

FEMA forms	Number of respondents (A)	Frequency of response (B)	Hours per response (in hrs.) (C)	Annual burden (in hrs.) (A x B x C)
Baseline Report .....	65	One-time ..	2	130
Progress Reports .....	113	Annually ...	2	226
Total .....	178	.....		356

*Comments:* Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to David Rostkler, Desk Officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 within October 26, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be made to Muriel B. Anderson, Chief, Records Management Branch, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Room 316, Washington, DC 20472. Telephone number (202) 646-2625, FAX number (202) 646-3524, or email address: muriel.anderson@fema.gov.

Dated: September 13, 2000.

**Reginald Trujillo,**

*Director, Program Services Division, Operations Support Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 00-24701 Filed 9-25-00; 8:45 am]

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**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

[FEMA-1340-DR]

**Montana; Amendment No. 1 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster for the State of Montana, (FEMA-1340-DR), dated August 30, 2000, and related determinations.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 19, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Madge Dale, Response and Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3772.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of a major disaster for the State of Montana is hereby amended to include the following areas among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the catastrophe declared a

major disaster by the President in his declaration of August 30, 2000:

Big Horn, Blaine, Carter, Chouteau, Custer, Fallon, Fergus, Garfield, Golden Valley, Hill, Liberty, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Powder River, Prairie, Rosebud, Toole, Treasure, and Yellowstone Counties for Individual Assistance.

Fort Belknap, Rocky Boy's, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations for Individual Assistance.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 83.537, Community Disaster Loans; 83.538, Cora Brown Fund Program; 83.539, Crisis Counseling; 83.540, Disaster Legal Services Program; 83.541, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 83.542, Fire Suppression Assistance; 83.543, Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program; 83.544, Public Assistance Grants; 83.545, Disaster Housing Program; 83.548, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

**Robert J. Adamcik,**

*Deputy Associate Director, Response and Recovery Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 00-24703 Filed 9-25-00; 8:45 am]

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**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

[FEMA-1335-DR]

**New York; Amendment No. 4 to Notice of a Major Disaster Declaration**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice amends the notice of a major disaster for the State of New York, FEMA-1335-DR, dated July 21, 2000, and related determinations.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 14, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Madge Dale, Response and Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3772.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of a major disaster for the State of New York is hereby amended to include the following area among those areas determined to have been adversely affected by the catastrophe declared a major disaster by the President in his declaration of July 21, 2000:

Greene County for Public Assistance.

(The following Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) are to be used for reporting and drawing funds: 83.537, Community Disaster Loans; 83.538, Cora Brown Fund Program; 83.539, Crisis Counseling; 83.540, Disaster Legal Services Program; 83.541, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 83.542, Fire Suppression Assistance; 83.543, Individual and Family Grant (IFG) Program; 83.544, Public Assistance Grants; 83.545, Disaster Housing Program; 83.548, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

**Robert J. Adamcik,**

*Deputy Associate Director, Response and Recovery Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 00-24702 Filed 9-25-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6718-02-P**

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**Open Meeting, Technical Mapping Advisory Council**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**ACTION:** Notice of teleconference meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with § 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 1, the Federal Emergency Management Agency gives notice that the following meeting will be held:  
*Name:* Technical Mapping Advisory Council.

*Date of Meeting:* October 2, 2000.

*Place:* The FEMA Conference Operator in Washington, DC will administer the teleconference. Individuals interested in participating should call 1-800-320-4330 at the time of the teleconference. Callers will be prompted for the conference code, #15, and they will then be connected through to the teleconference.

*Time:* 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., EST.

*Proposed Agenda*

1. Call to order.
2. Announcements.
3. Action on minutes from August 2000 teleconference meeting.
4. Review Annual and Year 2000 Report draft text.
5. Discuss agenda for October 2000 meeting.

6. New business.

7. Adjournment.

*Status:* This meeting is open to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Sally P. Magee, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW., room 442, Washington, DC 20472, telephone (202) 646-8242 or by facsimile at (202) 646-4596.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Minutes of the meeting will be prepared and will be available upon request 30 days after they have been approved by the next Technical Mapping Advisory Council meeting in October 2000.

