

Attachment I

**Department of Commerce
United States Census Bureau
OMB Information Collection Request
2017 Economic Census
OMB Control Number 0607-XXXX**

**Federal Register Comments Received Regarding the 2017 Economic Census Federal Register
Notice**

From: Bailey, Keith <keibailey@pa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 4:55 PM
To: EWD EC FRN17 (CENSUS/ OTHER)
Cc: Bailey, Keith
Subject: 2017 Economic Census

Pennsylvania's Center for Workforce Information & Analysis offers the comments below for consideration regarding the Census' 2017 Economic Census. Please contact me with any questions or need for clarification.

Regards,
Keith

Specific comment:

- In the section on Employment and Payroll (Section 7) add the following after the question on number of employees but before payroll: Of that number, how many were part-time (This may refer to the entire year or the first quarter depending on industry).
- Also of interest in this section would be the following: Number of employees earning at or below the minimum wage (survey specifies). (Ideally this would be asked for total employment and part-time employment separately).

General comments:

- Any information about what companies pay out in subcontracting work or contracting in general would be very useful. With so many companies contracting work out that used to be done by in house employees, it would be valuable to get some information on this process, associated costs, as well as the number of jobs and workers it impacts.
- Some of the industry sectors include personnel breakouts by occupation, but not all of them. It would be great if we could get that information for all of them. It's noticeably absent from Goods Producing industries.
- It would be interesting to know how long the company has been in business, not just how long they have been in business in that year.
- Collect worker demographics.
- Compile a list of different certifications that companies require would be valuable.
- Solicit current vacancies.
- Request expenditures on training.

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

October 4, 2015

Kevin Deardorff, Chief
Economy Wide Statistics Division
U.S. Census Bureau, Room 8K154
Washington, DC 20233

Via: ec.frn17@census.gov

Re: 2017 Economic Census

Dear Mr. Deardorff,

I am pleased to respond to the *Federal Register* notice of August 4, 2015 concerning the Census Bureau's request for comments on the design of the 2017 Economic Census. As a research professor at the George Washington Institute of Public Policy, I focus on federal policies that promote U.S. economic competitiveness. From this perspective, I find that the 2017 Economic Census is highly important to the nation's economic health because it is the basis for multiple national economic series, models, and indicators that guide federal policy and corporate investment decisions.

One potential important use for the 2017 Economic Census is in supporting emerging federal efforts to describe global value chains (GVCs) and measure international trade in value-added (TiVA). Gaining the capacity to map the place of U.S.-based establishments in GVCs, by nation of ownership, and measure the contributions of foreign direct investment to U.S. TiVA is highly attractive. Such capacity will enable federal and state governments to design more effective business attraction efforts and business development strategies and multi-national firms to make U.S. and foreign investments that have a higher likelihood of success.

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) are representing the United States in a series of multi-national efforts to create and implement a framework and methods for mapping GVCs and measuring TiVA. These efforts are hosted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations (UN) Statistical Commission, the UN Economic Commission for Europe, and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). I summarize the various efforts in the appendix to this letter.

I believe it is important to ensure that the 2017 Economic Census supports the emerging GVC and TiVA measurement initiatives. Consequently, I ask that the Census Bureau's Economy Wide Statistics Division consult with the BEA and USITC liaisons to these efforts, as well as with former BEA Director Steve Landefeld (now consultant to the UN Statistical Commission), regarding how Economic Census questions 5, 17, 22, and 26 might be designed to support and align with GVC and TiVA measurement efforts. (These questions concern the buying and selling of goods and services to domestic and foreign suppliers and customers.)

