



ATIS-0300070

Guidelines for the Administration of Telephone Numbers

Issued with an administrative update.

October 23, 2020

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For ordering information, please contact:

ATIS
1200 G Street N.W., Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 628-6380
inc@atis.org

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The Industry Numbering Committee (INC) provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of North American Numbering Plan (NANP) numbering resources within the NANP area.

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The Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) serves the public through improved understanding between carriers, customers, and manufacturers. The Industry Numbering Committee provides an open forum to address and resolve industry-wide issues associated with planning, administration, allocation, assignment and use of the North American Numbering Plan (NANP) numbering resources within the NANP area.

The mandatory requirements are designated by the word *shall* and recommendations by the word *should*. Where both a mandatory requirement and a recommendation are specified for the same criterion, the recommendation represents a goal currently identifiable as having distinct compatibility or performance advantages. The word *may* denotes a optional capability that could augment the standard. The standard is fully functional without the incorporation of this optional capability.

Suggestions for improvement of this document are welcome. They should be sent to the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, INC, 1200 G Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005.

At the time of consensus on this document, INC, which was responsible for its development, had the following leadership:

Dyan Adams, Verizon

Allyson Blevins, Charter Communications

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ATIS Standard on –

Guidelines for the Administration of Telephone Numbers

1 Telephone Number Administration

Telephone numbers are North American Numbering Plan (NANP) resources that are considered a public resource and are not owned by the assignees. Consequently, the resources cannot be sold, brokered, bartered, or leased by the assignee for a fee or other consideration. The NANP Resources assigned in this guideline are expected to be used in conformance with this guideline and the related ITU-T recommendations. Misuse of a resource either as defined in this guideline or as defined in ITU-T E.156 “Guidelines for ITU-T action on reported misuse of E.164 number resources” should be reported to the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA).

These guidelines identify Service Provider (SP) responsibilities with respect to individual telephone numbers in the 10-digit NANP number format (NPA-NXX-XXXX) within existing geographic central office (NXX) codes administered by the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) and thousands-blocks administered by the Pooling Administrator (PA).

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires carriers to maintain internal records of their numbering resources so as to be able to report on the following categories: 1) assigned, 2) intermediate, 3) reserved, 4) aging, 5) administrative, and 6) available. Carriers must also track the following subcategories of numbers: 1) soft dial tone numbers, 2) ported-out numbers, 3) dealer number pools, 4) test numbers, 5) employee official numbers, 6) location routing numbers, 7) temporary local directory numbers, and 8) Pseudo-Automatic Number Identification (p-ANI) numbers. All service providers shall maintain records of numbers used for intermittent purposes, or retained per the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act as separate additional subcategories as well. Records must be retained for five years.

This document contains guidelines for the administration of Aging Numbers, Reserved Numbers, Sequential Number Assignment, and Audits. See the Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) & Central Office Code (NPA-NXX) Administration Guidelines (TBCOCAG, ATIS-0300119) and the North American Numbering Plan Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast (NRUF) Reporting Guidelines (ATIS-0300068) for further information concerning NRUF reporting requirements.

It is assumed from a wireline perspective that CO Codes/blocks allocated to a wireline Service Provider are to be utilized to provide service to a customer’s premise located in the same rate center that the CO Codes/blocks are assigned. Exceptions exist, for example tariffed services such as foreign exchange service.

2 Aging Numbers

2.1 Purpose and Scope

This section identifies the SP’s administrative duties for the aging of disconnected telephone numbers.

The use of standardized aging processes and intervals promotes the efficient management of disconnected telephone numbers. Several issues were considered during the development of these guidelines, including providing subscribers specific announcement treatment, local/state government regulations, numbers with higher call volumes (time/temperature, ticket agents, etc.), and SPs’ administrative requirements.

Because of the potential negative impact on subscribers who may be reassigned telephone numbers that are not adequately aged, as well as the potentially inefficient use of numbering resources if numbers are aged too long, the promulgation of rules and determination of appropriate penalties might be warranted to ensure SP compliance with these aging guidelines.

