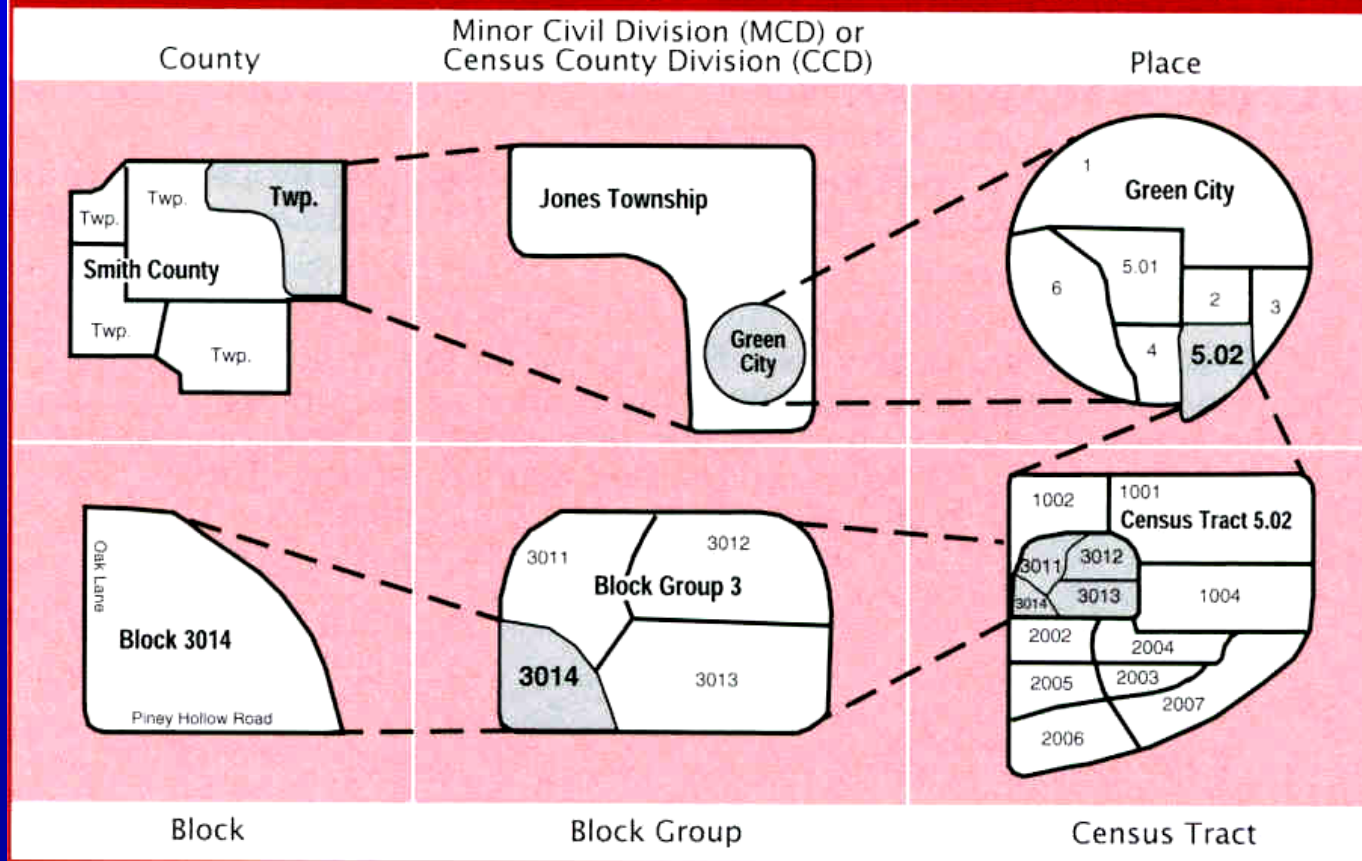


Census 2000: Geographic Concepts & Products

Small-Area Geography Overview

Census Small-Area Geography

Understanding the Relationships Among U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Entities



Blocks

Smallest units of data tabulation

Cover the entire nation

Do not cross census tracts or counties

Generally bounded by visible features and legal boundaries

Block numbers completely different from 1990

Size: average about 100 people

Block Groups

- Groups of blocks sharing the same first digit
- Smallest areas for which sample data are available
- Size: optimally 1,500 people; range between 300 to 3,000






