

Core Based Statistical Areas Designation Timetable

February 2001-Proposed *Urbanized Area* definitions published in Federal Register

April 2001- Population Data released.

June 2002-*Urbanized Areas* designated. Commuting data will also likely be available at about this same time.

Summer 2003-CBSA designations

Core Based Statistical Areas (CBSAs) Standards and Regional Implications

1. **CBSAs** have at least 10,000 people and include adjacent territory (whole counties) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the core area as measured by commuting ties.
 - a. Metropolitan CBSA –50,000 or more in *Urbanized Area*
 - b. Micropolitan CBSA-10,000-49,000 in *Urban Cluster*

Roanoke and Lynchburg will be Metropolitan CBSAs. Blacksburg also has an urbanized area of more than 50,000 and will be a Metropolitan CBSA.

2. **Central Counties** have at least 50% of their populations in urban areas of at least 10,000 people or have at least 5,000 people in a single urban area of at least 10,000 people.

This requirement ties counties to the urbanized area to give and will probably make the basic MSA boundaries that we have now. Depending on the urbanized area boundary, Bedford County may be considered a central county to Lynchburg. If it is a Central County to Lynchburg, it cannot be a outlying county to Roanoke.

3. **Outlying Counties** are joined to the CBSA if at least 25% of workers commute to the CBSA (core or central counties) or 25% of the employment in the county is accounted for by workers who reside in the CBSA.

The following are 1990 commuting rates:

Craig County-56% to Roanoke MSA
Franklin County-25% to Roanoke MSA
Bedford Co/City-28% to Roanoke MSA
Bedford Co/City-29% to Lynchburg MSA (not including Bedfords)
Floyd County-16% to Roanoke MSA
Montgomery County-9% to Roanoke MSA

Thus, it seems that Craig and Franklin would qualify as outlying areas to Roanoke based on 1990 commuting rates. Bedford may also qualify if it is not already considered a Central County to Lynchburg. If Bedford is outlying to both Roanoke and Lynchburg, it is linked based on its stronger ties(based on the criteria above). It would probably have stronger ties to Lynchburg.

4. **Merging of Adjacent CBSAs** can take place if one CBSA is considered outlying to the other CBSA based on the Outlying County criteria from #3. Merged areas have a single name.

In 1990, 1% of Roanoke MSA residents commuted to Lynchburg MSA. Eight percent of Lynchburg MSA residents commuted to Roanoke MSA. Based on 1990 commuting, it does not appear that these areas can be merged.

5. **Combining of Adjacent CBSAs** can take place if the employment interchange rate is 25% or greater. If the rate is between 15% and 25%, local opinion can be used to make the decision. The interchange rate is defined as the sum of: the percentage of employed residents in the smaller CBSA who work in the larger CBSA; and the percentage of employment in the smaller CBSA accounted for by the residents of the larger CBSA. Combined areas retain separate names.

Using 1990 commuting data, the interchange rate appears to be 8.7% (similar to number s in #4). It does not seem that the areas could combine.

6. **Local Opinion**-Local opinion can be used in two instances:
 - a. When two adjacent CBSAs qualify for combination based on an employment interchange measure of at least 15% but not more than 25%.
 - b. To determine the title of a combined [merged?] statistical area.

If the employment interchange rate for 2000 reaches 15% (from 8.7% in 1990) then local opinion could be used to determine if combination is possible.

Prepared by the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission, January 2000.