

American Indian Alaska Native 2020 Census Tribal Consultation Meeting

National Webinar

Geography Discussion

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U.S. Census Bureau

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Geography Affects Data

- Geography answers the question “Where?”
- A boundary is the container that holds the statistical data
- We want to work with you having on good geography - and consequently good data - for your Tribe

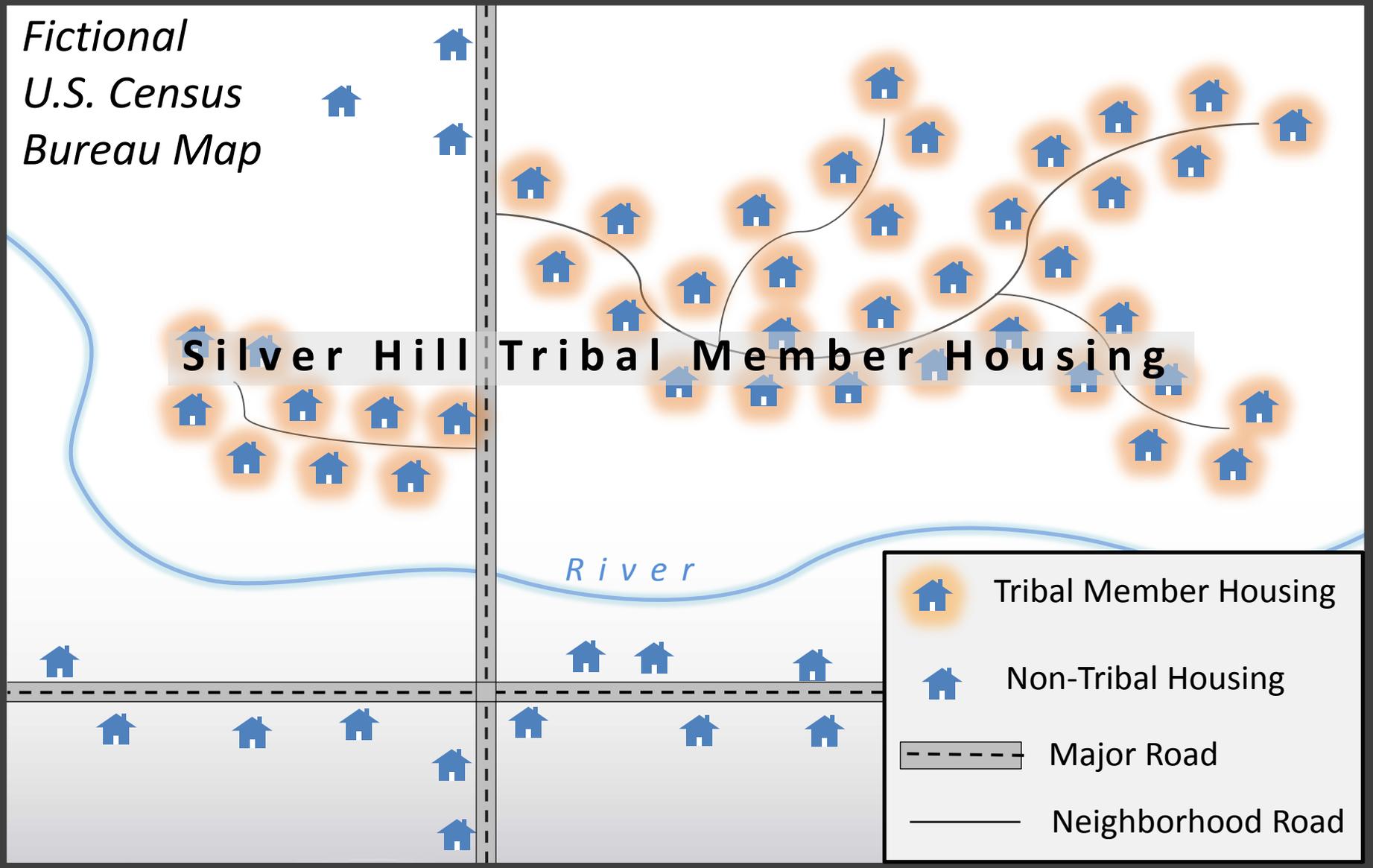


Geography Presentation and Consultation Outline

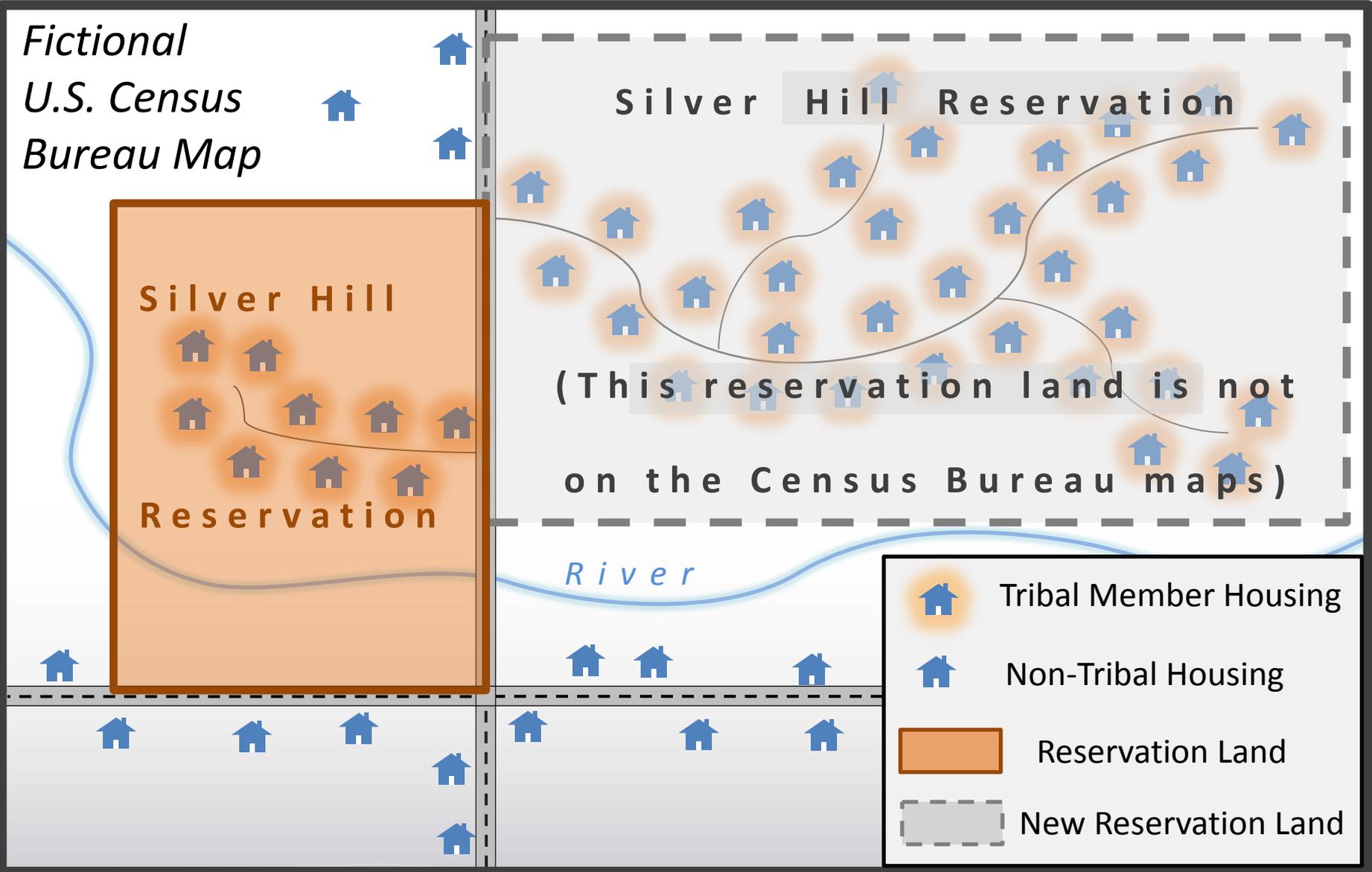
- How geography defines data
- Current Census Bureau geography
- Consultation questions



