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 Demographic data could not be published if privacy protection would add any uncertainty to state or national counts (§ 70.3).

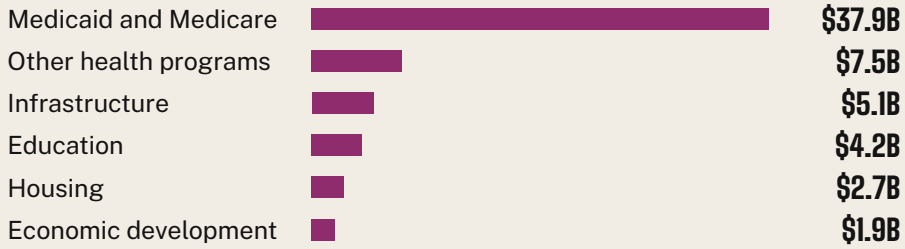
What it would mean: less accurate, less usable census data across the country.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR GEORGIA

$56.9 billion

of federal spending guided by census data went to Georgia in fiscal year 2023, through 371 programs. That is the 12th largest of 50 states and DC.

WHERE THAT MONEY WENT



POGO's rough rule of thumb: missing 1% of Georgia's residents could shift about **$569 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 Georgia fact sheet; Janice Luong and Sean Moulton, "How to Use POGO's Census Funding Data" (POGO, Mar. 19, 2026).

WHAT GEORGIA TOLD THE CENSUS BUREAU

1,339 comments came from Georgia. **96% opposed the rule**. Of all comments that name a state, 97% opposed; of all comments, 88%.

1,339
COMMENTS
22nd most of 50 states and DC

96%
OPPOSED THE RULE
1,287 comments opposed; 52 supported

12
PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
4th lowest of 50 states and DC; the median is 28

157
ASKED FOR MORE TIME
to comment on the rule

ISSUES GEORGIA COMMENTERS RAISED MOST

Share of comments raising each issue. Georgia | 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 Georgia 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 GEORGIA GOVERNMENTS AND OFFICIALS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

A Brunswick elected official (office not named)

A Douglas County commissioner

City of South Fulton (mayor and city council)

A SAMPLE OF GEORGIA ORGANIZATIONS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

Georgia Resilience and Opportunity Fund

Voices for Georgia's Children

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Covington Area Alumnae Chapter

IN THEIR WORDS: OPPOSING COMMENTS FROM GEORGIA

> *"The 2030 Census will be only the second decennial census in the City's history, and it will set the baseline for our population estimates, federal funding, and local representation through the late 2030s."*
>
> **City of South Fulton, mayor and city council**
> first counted as a city in the 2020 Census, at 107,436 residents · Comment 146478

> *"I am not in favor of removing crucial race and ethnicity data from being collected by our residents as part of the upcoming 2030 Decennial Census."*
>
> **Douglas County, county commissioner**
> elected official who sets local public policy · Comment 106021

> *"Census records and data derived from Census records are essential components of long-term water planning."*
>
> **Water planner for Georgia state and local governments**
> 40+ years in Georgia; writing as an individual · Comment 144120

> *"We cannot effectively reach families most likely to be undercounted, including renters, recent movers, rural residents, young children, and people in shelters, if they are missing from the data."*
>
> **Georgia Resilience and Opportunity (GRO) Fund**
> delivered $25 million+ to nearly 2,500 households · Comment 132461

> *"My neighbors include international students, workers on employment visas, and families who have lived here for decades. [...] Erasing them from the census does not make them disappear — it only makes our community invisible."*
>
> **Korean American resident of Duluth**
> writing as an individual · Comment 33638

> *"Long County is small, and in small places a district line drawn one road over decides whether a community has a voice on the county commission or none at all."*
>
> **Community advocate in Ludowici, Long County**
> five years in Long County; writing as an individual · Comment 129998

> *"As a former public health researcher, I know that the rates we use to track children's health by race and place depend on accurate population counts."*
>
> **Former federal public health researcher, mother of two**
> writing as an individual · Comment 146641

> *"If the census undercounts our residents, Savannah receives less, and the families who need that help are the ones who lose it."*
>
> **Savannah resident versed in housing and human services**
> writing as an individual · Comment 34038

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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