

# Census Solicits the Views of the States



Shaping the 2020 Census  
NCSL Legislative Summit  
Atlanta, Georgia  
August 12, 2013

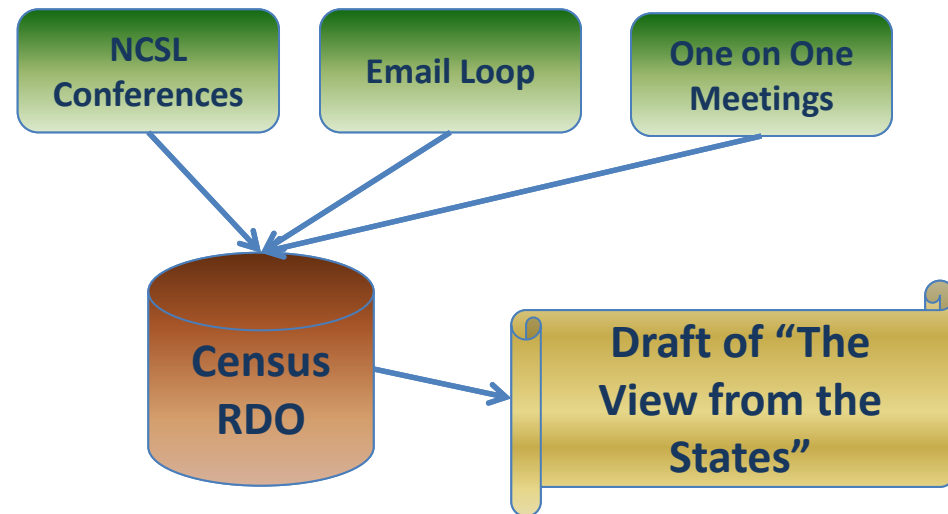
# Designing P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data for the Year 2020 Census

- *The Redistricting Data Office is responsible for designing each decennial's redistricting data program and products, serving as the census liaison to the state legislatures and governors offices as well as the states liaison to the executive staff at the Census Bureau and the Department of Commerce.*
- *It is our goal to receive your first hand feedback on the 2010 Redistricting Data Program for planning the 2020 program and reporting your thoughts through "The View from the States."*

