

**Department of Commerce
U.S. Census Bureau
OMB Information Collection Request
Automated Export System (AES) Program
OMB Control No. 0607-0152**

B. Collection of Information Employing Statistical Methods

1. Universe and Respondent Selection

The precise respondent universe is unknown since the universe is comprised of U.S. Principal Parties in Interest (USPPI) and authorized agents filing export information in the Automated Export System (AES) on a one-time basis, regularly, and all variations in between for shipments valued over \$2,500 per Schedule B number, requiring an export license, subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), requiring reporting under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), or contain a rough diamond, or a used self-propelled vehicle. In calendar year 2021, the Census Bureau identified 277,489 firms engaged in exporting (<https://census.gov/foreign-trade/Press-Release/edb/2021prelimprofile.pdf>). For shipments that require the reporting of export information in the AES, the response rate for filing is 100 percent since export carriers must submit the Internal Transaction Number, postdeparture citation, exemption, or exclusion legends to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) before clearance or permission to depart is granted.

2. Procedures for Collecting Information

The Census Bureau requires the filing of an AES record for the following shipments and processes these data for all countries with the exception of Canada: (1) virtually all shipments valued at over \$2,500 per Schedule B number or regardless of value when a license is required; (2) shipments subject to the ITAR under 22 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 120 through 130; (3) shipments requiring reporting under the EAR under 15 CFR 758.1(b); (4) shipments requiring a Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration export permit under 21 CFR 1312; (5) Requiring a general or specific export license issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission under 10 CFR part 110; (6) shipments requiring an export license issued by any other federal government agency; (7) shipments destined for a country in Country Group E:1 and E:2; (8) shipments of rough diamonds filed under Schedule B subheadings 7102.10, 7102.21, and 7102.31; and, (9) used self-propelled vehicles as defined in 19 CFR 192.1 of the CBP regulations.

Under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Canada, the United States substitutes Canadian import statistics for U.S. exports to Canada. Similarly, Canada substitutes U.S. import statistics for Canadian exports to the United States. This exchange of data includes only U.S. exports destined for Canada and does not include shipments en route through Canada destined for a third country, shipments of rough

diamonds, shipments of used self-propelled vehicles as defined in 19 CFR 192.1 of U.S. CBP Regulations, or shipments requiring export licenses.

The Census Bureau estimates value data monthly for shipments valued \$2,500 or less using factors based on established percentages of individual country totals.

3. Methods to Maximize Response

The filing of export information via the AES is mandatory under Sections 301-307, Chapter 9, Title 13, United States Code. Effective January 1990, the United States substituted Canadian import statistics for U.S. exports to Canada in accordance with a MOU. Similarly, under this MOU, Canada is substituting U.S. import statistics for Canadian exports to the United States. This has eliminated any substantial undercount of shipments to Canada due to non-receipt of AES records.

In order to maintain a high level of quality in CBP's statistical operations, the Census Bureau reviews operations at the various ports, and provides training sessions for the CBP staff involved, including members of the CBP staff from several regions.

4. Testing Procedures

The Census Bureau performs webinars regularly and participates in seminars and conferences on an ongoing basis in cities all over the United States to instruct the public on how to properly report the AES record. In addition, the Census Bureau has provided supplementary instruction in the form of blogs, webinars/seminars, and user guides. The Census Bureau requires the USPPI or authorized agent (filers) to review and accept the AES Certification Statements (Attachment D) to ensure the filers are qualified to submit an AES record and that the filers understand AES filing requirements.

5. Contacts for Statistical Aspects and Data Collection

The Economic Management Division of the Census Bureau is responsible for primary statistical design and regulations governing the statistical information required to be reported on the AES record. In addition, the Economic Indicators Division of the Census Bureau is responsible for planning the content of the economic indicator programs, including compiling and disseminating economic indicators, such as the preliminary steel imports report and the U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services report, and interacting with data users.

Specifically, the following persons serve as contacts responsible for the International Trade Program:

Lisa E. Donaldson
Division Chief,
Economic Management Division
(301) 763-7296

Amy Newman-Smith
Assistant Division Chief,
Methodology Director Quality Assurance
Economic Statistical Methods Division
(301) 763-6595

Catherine Buffington
Division Chief,
Economic Indicator Division
(301) 763-1838

Gerard J. Horner
Chief, Trade Regulations Branch
Economic Management Division
(301) 763-6635

Paul F. Newman
Chief, Trade Data Collection Branch
Economic Management Division
(301) 763-3541

Ryan M. Fescina
Chief, International Trade Statistical Methods
Economic Statistical Methods Division
(301) 763-7039

Attachments

- A. ACE AES*Direct* Record Formats
- B. AES Letter of Intent
- C. ACE Exporter Account Application and Quick User Guide
- D. AES Certification Statements
- E. ACE AES*Direct* User Guide
- F. Preliminary Steel Report
- G. Public Comments