Census Tracts

- Defined nationwide for the first time in Census 2000;
- Relatively homogeneous demographically;
- Relatively consistent boundaries over time;
- Approximately 65,000 census tracts in U.S.;
- Size: optimally 4,000 people; range between 1,000 and 8,000


Blocks, Block Groups, and Census Tracts

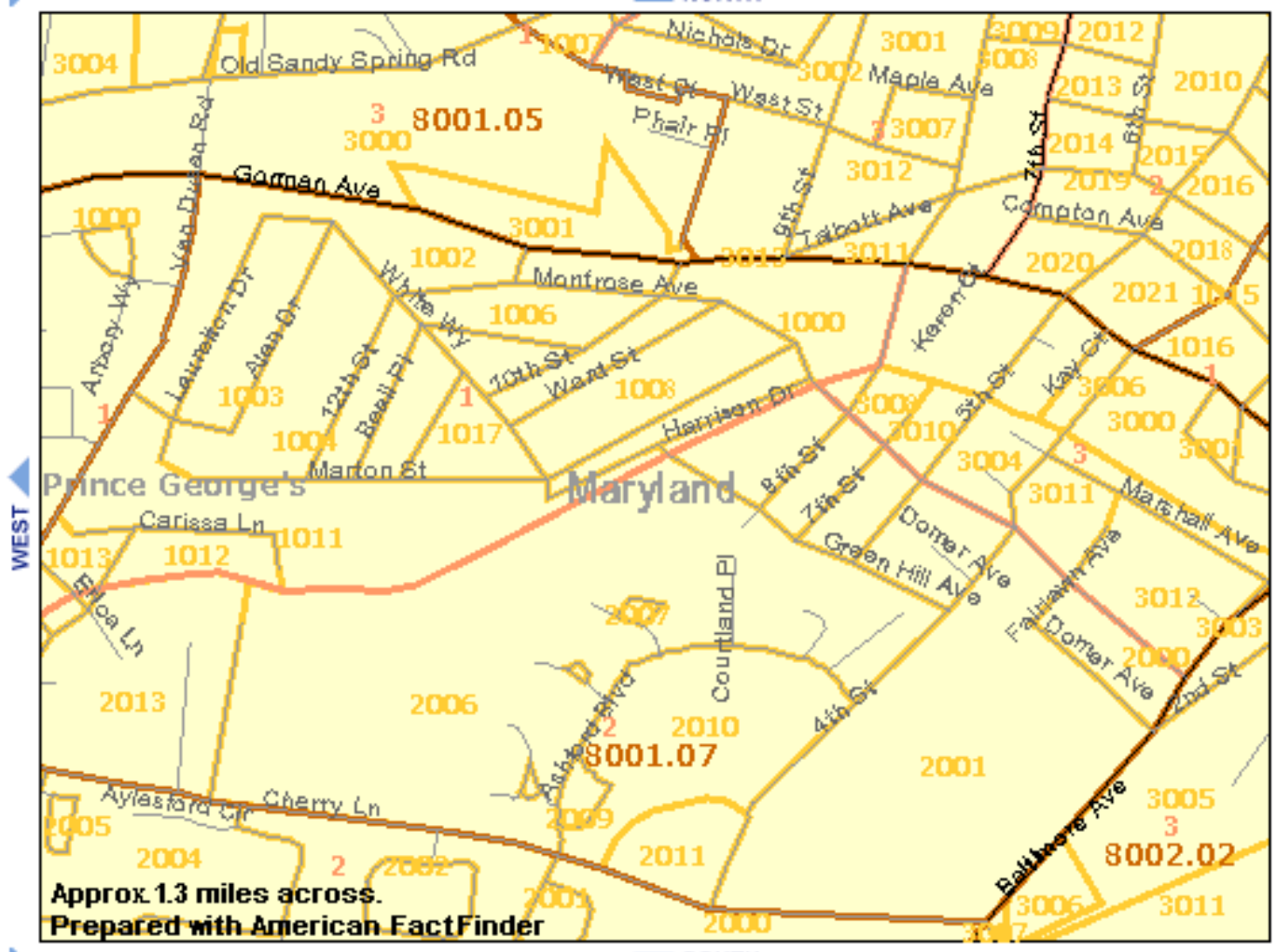
Legend

Boundaries

-  State
-  00 County
-  00 Census Tract
-  00 Block Group
-  00 Block

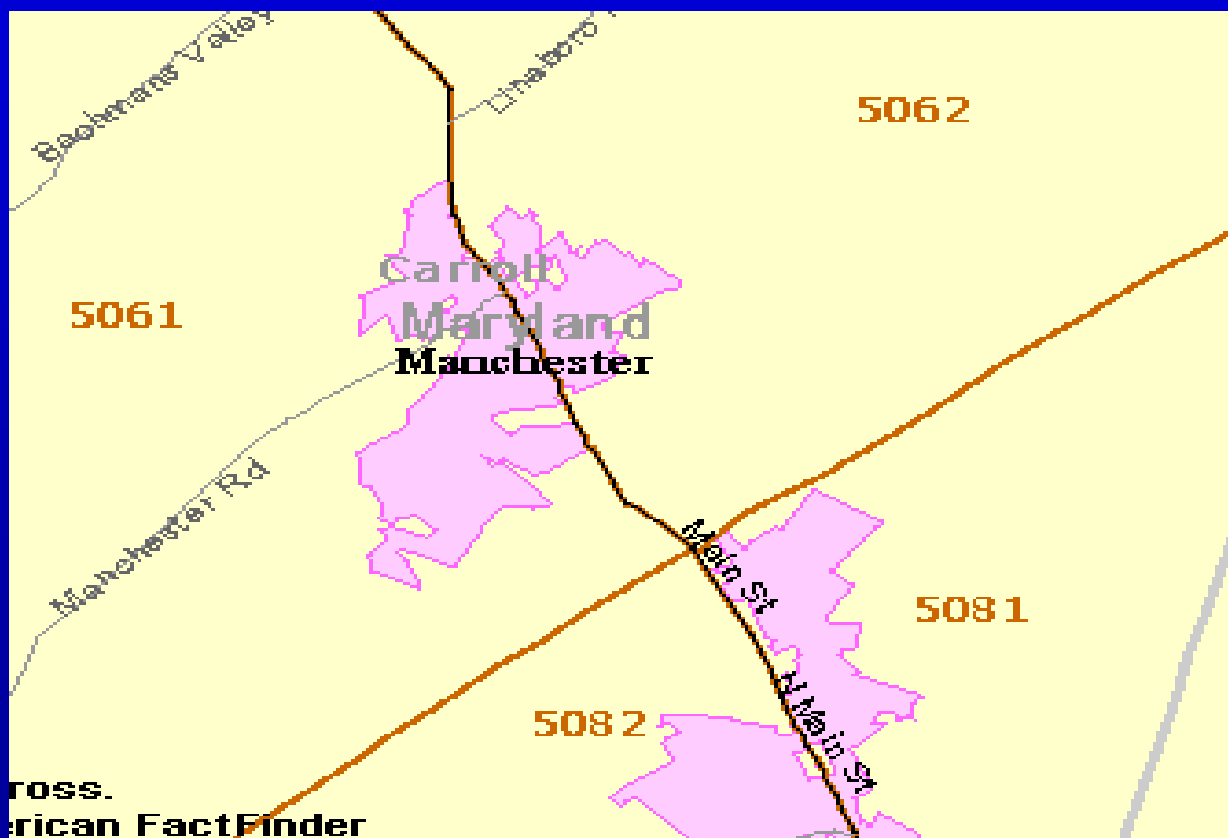
Features

-  Major Road
-  Street



Places

- Incorporated Places
- Census Designated Places



County Subdivisions

Two types:

- Minor Civil Divisions (MCDs)
 - Legally defined subcounty entities in 28 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas.
- Census County Divisions (CCDs)
 - Used to establish and maintain a set of subcounty units that have stable boundaries and recognizable names in 22 states.
 - No minimum or maximum population guidelines

County Subdivisions

Census County Divisions in Taos County, NM



Counties and County Equivalents

- Counties in 48 states;
- Independent Cities in MD, MO, NV, and VA;
- Parishes in Louisiana;
- Cities, Boroughs, Municipality, Census Areas in Alaska;
- Municipios in Puerto Rico;
- Islands and Districts in American Samoa;
- Municipalities in the Northern Marianas;
- Islands in the Virgin Islands;
- District of Columbia and Guam each treated as a county equivalent

Other Geographic Areas

Large Geographic Areas

U.S. - Metropolitan Areas (for Census 2000; Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas as of June 2003)

