

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by December 18, 2024 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Agricultural Research Service

Title: U.S. National Arboretum Use of the Grounds and Facilities as well as Commercial Photography and Cinematography.

OMB Control Number: 0518–0024.

Summary of Collection: Section 890(b) of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, Public Law 104–127 (“FAIR ACT”) provided statutory authorities regarding the United States National Arboretum (“USNA”). These authorities include the ability to charge fees for temporary use by individuals or groups of USNA facilities and grounds for any purpose consistent with the mission of the USNA. Also, the authority was provided to charge fees for the use of the USNA for commercial photography and cinematography. The mission of the U.S. National Arboretum (USNA) is to conduct research, provide education, and conserve and display trees, shrubs, flowers, and other plants to enhance the environment. The USNA is a 446-acre public facility. The grounds of the USNA are available to the public for purposes of education and passive recreation. The USNA has many spectacular feature and garden displays which are very popular to visitors and photographers.

Need and Use of the Information: USNA officials will collect the information using applications in the form of questionnaires. The information gathered on the photography form is the applicant’s name, name of the organization providing the service, phone/fax numbers, dates and times requested for photography, how many people will be working the project, how many vehicles involved, and an itemization of equipment to be used by the crew. Also, the application requests a detailed description of the project, which specific sites are requested for photography and how the images or pictures will be used.

The collected information is used by USNA management to determine if a requestor’s needs can be met, and the request is consistent with the mission and goals of the USNA uses of the information. If the basic information is not collected, USNA officials will not be able to determine if a requestor’s needs are met.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Individuals or households; State, Local or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 350.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 88.

Rachelle Ragland-Greene,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–26788 Filed 11–15–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

[Docket Number: 241112–0289; RTID 0607–XC079]

The Census Bureau’s Proposed Race/Ethnicity Code List for the American Community Survey and the 2030 Census

AGENCY: Census Bureau, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: As part of the Race/Ethnicity Coding Improvement Project, the U.S. Census Bureau (Census Bureau) is seeking feedback on the proposed race/ethnicity code list that will be used when the combined race/ethnicity question is implemented in the American Community Survey (ACS) and the 2030 Census. The Census Bureau aims to enhance and improve the code list that was used in the 2020 Census and is currently used in the ACS to ensure that detailed race and/or ethnicity responses are accurately coded and tabulated in future data collections.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments must be received on or before February 18, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Comments are being requested through the following method:

Electronic submission: Submit public comments using the Federal eRulemaking Portal.

1. Go to www.regulations.gov and enter Docket Number USBC–2024–0022 in the search field.

2. Click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields.

3. Enter or attach your comments.

All comments responding to this document will be a matter of public record. Relevant comments will generally be available on the Federal eRulemaking Portal at: <https://www.regulations.gov>.

All comments received are part of the public record. All Personally Identifiable Information (e.g., name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact: Roberto Ramirez at Roberto.R.Ramirez@census.gov or (301) 763-6044. Please direct media inquiries to the Census Bureau's Public Information Office at (301) 763-3030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Census Bureau is conducting its Race/Ethnicity Coding Improvement Project, which provides an opportunity for the public to provide feedback on how detailed race and/or ethnicity and American Indian or Alaska Native populations will be coded when the combined race/ethnicity question is implemented in the ACS and the 2030 Census. As in previous updates to the code list, all updates will be based on three criteria: (1) Federal scientific research and evidence; (2) stakeholder feedback, and (3) alignment with the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's updated 2024 Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 (see <https://spd15revision.gov>). The Census Bureau anticipates publishing a summary of the feedback received and the final code list in a future notice. An upcoming live question-and-answer webinar will provide an opportunity for the public to ask any procedural questions about how to respond to this Notice.

The Census Bureau is seeking feedback on how race and/or ethnicity and American Indian or Alaska Native populations are coded, and it is not seeking feedback on how the U.S. Office of Management and Budget defined race/ethnicity categories through Statistical Policy Directive No. 15, which are a minimum set of categories that all Federal agencies must use when collecting information on race and ethnicity, regardless of the collection mechanism, as well as additional guidance on the collection, compilation, and dissemination of these data.

Coding is the process that assigns a numeric code to the responses that are provided in the write-in areas on the

race and/or ethnicity question. The numeric codes are used to process and tabulate the data. For example, if a respondent provides a write-in response of "Ghanaian," the code list is used to assign this response code '3180.'

Race and/or ethnicity groups may have several terms on the code list that receive the same code. This may include spelling variations, abbreviations, or in-language names. For example, responses of "Coeur D'Alene Tribe" receive the code '5708,' as do responses of "Coeur D'Alene Tribe of Indians" and "Schitsu'umsh." In our data products, all responses of "Coeur D'Alene Tribe," "Coeur D'Alene Tribe of Indians" and "Schitsu'umsh" are tabulated together because they are given the same code, and they are therefore all included in the population count for "Coeur D'Alene Tribe."

On the proposed code list, some race and/or ethnicity groups have a range of codes associated with them. An example of this is "Italian" (codes 1205-1209), which includes terms that receive the codes '1206' (Italian), '1207' (Sardinian) and '1208' (Sicilian). Providing various groups with their own codes allows the Census Bureau to continue conducting research and see how often the group is reported. Unique codes are often provided for groups when Census Bureau research indicates that there are increasing numbers of people reporting a particular term in the decennial census.

Once the coding operation is completed, the codes are used in the editing process and to tabulate estimates and counts that are published in our ACS and decennial data products. Note that because a group has a unique code, that does not guarantee that data will be published for that group, as population thresholds, editing processes, or other processes may prevent us from publishing data for certain groups regardless of if they have a unique code.

Request for Public Comment

The Census Bureau is soliciting public comment to improve the race/ethnicity code list. This feedback will enable the Census Bureau to more accurately collect, process, and tabulate detailed racial, ethnic, and tribal responses reported in the race/ethnicity question. The Census Bureau is seeking feedback on the following questions, but will consider all comments received on topics germane to this notice:

1. Are there any groups missing from the proposed code list? If so, please identify them and suggest how the groups should be classified and why.
2. Are any groups on the proposed code list misclassified? If so, please

identify them and suggest an alternative classification or indicate if the term should be removed.

3. Are there alternative terms, abbreviations, or in-language terms people may use to identify with a specific group that should be added to the proposed code list? If so, please identify them and suggest a classification.

4. The 2020 Census race/ethnicity code list at: <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/technical-documentation/complete-tech-docs/detailed-demographic-and-housing-characteristics-file-a/2020-hispanic-origin-and-race-code-list.xlsx> was organized into regional categories (e.g., Chinese and Japanese aggregated into East Asian) and counts for these regional categories were published in 2020 Census data products. Based on stakeholder feedback and the challenging nature of categorizing groups into regional categories when the boundaries are not clearly defined, may change over time, or may overlap, the Census Bureau is proposing to remove its definitions and concepts of regional categories so that data users would have more flexibility to create their own regional categories using the disaggregated data. How do you use the data produced for regional categories from the 2020 Census? How would removing regional categories from the code list and tabulated products impact your ability to use the detailed race/ethnicity data? Would the ability to create your own regional categories using disaggregated data be useful to your work?

The proposed race/ethnicity code list can be accessed at: <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/demo/2030-race-and-or-ethnicity-code-list/>.

Robert L. Santos, Director, Census Bureau, approved the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: November 12, 2024.

Shannon Wink,

Program Analyst, Policy Coordination Office, U.S. Census Bureau.

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