

**BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
SOUTHERN KERN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of Adopting Trustee Areas
for the Election of Southern Kern
Unified School District Trustees, for
Submission to the Kern County
Committee on School District
Organization Pursuant to Education
Code §§ 5019, 5020 and 5030.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-26-08

Resolution by the Governing Board to
Adopt Trustee Areas for Submission
to the Kern County Committee on
School District Organization
(Education Code sections 5019, 5020
& 5030)

RECITALS

1. Members of the Board of Trustees ("Board") of the Southern Kern Unified School District ("School District" or "District") are currently elected in "at-large" elections, *i.e.*, elections in which "each governing board member [is] elected by the registered voters of the entire school district" [Education Code section 5030(a)]; and
2. California Education Code sections 5019(a) & (c)(1) and 5030 authorize the Kern County Committee on School District Organization ("County Committee"), upon application of a school district's governing board, to change the method of election in a school district under its jurisdiction; and
3. At its regular meeting on October 22, 2025, the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-26-01, formally initiating the process of changing the District's method of election to "by-trustee area" elections, *i.e.*, elections in which "one or more members residing in each trustee area be elected by the registered voters of that particular trustee area [,]" California Education Code section 5030(b); and
4. On November 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. and November 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., respectively, pursuant to California Elections Code section 10010(a)(1), the Board held public hearings where the public was invited to provide input regarding the composition of the District's trustee areas before any draft maps were drawn; and
5. On November 21, 2025, the District made public by posting on the District's website at www.skusd.k12.ca.us three draft trustee area maps and a proposed sequence of elections (the Green, Purple, and Orange Maps), prepared by National Demographics Corporation ("NDC"), which maps also demonstrated that a minority group, Latinos, is sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a single-member district, as set forth in *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 478 U.S. 30 (1986); and

6. On December 10, 2025, the District made public two additional draft trustee area plans (the Yellow and Yellow 2 maps) and a proposed sequence of elections, prepared by National Demographics Corporation ("NDC"), which were posted on the District's website at www.skusd.k12.ca.us, and
7. On December 10, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. and December 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., respectively, pursuant to California Elections Code section 10010(a)(2), the Board held public hearings where the public was invited to provide input regarding the content of the draft maps that had been published at least seven (7) days before each meeting, and the proposed sequence of elections, and the Board considered and discussed the same; and
8. The Board considered all public comments on the plans received at the public hearings; and
9. Throughout the foregoing process, the District engaged in a significant amount of public outreach and engagement as encouraged by California Elections Code section 10010; and
10. The Board of Trustees of the Southern Kern Unified School District Governing Board, on January 20, 2026, adopted the "Yellow 2 Map", attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by this reference, as the trustee area plan to be submitted to the County Committee for its consideration and adoption pursuant to Education Code section 5019(c)(1); and
11. The populations in the proposed trustee areas of the "Yellow 2 Map" are substantially equal in population, in compliance with legal requirements; and
12. Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, 52 U.S.C. section 10301, prohibits the use of any voting qualification, or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure in a manner which results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color, and the "Yellow 2 Map" complies with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act; and
13. The "Yellow 2 Map" provides for the use of a single-member, by-trustee area electoral system, and thereby complies with the California Voting Rights Act; and
14. The trustee areas in the "Yellow 2 Map" are contiguous and drawn to respect communities of interest, to the extent possible, while still complying with equal population requirements and federal and state law; and
15. The trustee areas of the "Yellow 2 Map" are drawn to follow major thoroughfares, so that Trustee Area boundaries are easily identifiable and understandable by residents, and to be compact to the extent possible; and
16. In accordance with state law, the proposed Trustee Area Map includes a sequencing of elections in the Trustee Areas as follows: Trustee Area 1 (2026), Trustee

Area 2 (2026), Trustee Area 3 (2026); Trustee Area 4 (2028), Trustee Area 5 (2028), and approval of the proposed Trustee Area Map will also approve the sequencing of elections in the Trustee Areas.

17. The Trustee Areas in the Yellow 2 Map do not favor or discriminate against any incumbent trustee, candidate, or political party.

