DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Report of Building or Zoning Permits Issued for New Privately-Owned Housing Units

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the Federal Register on May 7, 2021 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce. Title: Report of Building or Zoning Permits Issued for New Privately-Owned Housing Units. OMB Control Number: 0607–0094. Form Number(s): C–404. Type of Request: Regular submission. Request for an Extension, without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

Number of Respondents: 20,000 respondents providing a total of 114,743 responses per year. Average Hours per Response: 9.22 minutes. Burden Hours: 17,625.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau conducts the Report of Building or Zoning Permits Issued for New Privately-Owned Housing Units, otherwise known as the Building Permits Survey (BPS) to collect data on new residential buildings from state and local permit-issuing offices. The key estimates from the survey are the numbers of new housing units authorized by building permits; data are also collected on the valuation of the housing units. Form C–404 specifically collects information on changes to the geographic coverage of the permit-issuing place, the number and valuation of new residential housing units authorized by building permits, and additional information on residential permits valued at $2 million or more, including, but not limited to, site address and type of building.

The Census Bureau produces statistics used to monitor activity in the large and dynamic construction industry. Given the importance of this industry, several of the statistical series have been designated by the Office of Management and Budget as Principal Economic Indicators. Two such indicators are directly dependent on the key estimates from the BPS. For New Residential Construction (which includes Housing Units Authorized by Building Permits, Housing Starts, and Housing Completions), form C–404 is used to collect the estimate for Housing Units Authorized by Building Permits. For New Residential Construction and Sales, the number of housing units authorized by building permits is a key component utilized in the estimation of housing units started, completed, and sold.

These statistics help state, local, and federal governments, as well as private industry, analyze this important sector of the economy. The building permit series are available monthly based on a sample of building permit offices, and annually based on the entire universe of permit offices. Published data from the survey can be found on the Census Bureau’s website at www.census.gov/permits.

Beginning January 2022, the U.S. Census Bureau is proposing to change the methodology for the tabulation of monthly Building Permit Survey. The methodology will change from a representative sample to a cutoff sample based on recent permit activity by jurisdiction. Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal government. Frequency: There are roughly 20,000 permit issuing jurisdictions in the United States. Slightly less than one-half of those permit offices are requested to report monthly. The remaining offices are surveyed annually.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary. Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182. This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0607–0094.

Shelleen Dumas, Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Spatial, Address, and Imagery Data Program

AGENCY: Census Bureau, Commerce. ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment on the proposed extension of the Spatial, Address, and Imagery Data (SAID) Program, prior to the submission of the information collection request (ICR) to OMB for approval.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before September 27, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by email to robin.a.pennington@census.gov. Please reference Spatial, Address, and Imagery Data Program in the subject line of your comments. You may also submit comments, identified by Docket Number USB–2021–0016, to the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. All comments received are part of the public record. No comments will be posted to http://www.regulations.gov for public viewing until after the comment period has closed. Comments will generally be posted without change. All Personally Identifiable Information (for example,
name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Matthew A. Zimolzak, Geography Division, Census Bureau, 301–763–9419, matthew.a.zimolzak@census.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Spatial, Address, and Imagery Data (SAID) Program is one of many voluntary geographic partnership programs that collects data to update the U.S. Census Bureau’s geographic database of addresses, streets, boundaries, and imagery, known as the Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing (MAF/TIGER) System. The Census Bureau uses the MAF/TIGER System to link demographic data from surveys and the decennial census to locations and areas, such as cities, American Indian reservations and trust lands, census tracts, and counties. In order to properly tabulate census and survey response data by the correct geographic area, the Census Bureau requires current and accurate addresses and boundaries.

The SAID Program provides the Census Bureau with a continuous method to obtain current, accurate, and complete address, street centerline, and imagery data from tribal, state, and local government partners. The purpose of the SAID Program is to help maintain the Census Bureau’s geographic framework for data collection, tabulation, and dissemination between decennial censuses and to support ongoing programs such as the American Community Survey and the Population Estimates Program. Over the past eight (8) years, the SAID Program, originally titled the Geographic Support System (GSS) Partnership Program, has enabled the Census Bureau to update addresses and street centerlines across the country, with participation covering nearly 89% of the housing units in the nation. Moving forward, the SAID Program will continue to focus on acquiring addresses, street centerlines, and imagery in areas targeted for housing unit growth or change.

II. Method of Collection

Each year, the SAID Program invitees are determined by several different evaluation factors, including address growth, address change, comparison with other Census Bureau statistics, past SAID or GSS Partnership Program participation status, and other factors. The Census Bureau contacts potential participants by telephone and email to request addresses, street centerlines, and imagery data that are no more than two years old, along with supporting metadata. In some cases, the Census Bureau will request entire datasets, while in other cases the Census Bureau may request only changes since a previous submission. The Census Bureau attempts to contact each invitee no less than three times before contact is rescheduled for a later cycle. The Census Bureau provides the participants who agree to provide data with information needed to create a Secure Web Incoming Module (SWIM) account, used for secure data transfers to the Census Bureau. Participants then submit their data in a single submission through the SWIM at their convenience. If a participant submits files with incomplete metadata, the Census Bureau will contact the participant requesting the additional metadata information. The Census Bureau will only process the files with appropriate metadata.

The data collected in the SAID Program may be used to define geographic boundaries, including census blocks, and to place households and group quarters in a specific census block. The SAID Program follows the process below:

1. The Census Bureau invites participants, including tribal, state, and local governments; federal agencies; and other authoritative organizations each fiscal year.
2. Participants are asked to provide a current address list with associated location points and attributes, street centerline, and/or imagery data for their jurisdiction that is no more than two years old.
3. Participants upload the requested data files using the SWIM, per Census Bureau procedures.
4. The Census Bureau validates then updates the MAF/TIGER System with the address and street centerline data provided by the participants and uses the provided imagery for quality control and change detection.
5. The Census Bureau uses the updated addresses and streets to support Census Bureau field operations, survey response collection, and data tabulation.

III. Data

| OMB Control Number: 0607–1008. |
| Form Number(s): None. |
| Type of Review: Regular submission. |
| Affected Public: Tribal, state, county and local governments and other organizations. |
| Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,500. |
| • Census Bureau Contact with Local Governments: 1,000. |
| • Census Bureau Acquisition of Local Geographic Data and Content Clarification: 500. |
| Estimated Time per Response: 2.5 hours. |
| • Census Bureau Contact with Local Governments: 1 hour. |
| • Census Bureau Acquisition of Local Geographic Data and Content Clarification: 1,500. |
| Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,500. |
| • Census Bureau Contact with Local Governments: 1,000. |
| • Census Bureau Acquisition of Local Geographic Data and Content Clarification: 1,500. |
| Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $0. (This is not the cost of respondents’ time, but the indirect costs respondents may incur for such things as purchases of specialized software or hardware needed to report, or expenditures for accounting or records maintenance services required specifically by the collection.) |
| Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary. |
| Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C. 16, 141, and 193. |

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include, or summarize, each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Management and Organizational Practices Survey (MOPS) 2021

AGENCY: Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment on the proposed reinstatement, with change, of the Management and Organizational Practices Survey, prior to the submission of the information collection request (ICR) to OMB for approval.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before September 27, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by email to Thomas.J.Smith@census.gov. Please reference Management and Organizational Practices Survey (MOPS) 2021 in the subject line of your comments. You may also submit comments, identified by Docket Number USBC--2021--0018, to the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. All comments received are part of the public record. No comments will be posted to http://www.regulations.gov for public viewing until after the comment period has closed. Comments will generally be posted without change. All Personally Identifiable Information (for example, name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Marlo Thornton, Assistant Division Chief, Economy-Wide Statistics Division, at marlo.n.thornton@census.gov or 301–763–7170.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to conduct the Management and Organizational Practices Survey (MOPS) for survey year 2021; the survey was previously conducted for survey years 2010 and 2015. The survey will be conducted as a joint project by the Census Bureau, the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, Stanford School of Humanities and Sciences, and the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. The MOPS will utilize the Annual Survey of Manufacturers (ASM) mail-out sample and will collect information on management and organizational practices at the establishment level. The Census Bureau has conducted the ASM since 1949 to provide key measures of manufacturing activity during intercensal periods. In years that we conduct the Economic Census, years ending in “2” and “7”, we do not mail the ASM but collect the data as part of the Economic Census covering the Manufacturing Sector. The ASM is an integral part of the Federal Government’s statistical program, furnishing up-to-date estimates of employment and payroll, hours and wages of production workers, value added by manufacture, cost of materials, value of shipments, inventories, and expenditures for both plant and equipment and structures. The data obtained from the MOPS will allow the Census Bureau to estimate a firm’s stock of management and organizational assets, specifically the use of decentralized decision rights and establishment performance data such as production targets in decision-making. These data will provide information on investments in management and organizational practices, which will lead to a better understanding of the benefits from these investments when measured in terms of firm productivity or firm market value. This survey on management and organizational practices will provide information on the dimensions of organizational capital for this sector not currently available elsewhere. This clearance request will be for the survey year 2021. The Census Bureau plans to make the following changes to the 2015 MOPS content for the 2021 survey:

• Add a new purchased services module on the establishment’s use of its own employees, contractors, temporary staff, or leased workers for select business expenses.
• Update the data and decision-making module by removing five of the six questions, maintaining a question asking who decides what data to collect for continuity, and adding nine questions focused on the frontier uses of data to inform artificial intelligence.
• Add three questions to the background characteristics module on the establishment’s use of an external Certified Public Accountant.
• Simplify questions on the location of decision-making in multi-location firms in the organization module by combining them into a single table and removing write-in responses.
• Remove four forecasting questions in the uncertainty module.
• Remove two questions related to the establishment’s background characteristics.
• Remove all questions about a five-year recall period.

II. Method of Collection

The 2021 MOPS will be mailed separately from the 2021 ASM and will utilize an entirely electronic collection. Unlike the ASM that mails to the headquarters of companies with multiple locations, the MOPS will be mailed directly to the individual establishments. Initial contact with respondents will be a mailed letter directing them to report online. Respondents will report electronically through the Census Bureau’s Centurion online reporting system. The sample for the 2021 MOPS will consist of the approximately 50,000 establishments in the 2021 ASM mail-out sample. The mail-out sample for the ASM is redesigned at 5-year intervals beginning the second survey year after the Economic Census. For the 2019 ASM, a new probability sample was selected from a frame of approximately 100,000 manufacturing establishments in the 2017 Economic Census that had paid employees, were located in the United States, and were associated with multi-