Annual National Land Cover Database (NLCD)

USGS Put a Label on It!

The definitive land cover database for the United States puts a label on what's covering the land, from forests and cities to crops and deserts.

This information helps efforts by government at all levels, private industry and academia to protect people's safety and economic well-being.
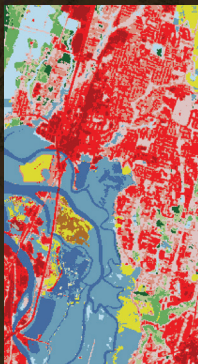
Annual NLCD

- Debuted in October 2024 as an improvement from legacy NLCD by providing a look at yearly changes going back to 1985
- Releases 16 classes of land cover information for the lower 48 states
- Relies on the long record of Landsat satellite data

Find multiple ways to access Annual NLCD data at usgs.gov/annualnlcd.
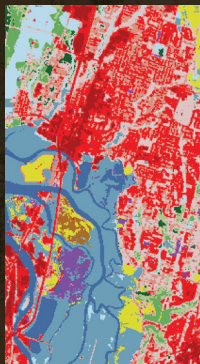
Annual NLCD contains a suite of 6 products
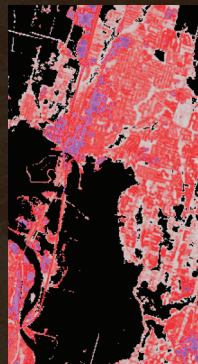
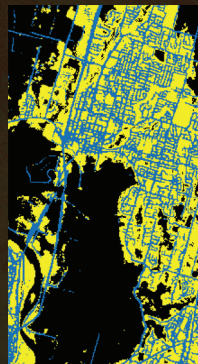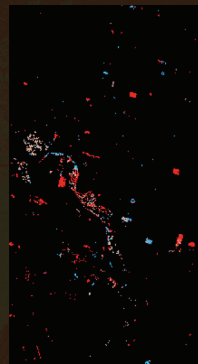| LAND COVER	LAND COVER CHANGE	LAND COVER CONFIDENCE	FRACTIONAL IMPERVIOUS SURFACE	IMPERVIOUS DESCRIPTOR	SPECTRAL CHANGE
Predominant land cover class	Change between one year and the next	Probability value for the land cover class	Amount of area covered by artificial surfaces like pavement or buildings	Differentiation between roads and other artificial surfaces	Timing of a significant change in Landsat data