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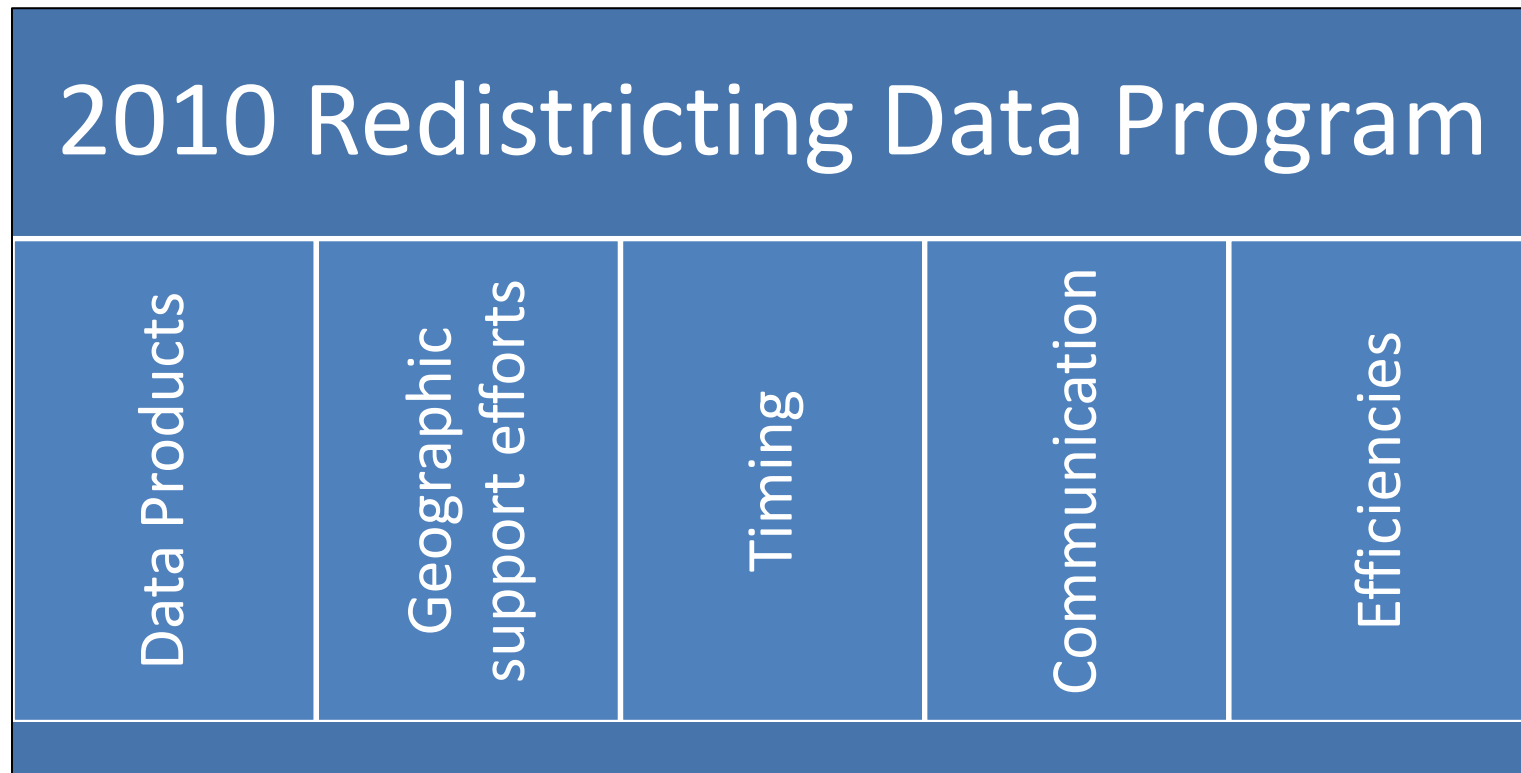
## How did we obtain your feedback?

- Discussions at the Legislative Summits
  - Louisville, KY 2010
  - San Antonio, TX 2011
  - Chicago, IL 2012
- Electronic Mailing
  - E-mail loops on various issues
- Summary/Draft
  - Feedback organized by topics for state approval
  - Final draft in early 2014
  - Publication in Summer 2014
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, following 1980, 1990, 2000, and now 2010
  - Roadmap for the 2020 Redistricting Data Program



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- **Constructive Feedback Received**



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## **Results of your review and communications following the 2000 Census-----**

- Introduced school district geography as a summary level
- Included a housing unit occupancy table in the summary file
- Included American Indian Tribal Leaders in the official distribution
- Developed the Advance Group Quarters File for early release.

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- **The Challenge**

- Data Collection per Household has risen steadily from \$14 in 1970 to \$96 in 2010. Without change, cost per case will continue to grow steeply.
- Cost drivers include diverse populations, demand for improved accuracy, lack of public participation during self response and address canvassing.

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- **Potential Cost Savings**

- Minimize field follow-up
- Automating Field Operations
- Embracing available technologies
- Continually update the Bureau's address list
- Closure of 6 Regional Offices to streamline survey data collection.



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- **What does this mean for the 2020 Redistricting Data Program**
  - New innovative tools to streamline geographic updates.
  - Smaller tests will lead to something different from previous prototype products.
  - May incorporate a new race and ethnicity question.
  - RDP geographic updates centralized



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## Schedule for 2020

- While the 2020 Census will be like no other—some things never change.



- The Apportionment counts used to redistribute the US House of Representatives are due no later than December 31, 2020.

- The redistricting data counts are due to each state no later than April 1, 2021, one year after Census Day 2020.

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- **Data Issues**

- Will race and ethnicity be combined into a single question? What impacts will that have on the data, its usefulness, comparability?
- Will research and review of residency rules result in any changes in enumeration of group quarters and the presentation of the data?
- Without a formal dress rehearsal, is it still necessary to develop a P.L. 94-171 prototype summary file product?

