# Visualizing Large Data Sets

## The Housing Crisis

Statistics Department

# Who's who?

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# Outline

- Topic: The Housing Crisis
- Collecting and Cleaning Data
- Exploration and Analysis
- Communication

# The Housing Crisis


- Real estate bubble
- Personal
- Little organized public information
- Government expenditures
- Still unfolding
- Affecting global economy

# What we hope to accomplish

- **What** is the housing crisis?
- **Where** has it hit the hardest?
- **When** did start? **When** will it end?
- **Who** does it affect?

# Challenges

- How do we retrieve useful information from large data sets?
- How do we communicate our results?

# Problems with Large Data

- Hard to find
- Costs money & Licenses
- Big and UGLY
- Dirty - what is clean?

# Clean data is:

- 4 C's
  - Consistent
  - Concise
  - Complete
  - Correct


Cleaning data sets
is hard!

# Consistent

```
> construction[c(59328, 60643, 60943, 108809, 59796 , 158852, 165556, 60052, 61587, 61167, 59736, 29844),]
       year month                                 city state units housing_units valuation   size
59328  2003     9                 Dallas-Fort Worth    TX  apts           1146     73054  multi
60643  2004     4          Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington    TX house           4593    738535 single
60943  2004     4           Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land    TX house           4096    558521 single
108809 2006     7           Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown    TX house           4228    595638 single
59796  2003     9                Miami-Fort Lauderdale    FL  apts            978    117459  multi
158852 2008     9   Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach    FL  apts            314     23983  multi
165556 2009     3 Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach    FL  apts            122     13471  multi
60052  2003     9                           San Diego    CA  apts            728     58019  multi
61587  2004     4       San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos    CA house           1032    226401 single
61167  2004     4    Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana    CA house           1636    353807 single
59736  2003     9 Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County    CA  apts           1236    100494  multi
29844  2001     9 Los Angeles-Riverside- Orange County    CA  apts            409     28977  multi
```

# Concise

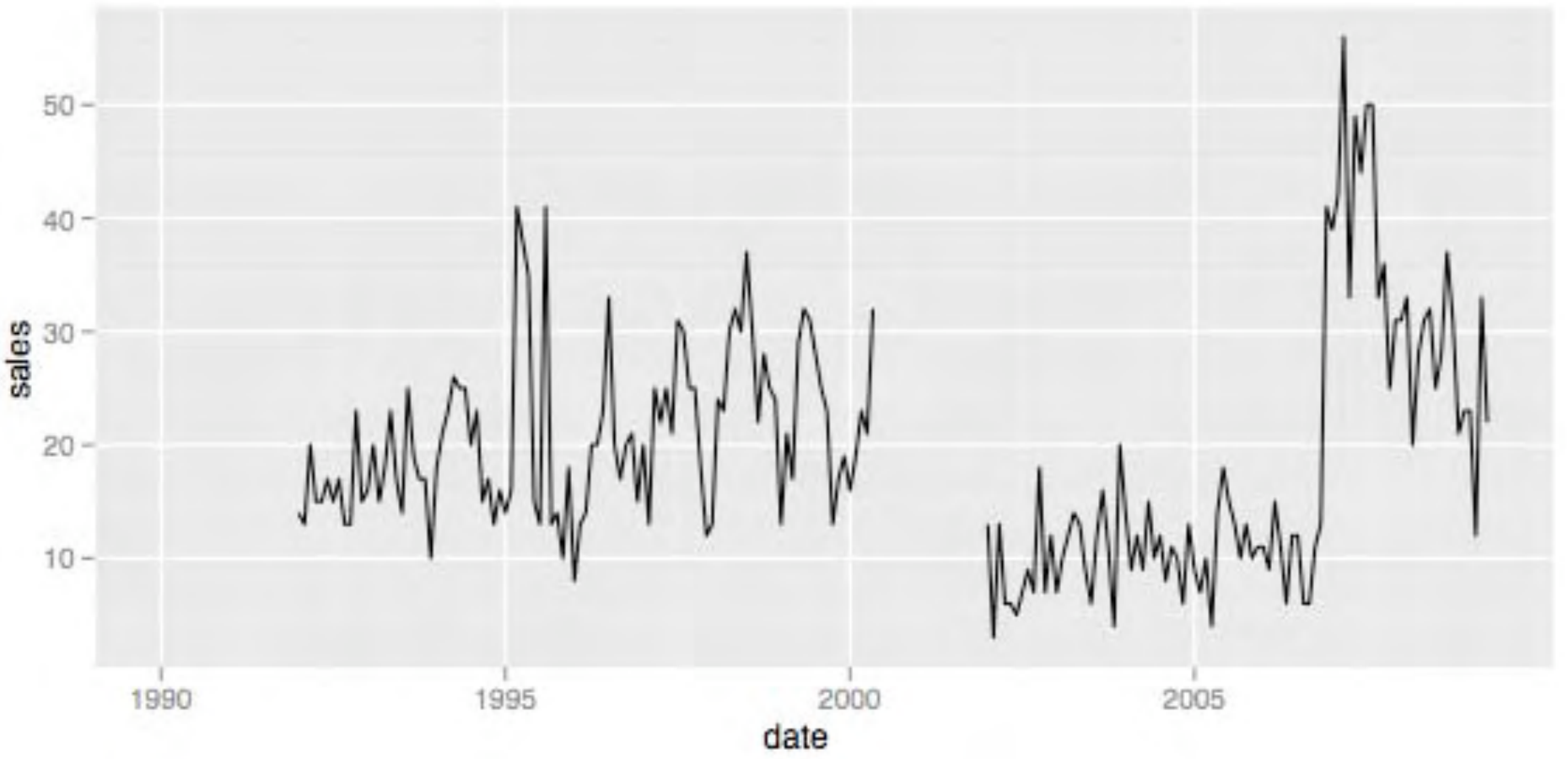

208.9 MB of this … or in other terms, 69,209 printed pages

# Complete

hoi-clean.csv

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | city | state | msa_fip | quarter | year | count | hoi | int_rate | med_inc | med_price | national_rank | regional_rank |
| 2 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1991 | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1992 | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1993 | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1994 | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1995 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1996 | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1997 | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1998 | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 1999 | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2000 | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2001 | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2002 | | | | | | | |
| 14 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2004 | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2005 | | | | | | | |
| 16 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2006 | | | | | | | |
| 17 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2007 | | | | | | | |
| 18 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2008 | 266 | 78.6 | NA | 50.9 | 104 | 45 | 4 |
| 19 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 1 | 2009 | 310 | 84.5 | NA | 50.5 | 96 | 53 | 10 |
| 20 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1991 | | | | | | | |
| 21 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1992 | | | | | | | |
| 22 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1993 | | | | | | | |
| 23 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1994 | | | | | | | |
| 24 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1995 | | | | | | | |
| 25 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1996 | | | | | | | |
| 26 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1997 | | | | | | | |
| 27 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1998 | | | | | | | |
| 28 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 1999 | | | | | | | |
| 29 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2000 | | | | | | | |
| 30 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2001 | | | | | | | |
| 31 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2004 | | | | | | | |
| 32 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2005 | | | | | | | |
| 33 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2006 | | | | | | | |
| 34 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2007 | | | | | | | |
| 35 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 2 | 2008 | 499 | 75.4 | NA | 50.9 | 113 | 52 | 8 |
| 36 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1991 | | | | | | | |
| 37 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1992 | | | | | | | |
| 38 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1993 | | | | | | | |
| 39 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1994 | | | | | | | |
| 40 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1995 | | | | | | | |
| 41 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1996 | | | | | | | |
| 42 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1997 | | | | | | | |
| 43 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1998 | | | | | | | |
| 44 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 1999 | | | | | | | |
| 45 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 2000 | | | | | | | |
| 46 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 2001 | | | | | | | |
| 47 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 2004 | | | | | | | |
| 48 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 2005 | | | | | | | |
| 49 | Abilene | TX | 10180 | 3 | 2006 | | | | | | | |

