

2030 Local Updates to Census Addresses (LUCA)

Presentation at the Michigan Municipal League CapCon

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MICHIGAN
**Center for Data
and Analytics**

Who We Are



The Michigan Center for Data and Analytics provides the state with the expertise to analyze data, understand challenges, and evaluate solutions.

Through data, reporting, and analysis, the MCDA provides partners with the information and insights they need to make evidence-based decisions.

Four Core Functions of the Demography Team



MICHIGAN
**Center for Data
and Analytics**

1. Coordinate statewide data operations for the **decennial census** and deliver census counts to the Treasury and MDOT for funding allocation
2. Submit data inputs to improve accuracy of the Census Bureau's **annual population estimates** for counties, cities, villages, and townships
3. Analyze census data and **key population trends** in Michigan
4. Produce **population projections** for Michigan and its counties

Two things the Census Bureau needs to count the U.S. population every 10 years

1. Where to count
2. Who to count

How can the state, non-profit partners, and local governments improve the 2030 Census count for Michigan and its cities and villages?

1. **Where to count**

- **Improve the Census Bureau's master address list through LUCA.**

2. Who to count

- Improve participation in the 2030 Census through outreach, awareness, and communication.

Knowing Where to Count: Local Update to Census Addresses (LUCA)

What is LUCA and why does it matter for the 2030 Census count in your city or village?

LUCA: If you want people to count, you need to know where they live.

1. Do you want your community and the state to be accurately counted in the 2030 Census?
2. Do you want your community and the state to get its fair share of political representation and state and federal dollars?
3. There is only one time to get the census right—and we need to start now, by updating the Census Bureau's Address List in the LUCA operation.

An accurate census count depends on an accurate address list.

- The Census Bureau maintains a master address list, called “**the Census Address List.**” The Census Bureau uses this list to identify where people live.
- Through LUCA, local governments can update addresses for housing units (such as new subdivisions or apartment buildings) and group quarters facilities (such as colleges, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and shelters).
- Local governments have one chance to review the Census Address List before the 2030 Census. Addresses can be added, deleted, or modified.

Why does an accurate census count really matter for Michigan and its cities and villages?

Michigan uses the census count to distribute billions of state dollars to local governments every year.

- It's written in the [State Constitution](#). Constitutional revenue sharing is based on available revenues and census populations.
 - The 2010 Census directed \$4.4 billion in constitutional revenue shares to Michigan's cities and villages. The **2020 Census** has directed **\$2.2 billion to cities and villages** through FY2025 so far.
- This figure does not include other funding where the census count is an allocation factor, such as [statutory revenue sharing](#) or [MDOT transportation dollars](#)—not to mention **federal funding**.
- Unlike other states, the census population that calculates Michigan's constitutional revenue sharing is locked in throughout the decade. There are limited mechanisms to correct the census count.

Two reasons why LUCA matters even more in 2030 than it did in 2020:

- 1. Declining participation in federal surveys**
- 2. Population aging and slowing population growth in Michigan**

#1. Michigan's participation rate in other key federal surveys has declined in the 2020s.

- Michigan's monthly average response rate to the Current Population Survey (**CPS**) has decreased from **94 percent in 2010** to **79 percent in 2020**, down to **73 percent in 2024**.
- Michigan's average response rate to the American Community Survey (**ACS**) dropped from 65 percent in the 2010s to 58 percent in the 2020s. The **number of participating housing units in 2024** was at its **lowest point in the state's survey history**.

#2. Michigan has an aging population and slower population growth going into 2030.

- The aging of a large birth cohort, the baby boomers, will continue contributing to increasing **deaths**. Michigan has decreasing **births** and low or net negative **migration**.
- These dynamics contribute to **population aging** in Michigan and **slowing population growth**, or even potential decline, between 2020 and 2030. Michigan's growth rates are consistently lower than the nation.
- It is important to maximize every state and federal dollar in an aging population with a **flat or declining share of working-age residents**.

Michigan has more to “lose” in the 2030 Census than it did in the 2020 Census.