Regions - Urban Areas

Divisions - American Indian Reservations

States - Alaska Native Areas

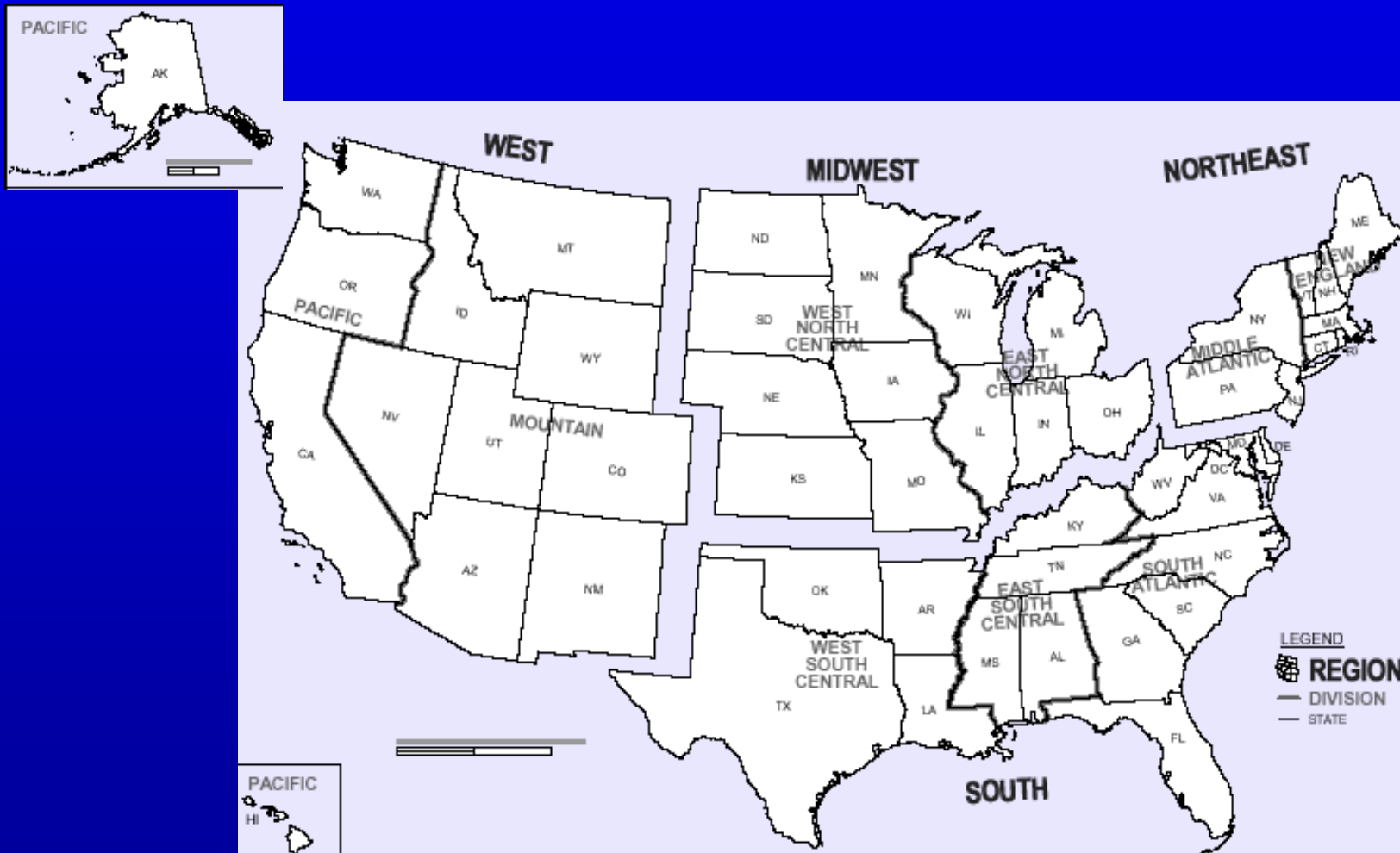
- Hawaiian Home Land Areas

Special Geographic Areas

Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs)

Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs)

Census Regions and Divisions



Metropolitan Areas (MAs)

- Defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Counties are “building blocks” except in New England where cities and towns are used
- Contain large population nucleus
- High socioeconomic integration

