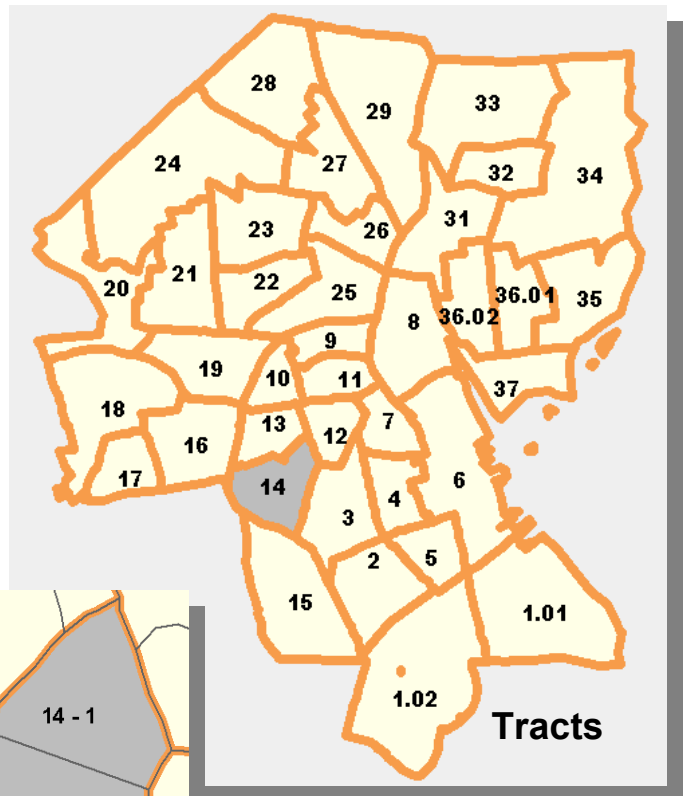


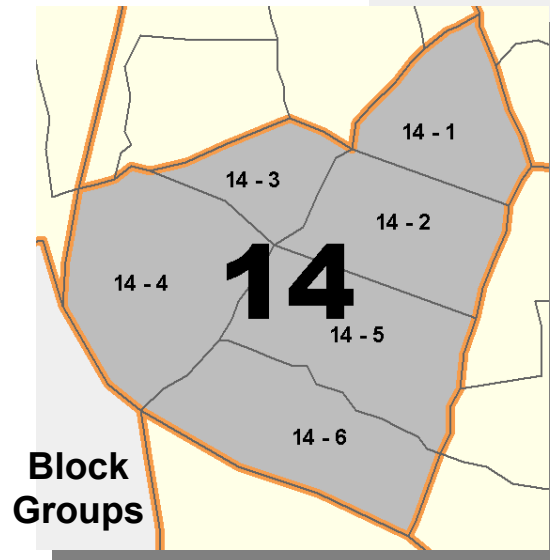
2000 Census Geography in Providence: Building Blocks of Data

The City of Providence as a whole is what the U.S. Census Bureau considers an “**Incorporated Place.**” Many detailed data products are available at this level of geography and are easily obtainable in useful formats through the Census Bureau Web Site. As geography gets more detailed, however, it becomes necessary to develop customized data extracts including tables, charts, and maps.

Providence is composed of 38 **Tracts**, numbered 1-37 (Tract 30 does not exist, and Tracts 1 and 36 are split). There are an average of **4,569** people in each.



Tracts are each comprised of 3 to 5 **Block Groups** for a total of 162 in Providence, with an average of **1,072** persons in each. Most of the “Long-Form” data (Summary File 3) coming out in Fall 2002 will be at this geographic level.



Block Groups in turn are made up of **Blocks**, which are the finest level of Census geography. There are 2789 Blocks in the City, 2,143 of which are populated, with an average of **81** people each. Census blocks correspond fairly closely to city blocks, but there are many exceptions where a Census Block is larger. Because Census Blocks are delineated using roads, large areas of land uncrossed by roads produce a large Block. Other times, very small discrete city blocks are combined to create a Census Block with a closer to average population.

Blocks are the most versatile Census geography because they are easily assembled into irregular areas such as neighborhoods and wards, allowing for very precise data analysis. Most of the Short-Form (Summary File 1) data are available at this level.

