

Done in Washington, DC, this 25th day of March 2026.

Kelly Moore,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2026-0069]

Notice of Request To Renew an Approved Information Collection: Laboratory Assessment Requests

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, FSIS is announcing its intention to request a renewal of the approved information collection for non-FSIS laboratories (state, local, or private) that test food samples during illness outbreaks and recall investigations. There are no changes to the existing information collection. The approval for this information collection will expire on August 31, 2026.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 26, 2026.

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this **Federal Register** notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** This website provides commenters the ability to type short comments directly into the comment field on the web page or to attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- **Mail:** Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

- **Hand- or courier-delivered submittals:** Deliver to 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Jamie L. Whitten Building, Room 350-E, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2026-0069. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any

personal information, to <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Docket: For access to background documents or comments received, call (202) 286-2255 to schedule a time to visit the FSIS Docket Room at 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gina Kouba, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; 202-720-5046.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Laboratory Assessment Requests.

OMB Number: 0583-0183.

Type of Request: Renewal of an approved information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary (7 CFR 2.18 and 2.53), as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451 *et seq.*), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031 *et seq.*). These statutes mandate that FSIS protect the public by verifying that meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and properly labeled.

FSIS is announcing its intention to renew the approved information collection for non-FSIS laboratories (State, local, or private) that test food samples during illness outbreak and recall investigations. There are no changes to the existing information collection. The approval for this information collection will expire on August 31, 2026.

As a public health regulatory agency, FSIS investigates reports of foodborne illness, contamination, and adulteration potentially associated with FSIS-regulated products. During these investigations, non-FSIS laboratories may test FSIS-regulated product and share the results with FSIS. FSIS Office of Public Health Science (OPHS) Microbiological and Chemical Hazards Staff (MCHS) will review the results and associated documentation shared by the non-FSIS laboratory to determine whether FSIS will accept the results. If the MCHS lead investigator determines the non-FSIS laboratory result is acceptable, FSIS may use the result to inform regulatory action (*e.g.*, request a recall or detain product).

As part of the process to determine if the non-FSIS laboratory result is acceptable, the MCHS lead investigator collects information from the non-FSIS laboratory and verifies that the non-FSIS

laboratory can provide the appropriate certifications and documentation of accreditation, such as ISO 17025, or another third-party accreditation entity covering the methods performed. The MCHS lead investigator also verifies that the laboratory has submitted to FSIS all the necessary information, including evidence of chain of custody, and the appropriate laboratory reports with sample identification, final results, and authorization by the responsible official for affirming results. Finally, the MCHS investigator collects and verifies laboratory methods and quality-assurance records documentation from the accredited, non-FSIS laboratory.

FSIS has made the estimates below based on an information collection assessment.

Respondents: Non-FSIS laboratories.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 3.
Estimated Number of Annual Responses per Respondent: 1.
Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 22.5 hours.

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. Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from Gina Kouba, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3758, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-3700; 202-720-5046.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS' functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the method 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, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both FSIS, at the addresses provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20253.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this **Federal Register** publication on-line through the FSIS

web page located at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS will also announce and provide a link to this **Federal Register** publication through the FSIS *Constituent Update*, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The *Constituent Update* is available on the FSIS web page. Through the web page, FSIS can provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service that provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe>. The available information ranges from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Justin Ransom,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Regional Economic Development Data Collection Instrument

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 January 23, 2026 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce.

Title: Regional Economic Development Data Collection Instrument.

OMB Control Number: 0610-0110.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

Number of Respondents: A total of 21 coalitions (with a designated lead) will respond.

Average Hours per Response: 2.5 hours per respondent per quarter.

Burden Hours: 210 hours.

Needs and Uses: To effectively administer and monitor its economic development assistance programs, EDA collects certain information from applications for, and recipients of, EDA investment assistance. The purpose of

this notice is to seek comments from the public and other Federal agencies on a request for recipients of awards under the EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge.

The proposed information collection employs a mixed methods approach to gather traditional metrics in addition to qualitative data on all regions participating in the Build Back Better Regional Challenge program. Secondary data will be gathered and monitored for each of the regions/awardees. A quarterly questionnaire is sent to each of the BBBRC coalition leads which will gather the relevant data and stories for each of the 21 BBBRC coalitions, resulting in coalition regional impact evaluation, resources, and tools for regional economic development decision-makers.

The collection explores several thematic areas for the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, where each of the following areas are based on survey scope of work themes:

1. Accelerating innovation in emerging technologies to gain an understanding of the long-term impact of economic and social sectors.
2. Helping workers access information on new job opportunities, job placement, and job training and prepare for and be hired into jobs.
3. Increasing new business growth and entrepreneurial activities within industry sectors.
4. Building critical infrastructure such as roads, water and sewer miles, business and industries to allow for economic development and growth.
5. Helping businesses adopt new technologies so that they may enter new markets, increasing their economic capacity and overall sustainability.

Coalition leads will respond to the appropriate thematic area, answering questions related to the following process and progress:

- Reflections and updates on the coalition implementation process and progress.
- The ability to secure additional non-federal investments.
- Detailing the programs, training, and curricula developed/launched for job training/workforce development.
- Job creation, wage growth, and existing employee growth and development.

Affected Public: Recipients of Build Back Better Regional Challenge awards, which may include a(n): district organization; Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; state, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or