*Fictional
U.S. Census
Bureau Map*



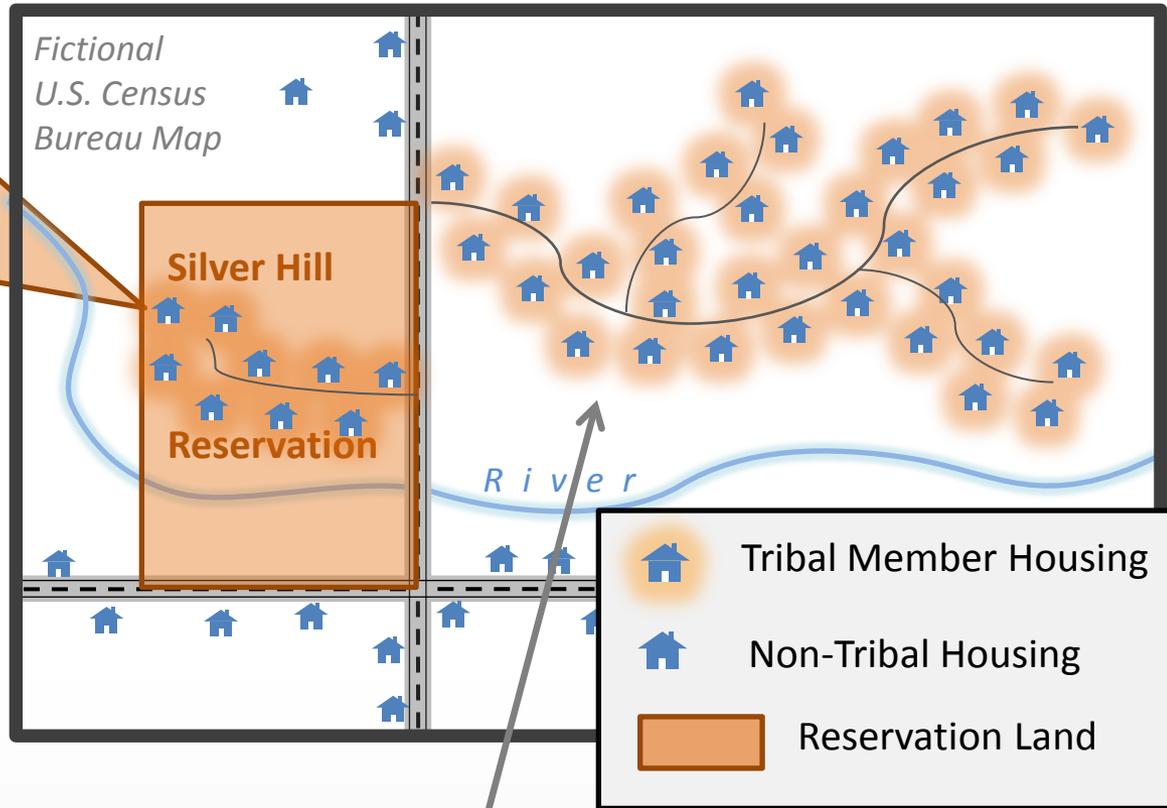
*Fictional
U.S. Census
Bureau Map*



Geography: Silver Hill Reservation

Subject	Number
Total Population	27
Total Housing Units	9

Housing inside the reservation boundary (as shown on Census Bureau maps) is tabulated for the reservation

