

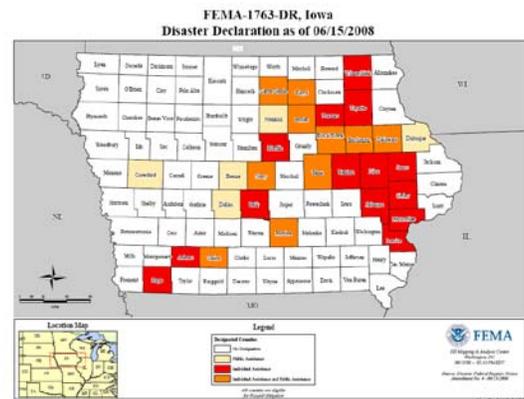
OnTheMap Floods in the Midwest

Local Employment Dynamics

All About Jobs

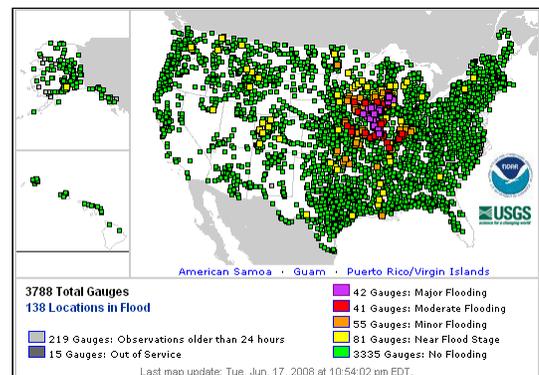
On June 15, 2008, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated 24 counties in Iowa (see map at right) to be flood disaster areas where residents can apply for individual federal assistance.

Users of OnTheMap, a publicly available, online tool from the Census Bureau located at <http://lehd.did.census.gov>, may readily produce maps and reports about the potential economic impact to businesses and communities in these counties affected by the ongoing floods in the upper Mississippi River basin.



Alternatively, OnTheMap users may go beyond traditional boundaries and select, free-hand, more precise customized impact areas to provide age, earnings, and industry sector profiles of workers in the selected areas or show the origin-destination relationships of where people live and work by aggregating information up from the Census Block level.

A systematic and reproducible approach is to access the water level data from more than 3,700 gauges (see map at right) that are maintained by the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS), part of the National Weather Service under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. By linking geocoded flood-stage data with the Census Block economic data from the Census Bureau, the economic impact of the flooding (e.g., the industry and earnings of the affected workers living or working in the flooded areas), may be assessed with much greater precision than with county summary data.



A similar approach was used to identify potential impact of the Southern California wildfires in the Fall of 2007

<<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/emergencies/index.html>>, which provided a refined view for the seven-county disaster area (see map at right). It has also been applied to assess the impacts of hurricanes, tornadoes, bridge collapse, and similar situations.



Advanced OnTheMap users may use the identified Census Blocks and link with additional spatial and statistical data sources to generate additional maps, reports, and analyses.

OnTheMap currently covers 42 states and data from 2002-2004. The next version will expand to 45 states and add 2005-2006 data; it is scheduled for release in September 2008.

Local Employment Dynamics (LED) is a federal-state partnership between the Census Bureau and the state Labor Market Information offices to integrate existing data about workers, employers, and jobs from multiple sources to create new, innovative products about the U.S. economy and society. Visit its website at <http://lehd.did.census.gov>. Please send your comments to LED.Local.Employment.Dynamics@census.gov. OnTheMap has also been supported by the Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.