

# National Structure Inventory: Use in Planning



Nick Lutz, HEC  
Alex Ryan, PCX-IN

January 26, 2022

# COMPONENTS OF RISK

## HAZARDS

What are the hazards and how likely are they to occur?

## PERFORMANCE

How will the levee perform in the face of these hazards?

## CONSEQUENCE

Who and what are in harm's way?  
How susceptible to harm are they?  
How much harm is caused?

**RISK = f (HAZARD, PERFORMANCE, CONSEQUENCE)**

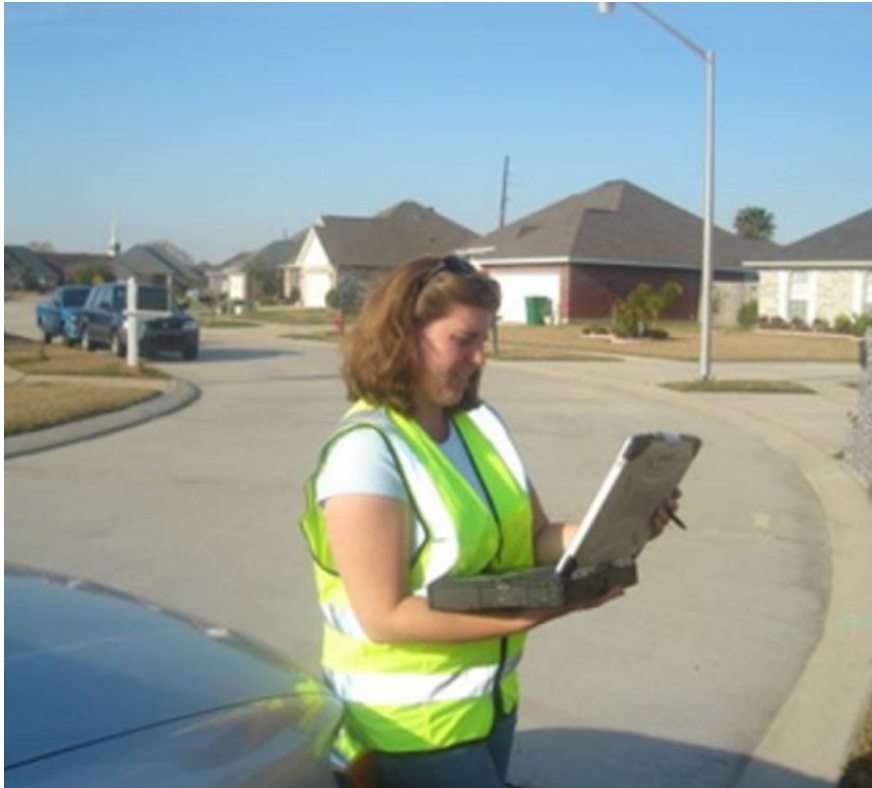


# What is a Structure Inventory?



Single-Family  
Two Stories  
Basement  
Wood  
2,500 SqFt  
\$250,000  
3 People

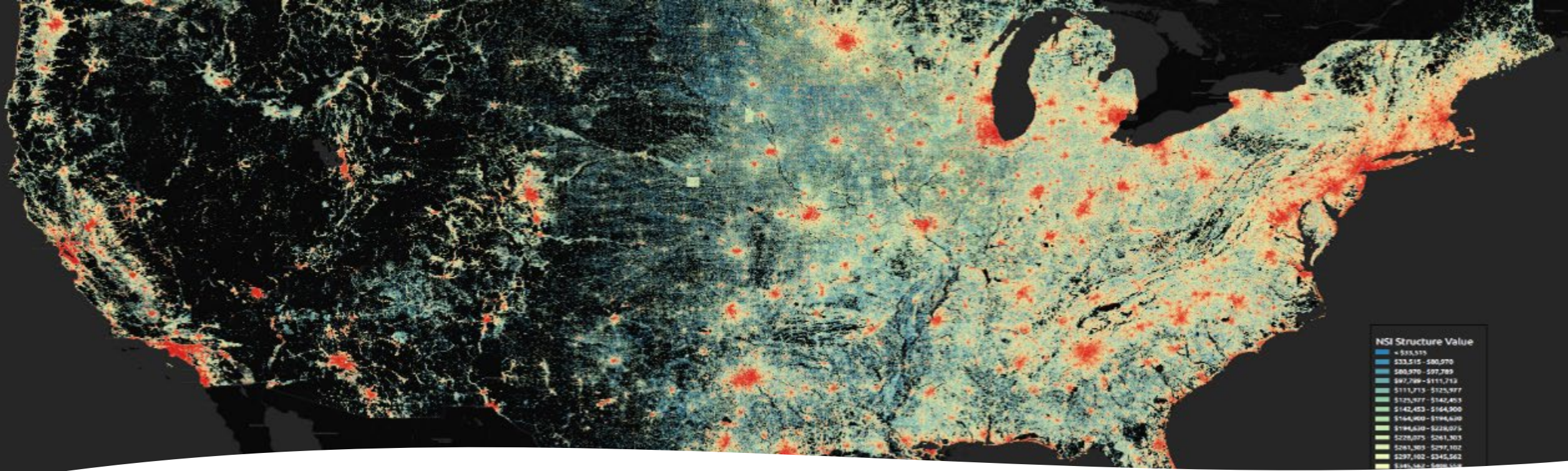
Multi-Family  
Two Stories  
Slab  
Brick  
10,000 SqFt  
\$5,000,000  
30 People



STEP 1	Identify structure inventory study area limit
STEP 2	Acquire county tax parcel overlay
STEP 3	Clip tax parcels to study area & convert polygons to points (centroids)
STEP 4	Acquire county tax database
STEP 5	Match parcels with tax database
STEP 6	Troubleshoot unmatched parcels (limited manual editing)
STEP 7	Add ground elevation (LiDAR-derived Digital Elevation Model)
STEP 8	Building footprint analysis
STEP 9	Marshall & Swift value adjustment (Tax Value -> DRV)
STEP 10	Foundation height stratified random sample

Elegant Methods From a  
Pre-SMART Planning Age

- Direct Observation
  - Windshield Surveys
  - Interviewing Owners
- Custom Parcel Analysis

