Evaluation of Census Transportation Planning Package 2000
for the Delaware Valley Region

POSTER PROPOSAL

Prepared by

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In this poster, the Census Transportation Planning Package 2000 for the Delaware Valley region is reviewed, analyzed, and evaluated. The results are posted, including the journey-to-work trip data, means of transportation, travel time, employed persons at work, employment, households, vehicle availability, and other data required for travel simulation and transportation planning. The evaluation of Parts 1 and 2 of CTPP 2000 indicated several errors in the data, which were corrected by DVRPC before the data were used in various transportation planning projects. Data rounding and disclosure rules, applied to some tables in Part 3, made the zone-to-zone worker flow data by means of transportation totally useless. Except for such tables, CTPP 2000 data are generally accurate and useful for transportation planning. However, they should be reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, before they are utilized in various transportation planning projects. Based on this evaluation, a set of eight recommendations regarding sample size, nonresponse and imputation, public relations and marketing, place of work coding, processing, data rounding, swapping, and disclosure threshold is proposed. Except for development of a 15 percent sub-sample to improve the accuracy of the responses to the long-form questionnaire and elimination of data rounding and disclosure threshold procedures, these recommendations are completely consistent with those used by the Census Bureau in Census 2000. Almost all the CTPP 2000 errors can be avoided in the future, if these recommendations are implemented in the 2010 Census. This is especially important since the overwhelming majority of users cannot review the CTPP data, identify errors, and make appropriate corrections. Users expect the next CTPP to contain accurate data that can be used without any correction or adjustment.