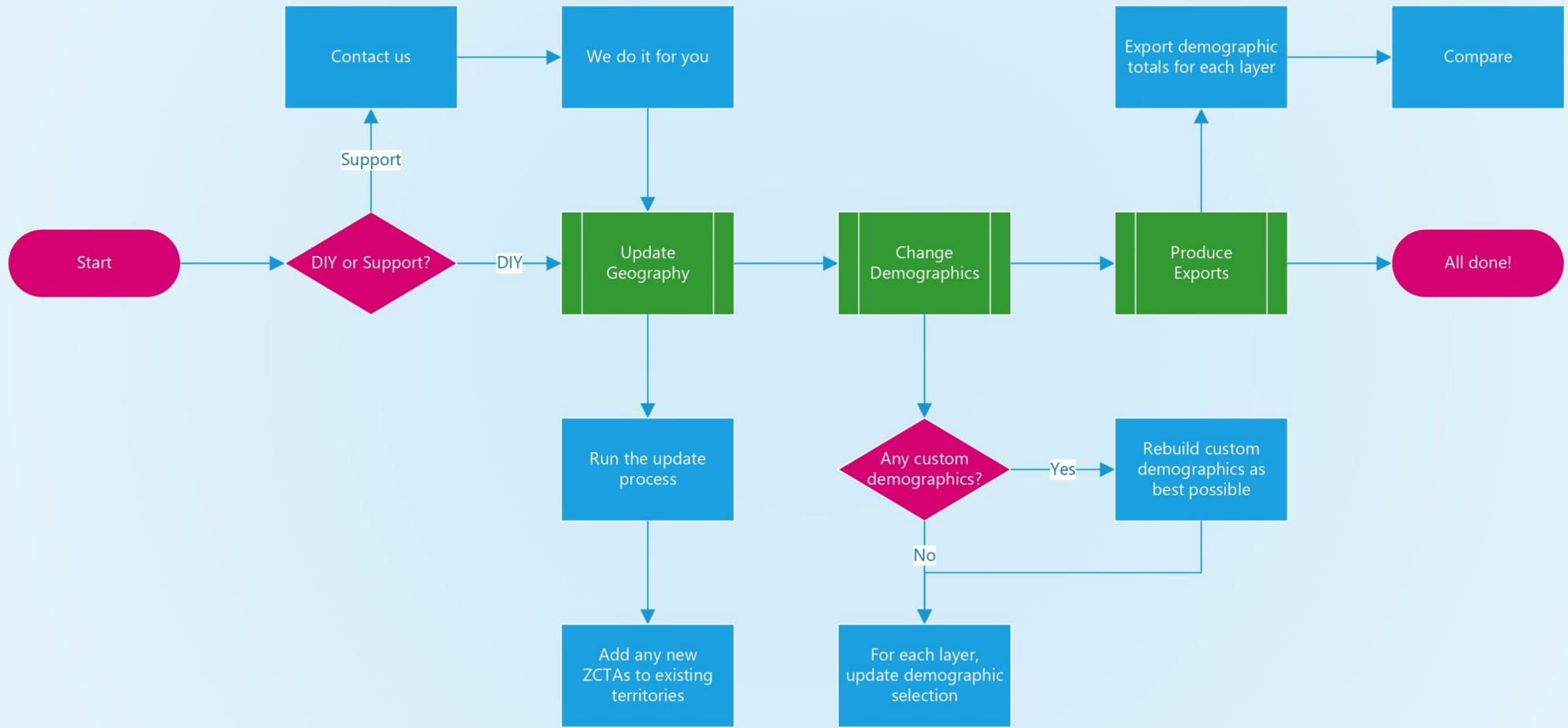# Updating to the 2020 Census and 2021 ACS with 5 Digit ZCTA Geography Workflow

Workflow for clients updating to the latest ZCTA geography and 2020 Census and 2021 ACS data.

Updating to the 2020 Census and 2021 ACS data

There are two options available to you when it comes to updating your Vision systems, these are:

1. DIY approach
2. Atlas Mapping support

This document will provide more information on each approach and links to any supporting articles or documents to help our clients with the update process.

DIY approach

Atlas Mapping support

DIY approach

In this option, updating to the new ZCTA geography and 2020 Census/2021 ACS demographics will be managed by clients. It requires any system administration, such as managing demographics or tracking demographic changes to territories, to also be managed by clients.

Step 1. Update Geography

You can update to the new ZCTAs by following the instructions in our "Updating to the latest boundary release" article. We recommend selecting the 5-Digit ZCTAs as this will give you your territory Boundary Update Summary.

In the Boundary Update Summary, you will see the 197 removed 5-Digit ZCTAs and any territories that will be affected by their removal. Our recommendation is to make a note of these as it may impact FDDs.

After performing the update, you will then need to manage any territories affected by the new ZCTAs. We've created a file that lists the 197 removed 5-Digit ZCTAs and 868 new 5-Digit ZCTAs. As a result of these changes, you will likely see holes appear in territories. You can edit the territories by following our "Editing an area's boundary" article. You can also search the new ZCTAs by using our search function in the top left of Vision.

We also recommend updating the administrative geography for the US in this process. Following the "Updating to the latest boundary release" article, update the Block Groups geography. We recommend that any clients using the Counties for their territories check this US Census Bureau article that outlines the changes.

