

School District Review Program (SDRP)

Verification Procedures for Digital Participants

2009-2010

1.0 Verification Introduction

1.1 Background

The U. S. Census Bureau sent annotation materials for the School District Review Program (SDRP) in early August 2009 to the appointed mapping coordinator in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia. During the late summer and fall of 2009, the mapping coordinators contacted school district officials in their state asking them to review their boundaries and submit any school district boundary updates. Upon receipt of school district boundary updates, the mapping coordinators were responsible for reviewing, adjudicating, annotating and submitting digital files, submission logs, or paper map delineations to the U.S. Census Bureau headquarters office located in Suitland, MD for insertion into Census Bureau databases.

Delineations submitted to the Census Bureau were reviewed by headquarters staff according to the criteria and guidelines set forth in the SDRP materials that were included in the August 2009 delivery. Headquarters staff completed a final review of all submissions and added school district boundary changes and line features into the database. In some cases, the Census Bureau made minor changes to participant submissions so that the school district delineated would meet the criteria outlined in the SDRP guidelines.

The verification phase of the 2009-2010 SDRP is the opportunity for mapping coordinators and school district officials to review their school district boundaries as they now exist in the Census Bureau's databases following any updates that have occurred during the initial submission phase. During the verification phase participants verify or request changes to their school district boundaries using information contained in this document and supplementary materials posted at the 2009-2010 School District Review Program (SDRP) website. Verification materials are being provided to all participants from whom the Census Bureau received school district updates by the October 30, 2009 deadline. The verification materials include updates only for school districts in those counties which were received by this deadline. Any submissions received after the October 30, 2009 deadline are not included in the verification materials, but will be included in the poverty estimates released in November 2010.

These guidelines provide information for verifying and reviewing school district boundaries as they currently exist in Census Bureau databases. Verification procedures for the school district listings are in Section 2.2, while digital verification information is located in Section 2.3.

1.2 Key Schedule Dates

February 2010 – Mapping coordinators are notified by e-mail that their verification materials are available for review and verification.

February–March 2010 – Verification responses are sent via mail (paper map participants only), e-mail or electronically to the U.S. Census Bureau by mapping coordinators.

March-May 2010 – The U.S. Census Bureau makes any changes to the database or resolves delineation errors with the aid of the mapping coordinator.

2.0 Verification Procedures

2.1 Verification Overview

Verifying your school district boundaries is a very important component to participating in SDRP. Correct school districts boundaries allows the Census Bureau to create estimates and tabulations of decennial census data by school district geography. These estimates and tabulations provide detailed demographic characteristics of the nation's public school systems and offer one of the largest single sources of children's demographic characteristics currently available. This information is distributed through the Census Bureau and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The SDRP is of vital importance for each state's allocation under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law (P.L.) 107-110. The school district information obtained through this program, along with the 2010 Census population and income data, current population estimates, and tabulations of administrative records data, are used in forming the Census Bureau's estimates of the number of children aged 5 through 17 in low-income families for each school district. These estimates of the number of children in low-income families residing within each school district are the basis of the Title I allocation for each school district.

In addition to reviewing the boundaries for your school districts, the Census Bureau asks that you review relevant listings including the following: **Inventory and Grade Range** (all states), **County Coverage** (all states), **Coextensive Coverage** (limited states), and **Relationship** (limited states). Verification of the data contained in these listings ensures that all school districts in a state are accounted for and that any spatial relationship(s) with other geographic entities is correctly recorded and maintained.

The **Inventory and Grade Range** (<ST>_SD_Inventory_V.txt) file is a listing of all the school districts the Census Bureau has in its database and includes the school district name, Federal Local Education Agency (LEA) ID number, level, type and grade range.

The **County Coverage** (<ST>_County_Coverage_V.txt) file is a listing that contains two sets of records: one set sorted by school district (arranged to show the county or counties in which a school district is located) and the other set sorted by county (arranged to show the school districts that are located in each county). Each set includes a separate record for each unique school district/county combination.

The **Coextensive Coverage** (<ST>_Coextensive_Coverage_V.txt) file is a listing of school districts that are coextensive with legal entities such as counties, county equivalents, or incorporated places. Please Note: Only those states that received this listing in their annotation materials will receive one in their verification materials.

