancies Data. They originate directly from the USPS and are updated quarterly, making them highly responsive to changes in ZIP Code configurations, reflecting the locations of both business and residential addresses. The latter feature is of particular interest to housing researchers because many of the phenomena they study are based on housing unit or address. By using an allocation method based on residential addresses rather than by area or by population, analysts can take into account not only the spatial distribution of population, but also the spatial distribution of residences. This enables a slightly more nuanced approach to allocating data between disparate geographies.

Anticipated Release Date: Quarterly

Format: Microsoft Excel

Periods Available: 2010-2019

UTILITY ALLOWANCES

huduser.gov/portal/resources/utilallowance.html

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has developed the HUD Utility Schedule Model (HUSM) that enables users to calculate utility schedules after entering information on housing structure, utility rate information (tariffs), and geographic location. The current HUSM is a web application that uses correlations and regression techniques to calculate allowances for end-uses, as specified on form HUD-52667 (Allowances for Tenant-Furnished Utilities and Other Services). This version of HUSM is based upon the 2009 Residential Energy Consumption Survey, a nationally representative survey that collects data on energy characteristics of housing units, usage patterns, and household demographics.

Anticipated Release Date: Intermittent Formats: Microsoft Excel, web-based

Periods Available: Updated as of August 2016

Many of HUD User's data sets can be downloaded, free of charge, by visiting our website at huduser.gov. The Government Sponsored Enterprise and the American Housing Survey data sets are available on CD-ROM for a nominal fee by calling the HUD User Help Desk at 800–245–2691, option 1, M–F from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. eastern or by visiting the HUD User Web Store at webstore.huduser.gov.

For the latest information on any of the data sets, please visit huduser.gov/datasets/pdrdatas.html.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Policy Development and Research Washington, DC 20410-6000

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300 Return Service Requested