- The state’s population is aging, growth rates are slowing, and participation rates are declining in other key federal surveys.
- Updating the Census Address List is the most direct and efficient way to ensure that the Census Bureau enumerates housing units and group quarters in the 2030 Census and includes those residences in non-response follow-up.
 - Non-response follow-up can improve census participation rates.

Updating the Census Address List is the most direct and efficient way you can improve your community's census count.

We can help, but you are the local expert.

Who can participate in LUCA?

Eligible governments include:

- Federally recognized **Tribal Nations** with a reservation and/or off-reservation trust lands
- **Counties**
- Incorporated places (**cities and villages**)
- Minor Civil Divisions (**townships**)

Highest elected officials can designate a LUCA liaison to participate on their behalf. This may include employees, interns, contractors, or designating alternative reviewers, such as a county, **state data center**, or **regional planning agency**.

What does the LUCA process and timeline look like?

- 1. Coordination:** Local governments should identify census blocks for priority address review in their jurisdiction. Start building or updating the local address list for those priority blocks.
 - **Start now!**
- 2. Prep:** Local governments are invited to register, train, and practice using LUCA tools for an address-level review.
 - **May 2027 – August 2027**
- 3. [LUCA Review](#):** Local governments can review the Census Address List and submit requests to add, delete, or modify the Census Address List.
 - **October 2027 – March 2028**
- 4. Feedback and Appeals:** Local governments receive address-level feedback on how their submissions are incorporated into the Census Address List and have the option to submit appeals.
 - **August 2028 – September 2029**

LUCA Coordination in 2026

Three steps you can start now

Step 1: Find out if your community participated in 2020 LUCA operations.

- Check the Census Bureau's [2020 LUCA participant list](#) to see if your city or village participated.
- **If your city, village, or a designated liaison completed a LUCA submission in 2020:**
 - What worked well?
 - Were there any challenges in the 2020 process? What could be improved for 2030?
- **If your city or village did not complete a LUCA submission in 2020:**
 - Were there any “neighbors” who completed a submission who can provide insight into the LUCA process?
 - Who are potential GIS collaborators moving forward (such as counties, state planning regions, or the state demographer)?
- **Communicate and coordinate to promote streamlined efforts for 2030.**
 - Check to see if county GIS staff are conducting address updates. Villages should coordinate closely with townships due to overlapping geographic boundaries.

Step 2: Identify and flag blocks for high-priority address review.

See slide 30 for a step by step example. It helps to have someone who's good with maps and Excel. GIS is a bonus.

1. Download an Excel file with your [city or village's census blocks](#) and full 15-character GEOID.
2. Use the Census Bureau's [housing unit change viewer](#) and [address count listing files viewer](#) to identify blocks with the following characteristics:
 - **Substantial housing unit change** between 2020-2025
 - **Major discrepancies** between the Census Bureau's most current data for 2025 and your local knowledge or data on housing units and group quarters in that block
 - **Missing apartment complexes, subdivisions, and/or group quarters facilities**
3. Compare the Census Bureau's data in step #2 to your local knowledge and data for those blocks.
4. Flag the blocks that meet the three characteristics in step #2 for high-priority address review.

Step 3: Assemble GIS resources for high-priority address review.

1. Start building or updating a local address list for the priority blocks.
 - Use the Census Bureau's [participant address list template](#). This is an Excel file.
 - Make sure you use the full 15-character block GEOIDs in the Excel file.
2. Pool GIS resources with higher levels of government, such as counties or the state, or coalitions of government, such as the [Michigan Planning Regions](#).
 - Who typically conducts GIS analyses in your community? Has your community already been working with other governments or broader coalitions to build or improve an address list?
 - Blocks with major discrepancies might require field observations or address canvassing.
3. Communicate and coordinate to streamline efforts.
 - This is especially important for villages and townships due to overlapping geographies. Check to see if county GIS staff are conducting address updates.

Check the [Census Bureau's LUCA website](#) for details and updates.

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Census Bureau website. It includes the United States Census Bureau logo, a search bar, and various menu items like 'Partners', 'Researchers', 'Educators', 'Survey Respondents', 'News', 'NAICS Codes', 'Jobs', 'About Us', 'Contact Us', and 'Help'. The main navigation tabs are 'Topics', 'Data & Maps', 'Surveys & Programs' (which is highlighted), and 'Resource Library'. The breadcrumb trail reads: // Census.gov / Our Surveys & Programs / Decennial Census of Population and Housing / About / Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Operation.

Within About

- Census in the Constitution
- Coverage Measurement
- Decennial Census and American Community Survey (ACS)
- History of the Census
- Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Operation**
- New Construction Program
- Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP)
- Redistricting Data Program
- Related Sites
- Voting Rights Data
- Why a Decennial Census?

Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Operation

The Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) operation is a partnership program established by Congress through the enactment of [Public Law 103-430](#) (The Census Address List Improvement Act of 1994).

Share

2030 2020

2030

- [2030 Census LUCA](#)
- [What is LUCA?](#)
- [Why Participate](#)
- [What's New](#)
- [How To Prepare](#)
- [Important Dates](#)
- [Resources to Prepare](#)
- [Have Questions?](#)

Related Information

- [LUCA Operational Assessment Report](#)
- [2030 Census](#)
- [2020 Census](#)

Three Key Take-Aways on LUCA

1. You do not have to update the address list for every block in your jurisdiction. If you have limited resources, target the highest priority blocks.
 - Start identifying high priority blocks now! See slide 30 for a step by step example.
2. **Participating in LUCA is the most direct and efficient way to improve the census count in your community.**
 - Updating the Census Address List is the best way to ensure that the Census Bureau enumerates housing units and group quarters in the 2030 census and includes those residences in non-response follow-up.
 - How much does your community receive in [constitutional and statutory revenue shares](#) and [MDOT transportation dollars](#) every year?
3. In addition to the 2030 Census, there are multiple way your community can benefit from address updates and an accurate inventory of housing units and group quarters.

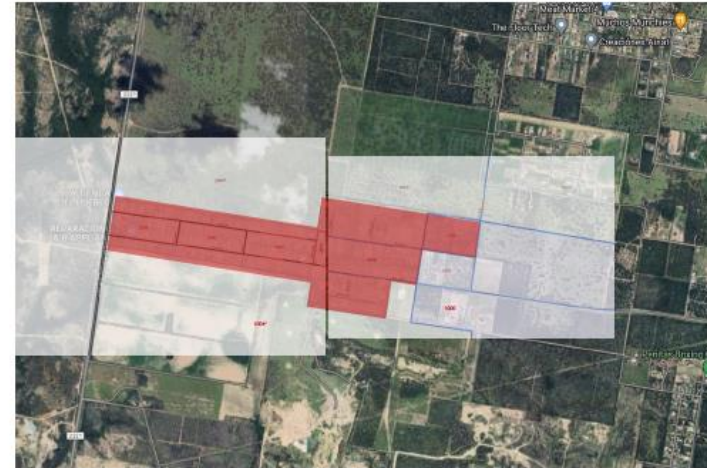
Next Steps and Opportunities

- Reach out to us if you feel overwhelmed or have questions. We are here to **help**.
- We have a recurring **LUCA stakeholder meeting** with the Michigan Nonprofit Association, Association of Regions, Association of Counties, the Municipal League, and the Townships Association.
 - We will discuss next steps and the best way to communicate training and updates to local governments.

A highly focused LUCA effort pays dividends throughout the decade.

Hidalgo County - Return on Investment for Texas

- ✓ Updating activities in preparation for LUCA improved **911 addresses** for emergency response.
- ✓ Estimated average of **\$4,500*** of census-directed funding per household for Texas.
- ✓ Due to added households, LUCA efforts in *Pueblo de Palmas* may have received **over \$741,000** that it wouldn't have otherwise been allocated, just for properly counting a **6 square mile area**.
- ✓ With an average of 2.93 people per household across Hidalgo County, this may have resulted in just under **\$60,000,000** in census-directed funds coming to Texas because of Hidalgo County's LUCA efforts.



Source: Texas Census Institute (2024) and U.S. Census Bureau (2020).

*Does not including Federal Medical Assistance Percentage-driven funding (such as Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, and adoption assistance) and COVID-related funding

Population Projections and Demography News



Michigan Statewide Population Projections through 2050

April 2024



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Thank You!

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What are we doing to help local and regional partners update the address list?