The telephone numbers to which the definition of aging will apply are those numbers in the 10-digit NANP number format (NPA-NXX-XXXX) within existing geographic central office (NXX) codes that are available for assignment to subscriber access lines or their equivalents within a switching entity/point of interconnection (POI).

2.2 Definition of Aging and Aging Numbers

Aging is the process of making a disconnected telephone number unavailable for reassignment to another subscriber for a specified period of time. Aging numbers are disconnected numbers that are not available for assignment to another end user or customer for a specified period of time. Numbers previously assigned to residential customers may be aged for no less than 45 days and no more than 90 days. Numbers previously assigned to business customers may be aged for no less than 45 days and no more than 365 days. An aging interval includes any specific announcement treatment period as well as the vacant telephone number intercept period. A number is disconnected when it is no longer used to route calls to equipment owned or leased by the disconnecting subscriber of record.

2.3 Purpose of Aging

The primary purposes of aging are:

1. To minimize misdirected calls intended for the previous subscriber when the telephone number has been reassigned to a new subscriber.
2. To allow SPs to offer their disconnecting subscribers specific announcement treatment—i.e., referral to a new telephone number.
3. To enable the disconnecting subscriber to reconnect service, using the same telephone number and service provider during the aging period.
4. To provide SPs time to fulfill their administrative requirements—e.g., billing cycle completion, 911 reconciliation.

2.4 Aging Principles

- 2.4.1 The disconnected subscriber's service provider shall be responsible for aging and call treatment (e.g., specific announcement treatment, vacant number announcement, etc.). If the disconnected telephone

number has been ported, the network SP shall notify the Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC) of the disconnect.¹

- 2.4.2 SPs shall treat subscriber specific information (e.g., name, number, disconnect date, and type of service) as confidential and only make such information accessible to a neutral, third party administrator as required in the performance of the administrator's responsibilities.
- 2.4.3 The aging interval begins on the date that the telephone number is disconnected.
- 2.4.4 Once the disconnecting SP has initiated the aging process for a telephone number, the SP should not modify the aging interval unless requested by the disconnected subscriber.
- 2.4.5 A SP should not reassign a telephone number that is being aged, except to reassign the telephone number to the same subscriber who originally disconnected the telephone number and is reconnecting service with the disconnecting SP.
- 2.4.6 Aging intervals of disconnected telephone numbers are applicable to all SPs.
- 2.4.7 Telephone numbers that are being aged shall not be made available for reservation to any SP or subscriber, unless reserved for the same subscriber who originally disconnected the telephone number.
- 2.4.8 For a ported number, the disconnecting SP will not necessarily be the SP reassigning the disconnected ported telephone number, because the disconnected ported telephone number will be snapped back to either the code holder for non-pooled telephone numbers or the block holder for pooled telephone numbers.
- 2.4.9 An SP shall consistently apply aging intervals as outlined in Section 2.5 without regard to whether the disconnected telephone number has been ported.
- 2.4.10 Aging number guidelines also apply to SPs or other non-carrier entities making use of telephone numbers for their end users from another SP's inventory (e.g. resellers, Type 1 interconnection for CMRS carriers).
- 2.4.11 Starting July 27, 2020², a SP shall retain accurate and complete records associated with the permanent disconnection³ of their subscribers.

2.5 Aging Intervals

The following are the aging intervals for disconnected telephone numbers for all service providers.

1. Residential Telephone Numbers – A minimum of 45 days and a maximum of 90 days from the subscriber-specified date of disconnect.⁴
2. Business Telephone Number – A minimum of 45 days and a maximum of 365 days from the subscriber-specified date of disconnect.⁵

In the interest of maintaining uniformity of definitions and reporting requirements, the states are not allowed to modify aging limits.⁶

When SPs determine internal aging intervals consistent with the FCC's required minimums and maximums, consideration should be given to possible consequences, such as impacts to customer dialing and the billing support operations of interconnected carriers.

