

Supporting Statement Section B

Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods

1. Universe and Respondent Burden

The questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic will be included after the basic CPS questions for the months of May through October 2020. There will be no special or separate sample of respondents that will receive the questions. For more information, please refer to OMB Control No. 1220-0100/ICR Reference No. 201706-1220-002.

2. Procedures for Collecting Information

The questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic will be collected in the same manner as other questions on the CPS. However, due to the fact that the Census Bureau's data collection centers are closed, Census may temporarily stop sending the Advance Letter that typically precedes a household's inclusion in the CPS in its first month in sample. Letters are also usually sent for households that are about to be interviewed for the fifth time, but these letters have been temporarily suspended.

For more information about CPS data collection, see "Current Population Survey Design and Methodology: Technical Paper 77" (instrument design is described in Chapter 3-1, and conducting the interview is described in Chapter 3-2), available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/methodology/CPS-Tech-Paper-77.pdf>.

3. Methods to Maximize Response

The questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic will utilize the same methods to maximize responses as the CPS. For information about data accuracy and nonresponse, see "Current Population Survey Design and Methodology: Technical Paper 77" (organization and training of interviewers is detailed in Chapter 3-5, and reinterview design and methodology is described in Chapter 4-1), available at <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/methodology/CPS-Tech-Paper-77.pdf>.

4. Testing of Procedures

BLS developed the 2020 questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic in consultation with the Census Bureau and the National Center for Health Statistics (See Attachment A.) Due to timing constraints, BLS was unable to conduct formal testing of the questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic prior to their inclusion in the CPS. However, the questions have been reviewed by knowledgeable staff at BLS, the Census Bureau, and NCHS. BLS will cognitively test in parallel, allowing for changes to be made should issues be identified. Any changes made will be documented through a nonsubstantive change request to this clearance package after consultation with OMB on the changes. In addition, the questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic are subject to the same testing procedures as the monthly CPS, including instrument testing and output testing.

5. **Contact Persons**

The following individuals may be consulted concerning data collection, survey design, and analysis:

Statistical Design:

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Statistical Analysis:

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Data Collection/Survey Design:

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Attachments

A. Questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic