

How the Law Prescribes the Determination of Covered Areas under the Language Minority Provisions of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act

For State, County, County Subdivision, and American Indian and Alaska Native Areas:

Total Population

Total Population for Minority Groups:

- Spanish/Hispanic/Latino
- AIAN (American Indian/Alaskan Native)
- AIAN tribal group (examples include Cherokee, Iroquois, Sioux)
- Asian
- Asian group (examples include Chinese, Filipino, Japanese)

Minority group data comes from Questions #5 and #6 on the ACS Questionnaire.



For each Minority Group:

Total Voting Age Population

Total Voting Age Citizens

Data on voting age comes from Question # 4 on the ACS Questionnaire. Data on citizenship comes from Question #8.



For each Minority Group:

Total Voting Age Citizens who are Limited-English Proficient

Data on voting age comes from Question #4 on ACS Questionnaire. Data on citizenship comes from Question #8. Data on limited-English proficiency comes from Question #14c.



For each Minority Group:

Total Voting Age Citizens who have Less Than a 5th Grade Education

Total Voting Age Citizens who are Limited-English Proficient and have Less Than a 5th Grade Education

Data on voting age comes from Question # 4 on the ACS Questionnaire. Data on citizenship comes from Question #8. Data on limited-English proficiency comes from Question #14c. Data on educational attainment comes from Question #11.



Determinations are then computed for each language minority group based on the following:

If more than 5% of voting age citizens are limited-English proficient,

OR

If more than 10,000 voting age citizens are limited-English proficient,

AND

The rate of total voting age citizens who are limited-English proficient and have less than a 5th grade education is higher than the national rate of 1.16

THEN:

The state, county, or county subdivision under consideration is covered for that specific minority group of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act.

There is a special computation for American Indian or Alaska Native areas or other tribal lands:

If more than 5% of the American Indian or Alaska Native voting age citizens belonging to an American Indian/Alaska Native tribe are limited-English proficient

AND

The rate of those voting age citizens who are limited-English proficient and have less than a 5th grade education is higher than the national rate of 1.16

THEN:

Any political subdivision(s) in which that AIA/ANA is located is covered under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act.