

Dated: June 17, 2004.  
**Alvin Hall,**  
*Director, Management Analysis and Services  
 Office, Centers for Disease Control and  
 Prevention.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
 HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and  
 Families**

**Proposed Information Collection  
 Activity; Comment Request**

**Proposed Projects**

*Title:* Survey of Early Head Start  
 Programs.

*OMB No.:* New Collection.

*Description:* The Head Start  
 Reauthorization Act of 1994 established  
 a special initiative creating funding for  
 services for families with infants and  
 toddlers. In response, the  
 Administration on Children, Youth and  
 Families (ACYF) within the

Administration for Children and  
 Families (ACF) developed the Early  
 Head Start program. Early Head Start  
 programs are designed to produce  
 outcomes in four domains: (1) Child  
 development, (2) family development,  
 (3) staff development, and (4)  
 community development. As a  
 requirement of the Reauthorization Act,  
 ACYF funded a rigorous randomized  
 trial to study the effectiveness of Early  
 Head Start programs, sampling from 17  
 programs funded in the initial years.  
 That research found positive effects of  
 the program overall in a variety of areas,  
 as well as effects for different program  
 types and levels of implementation, and  
 among study participants with different  
 characteristics.

The aim of the current research is to  
 obtain a national picture of Early Head  
 Start. This initiative will begin a process  
 of describing how the Early Head Start  
 initiative has grown over time, how  
 programs are currently implementing  
 services, and who is being served. The  
 study will be conducted between  
 September 2004 and May 2005.

The data will consist of a survey of all  
 Early Head Start programs in October  
 2004 and site visits to a selected sample  
 of 25 programs in early 2005. All data  
 collection instruments have been  
 designed to minimize the burden on  
 respondents by minimizing the time  
 required to respond. Participation in the  
 study is voluntary.

The results of the research will be  
 used by the Head Start Bureau and ACF  
 to gain a better understanding of  
 changes in program processes and  
 services over time, to identify areas of  
 strength and weakness in order to target  
 training and technical assistance or  
 further research efforts, and finally, to  
 provide a broader context for lessons  
 learned from the impact study.

*Respondents:* Early Head Start  
 directors, Early Head Start coordinators  
 and specialists, teachers, home visitors,  
 and parents of Early Head Start  
 children.

**Annual Burden Estimates**

Estimated Response Burden for  
 Respondents to the Survey of Early  
 Head Start Programs

Instrument	Number of re- spondents	Number of re- sponses per respondent	Average bur- den hours per response	Annual burden hours
Survey of Programs (2004) .....	<sup>a</sup> 595	1	3.0	1,785.0
Site Visit Protocol (2005):				
Director Protocol .....	25	1	3.0	75.0
Coordinator/Specialist Protocol: <sup>b</sup>				
Community Partnership .....	25	1	1.0	25.0
Disabilities .....	25	1	1.0	25.0
Early Childhood .....	25	1	1.0	25.0
Family Partnership .....	25	1	1.0	25.0
Home Visiting .....	25	1	1.0	25.0
Teacher Protocol <sup>c</sup> .....	125	1	1.5	187.5
Home Visitor Protocol <sup>c</sup> .....	125	1	1.5	187.5
Parent Protocol <sup>c</sup> .....	125	1	1.5	187.5
<b>Total for Site Visits .....</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>762.5</b>

<sup>a</sup> Assumes 85 percent response rate for the survey.

<sup>b</sup> Not all programs will have staff in each position, therefore, burden estimates for some programs may be overstated.

<sup>c</sup> Assumes group interviews with up to five individuals per site. Assumes that all sites have both home visitors and teachers, although when that is not the case, the burden estimates will be overstated.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden  
 Hours: 2,547.5.*

In compliance with the requirements  
 of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the  
 Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the  
 Administration for Children and  
 Families is soliciting public comment  
 on the specific aspects of the  
 information collection described above.  
 Copies of the proposed collection of  
 information can be obtained and  
 comments may be forwarded by writing  
 to the Administration for Children and  
 Families, Office of Information Services,  
 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW.,  
 Washington, DC 20447, Attn: ACF  
 Reports Clearance Officer. All requests

should be identified by the title of the  
 information collection. E-mail address:  
*grjohnson@acf.hhs.gov.*

The Department specifically requests  
 comments 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 of the  
 proposed collection of information; (c)  
 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.  
 Consideration will be given to  
 comments and suggestions submitted  
 within 60 days of this publication.

Dated: June 16, 2004.  
**Robert Sargis,**  
*Reports Clearance Officer.*  
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