Metropolitan Areas: Three Types

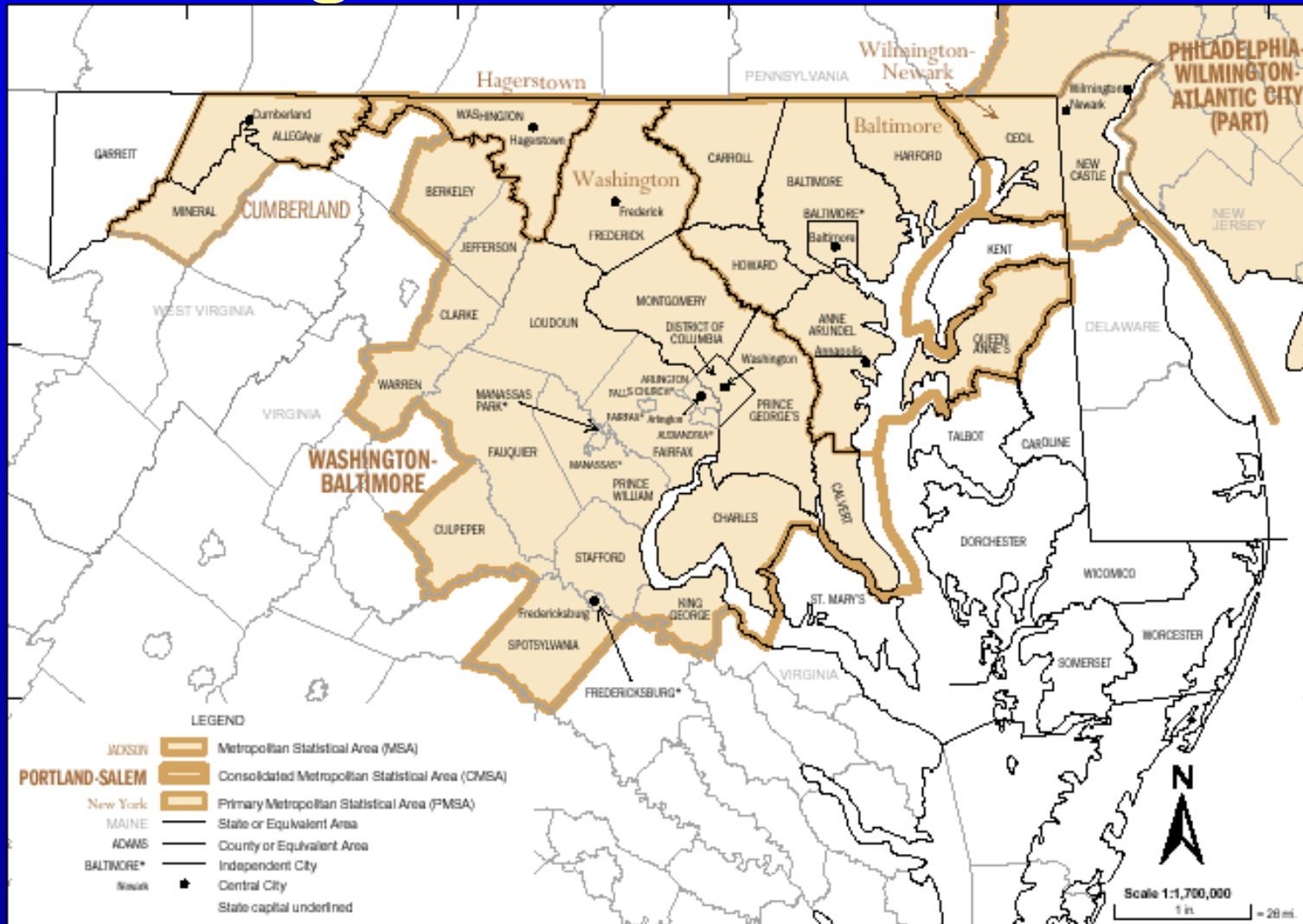
Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA): Based around a city of 50,000 or more inhabitants, or a Census-defined urbanized area and a total metropolitan population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England)

Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA): Meets MSA standards and population > 1 million, meets additional criteria for subdividing, and local opinion supports component areas

Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA): Components that make up a CMSA

Note: New standards adopted in 2000 and applied with Census 2000 data. New area definitions announced in June 2003.

Washington-Baltimore, CMSA



Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas

Terms have changed, but the basic concept has remained the same:

Core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of integration with the core.