DIY approach continued
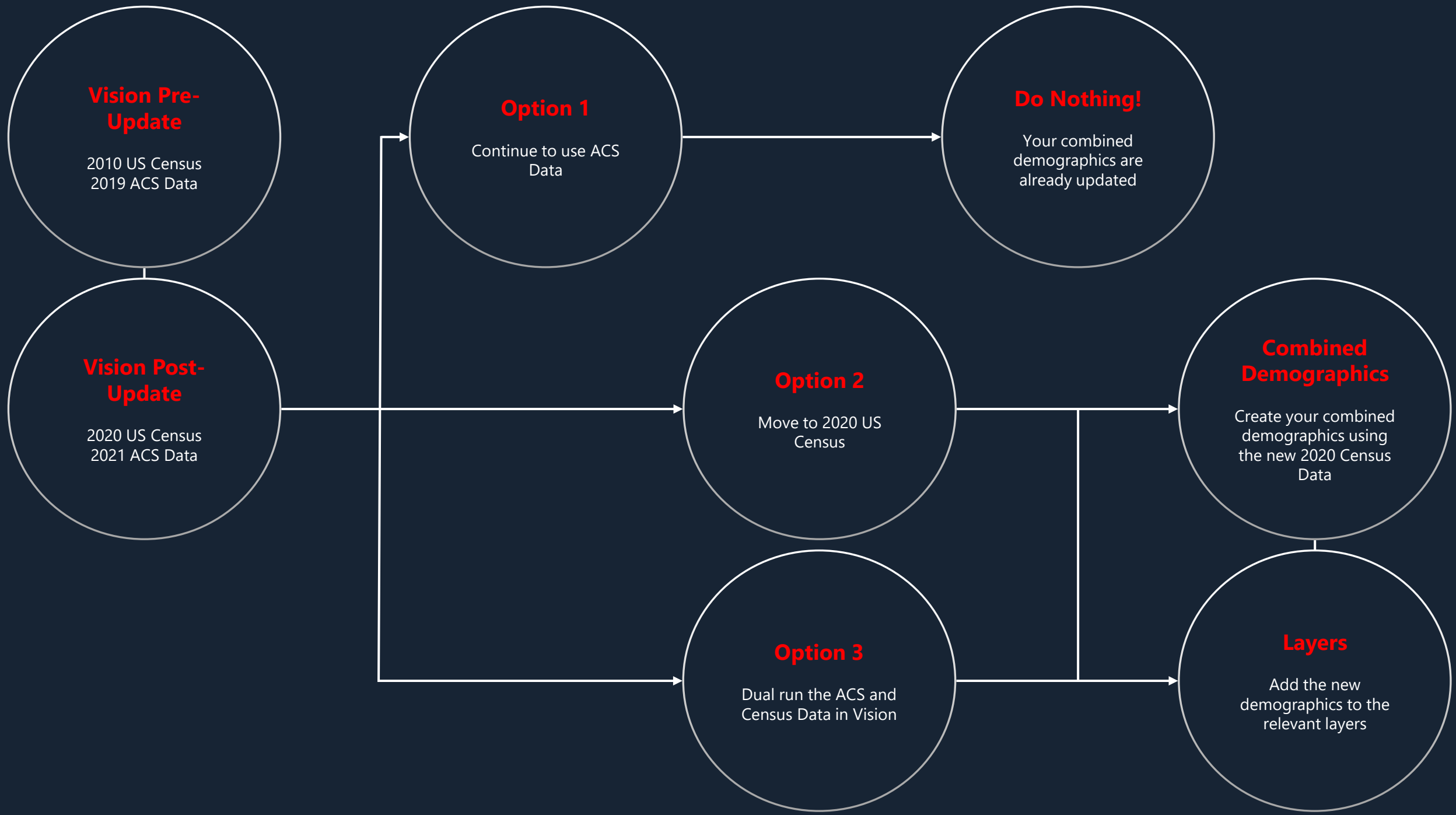
Step 2. Change Demographics

There are two parts to this step.

1. **Custom Demographics**. These will need recreating to reference the 2020 census demographics. An example of a custom demographic is "Population Age 65 plus". This sums up all the relevant age bands to provide this total.

You may currently have custom demographics that reference the American Community Survey data. This update also includes the 2021 ACS (5-Year Estimates). These combined demographics will be automatically updated to reference the new ACS data. You may, however, want to create the demographic using the 2020 US Census data. We recommend renaming any existing custom demographics to be prefixed with "(2021 ACS)". It will help to distinguish between Census versions. You will then need to recreate the custom demographic but reference the new 2020 Census demographics. For help, please see our "Combine multiple demographics into a single value" article. We've created a workflow on the following slide to demonstrate this process.

2. Updating your layer's demographics. You don't need to change anything if you'd prefer to continue using the ACS demographics. If you'd like to see the 2020 Census data, you'll need to add the relevant demographics to each layer. You will need to apply these settings for all your layers, but once you've set it on one layer, you can copy those settings across to any other layers. For help, please see our "Choose which demographics to display on a layer" article.

We have also created a video to help you through this process.

Atlas Mapping Support

PRICE - POA

In this option, updating to the new ZCTAs and 2020 Census/2021 ACS demographics will be managed by Atlas Mapping. Any system administration, such as organizing demographics, will also be managed by Atlas Mapping.

Step 1. Update Geography

We will automatically add new ZCTAs that fall within **Available** territories. For **Awarded (Sold)**, **Under-offer** or **Resale** territories, we will highlight and recommend which territory to assign them to. After your approval, we will make these amendments.

Step 2. Change Demographics

We will select matching 2020 Census demographics and any "best-fit" demographics where they don't entirely match. We will also create custom demographics and inform you of any changes that will impact your system.

For more information about our additional support packages, read our 2020 Census Vision update packages document.