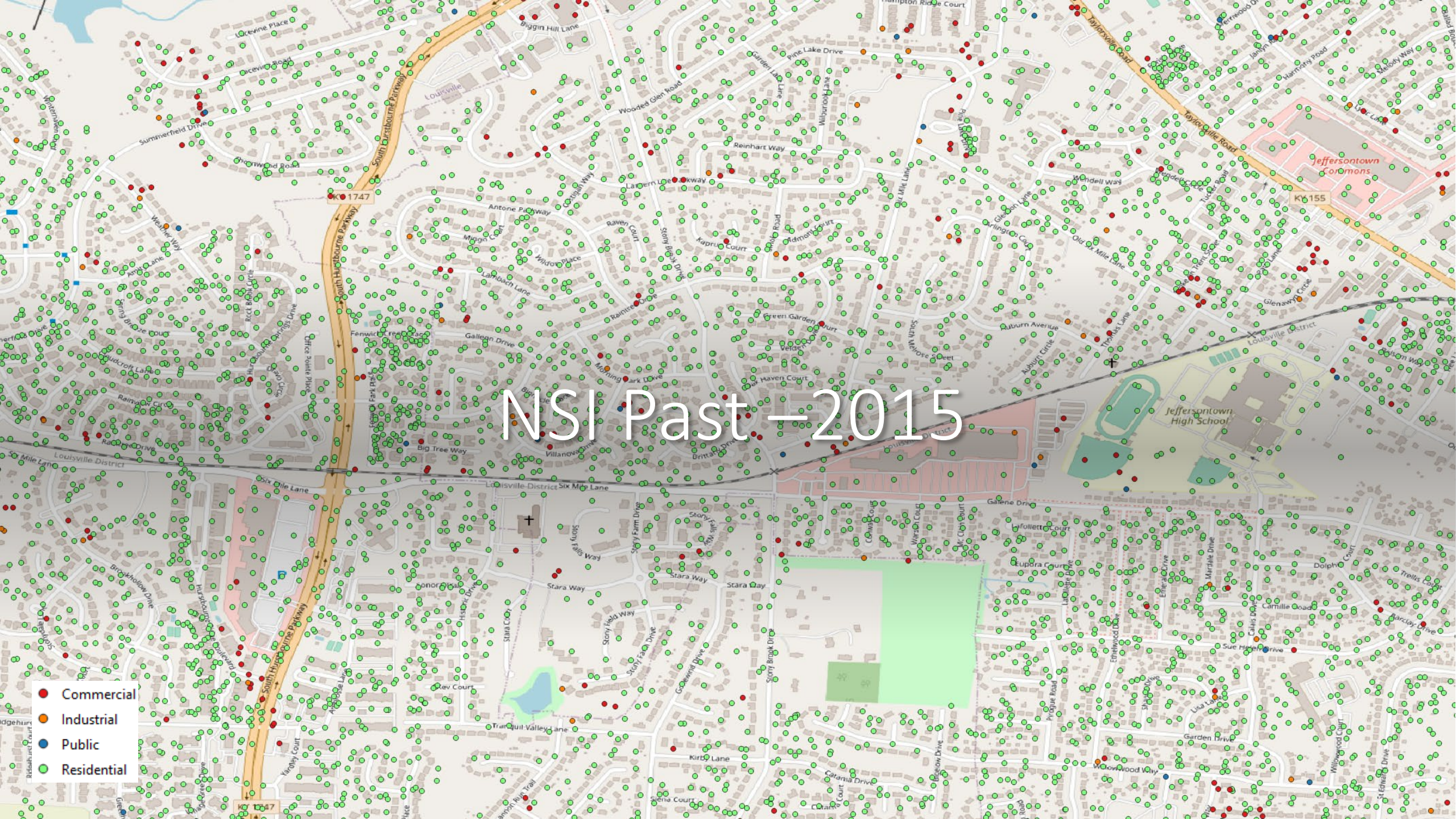


# The National Structure Inventory

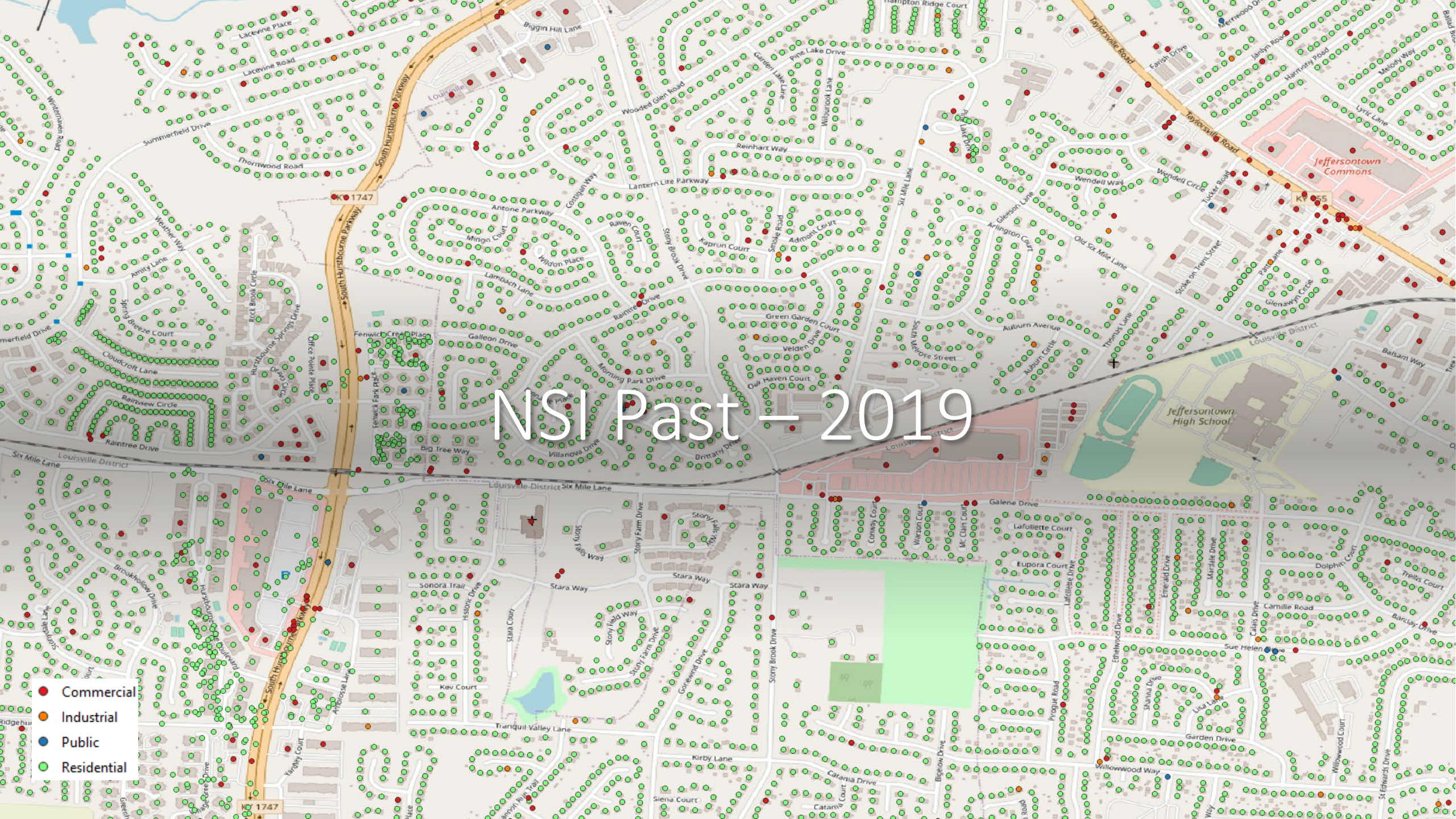
The NSI was initially developed to support the evaluation of consequences in risk assessments for Dams

# NSI Past - 2015

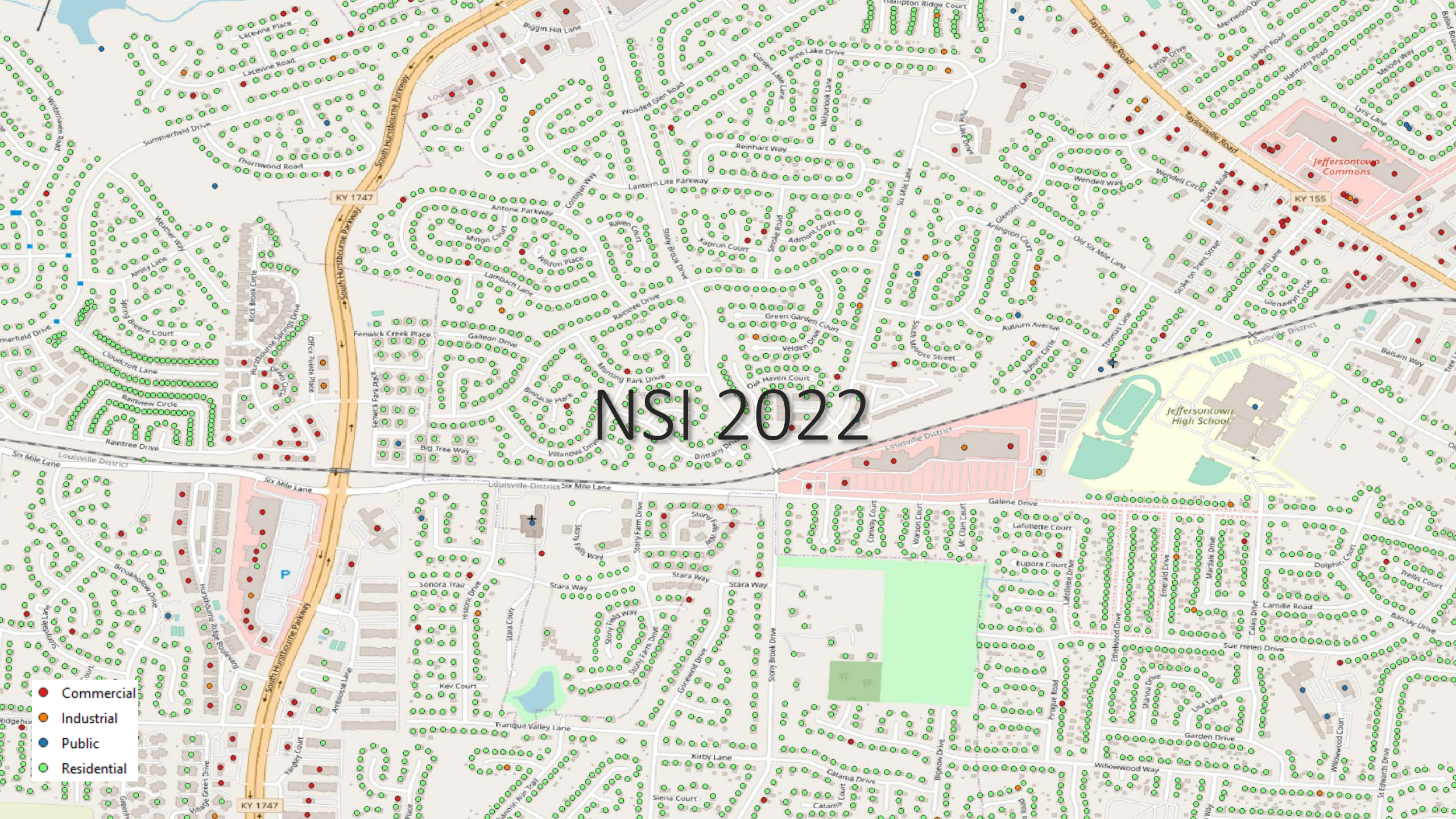
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public
- Residential



# NSI Past – 2019



- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public
- Residential



# NSI 2022

- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public
- Residential

Jeffersonton Commons

Jeffersonton High School

Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, Imagery © Mapbox



# NSI Key Attributes: Occupancy Type

- Uses HAZUS codes
  - RES1 = Single-Family
  - Com1 = Retail
  - Etc.
- Often associated with
  - Depth-Damage Functions
  - Population Assignment
  - Value uncertainty



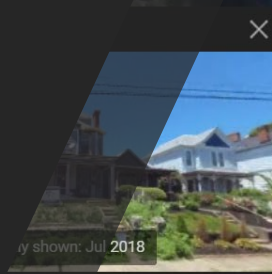
# NSI Key Attributes: Building Type

- Uses HAZUS categories
  - Wood, Steel, Masonry, etc.
- Often associated with
  - Stability Functions in LifeSim
  - Structure Value

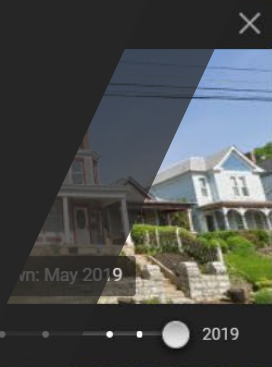


# NSI Key Attributes: Structure Value

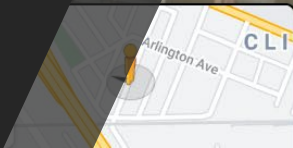
- Depreciated Replacement Value
- \$/SqFt
  - Varies with use type
  - Year Built
  - Income of area
    - RES1 only
- SqFt Estimate
- Content to structure value ratios based on HAZUS



