

person level? How can the Department gather this information while protecting personal privacy?

(18) What are approaches that DOT can take to ensure that individuals from underserved populations are represented in our data collection efforts?

(19) How should the Department develop a data collection framework, gather new and existing data, set data standards, and analyze and aggregate it into useful information for policymaking?

(20) How should the Department engage industry on gathering more detailed data on advanced safety features in vehicles for evaluating if technologies and their benefits are disproportionately distributed among different income and demographic groups and whether such technologies have equitable predictive performance to improve safety for all citizens?

(21) How should the Department engage industry to increase the data available to understand electric vehicles and vehicle hybridization with the intent of understanding how these technologies can benefit different income and demographic groups; and to improve the distribution and fairness in the use of these technologies for all citizens?

#### *Transportation Workforce Data*

The Department is seeking input on data and assessment tools and best practices that may be used to understand and to strengthen the pipeline for more minority, women, people of color, people with disabilities and other underserved populations to access opportunities, develop a robust network, and build a supportive environment that addresses their structural barriers to opportunities and wealth.

(22) What high-quality career pathways programs or educational pipelines have state and local governments utilized or implemented to diversify their transportation workforce? What have the results been? How were the results of the programs measured?

(23) What practices has the transportation industry taken to increase diversity and retain individuals from underserved populations within its workforce? How should the Department measure the overall impacts, especially the diversity impacts, on the workforce through Federal funding, policies, and programs?

(24) What tools and best practices might the Department utilize to augment minority and disadvantaged business programs to create pathways for jobs in

the transportation industry, and jobs of the future?

(25) What type of data should we collect to measure the success of workforce programs? How do we assess if we are placing underserved populations in these job programs and into jobs; how do we track retention rates and opportunities for advancement; and how do we assess whether these are good-paying jobs?

#### **Public Participation**

##### *How do I prepare and submit comments?*

To ensure that your comments are filed correctly, please include the docket number provided in (DOT–OST–2021–0056) in your comments.

Please submit one copy (two copies if submitting by mail or hand delivery) of your comments, including any attachments, to the docket following the instructions given above under **ADDRESSES**. Please note, if you are submitting comments electronically as a PDF (Adobe) file, we ask that the documents submitted be scanned using an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) process, thus allowing the Agency to search and copy certain portions of your submissions.

##### *How do I submit confidential business information?*

Any submissions containing Confidential Information must be delivered to DOT in the following manner:

- Submitted in a sealed envelope marked “confidential treatment requested”;
- Document(s) or information that the submitter would like withheld from the public docket should be marked “PROPIN”;
- Accompanied by an index listing the document(s) or information that the submitter would like the Departments to withhold. The index should include information such as numbers used to identify the relevant document(s) or information, document title and description, and relevant page numbers and/or section numbers within a document; and
- Submitted with a statement explaining the submitter’s grounds for objecting to disclosing the information to the public.

DOT will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA and not include them in the public docket. DOT also requests that submitters of Confidential Information include a non-confidential version (either redacted or summarized) of those confidential submissions in the public

docket. If the submitter cannot provide a non-confidential version of its submission, DOT requests that the submitter post a notice in the docket stating that it has provided DOT with Confidential Information. Should a submitter fail to docket either a non-confidential version of its submission or to post a notice that Confidential Information has been provided, we will note the receipt of the submission on the docket, with the submitter’s organization or name (to the degree permitted by law) and the date of submission.

##### *Will the Agency consider late comments?*

DOT will consider all comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated above under **DATES**. To the extent practicable, the Agency will also consider comments received after that date.

##### *How can I read the comments submitted by other people?*

You may read the comments received at the address given above under **WRITTEN COMMENTS**. The hours of the docket are indicated above in the same location. You may also see the comments on the internet, identified by the docket number at the heading of this notice, at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Please note, this RFI is a planning document and will serve as such. The RFI should not be construed as policy, a solicitation for applications, or an obligation on the part of the government.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 13, 2021.

**Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg**,  
Secretary, Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 2021–10436 Filed 5–24–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–9X–P**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Bureau of Transportation Statistics**

[Docket ID Number DOT–OST–2014–0031]

#### **Agency Information Collection; Activity Under OMB Review; Submission of Audit Reports—Part 248**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST–R), Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice

announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for extension of currently approved collections. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on March 15, 2021 (86 FR 14360). No comments were received.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by June 24, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Gorham, Office of Airline Information, RTS-42, Room E34, OST-R, BTS, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, Telephone Number (202) 366-4406, Fax Number (202) 366-3383 or Email [jeff.gorham@dot.gov](mailto:jeff.gorham@dot.gov).

**Comments:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*OMB Approval No.:* 2138-0004.

*Title:* Submission of Audit Reports—Part 248.

*Form No.:* None.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Large certificated air carriers.

*Number of Respondents:* 60.

*Number of Responses:* 60.

*Total Burden per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Total Annual Burden:* 15 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* BTS collects independent audited financial reports from U.S. certificated air carriers. Carriers not having an annual audit must file a statement that no such audit has been performed. In lieu of the audit report, BTS will accept the annual report submitted to the stockholders. The audited reports are needed by the Department of Transportation as: (1) A means to monitor an air carrier's continuing fitness to operate; (2) reference material used by analysts in examining foreign route cases; (3) reference material used by analysts in examining proposed mergers, acquisitions and consolidations; (4) a means whereby BTS sends a copy of the report to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in fulfillment of a United States treaty obligation; and, (5) corroboration of a carrier's Form 41 filings.

The Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501), requires a statistical agency to clearly identify information it collects for non-statistical purposes. BTS hereby notifies the respondents and the public that BTS uses the information it collects under this OMB approval for non-statistical purposes including, but not limited to, publication of both Respondent's identity and its data, and submission of the information to agencies outside BTS for review, analysis and possible use in regulatory and other administrative matters.

*Comments are invited on:* Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department concerning consumer protection. Comments should address whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 20, 2021.

**William Chadwick, Jr.,**

*Director, Office of Airline Information, Bureau of Transportation Statistics.*

[FR Doc. 2021-11036 Filed 5-24-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Bureau of Transportation Statistics**

[Docket ID Number DOT-OST-2014-0031]

**Agency Information Collection: Activity Under OMB Review: Report of Financial and Operating Statistics for Large Certificated Air Carriers**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST-R), Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below is being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of a currently approved collection. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register**

Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on March 11, 2021 (86 FR 13965). One comment was received from the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis strongly supporting the continued collection of this data.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by June 24, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Gorham, Office of Airline Information, RTS-42, Room E34-414, OST-R, BTS, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, Telephone Number (202) 366-4406, Fax Number (202) 366-3383 or Email [jeff.gorham@dot.gov](mailto:jeff.gorham@dot.gov).

**Comments:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*OMB Approval No.:* 2138-0013.

*Title:* Report of Financial and Operating Statistics for Large Certificated Air Carriers.

*Form No.:* BTS Form 41.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Large certificated air carriers.

*Number of Respondents:* 60.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 4 hours per schedule, an average carrier may submit 90 schedules in one year.

*Total Annual Burden:* 14,358 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* Program uses for Form 41 data are as follows:

**Mail Rates**

The Department of Transportation sets and updates mainline Alaska mail rates based on carrier aircraft operating expense, traffic and operational data. Form 41 cost data, especially fuel costs, terminal expenses, and line haul expenses are used in arriving at rate levels. DOT revises the established rates based on the percentage of unit cost changes in the carriers' operations. These updating procedures have resulted in the carriers receiving rates of compensation that more closely parallel their costs of providing mail service and contribute to the carriers' ability to continue providing service.

**Submission of U.S. Carrier Data to ICAO**

As a party to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, the United