

not Federal government employees (federal employees are subject to Federal ethics requirements). For peer review purposes, the term “conflicts of interest” means any financial or other interest which conflicts with the service of the individual because it could: (1) significantly impair the individual’s objectivity; or (2) create an unfair competitive advantage for any person or organization. NOAA has adapted the NAS policy and developed two confidential conflict disclosure forms which the agency will use to examine prospective reviewers’ potential financial conflicts and other interests that could impair objectivity or create an unfair advantage. One form is for peer reviewers of studies related to government regulation and the other form is for all other influential scientific information subject to the Peer Review Bulletin. The forms include questions about employment as well as investment and property interests and research funding. Curriculum vitae are also required. The information collected in the conflict of interest disclosure is essential to NOAA’s compliance with the OMB PRB, and helps to ensure that government studies are reviewed by independent, impartial peer reviewers.

Revision: the form adapted from the general scientific and technical studies form, for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) laboratory reviewers has not been used, and will be removed from the collection; OAR continues to use the previously existing form.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482–0336, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at Jjessup@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: January 24, 2014.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014–01795 Filed 1–29–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Census Bureau

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; State and Local Government Finance Forms

AGENCY: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

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 March 31, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Jeff Barnett, Chief, Local Government Finance and Statistics Branch, Governments Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233–6800 (301–763–2787 or Jeffrey.L.Barnett@census.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to request clearance for the forms necessary to conduct the public finance program, which consists of an annual collection of information and a quinquennial collection in the census years ending in “2” and “7”. During the upcoming three years, we intend to conduct the 2014 through 2016 Annual Surveys of State and Local Government Finances.

The Annual Surveys of State and Local Government Finances collect data on state government finances and estimates of local government revenue, expenditure, debt, assets, and pension systems nationally and within state areas. The surveys include the Annual Survey of State Government Finances, the Annual Survey of Local Government Finances, and the Annual Survey of Public Pensions. Data are collected for all agencies, departments, and institutions of the fifty state

governments and for a sample of all local governments (counties, municipalities, townships, and special districts). Data for school districts are collected under a separate survey. In the census year, equivalent data are collected from all local governments.

The Census Bureau is exploring the possibility of reducing the number and content of items collected on survey forms of local government finances in the intercensal years. The reduction in form item collection will reduce respondent burden as well as reduce the time needed to edit, analyze, and disseminate data for the Annual Survey of Local Government Finances. Any final decisions on form revisions will be included in the formal clearance package submitted to the Office of Management and Budget after the comment period associated with this notice has ended. In addition, any reduction in form item collection occurring in 2014–2016 will be restored in the next quinquennial Census of Governments in 2017.

The Census Bureau provides these data to the Bureau of Economic Analysis to develop the public sector components of the National Income and Product Accounts and to the Federal Reserve Board for use in the Flow of Funds Accounts. Other Federal agencies that make use of the data include the Council of Economic Advisors, the Government Accountability Office, and the Department of Justice. Other users include state and local governments and related organizations, public policy groups, researchers, and private sector businesses.

Statistics are produced as data files in electronic formats. The program has collected comprehensive and comparable governmental statistics since 1957.

II. Method of Collection

These surveys use multiple modes for data collection including Internet collection, mail canvass, telephone, and central collection. Canvass methodology primarily consists of a mail out/mail back questionnaire and Internet data collection. Other methods used to collect data and maximize response include collecting state and local government data through submitted financial audits, state financial reports, and comprehensive financial reports.

The Census Bureau developed central collection agreements with state and large local government officials to collect the data from their dependent agencies and report to the Census Bureau as a central respondent. These arrangements eliminate the need for a mail canvass of approximately 4,000

governmental units. The arrangements reduce burden by greatly reducing the number of people who have to complete a form as the data are collected from a centralized source instead of from multiple sources. Currently, the Census Bureau has central collection arrangements to collect local government data with 28 states and state government data from all 50 states. The Census Bureau continues to expand the conversion of paper submissions into electronic formats by collaborating with state and local governments regarding electronic reporting of central collection data, and encouraging electronic responses from individual governments.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0607-0585.

Form Number: F-5, F-11, F-12, F-12(S), F-13, F-25, F-28, F-29, F-32, and F-42.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: State and local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 11,895.

Estimated Time per Response: 2.910 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 34,616.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$888,391.

Respondents Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C. 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: January 27, 2014.

Glenna Mickelson,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014-01834 Filed 1-29-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; SSA Supplement on Retirement, Pensions, and Related Content (SSA Supplement), 2014

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 March 31, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Jason M. Fields, Census Bureau, Room HQ-7H069, Washington, DC 20233-8400, (301) 763-2465 (or via the Internet at jason.m.fields@census.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to conduct a survey for the Social Security Administration (SSA) beginning in September 2014. The survey is the SSA Supplement on Retirement, Pensions, and Related Content (SSA Supplement), which is the first externally sponsored supplement to the newly redesigned Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). The sample for the SSA Supplement will come from completed interviews from Wave 1 of the 2014 panel of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, conducted from February to May of 2014 (2014 SIPP, OMB approval number 0607-0977). The SSA Supplement is expected to be conducted once per SIPP Panel, after the completion of Wave 1 interviews. Questions in the SSA Supplement are from 2008 SIPP topical modules selected by the SSA, with minimal modifications (2008 SIPP, OMB approval number 0607-0944).

The SSA bases two of its major policy micro-simulations on the SIPP: (1) Modeling Income in the Near Term (MINT) for evaluating Social Security reform; and, (2) the Financial Eligibility Model (FEM) for evaluating Supplemental Security Income, Qualified Medicare Beneficiary, and Medicare Part-D Low Income Subsidy programs. Recent economic events have had a profound impact on the overall economic well-being of our nation, and underscore the importance of the data the Social Security Administration is seeking to collect. Of specific importance to the SSA is the impact of this economic crisis on current and future beneficiaries. Since the 1996 SIPP panel, the SSA has used data collected by the SIPP for policy evaluation research and the modification of government programs. Prior to the 2014 SIPP redesign, the data came from core questions asked each wave and from intermittent topical supplements. As part of an effort to streamline the annual data collection in the SIPP instrument, the redesigned SIPP does not include some topical data previously used by the SSA for the MINT and FEM models. These items include detailed questions on personal retirement accounts, retirement and pension plans from current and previous employment, complete marital history, and functional limitations and disabilities affecting employment and daily living. The SSA Supplement will continue the collection of this necessary data which the SSA cannot obtain from any other source.

The Census Bureau, through sponsorship by the SSA, plans to collect the SSA Supplement data using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI). Interviews for the SSA supplement will not be conducted through personal visits.

Approximately 35,000 households are expected to be interviewed from the initial sample fielded in Wave 1 of the 2014 SIPP panel. Each household averages 2.1 people aged 15 and above, yielding approximately 73,500 person-level interviews. The sample for the SSA Supplement will consist of all households that have completed interviews, either in person or by telephone, from 2014 SIPP Wave 1. New additions to the household between the 2014 SIPP interview and the SSA Supplement interview will not be included in the SSA Supplement; however, movers will be followed and interviewed, as they are in the SIPP. Interviews take approximately 30 minutes per adult on average; consequently, the total burden for SSA Supplement interviews will be 36,750 hours.