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- **Most frequent recommendation**
  - Integrate the Boundary and Annexation Survey effort with the Redistricting Data Program in order to obtain better relationship information as well as more accurate boundaries.
  - Provide a consolidated BBSP/VTD effort and include local boards of elections
    - How do we further engage local officials.
    - Should BAS coordinators share changes with Boards of Elections

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- **Boundary and Annexation Survey Comments**

- *Board of Elections are not always in agreement with where their municipal boundaries are located.*
- *Boards of Elections need to use accurate and current municipal boundaries if VTDs are to be consistent with TIGER at all.*
- *Census Bureau may think BAS and Redistricting Programs are integrated, but they are NOT at the critical local level.*

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- **BAS continued**

- *Include the Redistricting liaisons in the BAS notification process and charge them with informing BOE's.*
- *Start early before the liaison starts getting updates on voting districts from locals so that the VTDs are already consistent (to the extent possible) with the municipal boundaries used by the Census Bureau.*

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- **What you've told us**
  - Deliver CVAP file at time of P.L. 94-171 release with current 2020 geography
  - May not need a prototype product
    - Will need a substitute for system development
  - Mixed comments *on the separation* of BBSP/VTD
  - Potential Benefits
    - Kick start BAS integration
    - Need to fix geometry
    - Use of parcel data
    - Want input into block reduction efforts

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## Feedback (Cont.)

- High use of the RDO website
- Would like Bureau to develop a geocoding service
  - Service must be kept up to date
  - Users could upload a list of addresses and it would return geographic identifiers such as state code, county code, census tract, census block, congressional district, state legislative district, voting district and school district.



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- **Advanced Group Quarters File**
  - Add Group Quarters to the P.L. 94-171 release
    - Add Group Quarters to P.L. file to provide characteristics and speed up delivery.
  - Mixed use of the advanced group quarters file
    - CQR
    - State requirements
    - Future state requirements





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## **Dress Rehearsal Prototype**

- Most but not everyone used it
- Some states preferred the MS Access shells developed by our office to support 2010 products.
- Some states used it to develop their systems and feel at a minimum record layouts are necessary

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- **State legislative district codes**
  - Expand to 6 digits
    - Two states provided positive feedback
    - Consequence to others will be lead 000
    - Need to hear from states if this change to layout is acceptable
    - Remember-there probably will not be a prototype to test with this new record length.

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## Data Delivery

- We know we will not deliver CD-ROMs for overnight delivery to ensure we meet the requirement to provide the data to the legislative leadership and those responsible for legislative redistricting. What should we do? FTP?
- We will solicit from each state their timing needs one year in advance as we have done in the past. Some states felt we did not give merit to local elections. Should we?
- We heard many concerns regarding our rapid release of the P.L. 94-171 files once we knew the data had arrived in the state capitol.

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## Data Delivery (Cont.)

- It has been suggested to append the data to the geography. We are currently still planning to have geographic products precede the data. Should we?
- What geographic products do we still need? Folks have said they don't need the maps. Should they still be produced in PDF?

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## Transformation of RDO website

- Strong support for the RDO site to be a unique landing page
- Appreciate all subject items and data products in one thematic site.
- Refer folks to the page
- RDO is being relocated under a Public Sector tab
- We want to ensure folks know where to find elections, congressional, legislative, voting rights and redistricting information.
- Link to external redistricting sites including those with litigation updates.

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## **Last recommendation**

Do not make last minutes changes to census geography prior to running tabulation geography.