New Terms:

- Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA)
- Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Division
- Combined Statistical Area
- New England City and Town Area
- Principal City

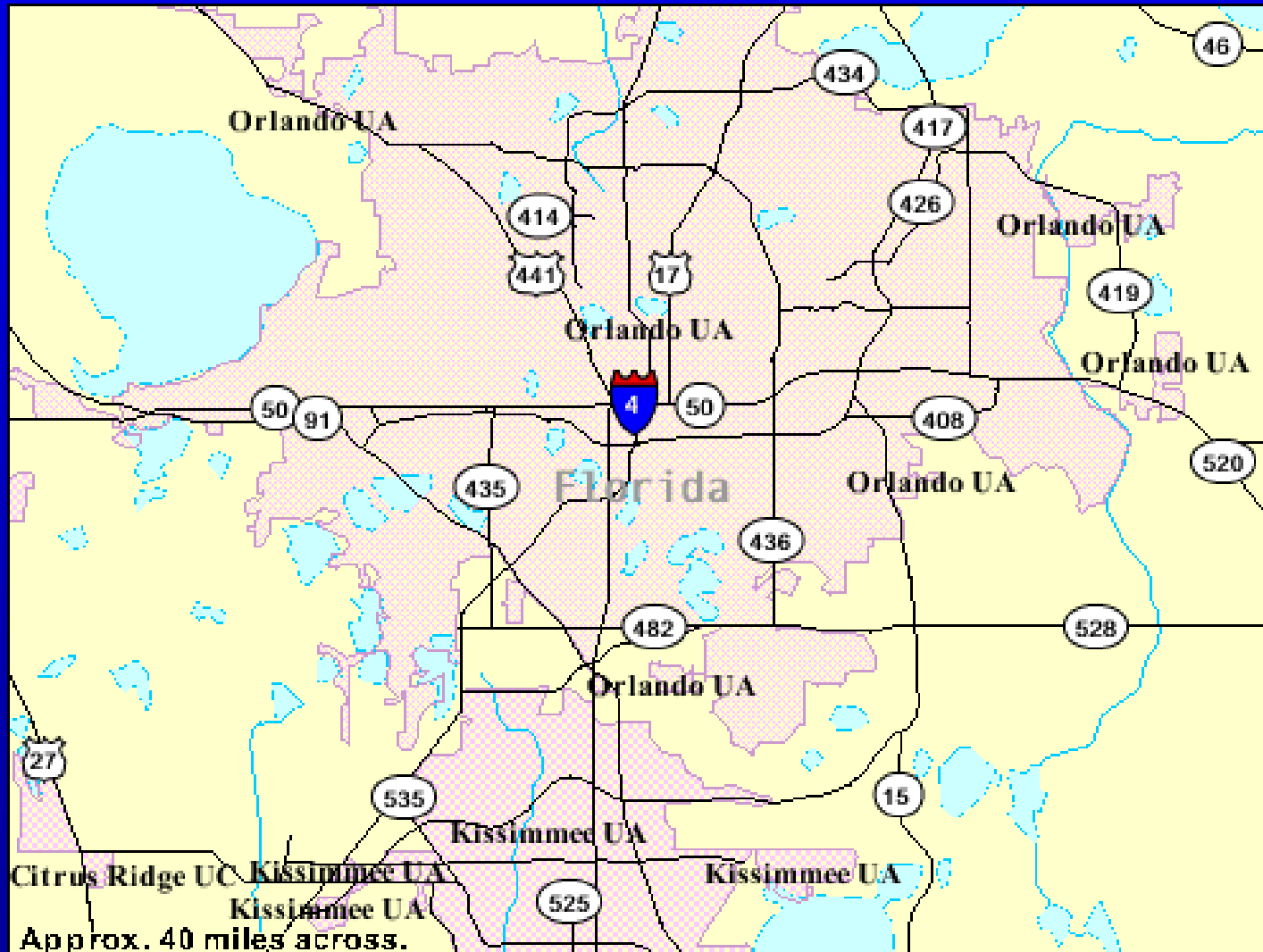
Core Based Statistical Areas (as of December 2003)

- 369 Metropolitan Statistical Areas
 - 361 in the United States (1,090 Counties)
 - 8 in Puerto Rico (68 municipios)
- 11 Metropolitan Statistical Areas subdivided into 29 Metropolitan Divisions
- 578 Micropolitan Statistical Areas
 - 573 in the United States (690 counties)
 - 5 in Puerto Rico (5 municipios)

Urbanized Areas

- Densely settled areas with population of at least 50,000
- Geographic core of block groups or blocks that have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile
- Area definitions announced in March 2002 with updates in August and November 2002
www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html

