



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ELLEN WEAVER
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Title I, Part A Coordinators

FROM: Dr. Sarah Longshore
Director, Office of Federal and State Accountability

DATE: January 17, 2023

RE: Release of 2021 Census Data for School Year 2023–24 Title I, Part A Allocations

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide updates regarding allocations under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The U.S. Department of Education (USED) will use the 2021 Census data to calculate school year (SY) 2023–24 allocations under Title I, Part A.

Please find the attached table that shows the 2021 population and poverty estimates for the local educational agencies (LEAs) in South Carolina, which the United States Census Bureau (Census Bureau) released in December 2022.

The Census data estimates are based on a statistical model that incorporates information from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, administrative records taken from Federal income tax returns and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the 2020 decennial Census, updates to population estimates that the Census Bureau may have completed since the 2020 decennial census, data on Supplemental Security Income recipients, and economic data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The Census Bureau has established a challenge period for LEAs to review the 2021 LEA poverty and population data for certain non-statistical errors. These errors are those that the Census Bureau may have made in: (1) processing input data or running the estimation models/programs; or (2) in preparing or processing information to define geographic boundaries (e.g., school district boundaries).

This challenge period ends on March 15, 2023. Based on the two factors outlined in the previous paragraph, an LEA official may contact the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Branch at the Census Bureau for further information about how to challenge these data.

To obtain information on the process a LEA needs to follow in order to challenge these data, please contact the SAIPE Branch at 301-763-3193 or sehsd.saipe@census.gov.

When sending an e-mail, include your name, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, and organization affiliation. More information and guidance concerning the Census Bureau's challenge procedures are available at:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about/contact/challenges.html>

Information about the data sources and the methodology used to prepare these data is available at:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about.html>

The list of LEAs used for the 2021 Census estimates is based on the SY 2021–22 school district boundary survey conducted by the Census Bureau with the help of the South Carolina district mapping coordinator. The LEAs on this list include only traditional school districts that have geographic boundaries. The list does not include, for example, special school districts that a State recognizes as LEAs, such as charter schools. These LEAs do not require “corrections” to the Census Bureau's boundary survey data; rather, the ESEA and 34 CFR § 200.72 require an SEA to adjust the SY 2023–24 Title I, Part A LEA allocations that USED determines to accommodate new or special LEAs not included on the Census Bureau's SY 2021–22 list.

Please contact Jennifer Rhodes at jrhodes@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-8110 with any questions.