18. Pursuant to Education Code section 5020(b), the Board requests that the County Committee order the changes requested in this Resolution without an election because this change is being made in response to a demand under the California Voting Rights Act and furthers the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (Chapter 1.5 (commencing with section 14025) of Division 14 of the Elections Code).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

A. The above Recitals are true and correct.

B. The Board hereby submits the "Yellow 2 Map", attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by this reference, to the County Committee and requests that the County Committee consider and adopt the "Yellow 2 Map" pursuant to Education Code sections 5019(a) and (c)(1) as the by-trustee area electoral plan for the Southern Kern Unified School District, along with the election sequence specified in Recital 16, and together with the request that the County Committee order the changes requested in the Resolution without an election in furtherance of the purposes of the California Voting Rights Act.

C. The District's Superintendent and/or designee shall take all action necessary to notify the County Committee of the Board's determination and provide whatever assistance may be required by the County Committee, or by the Kern County Elections Department, to complete the process of establishing by-trustee area elections in single-member trustee areas in a timely fashion to permit implementation of these trustee areas in connection with the election for Board of Trustees to be held on November 3, 2026.

D. Because the new trustee area plan may contain technical anomalies caused by errors in the 2020 Census line files and other factors, that do not substantively affect the populations in the trustee areas, the trustee area boundaries, or the intent of this Resolution, which anomalies are not revealed until implementation begins, the Superintendent and/or her designee is authorized to make technical emendations to the new plan that do not substantively affect the populations in the trustee areas, the trustee area boundaries, or the intent of this Resolution, and shall advise the Board of any such emendations that are found to be required in plan implementation by the County Registrar's Office or otherwise.

E. The Superintendent shall consult with legal counsel to resolve all legal issues necessary to give effect to this Resolution.

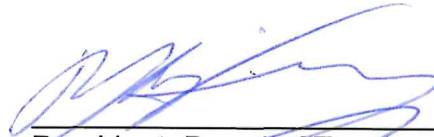
THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION was adopted upon motion by Trustee Wright, seconded by Trustee Gutierrez, at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held on January 20, 2026, by the following vote or abstention of each member present:

AYES: 5

NOES:

ABSENT:

DATED: January 20, 2026



President, Board of Trustees
Southern Kern Unified School District

CERTIFICATION

I, Justin Wright, Clerk to the Board of Trustees of the Southern Kern Unified School District, certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on January 20, 2026.

