



## **Suspension of the 2014 Boundary and Annexation Survey**

The U. S. Census Bureau has suspended the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) in fiscal year (FY) 2014, which runs from October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014. The FY 2014 budget for the Department of Commerce and the Census Bureau reflects an effort to balance the desire to fund the many important statistical programs and services the Census Bureau provides within the current budget environment. That effort required the Census Bureau to make some difficult resource allocation decisions that unfortunately resulted in the suspension of the BAS in 2014.

### **What is the BAS?**

The Census Bureau conducts the BAS to provide state, county, minor civil division, and local governments; as well as tribal governments the opportunity to submit changes to their legal boundaries, names, and governmental status effective on or before January 1 of the survey year. However, a subset of the 40,000 legal governments nationwide forms the core 'reporting universe' for BAS production each year. The reporting universe consists of governments known to experience boundary changes. The BAS is voluntary and every legal government has the opportunity to participate. In the 2013 BAS, 2,522 governments reported boundary updates.

The Census Bureau works closely with the U. S. Bureau of Indian Affairs to ensure that the BAS reflects official boundaries for federally recognized American Indian reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and tribal subdivisions.

### **What are the exceptions from the suspension?**

There are two exceptions to the processing of legal boundary updates in fiscal year 2014. The Census Bureau will continue to process National Standard code changes, new incorporations, disincorporations, and name changes due to our agreement with the U. S. Geological Survey. The Census Bureau, also, maintains the Federal Information Processing Series (FIPS) codes for all federal, state and local governments separate from the BAS program as well as tribal governments. In addition, the Census Bureau will continue to process legal boundary updates as part of the Special Census Program and Geographically Updated Population Certification Program. To learn more about these programs, please visit the Census Bureau website at <http://www.census.gov>

### **The result of your 2013 BAS submissions**

We completed the updates of all the materials submitted for the 2013 BAS before August 2013 into the MAF/TIGER database. There will be no material created such as PDF maps or BAS forms to verify your submission from 2013 BAS. We will post shapefiles containing the updates in March 2014 to the Census Bureau website.

**If boundaries are submitted in FY14**

With the suspension of the 2014 BAS, the Census Bureau will not solicit boundary updates from local and tribal governments. If governments submit boundary information such as annexation notifications, map submissions, and digital updates during FY14 then the Census Bureau will hold those materials in preparation of the 2015 BAS.

**Contact Information**

If you have any questions about this statement on the 2014 BAS, please e-mail <geo.bas@census.gov>, or visit <<http://www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/bas.html>>.

Please direct all written correspondence to:

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