# Correct



# R

- Programming language similar to Matlab used for statistical computing and graphics
- Used to “clean” data sets

# Why R?

- Statistical standard
- Great graphics
- Data cleaning capabilities
- Open source
  - Necessary for true reproducibility

# Dirty …

Source of: file:///Users/barret/rice/housing-crisis/texas-msa-sales/raw-dist/hs190c.htm

```
<!-- Begin Middle Section Items -->
      <td width="558" valign="top" bgcolor="#FFFFFF">
        <table width="558" background="" cellpadding="6" cellspacing="0">
            <tr>
            <td colspan="2" valign="top">
            <BR>
<!-- END OMIT -->
<!-- Insert Main content below -->
<p align="center" class="maintitle">Price Distribution of MLS Homes Sold in Corpus Christi</p>
<p align="center"><img src="binC/slide0011.gif" border=0 alt="Chart"></p>
<p align="center">See also, <a href="hs190a.htm">Annual</a> and <a href="hs190b.htm">Monthly</a> Data.</p>
<table border="1" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="2" align="center" bordercolor="#D0D0D0">
<tr align="center" valign="bottom">
<td rowspan="2" width="110" bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>Price Range</b></TD>
<td colspan="11" bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>Percent Distribution</b></TD>
</tr>
<tr align="center" valign="bottom">
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>1998</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>1999</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2000</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2001</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2002</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2003</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2004</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2005</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2006</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2007</b></TD>
<td bgcolor="#FFFFDD"><b>2008</b></TD>
</tr>
<tr align="right">
<TD>$29,999 or less</TD><TD>4.1</TD><TD>4.2</TD><TD>4.1</TD><TD>4.0</TD><TD>4.2</TD><TD>4.0</TD><TD>3.0</TD><TD>2.5</TD><TD>2.3</TD><TD>1.7</TD><TD>2.0</TD></tr>
<tr align="right">
<TD>30,000 - 39,999</TD><TD>3.6</TD><TD>3.8</TD><TD>4.3</TD><TD>3.9</TD><TD>3.4</TD><TD>3.5</TD><TD>3.4</TD><TD>2.7</TD><TD>2.4</TD><TD>2.0</TD><TD>1.6</TD></tr>
<tr align="right">
<TD>40,000 - 49,999</TD><TD>6.5</TD><TD>6.9</TD><TD>6.5</TD><TD>5.6</TD><TD>5.1</TD><TD>4.5</TD><TD>2.9</TD><TD>3.1</TD><TD>3.0</TD><TD>2.5</TD><TD>2.7</TD></tr>
<tr align="right">
<TD>50,000 - 59,999</TD><TD>8.5</TD><TD>8.3</TD><TD>8.2</TD><TD>7.4</TD><TD>7.0</TD><TD>5.8</TD><TD>4.7</TD><TD>3.9</TD><TD>3.4</TD><TD>3.1</TD><TD>2.9</TD></tr>
<tr align="right">
<TD>60,000 - 69,999</TD><TD>10.3</TD><TD>9.6</TD><TD>10.3</TD><TD>8.6</TD><TD>7.6</TD><TD>6.7</TD><TD>5.6</TD><TD>4.3</TD><TD>4.5</TD><TD>3.7</TD><TD>3.5</TD></t
<tr align="right">
<TD>70,000 - 79,999</TD><TD>13.1</TD><TD>12.7</TD><TD>11.0</TD><TD>10.2</TD><TD>9.2</TD><TD>7.7</TD><TD>6.3</TD><TD>5.3</TD><TD>5.3</TD><TD>4.6</TD><TD>4.1</TD><
<tr align="right">
<TD>80,000 - 89,999</TD><TD>11.9</TD><TD>11.7</TD><TD>9.7</TD><TD>11.2</TD><TD>10.8</TD><TD>9.1</TD><TD>8.4</TD><TD>6.6</TD><TD>5.9</TD><TD>5.6</TD><TD>4.8</TD><
<tr align="right">
<TD>90,000 - 99,999</TD><TD>7.7</TD><TD>8.6</TD><TD>8.6</TD><TD>8.1</TD><TD>8.6</TD><TD>8.1</TD><TD>7.3</TD><TD>6.8</TD><TD>5.1</TD><TD>4.8</TD><TD>5.3</TD></tr>
<tr align="right">
<TD>100,000 - 119,999</TD><TD>9.9</TD><TD>11.3</TD><TD>9.6</TD><TD>11.0</TD><TD>10.7</TD><TD>10.5</TD><TD>12.1</TD><TD>11.7</TD><TD>11.8</TD><TD>11.3</TD><TD>10.
<tr align="right">
<TD>120,000 - 139,999</TD><TD>7.0</TD><TD>6.3</TD><TD>8.5</TD><TD>9.1</TD><TD>9.3</TD><TD>10.9</TD><TD>11.5</TD><TD>11.5</TD><TD>12.1</TD><TD>13.0</TD><TD>12.9</
<tr align="right">
<TD>140,000 - 159,999</TD><TD>6.2</TD><TD>6.0</TD><TD>5.1</TD><TD>5.4</TD><TD>7.5</TD><TD>8.3</TD><TD>9.2</TD><TD>9.3</TD><TD>9.8</TD><TD>9.8</TD><TD>10.4</TD></
```

# …to Clean

```
> cleanData[1:20,]
   msa year price_rng value
1  110 1998        15  13.4
2  110 1998        35   8.4
3  110 1998        45  10.4
4  110 1998        55  11.0
5  110 1998        65   9.9
6  110 1998        75  12.1
7  110 1998        85   9.5
8  110 1998        95   5.2
9  110 1998       110   6.7
10 110 1998       130   4.6
11 110 1998       150   3.6
12 110 1998       170   1.4
13 110 1998       190   1.2
14 110 1998       225   1.6
15 110 1998       275   0.7
16 110 1998       350   0.5
17 110 1998       450   0.0
18 110 1998       550   0.0
19 120 1998        15   7.0
20 120 1998        35   7.2
```