¹ See the North American Numbering Council's (NANC) "Inter-service Provider LNP Operations Flows", adopted and required by the FCC in FCC 10-85. The latest version of this document can be downloaded at: www.numberportability.com.

² Per FCC Public Notice DA 20-706, released July 2, 2020, available at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-20-706A1.pdf>.

³ See Glossary.

⁴ 47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (ii).

⁵ 47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (ii).

⁶ FCC 00-104 ¶ 29.

2.6 Aging and Snapback Administration Process for Ported Telephone Numbers

The administration processes developed for aging disconnected ported telephone numbers are based on existing local number portability (LNP) operation flows.⁷

The following are duties to be performed by SPs, telephone number administrators, and the NPAC as a sequential process flow for disconnecting ported telephone numbers and making them available for reassignment.

1. Subscriber initiates disconnect, identifying the desired date of disconnect and whether any specific announcement treatment is desired.
2. Current SP arranges specific announcement treatment if necessary and creates/processes a service order notifying the NPAC of the Disconnect Date and the Effective Release Date of the disconnected ported telephone number. The disconnect date signals the beginning of the aging interval.
3. Prior to the Effective Release Date, if the subscriber desires to reconnect telephone service using the same telephone number, the subscriber must contact the disconnecting SP to re-establish service.

The disconnecting SP then initiates/processes a service order to notify the NPAC of the intent to re-establish service for the ported number.

4. On the Effective Release Date, the NPAC notifies the code holder/block holder of the disconnected telephone number and its corresponding effective release and disconnect dates, i.e., telephone number snaps back to code holder/block holder. If no Effective Release Date is provided to the NPAC by the SP, the NPAC, upon receipt of the SP's disconnect request, immediately snaps back the number to the code holder/block holder. The code holder/block holder should then determine if the number needs to be aged before being reassigned.
5. The NPAC then broadcasts a "subscription deletion" message to all applicable SPs and deletes the telephone number(s) from its active database.
6. The code holder/block holder of the disconnected number then makes the aged telephone number available for reassignment.

3 Reserved Numbers

3.1 Purpose and Scope

This section identifies SP responsibilities with regard to reserving telephone numbers for end users.

A fundamental purpose for guidelines on reserving telephone numbers is that limiting the period for telephone number reservations in a systematic, reasonable manner balances the legitimate needs of end users to reserve numbers with the industry's need to use numbering resources more efficiently.

3.2 Definition of Reserved Numbers

Reserved numbers are numbers that are held by service providers at the request of specific end users or customers for their future use. Numbers held for specific end users or customers for more than 180 days shall not be classified as reserved numbers.⁸

Attributes of reserved numbers are as follows:

1. A reserved number is a non-working number.

⁷ See NANC's "Inter-service Provider LNP Operations Flows", adopted and required by the FCC in FCC 10-85. The latest version of this document can be downloaded at: www.numberportability.com.

⁸ 47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (vi).

2. A reserved number has been set aside by an SP at the request of a specific end-user customer for that customer's future use.
3. The reserved status of a telephone number is reflected in the telephone number administration system of the SP in whose inventory the numbers are being reserved.
4. The name of the party requesting the reservation is in the SP's administration system.
5. The end user is aware of the reservation of numbers.
6. A reserved number has restrictions with respect to timeframe.
7. Numbers reserved by an SP on behalf of a customer may be ported where number portability is available and where any portion of the associated working numbers have been or will be ported from that SP.⁹