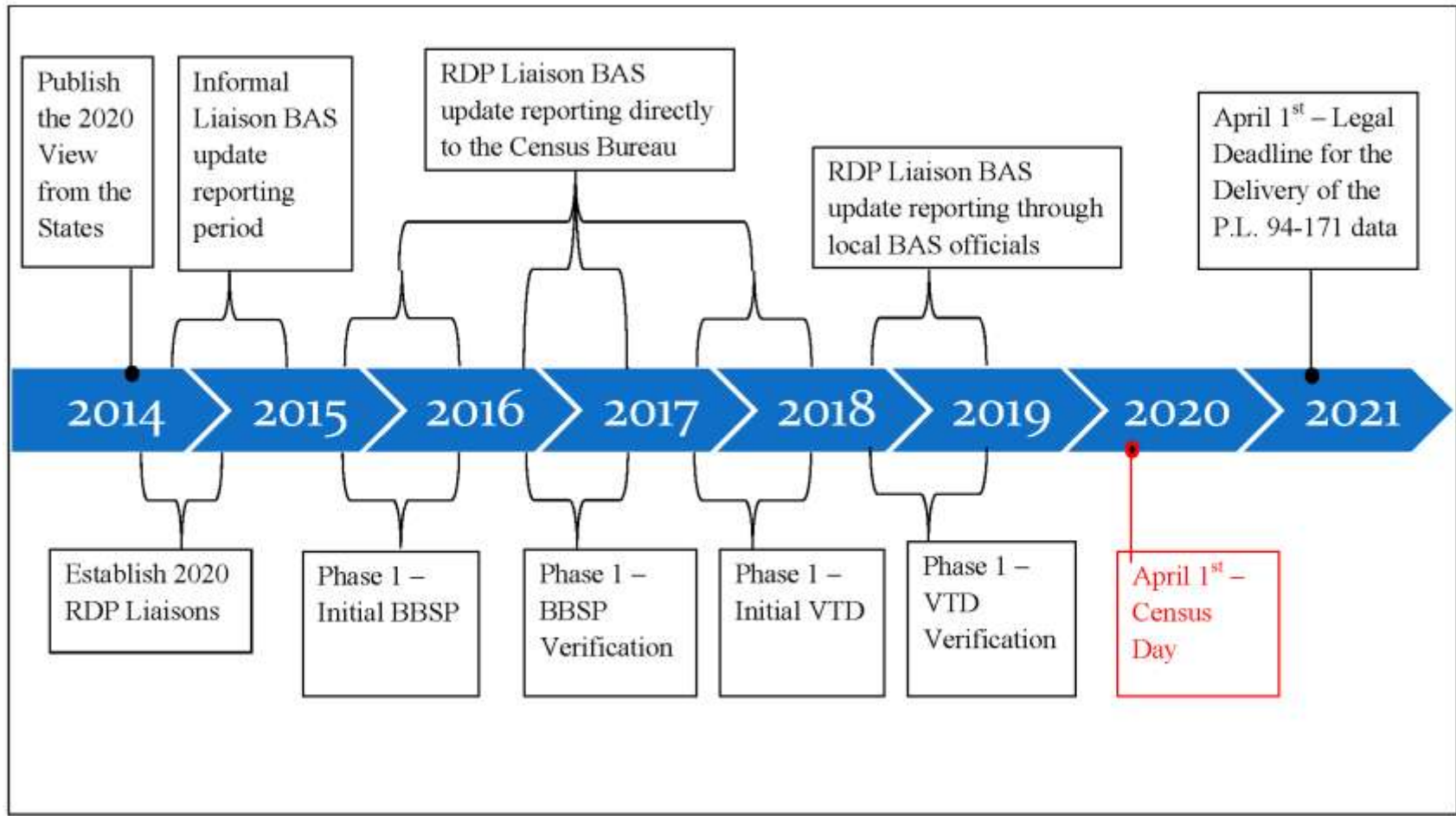
Note—an early start coordinating local officials through the Boundary and Annexation Survey with State liaisons and updates to voting districts will carry this recommendation a long way.