# Our Data

- Construction
- Housing price indexes (HPI)
- Vacancy
- GDP, Retirement, etc.
- Demographic information from the census

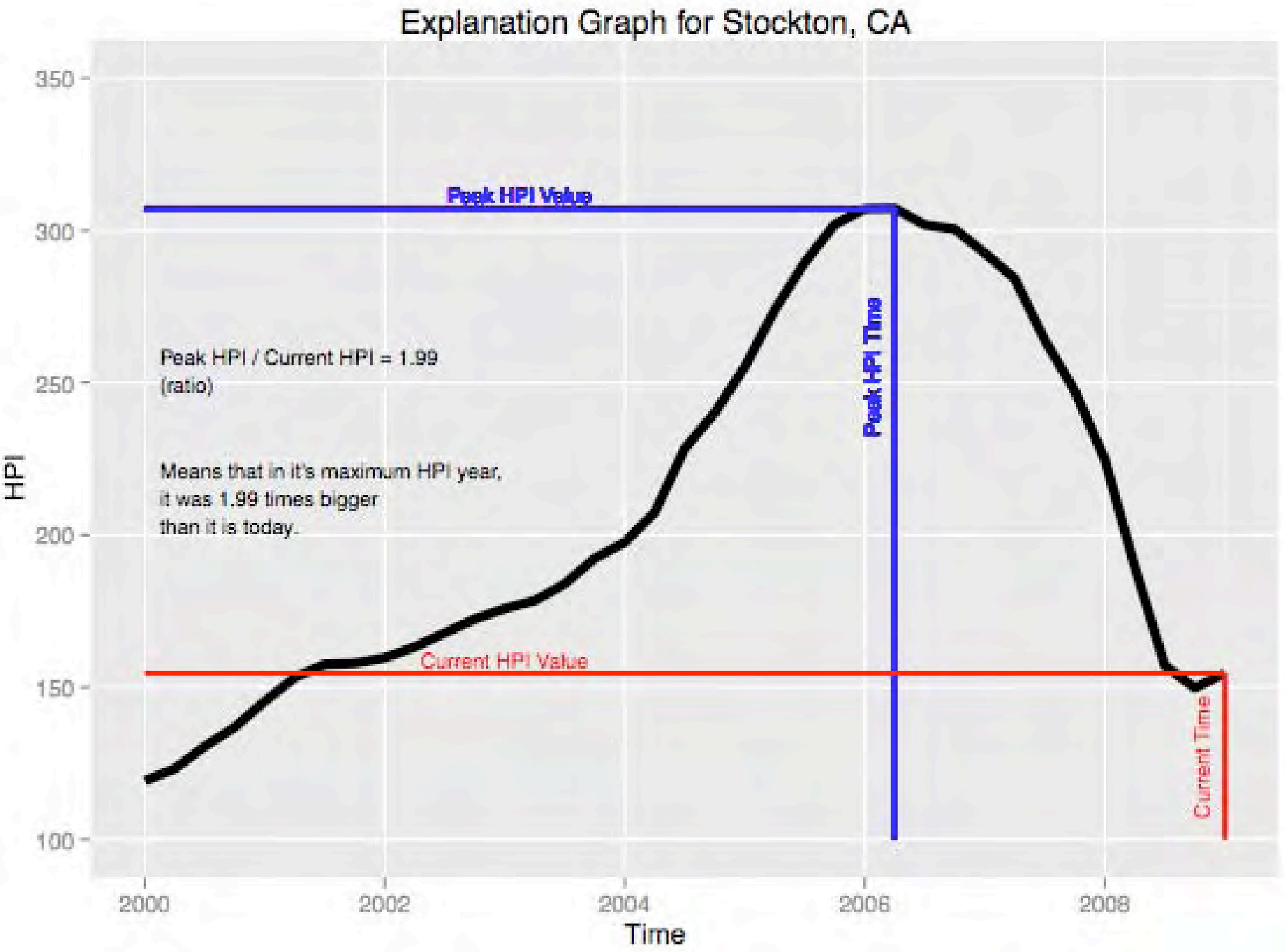
# What is a Housing Price Index

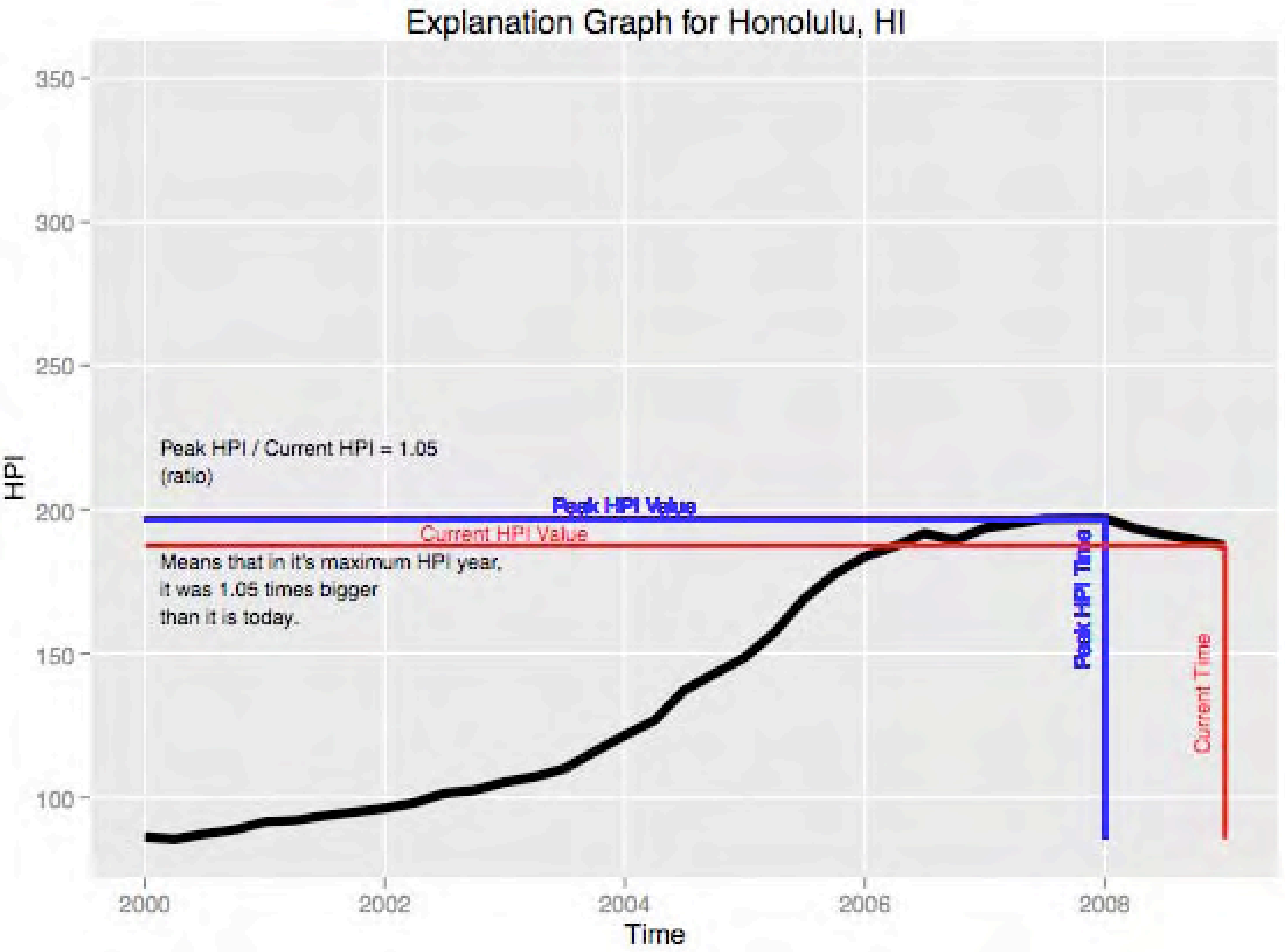
- Definition: Index- scale representing the average value of specified prices as compared with some reference figure
- (HPI Current / HPI index date) * 100
- The HPI is a broad measure of the movement of single-family house prices.

