American Community Survey

Housing: Question on Year Structure Built

Question as it appears in the questionnaire.

9	Abo	out when was this building first built?
		2000 or later - Specify year
		1990 to 1999
		1980 to 1989
		1970 to 1979
		1960 to 1969
		1950 to 1959
		1940 to 1949
		1939 or earlier

Source: ACS-1(2009)KFI

MEETING FEDERAL NEEDS

The year the structure was built determines the age of housing units. These data are integral components used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the development of Fair Market Rents for all areas of the country. These data are valuable to several federal agencies in developing formulas for allocating funds and determining substandard housing. Funding formulas used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development mandate the use of these data. These data are also used to design the U.S. Department of Energy's legislatively mandated Residential Energy Consumption Survey.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Energy

The age of housing is used to forecast future energy consumption.

Housing

These data are used in housing assistance programs as a component of measures of substandard housing. These data are used to allocate funds to local governments under the Community Development Block Grant Program and Public Housing Modernization formulas.

Banking

The Federal Reserve Board uses these data to implement the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act that requires lending institutions to disclose details of lending practices as a safeguard against unfair housing practices in certain communities.

Social Services

Local areas use these data about the year structure was built for forecasting the needs for services such as fire protection.

These data are used to profile the ages of the structures lived in by eligible households under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

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