The **Relationship** (<ST>_SD_by_SD_V.txt) file is a listing of school districts that are commonly coextensive with one or more incorporated place and/or county subdivision (town, township, borough, etc.). Please Note: Only those states that received this listing in their annotation materials will receive one in their verification materials.

All verification materials are located for review on the 2009-2010 School District Review Program (SDRP) website at www.census.gov/geo/www/schdist/sch_dist.html.

If you find the delineation of your school districts to be correct, the Census Bureau requests that mapping coordinators communicate this by e-mail to geo.school.list@census.gov.

2.2 Verification of Listings

The verification listings, which are described above, are text files. These files are located for review on the 2009-2010 School District Review Program (SDRP) website at www.census.gov/geo/www/schdist/sch_dist.html.

Follow the steps below to verify and correct any incorrect data contained in these files:

1. Click on the hyperlink *Verification Materials* on the SDRP website.
2. Click on the hyperlink for your state name. If the link for your state is not “live,” this indicates that your files are not yet available for review.
3. Click on the “files” folder.
4. Click on the individual text file you wish to review.
5. Review and verify the contents of the selected text file.
6. If corrections need to be made to the information contained in any listing, the mapping coordinator should notify the Census Bureau by e-mail at geo.school.list@census.gov.
 - If there are only a few corrections that need to be made, provide the incorrect and correct information in the body of the e-mail for the data that need to be corrected.
 - If several corrections need to be made, provide the required information in either a Word document or Excel spreadsheet attached to the e-mail.

2.3 Digital Verification

The Census Bureau has created shapefiles for your state that reflect the submitted school district boundary updates. The verification materials will reflect only those updates that were received by the October 30, 2009 deadline.

As a digital participant, you have several choices on how to review and verify your school district boundary updates. You can access and use the new MAF/TIGER Partnership Software (MTPS) Program Viewer or download your shapefiles into either the MTPS or any other Geographic Information System (GIS). The MTPS Program Viewer only allows participants to *view* the changes submitted during the annotation phase of the program. Participants will need to download shapefiles and reload them into the MTPS to make any necessary corrections. When making corrections, the participants should refer to the MTPS guidelines (Attachment A: School District Review Program Guidelines for the MAF/TIGER Partnership Software (MTPS)_Revised February 2010) found in your state folder under *Verification Materials* on the 2009-2010 SDRP website.

Guidelines for using the MTPS Program Viewer (Attachment B: MTPS Viewer) were included in the materials sent out in August 2009; however, updates have been made to the application since that time. For your convenience, a revised version of these guidelines (Attachment B: MTPS Viewer Guidelines_Revised February 2010) has been placed in your state folder under *Verification Materials* on the 2009-2010 SDRP website.

The Census Bureau's headquarters staff will provide feedback to mapping coordinators on their verification corrections, and if necessary provide additional guidance on the criteria and guideline usage. They may also need to contact you with any questions or concerns regarding verification corrections.

2.4 Disclosures to Respondents

The Geography Division manages programs to continuously update features, boundaries, addresses, and geographic entities in the Master Address File / Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing System (MAF/TIGER) database (MTDB) that is used to support programs and to conduct the census and surveys. The SDRP was developed to give states the opportunity to review and update, if necessary, school district entities for use in tabulating and publishing data from the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey, and other surveys.

Public reporting burden for the verification of information is estimated to average 16 hours per respondent, including time for reviewing instructions, assembling materials, organizing and reviewing the information, and reporting any needed changes. We anticipate that an estimated 34 participants will respond. For larger areas or areas with many changes, however, the respondent burden may be 80 hours or longer to complete. Please send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to:

Paperwork Project
0607-0795
U.S. Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Road
Room 3K138
Washington, D.C. 20233

You may e-mail comments to Paperwork@census.gov. Use “Paperwork Project 0607-0795” as the subject.

Responses to this survey are voluntary. The authority for conducting these activities is covered under the legal authority of Title 13 U.S.C. Sections 141 and 193.

No agency may conduct and no person may be required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number. The OMB approval number for this information collection is 0607-0795.