2019



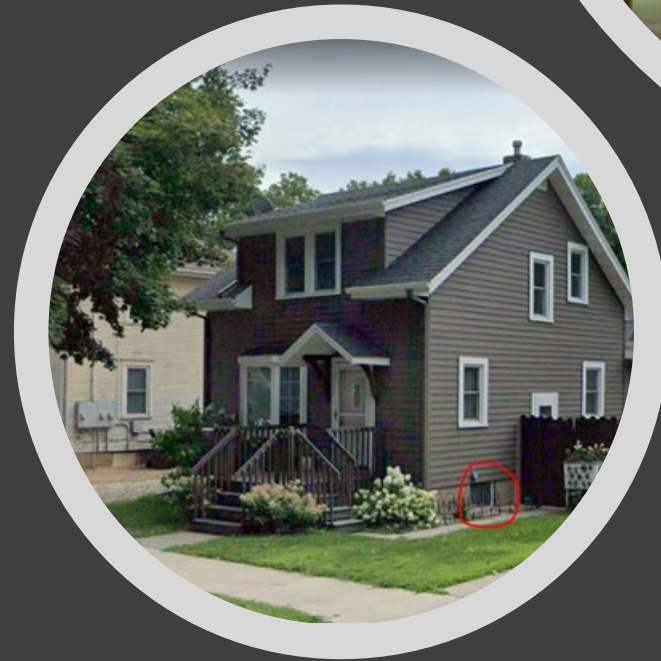
2019



Google

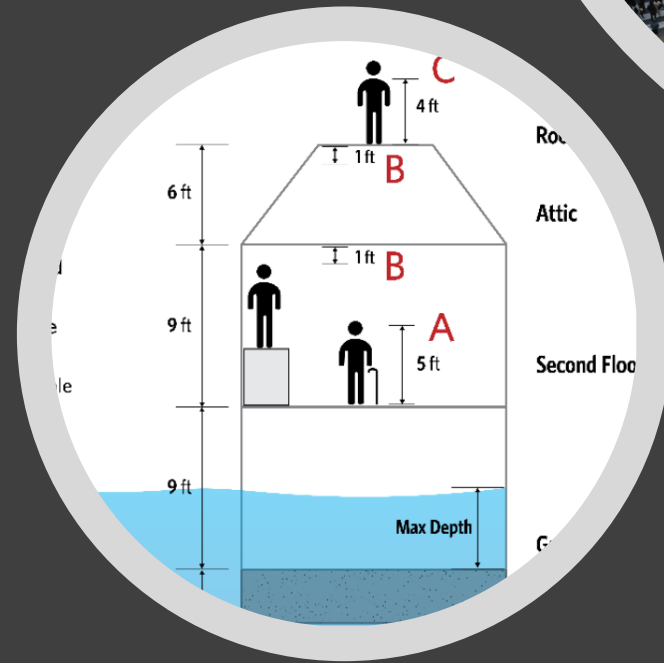
# NSI Key Attributes: Foundation Type

- Uses HAZUS categories
  - Slab, Pier, Basement, etc.
- Often associated with
  - Depth-Damage Functions (Basement)
  - Foundation Height / FFE



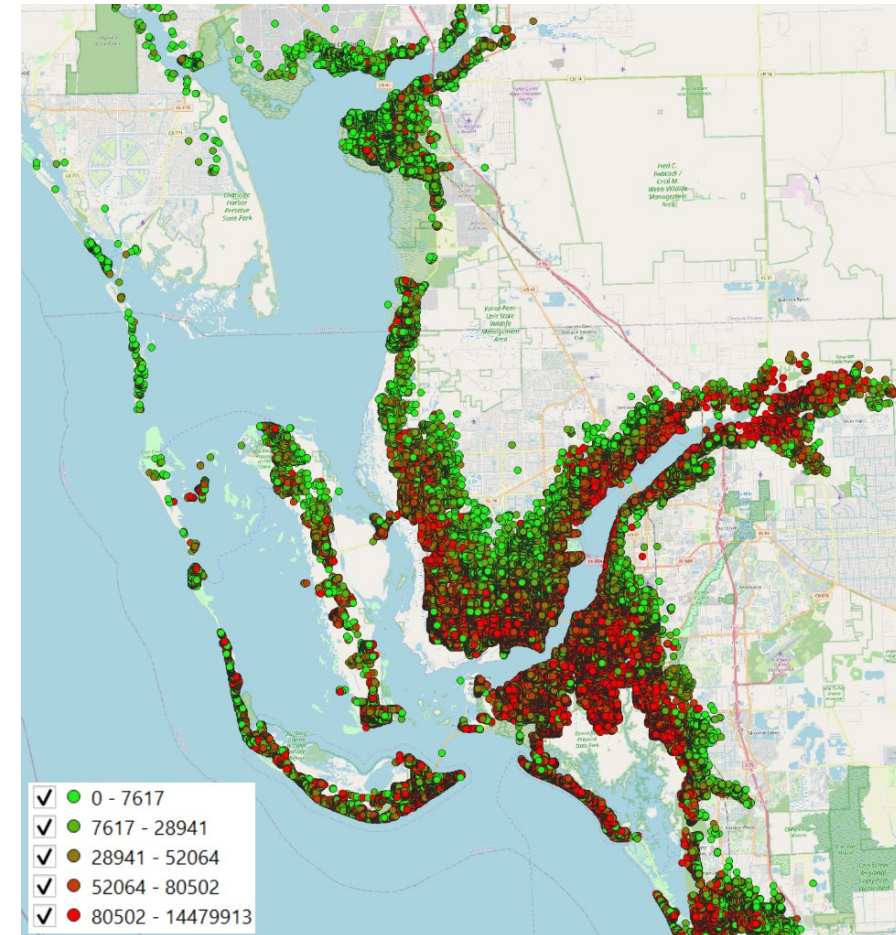
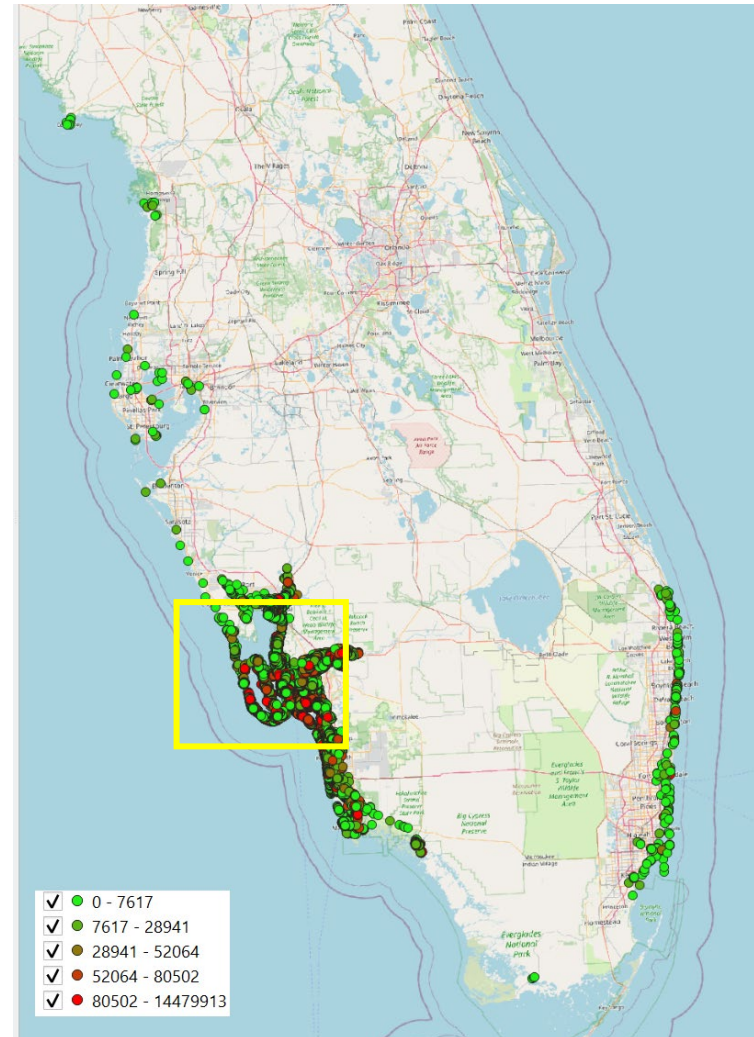
# NSI Key Attributes: Population

- Day and Night
  - Residential higher at night
  - Non-Residential higher during day
- Over and Under 65
  - Linked with disability rates in LifeSim



# Application of NSI

- Provides data for models and studies
- Allows for instant estimates of large study areas
- Nationwide coverage



