The U.S. Census Bureau (Census Bureau) is now conducting the 2018 Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS). Throughout your state, governments are asked to participate in the 2018 BAS to ensure that the Census Bureau has current and accurate boundary, legal name, and governmental status information for your state.

As a State Data Center contact, we strongly encourage your support in the 2018 BAS for the following reasons:

* Boundary updates complete the Census Bureau’s geographic framework for data collection, tabulation, and dissemination, and are vital to the success of the 2020 Census, the American Community Survey (ACS), Population Estimates Program (PEP), and many other censuses and surveys.
* The federal government allocates more than $675 billion in federal funds annually for health, welfare, infrastructure, education, and other federal programs and services.
* Responding to the 2018 BAS ensures that local governments in your state receive the funds for which they’re entitled and have the best data available for their decision-making processes.

Action Step:

* Encourage governments throughout your state to critically review their legal boundaries and participate in the 2018 BAS.
* Inform the Census Bureau if you are able to assist with non-response follow up during the 2018 BAS cycle.

**KEY DATES**

**January 1, 2018** Boundary updates must be legally in effect on or before this date to be reported in the 2018 BAS.

**March 1, 2018** Boundary updates submitted by this date will be reflected in the ACS and PEP data estimates and in next year’s BAS materials.

**May 31, 2018** Boundary updates submitted by this date will be reflected in next year’s BAS materials.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Thank you for your participation in the BAS.