**2000 - 2010 Tract-to-Tract Comparability File: General Guidelines**

The 2000-2010 tract-to-tract comparability file was created to simplify tract-level comparisons of California census data over time. Although census tract boundaries are delineated with the intention of being maintained over many years, physical changes in street patterns caused by highway construction, new developments, or an increase/decrease in population may require occasional boundary changes or even tract splits. This makes the process of relating census tracts more difficult. To make comparisons of tract data from the different census years easier, standardized tracts were established. In this case, 2010 census tracts were used as the standard and the data from 2000 were converted to their 2010 census tract equivalents.

In 2010 there were 8,057 census tracts covering the entire area of the state; in 2000, there were 7,049. Census data from 2000 census tracts had to be converted to their 2010 census tract equivalents so that the resulting equivalency file would have 8,057 tract records. The conversion was done in a number of different ways depending upon the relationships of the census tracts as reported in the Census Bureau’s Tract-to-Tract Relationship file. This conversion process allows the user to more easily compare census tract data between 2000 and 2010. A comparison of the 2000 data, as assigned to 2010 census tracts, with the 2010 data should accurately depict the demographic and economic changes for this period.

To help the user of this file better understand the changes between 2000 and 2010 census tracts, practical examples describing the actual spatial relationships between census geographies are presented below. Users should be aware that the converted 2000 tract data cannot be considered official U.S. Census Bureau data or California Department of Finance data.

It should be noted that for 2010, the Census Bureau included separate allocation factors for population and housing unit variables to be used during the tract conversion process. Although population and housing unit allocation percentages for most tracts are similar, some tracts have different allocations of population and housing unit conversion factors. The examples provided below are based on population conversion factors.

There are four possible types of geographical patterns impacting census tracts from 2000 and 2010. An illustration of each type follows:

1. **No Change**. A census tract that did not change between 2000 and 2010:

2000 2010

4006 4006

* Estimates of the 2000 data for 2010 tracts are the same as the actual 2000 data for 2000 tracts. In this situation, all derived measures (averages and medians) remain unaltered. An example is Alameda County tract 4006 that remained unchanged between 2000 and 2010.

2. **Split**. A census tract that existed in 2000 was subdivided in 2010:

2000 2010

4054 4054.01

4054 4054.02

* The 2000 data were assigned to the two 2010 tracts based upon the proportionate share of the 2000 population of the two tracts. That is, suppose 56 percent of the population from the 2000 tract 4054 was allocated to the 2010 tract 4054.01 and 44 percent to tract 4054.02. All derived measures (averages and medians) were recalculated to reflect the split in the tract. A typical example is Alameda County tract 4054 in 2000 that was split into 4054.01 and 4054.02 in 2010.

3. **Merge**. A census tract that existed in 2000 was merged with another tract in 2010:

2000 2010

4274 4287

4275 4287

* In this situation, the 2000 data were aggregated and assigned according to the 2010 tract boundaries. The 2000 averages and medians were recalculated because merging the data created a new distribution upon which the medians should be based. An example is 2010 Alameda County tract 4287 that was formed from the merger of tract 4274 and 4275 in 2000.

4. **Revision**. A census tract in 2010 includes a portion from other tracts in 2000:

2000 2010

4027 4027

4028 4027

4028 4028

* The 2000 data were converted to a 2010 tract using the population split/merge of the tracts in 2010. That is 100 percent of the 2000 tract 4027 and 0.06 percent of the 2000 tract 4028 population were assigned to the 2010 tract 4027 while 99.94 percent of the 2000 tract 4028 population were assigned to the 2010 tract 4028. The 2000 averages and medians were recomputed. The example above is the Alameda County census tracts 4027 and 4028 in 2000 that made up somewhat different tracts in terms of area and geography (while retaining the same tract designations) in 2010.

The conversion process utilized an allocation of the percentage of the 2000 census tract population and housing units that ended up in each 2010 census tract, calculated by the Census Bureau and provided in the 2010 Census Tract Relationship file. Based on the tract relationships contained in that file, of the 7,049 tracts from the 2000 Census, 1,839 tracts required conversion due to changes in population allocation and 1,835 tracts required conversion due to changes in housing unit allocation from the 2000 Census to the 2010 Census.

