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 Demographic data could not be published if privacy protection would add any uncertainty to state or national counts (§ 70.3).

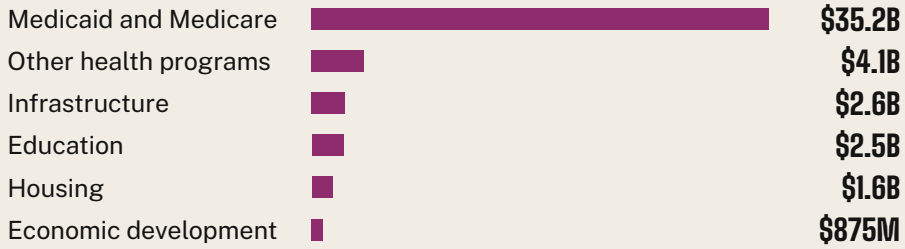
What it would mean: less accurate, less usable census data across the country.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR INDIANA

$45.4 billion

of federal spending guided by census data went to Indiana in fiscal year 2023, through 371 programs. That is the 17th largest of 50 states and DC.

WHERE THAT MONEY WENT



POGO's rough rule of thumb: missing 1% of Indiana's residents could shift about **$454 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 Indiana fact sheet; Janice Luong and Sean Moulton, "How to Use POGO's Census Funding Data" (POGO, Mar. 19, 2026).

WHAT INDIANA TOLD THE CENSUS BUREAU

1,673 comments came from Indiana. **96% opposed the rule**. Of all comments that name a state, 97% opposed; of all comments, 88%.

1,673
COMMENTS
21st most of 50 states and DC

96%
OPPOSED THE RULE
1,608 comments opposed; 64 supported

24
PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
21st lowest of 50 states and DC; the median is 28

261
ASKED FOR MORE TIME
to comment on the rule

ISSUES INDIANA COMMENTERS RAISED MOST

Share of comments raising each issue. Indiana | 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 Indiana 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 INDIANA GOVERNMENTS AND OFFICIALS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

City of Fort Wayne (mayor's office)

Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization

Madison County Council of Governments (Anderson MPO)

A SAMPLE OF INDIANA ORGANIZATIONS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

Indiana State Teachers Association
The Indianapolis Foundation
Herbert Simon Family Foundation
Indiana Geographic Information Council
League of Women Voters of Indiana
League of Women Voters of Muncie-Delaware County
League of Women Voters of La Porte County
Fort Wayne Indiana League of Women Voters
Delta Sigma Theta, Zeta Nu Chapter (Terre Haute)

IN THEIR WORDS: OPPOSING COMMENTS FROM INDIANA

> *"Undercounting children and families living in poverty could result in funding allocations that do not accurately reflect the needs of Indiana communities."*
>
> **Indiana State Teachers Association**
> advocates for equitable funding for every Indiana student · Comment 72560

> *"For example, a neighborhood that is undercounted may appear to have lower market demand, a smaller consumer base, and a less robust workforce than actually exists."*
>
> **Indiana Geographic Information Council**
> based in Indianapolis · Comment 146099

> *"Local governments use block-level counts of all residents to draw council and school board districts, allocate services, and meet population thresholds in federal and state funding formulas. [...] The City asks the Bureau to state in the final rule that every person living in the United States will continue to be enumerated and included in the redistricting data [...]"*
>
> **City of Fort Wayne, mayor's office**
> Indiana's second-largest city; about 277,000 residents · Comment 52840

> *"As the wife of a veteran, I know firsthand the importance of being represented when decisions are made about services and funding."*
>
> **Military veteran, mother, and social work student**
> writing as an individual · Comment 148051

> *"Having led enumerators door-to-door, I saw directly what it takes to execute an accurate headcount: every single person living in a community must be counted."*
>
> **Former Census Field Supervisor**
> led enumerators in the 2010 census; writing as an individual · Comment 119965

> *"It's a conservative county, but the people in our county are diverse. To best serve all the residents of our county and country, everyone needs to be counted."*
>
> **78-year-old woman in a small, rural Indiana community**
> writing as an individual · Comment 78232

> *"Everyone who lives or works in Greene County relies on our roads, public safety, and public health services, regardless of citizenship or immigration status. County roads and bridges get people to work and school and carry farm equipment and deliveries."*
>
> **Seventh-generation resident of rural Greene County**
> writing as an individual · Comment 143668

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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