# Federal Housing Finance Agency HPI Data*

```
> head(hpi)
     city state fips_msa year quarter    hpi error    time  city_state
1 Abilene    TX    10180 2000       1 112.12  2.63 2000.00 Abilene, TX
2 Abilene    TX    10180 2000       2 112.46  2.44 2000.25 Abilene, TX
3 Abilene    TX    10180 2000       3 114.13  2.47 2000.50 Abilene, TX
4 Abilene    TX    10180 2000       4 116.72  2.70 2000.75 Abilene, TX
5 Abilene    TX    10180 2001       1 116.79  2.64 2001.00 Abilene, TX
6 Abilene    TX    10180 2001       2 117.65  2.55 2001.25 Abilene, TX
> head(maximum_hpi)
  state                city    hpi    time hpi_2009 percent_change
1    AK           Anchorage 206.16 2008.75   204.58      0.7723140
2    AK           Fairbanks 184.22 2008.00   179.86      2.4241076
3    AL   Anniston-Oxford 177.69 2009.00   177.69      0.0000000
4    AL    Auburn-Opelika 192.83 2008.00   191.90      0.4846274
5    AL Birmingham-Hoover 183.21 2009.00   183.21      0.0000000
6    AL             Decatur 171.40 2008.75   166.10      3.1908489
```

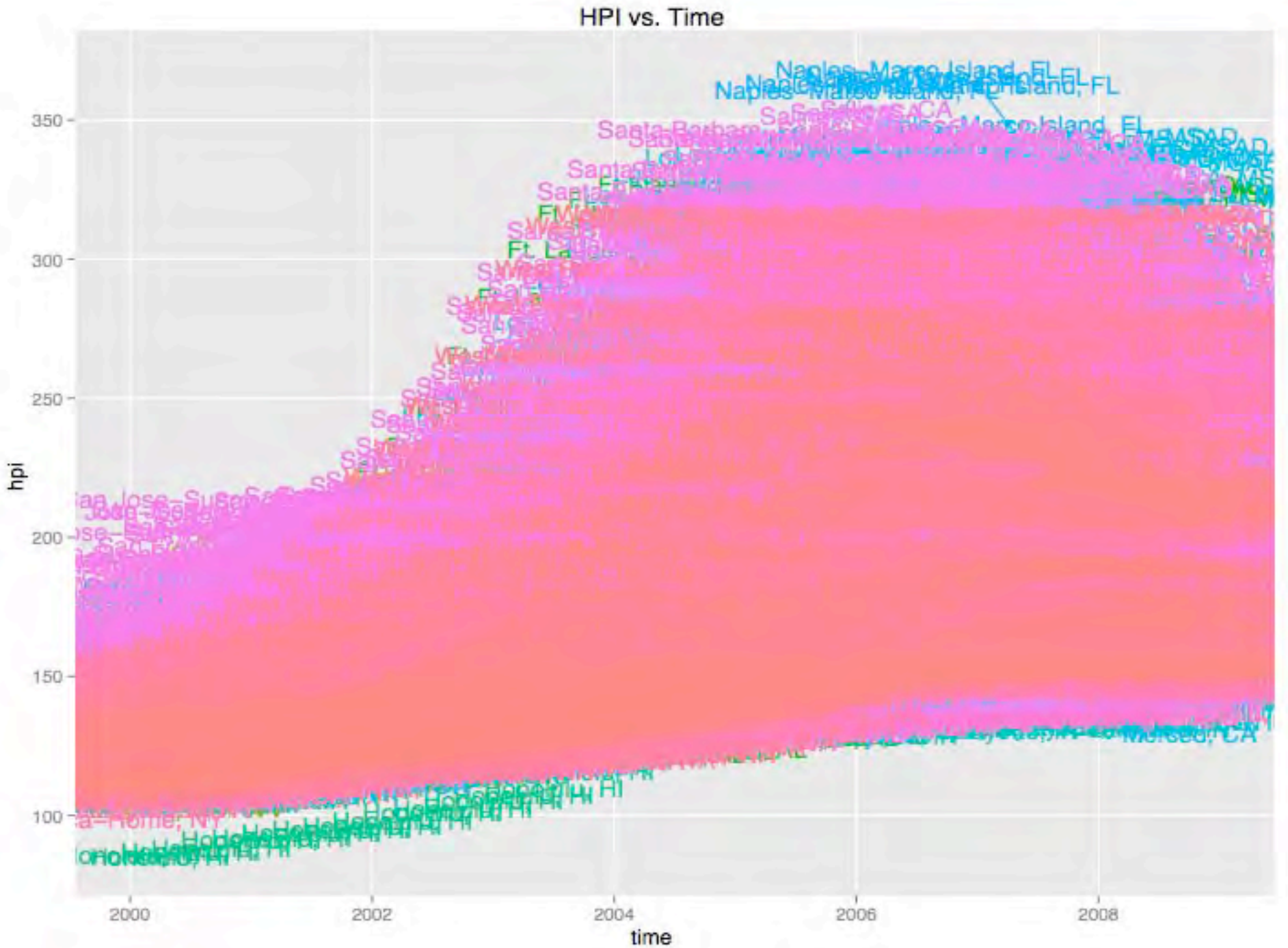
*This information is obtained by reviewing repeat mortgage transactions on single-family properties whose mortgages have been purchased or securitized by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.


