

Economic Analysis (BEA) priority to obtain annual measures of MSBO inventories to improve BEA's estimates of business inventory change, a key component of the GDP estimate. The estimates compiled from this survey provide valuable information for economic policy decisions by the government and will be widely used by private businesses, trade organizations, professional associations, and other business research and analysis organizations.

This request is for the clearance of two existing report forms, the SA-42 and SA-42A, and two new forms, SA-42 (MSBO) and SA-42A (MSBO), which will be used to collect data for MSBOs. The forms request similar but unique sets of data items to accommodate both merchant wholesalers and manufacturers sales branches and offices as well as both large and small firms. The survey report forms are used to collect total sales, e-commerce sales, year-end inventory, and inventory valuation methods. In addition purchases are collected for merchant wholesalers and operating expenses for MSBOs. Cognitive research on the proposed MSBO forms is being conducted and will continue in October and November 2003. Results will be used to suggest revisions to clarify questions and instructions that convey definitions, in order to ensure data quality and reduce respondent burden. Revisions to the basic content of the form are not expected.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Sections 182, 224, and 225.

OMB Desk Officer: Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer either by fax (202-395-7245) or e-mail (susan_schechter@omb.eop.gov).

Dated: November 14, 2003.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-28935 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

State and Local Construction Coverage Study

ACTION: Proposed collection; 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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 20, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Thuy Trang Nguyen, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 2136-4, Washington, DC 20233-6900 (or via telephone at (301) 763-4640).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The U.S. Census Bureau collects monthly Value in Place (VIP) data on State and local government construction in the Construction Progress Reporting Surveys (CPRS) (OMB # 0607-0153). We also collect fiscal year data on similar construction in the Annual Survey of Government Finance (ASGF) (OMB # 0607-0585). It is expected that these estimates should be comparable on a fiscal basis; nevertheless, they have continued to differ significantly during the past decades. One major source of the differences is the undercoverage of the desired universe by the sampling frame used in the CPRS. The F.W. Dodge Division of McGraw-Hill Information Systems Company identifies and lists projects started by State and local governments nationwide. We select a sample of

projects from this list for the VIP survey. Due to the differences in the level of coverage by value and geographical area, various projects have no chance of being selected for the VIP survey.

The most recent evaluation of this coverage was done in 1988, producing an undercoverage estimate of 18 percent. The continuing difference on the fiscal year basis between the CPRS and the ASGF indicates the need for a reevaluation of the sampling frame coverage.

We will conduct this study on a one time basis. The Census Bureau will use the information collected for evaluation purposes and survey improvement through the correction of the State and local construction VIP estimate by the estimated coverage rate. The consequence for not conducting an undercoverage evaluation will be that the Census Bureau will produce less accurate estimates for the State and local government construction VIP. The Bureau of Economic Analysis uses the Construction Progress Reporting Survey estimates to develop the construction components for input to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) accounts. Other government agencies such as the Council of Economics Advisers, the Federal Reserve Bank Board, and the Department of Treasury use these estimates in making policy decisions.

II. Method of Collection

We selected our respondents from the sample of State and local governments in the ASGF. We sampled 4,026 agencies from the sample of 16,986 agencies with construction expenditures.

We will utilize a mailout/mailback strategy to collect the data. Questionnaires will be mailed out in two waves (wave 1 to half of the sampled agencies and wave 2 to the other half) three months apart. Nonresponse followup will be conducted by telephone beginning 30 days after the initial mailout.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: SLUE-007(SS).

Type of Review: New collection.

Affected Public: State or local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,026.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,026.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$67,000.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 161 and 182.

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 will 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: November 14, 2003.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-28936 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) Wave 2 of the 2004 Panel

ACTION: Proposed collection; 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 or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 20, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at DHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Judith H. Eargle, Census Bureau, FOB 3, Room 3387,

Washington, DC 20233-8400, (301) 763-3819.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau conducts the SIPP which is a household-based survey designed as a continuous series of national panels. New panels are introduced every few years with each panel usually having durations of one to four years. Respondents are interviewed at 4-month intervals or "waves" over the life of the panel. The survey is molded around a central "core" of labor force and income questions that remain fixed throughout the life of the panel. The core is supplemented with questions designed to address specific needs, such as obtaining information about household relationships, education and training, children, marriage, migration, and history of work-related disabilities. These supplemental questions are included with the core and are referred to as "topical modules."

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 database so that the interaction between tax, transfer, and other government and private policies can be examined. Government domestic-policy formulators depend heavily upon the 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 1983 permitting levels of economic well-being and changes in these levels to be measured over time.

The 2004 panel is currently scheduled for 4 years and will include 12 waves of interviewing beginning February 2004. Approximately 62,000 households will be selected for the 2004 panel, of which, 46,000 are expected to be interviewed. We estimate that each household will contain 2.1 people, yielding 96,600 interviews in Wave 1 and subsequent waves. Interviews take 30 minutes on average. Two waves of interviewing will occur in the 2004 SIPP Panel during FY 2004. The total annual burden for 2004 Panel SIPP interviews would be 96,600 hours in FY 2004.

The topical modules for the 2004 Panel Wave 2 collect information about:

- Work Disability History.
- Education and Training History.
- Marital History.

- Fertility History.
- Migration History.
- Household Relationships.

Wave 2 interviews will be conducted from June 2004 through September 2004.

A 10-minute reinterview of 3,100 people is conducted at each wave to ensure accuracy of responses. Reinterviews would require an additional 1,035 burden hours in FY 2004.

II. Method of Collection

The SIPP is designed as a continuing series of national panels of interviewed households that are introduced every few years with each panel having durations of 1 to 4 years. All household members 15 years old or over are interviewed using regular proxy-respondent rules. During the 2004 panel, respondents are interviewed a total of 12 times (12 waves) at 4-month intervals making the SIPP a longitudinal survey. Sample people (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 will be followed and interviewed at their new address. Individuals 15 years old or over who enter the household after Wave 1 will be interviewed; however, if these individuals move, they are not followed unless they happen to move along with a Wave 1 sample individual.

III. Data

OMB Number: Not Available.

Form Number: SIPP/CAPI Automated Instrument.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 96,600 people per wave.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes per person on average.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 97,635.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The only cost to respondents is their time.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Section 182.

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