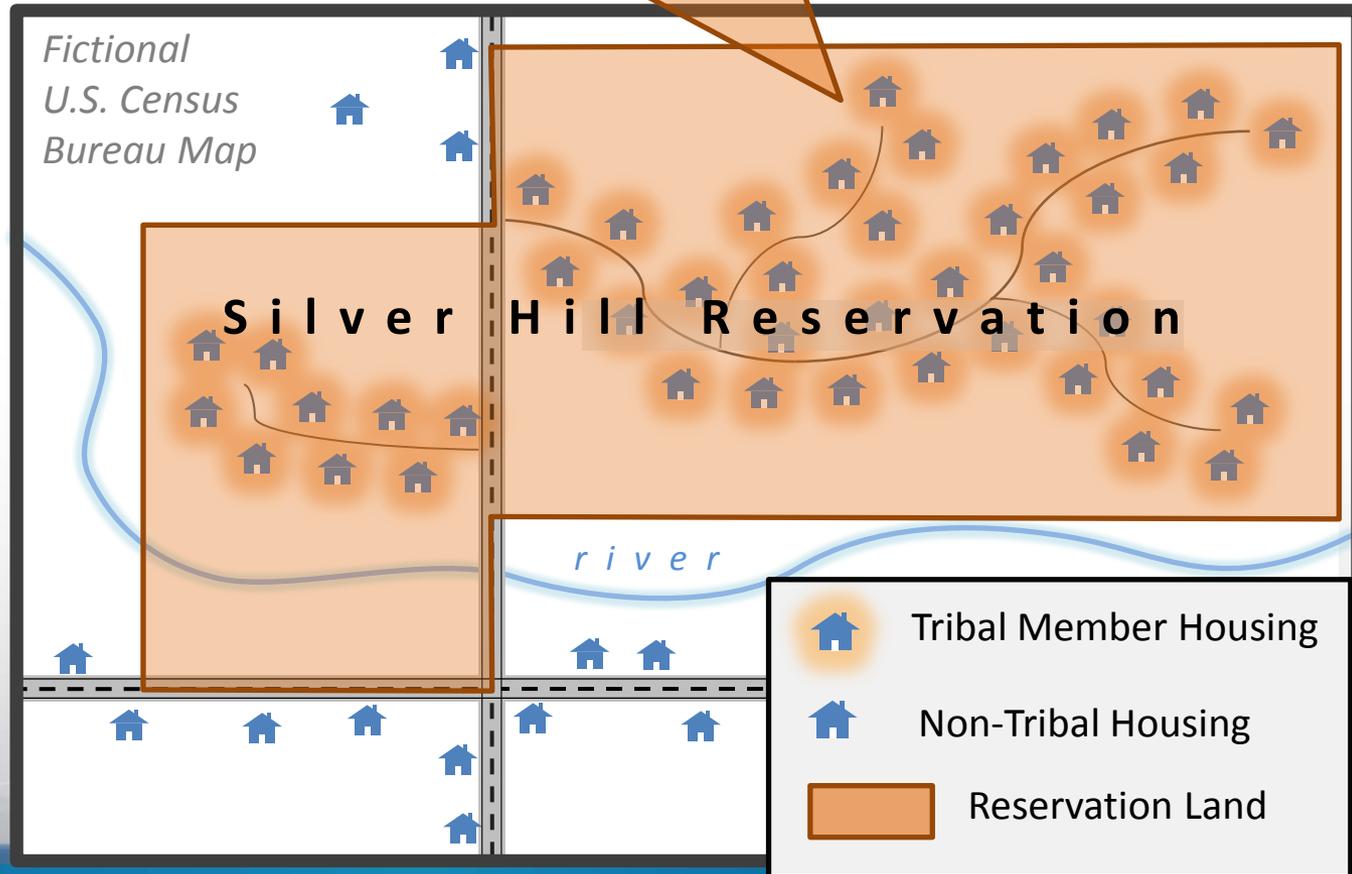


Tribal housing outside this reservation boundary is still tabulated in other areas (state, county, city, town, census tract, etc.)

Reporting the new reservation land to the Census Bureau results in the correct reservation population and housing count