1. As state liaison to the Census Bureau, we are authorized to review the Census Address List and to **coordinate the LUCA program**.
2. We are partnering with the Center for Shared Solutions (CSS) and other state agencies to **leverage state administrative data** to improve the Census Address List.
3. We have a recurring LUCA stakeholder meeting with the **Michigan Nonprofit Association**, Association of **Regions**, Association of **Counties**, the **Municipal League**, and the **Townships** Association.
4. We are creating tools to help local and regional partners **identify priority areas for review**.
5. To the extent possible, we are coordinating **streamlined, high-quality submissions**.
 - The higher the quality = higher likelihood Census Bureau will accept the address updates

We are assessing resources at the State to conduct LUCA. How can you help your community?

1. Start the LUCA Coordination phase now. **Identify GIS staff and resources** to identify high-priority blocks and to review address data in your jurisdiction.
 - There is a step by step example on slide 30.
2. Respond to requests for **data and information** from the MCDA or the CSS.
3. **Use the tools** produced by the Census Bureau, MCDA, and CSS to identify blocks for priority review and to motivate the count.
4. Reach out to us if you feel overwhelmed or have questions. We can **help** you develop a strategy.

More details on Step 2 of the LUCA Coordination phase:

- Identify and flag blocks for high-priority address review.
- It helps to have someone who's good with maps and Excel. GIS is a bonus.

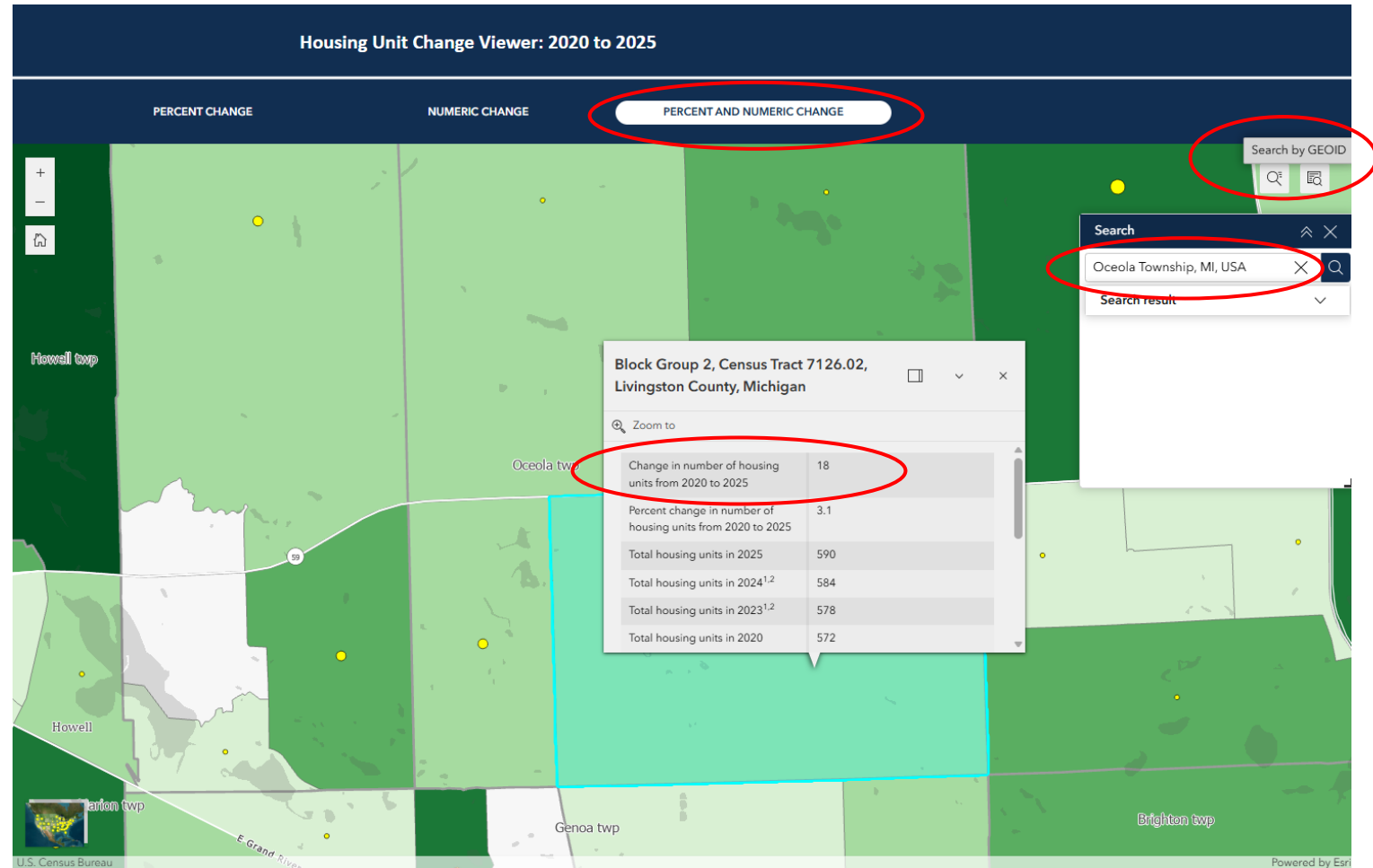
Use the Census Bureau's Housing Unit Change Viewer to identify blocks with substantial housing unit change from 2020-2025.