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## **RDP and BAS Coordination**

- Greater coordination between the Redistricting Data Program (RDP) and the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS)
- Multiple opportunities for feedback
  - Prior to RDP
  - During RDP
  - End of RDP

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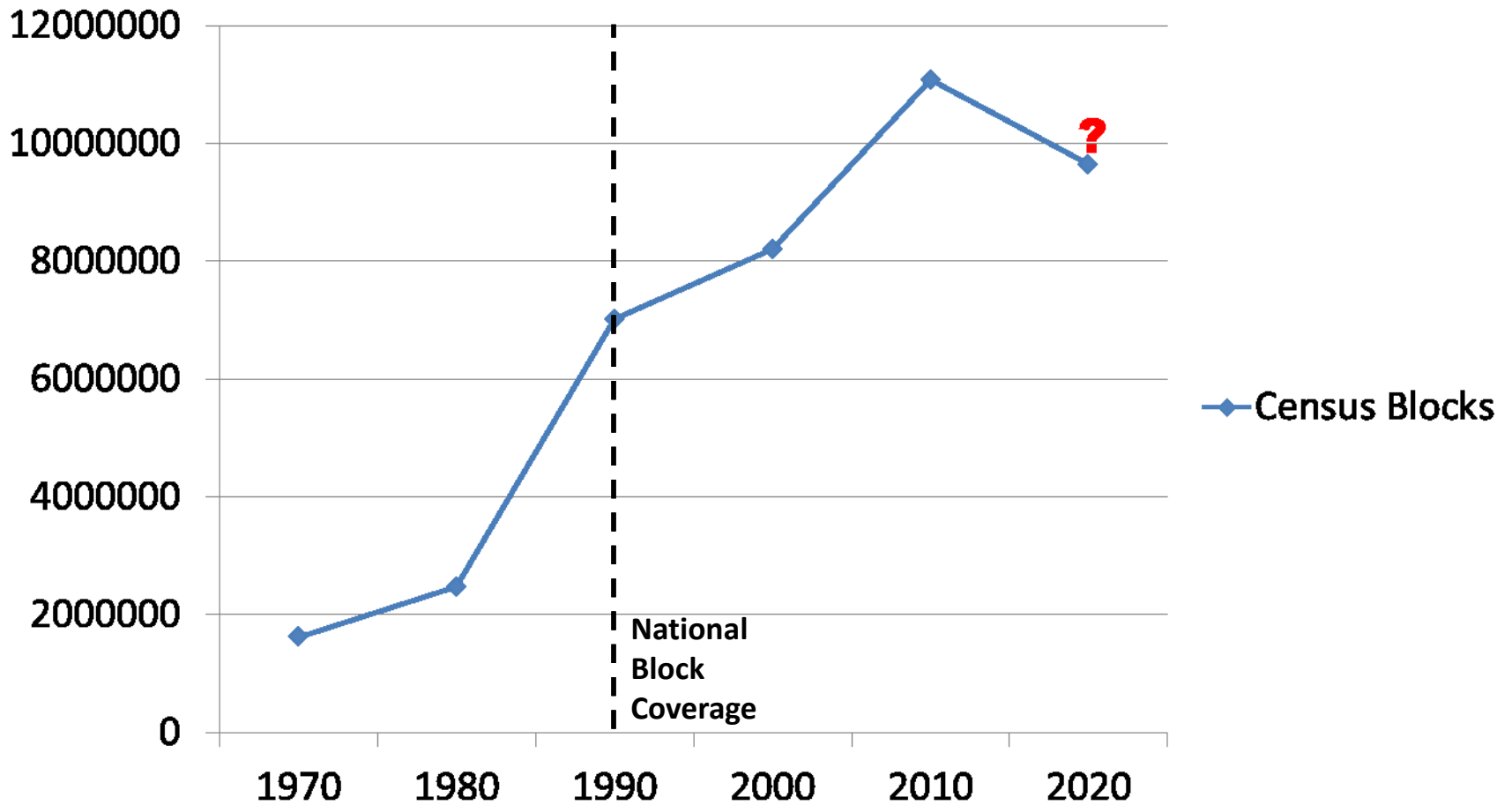




