



# **CENSUS ISSUES: AN OVERVIEW**

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## CTPP Working Group

- **U.S. DOT**
  - FHWA (*Elaine Murakami*)
  - (*Ed Christopher*)
  - BTS (*Lynn Weidman*)
  - FTA (*Sarah Clements*)
- **Census Bureau**
  - Migration Division (*Phil Salopek*)
  - Geography Division (*Jamie Rosenson*)
- **AASHTO** (*David Clawson*)
- **MPOs**
- **States**
- **TRB Subcommittee on Census Data**
- **Special Staff** (*Nandu Srinivasan*)



## **What is the CTPP?**

**The Census Transportation Planning Package is a set of special tabulations from the decennial census designed for transportation planners.**



## **CTPP Release Dates**

- **Residents Data**  
(beginning **Dec. 2002**)
- **Work Place Data**  
(beginning **April 2003**)
- **Flow Data**  
(beginning **June 2003**)



## **CTPP Status**

- Outreach Materials  
(Brochure, Video, Guidebook)**
- Geocoding**
- Data Tables...Disclosure  
Review Board**
- State Combined Zones**
- CTPP Extraction Software**
- AASHTO Contract**



## Disclosure Review Board

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## **Other Stuff**

- **American Community Survey**
  - ACS Status
  - Research Efforts (DOT, NCHRP)
- **C2SS Data Release**
  - Census 2000 Supplementary Sample
- **Urbanized Areas**
  - Status
  - Federal Aid Adjusted Boundary
- **Stay Connected**
  - List Serve
  - Newsletter "status report"
  - Web pages



## **American Community Survey (ACS)**

- **What is it?**
  - Replacement to Long Form
  - Uses Continuous Measurement
- **What is the Schedule?**
  - Demonstration 1996 - 1998
  - Comparison Sites 1999 - 2002
  - Full Implementation 2003
- **What are the issues?**
  - Congressional Funding
  - Content--OMB Justification
  - Learning How to Use it



## ACS Issues

- **Congressional Concerns**  
Costs, Privacy, Content  
"2003 ACS should be shorter than the current test ACS" *Congressional Guidance*
- **Content**  
OMB Review Paper  
<http://www.TRBcensus.com/articles/030901acs.pdf>  
New Questions  
Small Area Geography
- **Learning How to Use It**  
Research-- NCHRP  
DOT Efforts
- **Maintaining Influence**  
Getting Heard



## **NCHRP Proposal: Use of Census ACS Data in Transportation Planning**

- **Purpose:** To compare results from the ACS test sites and explain how these results differ from long form data. Provide methods of incorporating these differences into existing transportation planning applications (travel demand forecasting, sketch planning and microsimulation) and for presenting this data to decision makers, the public, and the media
- **Major Tasks:** a) Compare data from the Census 2000 long form. b) Develop recommendations for a Census Transportation Planning Package. c) Prepare guidance manuals for statistical analysis, training courses for MPO and State DOT staffs and case studies on how to present ACS data
- **Supporters:** TRB Committees: National Transportation Data Requirements and Pgms; Statewide Data; Urban Data and Information Systems; and Travel Survey Methods. AASHTO Subcommittee on Data



## Census 2000 (C2SS) Supplementary Sample

- **ACS Derivative**
  - Long Form Data
  - 700K Households
  - State Level
  - Counties and cities >250K  
*coming this fall*
- **Data Caveats**
  - NO Group Quarters
  - Travel Time Top Coding
  - All numbers have statistical variability
- **For More Information**
  - Fact Finder  
<http://factfinder.census.gov/>
  - FHWA Planning Web Site  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/census/>
  - USA Today census data site  
<http://www.usatoday.com/news/census/>



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## **Urban Area Boundary**

- **Defines Area Population Base for MPO and TMA Designations**
- **Plays into some FHWA and FTA Funding Programs**
- **Defined by Census Bureau**
  - New Process from 1990**
  - Machine Driven**
  - Reproducible**
  - Consistent National Criteria**
  - No Grandfathering**
  - Density Driven**
  - Smoothing Process**
- **Two Areas**
  - UA Core (50K or more)**
  - Urban Clusters (2,500 to 49,999)**



## Urban Area Boundaries

- **Boundary Area Info**  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/census/cengeo.htm>
- **Census Bureau Geography Folks**  
[http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua\\_2k.html](http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html)
- **Applying the Definitional Criteria**  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/criteria.htm>
- **QA's of Interest**  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/c2000mem.htm>
- **HPMS Data Reporting** (AKA proposal to eliminate the adjusted urbanized boundary)  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/census/cboun1.htm>

**Lots of Information Available**



**CENSUS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PACKAGE**

**VISIT THE WEBSITE**

[www.TRBcensus.com](http://www.TRBcensus.com)

[www.dot.gov/ctpp](http://www.dot.gov/ctpp)

**CALL THE HOTLINE**

**202-366-5000**

**EMAIL THE WORKING GROUP**

[ctpp@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:ctpp@fhwa.dot.gov)

**JOIN THE LIST SERVE**

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