Geography: Silver Hill Reservation

Subject	Number
Total Population	114
Total Housing Units	42

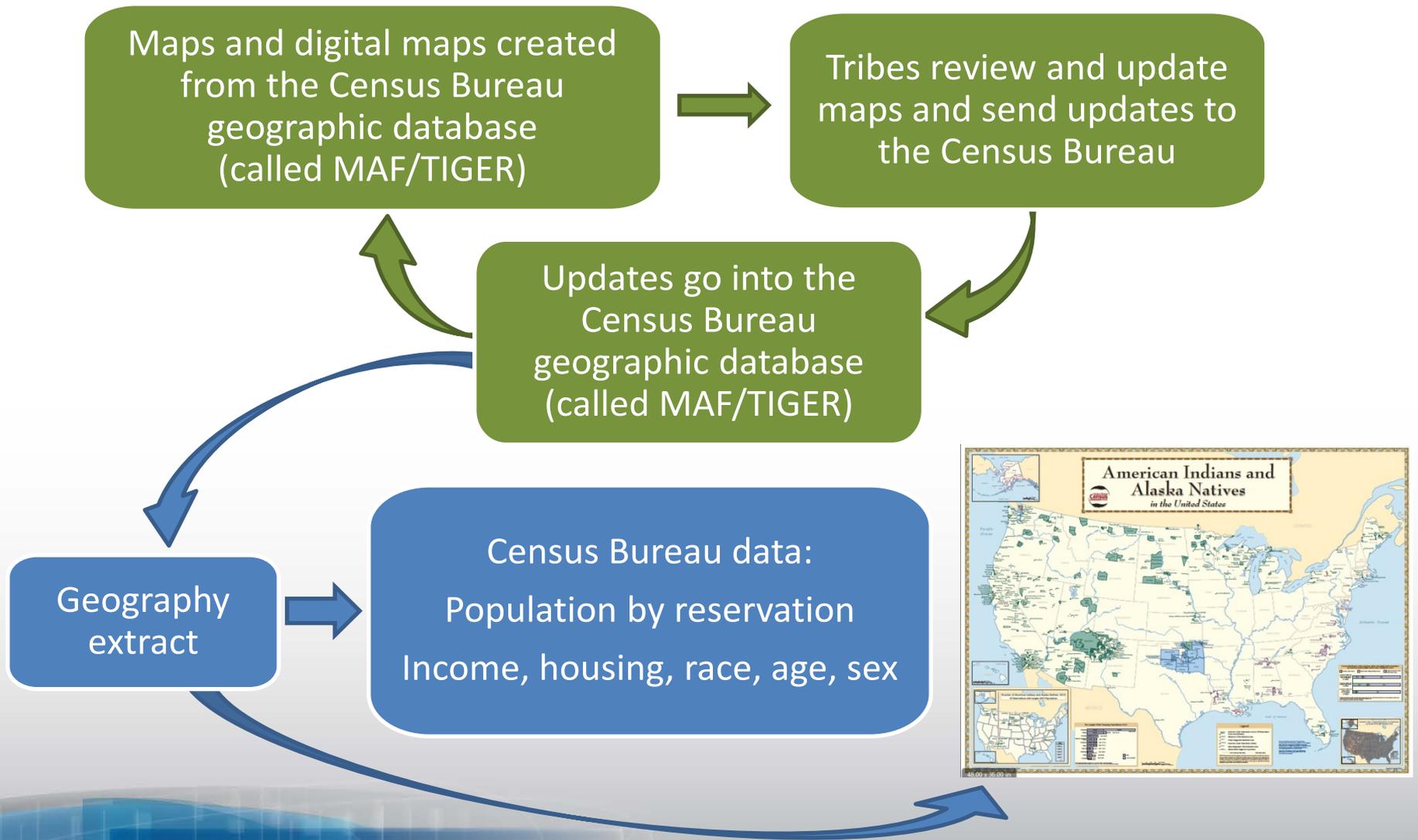


Why does the Census Bureau ask Tribes about tribal geography?

- Government-to-government policy
 - The Census Bureau works directly with federally recognized Tribes
 - We depend on Tribes to review and update their own geography through our various geography programs



Geography Workflow



How do I work with geography?

- We encourage Tribes to ask the Census Bureau's geographers for a one-on-one meeting



- Tribes can provide the Census Bureau with their data needs, and we can help Tribes with the geography
- Training is available upon request

Current Census Bureau Tribal Geography

Legal Areas:

- Federally recognized reservations
- Federally recognized off-reservation trust lands
- Tribal Subdivisions

- **Legally defined boundaries**
- **Tribes can update these annually**

Statistical Areas:

- Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas (ANVSA)
- Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas (OTSA) and Tribal Subdivisions
- Tribal Designated Statistical Areas (TDSA)
- Census Designated Places (CDP)
- Tribal Census Tracts and Tribal Block Groups

- **Boundaries defined by Tribes and the Census Bureau**
- **Tribes can update these every 10 years before the census**



Federal Reservations and Off-Reservation Trust Lands

- Census Bureau definition:
 - Lands defined by treaties, executive agreements, Acts of Congress, and documented by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- The Census Bureau combines on-reservation trust land with reservation land
- Tribal Subdivisions:
 - Areas of self-government or administration within reservations and/or off-reservation trust lands

Federal Reservations and Off-Reservation Trust Lands in the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)

- Tribes can update these boundaries every year in the BAS
- In the BAS, Tribes:
 1. Review these boundaries (and tribal subdivisions if applicable)
 2. Send the Census Bureau boundary corrections and new land



Federal Reservations and Off-Reservation Trust Lands in the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)

- Many options to review and update maps
 - Paper maps
 - Free digital software
 - Free digital maps files (shapefiles)
- Tribes must send documentation to add new land to the Census Bureau database
 - Example: Trust deed, Executive Order, Act of Congress, written opinion from the BIA or DOI Solicitor

Federal Reservations and Off-Reservation Trust Lands in the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)

- For more information about the yearly BAS, please see the flyer included in your folder

Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)

What is the Boundary and Annexation Survey?

The Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) is the primary way that tribal, local, and county governments ensure that their legal boundaries—and consequently, the official population counts within those boundaries—are correctly recorded with the federal government. Every year, tribal governments use the BAS to update their federal reservation and off-reservation trust land boundaries.

In the BAS, tribal governments report new land and update boundaries, features, and landmarks for:

- Federal reservations
- Off-reservation trust lands
- Tribal subdivisions
- Roads



How does the BAS benefit you?

Accurate legal boundaries are part of the foundation of good decision-making for tribal governments. For example, they help determine your community's population count every year in the American Community Survey. Many government agencies and other groups use population counts to determine their allocation of funds. Responding to the BAS ensures that your tribe has the best data available in its decision-making processes, and that it receives all of the funds for which it is entitled.

In addition, our boundary records are publicly available and used by many other federal agencies, researchers, and the public. Because the U.S. Census Bureau is responsible for tracking America's legal boundaries and population data, geographic updates that you provide to us ripple out in numerous important ways.

Accurate boundary records directly affect the quality of life in your community.

Accurate boundaries allow us to count all of the residents of your reservation and off-reservation trust land correctly.

Your participation in the BAS helps the Census Bureau continue to produce accurate data, which directly affects the quality of life in your community.

An accurate count helps the federal government allocate more than \$400 billion in federal funds annually for programs and services—including education, housing, health care services for the elderly, job training, transportation, and more.



Find forms, information, and materials about the BAS online at www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/bas.html

Contact us at geo.bas@census.gov 1-800-972-6651.



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Statistical Geography

- Data needs aren't always met by legal boundaries (federal reservations, trust lands etc.) alone. For example:
 - Tribal communities living off of reservation land (on land that is not in trust)
 - Smaller tribal communities within the reservation boundaries
 - Tribes without a reservation or off-reservation trust lands
- Statistical geography can help provide data for these examples

Data for Tribal Communities

- The Census Bureau uses Census Designated Places (CDP) to create boundaries for a unincorporated concentration of population
- Tribes can request a CDP for communities in order to receive data
- Tribes can create CDPs even for tribal communities living off-reservation



Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP)

- Statistical geography program in preparation for the Census
- Starts early 2018
- Allows tribes to define statistical areas:
 - Tribal census tracts
 - Tribal block groups
 - Census Designated Places



Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)

- Federally Recognized Tribes review the Census Bureau's address lists for their reservations and associated off-reservation trust lands
- Opportunity for tribes to correct or add addresses prior to the census
- LUCA invitation letter mailed Summer 2017



Important Upcoming Dates

- Every December:
 - Invitation for the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)
 - Legal boundary updates (reservation and off-reservation trust land boundaries)
- Summer 2017:
 - Invitation for Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)
 - Address review and updates for the reservation and off-reservation trust lands
- Early 2018:
 - Invitation for Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP)
 - Statistical geography review and updates



Geography Consultation

- We would like to hear from you!
- We have prepared some questions to get the discussion started.



Geography Consultation Questions

1. How does your Tribe use geographic census data?

- Has your Tribe used data from tribal statistical geographies, such as tribal census tract or tribal block group data?
- For which geographic areas (reservation, trust lands, county, census tract, tribal census tract, incorporated place, CDP, county subdivision) does your Tribe use data the most often?
- Does your Tribe use any of the Census Bureau's other spatial data, such as roads?
- Are there geographic areas (e.g., tribal service areas) or other geographic data that the Census Bureau does not currently provide that would be helpful to your Tribe?



Geography Consultation Questions

2. Is your Tribe ready to participate in LUCA for the 2020 Census?

- The Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) will be an opportunity for your Tribe to participate in the review of the addresses that will be used in the 2020 Census.
- Does your Tribe have an address list, for all addresses in your geographic area or only for tribal members?
- As part of LUCA, will your Tribe involve representatives from any nontribal governments located within your reservation boundaries?



Geography Consultation Questions

3. Does your Tribe work with other parties for mapping or planning and development?

- Local, county, or state officials?
- Regional planning organizations or councils of governments?



Thank You!