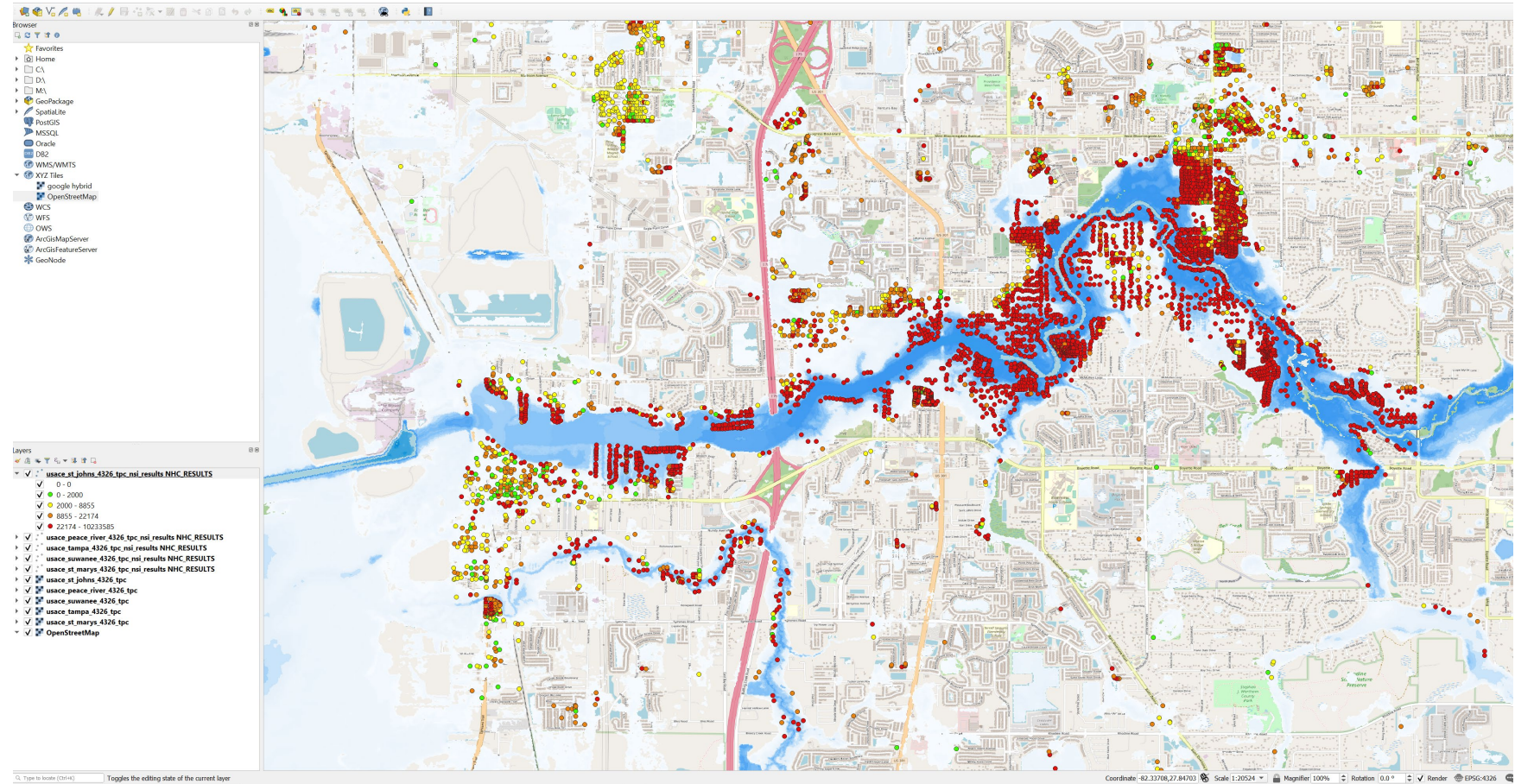
# Application of NSI

- Provides data for models and studies
- Allows for instant estimates of large study areas
- Nationwide coverage



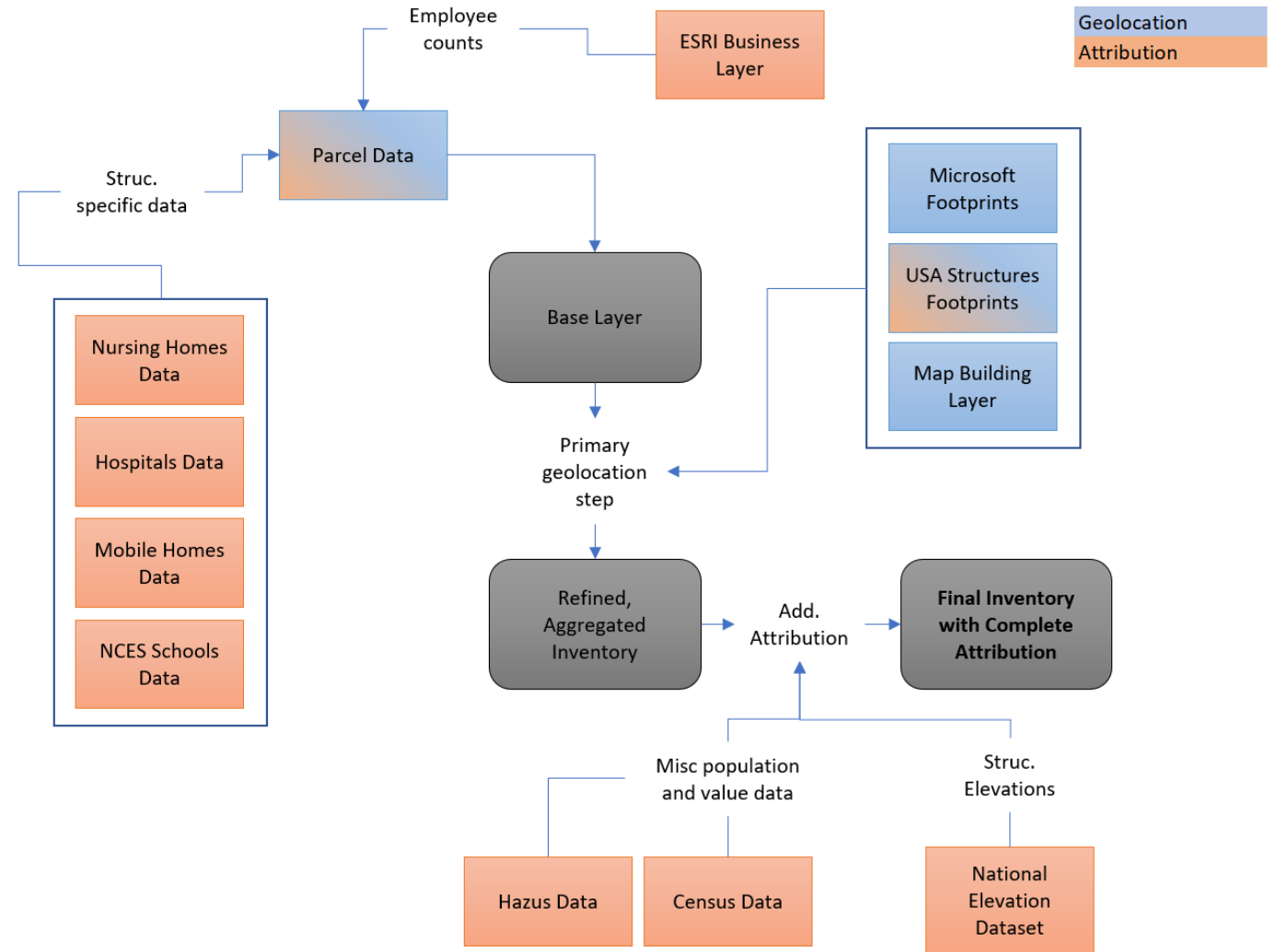
# Application of NSI

- Provides data for models and studies
- Allows for instant estimates of large study areas
- Nationwide coverage



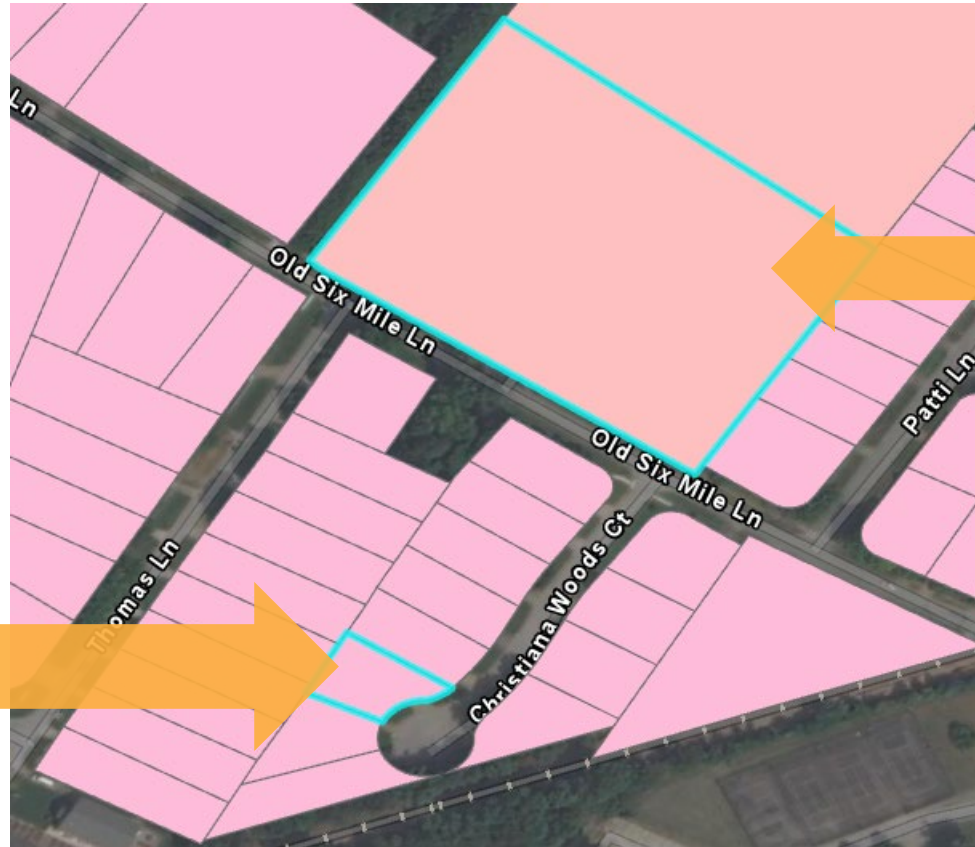


# Generating the NSI



# Generating the NSI

Year Built	1994
Number of Buildings	<Null>
Building Square Foot	2354
Number of Stories	2+B
Number of Stories Description	2 story with basement
Total Rooms	<Null>
Number of Units	<Null>
BEDROOMS	2
Total Baths	3
Total Baths Calculated	3
Partial Baths	1
Garage Carport Type	A
Garage Code Description	ATTACHED GARAGE
Parking Spaces	2
Pool Indicator	<Null>
Pool Indicator Description	<Null>
Market Value of Land	35000
Market Value of improvements	200590
Market Value	235590
Market Value Year Established	2018
Building Classification	<Null>
Building Classification Code Description	<Null>
Building Style Type	N
Building Style Description	CONVENTIONAL
Construction Code	W
Construction Code Description	WOOD
Exterior Wall Type	S
Exterior Wall Description	SIDING (ALUM/VINYL)
Foundation Type	B
Foundation Type Description	Crawl/Raised



