



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: February 25, 2026
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: ESEA Project Directors, Title I, Part A Supervisors, School Business Administrators
From: Kim Murray, Director, Office of Special Education
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: March 27, 2026

2024 U.S. Census Data for School Year 2026-2027 Title I, Part A Allocations

U.S. Census data is used to determine each local educational agency's (LEA) allocation of Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) funds. Annually, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) receives from the United States Department of Education (USDE) U.S. Census data for each LEA along with a Memorandum to State Title I Directors explaining the Census data, how it is used to calculate allocations, and the process to challenge the data. The Census data and the memorandum can be accessed here: [Title I Part A](#).

Census Information and Challenge Period

The Census data estimates are based on a statistical model that incorporates information from multiple data sources, including the Census Bureau's American Community Survey and economic data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. For more information about the data sources and the methodology used, visit the [Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\) program](#) website.

The Census Bureau is providing a challenge period for LEAs to review the 2024 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). The challenge period ends on March 27, 2026.

Census Bureau Contact Information

To obtain information on the process to challenge the data, please see the [How to Request Information about the Challenge Procedures](#) on the Census Bureau website.