

Survey Name: Annual Wholesale Trade Survey (AWTS)

OMB Approval Number: 0607-0195

OMB Expiration Date: 12/31/2023

Type of Request: Non-substantive change

This non-substantive change request pertains to the 2022 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey (AWTS), which is tentatively slated to be sent to respondents in January 2023. SA-42A (merchant wholesalers, excluding manufacturers' sales branches and offices), SA-42A-MSBO (manufacturers' sales branches and offices), and SA-42A-AGBR (agents, brokers, and electronic markets) are the three electronic form types associated with the AWTS. In the original clearance package approved by OMB for this survey (with an expiration date of 12/31/2023), the United States Census Bureau noted, "in response to a request from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the AWTS will also collect annual detailed operating expenses and annual sales tax information during survey year 2022. Respondents are only asked to provide data for these two items in years ending in '2' and '7', which coincide with the Economic Census collection. Merchant wholesalers, excluding manufacturers' sales branches and offices, will receive the detailed operating expenses and sales tax questions. Conversely, manufacturers' sales branches and offices will only see the sales tax question. Companies that fall under the agents, brokers, and electronic markets category will not be asked to provide detailed operating expenses or sales tax information." As previously mentioned, survey year 2022's data will be collected from respondents during calendar year 2023. Consequently, the United States Census Bureau is officially seeking OMB's permission to add the detailed operating expenses and annual sales tax questions to SA-42A and to add the sales tax question to SA-42A-MSBO for survey year 2022. No changes will be made to SA-42A-AGBR.

The detailed operating expenses and sales tax questions used for survey year 2022 will be the same as the ones used for survey year 2017 (i.e., the last time the AWTS respondents were asked these questions) with one exception. For survey year 2017, the set of detailed operating expenses questions included a question about interest expense. The interest expense question will not be included for survey year 2022. The overall burden estimates will not be affected by the inclusion of these questions, as our current estimates take into account the periodic collection of detailed operating expenses and sales tax information.

The drafts of the two impacted form types, SA-42A and SA-42A-MSBO, have been provided in their entirety. Nevertheless, the following screenshots show how the detailed operating expenses and sales tax questions will be presented to respondents during survey year 2022:

Detailed Operating Expenses

16 DETAILED OPERATING EXPENSES

A. What personnel costs were incurred by this firm in 2022?

1. Annual payroll before deductions - Total annual Medicare salaries and wages for all employees as reported on this firm's IRS Form 941, Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return, line 5(c). **Include** payments to temporary employees on this firm's payroll, and to commissioned employees on this firm's payroll. Also include the spread on stock options that are taxable to employees as wages. **Exclude** payments for contracted temporary help (report in line A3); and commissions paid to contractors (report in line C1).

					2022			
					\$ Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	Dol.
				<input type="checkbox"/>				
				<input type="checkbox"/>				
				<input type="checkbox"/>				

2. Employer's cost for fringe benefits - Employer's cost for legally required programs and programs not required by law:

a. Health Insurance - Insurance premiums or hospital plans, medical plans, and single service plans such as dental, vision, and prescription drugs. **Include** premium equivalents for self-insured plans and fees paid to third-party administrators (TPAs). **Exclude** employee contributions.

b. Pension plans:
i. Defined contribution plans - Costs under defined contribution plans. **Include** pension plans that define the employer contributions to a separate account provided for each employee. The employee "benefit" at retirement depends on the amount contributed and the results of the account's activity. Examples include profit sharing plans, money purchase (e.g., 401k, 403b) and stock bonus plans (e.g., ESOPs).

					2022			
					\$ Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	Dol.
				<input type="checkbox"/>				

ii. Defined benefit pension plans - Costs for both qualified and unqualified defined pension plans. **Include** pension plans that specify the benefits to be paid to employees upon retirement, generally either a specific amount or a percentage of compensation. Employer contributions are based on actuarial computations that include the employee's compensation and years of service and are not allocated to specific accounts maintained for employees.

c. Payroll taxes, employer paid insurance premiums (except health), and other employer benefits - **Include** legally-required fringe benefits (e.g., Social Security, workers' compensation insurance, unemployment tax, state disability insurance programs, Medicare). Also include benefits for life insurance, "quality of life" benefits (e.g., childcare assistance, subsidized commuting), employer contributions to pre-tax benefits not specified above. **Exclude** disbursements from trusts or funds to satisfy health insurance claims.

				<input type="checkbox"/>				
				<input type="checkbox"/>				

3. Contract temporary staff and leased employee expense - Total costs paid to Professional Employer Organizations (PEOs) and staffing agencies for personnel. **Include** all associated charges for payroll, benefits, and services.

				<input type="checkbox"/>				
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11. Water, sewer, refuse removal, and other utility payments - Include the cost of hazardous waste removal. Exclude the cost of these utilities within lease or rental payments (<i>reported in line CB</i>).	<input type="checkbox"/>				
12. Purchased transportation, shipping, and warehousing services - Include the cost of postage, delivery expenses, and packaging and containers provided as part of the purchased service. Exclude the cost of shipping using this firm's vehicles or employees.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
13. Purchased advertising and promotional services - Include marketing and public relations services.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
14. Purchased professional and technical services - Include management consulting, accounting, auditing, bookkeeping, legal, actuarial, payroll processing, architectural, engineering, and other professional services. Exclude salaries paid to your own employees for these services.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
15. Depreciation and amortization charges - Include depreciation charges taken against tangible assets owned and used by this firm, tangible assets and improvements owned by this firm within leaseholds, tangible assets obtained through capital lease agreements, and amortization charges against intangible assets (e.g., patents, copyrights). Exclude impairment (reduction in value of long-lived assets due to reappraisals).	<input type="checkbox"/>				
16. Governmental taxes and license fees - Payments to government agencies for taxes and licenses. Include business and property taxes. Exclude income taxes and sales and excise taxes collected from customers.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
17. All other operating expenses - Include operating expenses not reported elsewhere, unless excluded by the following list. Exclude purchase of products for resale (cost of goods sold); bad debt; transfers made within the company; capitalized expenses; interest; impairment; income, sales, and excise taxes; and other non-operating expenses.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
D. TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES					
Total of 11A1-11C17 must equal 15 .	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Sales Tax

B. Did this firm collect any sales taxes in 2022?

- Yes
- No - Go to **5**

C. What were the total sales taxes collected in 2022?

2022			
\$ Bil.	Mil.	Thou.	Dol.

Any questions related to this request can be directed to John Dougherty (john.dougherty@census.gov).