

April 1, 2009

Susan Schechter  
Division Chief  
American Community Survey Office  
U.S. Census Bureau  
4600 Silver Hill Rd  
Washington, D.C. 20233-7400 (Please use zipcode Suitland, MD 20746 if using FedEx)

Subject: Census Transportation Planning Products new request for Three-Year Data Tables (2006, 2007 and 2008) with Collapsed Schema

Dear Ms. Schechter: (email address: [susan.schechter.bortner@census.gov](mailto:susan.schechter.bortner@census.gov) )

On behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), I submit for your review and approval a revised proposal for Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) special tabulations from the 3-year American Community Survey.

Based on the decision of the Census Bureau's Data Stewardship Executive Policy Committee in September 2008, AASHTO has been working hard with member states, metropolitan planning organizations and Census Bureau personnel to define a revised CTPP table list. The number of variables crossed with Means of Transportation (MoT) is greatly reduced and several collapsed versions of MoT tables have been created to greatly reduce or eliminate the risk of data disclosure. We are hopeful that the revised proposal for 3-year CTPP special tabulations will meet disclosure avoidance threshold requirements and be approved by the Disclosure Review Board.

As noted above, as a result of extensive discussions, we propose the following significantly decreased number of MoT cross tabulations to eliminate disclosure risks. The five variables in priority order for MoT cross tabulations are as follows:

- Travel time
- Household income
- Vehicle Availability
- Age, and
- Time leaving home (residence geography) and Time arriving at work (workplace geography) – Because time arriving at work is calculated or transformed from Time leaving home using Travel time, we are asking the DRB to consider this as the same information (as we do).

If any of these variables fail review, we request adding length of US residence as an additional cross tabulation with means of transportation to work.

We also propose the following collapsing schema for the 2006 – 2008 three-year ACS Means of Transportation (MoT) crosstabs for Part 1 (Residence) and Part 2 (Workplace) tables, in addition to the MoT 18 univariate tables.

- CTPP 10
  - Drove Alone
  - Carpool 2
  - Carpool 3+
  - Bus
  - Streetcar, Subway Elevated
  - Railroad, Ferry
  - Walk
  - Bicycle
  - Taxi, Motorcycle, Other Method
  - Work at home
- CTPP 6
  - Drove Alone
  - Carpool 2+
  - Public Transit (i.e. Bus/ Streetcar, Subway/ Railroad, Ferry)
  - Bike, Walk
  - Taxi, Motorcycle, Other Method
  - Work at home
- CTPP 5
  - Drove Alone
  - Carpool 2
  - Carpool 3+
  - Other, excluding Work at Home (i.e. Public Transit/ Bike, Walk/ Taxi, Motorcycle, Other Method)
  - Work at home
- CTPP 3
  - Drove Alone
  - Carpool 2+
  - All Other (i.e. including Work at Home)

*Note:* The above categories were developed to provide detail on different modes in order to serve data needs for different types of areas. CTPP 5 provides more detail on carpools and less on other modes of transportation. CTPP 6, on the other hand, shows less detail on carpool and more

on transit, biking and walking, and other modes. CTPP 3 is intended as a reserve MoT definition so that close to all areas will receive information in MoT crosstabs.

For Part 3 Flow tables, we are requesting CTPP 10 for the univariate MoT table. For MoT cross tabulations, we propose MoT versions CTPP 6 and CTPP 3 above.

For our tables, we desire the Standard Errors (SE) as well as Margins of Error (MoE).

We hope for a rapid review and approval.

Please provide a cost estimate for the Census Bureau to produce the tables with the values, SE and MoE.

If you have any questions, or this letter is in any way unclear, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Lynn Tischer, Chair (ajr)  
CTPP Oversight Board  
Standing Committee on Planning  
AASHTO

CC:	Grace Clemons, ACSO	<a href="mailto:grace.l.clemons@census.gov">grace.l.clemons@census.gov</a>
	Doug Hillmer, ACSO	<a href="mailto:douglas.w.hillmer@census.gov">douglas.w.hillmer@census.gov</a>
	Kai Wu, ACSO	<a href="mailto:kai.t.wu@census.gov">kai.t.wu@census.gov</a>
	Alison Fields, HHES	<a href="mailto:alison.k.fields@census.gov">alison.k.fields@census.gov</a>
	Laura Zayatz, SRD	<a href="mailto:laura.zayatz@census.gov">laura.zayatz@census.gov</a>
	James Cheatham, FHWA	<a href="mailto:james.cheatham@dot.gov">james.cheatham@dot.gov</a>
	Rob Ritter, FHWA	<a href="mailto:rob.ritter@dot.gov">rob.ritter@dot.gov</a>