1. Download the Excel file with your [city or village's census blocks](#).
2. The Census Bureau's [housing unit change viewer](#) shows change in the number and/or percent of housing units from the 2020 Census to November 2025.
 - Learn how to use the housing unit change viewer in the Census Bureau's [eight-minute YouTube tutorial](#).
3. Identify the blocks in your community where the most housing unit change occurred (up or down) between 2020 and 2025.

Example Analysis for the HU Change Viewer

1. Enter your village or city in the left “Search” box. Or, enter the census block into the “Search by GEOID” box to the right.
2. Look for blocks with major changes in the number and/or percent of HUs between 2020-2025.
3. Zoom in really close to see to the block-level geography.
4. Flag any blocks with major changes for priority address review.

Oceola Township, Livingston County Change in the percent and number of HUs from 2020-2025



Use the Census Bureau's Address Count Listing Files Viewer to check the Census Bureau's most current housing unit and group quarters counts for blocks in your city or village.

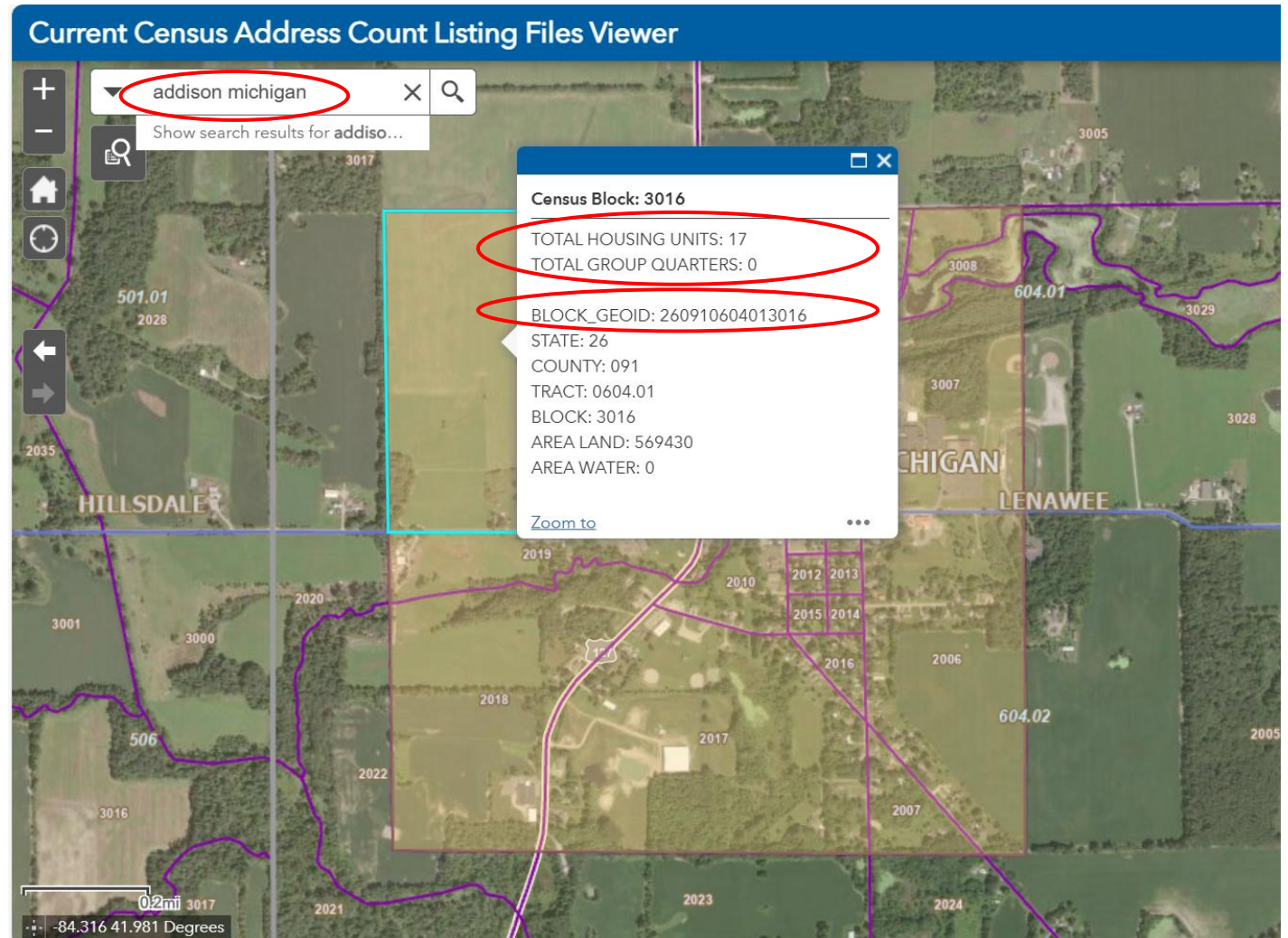
1. The [address count listing files viewer](#) shows the Census Bureau's housing unit (HU) and group quarters (GQ) counts that are current as of November 2025.
 - Learn how to use this tool in the Census Bureau's [four-minute YouTube tutorial](#).
2. Compare the Census Bureau's current data on housing units and group quarters facilities to your local knowledge and data.
 - Local knowledge or data could come from anyone who has access to local address data and would notice changes. Examples include GIS staff or permitting entities.
3. Flag any blocks where the number of housing units or group quarter facilities looks low or incorrect. These blocks are a high-priority for address review.
