

Email: Generic BAS Email Text – County organizations

Subject: YYYY Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)

The U.S. Census Bureau is now conducting the annual Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS). The BAS is a voluntary survey conducted to collect information about selected legally defined geographic areas. The BAS is used to update information about legal boundaries, names, and functional statuses of the governmental units in the United States.

The Census Bureau offers county level governments the opportunity to respond to the BAS on behalf of governments in their jurisdiction through the Consolidated BAS (CBAS) program. CBAS participation reduces time and cost burdens on local governments and helps the Census Bureau ensure participation from governments that may not have otherwise reviewed their boundaries or reported legal boundary changes.

The Census Bureau encourages your organization to promote the BAS/CBAS to its county level government members to ensure awareness and participation in this survey. We strongly encourage participation in the 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.
- BAS participation ensures that your local government receives the funds for which it is entitled and has the best data available for its decision-making processes.

KEY DATES

January 1	Boundary updates must be legally in effect on or before this date to be reported in the current survey year.
March 1	Boundary updates returned by this date will be reflected in the ACS and PEP data estimates and in next year’s BAS materials.
May 31	Boundary updates returned by this date will be reflected in next year’s BAS materials.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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