Explanation Graph for Stockton, CA
350
300
250
200
150
100
HPI
Peak HPI Value
Peak HPI / Current HPI = 1.99
(ratio)
Means that in it's maximum HPI year,
it was 1.99 times bigger
than it is today.
Peak HPI Time
Current HPI Value
Current Time
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008
Time


Explanation Graph for Honolulu, HI
350
300
250
200
150
100
HPI
Peak HPI / Current HPI = 1.05
(ratio)
Peak HPI Value
Current HPI Value
Means that in it's maximum HPI year,
it was 1.05 times bigger
than it is today.
Peak HPI Time
Current Time
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008
Time

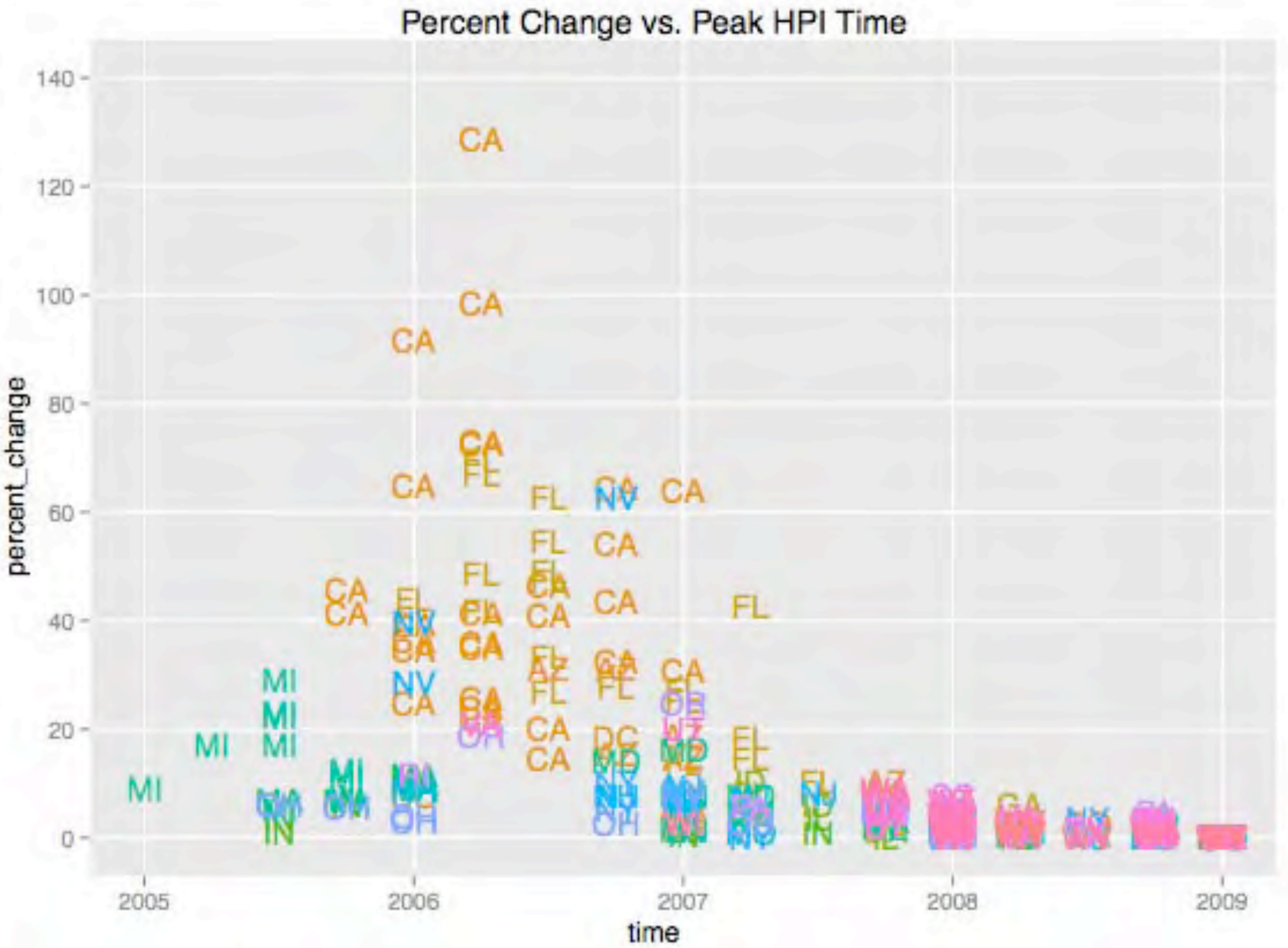
# Exploration and Analysis

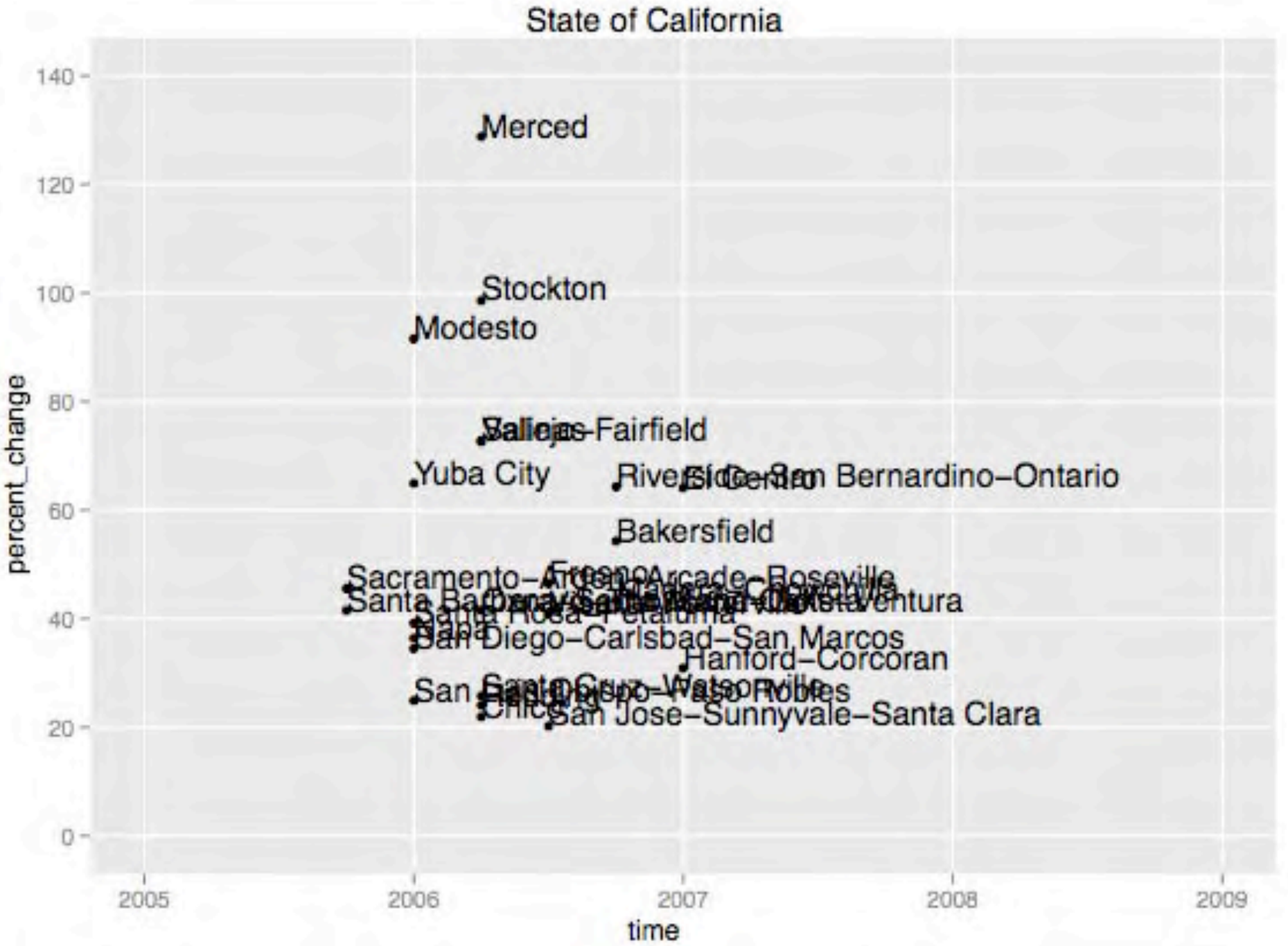
- Few preconceived notions
  - Follow the data
  - Relate multiple data sets
- Size of data is overwhelming
- Start small!
  - Start with a city then build from there