3.3 Assumptions and Constraints

- 3.3.1 A reserved number is portable where portability is applicable and the reserved number is associated with working numbers. An end user determines which, if any, of the reserved numbers will be ported. If all working numbers are ported, any remaining reserved numbers that the end user chooses not to port, shall be returned to the "available" category.
- 3.3.2 Limits on reserved number intervals will not differentiate by type of end user.
- 3.3.3 Reserved number guidelines apply equally to all SPs.
- 3.3.4 Reserved number guidelines also apply to SPs and non-carrier entities making use of telephone numbers for their end users from another SP's inventory (e.g., resellers, Type 1 interconnection for CMRS carriers).
- 3.3.5 The original reservation interval limitation established for given end users shall continue uninterrupted if or when the end user changes service providers.
- 3.3.6 Companies shall not charge for reservations as a revenue source, but can recover administrative costs.
- 3.3.7 Number reservations shall not be used for the purpose of hoarding or warehousing numbering resources.
- 3.3.8 Numbers used for intermittent or cyclical purposes should not be categorized as reserved numbers for NRUF reporting purposes. To the extent that these numbers are "working," they would be categorized as assigned numbers.¹⁰
- 3.3.9 Numbers held for military servicemembers to comply with the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act¹¹ should not be categorized as reserved numbers for NRUF reporting purposes. These numbers shall be categorized as assigned numbers for NRUF reporting purposes.

3.4 Intervals for Reserved Numbers

Telephone numbers may be reserved for up to 180 days.¹² After the 180-day reservation period, these numbers shall be categorized as available numbers if they have not been assigned to customers or end users.

⁹ FCC 99-122, ¶ 46.

¹⁰ FCC 01-362, ¶ 120.

¹¹ The Veterans Benefits Act of 2010 was signed into law on October 13, 2010, increasing the scope of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act signed into law in 2003.

¹² 47 CFR § 52.15 (f)(1)(vi).

4 Sequential Number Assignment

4.1 Purpose and Scope

This section identifies SP responsibilities with respect to sequential number assignment.

A primary purpose for sequential number assignment is to improve SP efficiency in utilizing numbering resources, while maintaining SP flexibility in meeting customer demand. These guidelines address this responsibility in a manner that balances the legitimate needs of specific customer requests with the industry's increasing need to use numbering resources more efficiently.

4.2 Definition of Sequential Number Assignment

Sequential Number Assignment is an FCC mandate which requires all SPs to first assign all available telephone numbers within an opened thousands-block before opening another thousands-block, unless the available numbers in the opened thousands-block are not sufficient to meet a customer request. This requirement shall apply to SPs' existing numbering resources as well as any new numbering resources obtained in the future.

It follows from this definition that, under this requirement, an SP that opens a uncontaminated thousands-block prior to utilizing in its entirety a previously-opened thousands-block should be prepared to demonstrate the following exceptions to the state commission: (1) a genuine request from a customer detailing the specific need for telephone numbers; (2) The SP's inability to meet the specific customer request for telephone numbers from the available numbers within the service provider's opened thousands-blocks. The above exceptions do not apply to individual vanity number requests.

Upon a finding by a state commission that an SP inappropriately assigned telephone numbers from an uncontaminated thousands-block, the NANPA or the PA shall suspend assignment or allocation of any additional numbering resources to that SP in the applicable NPA until the SP demonstrates that it does not have sufficient numbering resources to meet a specific customer request.

5 Audits

SPs and numbering resource administrators are responsible for managing numbering resources in accordance with these guidelines and the orders of applicable regulatory authorities. Both SPs and numbering resource administrators are subject to audits. Further information may be found in FCC 00-104 ¶ 62, FCC 00-429 ¶ 81-99, FCC 01-362 ¶ 95-111, and 47 CFR § 52.15 (k).

6 Glossary

For a list of common communications terms and definitions, please visit the *ATIS Telecom Glossary*, which is located at < <http://www.atis.org/glossary> >.

6.1 Definitions

Administrative Numbers: Administrative numbers are numbers used by telecommunications carriers to perform internal administrative or operational functions necessary to maintain reasonable quality of service standards (47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (i) and FCC 00-104, ¶ 36 and 62). Examples of administrative numbers are: Test numbers, employee/official numbers, Location Routing Numbers, Temporary Local Directory Numbers (TLDN), soft dial tone numbers and Pseudo-Automatic Number Identification (p-ANI) numbers.

