

countries. Similarly, under this MOU, Canada is substituting U.S. import statistics for Canadian exports to the United States. These data exchanges eliminate the requirement for U.S. exporters to file any information with the U.S. government. This results in the elimination of over four million SEDs annually. However, for exports to Canada that require a license, a SED or AES record must be filed. Also, a SED or AES record is required for exports from the United States through Canada destined to a country other than Canada.

In addition, the Census Bureau and Customs are continuing to implement and expand the use of the AES for filing shipper's export information electronically. The AES provides a voluntary automated alternative to filing the paper SED. Extensive outreach and education efforts have been and continue to be made to encourage the trade community to use the AES for filing its export data. The Census Bureau has implemented the AESDirect system to allow AES filers to file their export information directly to AES via the Internet. The Census Bureau anticipates a gradual and progressive growth in the number of electronic filers, with a comparable decrease in the number of paper filers over the course of the next few years.

During the past several years the Census Bureau and Customs have also been involved in an intensive outreach and education program to improve compliance with Customs and Census Bureau regulatory provisions in reference to filing Customs manifest documents and the Census Bureau SED/AES documents/records. During these compliance programs, the Census Bureau and Customs conducted seminars with the trade community to inform them of the regulatory filing requirements. In addition, Customs has also increased its enforcement effort for those filers not in compliance with the export laws and regulations. This compliance effort, in addition to the outreach and education effort encouraging the use of electronic filing through the AES has led to a significant increase in both paper and electronic filings. Also, with the expansion of the global economy and the increased emphasis on international trade, the Census Bureau has experienced a significant increase in the number of export transactions being filed. For example, in 1993 the Census Bureau received 1.1 million transactions per month. In 1999 the Census Bureau received 1.7 million transactions per month. This represents an increase of 55 percent in the number of monthly transactions processed by the Census

Bureau. The Census Bureau expects this trend to continue for the next several years. All these factors combined, have resulted in an increase in our estimate of annual responses from the previous submission.

In summary, for non-Canadian exports, approximately 55 percent of export transactions are reported electronically using the AES, and approximately 45 percent of export transactions are reported using the paper SEDs. The Census Bureau expects the percentage of electronic filings through the AES to substantially increase during the next several years.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0152.

Form Number: 7525-V, 7525-V-Alternate (Intermodal), Automated Export System (AES) submissions.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Exporters, Forwarding Agents, Export Carriers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200,000.

Estimated Number of Responses: 13,449,996..

Estimated Time Per Response: 11.166 minutes for 7525-V, 7525-V-Alternate 3.0 minutes for AES submissions.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,284,949.

SEDs, 837,450.

AES, 447,499.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$19,274,235.

SEDs—837,450 hrs @ \$15/hr = \$12,561,750.

AES—447,499 hrs @ \$15/hr = \$6,712,485.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Chapter 9.

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 25, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) Survey

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 27, 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 and instructions should be directed to Lee Wentela, Bureau of the Census, FOB #4 Room 2232, Washington, DC 20233-6913 and (301) 457-4832.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to submit the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey to the Office of Management and Budget for review. The M3 requests data from domestic manufacturers on form M-3(SD). The survey is mailed at the end of each month. Data requested are shipments, new orders, unfilled orders, total inventory, materials and supplies, work-in-process, and finished goods. It is currently the only survey that provides broad-based monthly statistical data on the economic conditions in the domestic manufacturing sector.

The M3 survey is designed to measure current industrial activity and to provide an indication of future production commitments. The value of

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 USC, 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 25, 2000.

Madeleine Clayton,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-10651 Filed 4-27-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Census 2000 Evaluation Followup Interview

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 27, 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 Dave Raglin, Bureau of the Census, Room BH-121/SFC2, Washington, DC 20233-9200, 301-457-4238.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The U.S. Bureau of the Census will conduct an Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation as a quality assurance program to measure coverage of the population in the decennial census. In the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation, we independently count a sample of housing units and the people living in those units, then compare those results to the census.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census would like to determine the magnitude of and sources of measurement errors in the residence classification of persons in the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation. To do this the Census Bureau plans to conduct the Evaluation Followup Interview (EFU), a follow-up interview of a subsample of Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation clusters. The types of information collected during the interview will help determine whether or not a person mentioned in the Census or in the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation Person Interview lived in the housing unit on census day (Saturday April 1, 2000) or on the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation interview day (sometime between late-April and mid-August, 2000). The information will also help identify possible reasons a person was missed or enumerated in error in the Census or the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation. This is accomplished by asking the respondent more specific questions than the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation about specific types of group quarters or other residences a person may have lived at, and by determining if persons have moved in and moved out of a household. The interview will be conducted using the Evaluation Followup Questionnaires, forms D-1301(EFU), the English language version and D-1301(EFU-S), the Spanish language version of the form. The data from the EFU will be used for four Census evaluations.

II. Method of Collection

Person interview.

III. Data

OMB Number: Not available.

Form Number: D-1301(EFU), D-1301(EFU-S)

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40,000 Housing units.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 13,333 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: There is no cost to the respondent other than the time to provide the requested information.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 141, 193, and 221.

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