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the 2017 Economic Census, hope that my suggestion is useful, and look forward to seeing the Census Bureau's survey design decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Reamer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Andrew Reamer
Research Professor

Multi-national Organization Efforts to Measure GVCs, TiVA, and Trade in Services and U.S. Points of Contact

Efforts to Measure GVCs, TiVA, and Trade in Services

- OECD-World Trade Organization (WTO):
 - Provides [current TiVA estimates by nation](#) -- this is the database that all efforts are seeking to improve
 - Is enhancing these estimates through work of an [expert group](#) creating "extended national supply-use tables" with TiVA characteristics
- [Trade Statistics Branch](#), United Nations Statistical Division--
 - As directed in March 2015 by the [UN Statistical Commission](#) (pp. 20-22), overseeing implementation of [December 2014 report](#) of the Friends of the Chair on the Measurement of International Trade and Economic Globalization (FOC).
Key tasks:
 - Draft a handbook on a system of extended international and global accounts as the measurement framework for international trade and economic globalization
 - Establish an expert group tasked with the development of the handbook on a system of extended international and global accounts—the U.S. is part of this group
 - Implement a program of work for the measurement of international trade and globalization, namely:
 - Promoting and advancing the creation of a global enterprise group register, building on and taking into account lessons learned from the ongoing EuroGroups Register project;
 - Improving the measurement of firm heterogeneity based on alternative aggregations of microdata and by further developing a classification of business functions, while cautioning against any change in the International Standard Industrial Classification;
 - Addressing asymmetries in bilateral trade and foreign direct investment while building on work already undertaken in several countries and coordinating this effort with work already being done by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;
 - Mainstreaming the development of recurrent global supply-use and input-output tables as undertaken by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in collaboration with other regional and international organizations, with the aim of increasing the coverage of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development-World Trade Organization database on trade in value-added

- Conference of European Statisticians (CES), UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
 - Commissioned the [Guide to Measuring Global Production](#), prepared by the Task Force on Global Production in March 2015:
 - "Global production has evolved and now encompasses a broad range of business arrangements and organizational forms. Today, multinational enterprises (MNE) account for a large share of international trade between countries. National Statistical Institutes (NSI) need to keep track of the changing forms of global production and their effects on international trade relationships. It is important to identify best practices developed by countries and agree internationally on the practical guidelines needed to foster international comparability."
 - Issued a [report](#) of its [June 2015 meeting](#) that "affirmed" the Guide, encouraged its use by nations, "supported the research agenda," and "agreed that the Guide would be updated once the above further work has been completed and in light of the practical evidence collected by that time."
 - In July 2015, the UNECE Group of Experts on National Accounts held a meeting on [Measuring Global Production](#)
 - "In April 2014, the CES . . . decided to create a forum for exchanging experience on data collection and compilation methods in respect to global production arrangements. The CES asked UNECE and the Group of Experts on National Accounts to provide such a forum. The collected country examples and good practices will be used for future updates of the Guide to Measuring Global Production."

- Technical Group on Measurement of APEC Trade in Value added (TiVA) under Global Value Chains, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
 - At the APEC meeting in the Philippines, May 2015, the ministers issued a [joint statement](#):
 - "We welcome the first meeting of the Technical Group on Measurement of APEC Trade in Value added (TiVA) under Global Value Chains and progress in completing the construction of the APEC TiVA Database by 2018. We endorse the Terms of Reference on the Operational Mechanism and work plan of the Technical Group. We urge officials and experts to collaborate with international organizations and institutions to enhance synergies in policy making, technical assistance and capacity-building."
 - Prepared "Draft Terms of Reference on the Operational Mechanism of the Technical Group on Measurement of APEC TiVA under GVCs."

U.S. Points of Contact

At BEA, Erich Strassner (Erich.Strassner@bea.gov, 202-606-9539) and Raymond Mataloni (Raymond.Mataloni@bea.gov, 202-606-9867) serve as U.S. liaisons to the OECD, UN, and UNECE efforts.

The USITC is the U.S. liaison to the APEC TiVA technical committee, which is co-chaired by the U.S. and China. The U.S. co-chair is Bill Powers, Acting Chief, Economic Research (william.powers@usitc.gov, 202-205-3216). Dr. Powers can provide the technical committee's terms of reference and work plan.

For the UN Statistical Division, Steven Landefeld, former BEA director, is overseeing the development of the handbook on a system of extended international and global accounts called for by the FOC report. At the July UNECE meeting, he gave [an overview of forthcoming work](#).