Aging Numbers: Aging numbers are disconnected numbers that are not available for assignment to another end user or customer for a specified period of time. Numbers previously assigned to residential customers may be aged for no less than 45 days and no more than 90 days. Numbers previously assigned to business customers may be aged for no less than 45 days and no more than 365 calendar days (47 CFR §52.15 (f)(1)(ii)).

Assigned Numbers: Assigned numbers are numbers working in the PSTN under an agreement such as a contract or tariff at the request of specific end users or customers for their use, or numbers not yet working but having a customer service order pending. Numbers that are not yet working and have a service order pending for more than five days shall not be classified as assigned numbers (47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (iii)).

Auditee: The SP/NANPA/PA that is the subject of an audit.

Auditor: The FCC's Enforcement Bureau or its other designated agents perform audits of US numbering resources (47 CFR § 52.15 (k) (2)). State Commissions also may conduct audits. (FCC 01-362 ¶ 101) and may request "for cause" audits under the national auditing program (47 CFR § 52.15 (k) (3)).

Available Numbers: Available numbers are numbers that are available for assignment to subscriber access lines, or their equivalents, within a switching entity or point of interconnection and are not classified as assigned, intermediate, administrative, aging, or reserved (47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (iv)). Available numbers is a residual category that can be calculated by subtracting a sum of numbers in the assigned, reserved, intermediate, aged, and administrative primary categories from the total of numbers in the inventory of a code or block holder (FCC 00-104, ¶ 35).

Block Holder: The entity to which a thousands-block (NXX-X) has been assigned for use.

Code Holder: An assignee of a pooled or non-pooled central office code (NPA-NXX). A Code Holder is identified in the LERG™ Routing Guide as the NPA-NXX-A record holder. In the Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) & Central Office Code (NPA-NXX) Administration Guidelines (ATIS-0300119), the responsibilities of an assignee for a pooled NXX are defined in Section 8.2, and the responsibilities of an assignee for a non-pooled NXX are defined in Section 8.3.

Contamination: Contamination occurs when at least one telephone number within a thousands-block of telephone numbers is not available for assignment to end users or customers. Blocks contaminated up to and including 10 percent are eligible for donation. For purposes of this provision, a telephone number is "not available for assignment" if it is classified as administrative, aging, assigned, intermediate, or reserved as defined in FCC rules (47 CFR § 52.7 (h)).

Disconnect Date: The date specified by the end user that the telephone number is no longer associated between the end user and the current service provider. This date signals the beginning of the aging interval.

Disconnected Number: A number that is no longer used to route calls to equipment owned or leased by the disconnecting subscriber of record.

Effective Date: The date by which routing and rating changes within the PSTN must be complete for the assigned thousands-block or the assigned CO Code. Also, the date by which the thousands-block becomes an active block. (Also referred to as "the LERG effective date").

Effective Release Date: The date on which a disconnected ported telephone number reverts or "snaps" back to the Code Holder or Block Holder and when the NPAC's broadcast of the disconnect occurs.

Emergency Service Query Key (ESQK) (VoIP): The ESQK identifies an E911 call instance processed through a VoIP Positioning Center (VPC). An ESQK is associated with a particular PSAP or area within a PSAP. The ESQK is delivered to the PSAP as the calling number/ANI for the call, and is subsequently used by the PSAP to request ALI information for the call. The ALI database includes the ESQK in location requests sent to the VPC. The ESQK is used by the VPC as a key to look up the location object and other call information associated with an emergency call instance. The ESQK is a non-dialable North American Numbering Plan (NANP) number in the format of NPA-NXX-XXXX.

