

20 points: Describe the objectives of a veterinarian to meet the needs of the shortage situation in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above.

20 points: Describe the activities required of a veterinarian to meet the needs of the shortage situation located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above.

5 points: Describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian to achieve the objectives and activities in the shortage situation identified above.

35 points: Describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being filled or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and/or to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community.

An additional 20 points will be used to evaluate overall merit/quality of the case made for each nomination.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of November, 2016.

Sonny Ramaswamy,

Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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BILLING CODE 3410-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau.

Title: Business Research and Development and Innovation Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0607-0912.

Form Number(s): BRDI-1, BRDI-1S, and BRDI-M.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Number of Respondents: 245,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 43 minutes.

Burden Hours: 176,500.

Needs and Uses: The Census Bureau requests a revision to the currently cleared Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS) information collection. This revision adds a form type [BRDI-M] to collect data on research and development (R&D) and innovation activities from small businesses with fewer than 10 employees.

In 2004, the National Academy of Sciences' Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) reviewed the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics' (NCSES) portfolio of R&D surveys and recommended that NCSES explore ways to measure firm innovation and investigate the incidence of R&D activities in growing sectors, such as small business enterprises not currently covered by BRDIS. As a result, Census plans to expand BRDIS to include very small businesses or microbusinesses through the use of the BRDI-M questionnaire.

The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 as amended authorizes and directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) through the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) “. . . to provide a central clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, and analysis of data on scientific and engineering resources and to provide a source of information for policy formulation by other agencies of the Federal government.” One of the methods used by NCSES to fulfill this mandate is the Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS)—the primary federal source of information on R&D in the business sector.

BRDIS will continue to collect the following types of information:

- R&D expense based on accounting standards.
- Worldwide R&D of domestic companies.
- Business segment detail.
- R&D related capital expenditures.
- Detailed data about the R&D workforce.
- R&D strategy and data on the potential impact of R&D on the market.
- R&D directed to application areas of particular national interest.
- Data measuring innovation and intellectual property protection activities.

In addition to adding the BRDI-M form, the following changes will be made to the 2016-2017 BRDIS compared to the 2015 BRDIS:

- Add item in type-of-cost questions to collect Royalty and licensing payments.
- Add questions collecting Basic-Applied-Development split of Total R&D paid for by the company and Total R&D paid for by others.
- Delete question on intellectual property protection.
- Add two Yes/No questions to help separately identify intellectual property transfer transactions with U.S. persons and foreign persons.
- Discontinue the pre-survey letter. This letter was planned to collect

contact and company status information (merger, acquisition, etc.) from approximately 500 of the largest R&D companies.

The forms used in the BRDIS are:

Form BRDI-M. This form will be mailed to approximately 200,000 small businesses with less than 10 employees. In addition to general business information—primary business activity (NAICS code), year business was formed, and number of employees—this form would collect data on R&D, innovation, employment, related activities (such as sales of significantly improved goods and services; operating agreements and licensing activities; technology transfer; patents and intellectual property; and sources of technical knowledge), measures of entrepreneurial strategies, and demographic characteristics of the entrepreneur.

Form BRDI-1. This form will be mailed to approximately 7,000 companies with a history of significant R&D and contains the full complement of BRDIS data items.

Form BRDI-1(S). This form will be mailed to approximately 38,000 companies and contains only the most high-level BRDIS data items.

Information from BRDIS will continue to support the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 as well as other R&D-related initiatives introduced during the clearance period. Other initiatives that have used BRDIS statistics include: The Innovation Measurement-Tracking the State of Innovation in the American Economy (U.S. Department of Commerce); Science of Science and Innovation Policy (NSF); and Rising Above the Gathering Storm (National Research Council).

Policy officials from many Federal agencies rely on BRDIS statistics for essential information. For example, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) now incorporates R&D as fixed investment in the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPAs). Businesses and trade organizations also rely on BRDIS data to benchmark their industries' performance against others. Each BRDIS data item is intended to address specific data user needs identified by NCSES through research, workshops, and regular interaction with data users.

