

shipments measures the value of goods delivered during the month by domestic manufacturers. Estimates of new orders serve as an indicator of future production commitments and represent the current sales value of new orders received during the month, net of cancellations. Substantial accumulation or depletion of unfilled orders measures excess or deficient demand for manufactured products. The level of inventories, especially in relation to shipments, is frequently used to monitor the business cycle.

The estimated total annual burden hours are increased from 20,600 to 24,000 to reflect an increase in the survey panel. The conversion of the survey from the Standard Industrial Classification system to the North American Industry Classification System will result in new and reconfigured industry categories, which require a larger survey panel to ensure sufficient coverage in all industries.

II. Method of Collection

Respondents submit data on form M-3(SD) via mail, facsimile machine, Touchtone Data Entry (TDE), Voice Recognition Entry (VRE), or via the Internet. Analysts call respondents who usually report, to obtain data in time for preparing the monthly estimates.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0008.

Form Number: M-3(SD).

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Businesses, large and small, or other for profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,000 monthly.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 24,000.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$436,800.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., Sections 131 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 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: April 13, 2000.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-9786 Filed 4-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Quarterly Survey of State and Local Tax Revenues

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, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 19, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Russell Price, Chief, Public Finance Analysis Branch-B, Governments Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington DC 20233-6800 (301-457-1488).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to request an extension of the Quarterly Survey of State and Local Tax Revenue. The Bureau needs state and local tax data to publish benchmark statistics on public sector taxes; to provide data to the Bureau of Economic Analysis for GDP calculations and other economic indicators; and to provide data for economic research and comparative

studies of governmental finances. Data are collected on a quarterly basis from state and local tax collecting agencies.

Tax collection data are used to measure economic activity for the Nation as a whole, as well as for comparison among the various states. These data also are useful in comparing the mix of taxes employed by individual states, and in determining the revenue raising capacity of different types of taxes.

The Quarterly Survey of Property Tax Collections (Form F-71) is sent to 5,800 local government tax collecting agencies in 530 county areas. While some counties are served by a single county level tax collection agency, others have county, city, township, and even school district collectors. Each agency is asked to report the total property tax collections during the past quarter.

The Quarterly Survey of State Tax Collections (Form F-72) is sent to a state level revenue, finance, or budget agency in each state to report tax collection data for the preceding 3-month period.

The Quarterly Survey of Selected Local Taxes (Form F-73) is sent to 55 local tax collection agencies known to have substantial collections of local general sales and/or local individual income taxes.

The expected decrease in the respondent burden is due to a slight reduction in the universe of the survey. Due to the disincorporation and consolidation of certain tax collecting agencies, the number of respondents receiving Form F-71 has decreased by 100. There are no planned content changes to this form or the F-72 and F-73 forms.

II. Method of Collection

The F-71 and F-73 portions of the survey are conducted by mail canvass. Responses are screened manually and then entered on a microcomputer.

F-72 forms are sent to respondents by facsimile. Respondents are given the option of returning the forms through facsimile or by mail. Several respondents have requested to conduct the survey through electronic mail.

Telephone follow-up of large property tax collectors is the main method used to maximize response. In those instances when we are not able to obtain a response, estimates are made for non-respondents by using data of the same quarter from the last year it had been received.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0112.

Form Number: F-71, F-72, and F-73.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: State and local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5906.

Estimated Time Per Response: 25 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5957.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The estimated cost to the respondents is \$107,226.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C., 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 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: April 13, 2000.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-9787 Filed 4-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Census 2000 Test Program Supplement.

Form Number(s): These computer based survey instruments will have no form number.

Agency Approval Number: 0607-0862.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 1,680 hours (added to the current total of 8,013 hours).

Number of Respondents: 6,660 (added to the current total of 200,300).

Avg Hours Per Response: Residence Rules Survey-20 minutes; Internet Usage Survey-5 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau will test several methodologies, techniques, and strategies during Census 2000. We received Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to conduct four separate tests, which are collectively referred to as The Census 2000 Test Program. We now request approval for supplemental collections associated with two of the tests, which are the Alternative Questionnaire Experiment in 2000 (AQE2000) Residence Rules Survey, and the Response Mode and Incentive Experiment (RMIE) Internet Usage Survey. Results of these tests will help in the planning of the 2010 Census.

One component of the AQE2000 tests the effectiveness of alternative presentation formats of residence rules. A sub sample of the AQE2000 sample households that returned the experimental (alternate version of the presentation format) and control (current versions of the presentation format) short forms that also provided telephone contact information will be reinterviewed. The Residence Rules Survey will be conducted by telephone with the person in the household who signed the census form, or a knowledgeable other person. Topics addressed in the reinterview include obtaining an independent listing of all household members on April 1st (including potentially omitted persons), and determining whether these members are classified as residents according to the Census Bureau's residence rules. Other issues to be explored include respondents' ability to comprehend the residence rules, and possible sources of misconceptions stemming from experimental or control versions of the presentation format.

In the RMIE, sample households will receive an invitation in the census short-form mail package inviting them to respond by one of three experimental response modes rather than by mail—CATI, interactive voice response (IVR), and an Internet Questionnaire (IQ). An incentive of a calling card worth 30 minutes of free long distance calls will also be tested. The RMIE Internet Usage Survey (IUS) will determine why households that were given the option to respond by Internet instead responded by mail. The IUS also will enable analysis of households that received the incentive and those that did not. The IUS will consist of follow-

up telephone interviews with a sub sample of RMIE households invited to respond by the Internet but who actually respond by mail. The purpose of these interviews is to assess the barriers to responding to the census by the Internet. Topics to be covered by the interview include whether or not the respondent has access to the Internet, why they did not use the Internet to respond (if they have access) and if the respondent was aware of the incentive offered (of those in the incentive group).

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: One time.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 USC, Sections 141 and 193.

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

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at LEngelme@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, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: April 14, 2000.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-9826 Filed 4-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Exception to Reporting Requirement Under the Import Certificate/ Delivery Verification Procedures

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, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before June 19, 2000.