Emergency Services Routing Digit (ESRD) and Emergency Services Routing Key (ESRK) (Wireless): A 10-digit number used for the purpose of routing an E911 call to the appropriate Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) when that call is originating from wireless equipment. The Emergency Services Routing Digit (ESRD) identifies the cell site and sector of the call origination in a wireless call scenario. The Emergency Services Routing Key (ESRK) uniquely identifies the call in a given cell site/sector and correlates data that is provided to a PSAP by different paths, such as the voice path and the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) data path. Both the ESRD and ESRK define a route to the proper PSAP. The ESRK alone, or the ESRD and/or Mobile Identification Number (MIN), is signaled to the PSAP where it can be used to retrieve from the ALI database, the mobile caller's call-back number, position and the emergency service agencies (e.g., police, fire, medical, etc.) associated with the caller's location. If a NANP TN is used as an ESRD or ESRK, this number cannot be assigned to a customer. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.

In Service: A code or block for which local routing information appears in the LERG Routing Guide, and one or more telephone numbers within the NXX code or NXX-X block has been Assigned to an end user (FCC 00-104, ¶240). Numbers that are categorized as Administrative, Aging, Intermediate, Reserved, or Available cannot also be Assigned and do not satisfy the In Service requirement.

Interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Service Provider: An entity that provides interconnected VoIP service, as that term is defined in 47 U.S.C. § 153(25) (47 CFR § 52.5 (b)).

Interconnected VoIP providers are providers of a service that (1) enables real-time, two way voice communications, (2) requires a broadband connection from the user's location, (3) requires Internet protocol-compatible customer premises equipment, and (4) permits users generally to receive calls that originate on the public switched telephone network and to terminate calls to the public switched telephone network (47 CFR § 9.3).

Intermediate Numbers: Intermediate numbers are numbers that are made available for use by another telecommunications carrier or non-carrier entity for the purpose of providing telecommunications service to an end user or customer. Numbers ported for the purpose of transferring an established customer's service to another service provider shall not be classified as intermediate numbers (47 CFR §52.15 (f)(1)(v)). Numbers such as dealer number pools should be included as a subcategory of intermediate numbers (FCC 00-104 ¶ 36). An "intermediate" number is one that is made available to a carrier or non-carrier entity from another carrier, but has not necessarily been assigned to an end-user or customer by the receiving carrier or non-carrier entity (FCC 15-70 ¶30). Numbers provided to carriers, interconnected VoIP providers, or other non-carrier entities by numbering partners should be reported [on FCC Form 502, the NRUF Report] as "intermediate," and do not qualify as "end users" or "customers" (FCC 15-70, ¶32).

NANPA (North American Numbering Plan Administration): The NANPA is responsible for the neutral administration of NANP numbering resources, subject to directives from regulatory authorities in the NANP member countries (see also 47 CFR §52.7 (e)). The NANPA is an impartial non-governmental entity that is not aligned with any particular telecommunications industry segment.¹³ Under contract to the FCC, NANPA's responsibilities include assignment of NANP resources, and, in the U.S. and its territories, coordination of area code relief planning and collection of utilization and forecast data. See also 47 CFR §52.13.

Numbers Retained per the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: Numbers related to contracts terminated as provided by the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (as amended by the Veterans Benefit Act of 2010), which service providers have retained for re-subscription by the servicemember. These numbers shall be categorized as Assigned numbers. See also NRUF Guidelines.

See Title III, Section 302 of the Veterans Benefit Act of 2010 for further information:
< <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h111-3219> >.

Numbers Used for Intermittent Purposes: Numbers used for intermittent purposes are numbers designated for use by a particular customer that may be "working" in the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) periodically, but that remain designated for the customer's use even if they are not "working."

Numbers used for intermittent or cyclical purposes should not be categorized as reserved numbers for NRUF reporting purposes.

Numbers contained in blocks assigned for use in Centrex or PBX systems may be categorized as assigned numbers by reporting carriers, to the extent that fifty percent (50%) or more of such numbers are "working" at all times. Also, numbers "working" periodically for regular intervals of time, such as numbers assigned to summer homes or student residences, may be categorized as assigned numbers, to the extent that they are "working" for a minimum of 90 days during each calendar year in which they are assigned to a particular customer (FCC 01-362, ¶ 122). See also NRUF Guidelines.