**Appendix: The 2000-2010 Census Tract Equivalency Package** The package includes three files posted on the DOF website.

* The SF1 file includes the following population variables for the years 2000 and 2010 from Summary File 1:

**Geographic Codes**: Census 2010 County Codes and Tract Codes

**Area**: Land Area in Square Miles

**Age Distribution**: Total Population, Ages 0-4, Ages 5-17, Ages 18-64, Ages 65 and Over, and Median Ages (Total, Male, Female)

**Race/Ethnicity**: White Alone non-Hispanic, Black Alone non-Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native Alone non-Hispanic, Asian/Other Pacific Islanders Alone non-Hispanic, Other non-Hispanic (including two or more races), and Hispanic/Latino population

**Relationship**: Population in Household, Own Child Under 18, and Population in Group Quarters

**Household Type**: Total Households, Family Households, Families with Related Children Under 18, Married Couple Families, Married Couple Families with Related Children Under 18, Female Householder-No Husband Present, Female Householder with Related Children Under 18, Non-Family Household, Non-Family Household Living Alone, 65 Years and Over Non-Family Household Living Alone, Average Household Size, and Average Family Size

**Housing Tenure and Average Household Size**: Total Housing Units, Occupied Housing Units, Renter-Occupied Housing Units, Average Household Size of Owner-Occupied Housing Units, and Average Household Size Renter-Occupied Housing Units

**Asian Alone with One Asian Category for Selected Groups:** Asian Indian, Bangladeshi, Cambodian, Chinese (Except Taiwanese), Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Thai, Vietnamese, Other Asian (Specified & Not Spec.)

**Internal Point**: Census 2010 Latitude and Longitude.

* The SF3 file includes the following social, economic, and housing variables for the years 2000 (from the 2000 Census Summary File 3) and 2010 (from the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year data):

**Geographic Codes**: Census 2010 County Codes and Tract Codes

**Area**: Land Area in Square Miles

**School Enrollment**: Population 3 Years and Over, Nursery/Pre-School and Kindergarten, Elementary and High School, and College or Graduate School

**Educational Attainment**: Population 25 Years and Over, Less than Grade 9 (including no schooling completed), Grades 9 to 12, High School Graduate, Some College (including Associate Degree), Bachelor’s Degree, and Graduate/Professional Degree

**Nativity and Place of Birth**: Total Population, Native, Born in US - in the State of Residence, Born in US - in other State, Born outside of US, Foreign-Born, Not a Citizen

**Residence in Past Year/in 1995**: Population 1 Year and Over/5 Years and Over, Same House, Different House-Same County, Different House-Different County-Same State, Different House-Different County-Different State, and Different House-Elsewhere

**Language Spoken At Home by Ability to Speak English**: Speak only English, Speak Spanish, Speak Spanish-Speak English Less than Very Well, Speak Asian/Other Pacific Islander Languages, Speak Asian/Other Pacific Islander Languages-Speak English Less than Very Well, Speak Other Languages (Including Indo-European), Speak Other Languages-Speak English Less than Very Well

**Marital Status**: Population 15 Years and Over, Never Married, Now Married, Separated, Widowed, and Divorced

**Labor Force**: Population 16 Years and Over, Population 16 Years and Over in Labor Force, Civilian 16 Years and Over in Labor Force, Civilian 16 Years and Over Unemployed, and Unemployed as percent of Civilian Labor Force

**Occupation**: Employed Civilian 16 Years and Over, Management Business & Finance Occupations, Computer Engineering & Science Occupations, Education Legal Community Service Arts & Media Occupations, Health Care & Technical Occupations, Service Occupations, Sales & Related Occupations, Office & Administrative Support Occupations, Natural Resources Construction & Maintain Occupations, Production Trans & Material Moving Occupations, White Collar Occupations, and Blue Collar Occupations

**Income**: Total Households, Median Household Income, Total Families, Median Family Income, and Per Capita Income

**Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in Past 12 Months/in 1999**: Population for Whom Poverty Status is Determined, Ratio Under 1, Ratio Between 1.00 and 1.49, Ratio Between 1.50 and 1.99, and Ratio of 2 or more

