Characteristics of Housing in New York State

Mapping Key Indicators from the 2010 Census

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State of Upstate New York Conference, Syracuse, NY, June 8-9, 2011
Foreword

During this past decade America and New York underwent wild swings in housing. Following the collapse of the “dot com” bubble, investors along with young families and existing homeowners moved to a greater interest in housing as an asset class and household wealth creation vehicle. Consequently, the early part of the decade witnessed widespread construction of new houses along with ever rising values of homes. Lowered requirements for qualification for mortgages abetted this trend as did lowered mortgage rates from Fannie and Freddie along with quantitative easing by the Federal Reserve Board. This lasted until the middle part of the decade when the “housing bubble” burst and valuations on existing residential housing dropped dramatically.

The 2010 Census of Population and Housing was conducted during the later phase of this cycle. Information about various housing characteristics of the population became available for New York at the state, county, town, city and Indian Reservation level in mid-May 2011 with the release of what is known as the Demographic Profile. This booklet gives a detailed look at the total housing units, change in total housing units from 2000 to 2010, housing density, percent occupied, percent vacant, vacant for sale, vacant for rent and seasonal vacant units referenced to the Census date of April 1, 2010.

These variables have been maps at the county, town, city and Indian Reservation level. The goal of these maps is to give a comparative spatial perspective on the distribution of these key indicators of the housing stock among municipalities in New York.

In this booklet is a separate section portraying a more limited set of indicators, by Census tract, for the five major cities in New York, excluding New York City. Percent occupied, housing density and renter occupied units are the variables mapped at the city tract level.

As more data become available from the Census, we will add to the existing “atlas” of New York housing characteristics.

This booklet was produced by the excellent professionals at the Cornell Program on Applied Demographics. Special recognition goes to Jan Vink, Sutee Anantsuksomsri, Nij Tontisirin and Xiaoling Li. Thanks also to Mary Heller Smith and Jane Klinger for their support.
Towns, Cities and Indian Reservations

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Five Major Upstate Cities

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Locations of Selected Major Cities in New York State

Selected cities are New York City and other five largest cities in New York State in 2010 population. The atlas shows selected housing characteristics of these cities, excluding New York City.
Percent Change in Housing Units (2000-2010), Buffalo

Percent Change in Total Housing Units Based on 2000 Geography

-80.0% - 25.1%
-25.0% - 10.1%
-10.0% - 8.4%
-8.3% - 0.1%
0.0% - 9.9%
10.0% - 24.9%
25.0% - 186.3%
Less than 20 Housing units in 2000

Created by Cornell Program on Applied Demographics.
June 2011.
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
Census 2010 Demographic Profile Data.
Percent Change in Housing Units (2000-2010), Syracuse

Created by Cornell Program on Applied Demographics.
June 2011.
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
Census 2010 Demographic Profile Data.
Total Housing Units: Housing Density, Yonkers City

Housing Density per Square Mile
- 0 - 1,499
- 1,500 - 2,999
- 3,000 - 4,462
- 4,463 - 6,999
- 7,000 - 9,999
- 10,000 - 19,132
- No Housing Units

Westchester County Housing Density per Square Mile
- 92 - 999
- 1000 - 4,462
- 4,463 - 11,999
- 12,000 - 37,106
- Yonkers City
- Westchester County

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June 2011.
Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
Census 2010 Demographic Profile Data.