

Classification

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Sonya G. Stewart,

Director for Executive Budgeting and Assistance Management.

[FR Doc. 97-32540 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-FA-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Bureau of the Census****1998 American Community Survey—Group Quarters Screening Operation**

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to John Paletta, Bureau of the Census, Room 3715-3, Washington, DC 20230, (301) 457-4269.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

The 1998 American Community Survey (ACS) is currently underway. ACS data are being collected under OMB approval number 0607-0810. Data

from the ACS will determine the feasibility of a continuous measurement system that provides socioeconomic data on a continual basis throughout the decade. The Census Bureau must provide a sample of persons residing in Group Quarters (GQs) the opportunity to be interviewed for the ACS. GQs include places such as student dorms, correctional facilities, hospitals, nursing homes, shelters, and military quarters. Obtaining information from the GQ will ensure that we include the necessary people residing at the GQ in the 1998 ACS.

A GQ screening operation was conducted in conjunction with 1997 ACS activities. This request revises the existing GQ clearance for use in the 1998 ACS. Major changes include the following. In 1997 we screened a sample of the GQs in only one ACS test site. In 1998 we will screen a sample of the GQs in eight of the ACS test sites. In 1997 we tested three versions of the questionnaire, Form ACS-2 (GQ), 1997 ACS GQ Facility Questionnaire, and allocated them among the sample GQs according to whether the GQ was to be enumerated by personal visit only, a combination of personal visit and mail, or by mail only. In 1998 we will use only one version of the questionnaire, Form ACS-2 (GQ), 1998 ACS GQ Screening.

We will telephone a sample of GQs in the 1998 ACS test sites. We will verify/update information such as GQ name, address, phone number, and type. We will screen to determine if the residents stay for less than 30 days and have another place to live. If so, the GQ will be classified as out-of-scope for ACS interviewing. If the GQ is in-scope, we will screen to determine if we can complete ACS interviews of the GQ residents by mail, thus saving the expense of personal visits. We will obtain a list of rooms and/or residents from which we can select a sample. All ACS interviewing will be conducted under OMB clearance number 0607-0810.

II. Method of Collection

Telephone interviews will be conducted from Census Bureau's processing center in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0836.

Form Number: ACS-2 (GQ).

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Individuals, Businesses or other for-profit organizations, non-profit institutions and small businesses or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500 GQs in the 1998 ACS test sites.

Estimated Time Per Response: 10 minutes (.167 hours).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 84 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The group quarters screening is part of the 1998 American Community Survey, the cost of which is estimated to be 16.6 million dollars. There is no cost to respondents, other than that of their time.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 182.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 8, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 97-32532 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Bureau of the Census****Survey of Income and Program Participation Wave 8 of the 1996 Panel**

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Michael McMahon, Bureau of the Census, FOB 3, Room 3387, Washington, DC 20233-8400, (301) 457-3819.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau conducts the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) which is a household-based survey designed as a continuous series of national panels, each lasting four years. Respondents are interviewed once every four months, in monthly rotations. Approximately 37,000 households are in the current panel.

The SIPP represents a source of information for a wide variety of topics and allows information for separate topics to be integrated to form a single, unified data base so that the interaction between tax, transfer, and other government and private policies can be examined. Government domestic policy formulators depend heavily upon SIPP information concerning the distribution of income received directly as money or indirectly as in-kind benefits, and the effect of tax and transfer programs on this distribution. They also need improved and expanded data on the income and general economic and financial situation of the U.S. population. The SIPP has provided these kinds of data on a continuing basis since 1983, permitting levels of economic well-being and changes in these levels to be measured over time.

The survey is molded around a central "core" of labor force and income questions that will remain fixed throughout the life of a panel. The core is supplemented with questions designed to answer specific needs, such as obtaining information about the terms of child support agreements and whether they are being fulfilled by the absent parent, examining the program participation status of persons with specific health and disability statuses, and obtaining detailed information needed to understand the current status of the employment-based health care system and changes that have occurred.

These supplemental questions are included with the core and are referred to as "topical modules."

The topical modules for the 1996 Panel Wave 8 collect information about: (1) Adult Well-being; and (2) Welfare Expenses. Wave 8 interviews will be conducted from August 1998 through November 1998.

II. Method of Collection

The SIPP is designed as a continuing series of national panels of interviewed households that are introduced every 4 years, with each panel having a duration of 4 years in the survey. All household members 15 years old or over are interviewed using regular proxy-respondent rules. They are interviewed a total of 12 times (12 waves) at 4-month intervals, making the SIPP a longitudinal survey. Interviewers personally visit all households at least once a year and conduct the other 2 interviews by phone if the respondent agrees. Sample persons (all household members present at the time of the first interview) who move within the country and reasonably close to a SIPP Primary Sampling Unit will be followed and interviewed at their new address.

Persons 15 years old or over who enter the household after Wave 1 will be interviewed; however, if these persons move, they are not followed unless they happen to move along with a Wave 1 sample person.

The survey is administered using Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) methodologies. Census Bureau field representatives collect the data from respondents using laptop computers, and the data are transmitted to Census Bureau headquarters via high-speed modems.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0813.

Form Number: SIPP/CAPI Automated Instrument.

Type of Review: Regular.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 77,700 (We will obtain interviews from approximately 37,000 households, yielding about 77,700 person-interviews (2.1 persons 15 years old or over per household). The household interviews will be conducted at 4-month intervals.

Estimated Time Per Response: 30 minutes per person.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 117,800.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The only costs to respondents is that of their time.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Section 182.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 8, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 97-32533 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112897C]

Vessel Registration and Fisheries Information System

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Sustainable Fisheries Act, passed in October 1996, added various amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). As a result, Section 401 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act requires the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to deliver an implementation plan for a national fishing vessel registration and fisheries information system (System) in a Report to Congress. This notice outlines the approach taken by NMFS and its Federal, regional, state, and industry partners on behalf of the Secretary to develop the implementation plan required in the Report to Congress.

DATES: Notice of Availability (NOA) of the draft version of the Report to Congress will be published in the