

2017 American Housing Survey National Public Use File (PUF) Versioning Document

The purpose of this document is to provide data users with information regarding updates to the 2017 AHS PUFs. Each release is accompanied by a list of changes and their potential impact on data analysis.

Version	Release Date
V 1.0	September 6, 2018
V 1.1	October 2, 2018
V 2.0	January 29, 2019
V 3.0	April 24, 2019

Changes Between 2017 AHS PUFs 1.0 and 1.1			
Item	Item Label	Change	Analysis Impact
DBLVEFORC	Likelihood of leaving home due to foreclosure	Added to PUF	None
DBMISSMORT	Inability to pay mortgage	Added to PUF	None
DBMISSRENT	Inability to pay rent	Added to PUF	None
DBFORCWHR	Where household would go in event of foreclosure	Added to PUF	None
DBEVICTHT	Threat of eviction	Added to PUF	None
DBEVICNOTE	Receipt of eviction notice	Added to PUF	None
DBEVICLK	Likelihood of leaving home because of eviction	Added to PUF	None
DBEVICWHERE	Where household would go in event of eviction	Added to PUF	None
DBUTBILL	Received utility shut-off notice	Added to PUF	None
ROOFSAG	Flag indicating roof's surface sags or is uneven	Shifted about 800 cases for each variable from 'N' (not applicable – out of universe) to 'M' (not reported) to better reflect the intended universe. Previously, they were marked as 'N' (not applicable - out of universe) because they did not have a valid value for the variable that came before it due to survey respondent drop-off.	Minimal
ROOFSHIN	Flag indicating roof has missing shingles or other roofing materials		
ROOFHOLE	Flag indicating roof has holes		
WALLSIDE	Flag indicating outside walls have missing siding, bricks, or other missing wall materials		
WALLSLOPE	Flag indicating outside walls slope, lean, buckle, or slant		
WINBOARD	Flag indicating windows are boarded up		
WINBROKE	Flag indicating windows are broken		

WINBARS	Flag indicating unit's windows covered with metal bars		
FNDCRUMB	Flag indicating foundation has holes, cracks, or crumbling		
Value Labels Package		Some variables, such as NATVTY, OMB13CBSA, and SPLITSAMP, were not properly updated from 2015 and have now been added to the value labels file.	Minimal (only for users of the Value Labels Package)

Changes Between 2017 AHS PUFs 1.1 and 2.0			
Item	Item Label	Change	Analysis Impact
Weight Variables	Final Weight (as well as Split Sample and Replicate Weights)	Adjustments were made to the weighting. This includes WEIGHT, SP2WEIGHT, and the related replicate weight variables.	Moderate for estimates in the East North Central division, minimal for all other estimates
SP1WEIGHT	Final weight for split sample: group 1 topical modules	Added to PUF	None
COMDAYS	Number of days (per week) the respondent commutes to work	Added to PUF	None
DRIVEALL	Number of days (per week) the respondent drives all the way to work	Added to PUF	None
DRIVEPART	Flag indicating own vehicle used for part of commute	Added to PUF	None
COMPANYCAR	Flag indicating company vehicle used for commute	Added to PUF	None
CARPOOL	Flag indicating carpool use and number of people in the carpool	Added to PUF	None
POOLAMT	Amount of carpool expenses	Added to PUF	None
DIST	Round trip commute distance	Added to PUF	None
PARKING	Amount of parking expenses	Added to PUF	None
TOLL	Amount of toll expenses	Added to PUF	None
SUBWAY	Flag indicating subway used for commute	Added to PUF	None
BUS	Flag indicating bus used for commute	Added to PUF	None
VAN	Flag indicating commuter van used for commute	Added to PUF	None
SUBSIDY	Flag indicating transit subsidy	Added to PUF	None
TRANAMT	Amount of out-of-pocket expenses for public transportation	Added to PUF	None
TAXI	Amount of taxi expenses	Added to PUF	None

