

U.S. racial covenants data

Mapped racial covenants, produced by Mapping Prejudice volunteers and Mapping Prejudice and [collaborators nationwide](#). Data maintained by [Mapping Prejudice](#).

Current spatial and data files

Please note that these files are works in progress. Both the data and data formats are subject to change as we add covenants and refine our processes.

These files represent the covenants that have been successfully mapped and do not include unmapped covenants which have not yet been matched to modern properties.

Available datasets

State	Jurisdiction	Notes	Suggested Citation
California	Contra Costa County	In progress	Citation
DC	District of Columbia	In progress; 23,000 covenanted properties from previous work are not included in this dataset, but will be merged into it in the future.	Citation
Michigan	Washtenaw County	Complete	Citation
Minnesota	Anoka County	Complete	Citation
Minnesota	Dakota County	Complete	Citation
Minnesota	Hennepin County	No active work, but will likely add covenants in the future. Data ported from official DRUM repository (see below) to match our updated data schema	Citation

Minnesota	Olmsted County	Complete	Citation
Minnesota	Ramsey County	In progress	Citation
Minnesota	Sherburne County	Complete	Citation
Minnesota	Stearns County	In progress	Citation
Minnesota	Washington County	Complete	Citation
Wisconsin	Milwaukee County	Complete	Citation

Suggested citation

For work that spans multiple counties, please use the following citation for the overall dataset:

Corey, Michael; Petersen, Penny; Delegard, Kirsten; Gillette, Rebecca; Mattke, Ryan; Ehrman-Solberg, Kevin; Mills, Marguerite; crowdsourcing community mapmakers. (2026). U.S. Racial Covenants Series, Hosted by Mapping Prejudice.

For work that only involves a single jurisdiction, see individual folders for location-specific citations.

File formats

Each local data set should include:

- Zipped shapefile (e.g.: `/mn-ramsey-county/covenants-mn-ramsey-county.zip`)
- Shapefile (e.g.: `/mn-ramsey-county/covenants-mn-ramsey-county/covenants-mn-ramsey-county.shp` , be sure to download other files in same directory, or use Zipped version)
- GeoJSON (e.g. `/mn-ramsey-county/covenants-mn-ramsey-county.geojson`)
- CSV (e.g. `/mn-ramsey-county/covenants-mn-ramsey-county.csv`)
- Excel (e.g. `/mn-ramsey-county/covenants-mn-ramsey-county.xlsx`)

Hennepin County covenants compatibility versions

Please note that the official version of the Hennepin County covenants is [published here](#). However, the Hennepin County files here are provided in order to facilitate quicker mapping of the Hennepin County data alongside data from other jurisdictions. It is a copy of the official shapefile, with fieldnames and date formats changed to match our updated data format.

Spatial notes

GeoJSON and shapefile are unprojected WGS-84 (SRID:4326)

(Note: Legacy Hennepin shapefile, available in DRUM, is projected UTM.)

Data fields in downloadable files

Field name	Data type	Description
db_id	Integer	Internal database primary key
workflow	Varies	Internal workflow ID
cnty_name	String	County name
cnty_fips	String	County 5-digit FIPS code
doc_num	String	Government document number of historical property deed
deed_year	Integer	Year of historical deed/covenant. Since covenants are often repeated in subsequent deeds when a property is sold, we have attempted to identify the earliest deed with the racial covenant.
deed_date	Date, YYYY-MM-DD	Generally, this is the date the deed or other document was executed (signed), rather than the date the document was recorded (these dates can sometimes vary by months or years.) For some Ramsey County covenants, only the recorded date was transcribed, so that date has been used instead.
cov_text	String	Text of racial covenant
seller	String	Name of historical seller, also known as "grantor." Not transcribed in Ramsey County.

buyer	String	Name of historical buyer, also known as "grantee." Not transcribed in Ramsey County.
street_add	String	Street address of modern parcel match, according to county records.
city	String	City of modern parcel match, according to county records.
state	String	Minnesota
zip_code	String	5-digit ZIP of modern parcel match, according to county records.
add_cov	String	Addition listed in historical deed
block_cov	String	Block listed in historical deed
lot_cov	String	Lot number or range listed in historical deed
cnty_pin	String	Modern county parcel PIN. Not currently accurate, will be fixed in future exports.
add_mod	String	Addition of modern parcel match.
block_mod	String	Block of modern parcel match.
lot_mod	String	Lot number of modern parcel match.
ph_dsc_mod	String	Physical description of modern parcel match.
join_strgs	String	A concatenated string of all addition/block/lot combinations used by the Mapping Prejudice automated system to attempt a join to a modern parcel.
geocd_addr	String	Geocoded address of parcel centroid. Hennepin County only.
geocd_dist	Float	Distance (in meters) of the geocoded address point from the closest parcel polygonal boundary. A value of "0" indicates the current address point falls within the parcel boundary. Hennepin County only.
cov_type	String	Which process was used to enter the covenant. "zooniverse" or "manual"

match_type	String	Ramsey County only. Generally, parcels are matched automatically by using addition/block/lot combinations. But in cases where manual join work is required, the user can specify what type of join was used. Options: "Automatic match", "Multiple single lots", "Partial lot", "Simple lot", "Plat covenant", "Something else"
manual_cx	Boolean	Whether or not a user has manually corrected the Zooniverse consensus output
dt_updated	Timestamp	Last change to record in database
zn_subj_id	Integer	Zooniverse subject ID
zn_dt_ret	Timestamp	Date deed was retired in Zooniverse
image_ids	String	List of raw deed image handles
med_score	Float	Median Zooniverse consensus score, indicating how many users agreed precisely on various fields. Maximum is 1.0 for complete agreement.
plat_dbid	Integer	Primary ID of plat record in Mapping Prejudice database.
subd_dbid	Integer	Primary ID of modern spatial subdivision record in Mapping Prejudice database.