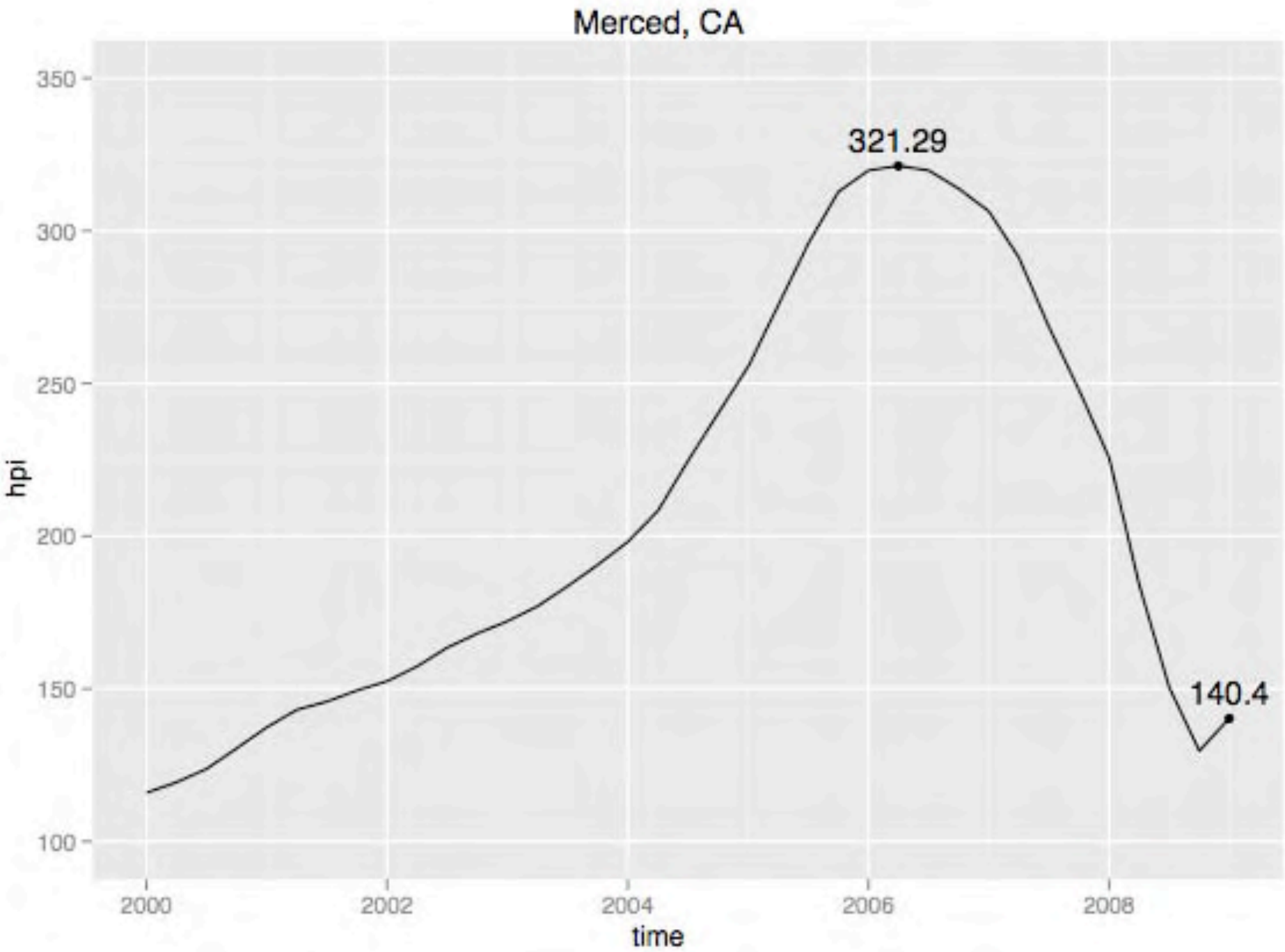

HPI vs. Time
hpi
time
350
300
250
200
150
100
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008

# Interesting Findings

- Data set: Housing Price Indexes from Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA)
- Merced, California


Percent Change vs. Peak HPI Time
percent_change
time
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009