Year Built	1972
Number of Buildings	11
Building Square Foot	22827
Number of Stories	3
Number of Stories Description	<Null>
Total Rooms	<Null>
Number of Units	<Null>
BEDROOMS	<Null>
Total Baths	0
Total Baths Calculated	0
Partial Baths	0
Garage Carport Type	<Null>
Garage Code Description	<Null>
Parking Spaces	0
Pool Indicator	<Null>
Pool Indicator Description	<Null>
Market Value of Land	810020
Market Value of improvements	1052420
Market Value	1862440
Market Value Year Established	2018
Building Classification	<Null>
Building Classification Code Description	<Null>
Building Style Type	<Null>
Building Style Description	<Null>
Construction Code	<Null>
Construction Code Description	<Null>
Exterior Wall Type	<Null>
Exterior Wall Description	<Null>
Foundation Type	<Null>
Foundation Type Description	<Null>

# Structure Location and Type

---

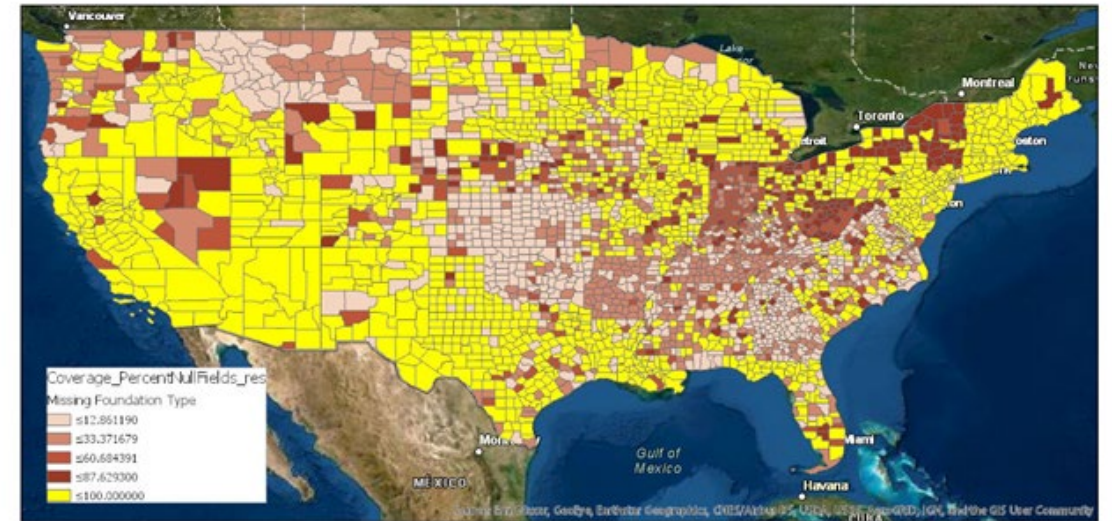
- Identification
  - Parcel Data
  - ESRI Business Layer
  - NCES
  - HIFLD
    - Nursing Home
    - Hospitals
    - Mobile Homes
- Footprints
  - USA Structures
  - Microsoft
  - Map Building Layer



# Data Availability



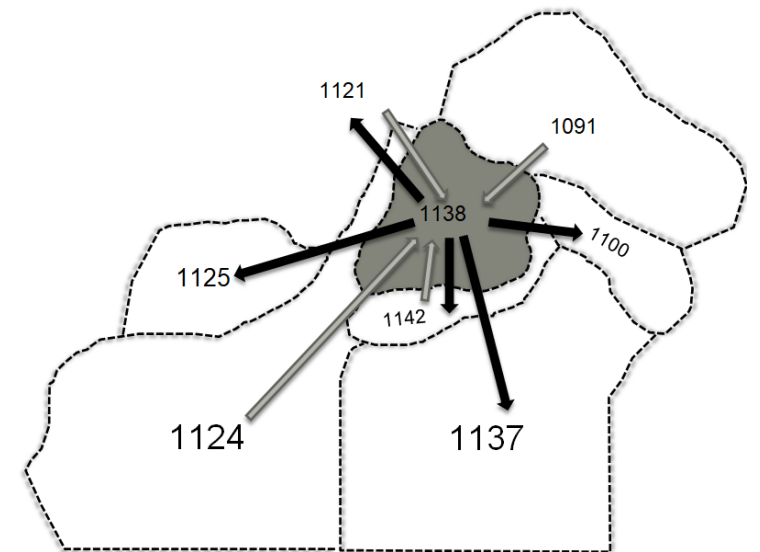
Feature	Value
<b>KY_Structures</b>	
<b>IMAGE_NAME</b>	Li204-lexington
(Derived)	
(Actions)	
OBJECTID	2406584
BUILD_ID	14273351
OCC_CLS	NULL
PRIM_OCC	NULL
SEC_OCC	NULL
PROP_ADDR	NULL
PROP_CITY	NULL
PROP_ST	NULL
PROP_ZIP	NULL
OUTBLDG	NULL
HEIGHT	6.400000095367432
SQMETERS	21399.462890625
SQFEET	230341.671875
H_ADJ_ELEV	NULL
L_ADJ_ELEV	NULL
FIPS	21111
CENSUSCODE	21111004900
PROD_DATE	2011-07-06 00:00:00
SOURCE	NGA
USNG	165 FH 09793 34980
LONGITUDE	-85.7445988698696
LATITUDE	38.25629477893921
IMAGE_NAME	Li204-lexington
IMAGE_DATE	2011-07-06 00:00:00
VAL_METHOD	Unverified
REMARKS	NULL
UUID	{e300c8dc-dc88-4388-a0d7-a6c9bb901..
Shape_Length	0.013912786478807804
Shape_Area	2.2026127351336762e-06



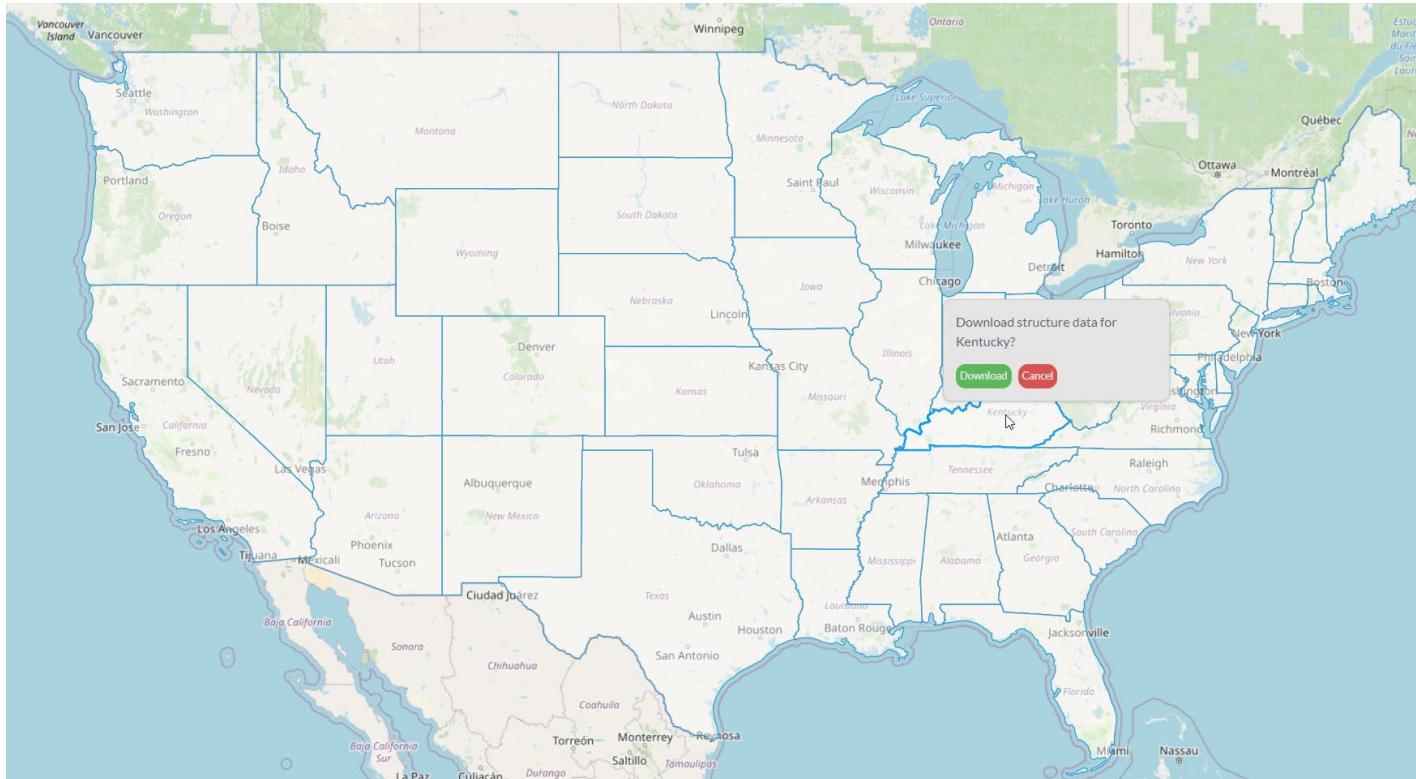
# Population Assignment

- Census Block Level
  - LEHD workers shift Day and Night counts
  - Special: Hospital Bed Counts
  - New Developments absorb growth indicated by ACS
- Structure Level Assignment
  - Weight by housing units, number of employees, bed counts
- Age: Tract level demographics; block level LEHD; nursing homes