Permanent Disconnection:

Occurs when a subscriber permanently has relinquished a number, or the provider permanently has reversed its assignment of the number to the subscriber such that the number has been disassociated with the subscriber for active service in the service provider's or Toll Free Administrator's records. Permanently disconnected numbers

¹³ Administration of the North American Numbering Plan, Report and Order, CC Docket No. 92-237, 11 FCC Rcd 2588, 2608 (1995) (NANP Order).

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therefore do not include instances where the phone number is still associated with the subscriber, such as when a subscriber's phone service has been disconnected temporarily for nonpayment of a bill or when a consumer ports a number to another provider. A ported number remains assigned to and associated with the same consumer even though a different provider serves the consumer after the number is ported (FCC 18-177, ¶38). See also 47 CFR §52.103 (d) and 47 CFR §64.1200 (l)(3)).

Pooling Administrator (PA): The term Pooling Administrator refers to the entity or entities responsible for administering a thousands-block number pool (47 CFR §52.7 (g)). The Pooling Administrator is responsible for the neutral administration of thousands-blocks from Central Office (CO) Codes in areas where thousands-block number pooling has been ordered or implemented. The PA is an impartial non-governmental entity that is not aligned with any particular telecommunications industry segment and is under contract to the FCC.

Pseudo-Automatic Number Identification (p-ANI): A 10-digit number used for the purpose of routing an E911 call to the appropriate Public Service Answering Point (PSAP). P-ANIs include but are not limited to: ESRD, ESRK, and ESQK numbers. If a NANP TN is used as a p-ANI, this number cannot be assigned to a customer. See "Administrative Numbers" definition.

Rate Center: Rate Center is used for numbering resource applications and reports to associate telephone numbers with a geographic area, as defined by the relevant regulatory agency. A Rate Center is also a uniquely defined point (Vertical & Horizontal Coordinates) located within an exchange area from which mileage measurements are determined. These measurements can be used with the tariffs in the message rating processes.

Reserved Number: Reserved numbers are numbers that are held by service providers at the request of specific end users or customers for their future use. Numbers held for specific end users or customers for more than 180 days shall not be classified as reserved numbers. (47 CFR § 52.15 (f) (1) (vi)).

Service Provider (SP): Any telecommunications carrier or other entity that receives numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator, or a telecommunications carrier for the purpose of providing or establishing telecommunications service. For the purposes of this part, the term "service provider" includes an interconnected VoIP service provider (47 CFR §52.5 (e)).

Snap Back: On the Effective Release Date of the disconnected ported telephone number, the NPAC notifies the code holder/block holder of the disconnected telephone number and its corresponding effective release and disconnect dates, i.e., telephone number snaps back to code holder/block holder. The telephone number is now available for the code holder/block holder to assign to a subscriber.

If no effective release date is provided to the NPAC by the SP, the NPAC upon receipt of the SP's disconnect request, immediately snaps back the number to the code holder/block holder. The code holder/block holder should then determine if the number needs to be aged before being reassigned.

6.2 Acronyms & Abbreviations

ATIS	Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions
CMRS	Commercial Mobile Radio Service
CO	Central Office Code (NPA-NXX)
ESQK	Emergency Service Query Key
ESRD	Emergency Services Routing Digit
ESRK	Emergency Services Routing Key
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
ITU-T	International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Telecommunications Standardization Sector
NANP	North American Numbering Plan
NANPA	North American Numbering Plan Administration

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NPAC	Number Portability Administration Center
NRUF	North American Numbering Plan Numbering Resource Utilization/Forecast Report
NXX	Central office code
p-ANI	Pseudo-Automatic Number Identification
PA	Pooling Administrator
POI	Point of Interconnection
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PSTN	Public Switched Telephone Network
SP	Service Provider
TBCOCAG	Thousands-Block (NPA-NXX-X) & Central Office Code (NPA-NXX) Administration Guidelines
TLDN	Temporary Local Directory Numbers
VoIP	Voice over Internet Protocol
VPC	VoIP Positioning Center