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 Demographic data could not be published if privacy protection would add any uncertainty to state or national counts (§ 70.3).

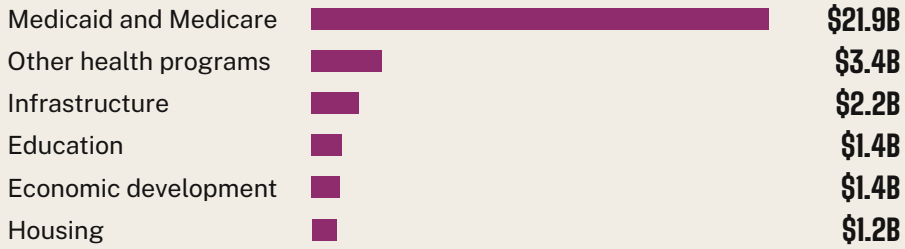
What it would mean: less accurate, less usable census data across the country.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR COLORADO

$30.7 billion

of federal spending guided by census data went to Colorado in fiscal year 2023, through 371 programs. That is the 26th largest of 50 states and DC.

WHERE THAT MONEY WENT



POGO's rough rule of thumb: missing 1% of Colorado's residents could shift about **$307 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 Colorado fact sheet; Janice Luong and Sean Moulton, "How to Use POGO's Census Funding Data" (POGO, Mar. 19, 2026).

WHAT COLORADO TOLD THE CENSUS BUREAU

2,566 comments came from Colorado. **97% opposed the rule**. Of all comments that name a state, 97% opposed; of all comments, 88%.

2,566
COMMENTS
14th most of 50 states and DC

97%
OPPOSED THE RULE
2,500 comments opposed; 65 supported

43
PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
9th highest of 50 states and DC; the median is 28

417
ASKED FOR MORE TIME
to comment on the rule

ISSUES COLORADO COMMENTERS RAISED MOST

Share of comments raising each issue. Colorado | 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 Colorado 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 COLORADO GOVERNMENTS AND OFFICIALS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Signed multistate letters asking for more time (Sept. 21) and opposing the rule (Nov. 2)

STATE

Colorado Senate President Pro Tempore

Colorado State Demography Office

ASSOCIATIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Colorado Municipal League

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

Adams County Health Department

Arapahoe County Public Health

Boulder County Board of Commissioners

Broomfield County Public Health and Environment

City of Lamar (mayor)

Eagle County Public Health and Environment

Gilpin County (community development director)

Jefferson County

Larimer County Board of Commissioners

North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization

Town of Nederland trustee and former mayor

A SAMPLE OF COLORADO ORGANIZATIONS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

Colorado Education Association

The Denver Foundation

The Colorado Health Foundation

Colorado Fiscal Institute

Benefits in Action

Rocky Mountain Equality

Colorado Civic Engagement Roundtable

Denver Indian Health and Family Services

Innovate Work Consulting LLC

IN THEIR WORDS: OPPOSING COMMENTS FROM COLORADO

> *"In my district, this would exclude international students and researchers at Colorado State University."*
>
> **Colorado Senate President Pro Tempore**
> represents Colorado Senate District 14 · Comment 43794

> *"People who live in our community use our clinics, get sick, receive vaccines, and appear in our surveillance data whatever their immigration status."*
>
> **Epidemiologist serving Arapahoe County**
> writing as an individual · Comment 147146

> *"I use the data to guide my purchasing of books and movies that better represent the community."*
>
> **Librarian in rural southern Colorado**
> writing as an individual · Comment 31306

> *"In rural Colorado, post office boxes are commonplace, and the mailing address used for tax documents may have little relationship to a person's actual physical residence."*
>
> **Gilpin County, director of community development**
> small rural mountain county of about 6,000 residents · Comment 98315

> *"Over a 10-year planning horizon, local health officials will be forced to make multi-million-dollar health decisions based on statistically corrupted data."*
>
> **Eagle County Public Health and Environment**
> serves over 55,000 residents in the central Rockies · Comment 146564

> *"If he faces discrimination, he will need data showing the patterns are real."*
>
> **Mother and foster care nonprofit worker, Colorado Springs**
> writing as an individual · Comment 1440

> *"For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, having accurate information matters."*
>
> **Disability policy advisor and social worker in Colorado**
> writing as an individual · Comment 57792

> *"Denver Public Schools used census data to plan for all school based operations from bus transit, to class sizes, to the number of teachers required to serve local communities."*
>
> **Former elected member of a local school board**
> writing as an individual · Comment 50302

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, 11:19 AM ET.

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