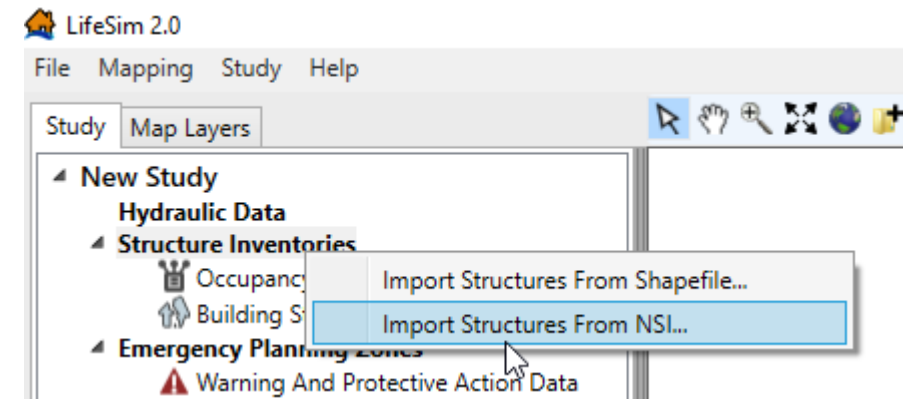
POP2AMU65	2
POP2AMO65	0
POP2PMU65	1
POP2PMO65	0

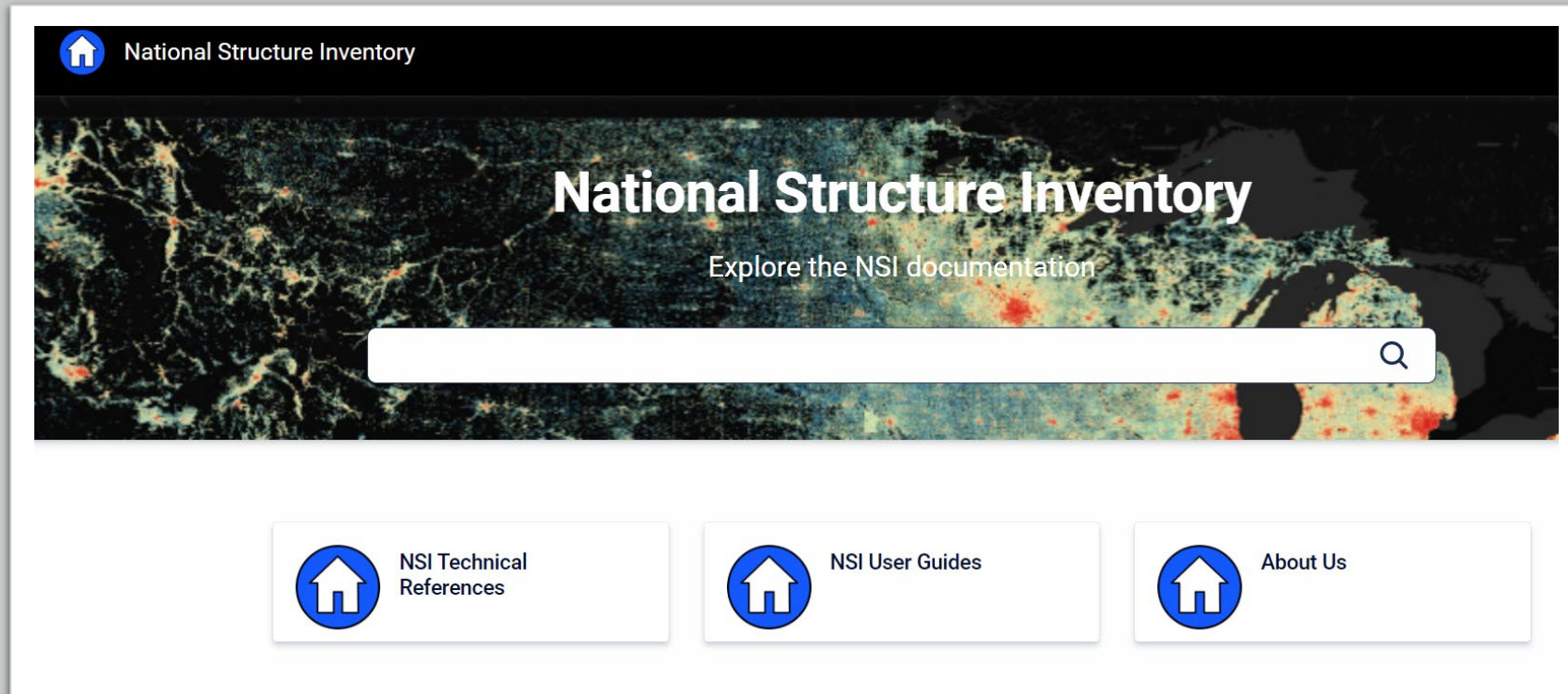


# Using the NSI: Data Download



<https://nsi.sec.usace.army.mil/nsiapi/structures?fips=15005>





## Using the NSI: Documentation

- Attribute list
- FAQ
- Survey Guide
- Contact Info



15003 June2022 [2]	
BID	73H484P7-7X1
(Derived)	
(Actions)	
BID	73H484P7-7X1
CBFIPS2010	1500300600010
ST_DAMCAT	COM
OC_TYPE	COM10
NUM_STORY	263.0000
HEIGHT	0
SOFT	1080227.06000
FIPRNTSQFT	41107500000
FOUND_HT	0.5
EXTWALL	S
FNDTYPE	C
BSMNT	N
P_EXTWALL	NULL
P_FNDTYPE	NULL
P_BSMNT	NULL
TOTAL_ROOM	0
BEDROOMS	0
TOTAL_BATH	0
P_GARAGE	NULL
PARKINGSP	0
YRSBLT	0
MED_YR_BLT	1971
NAICS	485119
BLDCOSTCAT	GenInd
VAL_STRUCT	139382709.000
VAL_CONT	69691354.5000
VAL_VEHIC	1080000.0000
NUMVEHIC	0
FIPRNTID	15003_5957
FIPRNTSRC	Bing
SOURCE	E
RESUNITS	0
ENRPNUM	1200
STUDENTS	0
SURPLUS	0
OTHINSTOP	0
NURSGHIMPOP	0
POP2AM065	85
POP2AM065	6
POP2PM065	1620
POP2PM065	130
O65DISABLE	0.22
U65DISABLE	0.03
X	-157,88510760
Y	21,336776090
APN	12015006
CENSREGION	HI
FIRMZONE	NULL
FIRMDATE	0
BID	73H484P7-7X1

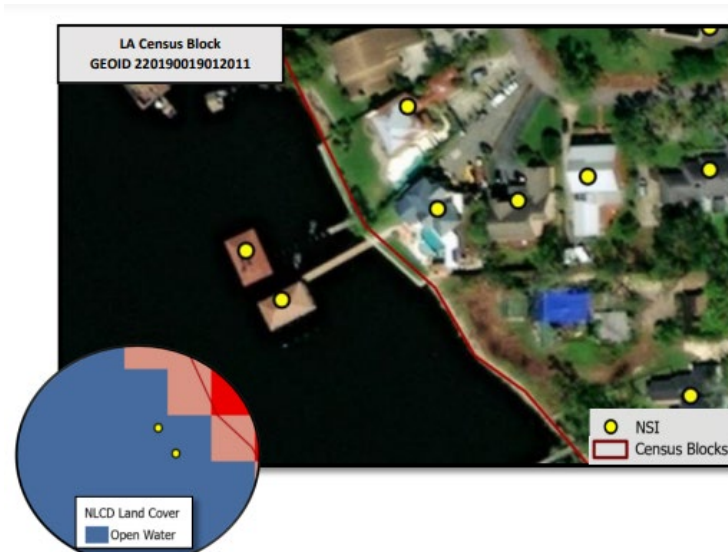
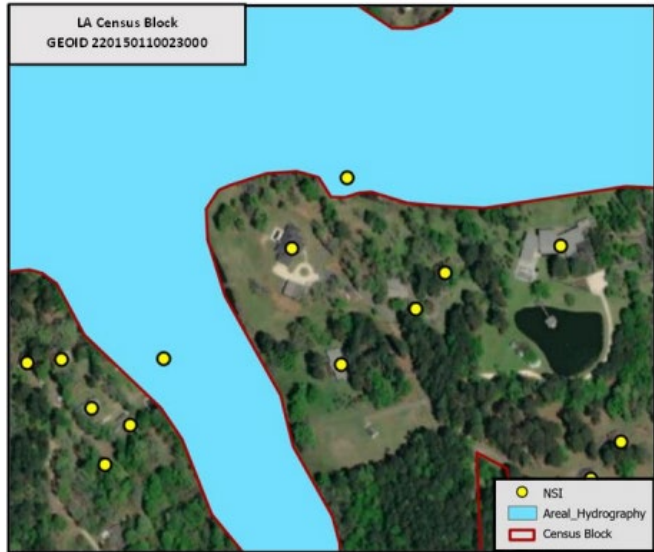
## Limitations

- Poor data inputs can result in odd data outputs
- Especially when multiple sources are wrong in the same location



# Quality Checks: Locations

- Low-lying areas



- Poor coverage



# Quality Checks: Values

---

- Examine outliers for accuracy
  - Structure inputs
  - Model outputs
- Consider whether depreciation and other factors are reasonable for your study area



# Quality Checks: Heights

- Foundation heights can have significant impact on dollar damage and life loss
- The NSI currently relies on national values for heights of a given foundation type
- Structure specific foundation type data is not available for all counties
- Consider validating and modifying the default assignments
  - Spot checks may be appropriate for low-level analyses
  - We recommend surveys for investment decisions



# Survey Tool

**NSI Survey Tool**

Location Search...

