

1997 Economic Census Covering Transportation of Commodities

ACTION: Proposed agency information collection activity; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to John Fowler, Bureau of the Census, Room 2724, Building 3, Washington, DC 20230 on (301) 457-2108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau is the preeminent collector and provider of timely, relevant, and quality data about the people and economy of the United States. Economic data are the Census Bureau's primary program commitment during nondecennial census years. The economic census, conducted under authority of Title 13, U.S.C., is the primary source of facts about the structure and functioning of the Nation's economy and features unique industry and geographic detail. Economic census statistics serve as part of the framework for the national accounts and provide essential information for government, business and the general public. The 1997 Economic Census will cover virtually every sector of the U.S. Economy.

The 1997 Commodity Flow Survey, a component of the Economic Census, will produce key statistics on the movement of freight in the United States. In the past, these types of data were used primarily by governmental agencies in planning for transportation infrastructure. Now these types of data are becoming increasingly important to the business sector for making decisions related to marketing and transportation strategies. The Commodity Flow Survey

will be conducted with the guidance and co-sponsorship of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Transportation. This survey will provide a range of transportation statistics including value of shipments, weight of shipments, commodities shipped, mode(s) of transportation used, origin and destination of shipments, ton-miles and average miles per shipment. The Census Bureau will publish shipment characteristics at the national, state, and National Transportation Analysis Region levels.

Primary strategies for reducing respondent burden in the Commodity Flow Survey include:

- Employing a stratified random sample to use the least number of establishments required to produce reliable statistics;
- Accepting estimates;
- Requesting data on a limited sample of shipments.

We will introduce additional strategies for reducing overall respondent burden for the 1997 Commodity Flow Survey, based on experience gained from the 1993 survey. These include:

- Decreasing the total sample size by nearly one half;
- Reducing the reporting period from two weeks to one week each quarter;
- Offering electronic reporting options.

II. Method of Collection

The Commodity Flow Survey will survey a sample of business establishments in mining, manufacturing, wholesale, and selected retail industries. Each selected establishment will receive, by mail, four questionnaires—one during each quarter of 1997. On each form, an establishment will be asked to report data for an average of 25 shipments, selected during a designated one-week reporting period.

III. Data

OMB Number: Not Available.

Form Number: CFS-1000.

Type of Review: Regular review.

Affected Public: Businesses and Other For-profit, Small Businesses or Organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 800,000.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The cost to the government for this work, to be shared between the Department of Transportation and the Census Bureau is estimated to be \$22.5 million.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the utility of the information to businesses/private industry for marketing/cost evaluation/planning; (c) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (d) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (e) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 7, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 96-11827 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

Wave 3 of the 1996 Panel Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

ACTION: Proposed agency information collection activity; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Michael McMahon, Room 3319-3, Washington DC 20233-8400, or telephone 301/457-3819.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The SIPP represents a source of information for a wide variety of topics and allows information for separate topics to be integrated to form a single, unified data base so that the interaction between tax, transfer, and other government and private policies can be examined. Government domestic policy formulators depend heavily upon SIPP information concerning the distribution of income received directly as money or indirectly as in-kind benefits, and the effect of tax and transfer programs on this distribution. They also need improved and expanded data on the income and general economic and financial situation of the U.S. population. The SIPP has provided these kinds of data on a continuing basis since late 1983, permitting levels of economic well-being and changes in these levels to be measured over time.

The survey is molded around a central "core" of labor force and income questions that will remain fixed throughout the life of a panel. The core is supplemented with questions designed to answer specific needs such as estimating eligibility for government programs, examining pension and health care coverage, and analyzing individual net worth. These supplemental questions are included with the core and are referred to as "topical modules."

The topical modules for the 1996 Panel Wave 3 are the following: (1) Assets and Liabilities; (2) Medical Expenses and Work Disability, and (3) Real Estate, Shelter Costs, Dependent Care, and Vehicles; and (4) the Poverty Module. Also, additional topical module items will be asked at the end of the core instrument concerning Earnings and Employment, General Income Amounts, Stocks and Mutual Fund Shares, Rental Income, Mortgages, Royalties, and Other Financial Investments. Wave 3 interviews will be conducted from December 1996 through March 1997.

II. Method of Collection

The SIPP is designed as a continuing series of national panels of interviewed households that are introduced every 4 years, with each panel having a duration of about 4 years in the survey. All household members 15 years old or older are interviewed using regular proxy-respondent rules. They are interviewed a total of 12 times (12 waves) at 4-month intervals, making the SIPP a longitudinal survey. Sample persons (all household members present at the time of the first interview) who

move within the country and reasonably close to a SIPP Primary Sampling Unit (PSU) will be followed and interviewed at their new address. Persons 15 years old or older who enter the household after Wave 1 will be interviewed; however, if these persons move, they are not followed unless they happen to move along with a Wave 1 sample person. A reinterview with a sample of participants is also conducted to ensure quality in responses.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0813.
Form Number: SIPP-16303 Reminder Card; SIPP/CAPI Automated Instrument.
Type of Review: Regular.
Affected Public: Individuals or Households.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 77,700 (interview), 2,500 (reinterview).
Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes (interview), 10 minutes (reinterview).
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 116,550*

Interview	* 116,500
Reinterview	* 1,250
Total	117,800

* Estimates based on conducting 3 waves in a year.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$28,000,000.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: May 7, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,

Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 96-11828 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

Economics and Statistics Administration

Bureau of the Census

Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics; Notice of Renewal

In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, (1973), and after consultation with the General Services Administration, the Secretary of Commerce has determined that the renewal of the Census Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department by law.

The Committee was established July 16, 1962. It was initially chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act in January 1973. The Committee's purpose is to advise the Director, Bureau of the Census, on the conduct of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture and related surveys and the kind of information to obtain from respondents associated with agriculture production. The Committee also prepares recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports, and presents the views and needs for data of major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics. The Committee draws on the experience and expertise of its members to form a collective judgment concerning agriculture data collected and the statistics the Census Bureau issues.

The committee will function solely as an advisory body and will comply fully with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The advisory committee shall consist of 21 member organizations. Each of the member organizations shall appoint a representative to the committee, subject to the concurrence of the Director, Bureau of the Census.

The committee shall report to the Director, Bureau of the Census.

The Department of Commerce will file copies of the committees' renewal charters with appropriate committees in Congress.

You may address inquires or comments to Maxine Anderson-Brown, Committee Liaison Officer, Bureau of the Census, Room 3039, FB 3, Washington, D.C. 20233, telephone (301) 457-2308, TDD (301) 457-2540.

Dated: May 7, 1996.

Martha Farnsworth Riche,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 96-11888 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-BS-P