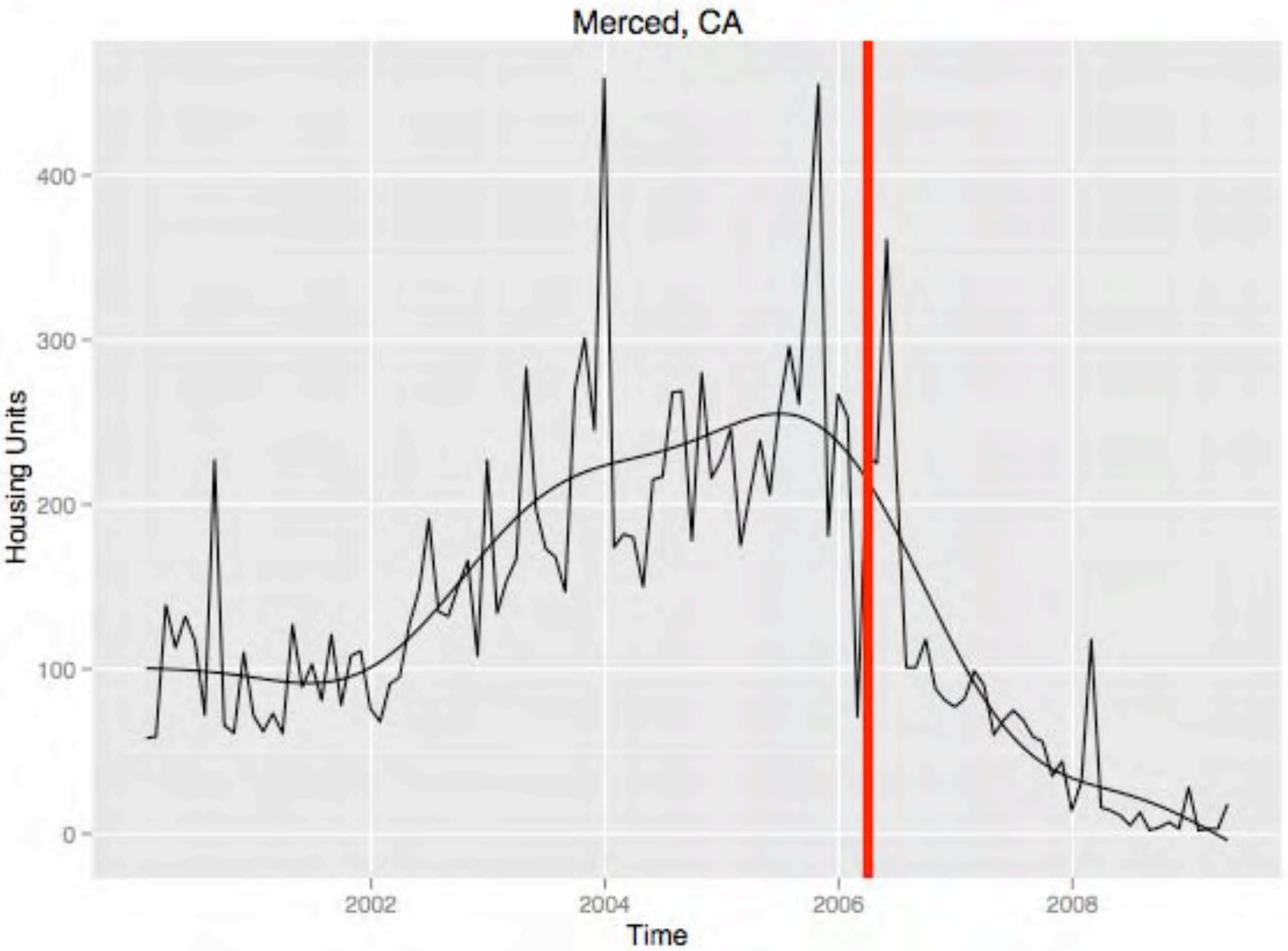

State of California
percent_change
time
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Merced
Stockton
Modesto
Yuba City
Bakersfield
Hanford–Corcoran
San Jose–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara

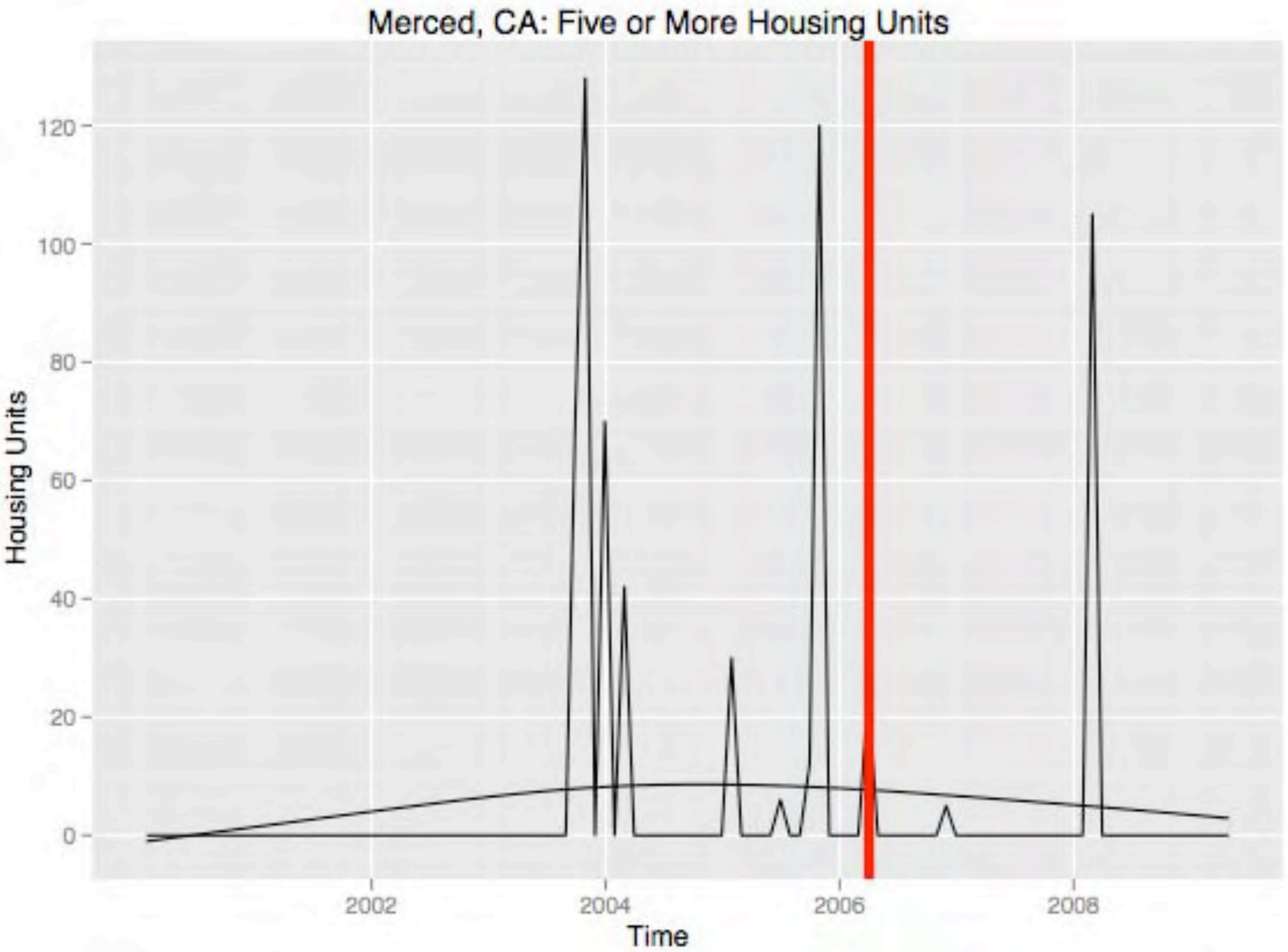

Merced, CA
350
300
250
200
150
100
hpi
321.29
140.4
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008
time

# Possible Causes for the Bubble

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UCMERCED

- In September 2005 University California, Merced finished construction
- More housing
  - Construction implies demand, causes increase in price


Merced, CA
Housing Units
400
300
200
100
0
2002
2004
2006
2008
Time


Merced, CA: Five or More Housing Units
Housing Units
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
2002
2004
2006
2008
Time

# Future Analysis of Merced

- Is this pattern consistent among other cities?
- Foreclosures
- Examine relationship between construction and house prices

