

Manufactured Housing Survey

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General Questions

1.) What is the difference between modular and manufactured homes?

Modular homes require a building permit and are subject to local zoning and building code standards. Manufactured homes must meet building standards defined by the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are defined as a movable dwelling, 8 feet or more wide and 40 feet or more long, designed to be towed on its own chassis, with transportation gear integral to the unit when it leaves the factory, and without need of a permanent foundation. No building permit is required for a manufactured home.

2.) Do you have data on modular homes versus manufactured homes?

No. The Manufactured Housing Survey does not include data for modular homes.

3.) Are there other sources of data for manufactured or modular housing?

Yes. There are other surveys/censuses that provide data on manufactured and modular housing. This information can be obtained by exploring the following websites:

- American Housing Survey at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/ahs.html>
- HUD at: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/mhs/mhshome.cfm>
- Construction Statistics at: <http://www.census.gov/const/www/charindex.html>

4.) Do you have any information at the state, local, or region level?

The Manufactured Housing Survey (MHS) produces monthly regional estimates of manufactured homes placements, average sales prices, and dealers' inventories and more detailed annual estimates by state including selected characteristics of new manufactured homes.

5.) Do you have any demographic information on manufactured homeowners?

No. The Manufactured Housing Survey does not collect any demographic data. The data for the Manufactured Homes Survey are collected from the dealers and not from manufacturers or homeowners.

6.) Do you have information concerning repossessed homes or resale of units?

No. The Manufactured Housing Survey does not include data on repossessed homes or resale units. The shipments figures are based on reports submitted by manufacturers on the number of manufactured homes actually shipped during the survey month. The data collected on the homes for our survey relates to the initial placement of the home. Once the unit is initially placed, we no longer track the home.

Respondent Questions

1.) Why do I receive a survey form (C-MH-9A)?

HUD sponsors the monthly Manufactured Housing Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. A sample of manufactured home dealers are contacted each month to collect data that is useful to those with an interest in the manufactured housing industry. Data users include home builders, suppliers, insurers, financiers, developers, investors and buyers.

2.) How often will I be contacted by the U.S. Census Bureau?

The Manufactured Housing Survey contacts only a sample of dealers each month. You may not receive a survey form each month. However, if a dealer has units that are in the current monthly sample, the U.S. Census Bureau will contact the dealer periodically by phone until the units have been placed and the survey information has been collected.