Get Survey Save Survey

NSI Structure: 2712696

This is NOT a valid structure

There is no Street View

**Location Information**

X: -111.8766445

Y: 33.26049250004897

**Categories**

Damage Category: Residential

Occupancy Type: RES1

**Foundation**

Foundation Type: Slab

Foundation Height(ft): 0.5

**Attributes**

RS Means Type

SFR-Average

Quality: Like New

Exterior Construction Type: Wood

Garage Type: One Car Attached

Roof Style: Simple Gable

Number of Stories: 1

Occupied SQ Feet: 2646.66

Create New Survey

Choose Active Survey

Manage All Surveys

## Create New Survey

1 Input basic survey info

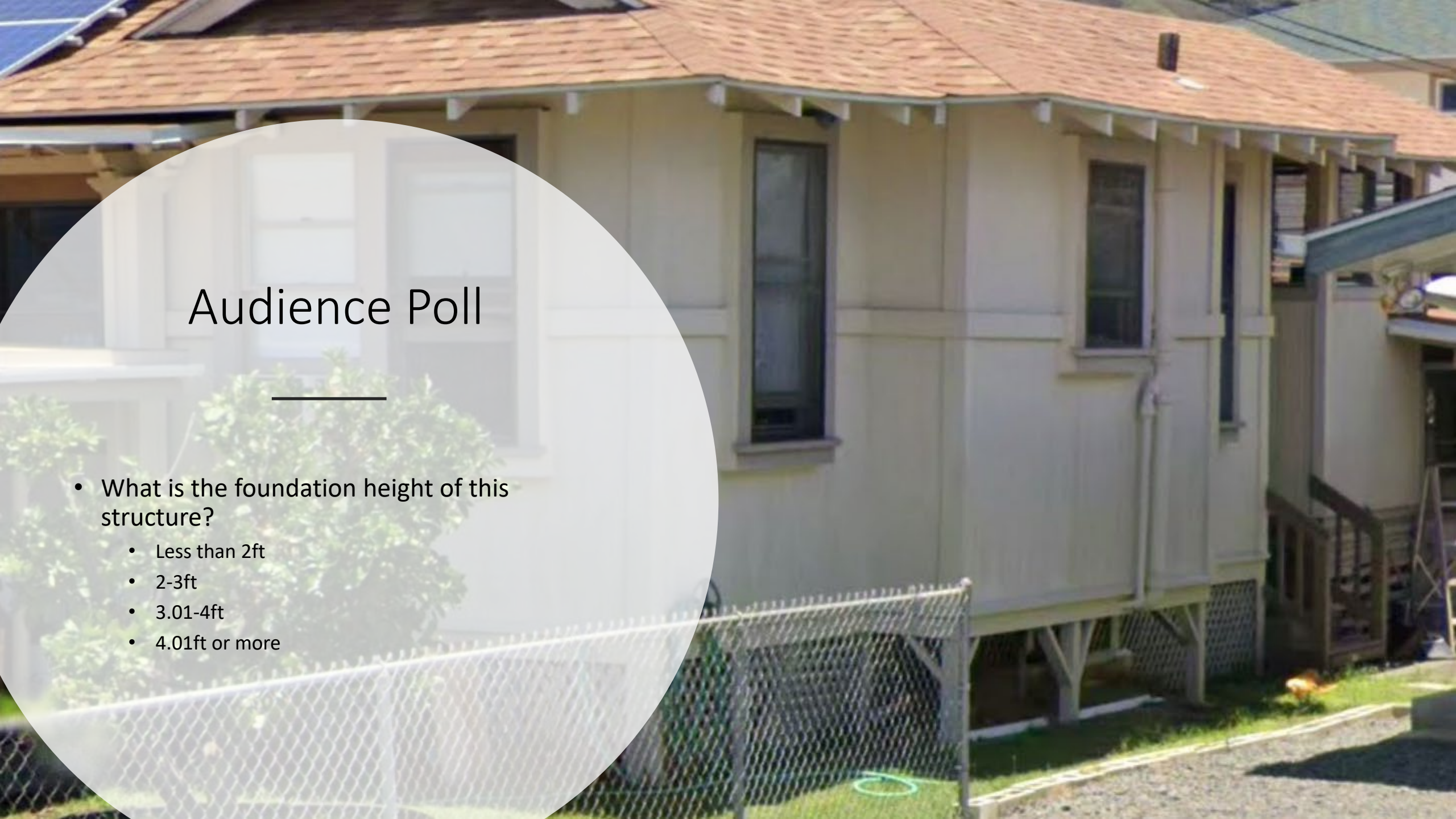
Survey Name: Prado U/S

Description: Test

2 Add survey points

3 Add surveyors


CANCEL NEXT



# Audience Poll

---

- What is the foundation height of this structure?
  - Less than 2ft
  - 2-3ft
  - 3.01-4ft
  - 4.01ft or more



# Audience Poll

---

- What is the foundation height of this structure?
  - Less than 8ft
  - 8-9ft
  - 9.01-10ft
  - 10.01ft or more

# Sampling Execution Best Practices

- Make use of the NSI Survey Tool's Attribute Guide
  - Developed by the NSI Surveyors
- Calibrate with known structures
- Use “control” structures when working with a team
  - You can compare results, look for biases, etc.

The screenshot displays the NSI User Guides website. The top navigation bar is black with a home icon and the text "NSI User Guides" on the left, and a search bar on the right. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads "NSI User Guides / Survey Tool / Attribute Guide". The left sidebar contains a dropdown menu for "Survey Tool" with options: "Creating a Survey", "Attribute Guide" (highlighted), and "Download Tool". The main content area features the title "Attribute Guide" in large blue font. Below the title, there are two paragraphs of text explaining the purpose of the NSI Survey Tool and the Attribute Guide. The right sidebar contains a list of navigation links: "Opening the Survey Tray", "Changing the Base Map", "Damage Categories", "Occupancy Types" (with sub-links RES1, RES2, COM1, IND1), "Foundation Height" (with sub-links Analyzing Standard Foundation Heights, Using Stairs to estimate Foundation Height, Analyzing Non-Residential Buildings, Analysis Workflow), and "Foundation Type" (with sub-links Pile, Pier, Enclosed or Partially Enclosed Pier).

NSI User Guides

Survey Tool

Creating a Survey

**Attribute Guide**

Download Tool

NSI User Guides / Survey Tool / Attribute Guide

## Attribute Guide

The National Structure Inventory (NSI) Survey Tool is designed to collect information on structures through user input. The input is intended to serve as the basis of quality assurance and quality control for the NSI and to help improve the dataset with time by providing evidence to support the refinement of assumptions for various attributes in the NSI.

The tool operates off of locations (x and y values) that correspond with current NSI locations. The Survey Tool allows for structures to be specified as a control group that all surveyors (users) of the tool must input. These control surveys help to evaluate bias in surveyors.

The Attribute Guide presented below is provided as suggested practices. This guide was created to support a nationwide survey completed by the NSI Development Team. However, each user's needs may differ.

### Opening the Survey Tray

Opening the Survey Tray

Changing the Base Map

Damage Categories

Occupancy Types

- RES1
- RES2
- COM1
- IND1

Foundation Height

- Analyzing Standard Foundation Heights
- Using Stairs to estimate Foundation Height
- Analyzing Non-Residential Buildings
- Analysis Workflow

Foundation Type

- Pile
- Pier
- Enclosed or Partially Enclosed Pier

# Sampling Design Best Practices

- Not unique to NSI
  - Except NSI provides a potential sampling frame
- Sample size mostly varies with how confident you want to be
  - Population size doesn't matter as much as people typically think
  - Formulas vary depending on whether you're interested in mean or proportion
- Stratifications can help improve accuracy, but multiplies sample size

$$n' = \frac{NZ^2P(1-P)}{d^2(N-1) + Z^2P(1-P)}$$

where  $n'$  = Sample size with finite population correction,  
 $N$  = Population size,  
 $Z$  = Z statistic for a level of confidence,  
 $P$  = Expected proportion (If the prevalence is 20%,  $P = 0.2$ ), and  
 $d$  = Precision (If the precision is 5%, then  $d = 0.05$ )

$$n = \left(\frac{Z*S}{E}\right)^2, \text{ where}$$

$n$  = Sample size

$Z$  = Z-Value (1.96)

$$S = \frac{\text{Foundation Height}_{High} - \text{Foundation Height}_{Low}}{6}$$

$E$  = Allowable error (0.20 feet)



# Using sample data

- You can overwrite NSI values with new best estimates and use distributions in consequence models
  - Heights, structure values
- Consider updating unobserved structure values
- The NSI may know some things (foundation type) from parcel data but guesses at others (foundation height)
  - Creating new occupancy types may be necessary to take advantage of this information

