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Ronald Alvarado,

Oregon State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

[FR Doc. 2023-15212 Filed 7-18-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Household Pulse Survey

On June 6, 2023, the Department of Commerce received clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 to conduct Phase 3.9 of the Household Pulse Survey (OMB No. 0607-1013, Exp. 10/31/23). The Household Pulse Survey was designed to meet a need for timely information associated with household experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Department is committed to ensuring that the data collected by the Household Pulse Survey continue to meet information needs as they may evolve over the course of the pandemic. This notice serves to inform of the Department's intent to request clearance from OMB to make some revisions to the Household Pulse Survey questionnaire. To ensure that the data collected by the Household Pulse Survey continue to meet information needs as they evolve over the course of the pandemic, the Census Bureau submits this Request for Revision to an Existing Collection for a revised Phase 3.10 questionnaire.

Phase 3.10 includes split-panel tests of two versions of the gender identity question and the placement of the health items in the instrument. The Phase 3.10 instrument also includes the return of the original Hispanic origin, race/ethnicity, childcare arrangements, and children's mental health behaviors items, and new questions on military participation of a spouse, shortages of critical products, difficulty accessing medical care/treatment during natural disasters, and a question asking the respondent if they will opt-in to receive optional surveys and email updates from the Bureau. There are also modifications to existing children's vaccine booster, infant formula, reasons not working, unemployment insurance, natural disaster, and contact information items. Several questions will be removed for Phase 3.10, including questions about obtaining at home COVID tests, not working due to the pandemic or natural disaster, households affected by the infant formula shortage, type of formula used, and best contact method.

It is the Department's intention to commence data collection using the revised instrument on or about August

23, 2023. The Department invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously sought on the Household Pulse Survey via the **Federal Register** on May 19, 2020, June 3, 2020, February 1, 2021, April 13, 2021, June 24, 2021, October 26, 2021, January 24, 2022, April 18, 2022, July 2, 2022, November 10, 2022, and April 28, 2023. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments on the proposed revisions.

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau, Department of Commerce.

Title: Household Pulse Survey.

OMB Control Number: 0607-1013.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Request for a Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

Number of Respondents: 141,552.

Average Hours per Response: 20 minutes.

Burden Hours: 46,712.

Needs and Uses: Data produced by the Household Pulse Survey are designed to inform on a range of topics related to households' experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics to date have included employment, facility to telework, travel patterns, income loss, spending patterns, food and housing security, amount of monthly rent and changes in monthly rent, access to benefits, mental health and access to care, difficulty with self-care and communicating, intent to receive the COVID-19 vaccine/booster, timing of coronavirus testing, use of coronavirus treatments, the experience of long COVID, post-secondary educational disruption, access to infant formula, the effects of increasing prices, natural disasters, school meals for children, and children's mental health treatment. The requested revision, if approved by OMB, will remove selected items from the questions for which utility has declined and add questions based on information needs expressed via public comment and in consult with other Federal agencies. The overall burden change to the public will be insignificant.

The Household Pulse Survey was initially launched in April, 2020 as an experimental project (see <https://www.census.gov/data/experimental-data-products.html>) under emergency clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) initially granted April 19, 2020; regular clearance was subsequently sought and

approved by OMB on October 30, 2020 (OMB No. 0607–1013; Exp. 10/30/2023).

Affected Public: Households.

Frequency: Households will be selected once to participate in a 20-minute survey.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 182 and 193.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website 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 and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0607–1013.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2023–15332 Filed 7–18–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Services Surveys: BE–140, Benchmark Survey of Insurance Transactions by U.S. Insurance Companies With Foreign Persons

AGENCY: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed

information collection must be received on or before September 18, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Christopher Stein, Chief, Services Surveys Branch, Bureau of Economic Analysis, by email to christopher.stein@bea.gov or PRAComments@doc.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0608–0073 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Christopher Stein, Chief, Services Surveys Branch, Bureau of Economic Analysis; 301–278–9189; or via email at christopher.stein@bea.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Benchmark Survey of Insurance Transactions by U.S. Insurance Companies with Foreign Persons (Form BE–140) is a periodic survey, conducted every five years, that collects data from U.S. persons who engage in international trade in covered insurance transactions. This mandatory benchmark survey, conducted under the authority of the International Investment and Trade in Services Survey Act, covers the universe of transactions in insurance services with foreign persons and is BEA's most comprehensive survey of such transactions. The survey was last conducted in 2019, covering the 2018 reporting year. A response is required from U.S. persons subject to the reporting requirements of the BE–140, whether or not they are contacted by BEA, to ensure complete coverage of transactions in insurance services between U.S. and foreign persons. A U.S. person means any individual, branch, partnership, associated group, association, estate, trust, corporation, or other organization (whether or not organized under the laws of any State), resident in the United States or subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. A U.S. person must report if they had transactions with foreign persons in the categories covered by the survey during the 2023 calendar year. For U.S. persons that had combined transactions that were \$2 million or less (based on absolute value) in the insurance services covered by the survey for calendar year 2023, a completed benchmark would include totals for each type of transaction in which they engaged. A U.S. person whose combined transactions with foreign persons

exceeded \$2 million (based on absolute value) in the insurance categories covered by the survey for calendar year 2023, is required to provide data on the total transactions of each of the covered types of insurance transactions and must disaggregate the totals by country and by relationship to the foreign counterparty (foreign affiliate, foreign parent group, or unaffiliated).

The data are needed to monitor U.S. trade in insurance services, to analyze the impact of these cross-border services on the U.S. and foreign economies, to compile and improve the U.S. economic accounts, to support U.S. commercial policy on trade in services, to conduct trade promotion, and to improve the ability of U.S. businesses to identify and evaluate market opportunities. The data are used in estimating the trade in insurance services component of the U.S. international transactions accounts (ITAs) and national income and product accounts (NIPAs).

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) is proposing to make several modifications to the survey for 2023 to further align BEA's statistics with international guidelines and to collect additional information that can be used to improve the current estimation methodologies for published insurance services transactions, increasing the quality and usefulness of BEA's statistics on trade in insurance services. To evaluate the feasibility of these changes, BEA conducted outreach to a sample of nine respondents to the Quarterly Survey of Insurance Transactions by U.S. Insurance Companies with Foreign Persons (BE–45). Reporter feedback gathered substantiated the ability of the respondents to comply with the additional data requests, and that the survey changes should not impose a material increase in reporting burden.

BEA does not plan to change the exemption levels used for the previous benchmark survey in 2018.

BEA proposes to:

(1) Add a question to collect information on the largest states, districts, or territories (up to three) for exports and imports of services. This information would be required of all survey respondents and would allow BEA to produce estimates of the value of exports and imports of services by U.S. state for the first time.

(2) Add a question on employment size class. This information would be required of all survey respondents to aid in identifying the number of small businesses reporting on the survey, and the volume of services trade data reported by small businesses.