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Current Geographic Coding

- Instruction Manual Part 8 (IMP8), Vital Records Geographic Classification
- Began in early 1960s with code lists produced by NCHS to identify all counties and incorporated cities with 10,000 or more population
- Updated every decade as soon as possible after completion of the decennial Census.
 - Codes not updated between censuses
 - Codes are unique to NCHS

Current Geographic Coding

- Variation among states in coding geographic data
 - Cities only at NCHS level of detail (10,000)
 - Cities of less than 10,000
 - All cities regardless of population
 - All minor civil divisions
 - All unincorporated places

FIPS Coding

- FIPS - Federal Information Processing Standard
 - Standardized geographic codes used routinely by other government agencies
 - Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) after approval by the Secretary of Commerce

Implementation

Example of coding from Current IMP8

State Code	Place Name	County Name	County/Place Code
34	Chapel Hill, part	Durham	051
34	Chapel Hill, part	Orange	008

Implementation

- New IMP8 will include
 - All incorporated places, regardless of size
 - All CDPs, regardless of size
 - Inclusions (I.e., areas within incorporated places or CDPs with recognized names) as in the current IMP8
 - Balance of county code if not incorporated place or CDP

Implementation

- New coding for towns/townships
 - Those that include incorporated place or CDP
 - Code all incorporated places and CDPs
 - Code remainder to “Balance of Town” code
 - Those that do not include incorporated place or CDP
 - Code to “Entire Town” code
