

investment must be after the date of the loan commitment letter and prior to two (2) years from the date of the first COOL advance, or other contract covenant deadline approved by the RUS Administrator given the unique circumstances of the Borrower. The investment must be in an amount equal to at least 10 percent of the COOL financing, be additional new carbon pollution-free electricity and/or energy efficiency measures and result in quantifiable, greenhouse gas emissions reductions as evidenced in documentation submitted to the Agency in form and substance acceptable to the RUS Administrator. In all other respects, COOL financing will be subject to the same eligibility, underwriting, loan security and repayment criteria as the core RUS electric infrastructure loan program.

COOL financing will only be made available if the Administrator determines that the loan is feasible and sufficient collateral exists to provide the RUS with adequate security pursuant to a first-priority lien or shared first-priority lien on system assets to ensure full repayment of RUS debt. COOL loans will generally follow the RUS regulations, bulletins and standard policies and procedures for the type of funding (*i.e.*, direct or guaranteed) approved for the COOL loan and will be at terms not to exceed 20 years.

The Electric Program will update existing regulations and bulletins and promulgate new regulations as necessary to implement this new COOL loan policy.

Background: Historically the RUS has prioritized infrastructure construction and sparingly utilized its authority to finance operations and has only

approved loans funding operations where a borrower faced a unique hardship affecting the borrower's liquidity or consumer rates. The COVID pandemic and severe weather events are recent examples of such events.

The RUS, on a trial basis, approved COOL financing to several generation and transmission system borrowers and distribution system borrowers who sought operating loans to address hardship circumstances. Under the previously approved COOL financing, the Agency made operating loans whereas a condition of receiving the COOL financing, the borrowers committed that the COOL financing would benefit the end users/consumers and the borrowers also committed that an amount equal to 10 percent of the principal amount of the COOL financing would be invested in new energy efficiency measures or carbon pollution-free electricity technologies. Based on its experience with COOL financing with these trial cases and the application of the agency's rigorous underwriting standards, the agency is announcing that COOL financing is available to current RUS borrowers that encounter the hardship circumstances described in this notice.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and until further notice, the RUS will, in hardship situations, consider new requests for COOL financing in addition to its existing authorities and programs. Infrastructure financing will continue to be the RUS Electric Program's highest priority and COOL financing will only be made available in hardship cases when funds are available and there is no negative impact on RUS ability to meet

the infrastructure financing needs in the core RUS Electric Program.

Michele Brooks,
Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

[Docket Number: 240130-0030]

X-RIN 0607-XC074

Estimates of the Voting-Age Population for 2023

AGENCY: Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: General notice announcing population estimates.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the voting-age population estimates as of July 1, 2023 for each state and the District of Columbia. We are providing this notice in accordance with the 1976 amendment to the Federal Election Campaign Act.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Battle, Chief, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233. Phone: 301-763-2071. Email: Karen.Battle@census.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the requirements of the 1976 amendment to the Federal Election Campaign Act, Title 52, United States Code, Section 30116(e), I hereby give notice that the estimates of the voting-age population for July 1, 2023 for each state and the District of Columbia are as shown in the following table.

ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF VOTING AGE FOR EACH STATE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: JULY 1, 2023

Area	Population 18 and over	Area	Population 18 and over
United States	262,083,034		
Alabama	3,977,628	Missouri	4,821,686
Alaska	557,899	Montana	897,161
Arizona	5,848,310	Nebraska	1,497,381
Arkansas	2,362,124	Nevada	2,508,220
California	30,519,524	New Hampshire	1,150,004
Colorado	4,662,926	New Jersey	7,280,551
Connecticut	2,894,190	New Mexico	1,663,024
Delaware	819,952	New York	15,611,308
District of Columbia	552,380	North Carolina	8,498,868
Florida	18,229,883	North Dakota	599,192
Georgia	8,490,546	Ohio	9,207,681
Hawaii	1,141,525	Oklahoma	3,087,217
Idaho	1,497,384	Oregon	3,401,528
Illinois	9,844,167	Pennsylvania	10,332,678
Indiana	5,274,945	Rhode Island	892,124
Iowa	2,476,882	South Carolina	4,229,354
Kansas	2,246,209	South Dakota	697,420
Kentucky	3,509,259	Tennessee	5,555,761
Louisiana	3,506,600	Texas	22,942,176

ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF VOTING AGE FOR EACH STATE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: JULY 1, 2023—
Continued

Area	Population 18 and over	Area	Population 18 and over
Maine	1,146,670	Utah	2,484,582
Maryland	4,818,337	Vermont	532,828
Massachusetts	5,659,598	Virginia	6,834,154
Michigan	7,925,350	Washington	6,164,810
Minnesota	4,436,981	West Virginia	1,417,859
Mississippi	2,259,864	Wisconsin	4,661,826
		Wyoming	454,508

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Vintage 2023 Population Estimates.

Gina Raimondo, Secretary,
Department of Commerce, certified
these estimates for the Federal Election
Commission.

Robert L. Santos, Director, Census
Bureau, approved the publication of this
Notice in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 8, 2024.

Shannon Wink,

*Program Analyst, Policy Coordination Office,
U.S. Census Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 2024-06666 Filed 3-28-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Indigenous Communities Survey

AGENCY: Economic Development
Administration, Department of
Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection,
request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of
Commerce, in accordance with the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995
(PRA), invites the general public and
other Federal agencies to comment on
proposed, and continuing information
collections, which helps us assess the
impact of our information collection
requirements and minimize the public's
reporting burden. The purpose of this
notice is to allow for 60 days of public
comment preceding submission of the
collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration,
comments regarding this proposed
information collection must be received
on or before May 28, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are
invited to submit written comments via
email to the Networks Team, Economic
Development Administration,

Department of Commerce, at [networks@
eda.gov](mailto:networks@eda.gov) or PRAComments@doc.gov.
Please reference "Indigenous
Community Survey" in the subject line
of your comments. Do not submit
Confidential Business Information or
otherwise sensitive or protected
information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or
specific questions related to collection
activities should be directed to the
Bryan Borlik, Economic Development
Administration, Department of
Commerce, at bborlik@eda.gov or 202-
482-3901.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Economic Development
Administration (EDA) leads the Federal
economic development agenda by
promoting innovation and
competitiveness, preparing American
regions for growth and success in the
worldwide economy. Guided by the
basic principle that sustainable
economic development should be
driven locally, EDA works directly with
communities and regions to help them
build the capacity for economic
development based on local business
conditions and needs. The Public Works
and Economic Development Act of 1965
(PWEDA) (42 U.S.C. 3121 *et seq.*) is
EDA's organic authority and is the
primary legal authority under which
EDA awards financial assistance. Under
PWEDA, EDA provides financial
assistance to both rural and urban
distressed communities by fostering
entrepreneurship, innovation, and
productivity through investments in
infrastructure development, workforce
development, capacity building, and
business development to attract private
capital investments and new and better
jobs to regions experiencing economic
distress. Further information on EDA
programs and financial assistance
opportunities can be found at
www.eda.gov.

To effectively administer and monitor
its economic development assistance
programs, EDA collects certain
information from applications for, and
recipients of, EDA investment
assistance. The purpose of this notice is
to seek comments from the public and
other Federal agencies on a request for
a new information collection by an EDA
grantee. This grantee will collect
information about the economic
development needs, planning, and
priorities of Indigenous communities.
Findings from the survey will inform
EDA's work with Indigenous
communities and will support other
agencies, organizations, and
communities in better planning,
funding, and implementing economic
development activities.

To that end, the grantee will conduct
an electronic data collection survey. A
subset of the recipients (20) will also be
engaged in phone interviews to better
understand the experiences and
decision-making processes when
evaluating opportunities for economic
development funding. EDA is
particularly interested in public
comment on how the proposed data
collection will support the assessment
of program effectiveness, or if
alternative information should be
considered.

II. Method of Collection

Data will be collected electronically
and via phone interviews.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: None: new
information collection.

Form Number(s): None: new
information collection.

Type of Review: Regular submission:
new information collection.

Affected Public: This survey will
specifically target EDA applicants for
projects that are indigenous and
indigenous serving. Entities may
include (i) District Organization of an
EDA-designated Economic Development
District (EDD); (ii) Indian Tribe or a
consortium of Indian Tribes; (iii) State,