



Downloading HUD Aggregated USPS Administrative Data on Address Vacancies

Note: USPS vacancy data are only available to governmental and non-profit organizations. To access the data, you will need to register on the HUD User website:
<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/usps/index.html#>. It may take some time for HUD to respond to your request.

Step 1. Go to <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/usps.html> and click the “Login” link. Enter your email address and password, or, if you have not already registered, click “Register Here.” Read the license agreement and click “Yes” to agree to its terms.

HUD AGGREGATED USPS ADMINISTRATIVE DATA ON ADDRESS VACANCIES

DATASET / HUD AGGREGATED USPS ADMINISTRATIVE DATA ON ADDRESS VACANCIES

Update

Changes in the way the USPS manages its address data have made longitudinal analysis using the USPS Vacancy Data more challenging. The most recent change has been the introduction of a new program that the USPS calls Move to Competitive (MTC) service, which resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of addresses. For more information please refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#), which HUD strongly urges all current and potential users to read before attempting to analyze or apply these data.

Summary

In 2005, HUD entered into an agreement with the United States Postal Service (USPS) to receive quarterly aggregate data on addresses identified by the USPS as having been "Vacant" or "No-Stat" in the previous quarter. HUD is making these data available for researchers and practitioners to explore their potential utility for tracking neighborhood change on a quarterly basis. The potential power of these data is that they represent the universe of all addresses in the United States and are updated every three months. Under the current agreement with the USPS, HUD can make the data accessible only to governmental entities and non-profit organizations registered as users. Use of the data is permitted only for activities related to the ["stated purpose"](#) outlined in the sublicense agreement.

Other Datasets

Frequently Accessed Materials

- Login
- Stated Purpose
- Data Dictionary
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- USPS Home

Download

Step 2. Select the relevant year and use the dropdown menu to select the relevant quarter. Click “Download.” Repeat these steps to download all relevant quarters.

2010 Census Tract Summary Files

2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 Year ▾

Data

Quarter 2 ending June 30, 2019 ▾

Download

* Data available up to June 2019.

Step 3. Download the Data Dictionary to find field names and descriptions.

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USPS does not provide HUD with a list of addresses or properties. Instead, HUD is provided with a tabulation of all addresses of different types and the number of addresses of each type that are vacant. HUD tabulates these counts according to the census tract that they fall in and distributes the data by tract as the final product.

Frequently Accessed Materials

[Stated Purpose](#)

[Data Dictionary](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#)

[USPS Home](#)

Step 4. The downloaded dataset(s) include a “geoid” field that is identical to the “geoid” fields found in census-tract level data downloaded from the Census Bureau. The first two digits are the state FIPS code, the next three digits are the FIPS county code, and the remaining digits are the census tracts. Use this field to filter the dataset(s) for the relevant census tracts.

There are a number of other fields that may be useful for your analysis, depending on which types of vacancy you want to analyze (i.e., residential vs. business vacancy) or how long addresses have been vacant (i.e., 12 months or more).

Data Dictionary for HUD Aggregated USPS Administrative Data for Quarter 4, 2007 and All Quarters After	
Field Name	Field Description
GEOID	2000 Census Tract Unique ID (State FIPS + County FIPS + Tract Code)
AMS_RES	Total Count of Addresses - Residential
AMS_BUS	Total Count of Addresses - Business
AMS_OTH	Total Count of Addresses in AMS - Other
RES_VAC	Total Count of Vacant Addresses - Residential
BUS_VAC	Total Count of Vacant Addresses - Business
OTH_VAC	Total Count of Vacant Addresses - Other
AVG_VAC_R	Average Days Addresses Vacant - Residential
AVG_VAC_B	Average Days Addresses Vacant - Business
VAC_3_RES	Vacant 3 Mos. to Less Count - Residential
VAC_3_BUS	Vacant 3 Mos. to Less Count - Business
VAC_3_OTH	Vacant 3 Mos. to Less Count - Other
VAC_3_6_R	Vacant 3 Mos. to 6 Mos. Count - Residential
VAC_3_6_B	Vacant 3 Mos. to 6 Mos. Count - Business
VAC_3_6_O	Vacant 3 Mos. to 6 Mos. Count - Other
VAC_6_12R	Vacant 6 Mos. to 12 Mos. Count - Residential
VAC_6_12B	Vacant 6 Mos. to 12 Mos. Count - Business
VAC_6_12O	Vacant 6 Mos. to 12 Mos. Count - Other
VAC_12_24R	Vacant 12 Mos. to 24 Mos. Count - Residential
VAC_12_24B	Vacant 12 Mos. to 24 Mos. Count - Business
VAC_12_24O	Vacant 12 Mos. to 24 Mos. Count - Other
VAC_24_36R	Vacant 24 Mos. to 36 Mos. Count - Residential
VAC_24_36B	Vacant 24 Mos. to 36 Mos. Count - Business
VAC_24_36O	Vacant 24 Mos. to 36 Mos. Count - Other
VAC_36_RES	Vacant 36 Mos. or Longer Count - Residential
VAC_36_BUS	Vacant 36 Mos. or Longer Count - Business
VAC_36_OTH	Vacant 36 Mos. or Longer Count - Other