

BAS-2L
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Census Bureau
Office of the Director
Washington, DC 20233-0001

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau:

The U.S. Census Bureau is now conducting the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS). Do not miss this opportunity to participate in BAS to ensure that the Census Bureau has current and accurate legal boundary, name, and status information for your tribal government. Participants may also provide updates to census designated places. The National American Indian Housing Council will also notify its members about BAS.

BAS is a voluntary survey. We strongly encourage your participation in BAS for the following reasons:

- The Census Bureau uses this boundary information for data collection, tabulation, and dissemination for the decennial census, American Community Survey (ACS), and many other censuses and surveys.
- The federal government allocates more than \$2.8 trillion in federal funds annually for health, welfare, infrastructure, education, and other federal programs and services. Correct boundaries ensure governments receive funds appropriately and have the best data available for their decision-making processes.

Action Step:

Review your government's boundary and respond to BAS using one of the options below. If you already responded to this year's BAS, then no additional action is required.

- Respond online using the interactive BAS Annual Response Form. The form includes all resources and instructions necessary to review boundaries and respond to BAS.
Interactive BAS Annual Response Form: <www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/bas/>.
- Complete the attached BAS Annual Response Form. Scan and email the form to <geo.bas@census.gov>. Please include your BAS ID and "Annual Response" in the subject line.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Census Bureau is offering training webinars for BAS. The webinar schedule and registration instructions are on the BAS Webinars webpage at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/bas/events.html>.

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** First BAS deadline—Boundary updates returned by this date will be reflected in the ACS data and in next year’s BAS materials.
- May 31** Final BAS deadline—Boundary updates returned by this date will be reflected in next year’s BAS materials.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: <geo.bas@census.gov>

Phone: 1-800-972-5651

Website: <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/bas.html>

Thank you for your participation in BAS.

BOUNDARY AND ANNEXATION SURVEY (BAS)



What is BAS?

BAS is an annual opportunity for tribal, state, and local governments to review the U.S. Census Bureau's boundary data to ensure that the Census Bureau has current and accurate legal boundary, name, and status information.

Through BAS, tribal governments can report legal boundary changes, such as additions and removals, small corrections to spatially incorrect boundaries, and record new reservations or off-reservation trust lands. Tribal governments can update boundaries, features, and landmarks for:

- Federally recognized American Indian reservations.
- Off-reservation trust lands.
- Tribal subdivisions.
- Census Designated Places (CDPs).

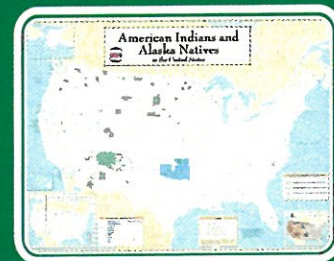
Why should my government participate in BAS?

The Census Bureau uses the boundary information collected through BAS for data collection, tabulation, and dissemination for the decennial census, American Community Survey (ACS), 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. Correct boundaries ensure governments receive funds appropriately and have the best data available for decision-making.

How do I get started?

1. Review the Census Bureau's existing boundary data.
2. Complete the Annual Response Form at www.census.gov/geo/partnerships/bas.
3. Submit boundary updates.



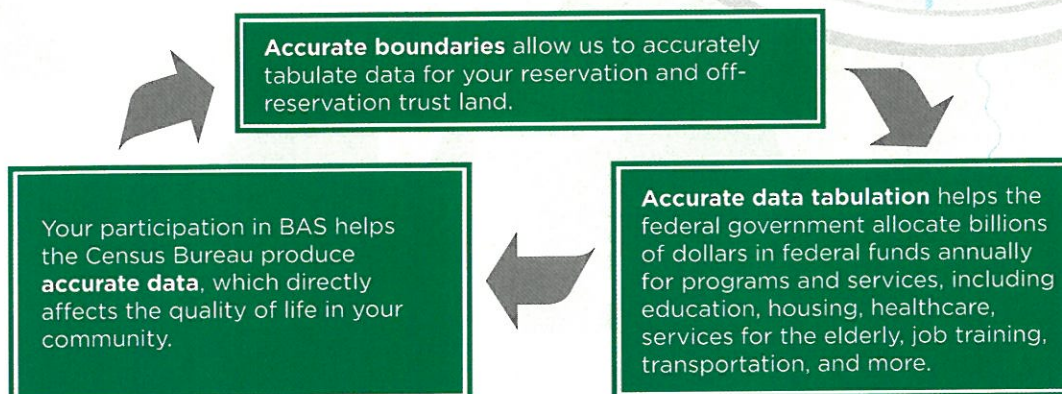
Contact information

Email: geo.bas@census.gov

Phone: 1-800-972-5651

Website: www.census.gov/programs-surveys/bas.html

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



Responding to BAS is easy!

The Census Bureau provides multiple free, user-friendly methods for BAS participants to submit updates.

