OKLAHOMA

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 Demographic data could not be published if privacy protection would add any uncertainty to state or national counts (§ 70.3).

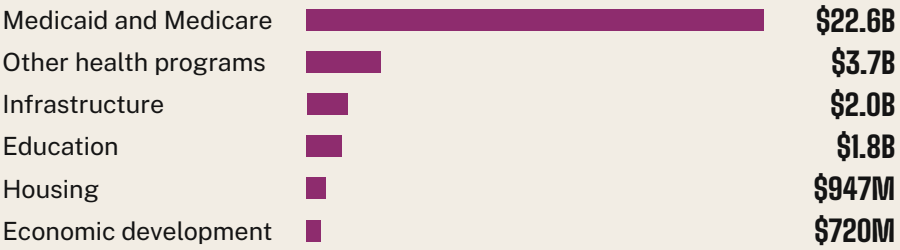
What it would mean: less accurate, less usable census data across the country.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR OKLAHOMA

$30.7 billion

of federal spending guided by census data went to Oklahoma in fiscal year 2023, through 371 programs. That is the 25th largest of 50 states and DC.

WHERE THAT MONEY WENT



POGO's rough rule of thumb: missing 1% of Oklahoma'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 Oklahoma fact sheet; Janice Luong and Sean Moulton, "How to Use POGO's Census Funding Data" (POGO, Mar. 19, 2026).

WHAT OKLAHOMA TOLD THE CENSUS BUREAU

573 comments came from Oklahoma. **95% opposed the rule**. Of all comments that name a state, 97% opposed; of all comments, 88%.

573
COMMENTS
19th fewest of 50 states and DC

95%
OPPOSED THE RULE
544 comments opposed; 29 supported

14
PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
6th lowest of 50 states and DC; the median is 28

45
ASKED FOR MORE TIME
to comment on the rule

ISSUES OKLAHOMA COMMENTERS RAISED MOST

Share of comments raising each issue. Oklahoma | 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 Oklahoma 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 OKLAHOMA GOVERNMENTS AND OFFICIALS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

STATE

Oklahoma state representative (House District 34)

TRIBAL NATIONS

Cherokee Nation
Chickasaw Nation
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
Quapaw Nation
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
United Indian Nations of Oklahoma (tribal resolution)
Wyandotte Nation (tribal resolution)

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

City of Alva (city business manager)
City of Norman (deputy city attorney)
City of Stillwater (mayor)
City of Tulsa Asian Affairs Commission
Clinton City Council member

A SAMPLE OF OKLAHOMA ORGANIZATIONS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

Oklahoma City Community Foundation
Dynamic Independence
Oklahoma City Indian Clinic

IN THEIR WORDS: OPPOSING COMMENTS FROM OKLAHOMA

> *"This erases the Pawnee Nation from federal data systems and makes every Tribal citizen appear as if they belong solely to the State of Oklahoma."*
>
> **Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma**
> treaty nation; citizenship is a political status · Comment 126178

> *"As a city council member, I need reliable information about all of the residents of Clinton — not only some of them — to make responsible decisions about our city's future."*
>
> **Clinton City Council member, Ward 3**
> represents a rural Oklahoma community · Comment 7045

> *"An undercount means less for our roads, schools, and clinics for ten years."*
>
> **Oklahoma state representative, House District 34**
> asks to count students where they live, as in 2020 · Comment 146412

> *"If we change the way we count the Census, it is like starting all over with our statistics. the 2030 Census will be comparing apples to oranges so to speak as we look back across the last 200 + years of history."*
>
> **Native American resident of Oklahoma**
> writing as an individual · Comment 79686

> *"Without race and ethnicity data in the census, we lose the ability to see disparities, and we cannot fix problems we cannot see."*
>
> **Data manager at a child abuse prevention nonprofit in Tulsa**
> writing as an individual · Comment 144045

> *"Communities carry the cost of seasonal residents year-round — roads, hospitals, emergency services, utilities, and local infrastructure don't magically stop being used in the summer."*
>
> **Oklahoma resident**
> writing as an individual · Comment 135280

> *"Almost every local measure I work with, from incarceration rates to housing need to economic mobility, divides by a census population."*
>
> **Civic data researcher in Tulsa**
> writing as an individual · Comment 113831

> *"If the census does not count all residents, our communities will lose resources to support their schools, hospitals, transportation infrastructure, emergency services, and more because funding resources distribution will be based on inaccurate information."*
>
> **Nonprofit researcher and data analyst in the Tulsa area**
> four decades in the field; writing as an individual · Comment 146993

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, 3:27 PM ET.

CITE THIS BRIEF: handsoffourcens.us. (2026, November 23). *Oklahoma state brief: Public comments on the proposed census rule, Docket USBC-2026-0628*. Analysis by Chris Marcum and Abigail Haddad. https://handsoffourcens.us