

**Comments**

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of Rural Business-Cooperative Service, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of Rural Business-Cooperative Service's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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 those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments on the paperwork burden may be sent to Jeanne Jacobs, Regulations and Paperwork Management Branch, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP 0742, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-0742. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 26, 2013.

**Lillian Salerno,**

*Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.*

[FR Doc. 2013-27097 Filed 11-12-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Bureau of the Census**

[Docket Number 131022882-3882-01]

**Annual Surveys in the Manufacturing Area**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of determination.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is conducting the 2014 Annual Surveys in the Manufacturing Area. The 2014 Annual Surveys consist of the Annual Survey of Manufactures, the Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS), and the Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey. We have determined that annual data collected from these surveys are needed to aid the efficient performance of essential governmental functions, and have significant application to the needs of the public and industry. The data derived from these surveys, most of

which have been conducted for many years, are not publicly available from nongovernmental or other governmental sources.

**ADDRESSES:** The Census Bureau will furnish report forms to organizations included in the surveys. Additional copies are available upon written request to the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-0101.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mendel D. Gayle, Chief, Manufacturing and Construction Division at (301) 763-4587 or by email at [mendel.d.gayle@census.gov](mailto:mendel.d.gayle@census.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Census Bureau is authorized to conduct mandatory surveys necessary to furnish current data on the subjects covered by the major censuses authorized by Title 13, United States Code, sections 61, 81, 131, 182, 193, 224, and 225. These surveys will provide continuing and timely national statistical data on manufacturing for the period between economic censuses. The data collected in the surveys will be within the general scope and nature of those inquiries covered in the economic census. The next economic census will be conducted for the year 2017.

**Annual Survey of Manufactures**

The Annual Survey of Manufactures collects industry statistics, such as total value of shipments, employment, payroll, workers' hours, capital expenditures, cost of materials consumed, supplemental labor costs, and so forth. This survey is conducted on a sample basis, and covers all manufacturing industries, including data on plants under construction but not yet in operation. All data items are collected on a mandatory basis under the authority of Title 13, United States Code.

**Business R&D and Innovation Survey**

The Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS) measures spending on research and development activities by United States businesses. This survey replaced the Survey of Industrial Research and Development that had been collected since the 1950's. The BRDIS collects global as well as domestic spending information, more detailed information about the R&D workforce, and information regarding innovation and intellectual property from U.S. businesses. The Census Bureau collects and compiles this information in accordance with a joint project agreement between the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Census Bureau. The NSF posts the joint project's information results on their

Web site. All data items are collected on a mandatory basis under the authority of Title 13, United States Code.

**Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey**

The Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey collects data on sales and unfilled orders in order to provide annual benchmarks for unfilled orders for the monthly Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey. The Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) provides annual benchmarks for the shipments and inventory data collected in the M3 monthly survey. The Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey data will also be used to determine whether it is necessary to collect unfilled orders data for specific industries on a monthly basis; some industries are not requested to provide unfilled orders data on the M3 Survey. All data items are collected on a mandatory basis under the authority of Title 13, United States Code.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) unless that collection of information displays a current valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 45, OMB approved the annual surveys under the following OMB control numbers: Annual Survey of Manufactures, 0607-0449; Business R&D and Innovation Survey, 0607-0912; and Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey, 0607-0561.

Based upon the foregoing, I have directed that the Annual Surveys in the Manufacturing Area be conducted for the purpose of collecting these data.

Dated: November 6, 2013.

**John H. Thompson,**

*Director, Bureau of the Census.*

[FR Doc. 2013-27177 Filed 11-12-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-07-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Bureau of the Census**

[Docket Number 131029910-3910-01]

**Annual Wholesale Trade Survey**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce

**ACTION:** Notice of determination.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) publishes this notice to

announce that the Director of the Census Bureau has determined the need to conduct the 2013 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey (AWTS). The AWTS covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Wholesale Trade sector as defined by the 2007 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Through this survey, the Census Bureau will collect data covering annual sales, e-commerce sales, purchases, total operating expenses, year-end inventories held both inside and outside the United States, commissions, total operating revenue, and gross selling value, for three components of wholesale activity: wholesale distributors; manufacturers' sales branches and offices; and agents, brokers, and electronic markets. These data are collected to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various government agencies. Results will be available for use for a variety of public and business needs such as economic and market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demand. The Census Bureau conducts the AWTS to provide continuing and timely national statistical data on wholesale trade annually.

