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 Demographic data could not be published if privacy protection would add any uncertainty to state or national counts (§ 70.3).

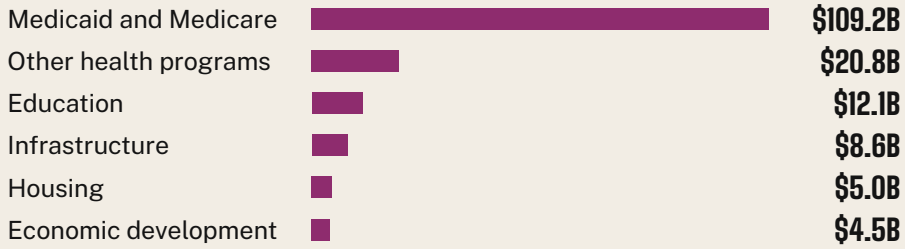
What it would mean: less accurate, less usable census data across the country.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR TEXAS

$152.8 billion

of federal spending guided by census data went to Texas in fiscal year 2023, through 371 programs. That is the 3rd largest of 50 states and DC.

WHERE THAT MONEY WENT



POGO's rough rule of thumb: missing 1% of Texas's residents could shift about **$1.5 billion 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 Texas fact sheet; Janice Luong and Sean Moulton, "How to Use POGO's Census Funding Data" (POGO, Mar. 19, 2026).

WHAT TEXAS TOLD THE CENSUS BUREAU

3,916 comments came from Texas. **95% opposed the rule**. Of all comments that name a state, 97% opposed; of all comments, 88%.

3,916
COMMENTS
6th most of 50 states and DC

95%
OPPOSED THE RULE
3,713 comments opposed; 201 supported

13
PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
5th lowest of 50 states and DC; the median is 28

527
ASKED FOR MORE TIME
to comment on the rule

ISSUES TEXAS COMMENTERS RAISED MOST

Share of comments raising each issue. Texas | 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 Texas 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 TEXAS GOVERNMENTS AND OFFICIALS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

STATE

Texas House Mexican American Legislative Caucus (state representatives)

TRIBAL NATIONS

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas

ASSOCIATIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Texas Conference of Urban Counties

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONAL AGENCIES

A Harris County commissioner (Precinct 4)
City of Arlington (city manager)
City of Austin (mayor)
City of Dallas (city manager)
City of Edinburg
City of El Paso
City of Grand Prairie
City of Victoria
Dallas County (governmental affairs staff)
El Paso County Commissioners Court
Harris County (county attorney)
Regional Transportation Council staff (North Central Texas MPO, Dallas-Fort Worth)
Victoria Metropolitan Planning Organization

A SAMPLE OF TEXAS ORGANIZATIONS WITH OPPOSING COMMENTS

Texas Appleseed
Workers Defense Project
Every Texan
Mission 911
Save Texas Moms
Culturingua
Denton County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Localism, Inc.

IN THEIR WORDS: OPPOSING COMMENTS FROM TEXAS

> *"An undercount in the Coastal Bend means less funding for housing, emergency assistance, and services, and it lands hardest on the households already closest to the edge."*

Mission 911
Corpus Christi nonprofit serving the Coastal Bend 26 years · Comment 100849

> *"If we stop collecting information in this fundamental national count that allows us to see disparities, those disparities do not disappear."*

Community health worker in South Texas
writing as an individual · Comment 0666

> *"Black Latinos are often overlooked within the broader Hispanic or Latino category, contributing to racial erasure and confusion."*

Artist and Texas resident of Black and Latino heritage
writing as an individual · Comment 142292

> *"More than 40,000 Austin residents were missed in the 2020 census count, resulting in an estimated annual loss of $67 million in federal funding through 2030."*

City of Austin, mayor
home to The University of Texas at Austin · Comment 145308

> *"It erases my family history and contributions to the building of the United States of America. My documented family history goes back to at least to post civil war in Cass County, Texas."*

African American Texan whose family history goes back to post–Civil War Cass County
writing as an individual · Comment 0964

> *"I have several friends who are elderly and only rely on the Social Security income and they do not have a W-2 or do not have to file taxes."*

Texas resident
writing as an individual · Comment 89436

> *"I train future clinicians, and I work with communities whose needs are often invisible without good data."*

Counselor and university professor in Denton
trains future clinicians; writing as an individual · Comment 145424

> *"When a tribal member is counted away from their permanent tribal home due to rigid residency rules, the resulting data undercounts the true population of the tribal community."*

Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
runs tribal housing, roads, and community services · Comment 146864

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, 11:20 AM ET.

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