

# **Request for Approval under the “Generic Clearance for the Collection of Routine Customer Feedback” (OMB Control Number: 0920-1050)**

**TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION:** User Feedback – U.S. Cancer Statistics Public Use Databases – Private Sector

## **PURPOSE:**

Executive Order 12862 directs Federal agencies to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. In order to work continuously to ensure that our programs are effective and meet our customers’ needs, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (hereafter “the Agency”) seeks to obtain OMB approval of a generic clearance to collect qualitative feedback on our service delivery. By qualitative feedback we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions but are not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study.

This collection of information is necessary to enable the Agency to garner customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with our commitment to improving service delivery. The information collected from our customers and stakeholders will help ensure that users have an effective, efficient, and satisfying experience with the Agency’s programs. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences, and expectations, provide an early warning of issues with service, or focus attention on areas where communication, training or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. These collections will allow for ongoing, collaborative, and actionable communications between the Agency and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

## **1. Purpose and Use of the Information Collection**

Improving agency programs requires ongoing assessment of service delivery, by which we mean systematic review of the operation of a program compared to a set of explicit or implicit standards, as a means of contributing to the continuous improvement of the program. The Agency will collect, analyze, and interpret information gathered through this generic clearance to identify strengths and weaknesses of current services and make improvements in service delivery based on feedback. The solicitation of feedback will target areas such as: timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses will be assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the Agency’s services will be unavailable.

The Agency will only submit a collection for approval under this generic clearance if it meets the following conditions:

- Information gathered will be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency (if released, procedures outlined in Question 16 will be followed);

- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions <sup>1</sup>;
- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study;
- The collections are voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collections are non-controversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future; and
- With the exception of information needed to provide remuneration for participants of focus groups and cognitive laboratory studies, personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained.

If these conditions are not met, the Agency will submit an information collection request to OMB for approval through the normal PRA process.

To obtain approval for a collection that meets the conditions of this generic clearance, a standardized form will be submitted to OMB along with supporting documentation (e.g., a copy of the comment card). The submission will have automatic approval unless OMB identifies issues within 5 business days.

The types of collections that this generic clearance covers include, but are not limited to:

- Customer comment cards/complaint forms
- Small discussion groups
- Focus Groups of customers, potential customers, delivery partners, or other stakeholders
- Cognitive laboratory studies, such as those used to refine questions or assess usability of a website
- Qualitative customer satisfaction surveys (e.g., post-transaction surveys; opt-out web surveys)
- In-person observation testing (e.g., website or software usability tests)

The Agency has established a manager/managing entity to serve for this generic clearance and will conduct an independent review of each information collection to ensure compliance with the terms of this clearance prior to submitting each collection to OMB.

The purpose of this specific data collection is to conduct focus groups and interviews to evaluate the U.S. Cancer Statistics researcher public use database user's satisfaction of factors including accessibility, content, and technical documentation clarity.

Since 1994, CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) has provided funding and technical assistance to state and jurisdictional cancer registries to collect population-based cancer incidence data

---

<sup>1</sup> As defined in OMB and agency Information Quality Guidelines, "influential" means that "an agency can reasonably determine that dissemination of the information will have or does have a clear and substantial impact on important public policies or important private sector decisions."

under Public Law 102-515, the Cancer Registries Amendment Act. CDC produces U.S. Cancer Statistics, the official federal cancer statistics, using data from NPCR recipients.

U.S. Cancer Statistics data provide cancer information on the entire U.S. population. They are used by public health planners, researchers, and others to assess the cancer burden, inform and evaluate prevention efforts, and address disparities. The data are made available to the public in various data products including researcher public use databases and an online Data Visualizations tool, which can be accessed at <https://www.cdc.gov/uscs>.

End user's feedback regarding the researcher public use databases (<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/public-use>) will be used by CDC program staff in future development plans of the databases and technical documentation.

**DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:**

The focus group members and interviewees will be comprised of individuals from the private sector, including researchers from academic and medical institutions, who have requested access to US Cancer Statistics researcher public use databases and used the databases to run statistical analyses.

**TYPE OF COLLECTION:** (Check one)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Comment Card/Complaint Form         | <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Satisfaction Survey                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Usability Testing (e.g., Website or Software | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Discussion Group                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Focus Group                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Personal Interviews</u> |

**CERTIFICATION:**

I certify the following to be true:

1. The collection is voluntary.
2. The collection is low-burden for respondents and low-cost for the Federal Government.
3. The collection is non-controversial and does not raise issues of concern to other federal agencies.
4. The results are not intended to be disseminated to the public.
5. Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions.
6. The collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the future.

Name: Mary E. O'Neil

To assist review, please provide answers to the following question:

**Personally Identifiable Information:**

1. Is personally identifiable information (PII) collected?  Yes  No
2. If Yes, is the information that will be collected included in records that are subject to the Privacy Act of 1974?  Yes  No
3. If Applicable, has a System or Records Notice been published?  Yes  No

**Gifts or Payments:**

Is an incentive (e.g., money or reimbursement of expenses, token of appreciation) provided to participants? [ ] Yes [X] No

## BURDEN HOURS

Two focus groups (15 individuals in each group) and 15 interviews will be used to collect customer service feedback from U.S. Cancer Statistics researcher public use database users. The annual burden hours requested (45) are based on the number of collections we expect to conduct over the requested period for this clearance.

Estimated Annual Reporting Burden				
Type of Collection	No. of Respondents	Annual Frequency per Response	Hours per Response	Total Hours
Private Sector: focus group	30	1	1	30 hrs
Private Sector: personal interviews	15	1	1	15 hrs
Totals	45			45 hrs

**FEDERAL COST:** The estimated annual cost to the Federal government is approximately \$114,000. These costs are comprised of contractor costs for planning the 2 focus groups (15 individuals in each group) and 15 interviews, recruiting and scheduling participants (Appendix 1); conducting the focus groups and interviews (Appendix 2); analyzing the results; and report writing approved under this generic clearance.

**If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:**

### The selection of your targeted respondents

1. Do you have a customer list or something similar that defines the universe of potential respondents and do you have a sampling plan for selecting from this universe? [X] Yes [ ] No

If the answer is yes, please provide a description of both below (or attach the sampling plan)?  
If the answer is no, please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them?

The U.S. Cancer Statistics researcher public use databases are accessed through client-server software. The software is saved to the local, "client", machine and it contacts the contractor's server via the internet to access the database and perform statistical calculations. Researchers request access to the de-identified public use databases and the contractor can monitor which users ultimately conduct statistical analyses of the databases on their server. A list of database users from the private sector who have requested access and run analyses using the U.S. Cancer Statistics public use researcher databases in the last 4-years will serve as the sampling frame.

Two focus groups, comprised of 15 individuals in each, will be conducted. CDC will randomly select 60 individuals from a sampling frame of people who have conducted at least 5 analyses and email them an invitation for the focus groups. The invitations will include a link to a scheduler where they can indicate their availability to participate in a focus group. Fifteen interviews will be conducted for this evaluation project. CDC will randomly select 30 individuals from a sampling frame of people who have conducted at least 10 analyses and emailed an invitation for an interview. The invitations will include a link to a scheduler where they can select a time to participate in an interview.

Recruitment efforts will continue until two focus groups comprised of up to 15 database users are scheduled and 15 interviews have been conducted. If there is an insufficient number of database users signing-up for either evaluation mode, CDC will randomly select another sample of 10 individuals and the same process will be followed again until a sufficient number of respondents for the focus groups and interviews are identified.

### **Administration of the Instrument**

1. How will you collect the information? (Check all that apply)

Web-based or other forms of Social Media

Telephone

In-person

Mail

Other, Explain

2. Will interviewers or facilitators be used?  Yes  No

**Please make sure that all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.**

Please see the attachments for the invitation and scheduling emails and instruments.

## Instructions for completing Request for Approval under the “Generic Clearance for the Collection of Routine Customer Feedback”

---

**TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION:** Provide the name of the collection that is the subject of the request. (e.g., Comment card for soliciting feedback on xxxx)

**PURPOSE:** Provide a brief description of the purpose of this collection and how it will be used. If this is part of a larger study or effort, please include this in your explanation.

**DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS:** Provide a brief description of the targeted group or groups for this collection of information. These groups must have experience with the program.

**TYPE OF COLLECTION:** Check one box. If you are requesting approval of other instruments under the generic, you must complete a form for each instrument.

**CERTIFICATION:** Please read the certification carefully. If you incorrectly certify, the collection will be returned as improperly submitted or it will be disapproved.

**Personally Identifiable Information:** Provide answers to the questions.

**Gifts or Payments:** If you answer yes to the question, please describe the incentive and provide a justification for the amount.

### **BURDEN HOURS:**

**Category of Respondents:** Identify who you expect the respondents to be in terms of the following categories: (1) Individuals or Households;(2) Private Sector; (3) State, local, or tribal governments; or (4) Federal Government. Only one type of respondent can be selected.

**No. of Respondents:** Provide an estimate of the Number of respondents.

**Participation Time:** Provide an estimate of the amount of time required for a respondent to participate (e.g. fill out a survey or participate in a focus group)

**Burden:** Provide the Annual burden hours: Multiply the Number of responses and the participation time and divide by 60.

**FEDERAL COST:** Provide an estimate of the annual cost to the Federal government.

**If you are conducting a focus group, survey, or plan to employ statistical methods, please provide answers to the following questions:**

**The selection of your targeted respondents.** Please provide a description of how you plan to identify your potential group of respondents and how you will select them. If the answer is yes, to the first question, you may provide the sampling plan in an attachment.

**Administration of the Instrument:** Identify how the information will be collected. More than one box may be checked. Indicate whether there will be interviewers (e.g. for surveys) or facilitators (e.g., for focus groups) used.

**Please make sure that all instruments, instructions, and scripts are submitted with the request.**