FERRY	Amount of ferry expenses	Added to PUF	None
WALK	Flag indicating walk to work	Added to PUF	None
BIKE	Flag indicating bike to work	Added to PUF	None
COMCOST	Total annual commuting cost	Added to PUF	None
COMTYPE	Flag indicating mode(s) of transportation used to commute to work	Added to PUF	None
PUBSEW	Unit connected to public sewer	PUBSEW is now imputed, which also impacts SEWTYPE and SEWBREAK.	Moderate (only for users of these variables)
SEWTYPE	Type of sewer system		
SEWBREAK	Number of sewer breakdowns within last 3 months that last 6 hours or more		
REMODAMT	Total cost of home improvement jobs in last two years	Owner-occupied units without home improvement jobs were accidentally coded as N instead of 0. These have now been corrected to 0.	Minimal
BUYE2 BUYF2 BUYG2 BUYO2 BUYT2 BUYW2 RENT GASPI2 HFUEL HEQUIP DRY DFUEL CFUEL BATHS BEDRMS DINING HALFB STORIES CONDO CELLAR BUILT VALUE LOT DISH WASH WFUEL PAINTPEEL	Pay for electricity separately Pay for other fuels separately Pay for gas separately Pay for fuel oil separately Pay for garbage/trash separately Pay for water/sewage separately Monthly rent amount Source of gas heat for vacant units Fuel used most for heating unit Main heating equipment Unit has working clothes dryer Fuel used by clothes dryer Fuel used most for cooking Number of full bathrooms in unit Number of bedrooms in unit Number of dining rooms in unit Number of half bathrooms in unit Number of stories in building Flag indicating unit is a condominium Unit has a basement Year unit was built Current market value of unit Square footage of lot Unit has working dishwasher Unit has a working washing machine Fuel used most to heat water Flag indicating interior area of peeling paint larger than 8 x 11	An improvement to the imputation methodology led to changes in imputed values for a small number of national vacant units.	Minimal (for vacant units only)

Changes Between 2017 AHS PUFs 2.0 and 3.0			
Item	Item Label	Change	Analysis Impact
MARKETVAL	Current market value of unit	Added to PUF. These variables are on the household file.	None
MORTAMT	Monthly total mortgage amount (all mortgages)		
TOTBALAMT	Total remaining debt across all mortgages or similar debts for this unit		
PROTAXAMT	Monthly property tax amount		
INSURAMT	Monthly homeowner or renter insurance amount		
HOAAMT	Monthly homeowners or condominium association amount		
LOTAMT	Monthly lot rent amount		
MAINTAMT	Amount of annual routine maintenance costs		
HOWBUY	Description of how owner obtained unit		
DWNPAYPCT	Down payment percentage		
FIRSTHOME	Flag indicating if first-time home buyer		
LEADINSP	Flag indicating lead pipes inspected before purchase		
PMTAMT	Amount of mortgage payment	Added to PUF. These variables are on the mortgage file, which is being released for the first time.	None
INTRATE	Interest rate of mortgage		
MORTPURCH	Percentage of mortgage used for purchase of home		
MORTLINE	Line number of mortgage		
LOANTYPE	Type of loan		
MORTNEW	Mortgage new or assumed		
REFI	Flag indicating mortgage is a refinance of previous mortgage		
INTPMT	Flag indicating interest included in mortgage payment		

TAXPMT	Flag indicating property taxes included in mortgage payment		
MISCPMT	Flag indicating homeowners insurance or mortgage insurance (PMI) is included in the mortgage payment		
PERSONID	Person identifier (PERSONID is an 11-digit variable that serves as a unique identifier for each household member on the Person dataset. The variable is created by concatenating the CONTROL number with a 3-digit, zero-padded person integer, starting with '001' and incrementing by one for each additional person in the housing unit. The PERSONID value for each person will remain the same across survey years.)	Added to PUF	None
SAMEHHLID	Flag indicating if the household members are the same as the previous survey year	Added to PUF	None
TOTHCAMT	Monthly total housing costs	Variable changed from categorical to numeric.	None