

Census 2010 PSAP

Acceptable boundary information

The Census Bureau defines three classifications of boundary features for census tract, block group, CDP and CCD boundaries: acceptable, questionable, and not acceptable. Acceptable features are generally features that do not change greatly over time, including some political and administrative boundaries and visible physical features. Questionable features are physical features that are not always visible. Not acceptable features are all other features.

Wherever possible, census tracts, block groups, CDPs and CCDs should follow acceptable boundary features. CDP boundaries may follow questionable and not acceptable features in instances where reliance upon acceptable features will result in overbounding the CDP.

Acceptable boundary features

County boundaries must be used as the boundaries for census tracts, block groups, and CCDs.

The following boundaries may be used as the boundaries for all PSAP geographic entities:

- American Indian reservation (AIR) and off-reservation trust land (ORTL) boundaries.
- Incorporated place boundaries in Arizona if bordered by another incorporated place.

Additional features acceptable or questionable as PSAP geography boundaries are listed in the following table:

Feature Name	Acceptable	Questionable
Levee	X	
Dam	X	
Stream/River (perennial)	X	
Stream/River (intermittent)		X
Braided Stream	X	
Canal, Ditch, or Aqueduct (perennial)	X	
Canal, Ditch, or Aqueduct (intermittent)		X
Pier/Dock	X	
Runway/Taxiway	X	
Pipeline (above ground)	X	
Powerline (above ground, high-tension)	X	
Aerial Tramway/Ski Lift	X	
Conveyor		X
Fence Line		X
Ridge Line	X	
Cliff/Escarpment	X	
Point-to-Point Line		X
Property/Parcel Line (Including PLSS)		X
Property/Parcel Line (Airport, Airfield, Military Installation or other)		X
Ferry Crossing	X	
Perennial Shoreline	X	
Intermittent Shoreline		X
Railroad Feature (Main, Spur, or Yard)	X	
Carline, Streetcar Track, Monorail, Other Mass Transit Rail	X	
Cog Rail Line, Incline Rail Line, Tram	X	
Interstate Highway or Primary Road with limited access	X	
Primary Road without limited access, US Highway, State Highway, or County Highway, Secondary and connecting roads	X	
Local Neighborhood Road, Rural Road, City Street	X	
Vehicular Trail (4WD)		X
Service Drive usually along a limited access highway	X	
Walkway/Pedestrian Trail		X
Stairway		X
Alley	X	
Private Road for service vehicles (logging, oil fields, ranches, etc.)		X
Private Driveway		X
Parking Lot Road		X
Bike Path or Trail		X
Bridle Path/Horse Trail		X
All other features (not stated above) are not acceptable boundaries.		