

V2018 Housing Unit Estimates Release Notes

For vintage 2018, the Population Estimates Program (PEP) implemented the use of disaster assistance records provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to account for housing units lost in the U.S due to different types of natural disasters. Therefore, PEP introduced a new disaster loss component to the housing unit estimation process. FEMA includes information on the severity of the damage a housing structure endured, and its location listing both street address and GPS coordinates.

It is important to note that Vintage 2018 housing unit estimates do not contain disaster loss estimates for all states. PEP received the FEMA file later than scheduled. As a result, PEP was only able to process six states; California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Missouri and Texas.

For future vintage HU estimates, PEP plans to expand the use of FEMA data to estimate disaster loss for all states within the United States that experienced some type of natural disaster like floods, wildfires, tornados, hurricanes and earthquakes.