In previous years, BRDIS statistics were limited to companies with five or more U.S. employees. With the addition of BRDI-M, all companies with U.S. employees will be eligible for inclusion in providing statistics on R&D and innovation regardless of company size. Expanding the coverage of the BRDIS

will provide data users a more complete picture of R&D and innovation in the business sector and will allow policy makers and researchers to investigate questions about R&D, innovation, and competitiveness in small businesses.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131, and 182, and Title 42, United States Code, Sections 1861–76 (National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended).

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

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 or fax to (202)395–5806.

Sheleen Dumas,

PRA Departmental Lead, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)

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.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before February 6, 2017.

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 Robert Sienkiewicz; robert.sienkiewicz@census.gov; phone: 301–763–1234.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

A 21st century statistical system must provide information about the dynamic economy quickly, using data assets efficiently while minimizing the burden of collecting and providing data and fully preserving confidentiality. The Census Bureau's Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program has demonstrated the power and usefulness of linking multiple business and employee data sets with state-of-the-art confidentiality protections to build a longitudinal national frame of jobs.

This program supports the Department of Commerce plan to improve American competitiveness and measures of innovation. It provides federal, state, and local policymakers and planners, businesses, private sector decision makers, and Congress with comprehensive and timely national, state, and local information on the dynamic nature of employers and employees.

The LEHD program significantly reduces the overall effort for the generation of its quarterly data product by:

- Leveraging existing federal administrative and state data
- Avoiding costs required to expand existing surveys to collect the information directly
- Reducing respondent burden by limiting the number of required resources to just the owners of the required data

The LEHD program is a member of a partnership between the US Census Bureau and the Labor Market Information (LMI) agencies from 49 states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. This partnership supports the development, promotion, and distribution of the following data products:

- QWI Public Use—The flagship data product of the LEHD program is the QWI Public Use which provides 32 statistical indicators on employment, job creation and destruction, accessions (hires and recalls), and separations (*e.g.* exits and layoffs). These statistics are released for the following by-groups for all quarters for which data are available for each partner state:

- County, metropolitan, and workforce investment area

- Age, sex, race, and ethnicity categories

- Detailed industry (*i.e.*, type, firm age, firm size)

- LEHD Origin Destination Employment Statistics (LODES)—LODES data provide detailed spatial distributions of workers' employment and residential locations and the relation between the two at the Census Block level. LODES also provides characteristic detail on age, earnings, industry distributions, and local workforce indicators.

- Job-to-Job Flows (J2J)—Job-to-Job Flows (J2J) is a new set of statistics on worker reallocation in the United States constructed from the LEHD data. The initial release of national data distinguishes hires and separations associated with job change from hires and separations to non-employment. Future releases will be published at more detailed levels of aggregations, and will tabulate the origin and destination job characteristics of workers changing jobs.

These data products highlight state and local labor market dynamics that cannot be learned from other statistical sources and are therefore used in many different arenas. For example, the QWI can be used as local-labor-market controls in regression analysis; to identify long-term trends; to provide local context in performance evaluations, and a host of other applications.

II. Method of Collection

The collection of data occurs in accordance with the rules established by interagency agreements with the participating state partners or data sharing agreements that have been established within the Census Bureau. For state partners, their data is submitted directly to the Census secure servers where Personally Identifiable Information (PII) goes through a process to replace it with Protected Identification Keys (PIK). This "PIKing" process also applies to all other administrative data that are used by the LEHD program. For all other required administration data, they are transferred or referenced by the QWI production system. Data collection and processing also includes activities such as validation of data quality.

The data products created by the LEHD program are not generated by a traditional survey. Rather, all input data required is collected electronically as follows:

- State Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) are provided via secure File Transfer Protocol (FTP)