

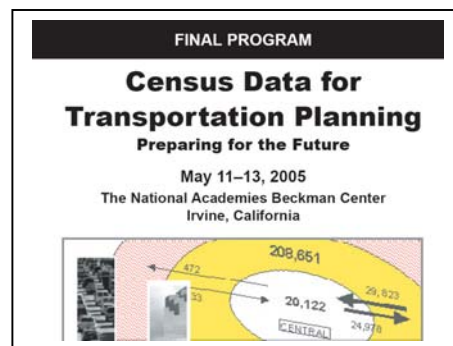
# Background Time for Local Transportation Dynamics?

Local Employment Dynamics

All About Jobs

Transportation is an important part of our society and economy - it not only moves people and goods, but also provides employment and brings people to their jobs. The Census Bureau has worked with the transportation community to prepare a Census Transportation Planning Package (CTPP) based on the decennial long form since 1970. CTPP provides critical information on home-work commuting patterns for transportation planning and analysis.

The decennial long form is being phased out of the 2010 Census. It will be replaced by the American Community Survey (ACS), but with data collected on a continuing basis. In preparing for the future, the Census Bureau met with the U.S. Department of Transportation and participated in a conference organized by the Transportation Research Board in May 2005. Subsequently, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials formed a work group to serve as a focal point to identify and promote effective use of current and future census data products.



As part of these planning efforts, the Census Bureau also identified data collected from the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) partnership as a potential data source for the CTPP.

The Census Bureau launched a program in 1998 to create new, innovative statistical products based by linking existing administrative records with Census Bureau data sources to minimize reporting burden and cost to taxpayers, while protecting the confidentiality of the individuals and firms who provided the data. Integrating census, survey, and administrative data is heralded to be a key component of a 21<sup>st</sup> century statistical system.

The LED partnership with the Labor Market Information offices has grown to 41 states, including the District of Columbia. It has successfully worked with the state partners to produce the Quarterly Workforce Indicators and related products about jobs and workers by linking state unemployment insurance wage records. Each new state partner will bring LED closer to a longitudinal, dynamic national frame of jobs and workers - an essential missing component of the federal statistical system.

With funding support from the Employment and Training Administration of the Department of Labor and three additional states, the Census Bureau is introducing another new product called On The Map. It provides unprecedented detail information on local home-work patterns that can also be displayed in a web-based application. It shows that extension of the data integration concept from employment to transportation is feasible and natural. The extension also encourages collaboration and joint use among state agencies, while supplementing the ACS and the preparation of the CTPP, especially in small area estimation and confidentiality protection.

So, is it time for Local Transportation Dynamics? What will it take to make it happen?

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