

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.*  
[FR Doc. 2024-06719 Filed 3-28-24; 8:45 am]

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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,