

## **B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods**

The agency should be prepared to justify its decision not to use statistical methods in any case where such methods might reduce burden or improve accuracy of results. When Item 17 on the Form OMB 83-I is checked, "Yes," the following documentation should be included in the Supporting Statement to the extent that it applies to the methods proposed:

This information collection does not employ statistical methods.

1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection methods to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g., establishments, State and local government units, households, or persons) in the universe covered by the collection and in the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form for the universe as a whole and for each of the strata in the proposed sample. Indicate expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection had been conducted previously, include the actual response rate achieved during the last collection.

The potential universe is 3,153 because that is the number of active FHA lenders with the ability to originate cases and make upfront payments.

Expected response rate is variable depending on the number of cases originated each month.

Additionally, each lender may pay more than one case in each payment.

Additionally, the number of active lenders/respondents changes month to month.

In FY 2018, the actual response rate was 27,718 responses/payments.

2. Describe the procedures for the collection of information including:

- \* Statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection,
- \* Estimation procedure,
- \* Degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification,
- \* Unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures, and
- \* Any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.

An estimation procedure was used. The current collection's responses per annum is based on the prior year's actual number of responses. There are no indications that the current collection should decrease or increase from last year.

3. Describe methods to maximize response rates and to deal with issues of non-response. The accuracy and reliability of information collected must be shown to be adequate for intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided for any collection that will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.

A lender/respondent must make payment to have a case endorsed. If the payment is not made, the case will not be endorsed.

4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Testing is encouraged as an effective means of refining collections of information to minimize burden and improve utility. Tests must be approved if they call for answers to identical questions from 10 or more respondents. A proposed test or set of test may be submitted for approval separately or in combination with the main collection of information.

No tests of procedures or methods are to be undertaken.

5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on statistical aspects of the design and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collection and/or analyze the information for the agency.