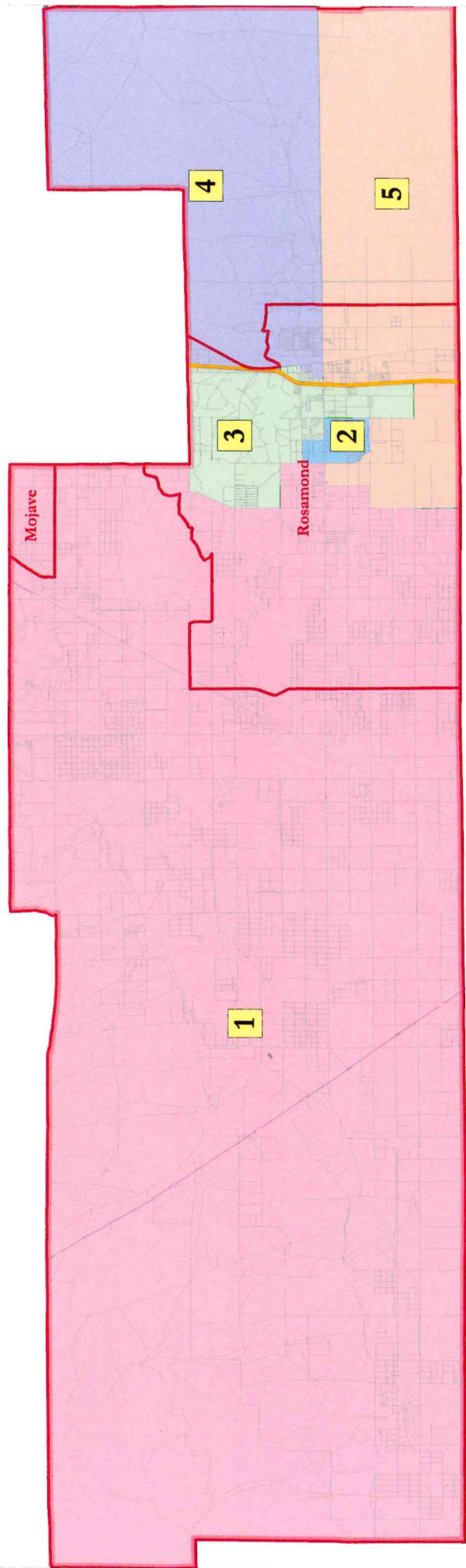
DATED: January 20, 2026

Justin Wright
Clerk, Board of Trustees
Southern Kern Unified School District

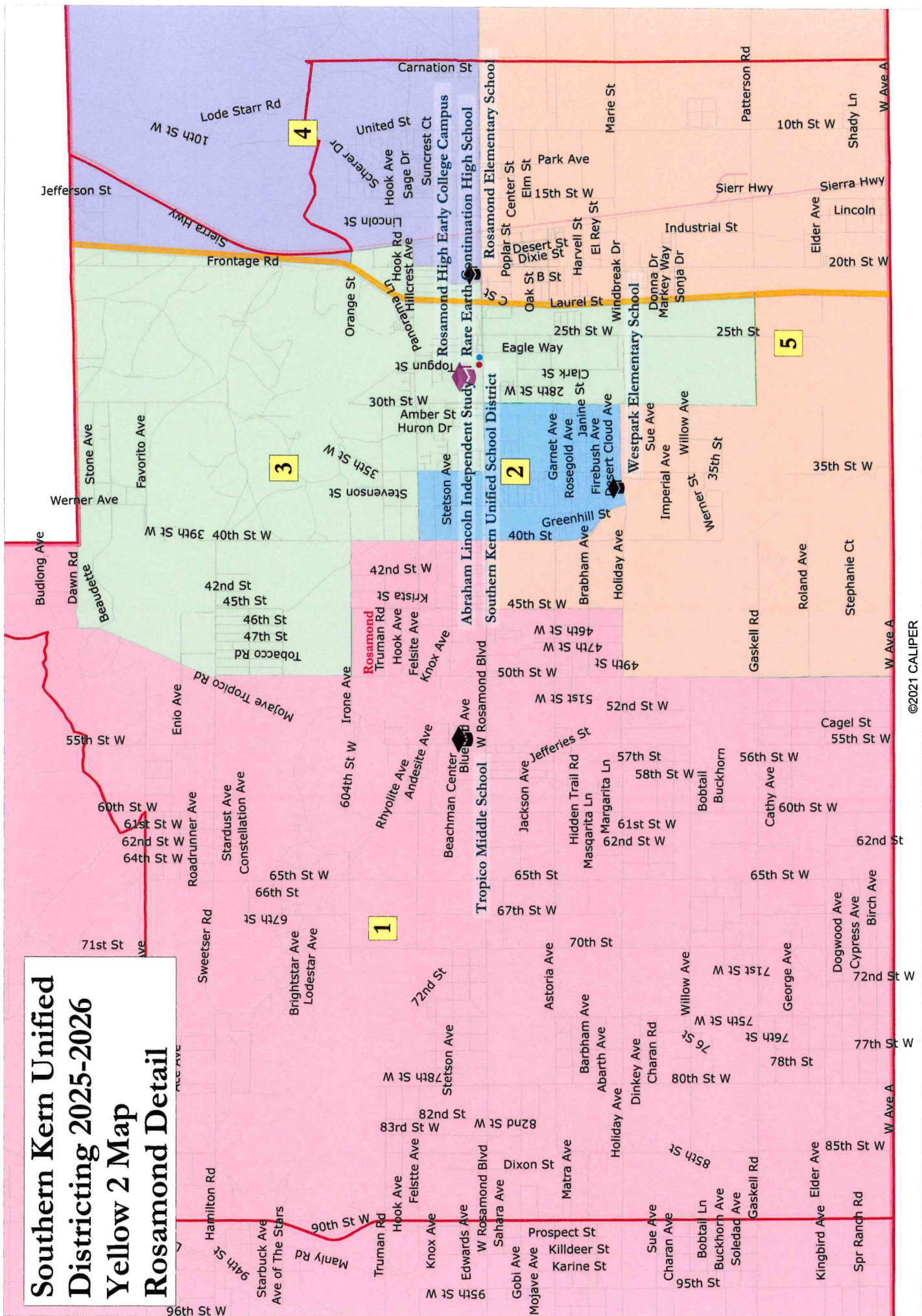
EXHIBIT “A”

