



## SmartFabric Release Notes

### Version 20240415



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## Overview

The purpose of this document is to provide additional information regarding the April 2024 release of LightBox's SmartFabric data. This release contains data content updates, data coverage expansions and bug fixes. If any questions arise, please contact support by emailing [support-dmp@lightboxre.com](mailto:support-dmp@lightboxre.com) with any questions.

## New Data and Data Updates

One focus for this release was on content update, especially on parcel coverage expansion. We expanded our parcel data coverage for 19 counties compared to the last release. In addition to these counties now having parcels, the presence of parcels will also influence the positioning of our Address locations which means that more addresses will become rooftop accurate in these counties.

Our parcel coverage has expanded for the below 19 counties in this release.

FIPS	County Name	State Code
02013	ALEUTIANS EAST	AK
02050	BETHEL	AK
02060	BRISTOL BAY	AK
02066	COPPER RIVER	AK
02068	DENALI	AK
02105	HOONAH-ANGOON CENSUS AREA	AK
02158	KUSILVAK	AK
02164	LAKE AND PENINSULA	AK
02188	NORTHWEST ARCTIC	AK
02198	PRINCE OF WALES-HYDER	AK
08011	BENT	CO
08053	HINSDALE	CO
08061	KIOWA	CO
08121	WASHINGTON	CO
21165	MENIFEE	KY
26131	ONTONAGON	MI
35003	CATRON	NM
35037	QUAY	NM
48083	COLEMAN	TX

The spreadsheet [SmartFabric\\_Statistics\\_20240415.xlsx](#) contains important statistics details of this release. This spreadsheet include:

- Overview – a description of each tab similar to the below, for ease of use.



- Summary Statistics – a tool to generate summary statistics for national, and any state level or county level geographies.
- County Statistics – contains raw data by county that can be used for analysis and filtering.
- Update Counties – a listing of counties with significant updates in this release. **\*Please see below on how to use this list for important information.**

## How to use the Update Counties sheet

This new addition to our SmartFabric Statistics sheet contains information for each county as to which spatial layers has significant updates in this release. Each is noted with “Yes” or “No”, apart from our parcels which also contains a “New” category. This is to represent counties which LightBox did not previously have parcel coverage for and in this release, we do.

There are instances where a layer for one county is not flagged as updated in the Updated Counties sheet, but you still see changes in the data. This is because all data layers in SmartFabric are connected. Changes in one layer can trigger changes in connected layers. Please refer to our methodology for more details.

There may be instances where a county has been updated, but significant changes within the data are not seen. This can occur in counties where the previous version of source data that LightBox had was up to date, and the update that was done ensures that we have the most up to date data.

## High level updates

- Parcels - We refreshed parcel data for 890 counties and expanded our coverage to 18 additional counties in this release.
- Assessments - We refreshed assessor data for 784 counties in this release.
- Ownership data – We updated ownership data in assessments for 2617 counties with the latest sales transactions.
- Addresses – We have made statewide improvements to TX and NY addressing. In addition, there are over 30 new address sources from cities in CA, FL, ID, IL, MD, MI, MN, NE, NC, OH, OR, PA and WA.

## Known Issues

- Parcel Coverage – There 5 counties that we don’t have parcel coverage for. These counties are currently being sourced and updates can be expected in our next and future releases.

FIPS	County Name	State Code
08025	CROWLEY	CO
35033	MORA	NM
22065	MADISON	LA
22091	ST. HELENA	LA
22127	WINN	LA



- Street Parcels – Our parcel QA currently doesn't check for street parcels which are delivered to us from our sources with accurate APNs. This is something our teams are investigating to ensure our parcels accurately reflect that of our sources without sacrificing ease of use.
- AK Assessment data –This release, the following 7 Alaska counties have a significant decrease in assessment record count. This is because that the previous assessment records were fabricated from deed by the assessors and were not reliable. Last year these assessors created the real assessment database. Thus, the decrease is a result of higher quality data that is being provided.

