2020 Census
Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP)

U.S. Census Bureau
2020 PSAP

• Allows invited participants to review and update selected statistical area boundaries for 2020 Census data tabulation using Census Bureau criteria and guidelines.

• The Census Bureau uses the defined statistical areas for the 2020 Census, Economic Census, and American Community Survey data.
Importance of PSAP Participation

• Data needs not always met by legal areas alone.
• Statistical geography can help provide data.
  o For example, CDPs are used to create boundaries for a concentration of population where no legal boundaries exist.
    • Cities or communities without legal boundaries.
    • Neighborhoods.
    • State-recognized tribal areas.
• Data for these statistical geographies are often used as criteria in grant applications or programs. (e.g. Opportunity Zones Program)
### Tabulation Geography

#### Legal
- States (and equivalents) (57)
- Counties (3,000)
- County subdivisions
  - (Towns & townships) (31,000)
- Places (Incorporated) (19,000)
- Tribal areas
  - (Reservations and trustlands) (400)

#### Administrative
- Election areas (186,000)
- School districts (13,000)

#### Statistical
- Regions (5)
- Divisions (10)
- County subdivisions
  - (Census county divisions) (5,000)
- Places (Census designated) (10,000)
- Tribal areas (Statistical areas) (280)
- Census tracts (74,000)
- Block groups (220,000)
- Tabulation blocks (11 million)
- Metropolitan/Micropolitan areas (1,000)
- Urban areas (3,000)
- ZCTAs (33,000)
PSAP Statistical Geographies

• Standard statistical geographies include:
  o Census tracts.
  o Block groups.
  o Census designated places (CDPs).
  o Census county divisions (CCDs), in selected states.

• Tribal statistical geographies include:
  o Tribal census tracts (TCTs).
  o Tribal block groups (TBGs).
  o Census designated places (CDPs).
  o Tribal Designated Statistical Areas (TDSAs).
  o State Designated Tribal Statistical Areas (SDTSAs).
  o Alaska Native village statistical areas (ANVSAs).
  o State reservations (legal entities).
  o Oklahoma tribal statistical areas (OTSAs).
  and associated tribal subdivisions.
### General Characteristics of PSAP Entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Entity</th>
<th>Primary Purpose</th>
<th>Nationwide wall-to-wall coverage</th>
<th>Nest within</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract</td>
<td>• Reliable small area data • Data comparability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block Group</td>
<td>• Spatial resolution • Demographic characteristics</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Census Tract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Designated Place (CDP)</td>
<td>• Demographic and economic data for unincorporated places</td>
<td>No-CDPs represent distinct communities</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census County Division (CCD)</td>
<td>• Subcounty units that have stable boundaries</td>
<td>21 states (nationwide coverage with MCDs)</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Census Tract Thresholds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tract Type</th>
<th>Threshold Type</th>
<th>Optimum</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard and Tribal Tracts</td>
<td>Population</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing Units</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Land Use Census Tracts</td>
<td>Land Area</td>
<td>&gt;= 1 sq. mi. in urban area and &gt;= 10 sq. mi. outside urban area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Little or none, or within standard tract thresholds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Souderton, PA: Census Tracts

Local Census Geography
- Local Roads
- Tracts
- Souderton, PA
- Incorporated Place

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, TIGER/Line Shapefiles
## Block Group Thresholds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BG Type</th>
<th>Threshold Type</th>
<th>Optimum</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard and Tribal Block Groups</td>
<td>Population</td>
<td></td>
<td>600</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>240</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Land Use Block Groups</td>
<td>Land Area</td>
<td>&gt;= 1 sq. mi. in urban area and &gt;= 10 sq. mi. outside urban area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Little or none, or within standard tract thresholds</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Census Bureau Places

Incorporated Places
- Legally bounded entity
- Cities, boroughs, towns, or villages, depending on the state

Census Designated Places (CDPs)
- Statistical entity
- Unincorporated community, concentration of population, housing, and commercial structures, identifiable by name
U.S. Census Bureau’s place concepts

• **Places are mutually exclusive**
  that is, a place cannot exist entirely or partially within another place.

• **Places are “organic”**
  they can expand (or contract) in spatial extent over time as population and commercial activity increases (or decreases).

• **Places represent communities**
  they can be incorporated or unincorporated, but represent an organized settlement of people living in close proximity
CDPs represent a variety of places:

• Places with same range of social and economic activities as incorporated places, but lack governments: Towson, MD; Tyson’s Corner, VA; King of Prussia, PA

• Special taxation areas: Paradise, NV and other “unincorporated towns” in Nevada

• Towns/townships in the Northeast and Midwest that were defined as “whole town” CDPs: Framingham, MA; Westport, CT; Darien, CT

• Village centers within towns/townships: Cranbury CDP, NJ

• Administrative centers/county seats (zona urbanas in PR)

• Communities with unique characteristics and needs for data: colonias in TX, NM, AZ, and CA

• Some CDPs (for example, Columbia, MD; Reston, VA) are defined around large associations, incorporated under state law.
New for 2020 Census PSAP

• Tribal Statistical Areas Program (TSAP) now part of 2020 PSAP.
• Participants receive **proposed** 2020 Census statistical areas.
• Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS).
• Secure Web Incoming Module (SWIM).
2020 PSAP Delineation

• Substantial changes to the delineation of statistical geography boundaries.

• 2010 Statistical geographies reviewed and updated by Census Bureau (Pre-SAP) for adherence to:
  o Published criteria and guidelines.
  o Coding and naming conventions.
  o Optimal boundary feature use.

• Invited participants will have the following options:
  o Accept the Census Bureau’s 2020 Census proposed statistical areas.
  o Update the 2020 Census proposed statistical areas.
  o Use the 2010 Census statistical area geography as a base to make updates.
2020 Pre-SAP Process

• Census Bureau staff are conducting an internal review of:
  o Census tracts.
  o Block groups.
  o CCDs, CDPs, and tribal statistical geographies.

• Planned Pre-SAP updates are reviewed and implemented prior to 2020 PSAP product creation.
2020 PSAP Process

• Census Bureau creates and distributes materials to participants.
• Participants review and update statistical boundaries.
• Census Bureau reviews and implements participant updates by:
  o Reviewing updates and enforcing thresholds for census tracts and block groups.
  o Reviewing and maintaining boundaries for CCDs.
  o Reviewing and updating CDP and tribal statistical boundaries.
PSAP Contacts

There are two types of contacts to identify for PSAP participation.

• Primary PSAP Contact
  o Coordinates the PSAP review and update activities.
  o Regional planning directors, executive directors, councils of governments, etc.

• Technical PSAP Contact
  o Conducts the PSAP review for the delineation and verification phases.
  o Submits updates to the Census Bureau.
## 2020 Census PSAP Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td>Census Bureau sends official invitation letters/e-mails.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2019</td>
<td>PSAP delineation phase begins. Participants have 120 calendar days to submit updates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2020</td>
<td>PSAP verification phase begins. Participants have 90 calendar days to review updates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1, 2020</td>
<td><strong>CENSUS DAY.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Still Have Questions?

• Contact the Geographic Programs Support Desk.
  o PSAP............1-844-788-4921 or geo.psap@census.gov

• Review the Census Bureau’s website.
  o https://www.census.gov/
  o https://www.census.gov/geography.html

• General Geography Questions.
  o (301) 763-1128 or geo.geography@census.gov
Philadelphia Geography Contact

• Email: Philadelphia.rcc.geography@2020Census.gov

• Phone: 267-780-2550