

# OUR HISTORY WITH THE JOURNEY TO WORK

*written in blood*

Alan E. Pisarski

# RE CENSUS 60,70,80, ETC

- JTW PURPOSE: TO FEED OMB METRO DEFINITION PROCESS – NOT US!
- ALBUQUERQUE, ORLANDO, BECKMAN -- JOINT PLANNING MEETINGS IN EACH DECENNIAL CYCLE – 10 YEARS NOT ENOUGH TIME!
- GREAT IDEAS FOR CENSUS OTHER TRIP PURPOSES – NO CHANCE
- WE ADDED TRAVEL TIME IN 1980; TIME LEFT HOME 1990
- NPTS WAS SOURCE EARLIER
- TABS DESIGNED BY A VERY UNOFFICIAL GROUP
- 1990 WAS FIRST WALL TO WALL TABS; EARLIER WERE SPECIAL TABS

# Challenges of the UTPP Process ---

- Strength of census: complete coverage, under consistent definitions and procedures.
- But great limitation of a data observation made in April every 10 years
- In 60's metros had big data sets from first round of '62 mandates so census value was to confirm with great soc-ec and as a check source of home interviews DONE WITH CENSUS DESIGN COLLABORATION
- Late 60's, 70's need date for updates. FIRST CIA USED FOR 10 YEARS
- Long time horizon of the census means changing public issues not useful – will carpooling matter 10 years from now? Argues for only the most basic. NO CHANGE NOW REALLY

# Challenges of the UTPP Process --- GEOCODING

- Critical internal conflicts in the Bureau – Census Use Study, Geography Division, Decennial Census Organization
- Bureau disinterested in using local expertise and local geographic tools to compile coding guides
- THE BIG ONE: “Major Generators” does Union Station have an address?
- An address was a CENSUS PROTECTED data item = non-disclosable!
- “*Caveat Emptor*” buyer beware – lack of information on data quality before purchase – WAIT ON LINE; SPEND A LOT; TO BUY JUNK
- Recoding not permitted; only New York recoded at great local cost.
- Block coding permitted UTPP and a wall to wall system

# EVOLVING EARLY DECENNIAL DATA

Data Element	1960	1970	1980
<b>Vehicles Owned</b>	Autos (0,1,2,3+)	Autos (0,1,2,3+)	Autos (0,1,2,3,+) Vans, Trucks (0,1,2,3+)
<b>Mode Choice</b>	Eight Basic Categories	Nine Categories Auto Driver Auto Passenger	Twelve Categories Car Truck Van Motorcycle Bicycle Carpool Question Auto Occupancy Question
<b>Travel Mode</b>	Principal means last week	Chief means last day worked last week	Mode usually used in usual work trip
<b>Work Place Identification</b>	Cities, Counties	Block (otherwise 1960)	Block (or place level)
<b>Travel Times</b>	None	None	Travel Time to Work in minutes

	1960 Census	
Means of Transportation to Work		
	NUMBER	%
Workers 14 years and over.....	64,655,805	100
Car, truck, or van 6/.....	41,368,062	64
Drove alone.....	N/A	...
Carpooled.....	N/A	...
Public transportation.....	7,806,932	12.1
Bus or trolley bus 2/.....	5,322,651	8.2
Streetcar or trolley car 2/....	N/A	...
Subway or elevated 7/.....	2,484,281	3.8
Railroad 7/.....	N/A	...
Ferryboat 1/.....	N/A	...
Taxicab 8/.....	N/A	...
Motorcycle 5/.....	N/A	...
Bicycle 5/.....	N/A	...
Walked only.....	6,416,343	9.9
Other means.....	1,619,842	2.5
Worked at home.....	4,662,750	7.2
Not reported (1960 only).....	2,781,876	4.3
N/A Not available.		
1/ This category was included in "Other means" prior to 1990.		
2/ This category was "Bus or streetcar" in 1980, 1970, and 1960.		
3/ This category was "Private automobile, driver" in 1970.		
4/ This category was "Private automobile, passenger" in 1970.		
5/ This category was included in "Other means" in 1970 and 1960.		
6/ This category was "Private automobile or carpool" in 1960.		
7/ This category was "Railroad, subway, or elevated" in 1960.		
8/ This category was included in "Other means" in 1960.		

you can see the history in the reports from  
Albuquerque '73, Orlando '84, Beckman '94-'96

Let's talk

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# 1970 FORMAT

WORKED LAST WEEK? 20% SAMPLE

MODE TO WORK; 15% SAMPLE

## 15 AND 5 PERCENT ↓

29a. Did this person work at any time last week?

- Yes— Fill this circle if this person did full- or part-time work. (Count part-time work such as a Saturday job, delivering papers, or helping without pay in a family business or farm; and active duty in the Armed Forces)
- No— Fill this circle if this person did not work, or did only own housework, school work, or volunteer work.
- Skip to 30

b. How many hours did he work last week (at all jobs)?

Subtract any time off and add overtime or extra hours worked.

- 1 to 14 hours       40 hours
- 15 to 29 hours       41 to 48 hours
- 30 to 34 hours       49 to 59 hours
- 35 to 39 hours       60 hours or more

## 15 PERCENT ↓

c. Where did he work last week?

If he worked in more than one place, print where he worked most last week.

If he travels about in his work or if the place does not have a numbered address, see instruction sheet.

(1) Address (Number and street name) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Name of city, town, village, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Inside the limits of this city, town, village, etc.?

- Yes  
 No

(4) County \_\_\_\_\_

(5) State \_\_\_\_\_ (6) ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

d. How did he get to work last week? Fill one circle or chief means used on the last day he worked at the address given in 29c.

- Driver, private auto       Taxicab
- Passenger, private auto       Walked only
- Bus or streetcar       Worked at home
- Subway or elevated       Other means—Specify →
- Railroad

After completing question 29d, skip to question 33.



# Challenges of the UTPP Process --- timing

- Surprise! --- 10 years between decennials was not enough time
- Data becomes available in year 03 or 04, users learn year 04, 05
- Long waits in queue to get tabs
- Conference convenes to assess results and suggest changes 06 maybe
- Make recommendations to Census Bureau 06-07 THEY SAY YOU'RE TOO LATE – TRY AGAIN NEXT DECADE
- In year 03-05 can you assess the data you need in year 13-15?