FIPS	Census Area	Number of Assessment Records
02013	Aleutians East	888
02050	Bethel	1735
02068	Denali	339
02164	Lake and Peninsula	1200
02188	Northwest Arctic	692
02240	Southeast Fairbanks	1224
02290	Yukon-Koyukuk	3565

- Building footprint gaps – Our engineering teams have been developing a system to be able to target specific neighborhoods where they have signals that building footprints exist, but are not currently in our database. This is now being implemented and is highlighting specific areas where significant developments to our building footprints can be made. Counties that these gaps have been identified in will be found in the Updated Counties tab of the SmartFabric Statistics sheet.
- Building Footprint Height Accuracy – Our teams have been made aware of significant overstatements in our height data and are currently testing methods to give more accurate height information. Updates can be expected in future releases.
- Empty value in 'COUNTY' field in Assessment table - Our teams have been made aware of counties with no value in 'county' field in Assessment table. This issue is impacting 16 counties listed below and will be fixed in next release.

FIPS	County Name	State Code
02063	CHUGACH	AK
02066	COPPER RIVER	AK
02105	HOONAH-ANGOON	AK
02158	KUSILVAK	AK
02195	PETERSBURG	AK



02198	PRINCE OF WALES-HYDER	AK
02230	SKAGWAY	AK
02275	WRANGELL	AK
46102	OGLALA LAKOTA	SD
66010	GUAM	GU
69100	ROTA	MP
69110	SAIPAN	MP
69120	TINIAN	MP
78010	ST. CROIX	VI
78020	ST. JOHN	VI
78030	ST. THOMAS	VI

## Updating and making use of the April 2024 release

For existing clients of LightBox's SmartFabric there is the question of how you best make use of the new data. In any update of the data there are numerous things that can change, below are a few examples:

- Parcel/Building polygon changes - new parcels/buildings, deleted parcels/buildings, reshaped parcels/buildings.
- Building grouping changes – the relationship between buildings can change, for example what once was a 2-polygon region object with one address may become 2 single polygon regions each with its own address.
- Primary Address changes – an address may see a significant change as we improve the addressing (from no address to an address, or 10 Smith St to 12 Smith St), or may see an improvement in the hygiene of the address (from a ZIP5 to a full ZIP+4).
- Secondary Address changes – the numbers and details of secondary address and secondary unit information may change – adds, deletes and modifies.
- Unique Identifiers – all unique IDs (both ID and ObjectID fields) are subject to change.
- Removal of PO Boxes coming from the USPS ZIP+4 data lead to a decrease in secondary address numbers in certain locations but an increase in data quality.

There are several strategies that you can use. In each, an understanding of LightBox's LID structure and relationships is key. Please see our [LID FAQ](#) and [Relationship FAQ](#) for more information on each of these.

## Comprehensive Use of New Data

Upload the new data into your production or operational environment and discontinue using the previous version of data. This is a good strategy if you do not perform any value add or improvements on the data (i.e. you have no work that you want to preserve).



Our general recommendation is to always make use of the entire new release of data, or at least an entire state. For example, if Kansas' coverage is significantly improved, drop the prior version's Kansas data and upload the new data for Kansas.

You may wish to assess the significance of an update versus the work involved. For example, new coverage for any given state may consist of mostly rural areas. If these counties are of less importance for your business, you may want to skip utilizing new data for various states for the current release. It is also important to check the updated counties list, though, as updates to counties with high population counts tilt your decision in favor of updating an entire state.

## Uploading Just "The Deltas"

We hear and use the term "The Deltas" to refer to any change or additions in coverage. Specifically, we would only recommend uploading "The Deltas" as new or updated coverage for entire counties. What we do not recommend is to try to blend coverage between releases or to only update partial counties. It is important to note that there will be changes in a county that are not listed in the Updated Counties sheet. This occurs specifically in the addresses and relationship files as in addition to the local sourcing completed and noted in our SmartFabric Statistics sheet, each quarter we bring in nationwide address sources and run all addresses through our address standardization. We also re-establish all relationships in our 6 relation files to reflect updates and enhancements to our matching logic.

It is possible to use the "Updated Counties" tab in the "SmartFabric\_Statistics" sheet to identify new counties of coverage. Extract only the features with the County FIPS code for a county with new coverage. Then insert only those records into your tables from the prior release. For example, if you want to add in coverage for New Castle, Delaware you can add in the entire DE\*. files. If you want to add in coverage for the city of Fort Smith in AR then you then you can select records with FIPS 05137 and insert those records into your prior release.

## Next release

Our next release will be the July 2024 vintage data. In this next release we will continue to make advances on our parcel and building footprint coverage. There will be notable advances made on the development and enhancement of our building footprint height data.