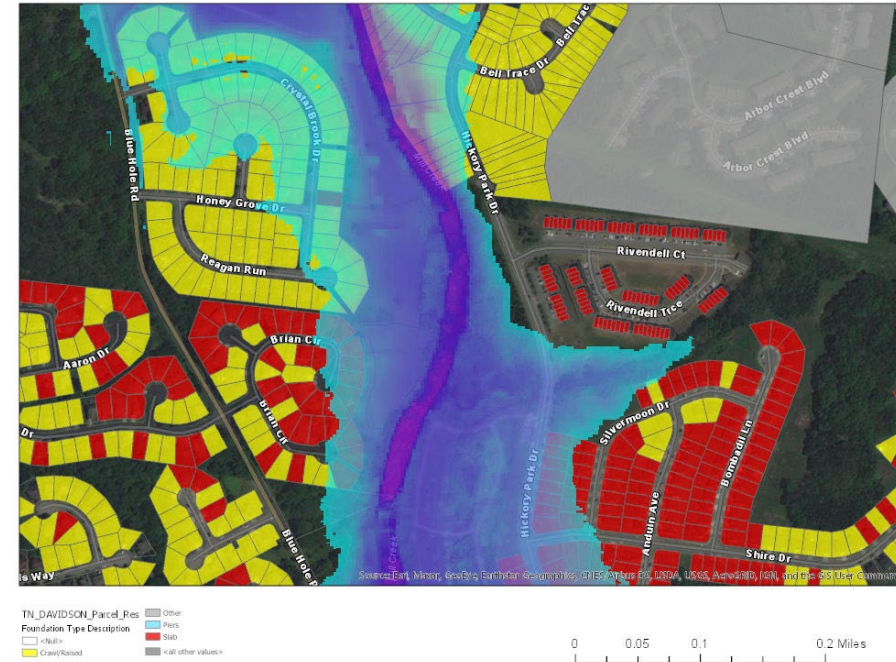
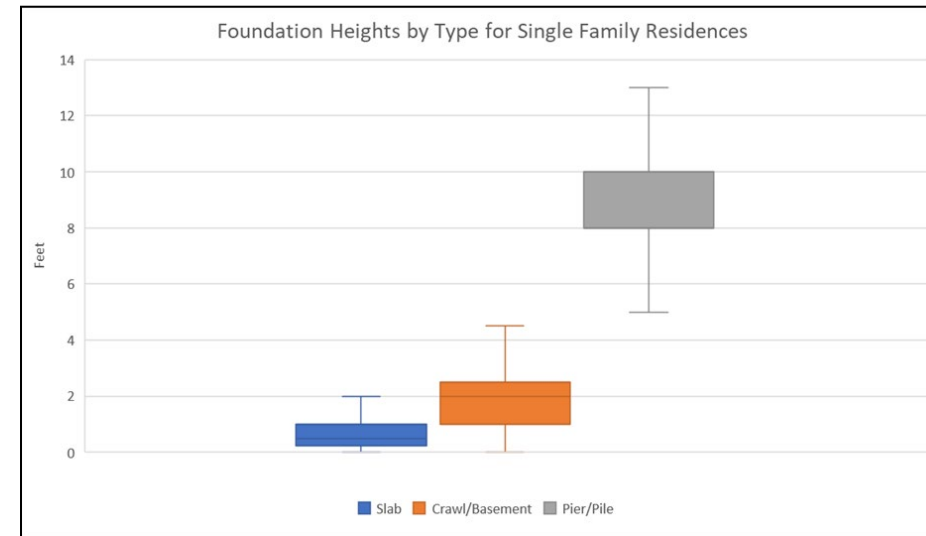
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	
1	srld	userNa	comple	isContr	sald	fdld	x	y	invalid	noStre	cbfips	occtype	stDamc	foundH	numStc	sqft	foundT	rsmean	quality	constTy	garage	roofSty	
2	103	F	TRUE	TRUE	177	28796127	-86.9175	40.41017	FALSE	FALSE	1.82E+14	COM4	COM		0	2	55704.84	Mat	Other	Like New	Masonry o	Three Car	Flat
3	105	D	TRUE	TRUE	179	28796127	-86.9175	40.41019	FALSE	FALSE	1.82E+14	IND5	IND		0	2	50254.64	Cont	Factory	Average	Masonry o	None	Flat
4	106	L	TRUE	TRUE	181	28796127	-86.9175	40.41019	FALSE	FALSE	1.82E+14	EDU2	PUB		-901	-901	48647.21	Unkn	School - V	Average	Masonry o	None	Flat
5	108	L	TRUE	TRUE	185	69589420	-82.88152	41.52502	FALSE	TRUE	3.91E+14	RES1	RES		-901	-901	-901	Unkn	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
6	109	L	TRUE	TRUE	186	87654268	-94.93824	29.21636	FALSE	FALSE	4.82E+14	RES1	RES		12	1	1648.37	Slab	SFR-Avera	Average	Stucco	Two Car B	Simple Gal
7	110	D	TRUE	TRUE	183	69589420	-82.88152	41.52502	FALSE	TRUE	3.91E+14	RES1	RES		-901	-901	-901	Unkn	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
8	111	L	TRUE	TRUE	187	11311897	-81.83614	27.27965	FALSE	FALSE	1.2E+14	RES2	RES		-901	-901	-901	Unkn	Manufact	Unknown	Manufact	Unknown	Unknown
9	113	D	TRUE	TRUE	188	87654268	-94.93824	29.21636	FALSE	FALSE	4.82E+14	RES1	RES		8	1	2092.79	Epir	SFR-Custo	Average	Wood	Two Car B	Gable and
10	114	L	TRUE	TRUE	189	55540100	-74.06475	39.98153	FALSE	FALSE	3.4E+14	RES1	RES		0	0	0						
11	115	D	TRUE	TRUE	190	11311897	-81.83614	27.27965	FALSE	TRUE	1.2E+14	RES2	RES		-901	1	796.07	Unkn	Manufact	Unknown	Unknown	None	Unknown
12	116	D	TRUE	TRUE	191	55540100	-74.06474	39.98153	TRUE	FALSE	3.4E+14	RES1	RES		0	0	0						
13	117	F	TRUE	TRUE	182	69589420	-82.88152	41.52502	FALSE	TRUE	3.91E+14	RES1	RES		0	1	994	Unkn	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	None	Unknown
14	118	L	TRUE	TRUE	193	1.03E+08	-88.17788	43.02536	FALSE	FALSE	5.51E+14	RES3E	RES		1	1	1503.95	Base	SFR-Avera	Like New	Wood	Three Car	Gable and
15	120	L	TRUE	TRUE	195	53839612	-74.944	39.78118	FALSE	FALSE	3.4E+14	COM4	COM		0.5	1	2852.21	Slab	Office	Average	Masonry o	None	Flat
16	121	F	TRUE	TRUE	194	87654268	-94.93825	29.21637	FALSE	FALSE	4.82E+14	RES1	RES		10	2	0	Epir	SFR-Avera	Like New	Wood	One Car B	Simple Hip
17	124	L	TRUE	TRUE	197	1.04E+08	-121.9443	37.47366	FALSE	FALSE	6E+13	IND3	IND		0	1	35084.74	Slab	Other	Average	Masonry o	None	Flat
18	125	F	TRUE	TRUE	196	11311897	-81.83614	27.27965	FALSE	TRUE	1.2E+14	RES2	RES		2	1	662.27	Craw	SFR-Avera	Average	Manufact	None	Simple Gal
19	129	D	TRUE	TRUE	192	1.03E+08	-88.17387	43.02546	FALSE	FALSE	5.51E+14	RES3-EF	RES		0	2	23944.02	Slab	Apartment	Average	Brick	None	Gable and
20	130	F	TRUE	TRUE	198	55540100	-74.06474	39.98154	TRUE	FALSE	3.4E+14	RES1	RES		0	0	0	Slab					
21	133	F	TRUE	TRUE	201	1.03E+08	-88.17419	43.02493	TRUE	FALSE	5.51E+14	RES3E	RES		0	0	0						
22	134	L	TRUE	TRUE	199	22283785	-116.9497	46.37359	TRUE	FALSE	1.61E+14	GOV2	PUB		0	0	0						
23	135	D	TRUE	TRUE	200	53839612	-74.94401	39.78118	FALSE	FALSE	3.4E+14	GOV1	PUB		0.25	1	3206.96	Slab	Office	Average	Masonry o	None	Flat
24	136	L	TRUE	TRUE	203	77492099	-76.54956	40.78258	FALSE	TRUE	4.21E+14	COM1	COM		-901	-901	-901	Unkn	Store - Ret	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
25	137	L	TRUE	TRUE	205	4332111	-110.9139	32.14685	FALSE	FALSE	4.02E+13	RES1	RES		1	1	819.67	Slab	Manufact	Average	Manufact	None	Offset Mo
26	138	D	TRUE	TRUE	204	1.04E+08	-121.9441	37.47341	FALSE	FALSE	6E+13	IND5	IND		0.1	1	72620.67	Slab	Office	Like New	Masonry o	None	Flat
27	139	F	TRUE	TRUE	202	53839612	-74.94401	39.78119	FALSE	FALSE	3.4E+14	GOV1	COM		0	1	3095.27	Slab	Office	Average	Masonry o	None	Flat
28	141	L	TRUE	TRUE	206	89203040	-95.29197	29.60859	FALSE	TRUE	4.82E+14	RES2	RES		-901	-901	-901	Unkn	Manufact	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

# Use of NSI in Alternative Analysis

- Not terribly unique from other structure inventories
- General
  - Consider future development
    - Changes to population for life loss applications
  - Update price levels when necessary
- Nonstructural
  - Create new Occupancy types when changing damage functions
  - Modify foundation type and height for raises

# Future Research

- Treatment of uncertainty
  - Structure level
  - Spatial Correlation
- Occupancy
  - Time Use Updates
  - Customers, etc.
- Input Data Refinement
  - Quality Control
  - Machine Learning
- Social Vulnerability
- Web Development



# NSI Team

## Leads

PI: Nicholas Lutz, HEC

NSI Generator: Alex Ryan, PCX-IN

Web Devs: Randy Goss and Triet Nguyen, CRREL

Advisor: Will Lehman, HEC

Technology	Link	Who can submit an Issue?	Who can read responses?
Email	<a href="mailto:nsi@usace.army.mil">nsi@usace.army.mil</a>	Public	The sender
Discourse	<a href="https://discourse.hecdev.net/c/nsi/10">https://discourse.hecdev.net/c/nsi/10</a>	USACE staff	The public
Github	<a href="https://github.com/HydrologicEngineeringCenter/NSI/discussions">https://github.com/HydrologicEngineeringCenter/NSI/discussions</a>	Public	The public

## Support

Kurt Buchanan, LRH/MMC

Jordan McMaster, LRH

Jay Walter, LRB

Zach Hartley, LRC

Angela Ngo, LRL

## Surveyors

Susie Byrd, LRP

Natalie Mcglinch, MVP

Grace Weiland, MVN

Alexandra Voight, SPN

Lauryn Guyton-Moore, NWP

Tyler Kelly, NWO

Nicole Walski, NWO

Sophie Wayne, NWK

Noah Colby-George, NWK



Questions?