

women, and others also use the detailed geographic data to monitor growth and plan for local services and to develop production and marketing plans. The Building Permits Survey is the only source of statistics on residential construction for States and smaller geographic areas. Building permits are public records so the information is not subject to disclosure restrictions.

## II. Method of Collection

The Census Bureau collects this information by mail; respondents return forms by mail or fax. Some respondents send electronic files or printouts of permit information in lieu of completing the form. We are currently developing a system to provide an option for Web-based reporting which is scheduled to be operational in 2010.

The survey universe is comprised of approximately 19,375 local governments that issue building permits. Monthly, we collect this information by mail for about 8,200 permit-issuing jurisdictions and via electronic files or printouts of permits for about 625 jurisdictions. Annually, we collect this information by mail for the remaining 10,550 jurisdictions.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0607-0094.

*Form Number:* C-404.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* State and Local Governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 19,375.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 8 minutes for monthly respondents who report by mailing or faxing the form, 3 minutes for monthly respondents who send electronic files or printouts, and 23 minutes for annual respondents who report by mailing or faxing the form.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 17,539.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* \$420,745.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

**Legal Authority:** Title 13, United States Code, 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: September 24, 2009.

**Glenna Mickelson,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-23530 Filed 9-29-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-09-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### U.S. Census Bureau

#### **Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Annual Survey of Manufactures Management and Organizational Practices Module**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**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:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before November 30, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 7845, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Mendel D. Gayle, Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Rd., Rm 7K055, Washington, DC 20233, (301) 763-4587 or via the Internet at [mendel.d.gayle@census.gov](mailto:mendel.d.gayle@census.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Abstract**

The Census Bureau plans to conduct the Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) Management and Organizational Practices Module for survey year 2010 with subsequent data collection

activities for this survey pending funding. The Census Bureau has conducted the Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) since 1949 to provide key measures of manufacturing activity during intercensal periods. In census years ending in "2" and "7", we mail and collect the ASM as part of the Economic Census covering the Manufacturing Sector. This survey is an integral part of the Government's statistical program. The ASM furnishes up-to-date estimates of employment and payroll, hours and wages of production workers, value added by manufacture, cost of materials, value of shipments by product class, inventories, and expenditures for both plant and equipment and structures. This survey module would utilize the ASM survey panel collecting information on management and organizational practices at the establishment level. The data obtained from the module will allow us to estimate a firm's stock of management and organizational assets, specifically the use of decentralized decision rights and greater investments in human capital. The results will provide information on investments in organizational practices thus gain a better understanding of the benefits from these investments when measured in terms of firm productivity or firm market value.

A manufacturing sector establishment based survey on management and organizational practices would provide information on the dimensions of organizational capital for this sector not currently available. This ASM clearance request will be for the year 2010.

## II. Method of Collection

The ASM Management and Organizational Practices Module will be mailed separately from the ASM and utilize mail out/mail back survey forms. The mail portion will be comprised of a probability sample of approximately 50,000 manufacturing establishments from a frame of approximately 225,000 establishments. These 225,000 establishments were all manufacturing establishments of multiunit companies (companies with operations at more than one location) and all single-location manufacturing companies that were mailed in the 2007 Census of Manufacturing.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* None.

*Form Number:* MA-10002.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or Other for Profit, Non-profit Institutions, Small Businesses or Organizations, and State or Local Governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50,000.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 25,000.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* The estimated cost to the respondents is \$643,000.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, sections 182, 224, and 225.

#### 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: September 24, 2009.

**Glenna Mickelson,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. E9-23531 Filed 9-29-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-09-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### U.S. Census Bureau

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Government Employment Forms

**AGENCY:** U.S. Census Bureau.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**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:** To ensure consideration written comments must be submitted on or before November 30, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 7845, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [DHynek@doc.gov](mailto:DHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Ellen Thompson, Chief, Employment Branch, Governments Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-6800 (301-763-1531) (or via the Internet at [ellen.ann.thompson@census.gov](mailto:ellen.ann.thompson@census.gov)).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to request clearance for the forms necessary to conduct the public employment program which consists of an annual collection of information and a quinquennial collection in a census environment in years ending in "2" or "7". During the upcoming three years, we intend to conduct the 2010 and 2011 Annual Survey of Government Employment and the 2012 Census of Governments—Employment phase.

Under Title 13, section 161 & 182, of the United States Code, the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to conduct the public employment program, which collects and disseminates data by function for full-time and part-time employees, payroll, and number of part-time hours worked. The number and content of the data items collected are the same in the annual and census cycles.

The burden hours we will request are based on the expected 2010 annual survey mail out of 16,956 forms.

The State and local government statistics produced cover national, State, and local aggregates on various functions with comparative detail for individual governments for the pay period that includes March 12. The public employment program provides the only comprehensive count of employees and payrolls in State and local governments. Government employees constitute approximately one-sixth of the entire U.S. workforce and their salaries are a major source of personal income.

The Census Bureau provides this employment data to the Bureau of Economic Analysis for constructing the functional payrolls in the public sector Gross Domestic Product, payroll being

the single largest component of current operations. Other government users include the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as a benchmark for its monthly employment programs, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to establish payroll guidelines for local public housing authorities.

The public employment program has increasingly been used as the base for reimbursable programs of other Federal agencies such as: (1) The government portion of the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey commissioned by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to provide timely, comprehensive information about health care use and costs in the United States, and (2) The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) survey Criminal Justice Expenditure and Employment Survey which provides criminal justice expenditure and employment data on spending and personnel levels.

Statistics are produced as data files in both electronic and printed formats. The program has made possible the dissemination of comprehensive and comparable governmental statistics since 1940.

The many users of the public employment program data include Federal agencies, State and local governments and related organizations, public interest groups, and many business, market, and private research organizations.

##### II. Method of Collection

Approximately 16,956 State agencies, county governments, consolidated city-county governments, independent cities, towns, townships, special district governments, and public school systems designated for the annual survey will be sent an appropriate form or the data will be collected through a data sharing arrangement between the Census Bureau and the State government.

We developed cooperative agreements with State and large local government officials to collect the data from their dependent agencies and report to us as one central respondent. These arrangements eliminate the need for a mail canvass of approximately 3,464 State agencies and 129 school systems. The agreements reduce burden by greatly reducing the number of people who have to look at a form and complete, and by pulling data from an already centralized source instead of from multiple sources. Currently we have central collection agreements with 45 states, four local school district governments, and ten local governments. We continue to work at expanding the conversion of paper