**ADDRESSES:** The Census Bureau will provide report forms to businesses included in the survey. Additional copies are available upon written request to the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-0101.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Abriatis, Service Sector Statistics Division, at (301) 763-3686 or by email at [william.m.abriatis@census.gov](mailto:william.m.abriatis@census.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Sections 182, 224, and 225 of Title 13 of the United States Code authorize the Census Bureau to take surveys that are necessary to produce current data on the subjects covered by the major censuses. As part of this authorization, the Census Bureau conducts the AWTS to provide continuing and timely national statistical data on wholesale trade activity every year for the period between economic censuses. The AWTS covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Wholesale Trade sector as defined by the 2007 NAICS. The 2013 AWTS will collect data for three components of wholesale activity: wholesale distributors; manufacturers' sales branches and offices; and agents, brokers, and electronic markets. For wholesale distributors, the Census Bureau will

collect data covering sales, e-commerce sales, year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States, purchases, and total operating expenses. For manufacturers' sales branches and offices, the Census Bureau will collect data covering annual sales, e-commerce sales, year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States, and total operating expenses. For agents, brokers, and electronic markets, the Census Bureau will collect data covering commissions, total operating revenue, gross selling value, and total operating expenses. The Census Bureau has determined that this survey is necessary as these data are not available publicly on a timely basis from non-governmental or other government sources.

Firms were selected for the AWTS survey using a stratified random sample based on industry groupings and annual sales size. We will provide report forms to the firms covered by this survey in February 2013, and will require their responses within 50 days after receipt. Firms' responses to the AWTS are required by law (Title 13 U.S.C. 182, 224, and 225). The sample of firms selected will provide, with measurable reliability, statistics on annual sales, e-commerce sales, purchases, total operating expenses, year-end inventories held both inside and outside the United States, commissions, total operating revenue, and gross selling value for 2013.

The data collected in this survey will be similar to that collected in the past and within the general scope and nature of those inquiries covered in the quinquennial economic census, which was most recently conducted in 2012. These data are collected to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various government agencies. Results will be available for use for a variety of public and business needs such as economic and market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demand.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) unless that collection of information displays a current valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521, OMB approved the AWTS under OMB control number 0607-0195.

Based upon the foregoing, I have directed that the annual survey be conducted for the purpose of collecting these data.

Dated: November 6, 2013.

**John H. Thompson,**

*Director, Bureau of the Census.*

[FR Doc. 2013-27160 Filed 11-12-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-07-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of the Census (U.S. Census Bureau) is giving notice of a meeting of the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee (FESAC). The Committee will advise the Directors of the Economics and Statistics Administration's (ESA) two statistical agencies, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the Census Bureau, and the Commissioner of the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on statistical methodology and other technical matters related to the collection, tabulation, and analysis of federal economic statistics. Last minute changes to the agenda are possible, which could prevent giving advance public notice of schedule adjustments.

**DATES:** December 13, 2013. The meeting will begin at approximately 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at approximately 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the U.S. Census Bureau Conference Center, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James R. Spletzer, Designated Federal Official, Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Research and Methodology Directorate, Room 5K175, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233, telephone 301-763-4069, email: [james.r.spletzer@census.gov](mailto:james.r.spletzer@census.gov). For TTY callers, please call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 and give them the above listed number you would like to call. This service is free and confidential.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Members of the FESAC are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Committee advises the Directors of the BEA, the Census Bureau, and the Commissioner of the Department of Labor's BLS, on statistical methodology and other technical matters related to the collection, tabulation, and analysis of federal economic statistics. The Committee is established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee