ALASKA

PUBLIC COMMENTS THROUGH NOVEMBER 13, 2026

PROPOSED 2030 CENSUS RULE

WHAT THE PROPOSED RULE SAYS Published Sept. 10, 2026 (91 FR 57524). Comments closed Nov. 2, 2026.

Who is counted, and where (Part 60). People who are not U.S. citizens or green card holders, including students, workers on visas, refugees, and asylum seekers, would not be counted for apportionment (§ 60.4). Everyone else would be counted where they spent the most days from Jan. 3 to April 1, matched to tax records (§ 60.2, § 60.6).

What the census asks (Part 70). The form could not ask about race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation, and only sex, date of birth, and household relationship would be required (§ 70.2). Demographic data could not be published if privacy protection would add any uncertainty to state or national counts (§ 70.3).

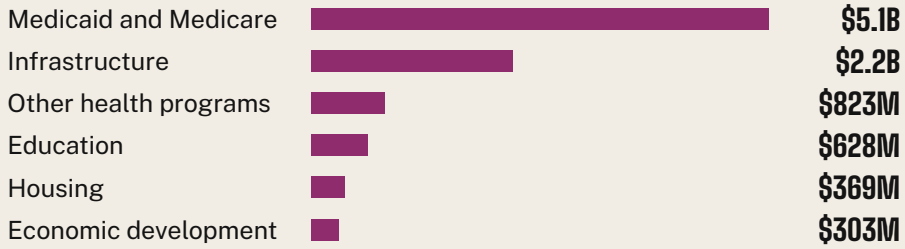
What it would mean: less accurate, less usable census data across the country.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR ALASKA

$9.1 billion

of federal spending guided by census data went to Alaska in fiscal year 2023, through 371 programs. That is the 9th smallest of 50 states and DC.

WHERE THAT MONEY WENT



POGO's rough rule of thumb: missing 1% of Alaska's residents could shift about **$91 million a year** until the next census. The real effect varies by program and by who is missed. Some programs count in more than one category. **SOURCES:** Sean Moulton and Janice Luong, "Census Matters: Why an Accurate Count Is Essential to Funding Our Communities" (POGO, Oct. 28, 2025) and its Alaska fact sheet; Janice Luong and Sean Moulton, "How to Use POGO's Census Funding Data" (POGO, Mar. 19, 2026).

WHAT ALASKA TOLD THE CENSUS BUREAU

340 comments came from Alaska. **97% opposed the rule**. Of all comments that name a state, 97% opposed; of all comments, 88%.

340
COMMENTS
7th fewest of 50 states and DC

97%
OPPOSED THE RULE
330 comments opposed; 8 supported

46
PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
8th highest of 50 states and DC; the median is 28

88
ASKED FOR MORE TIME
to comment on the rule

ISSUES ALASKA COMMENTERS RAISED MOST

Share of comments raising each issue. Alaska | All comments that name a state



HOW TO READ THESE NUMBERS

Every published comment counts once, including each copy of a form letter. Position is inferred from each comment by the comment analysis. State is inferred from the comment text and is subject to error. About 62% of all 148,532 comments name a state, so state totals undercount. Most comments that support the rule (85%) name no state, so Alaska is compared with all comments that name a state. The government and organization lists on page 2 are a sample, not everyone who commented; each was checked by reading the comment. Quotes are exact; individuals are described as they describe themselves.

A SAMPLE OF ALASKA GOVERNMENTS AND OFFICIALS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

28 Alaska governments and officials sent opposing comments: 27 tribal nations and 1 association of local governments. Some of them:

TRIBAL NATIONS

An Alaska Native tribal government (name not on the posted page)
Association of Village Council Presidents (56 Yukon-Kuskokwim tribes)
Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
Chinik Eskimo Community (Native Village of Golovin)
Curyung Tribal Council
Healy Lake Village Council
Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope (regional tribal government)
Kenaitze Indian Tribe (tribal resolution)
Ketchikan Indian Community
Native Village of Chitina
Native Village of Dot Lake
Native Village of Eagle
Native Village of Eyak
Native Village of Kotzebue
Native Village of Koyuk
Native Village of Nuiqsut
Native Village of Port Lions
Organized Village of Kasaan (letter to Alaska's senators)
Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Tribal Government (56 villages)

ASSOCIATIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Alaska Municipal League

A SAMPLE OF ALASKA ORGANIZATIONS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

Alaska Federation of Natives
Tanana Chiefs Conference
Cook Inlet Tribal Council
Maniilaq Association
First Alaskans Institute
The Foraker Group
Fairbanks Youth Advocates
Southeast Alaska Food Bank
The Alaska Center Education Fund

IN THEIR WORDS: OPPOSING COMMENTS FROM ALASKA

> *"Without a direct decennial census count of our tribal citizens, federal agencies will lack the statutory data required to calculate and distribute our road construction, safety, and transit shares."*
>
> **Native Village of Tatitlek (Tatitlek IRA Council)**
> small federally recognized Alaska Native Tribe · Comment 145692

> *"Being counted as Alaska Native is not just a box on a form — it is how our communities are seen."*
>
> **Tlingit citizen living in Ketchikan**
> writing as an individual · Comment 138837

> *"No Alaskan should become invisible in the national count because the circumstances of rural life do not fit neatly into an administrative formula."*
>
> **Tlingit person with ties to Yakutat**
> writing as an individual · Comment 81308

> *"Census accuracy is crucial to rural Alaska communities with low populations, because public schools are in danger of closing if there are ten or less students."*
>
> **Native Village of White Mountain**
> federally recognized Tribe in rural Alaska · Comment 147258

> *"There are 99 different languages spoken here which means that there is a diverse population. This diversity matters when providing medical care. Eliminating part of the population prevents communities from being prepared for needs and services."*
>
> **Medical practitioner who worked in Anchorage 40 years**
> writing as an individual · Comment 84541

> *"An outdated address or missing record should not make someone invisible."*
>
> **Reentry coordinator in Alaska**
> works with justice-involved people; writing as an individual · Comment 45723

> *"It's as though the USA would erase Alaska Natives and our ancestors if the identifying question were to be removed from the census record."*
>
> **Alaska Native resident**
> writing as an individual · Comment 145514

> *"Imposing arbitrary dates for residency in the 2030 Census would cause major, unforced errors throughout our state."*
>
> **Southeast Alaska Food Bank**
> Juneau; serves over 35,000 square miles of Southeast · Comment 45854

Sources: public comments on docket USBC-2026-0628 at regulations.gov, as read and labeled by the analysts' comment analysis; position and state are inferred from each comment's text and are subject to error. Federal funding: Project On Government Oversight (POGO), Census Matters, Oct. 28, 2025 (fiscal year 2023 data). Prepared by Hands Off Our Census. Run Nov 23, 2026, 2:49 PM ET.

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