



# Spatially Speaking

## FGDC Monthly Update

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

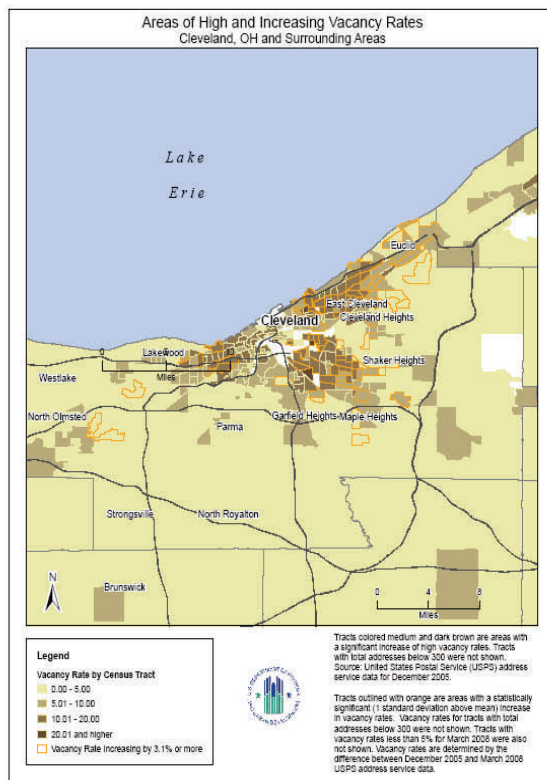
- FGDC Coordination Group Federal participants** July 1
- Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee** July 15
- ESRI Users Conference— San Diego, CA** August 2-5
- FGDC Coordination Group meeting** August 12

For more information on FGDC events view the calendar at:

<http://www.fgdc.gov/calendar>

## HUD maps strategy for targeting Federal Aid to neighborhoods distressed by the subprime mortgage crisis

Escalating housing foreclosures are having a devastating impact not only on individuals and families but on local neighborhoods and the broader economy. Areas affected by both foreclosures and long-term vacancy can have pernicious effects on the value of surrounding homes, the quality of life within communities, and the overall local economy.



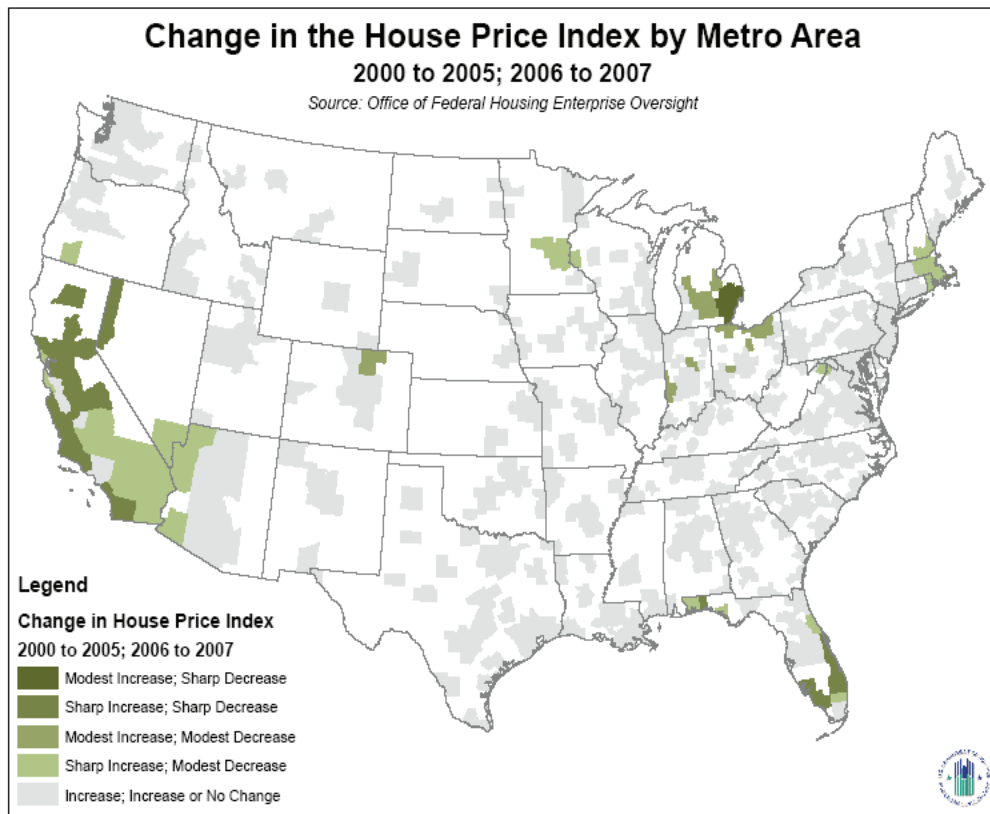
In a joint hearing of the House of Representatives Subcommittees on Housing and Community Opportunity and Domestic Policy requested testimony from housing experts on how they might target federal aid to neighborhoods distressed by the subprime mortgage crisis. On May 22, 2008, Todd Richardson, Director of HUD's Policy Development & Research's (PD&R) Program Evaluation Division, testified before these committees on the challenges and opportunities to develop a fair and equitable allocation formula using national data sources that would enable HUD to administer such a program.

View the FGDC website at: [www.fgdc.gov](http://www.fgdc.gov)

HUD continued....

Using maps prepared by HUD's PD&R.GIS professionals, Mr. Richardson demonstrated how the combination of information from several public data sets (e.g., OFHEO, HMDA, USPS, BLS, Census) has the greatest potential to achieve the Congressional goal of accurately targeting funds to areas with increasing vacancy and abandonment. The testimony discussed what data could first be used to identify communities and neighborhoods that have the characteristics placing them at risk for vacancy and abandonment and then to help target the neighborhoods actually experiencing increasing rates of vacancy. For instance, HUD can track neighborhood changes in vacancy rates using data provided to HUD by the United States Postal Service. The USPS provides disaggregated data to HUD every quarter and HUD makes them available publicly at the Census Tract level. Of course, further analysis of individual and combinatory data sets are required to ensure accuracy in targeting funds to all communities across the country.

The following maps represent a sample that were shown during the hearing. For additional information on the joint hearing on "Targeting Federal Aid to Neighborhoods Distressed by the Subprime Mortgage Crisis", go to <http://financialservices.house.gov/> and click on hearings of the 110th Congress).



Spatially Speaking" is designed to provide updates on the activities of the FGDC. Subcommittees, work-groups, and other FGDC participants are urged to submit updates to Pat Phillips [pPhillips@fgdc.gov](mailto:pPhillips@fgdc.gov) by the 20th of each month.