The Census Redistricting Data Program
The Voting District Project

Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections
2017 Summer Conference

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Census Redistricting Data Program

Topics

• Why is there a Census Redistricting Data Program
• How does the Census Bureau conduct the Census Redistricting Data Program
• Why is participation in the Census Redistricting Data Program important
• Where are we now in the Census Redistricting Data Program
• Participation in the Census Redistricting Data Program
Census Redistricting Data Program

1975
• Passage of Public Law 94-171
  – Requires the program is conducted in a non-partisan manner
    • Establishment of non-partisan liaisons
    • Notification of Governor and Legislative Leadership of each Phase
  – Requires data be delivered to:
    • Governor
    • Officers and public bodies of the State having responsibility for legislative redistricting
  – Requires data be delivered by 1 year from Census day
    • April 1st, 2021
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1980
- Blocks created for all incorporated places of 10,000 or more population
- 5 States (GA, MS, NY, RI, VA) contracted for statewide block coverage resulting in 78% of population and 7% of land area

1990
- Block Boundary Suggestion Project
- Collection of Voting Districts (Wards, Precincts, etc.)

2000
- Block to Voting District equivalency files accepted

2010
- Digital submissions only, using required Census supplied software

2020
- Digital submissions only, with no software restrictions but with a supplied software option
- Centralized program and processing
Census Redistricting Data Program

- 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program Phases
  - Phase 1 – The Block Boundary Suggestion Project (BBSP)
  - Phase 2 – The Voting District Project (VTD)
  - Phase 3 – Data Delivery
  - Phase 4 – Congressional and State Legislative Districts
  - Phase 5 – Review, Evaluation, and Planning for the 2030 Census
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Phase 1 Schedule – Block Boundary Suggestion Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Delineation</td>
<td>December 2015 – May 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verification</td>
<td>December 2016 – May 2017</td>
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</tbody>
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Activities

States can review linear features
  • Must Hold/ Do Not Hold
  • Add/Delete features
  • Correct misaligned features

Update Area Landmark (state parks, prisons, etc.) boundaries

Block size review - NEW for 2020

Suggest updates to legal boundaries – NEW for 2020
Phase 2 Schedule – Voting District Project

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Delineation</td>
<td>December 2017 – May 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verification I</td>
<td>December 2018 – May 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verification II (only open if participating in the first two rounds of updates)</td>
<td>December 2019 – March 2020</td>
</tr>
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Activities

States provide their Election Districts/Precincts/Wards

States can review linear features
  • Add/Delete features
  • Correct misaligned features

Update Area Landmark (state parks, prisons, etc.) boundaries

Suggest updates to legal boundaries
Census Redistricting Data Program

Phase 2 – Goals

• Update Census supplied geographic files
• Provide current Voting District coverage
• Provide features needed for redistricting
  – Missing ones added
  – Misaligned ones corrected
  – Incorrect ones deleted
• Legal boundaries correct*
• Identify block boundary suggestions*
Contact

Thank you!

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