# Other Explorations

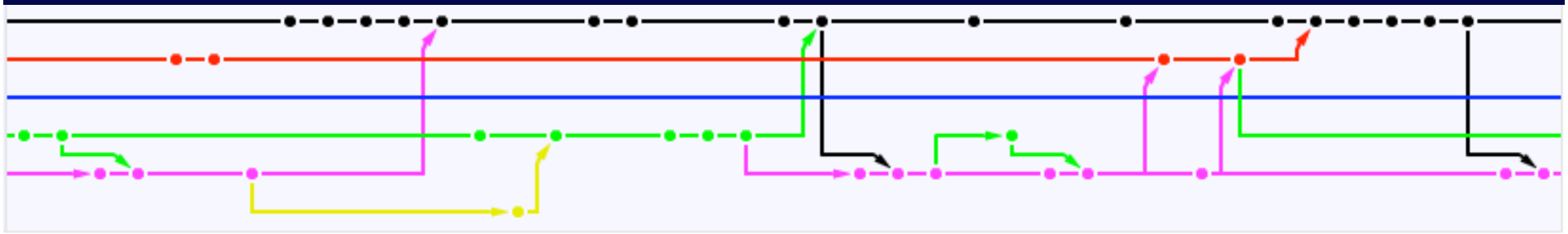
- Vacation Spots: people who own second homes
- Where are people moving?
- Renting vs. owning

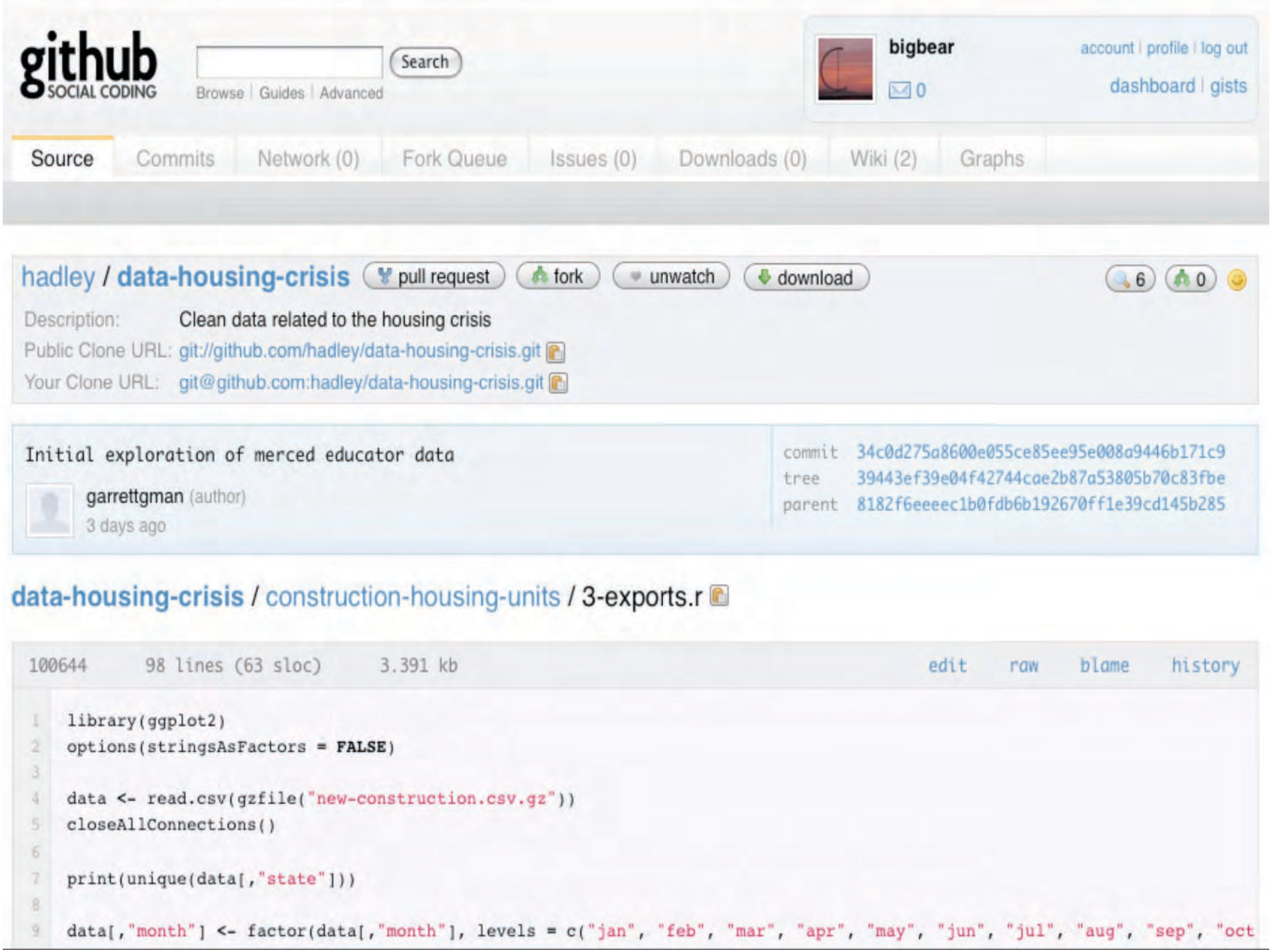
# Communicating Our Findings

- Reproducibility
  - Requirement of good science
  - Complete record of the data and processes
  - Work should verifiable
  - Others can build upon previous work
- Data & R Code
  - Download
  - Clean
  - Exports

# Making it Available

- Github Website
  - Tracks and posts changes to data made from multiple individuals
  - Free to post and download
  - http://github.com/hadley/data-housing-crisis/tree/master




github
SOCIAL CODING
Search
Browse | Guides | Advanced
bigbear
0
account | profile | log out
dashboard | gists
Source
Commits
Network (0)
Fork Queue
Issues (0)
Downloads (0)
Wiki (2)
Graphs
hadley / data-housing-crisis
pull request
fork
unwatch
download
6
0
Description: Clean data related to the housing crisis
Public Clone URL: git://github.com/hadley/data-housing-crisis.git
Your Clone URL: git@github.com:hadley/data-housing-crisis.git
Initial exploration of merced educator data
garrettgman (author)
3 days ago
commit 34c0d275a8600e055ce85ee95e008a9446b171c9
tree 39443ef39e04f42744cae2b87a53805b70c83fbe
parent 8182f6eeeec1b0fdb6b192670ff1e39cd145b285
data-housing-crisis / construction-housing-units / 3-exports.r
100644 98 lines (63 sloc) 3.391 kb
edit raw blame history
1 library(ggplot2)
2 options(stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
3
4 data <- read.csv(gzfile("new-construction.csv.gz"))
5 closeAllConnections()
6
7 print(unique(data[,"state"]))
8
9 data[,"month"] <- factor(data[,"month"], levels = c("jan", "feb", "mar", "apr", "may", "jun", "jul", "aug", "sep", "oct

# Communication

- Once we have interesting findings, how do we communicate them to the public?
- Interactive Website: http://money.cnn.com/news/storysupplement/economy/gapmap/index.htm
- Protovis

# Overview

- Good data is hard to find: not consistent, not concise, not complete, not correct
- Use R to clean
- Use R to analyze: discovered Merced CA, big effect of UC Merced
- Reproducibility crucial, other researchers can build on our work
- To do: communicate our findings