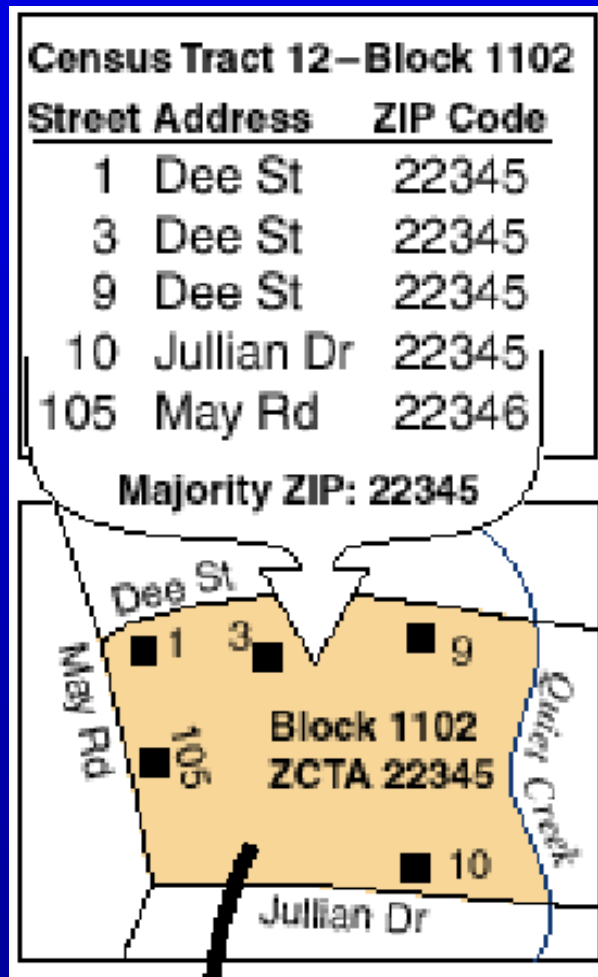
Orlando, FL Urbanized Area



ZIP Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs)

- Approximate area representations of USPS ZIP Code service areas
- Based on Census 2000 blocks
- To address difficulties in mapping USPS ZIP Codes
- May represent either a five or three-digit USPS ZIP Code

Creating ZIP Code Tabulation Areas



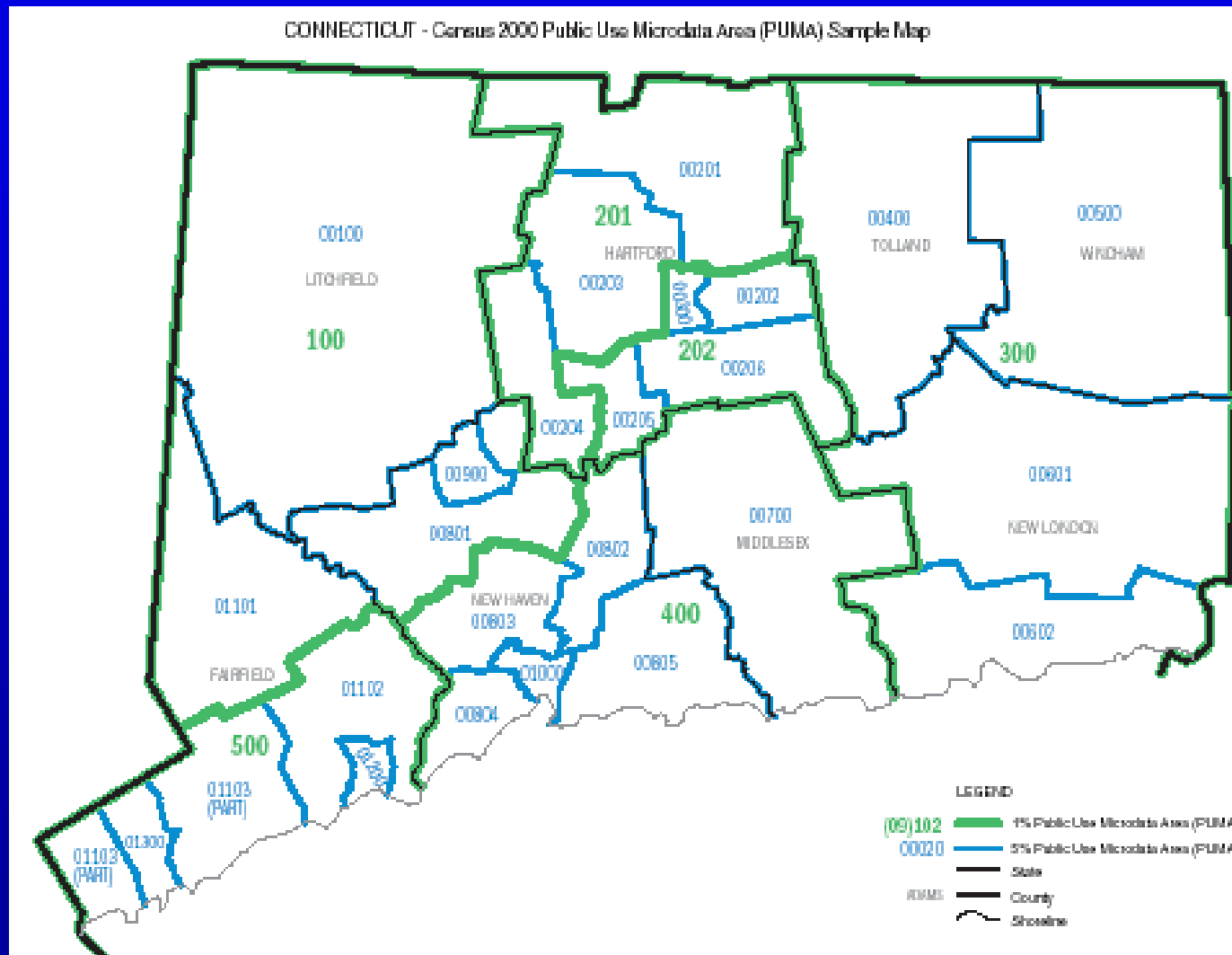
Determine the majority ZIP Code for each census block with addresses.

Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs)

- Geographic entity for extracts of raw data from a small sample of confidentiality-screened, long-form census records
- PUMA - Minimum population of 100,000, cannot cross a state line (5-percent long-form records sample)
- Super PUMAs - Aggregated PUMAs with a minimum population of 400,000 (1-percent long-form records sample)

Available Now in CD-ROM format only

Public Use Microdata Areas



Hierarchy - Summary File 1: State File Summary Levels

State

County

Place (or place part)

Census tract

Block group

Block

State portion of American Indian and Alaska
Native Area (with trust lands and with no
trust lands) and Hawaiian home land

Unique Geographic Identifiers

Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Codes

<u>Area</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>2000 FIPS</u>
State	North Carolina	37
County	Transylvania	175
Place	Wilmington	74440

Geographic Products: The TIGER Data Base

Topologically
Integrated
Geographic
Encoding and
Referencing

The source of **ALL** census
geographic products

TIGER/Line Files

Redistricting Census 2000 TIGER/Line Files

- First View of 2000 Block Boundaries

Census 2000 TIGER/Line Files

- ZIPCode Tabulation Area Boundaries
- Final Census 2000 Address Information

UA Census 2000 TIGER/Line Files

- New additions: Urbanized Areas (UA) and Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA)

Available Now: www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/

Relationship Files

Relationships (1:1, 1:n, n:1)

- **Not Equivalency Files (use TIGER/Line)**

Census Tracts: 1990-2000

- **Similar to 1990 product**

Blocks 1990 - 2000

- **1990 Tabulation to 2000 Collection**
- **1990 Tabulation to 2000 Tabulation**
- **2000 Collection to 2000 Tabulation**

Available now on the Internet:

www.census.gov/geo/www/relate/refile.html

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

Boundary Files

Generalized extracts of TIGER data for use in Geographic Information Systems

For most levels of tabulation geography

File Formats:

- ArcView shapefiles (*.shp)
- ARC/INFO Export (*.e00)
- ARC/INFO Ungenerate (ASCII)

Available Now on the Internet:

www.census.gov/geo/www/cob/index.html

On-Demand Paper Maps

Printed by:

- The Census Bureau
- Census partners
- Other various commercial sources

Selected printed reports/maps

May be available through

- State Data Center -
www.census.gov/sdc/www
- Census Regional Office -
www.census.gov/field/www

Questions About Geographic Products?

E-mail: geography@census.gov

URL: www.census.gov

Product information: 301-763-INFO

Geographic questions: 301-763-1128