

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION
OMB Control Number 1405-0177 (SV 2012-0006)
Passport Demand Forecasting Study
Supplement on Pilot Study**

Proposal

In an effort to be more inclusive and sensitive to US citizens who do not identify in a binary way with traditional gender options, we are changing the language of the DoS Passport Survey to ask specifically about respondent gender and to offer a third option: “Unspecified or another gender identity” beyond simply “male” or “female.” It should be noted that the existing gender question with binary response options that is to be modified was never mandatory and could be skipped (as a refusal). Consequently, respondents with nonbinary gender preferences have always had the option of not answering this question. In light of this and the fact that the population with gender X is relatively small, we do not expect this change to dramatically alter the results of this study.

Still, with a study of this size, scope, and longevity, we would like to be careful about what changes we introduce and how we introduce them. As such, we propose the following pilot study to verify that the proposed change does not adversely impact the results and trends of this ongoing survey.

For two months, we propose to give the modified survey with the new gender question options to a randomly selected 20% of respondents. That is, the remaining 80% of respondents will be administered the previous version of the survey with only binary options for gender. It is anticipated that approximately 400 respondents will see the new gender options each month, resulting in a total of about 800 such respondents across the two months of testing.

While as mentioned earlier we do not expect to see a notable change in the distribution of gender among survey respondents, appropriate statistical tests will be carried out to assess the significance of any observed differences. Barring any significant changes in key outcome measures – e.g., passport demand forecasts – the proposed questionnaire modification will be permanently adopted for future administrations of this survey.

In order to maintain consistency with the prior waves of this survey, all missing demographic responses will be imputed using a hot-deck procedure to accommodate the weighting process. This includes the new nonbinary gender responses that will be set to missing and then imputed to a binary option for weighting purposes, since gender benchmarks available from the Census are of that form.

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