



## SmartFabric Release Notes

### Version 20240715



Table of Contents

**Overview** ..... 3

**New Data and Data Updates** ..... 3

    How to Use the Update Counties Sheet ..... 4

    High Level Updates ..... 4

**Known Issues** ..... 4

**Updating and Making Use of the 20240715 Release** ..... 6

    Comprehensive Use of New Data ..... 7

    Uploading Just “The Deltas” ..... 7

**Zoning Data** ..... 8

**Business Listing Data** ..... 8

**Next and Future Releases** ..... 8

    Important Upcoming Changes ..... 8



## Overview

The purpose of this document is to provide additional information regarding the 20240715 version 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.

We provide following documentation along with this release note:

- 1) DataDictionary – For understanding the definition of our data fields.
- 2) ERD – For understanding the entity relationship between all data layers. This is a helpful tool for enabling connectivity between different tables.
- 3) SmartFabric\_FillRateReport\_CountyLevel – For understanding counts and population rate of each field for each of the data layers, grouped by County.
- 4) SmartFabric\_RecordCount – For understanding total records for all our data layers, grouped by States and Counties.
- 5) SmartFabric\_Statistics – For important high-level statistics on this quarter data release.
- 6) SmartFabric\_VintageReport – For understanding latest refresh dates of our data.

## New Data and Data Updates

One focus for this release was on content update, especially on completing nationwide parcel coverage. We expanded our parcel data coverage for 5 additional counties compared to the last release. In addition to these counties now having parcels, the presence of parcels will also significantly enhance the precision of our address locations, the accuracy of Assessment point locations, and the connectivity between parcels and all other datasets.

Our parcel coverage has expanded for the below 5 counties in this release.

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

The spreadsheet SmartFabric\_Statistics\_20240715.xlsx contains important statistics details of this release. This spreadsheet include:

- Overview – a description of each tab like 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 provides county-level information detailing which spatial layers have undergone significant updates in this release. Each is noted with “Yes” or “No”, flag. ‘Parcel Update’ column also contains a “New” category that represents 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 already recent, and the update ensures we have the most up to date data.

## High Level Updates

- Parcels - We refreshed parcel data for 1059 counties and expanded our coverage to 5 additional counties in this release.
- Assessments - We refreshed assessor data for 1129 counties in this release.
- Ownership data – We updated ownership data in assessments for 2518 counties with the latest sales transactions.
- Addresses – We have made statewide local source refreshes to AK, WY, WV, AR, ME, IL, DE, and WA. In addition, there are over 20 County level updates in ND, CA, AZ, FL, OH, PA and CO.
- Buildings – We have updated building footprints for 17 Counties in IA, NC, OH, OK, SC, TN, TX and WI.

## Known Issues

- Street Parcels – Our current product design is to keep street parcels which are delivered to us from our sources as is. There is a roadmap item to add a flag field to the parcel data which will help client to identify Right-Of-Way (ROW) parcels with ease. Please see ‘Important Upcoming Changes’ section for the upcoming schema change.



- Address data record count drop – For 23 Counties listed below, address point count dropped by 10% as we improved our address standardization process and deleted inaccurate data points.

FIPS	County Name	State Code
01029	Cleburne	AL
01079	Lawrence	AL
01111	Randolph	AL
05037	Cross	AR
05077	Lee	AR
08009	Baca	CO
08025	Crowley	CO
08061	Kiowa	CO
21235	Whitley	KY
28015	Carroll	MS
29179	Reynolds	MO
32009	Esmeralda	NV
37015	Bertie	NC
38085	Sioux	ND
45033	Dillon	SC
46107	Potter	SD
48235	Irion	TX
48443	Terrell	TX
54007	Braxton	WV
54047	McDowell	WV
54105	Wirt	WV
55078	Menominee	WI
78030	Saint Thomas Island	VI

- Building footprint gaps – We have developed a system to be able to target specific neighborhoods where we have signals that building footprints exist but are not currently in our database. Each quarter we are targeting these specific areas and making significant addition to our building footprints data. Counties that these gaps have been identified and updated will be found in the Updated Counties tab of the SmartFabric Statistics sheet.
- Building Footprint Height Accuracy – We are constantly refining our process for accurately modeling buildings heights. For this release, we have updated building heights for 1175 counties.



- The empty value in 'COUNTY' field in Assessment table is fixed for the below 16 counties. We have incorporated QA for this issue which prevents it from happening in future releases.

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 20240715 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 (through addition, deletion and modification).
- Unique Identifiers – all unique IDs (both LID 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 may 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. We do not recommend blending coverage between releases or to only update partial counties. It is important to note that there will be changes in a county even though that are not listed as such 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 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.



## Zoning Data

This release of zoning data provides zoning information for 78 million unique parcels.

At jurisdiction level, this release provides zoning information for 10,869 jurisdictions (including counties, county subdivisions & places but excluding those with 'No' zoning). The breakdown based on coverage type is:

- Yes: LightBox has zoning data for this jurisdiction – 5,789 jurisdictions
- Partial: LightBox has zoning data for part of this jurisdiction. - 4,331 jurisdictions
- Unzoned: LightBox confirmed that this jurisdiction has no zoning governance – 749 jurisdictions

The breakdown based on jurisdiction type is:

- County – 1603 (374 Unzoned)
- County Subdivision - 2955 (189 Unzoned)
- City – 6311 (186 Unzoned)

The coverage expansion for this release focuses on the states of WV, IA and DE.

Please refer to [ZoningCoverageMap\\_20240715.pdf](#) for detailed zoning coverage.

## Business Listing Data

- The 'BUSINESSLIST\_ID' field in Business List Add-on now has a leading zero.

## Next and Future Releases

Our next release will be the October 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.

## Important Upcoming Changes

### Planned Schema Changes

#### 1. Addition of PARCEL\_LID to the Assessment Table

We plan to add a new field, PARCEL\_LID, to the assessment table for SmartFabric Professional and Core packages. This field will enable a direct join from the parcel table to the assessment table, facilitating more efficient data connections. PARCEL\_LID will be added to the end of the assessment table's attribution.

#### 2. Introduction of ROW\_FLAG to the Parcel Table

We are introducing a new field named ROW\_FLAG (subject to change) in the parcel table of our database schema. This field will serve as a flag to indicate if a parcel is a non-real property, carrying a category code for types like Right-of-Way. The purpose of this field is to help clients





easily remove non-real properties from their processes, particularly for those who consider non-real properties as noise in their use cases.

- **Planned FIPS Code Change in Connecticut**

The U.S. Census has defined a new geographic "Planning Region" FIPS for the State of Connecticut and will use these new codes as County FIPS in future reporting. LightBox has reviewed this change and determined that we should update to the new Planning Region FIPS for Connecticut to benefit our clients.

For more information on the Connecticut FIPS changes, please review the following links:

[Final Changes to County Equivalents in Connecticut \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/2020census/data/changes-to-county-equivalents-in-connecticut)

[Federal Register: Change to County-Equivalents in the State of Connecticut](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/01/2020-10840/change-to-county-equivalents-in-the-state-of-connecticut)

These changes may impact your current ETL process. Please reach out to your Customer Success Manager or our support team at support-dmp@lightboxre.com with any questions or concerns.