

X-Ray Classification Collection for Metal and Nonmetal Miners

**Request for Office of Management and Budget Review and
Approval for Federally Sponsored Data Collection**

Supporting Statement B

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B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

B1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

As this is surveillance, and not research, there are no sampling methods used for this data collection effort. The specific subpopulation that is included in this data collection effort would be metal and non-metal miners working in the United States. According to the Mine Safety and Health Administration, as of 2023, there were approximately 255,072 employees of metal and non-metal mines in the United States. The miners themselves will not be expected to participate in this data collection effort. In accordance with 30 CFR Part 60.15, medical providers will submit classifications of radiographs of these miners within 30 days of the date of the radiograph. MSHA estimated in their regulatory documents that anywhere between 25% to 75% of metal/non-metal miners will participate in this program, leading to an annual average number of radiographs submitted to be 13,500. If we take the total number of clinics to be at least double the number of clinics offering NIOSH-approved radiography listed on NIOSH's website (169), then at least 338 clinics will participate in these data collection efforts.

B2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

To facilitate secure and efficient data submission, NIOSH is utilizing Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap), a secure web-based platform widely used across CDC and NIOSH. Providers will enter information for each metal or non-metal miner who receives a chest x-ray classification from a NIOSH certified B-Reader into the REDCap survey. Using the International Labour Office (ILO) pneumoconiosis classification system, providers will report whether pneumoconiosis is present and, if so, report the opacity types. Data will be submitted securely through REDCap, ensuring encryption and compliance with privacy standards, though no PII will be collected.

B3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal with No Response

This does not apply. Clinics are mandated to share the radiograph classification information with NIOSH within 30 days of the date of the radiograph. Enforcement of this mandate falls under the purview of MSHA. MSHA and NIOSH will jointly release information about this reporting system and ensure that all mine operators are aware of this data collection instrument.

B4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

NIOSH staff developed the data collection instrument in REDCap using input from internal consultants to improve clarity and validity. Data collected pertaining to the radiograph classifications from NIOSH-certified B Readers will be limited to three sections of the ILO classification form, and sections of this form have been reproduced in the data collection instrument for ease of use.

B5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

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