




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Inspector General
Washington, D.C. 20230

February 7, 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Robert M. Groves
Director, U.S. Census Bureau

FROM: Ron Prevost 
Assistant Inspector General for Economic and Statistical
Program Assessment

SUBJECT: Review of the Census MAF/TIGER Database Address Frame

As part of our FY 2011 audit and evaluation plan, we will conduct a review of the Census Bureau's MAF/TIGER database (MTdb), which includes the:

- the Master Address File (MAF), containing all living quarters and businesses in the U.S., and
- the Topography Integrated Geographic Encoding Referencing System (TIGER), a topographic database

Our focus will be on the efforts to improve the quality and accuracy of records in the MAF/TIGER database to ensure data integrity and reduce field costs. Our objectives are to review Census procedures for updating the map and address files, identify trends that may have introduced errors during various address updating operations, and assess Census Bureau progress toward achieving MAF/TIGER Enhancements Program objectives.

As a first step in our review, we will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 482-3052 or Carol Rice, Division Director for Statistical Programs, at (202) 482-6020. We appreciate the cooperation of your staff during this review.

cc: Thomas L. Mesenbourg, Deputy Director
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