**Michael K. Buckley,**

*Director, Technical Services Division,  
Mitigation Directorate.*

[FR Doc. 00-24704 Filed 9-25-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6718-04-P**

## FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

[2000-N-5]

### Monthly Survey of Rates and Terms on Conventional 1-Family Nonfarm Mortgage Loans

**AGENCY:** Federal Housing Finance Board.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) is seeking comments on several aspects of its Monthly Survey of Rates and Terms on Conventional 1-Family Nonfarm Mortgage Loans. The Finance Board seeks comments on whether it should continue to publish mortgage information by lender type. The Finance Board seeks comments on whether the sampling and weighting design for this survey should draw lenders without regard to lender type. If so, the Finance Board seeks suggestions for alternative sampling and weighting methodologies. The Finance Board also seeks comments on the designation of successor adjustable-rate mortgage indexes if it decides to stop publishing data by lender type or revises the regional information it now publishes.

**DATES:** Changes to the sampling and weighting methodology will become effective in accordance with section F of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** unless comments dictate otherwise. The Finance Board will accept written comments on or before October 26, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Address comments to Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board, (202) 408-2837, [bakere@fhfb.gov](mailto:bakere@fhfb.gov),

Federal Housing Finance Board, Office of Information Management and Technology Support, 1777 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006. Comments will be available for inspection at this address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph A. McKenzie, Deputy Chief Economist, (202) 408-2845, [mckenziej@fhfb.gov](mailto:mckenziej@fhfb.gov), Office of Policy, Research, and Analysis, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **A. Background**

The Finance Board conducts and prepares the Monthly Survey of Rates and Terms on Conventional 1-Family Nonfarm Mortgage Loans. This survey, usually called the "Monthly Interest Rate Survey" (MIRS), asks a sample of approximately 300 mortgage lenders to report the terms and conditions on all conventional mortgage loans for the purchase of single-family, nonfarm homes that they close during the last 5 working days of the month. The sample of lenders includes savings associations, mortgage companies, commercial banks, and savings banks that have volunteered to participate in the survey. MIRS provides national and regional data on mortgage interest rates, mortgage terms, and house prices. The Finance Board's regulations describe MIRS more thoroughly. *See* 12 CFR 906.3.

From 1963 to September 1989, the former Federal Home Loan Bank Board conducted MIRS. Identical provisions in the Federal National Mortgage Association Charter Act, 12 U.S.C. 1717(b)(2), and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act, 12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2), allow these two government-sponsored enterprises annually to adjust the maximum size of mortgage loans they can purchase or guarantee by the October-over-October percentage price change in house prices as reported in MIRS "conducted by the Federal Housing Finance Board."

More recently, the 1994 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) appropriation act tied the high-cost area limits for Federal Housing Administration (FHA)-insured mortgages to the purchase-price limitations of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, thus linking the FHA limits indirectly to MIRS. *See* Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, Pub. L. 103-327, 108 Stat. 2298 (Sept. 28, 1994). In addition, the Internal Revenue Service uses the data from MIRS to set the safe-harbor purchase-price limits for

mortgages purchased with the proceeds of mortgage revenue bond issues. *See* 26 CFR 6a.103A-2(f)(5).

Beyond its use for indexing the conforming loan limit, MIRS provides information for general statistical purposes and program evaluation. Economic policy makers use the data to determine interest rates, down payments, terms to maturity, terms on adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs), initial fees and charges on mortgage loans, and other trends in mortgage markets. Information from MIRS regularly appears in the popular and trade press.

Around the 26th of each month, the Finance Board publishes a MIRS press release with mortgage rate and term information by property type (all, newly built, and previously occupied; Table I), by loan type (adjustable-rate and fixed-rate; Table II), and by lender type (savings association, mortgage company, commercial bank, savings bank; Table III), and a table providing data on 15- and 30-year conforming fixed-rate loans (Table V). In addition, it publishes quarterly tables with rate and term information for metropolitan areas (Table IV) and for Federal Home Loan Bank districts (Table VI).

An ARM index derived from MIRS—the National Average Contract Mortgage Rate for the Purchase of Previously Occupied Homes—was the only ARM index that Federally chartered savings institutions could use for a period in the early 1980's. A very small proportion of existing ARMs may use another interest-rate series from MIRS as an ARM index.

##### **B. Current Sampling and Weighting of the Data**

The Finance Board samples savings associations, mortgage companies, commercial banks, and savings banks for MIRS because it publishes monthly aggregate data by lender type. In addition, the Finance Board samples lenders representing all regions because it publishes quarterly data for 31 selected large metropolitan areas, quarterly data for the 12 Federal Home Loan Bank districts, and annual data for all 50 states and for 60 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs).

As with most survey data, the tabulated MIRS data reflect the weighting of the individual responses. The current weighting draws depository institutions with equal probabilities of selection from "lender-type geo strata" (for example, commercial banks in Nebraska, savings associations from the Cincinnati MSA, or savings banks from the Boston CMSA). Since the sample of loans reported in a given month may differ from true lending experience (for