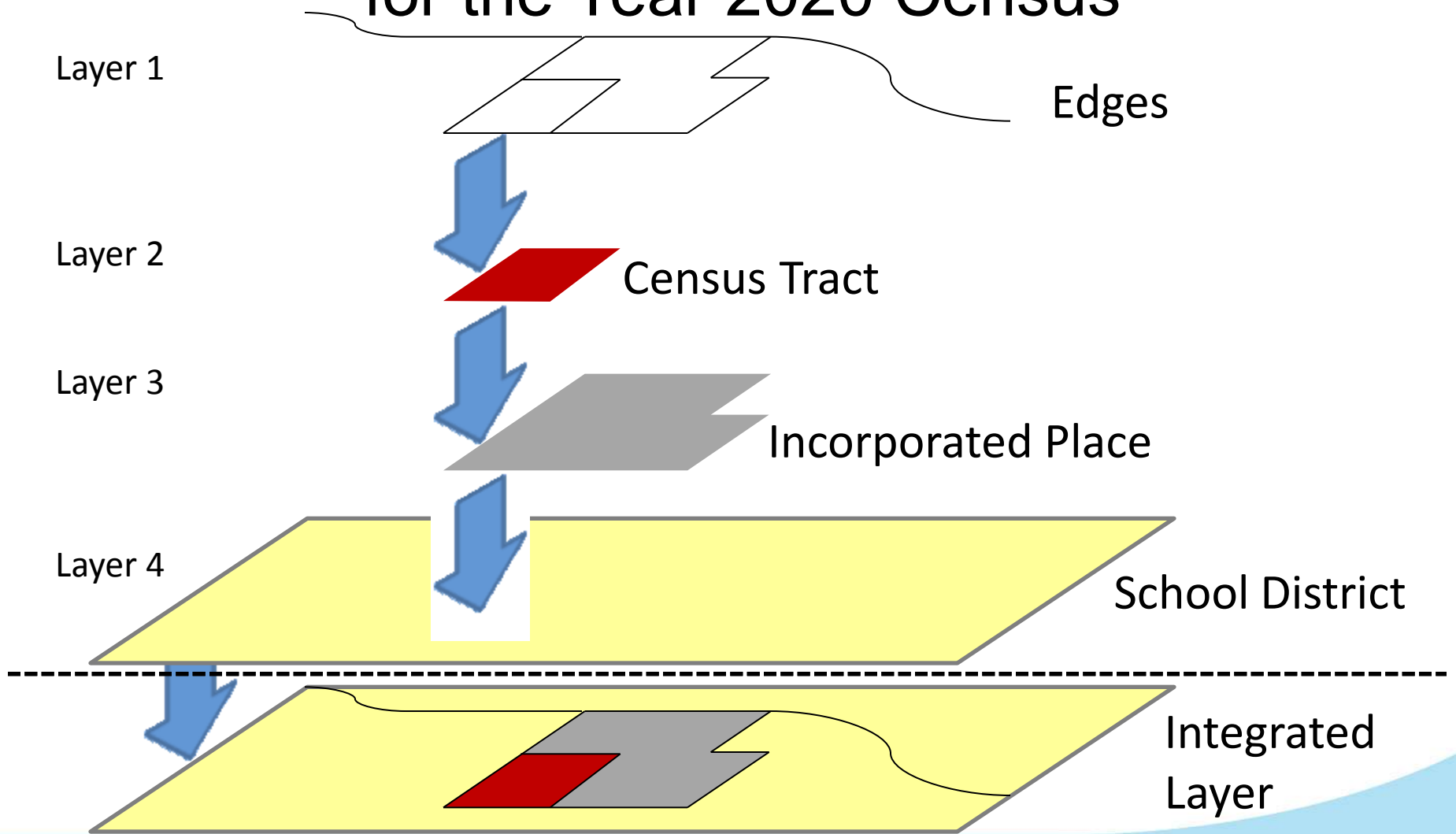
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- Methods for submissions
  - Standard BAS reporting procedures (i.e. change polygons, legal documentation, etc.)
  - Listings of places with known boundary issues
    - The Bureau will research these with the local BAS officials
  - Report specific areas of change for individual places
    - The Bureau will research these with local BAS officials

