

## Software Developers Guide to the 2007 Changes to the Social Security Number Verification Service (SSNVS)

Additional information on SSNVS may be found at  
[www.ssa.gov/employer/ssnv.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/employer/ssnv.htm)

### 2007 Enhancements to the SSNVS Application

Beginning August 25, 2007 SSA will implement changes affecting the Return File Format.

- SSA will return results for all records/Social Security Numbers (SSNs) submitted for verification whether verified or unverified.
- All records that verify with a blank (position 98) and those records that are unverified due to a verification code of 2, 3, 4 and 6 (position 98), will have the first five digits of the SSN (positions 1-5) masked with an "X". Only records with verification codes of 1 or 5 will display the complete number.

Field Name	Instruction	Position	Field Size	Field Type
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	The first five positions will be masked with an "x" for records returned with a blank, 2, 3, 4 or 6 verification codes.	1-9	9	Alpha/Numeric

- The eight character tracking number (positions 49-56), which is currently assigned to each submission for purposes of viewing the results and requesting status, will be replaced by a 16 character confirmation number (positions 49-64)

Note: The return file name will reflect the 16 character confirmation number (e.g., xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.out), but for files submitted before August 25, 2007, the 8 character tracking numbers can continue to be used to view the status of the file.

Field Name	Instruction	Position	Field Size	Field Type
TRACKING/ CONFIRMATION NUMBER	Social Security use only.	49-64	16	Blanks, or Alpha/Numeric

- In addition to the current verification codes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and blank, SSA will begin to return a 6 (position 98).

Field Name	Instruction	Position	Field Size	Field Type
VERIFICATION CODE	Blank = Verified 1 = SSN not on file (never issued to anyone). 2 = Name and DOB match; gender code does not match. 3 = Name and gender code match; DOB does not match. 4 = Name matches; DOB and gender code do not match. 5 = Name does not match; DOB and gender code not checked. 6 = SSN did not verify; other reason.	98	1	Blank or Numeric

### IMPORTANT

SSA will sort the file based on the following criteria:

- Verification code in reverse numerical order (6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1)
- Verified SSNs that have a Death indicator (position 121)
- Verified SSNs

Since SSA will mask the first 5 digits of the SSN and only return the last 4 digits it may be difficult to match the return file to your payroll records.

**We recommend using the USER CONTROL DATA field to create a unique identifier for each record in the file (positions 90–103 in the submission File Format and positions 84-97 in the Returned File Format).**

Field Name	Instruction	Position	Field Size	Field Type
USER CONTROL DATA	Employer use only.	90-103	14	Alphanumeric

**NOTE: The routines for positions 112-120 have been eliminated.**