

Title: Creation of a Social Vulnerability Index

Contact(s): Name: Susan L. Cutter
Agency: Hazards Research Lab
Department of Geography
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208
URL: <http://www.cla.sc.edu/geog/hrl>
Phone: 803-777-5236
Fax: 803-777-4972
E-mail: scutter@sc.edu

Hazards Examined: Multi-Hazard

Study emphasis: Please select all that apply: Economic Development,
Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Response and/or
Disaster Reconstruction Application

Summary: A methodology is presented for differentiating U.S. counties according to their level of social vulnerability. A series of specific indicators were produced and then mapped to highlight differences between and among counties. A specific subset of counties (Gulf and Atlantic Coast) was used to test the methodology's application on a regional basis. The transferability of the methods to other countries or regions is assured as it is based on the demographic, economic, and housing characteristics of the place and more importantly, uses standardized data sources such as the US Census.

Vulnerability Indicators:

Data Requirements:

Output:

Results of Application at Case Study Site:

Lessons Learned:

URL(s) or bibliographical references to/for publications about your case study:

1. Georgetown Case Study
2. American Hazardscapes

For more information on this case study, please contact the author.