

Title of Presentation: **Successes and Challenges of Using LED Datasets to Track Economic Characteristics and Trends for Neighborhoods and Business Districts in Grand Rapids, Mi.**

Question your work tried to answer	Identify a good method for reporting percent change at the city neighborhood level using aggregated block level data.
Local Employment Dynamics data sources used	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OnTheMap <input type="checkbox"/> QWI <input type="checkbox"/> Industry Focus <input type="checkbox"/> Raw data files from CD or VRDC <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Other data sources used	Infogroup Business Data
Software/ data processing tools used	Geographic Information Systems – ArcGIS 10 SAS Microsoft Excel
Brief description of methodology (if someone wanted to do a similar analysis, how should they approach it?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect all available years of block level LED data for the area(s) you are studying • Calculate the +/- change in number of employees year by year for every block • Identify all blocks that are outside of 2 standard deviations from the mean for each year change in employment. These are the potential problem blocks • Ground truth the problem blocks to determine if the change in employment is valid • Suppress values for blocks that do not pass the ground truth phase and aggregate values to calculate percent change for the study area(s)
Benefits of methodology/ data	Improves counts for neighborhoods that are affected by modeling errors in the block data.
Drawbacks/problems with methodology/data	Suppressing job counts for problem blocks will create a deficiency in number of jobs that should be allocated to other parts of the city/county etc.. This method only works for aggregated areas and should only be reported as a percentage.
Anything else?	
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