ORGANIZATION OF ZONED DBN

Overview

The Zoned DBN dataset provides zip codes, census tracts, and school zones for elementary, middle and high school for students based on the address provided to the NYC DOE. The data are stored in comma separated value files (.csv) with a separate file for each school year.

In the file for each year, there is one record per student. Each student has a unique, nine-digit, non-identifiable student identification number. Although the student id numbers are non-identifiable, they are linked across years.

Universe of students included in dataset

With the exception of charter schools, there is a record for every student in the Audited Register dataset (students active as of 10/31 of the given school year).

Due to changes to the processing of pre-K student registration in 2019-20, approximately 2,000 pre-K students in the Audited Register are not included in the Zoned DBN dataset.

Pertinent information about Zoned DBN data

Location information and school zone data are based on student addresses' as of Oct. 31 of the given school year.

Beginning in the 2012-13, zoned DBN data, can be assigned to multiple schools or no schools. This will result in zoned_elm_dbn, zoned_mid_dbn and zoned_hs_dbn values which do not look like traditional DBNs. Instead, values will be six-character codes which match to a particular DBN or set of DBNs that an address may be assigned to. RPSG has a crosswalk which converts these non-DBN values into real DBNs or a description of the location (see **Appendix 1**).

• Note: When using the DBN crosswalk, please note that some reported addresses are not associated with a residence, rather they are addresses of businesses or some public space (e.g. an airport or park).

Example File Name: "2010-11_zonedDBN_ALL_Scrambled.csv"

FIELD	DATA TYPE	FIELD DESCRIPTION	VALID VALUES
student_id_scram	Numeric	Non-personally identifiable student tracking number. Note: To ensure that all student IDs are 9 digits, import the variable as test to keep leading zeroes.	Nine-digit integer.
dbn	String	The school code represented as a concatenation of the school district (D), school borough (B) and school number (N).	Alphanumeric in the format 'DDBNNN'.
grade_level	String	The student's grade level.	Two-character code indicating the student's grade level. For grade level values, see Appendix 1.
res_zip_cde	Numeric	Student's home zip code.	Five-digit integer.
zoned_elm_dbn	String	Based on the geo-located coordinates of the student's home address, the student would be assigned to this elementary school (grades K-5).	Six character alphanumeric code.
zoned_mid_dbn	String	Based on the geo-located coordinates of the student's home address, the student would be assigned to this middle school (grades 6-8).	Six character alphanumeric code.
zoned_hs_dbn	String	Based on the geo-located coordinates of the student's home address, the student would be assigned to this high school (grades 6-8).	Six character alphanumeric code.
census_tract	Numeric	NYC-designated geographic entities within NYC counties that are used to collect and organize census data based on the student's address. The value is calculated in a batch program.	Numeric value.
res_boro	String	The borough designation for the student's address.	One-letter borough code.
res_district	Numeric	The district in which the student resides.	Two-digit integer or NULL.