

OnTheMap Quick Start Example

Local Employment Dynamics

All About Jobs

OnTheMap is designed to provide fast access to labor market information. In just a few keystrokes a user can zoom to a particular geographic area, define a specific area for analysis, and produce maps and reports specific to that area. The following example shows the steps to create a commute shed map and report.

Commute Shed Map and Report – Irvine, California

- a. On the **Place Name Lookup** screen that appears when you enter the OnTheMap application, type in the name “Irvine” (do not type quotation marks) and press Enter. Do not add “City of” or “County” to the place name unless it is part of the actual name.
- b. On the confirmation screen that appears next, use your mouse to highlight “City of Irvine, California” and then press the City Map button just to the right. The application’s interactive map viewer will be displayed, and Irvine will be centered in the mapping frame.
- c. From the **Background Map Tools** located just above the map viewer, resize the map by pressing the Out button and then drawing a “drag box” with your mouse on the map. See “Zoom Out” in the [Mapping Terms](#) glossary section for help in creating a drag box. The geographic coverage of the map expands, and the center of the drag box becomes the center of the new map view.
- d. From the **Map Overlay Tools** group at the top of the map, press the Create/Change Overlay button. Choose Create Travel Sheds from among the options presented. Fill in the travel shed settings concluding with item #5. Additional help is available on the [Using OnTheMap](#) webpage.
 1. Year – Choose to view data for 2002, 2003, or 2004.
 2. Job Type – Choose among four different employment definitions.
 - a. All Jobs – All public and private non-farm sector jobs.
 - b. All Primary – The primary jobs (based on highest earnings) of all workers.
 - c. Private Jobs – All private, non-farm jobs.
 - d. Private Primary – The primary jobs of all private non-farm workers.
 3. Live or Work – Choose “Commute Shed (Selects a home area and maps where people work).”
 - a. Commute Shed (Selects a home area and maps where people work).
 - b. Labor Shed (Selects an employment area and maps where workers live).
 4. Reports – Choose “Shed report.” Add a descriptive report name – such as “Where People Work Who Live in Irvine, CA” – in the input box under the report type options. Note that the report title, while optional, is the only place on the

- report that identifies the selection area. Once a title is added, it will remain active until changed manually.
5. Selection Tools – Choose “Layer Selection” from among the selection tool options. The options include the following:
- a. Re-use Selection – Recalls the most recent selection you made.
 - b. Freehand – Define an area by drawing a polygon directly on the map.
 - c. Layer Selection – Choose a specific map feature (i.e., county or zipcode) within a selected map layer by dragging the mouse across a geographic feature on the map.
 - d. Buffered Selection – Create a corridor study area by drawing a line along a highway or road.
 - e. Circle Selection – Click on a map location to create a study area ring around the location.
- e. From the Selection Tool options, click **Layer Selection**. The Layer Selection settings window will appear with options specific to that tool. Choose “Cities and Towns.” Now, using your mouse, drag and hold to create a single line on the map over Irvine, and then release the mouse. Note that all cities that are touched by the line will be included in the resulting selection area. The boundary of Irvine will be highlighted and the application will begin processing the request. (See the [User Guide](#), page 9, Area Selection Options, for help in using any of the selection tools.)
- f. Look at the **Display Options** group on the toolbar on top of the map; the application will be processing the requested commute shed map. The icons will change from X’s to rotating hourglasses while the request is being processed and then change again to checkmarks when processing is complete. **Do not attempt to interrupt this processing once it is underway.** When the processing has finished (checkmarks are displayed), click on Points to see a map showing the commute shed for Irvine. You can also click on the Thermals and Both options in turn to see other ways to display the places where workers employed in Irvine live. (See the [User Guide](#), page 13, Map Display Options, for a description of these display choices.)
- g. Click the Report button (also in the **Display Options** group). The browser pop-up blocker must be turned off or set to allow pop-ups from the OnTheMap application. A new browser window will pop-up and appear blank on the screen until processing of the report is finished. The report includes the number of workers living in the selection area (based on the job type chosen), and a rank ordered list of the top ten cities and counties where workers are employed. Close the report window when finished or minimize the report window to keep the report active in order to enable comparisons with subsequent analyses.

Note: If “Area Profile report” was selected from the Create Travel Sheds setting window, that report would display here. The “QWI report” is active only for the Labor Shed option. See the [User Guide](#), page 14, Tabular Reports, for descriptions of all reports.

- h. From the **Map Overlay Tools** group, click the Clear button if you are finished using your current area and wish to clear the map overlay display. Repeat the process for a Labor Shed map – choose “Labor Shed (Selects an employment area and maps where workers live)” in the Create Travel Sheds window.