**MAP AND DEMOGRAPHICS OF
FINAL, ADOPTED TRUSTEE AREA PLAN**

**Southern Kern Unified School District
Districting 2025-2026
Yellow 2 Map**



Southern Kern Unified Districting 2025-2026 Yellow 2 Map Rosamond Detail



NDC Yellow 2 Map							
District		1	2	3	4	5	Total
	Total Pop	4,375	4,438	4,374	4,399	4,515	22,101
	Deviation from ideal	-45	18	-46	-21	95	141
	% Deviation	-1.02%	0.41%	-1.04%	-0.48%	2.15%	3.19%
Total Pop	% Hisp	38.5%	35%	40%	49%	49%	43%
	% NH White	51%	41%	40%	29%	30%	38%
	% NH Black	4%	12%	8%	13%	16%	11%
	% Asian-American	1%	7%	5%	4%	2%	4%
Citizen Voting Age Pop	Total	2,781	3,200	3,338	3,098	1,826	14,242
	% Hisp	32%	33%	48%	51%	28%	40%
	% NH White	59%	46%	40%	35%	38%	44%
	% NH Black	4%	12%	6%	11%	29%	11%
	% Asian/Pac.Isl.	2%	8%	5%	1%	3%	4%
Voter Registration (Nov 2022)	Total	2,421	2,711	2,716	2,071	1,776	11,695
	% Latino est.	27%	34%	33%	40%	38%	34%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	24%	30%	30%	36%	34%	31%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	0%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	% NH White est.	62%	51%	58%	49%	46%	54%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2022)	Total	1,152	1,194	1,110	686	662	4,804
	% Latino est.	15%	25%	21%	28%	27%	22%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	13%	23%	19%	25%	24%	20%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	0%	2%	1%	0%	1%	1%
	% NH White est.	72%	58%	68%	60%	55%	63%
Voter Turnout (Nov 2020)	Total	1,806	1,876	1,895	1,442	991	8,010
	% Latino est.	19%	26%	24%	31%	31%	26%
	% Spanish-Surnamed	19%	24%	23%	29%	30%	24%
	% Asian-Surnamed	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% Filipino-Surnamed	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	% NH White est.	70%	61%	64%	55%	52%	61%
ACS Pop. Est.	Total	4,399	4,931	4,734	5,043	3,111	22,219
	age0-19	33%	35%	30%	34%	37%	34%
	age20-60	46%	52%	52%	48%	45%	49%
	age60plus	21%	14%	18%	18%	18%	18%
	immigrants	17%	12%	11%	9%	17%	13%
	naturalized	49%	72%	66%	46%	57%	58%
Language spoken at home	english	58%	75%	73%	61%	72%	68%
	spanish	36%	17%	23%	38%	28%	28%
	asian-lang	1%	5%	2%	0%	1%	2%
	other lang	6%	3%	1%	1%	0%	2%
Language Fluency	Speaks Eng. "Less than Very Well"	15%	6%	8%	16%	10%	11%
Education (among those age 25+)	hs-grad	64%	66%	73%	72%	59%	68%
	bachelor	11%	18%	8%	8%	13%	11%
	graduatedegree	7%	9%	5%	3%	4%	6%
Child in Household	child-under18	45%	45%	46%	49%	38%	45%
Pct of Pop. Age 16+	employed	49%	59%	57%	50%	38%	52%
Household Income	income 0-25k	32%	6%	11%	10%	46%	20%
	income 25-50k	13%	12%	10%	19%	16%	14%
	income 50-75k	18%	11%	14%	20%	12%	15%
	income 75-200k	29%	56%	54%	46%	22%	42%
	income 200k-plus	9%	15%	11%	5%	3%	9%
Housing Stats	single family	98%	100%	92%	94%	63%	90%
	multi-family	2%	0%	8%	6%	37%	10%
	rented	18%	11%	21%	18%	53%	23%
	owned	82%	89%	79%	82%	47%	77%
Total population data from the 2020 California Adjustment to the Decennial Census.							
Surname-based Voter Registration and Turnout data from the California Statewide Database.							
Latino voter registration and turnout data are Spanish-surname counts adjusted using Census Population Department undercount estimates. NH White and NH Black registration and turnout counts estimated by NDC. Citizen Voting Age Pop., Age, Immigration, and other demographics from the 2019-2023 American Community Survey and Special Tabulation 5-year data.							