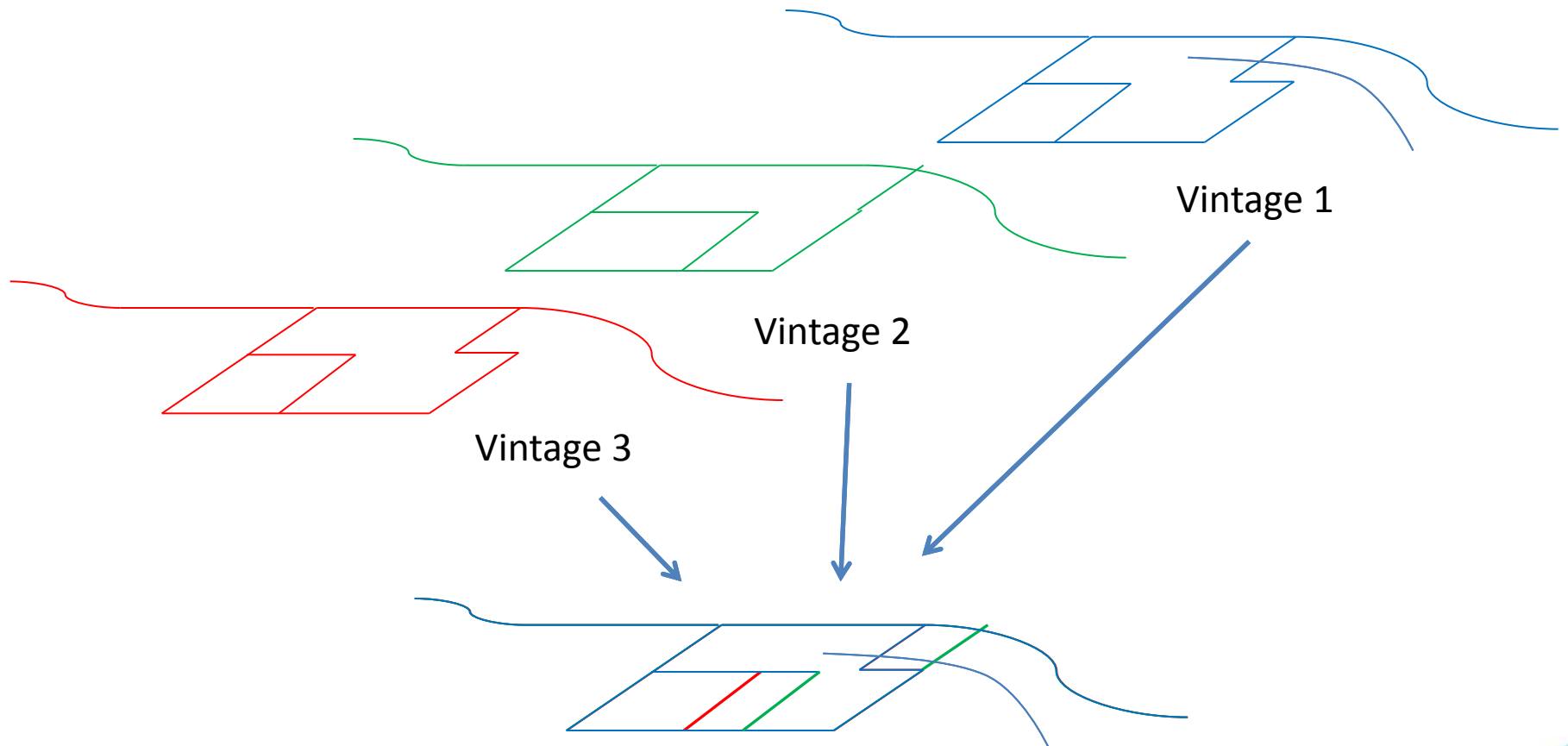
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## Summary

- Early participation is advantageous
- Increased importance of BBSP
- Earlier start of the program than 2010
- Longer participation windows than 2010
- Continued support from the Redistricting Data Office

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## **2020 Recommendations**

We will prepare a draft of the next “View from the States” which will include your comments and feedback. If you are not a formal liaison and on our email loop please provide us with your card and we will share this document in draft prior to it’s 2014 publication.

**THANK YOU!**

# Redistricting Data Office

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3PM—Dr. Nancy A. Potok

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