BAS Partnership Toolbox

Experienced geographic information systems (GIS) users can download and update partnership shapefiles using the BAS Partnership Toolbox within ArcGIS Desktop and ArcGIS Pro.

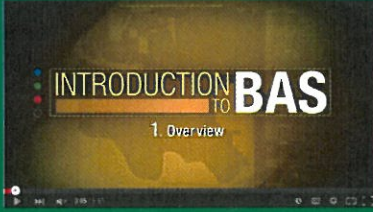
Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS)

GUPS is a free, customized GIS tool that contains all the functionality participants need to create their BAS submission. GUPS is intended for participants with a basic understanding of or limited experience with GIS software, but is great for participants of all skill levels.


Paper Maps

Participants without GIS experience can request free paper maps and annotation materials from the BAS website.

The Census Bureau created training videos to give BAS participants detailed instructions and information on how to report and submit BAS changes. These videos are available on the BAS website at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/bas/library/bas-videos.html>.



To review the Census Bureau's existing boundary data, visit our online mapping application TIGERweb at <https://tigerweb.geo.census.gov/tigerwebmain/TIGERweb_main.html>.



Will the Census Bureau contact my tribe for the BAS?

In recognition of tribal sovereignty, the Census Bureau works government to government with federally recognized tribes and contacts the following every year:

- The tribal chair.
- A GIS staff member, planner, clerk, or other contact.
- National American Indian Housing Council members.

How can my tribe get more involved?

The Tribal Boundaries Subgroup is a subgroup of the Federal Geographic Data Committee's National Boundaries Group. It is made up of members from federally recognized tribes, federal agencies, state and local governments, private industry, and tribal organizations. Most members have a specialized interest in collecting, managing, or publishing geospatial data for tribal lands and boundaries. The information is available at <<https://communities.geoplatform.gov/ngda-govunits/tribal-boundaries-workgroup/>>.



Important BAS Dates

Early January

The Census Bureau e-mails annual response information to the tribal chair and the BAS contact of all eligible governments with instructions on how to participate in the survey.

January 1

Boundary updates must be legally in effect on or before this date to be reported in the current survey year.

March 1

First BAS deadline—Boundary updates returned by this date will be reflected in the ACS and in next year's BAS materials.

May 31

Final BAS deadline—Boundary updates returned by this date will be reflected in next year's BAS materials.





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March 6, 2024

RE: Tribal Liaison Appointment

Dear Esteemed Tribal Leader:

We are contacting you to respectfully ask for the appointment of a Tribal Liaison who will act as the designated point of contact between your Tribal Nation/Native Alaskan Village and the U.S. Census Bureau. Previously, we had a Tribal Liaison Program which supported our engagement leading up to the decennial census. As part of that program, the highest elected Tribal Official appointed a Tribal Liaison who served a critical role in essential communication. Tribal Liaisons were typically active, well-known community members or Tribal employees who had the communication connections to engage local contacts. They received communication updates from our Tribal Partnership Specialists and training to utilize data resources. We understand the appointed voluntary Tribal Liaison also serve(s) indispensable roles in your community, and the Census Bureau will be mindful of their time and availability.

Once you decide who will serve as your Tribal Liaison, we ask that you share this letter with your appointed person and ask that they use this link [Register HERE](#) to register and provide contact information for an April 16, 2024 virtual Tribal Liaison Kick-Off event. We ask that they please register even if they cannot attend. Their registration information will be added to our Tribal Liaison contact list for future communication.

We are pleased to let you know that we have also established a Tribal Relations Program which will serve as a trusted resource and single point of contact for all your Census Bureau needs. This program started from what we heard from Indian Country and Native Alaska. Our current Tribal Relation Specialists (TRS) and the states that each cover is listed after my signature.

The Census Bureau values the relationship with Indian Country and Native Alaska, and we thank you in advance for appointing a Tribal Liaison. We look forward to additional communication with your Tribal Liaison on and/or after the April 16, 2024, virtual event.

Respectfully,

Robert L. Santos
Director

U.S. Census Bureau Tribal Relation Specialists and State Coverage Areas

Shadana Sultan (Ogalala Lakota) CO, UT, WY, SD, NE, TX, LA, AL, GA, FL, MD, NY, NJ, PA, DE, VT <i>(promoted to Tribal Relations Program Coordinator, has this coverage area until backfill in place)</i>	Shadana.M.Sultan@Census.gov	720-606-1938
Charles Tippeconnic (Comanche) MT, ND, AZ, NM, KS, OK, MS, TN, KY	Charles.Tippeconnic@Census.gov	580-574-9939
Bernadece Boda (LTBB Odawa Citizen) IL, MN, IA, WI, MO, AR, MI, IN, OH, WV, NC, SC, VA, MA, NH, ME, RI, CT	Bernadece.A.Boda@Census.gov	301-466-5073
Alaina Capoeman Davis (Quinault) CA, NV, ID, OR, WA, AK, HI	Alaina.J.Capoeman@Census.gov	818-319-7437