

DRB Rules/Requirements for Census 2000 Special Tabulations
October 7, 2003

1. All Census 2000 special tabulations must be reviewed by the Disclosure Review Board.
2. All cells in any Census 2000 special tabulation must be rounded. The rounding schematic is:
 - 0 remains 0
 - 1-7 rounds to 4
 - 8 or greater rounds to nearest multiple of 5 (i.e., 864 rounds to 865, 982 rounds to 980)
 - Any number that already ends in 5 or 0 stays as is.

Any totals or subtotals needed should be constructed before rounding. This assures that universes remain the same from table to table, and it is recognized that cells in a table will no longer be additive after rounding.

3. Medians or other quantiles may be calculated as
 - A. an interpolation from a frequency distribution of unrounded data (these are not subject to additional rounding), or
 - B. as a point quantile. These must be rounded to two significant digits: 12,345 would round to 12,000; 167,452 would round to 170,000. There must be at least 5 cases on either side of the quantile point. It is recognized that the interpolated quantile may indeed be some individual's response, but it is coincidental, not by design.
4. If geographic codes are shown as a part of the table or data file, show FIPS codes where there is a choice of using Census codes or FIPS codes, except for the American Indian Area/Alaska Native Area/Hawaiian Home Land (AIANAHH) code. (The Census AIANAHH code remains the same across state lines for the same area; the FIPS code does not.) This is not a DRB rule; it is Census Bureau policy.
5. Thresholds on universes will normally be applied to avoid showing data for very small geographic areas or for very small population groups (often 50 unweighted cases for sample data). Tables may normally not have more than 3 or 4 dimensions, and mean cell size lower limits may also be required (mean cell size of each table is 3 for 100% data, or 20 weighted for sample data).
6. Percents, rates, etc., should be calculated after rounding, but the DRB has granted exceptions to this rule when the numerator and/or denominator of the percent or rate is not shown.
7. Means and aggregates must be based on at least 3 values.
8. The finest level of detail shown for Groups Quarters data will be Institutional/Noninstitutional.

9. Cells in tabulations showing Group Quarters data and in tabulations that could be subtracted from previously released tables to obtain Group Quarters data will be rounded to the nearest multiple of 10.

10. For Demographic Profiles from user-defined geographic areas (neighborhoods), all areas must have at least 300 people in them. Using a computer program, the user-defined areas will be compared with standard Census Bureau areas to make sure users cannot obtain data from very small geographic areas by subtraction. If such small areas are found, the boundaries of the user-defined areas must be changed.

**Rounding Rules for Census 2000 Special Tabulations:
Population in Households and Population in Group Quarters**
August 13, 2003

Census 2000 special tabulations containing data for the population in group quarters or the population in households require additional rounding:

- 0 remains 0
- 1-4 rounds to 0
- 5-14 rounds to 10
- 15-24 rounds to 20
- 25-34 rounds to 30, etc.

Any totals or subtotals needed are constructed before rounding. This assures that totals for the population in households or the population in group quarters remain the same from table to table, and it is recognized that cells in a table will no longer be additive after rounding.

When some tables in the special tabulation provide data for the total population or the total number of households, and other tables provide data for the population in households or the population in group quarters, the sponsor should decide whether all tables in the tabulation should be rounded to 10s as shown above, or whether only those tables that provide data for the population in households or the population in group quarters should be rounded according to the above schematic.

See the Disclosure Review Board (DRB) document "DRB Rules/Requirements for Census 2000 Special Tabulations" for the general rounding schematic for Census 2000 special tabulations.

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