**Persons Below Poverty**: Population 18 Years and Over for Whom Poverty Status is Determined, Population 18 Years and Over Below Poverty, Population 65 Years and Over for Whom Poverty Status is Determined, and Population 65 Years and Over Below Poverty

**Families Below Poverty**: Total Families, Families Below Poverty Level, Families Below Poverty with Related Children Under 18 Years, Female Householder Below Poverty, and Female Householder Below Poverty with Related Children Under 18 Years

**Occupants Per Room**: Occupied Housing Units, Less than or equal to one Person Per Room, 1.01 to 1.50 Persons Per Room, and More than 1.50 Persons Per Room

**Housing Units in Structure**: Total Housing Units, Single-Family Housing Units, Two-to-Four Housing Units, Five-or-More Housing Units, Mobile Homes, and Other Housing Units (Boat, RV, Van, etc.)

**Occupied Housing Units:** Total Occupied Housing Units

**Owner-Occupied Housing Units in Structure:** Total Owner-Occupied Housing Units, Owner-Occupied Single-Family Housing Units, Owner-Occupied Two-to-Four Housing Units, Owner-Occupied Five-or-More Housing Units, Owner-Occupied Mobile Homes, Owner-Occupied Others (Boat, RV, Van, etc.)

**Renter-Occupied Housing Units in Structure:** Total Renter-Occupied Housing Units, Renter-Occupied Single-Family Housing Units, Renter-Occupied Two-to-Four Housing Units, Renter-Occupied Five-or-More Housing Units, Renter-Occupied Mobile Homes, Renter-Occupied Others (Boat, RV, Van, etc.)

**Housing Unit Value**: All Owner-Occupied Housing Units, All Owner-Occupied Housing Units Median Value (Dollars), All Owner-Occupied Housing Units Average Value (Dollars)

* The SF3 non-match file includes the following housing variables for the years 2000 (from the 2000 Census Summary File 3) and 2010 (from the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year data) that have non-matching universes and therefore are not directly comparable across census years. These housing variables are provided for information only.

**Geographic Codes:** Census 2010 County Codes and Tract Codes

**Housing Unit Rent:** All/Specified Renter-Occupied Housing Units Paying Cash Rent, Median Contract Rent, Median Gross Rent, Average Gross Rent

**Gross Rent as Percent of Household Income in the Past 12 Months/in 1999:** All/Specified Renter-Occupied Housing Units, Gross Rent Less than 20 Percent of Household Income (excluding the “not computed” category), Gross Rent 20 to 24.9 Percent of Household Income, Gross Rent 25 to 29.9 percent of Household Income, Gross Rent 30 to 34.9 percent of Household Income, Gross Rent 35 to 39.9 percent of Household Income, Gross Rent 40 to 49.9 percent of Household Income, Gross Rent 50 or More percent of Household Income

**Mortgage Status by Selected Monthly Owner Costs as Percentage of Household Income in the Past 12 Months/in 1999 (with Mortgage)**: All/Specified Owner-Occupied Housing Units, Owner Cost Less than 20 Percent of Household Income (excluding the “not computed” category), Owner Cost 20 to 24.9 Percent of Household Income, Owner Cost 25 to 29.9 percent of Household Income, Owner Cost 30 to 34.9 percent of Household Income, and Owner Cost 35 or More percent of Household Income

**Mortgage Status by Selected Monthly Owner Costs as Percentage of Household Income in the Past 12 Months/in 1999 (no Mortgage)**: All/Specified Owner-Occupied Housing Units, Owner Cost Less than 20 Percent of Household Income (excluding the “not computed” category), Owner Cost 20 to 24.9 Percent of Household Income, Owner Cost 25 to 29.9 percent of Household Income, Owner Cost 30 to 34.9 percent of Household Income, and Owner Cost 35 or More percent of Household Income

**Mortgage Status by Selected Monthly Owner Costs as Percentage of Household Income in the Past 12 Months/in 1999:** All/Specified Owner-Occupied Housing Units, Owner Cost Less than 20 Percent of Household Income (excluding the “not computed” category), Owner Cost 20 to 24.9 Percent of Household Income, Owner Cost 25 to 29.9 percent of Household Income, Owner Cost 30 to 34.9 percent of Household Income, and Owner Cost 35 or More percent of Household Income