 - Group quarters facilities are important since they house many people.

Example Analysis for the Address Count Viewer

1. Enter your village or city in the top “Search” box. Or, enter the census block into the “Search by GEOID” box on the bottom.
2. Are there discrepancies between the number of HUs and GQ facilities in your data compared to the Census Bureau’s data in the viewer?
3. Were there any new HUs or GQ facilities that were constructed in that block after the 2020 Census?
4. If you answered “yes” to questions 2 or 3: Flag the block GEOID for priority address review.

Block 3016, Addison Village, Lenawee County

Number of housing units and group quarter facilities as of November 2025



Guide to Comparing Address Counts by Block

1. Download the Excel file with your city or village's census blocks.
2. Make sure to maintain the full 15-character block GEOID in Excel: 260937126013078.
3. In this artificial data example, Block 3078 has the largest discrepancy in the number of HUs and GQs.
4. This means that block 3078 is high-priority for address review.
5. Use the Census Bureau template to start building an address list for block 3078.
6. You will compare your address list to the Census Bureau's list once the LUCA operation formally begins.

The **artificial data** in these tables show example housing units (HUs) and group quarter facilities (GQs).

Census BLOCK_GEOID (full string of 15 characters)	Current Census HUs	Expected HUs based on local data	Difference
260937126013023	45	46	1
260937126013056	21	25	4
260937126013078	78	99	21
Block total for city or village	144	170	26

Census BLOCK_GEOID (full string of 15 characters)	Current Census GQs	Expected GQs based on local data	Difference
260937126013023	2	2	0
260937126013056	0	1	1
260937126013078	6	8	2
Block total for city or village	8	11	3