

Topcoding

To ensure the confidentiality of the data on the microdata files, all financial characteristics that are not calculated variables have been topcoded. The number of cases that need to be topcoded for each characteristic is equal to either $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 percent of the total universe, or 3 percent of all reporting cases, whichever is less. In addition, age was topcoded to 85 years, stories in structure and floor of unit were topcoded at 21 floors, units in structure was topcoded at 100 units, and year built was topcoded at 2000.

For each characteristic, the value which meets one of the two criteria above was determined and became the topcode value. The mean value for all cases falling above the topcode value was calculated and was then assigned to each individual case. For example, approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 percent of the renter occupied units had a contract rent above \$5,995. The mean contract rent for these cases was calculated to be \$7,688. This rent was assigned to each case falling above the topcode.

For calculated variables such as contract rent per room, contract rent as a percent of income, gross rent per room, and gross rent as a percent of income, cases with values above the topcode amounts are included in the not computed category.

A list of the items topcoded, the topcode amount, and the mean value above the topcode that was assigned are shown on the following pages.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topcode Value*</u>	<u>Mean Value Above Topcode</u>
Age	85 years	N/A
Asking Rent	\$5,865***	\$8,837
Average Hours Worked per Week in 2016	77**	83
Down Payment	\$900,000***	\$1,525,265
Hours Worked Last Week	78**	84
Interest Rate	6.99****	7.89
Monthly Contract Rent	\$5,995**	\$7,688
Monthly Out of Pocket Rent	\$5,995**	\$7,711
Monthly Cost of Electricity (Renter occupied housing units)	\$280**	\$408
Monthly Cost of Gas (Renter occupied housing units)	\$240**	\$344
Monthly Cost of Gas and Electricity Combined (Renter occupied housing units)	\$299**	\$362
Number of Stories/Floor of Unit	21	N/A
Units in Structure	100	N/A
Person Income From:		
Wages, Salary, Commissions, etc.	\$488,000**	\$1,273,606
Farm or Nonfarm Business, etc.	\$200,100***	\$476,658
Interest, Dividends, Royalties, etc.	\$95,500***	\$181,669
Social Security or Railroad Retirement	\$32,126***	\$38,300

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topcode Value*</u>	<u>Mean Value Above Topcode</u>
SSI, TANF, Family Assistance, Safety Net, or other Public Assistance Payments	\$16,000****	\$21,372
Retirement, Survivor, or Disability Pensions	\$77,000***	\$112,322
VA Payments, Unemployment, Child Support, Alimony, or Other Income Sources	\$55,000****	\$88,370
Value	\$3,950,000**	\$6,387,127
Year Built	2000	N/A
Yearly Cost of Other Fuels (Renter occupied housing units)	\$4,000***	\$4,586
Yearly Cost of Water and Sewer (Renter occupied housing units)	\$2,500***	\$3,156

Notes:

* Data represents values above which topcoding begins.

** The topcode shown was based on 1 percent of the total universe.

*** The topcode shown was based on 3 percent of all reporting cases.

**** The topcode shown was the same based on both calculations.