

LED on California Wildfires

Notes and Methodology (7/1/2008)

Active Fire Detections:

1. Wildfire locations in Northern California are based on the MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer) Active Fire Mapping Program – USDA Forest Service, Remote Sensing Applications Center.
2. The most recent data used to determine impacted Census Blocks cover all Active Fire Detections in a seven-day moving window from 6/23/2008 through 6/30/2008, as of 5:00 am EDT on 6/30/2008.
3. Analyses using two earlier seven-day moving windows of fire detections are also included: 6/18-6/25 and 6/20-6/27.
4. For more information on these fire data, please visit: <http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/>

Census Blocks:

1. To determine the affected Census Blocks, each fire point is given a half-mile buffer. All Census Blocks that intersect with these fire circles are included in the analysis.
2. For the seven-day window, 6/23/2008 through 6/30/2008, there are 1,108 Census Blocks within a half-mile of the detected fire points. Fire detections from the two earlier time periods impacted 966 Census Blocks (6/18 to 6/25) and 1,192 Census Blocks (6/20 to 6/27), respectively.
3. Please refer to the accompanying PDF maps to view the Census Block coverage in relation to the Active Fire Detections during the various time periods.
4. Two types of analysis are performed on the selected blocks, one in which employment totals are calculated based upon the workers employed in the selected blocks, and the other in which employment totals are calculated based upon workers who reside in the selected blocks.
5. The Census Blocks used in this analysis are based on TIGER 2005 2nd Edition geovintage.
6. For more information on TIGER geographies, please visit: <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/index.html>

Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership:

1. All accompanying table data for the impacted blocks comes from Local Employment Dynamics (LED), a voluntary partnership between state Labor Market Information agencies and the U.S. Census Bureau.
2. The Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor has provided continuing support to the LED partnership.
3. For more information on the LED partnership and datasets, please visit: <http://lehd.did.census.gov/>