

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Submission For OMB Review;  
Comment Request**

DOC has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

*Agency:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey.

*Form Number(s):* SM-42(00).

*Agency Approval Number:* 0607-0190.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 5,320 hours.

*Number of Respondents:* 3,800.

*Avg Hours Per Response:* 7 minutes.

*Needs and Uses:* The U.S. Census Bureau requests a three-year extension of the current OMB approval of the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey (MWTS). The MWTS canvasses firms primarily engaged in merchant wholesale trade that are located in the United States. This survey provides the only continuous measures of monthly wholesale sales, end-of-month inventories, method of inventory valuation, and inventories/sales ratios. The sales and inventory estimates produced from the MWTS provide current trends of economic activity by kind of business for the United States. Also, the estimates compiled from this survey provide valuable information for economic policy decisions by the government and are widely used by private businesses, trade organizations, professional associations, and other business research and analysis organizations.

The estimates produced by the MWTS are critical to the accurate measurement of total economic activity of the United States. The estimates of sales made by wholesale locations represent only merchant wholesalers who take title to goods bought for resale to other companies. Wholesalers normally sell to industrial distributors, retail operations, cooperatives, and other businesses. The sales estimates include sales made on credit as well as on a cash basis, but exclude receipts from sales taxes and interest charges from credit sales.

The estimates of merchandise inventories represent all merchandise held in wholesale locations, warehouses, and offices, as well as goods held by others for sale on consignment or in transit for distribution to wholesale establishments. The estimates of merchandise inventories exclude

fixtures and supplies not for resale, as well as merchandise held on consignment which are owned by others. Inventories are an important component in the Bureau of Economic Analysis's (BEA) calculation of the investment portion of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit, Federal Government, State, local or Tribal Governments.

*Frequency:* Monthly.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 U.S.C., Section 182.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Madeleine Clayton, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202)482-3129, Department of Commerce, room 6608, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at mclayton@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Susan Schechter, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: June 4, 2002.

**Madeleine Clayton,**

*Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer,  
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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*Agency:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* Current Population Survey (CPS) Basic Demographic Items.

*Form Number(s):* CPS-263, CPS-263(SP), CPS-263A, CPS-264, CPS-264(SP), CPS-264A, CPS-266, BC-1428, BC-1428(SP), BC-1433, BC-1433(SP), CPS-692, CPS-504.

*Agency Approval Number:* 0607-0049.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Burden:* 18,012 hours.

*Number of Respondents:* 57,000.

*Avg Hours Per Response:* 1.58 minutes.

*Needs and Uses:* The Census Bureau requests continued Office of

Management and Budget (OMB) clearance for the collection of basic demographic information in the Current Population Survey (CPS).

The CPS has been the source of official government statistics on employment and unemployment for over 50 years. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Census Bureau jointly sponsor the basic monthly survey, and the Census Bureau prepares and conducts all the field work. The Census Bureau provides the BLS with data tapes and tables. The BLS seasonally adjusts, analyzes, and publishes the results for the labor force data in conjunction with the demographic characteristics. In accordance with the OMB's request, the Census Bureau and the BLS divide the clearance request in order to reflect the joint sponsorship and funding of the CPS program.

The demographic information provides a unique set of data on selected characteristics for the civilian noninstitutional population. Some of the demographic information we collect is age, marital status, gender, Armed Forces status, education, race, origin, and family income. We use these data in conjunction with other data, particularly the monthly labor force data, as well as periodic supplement data. We use these data also independently for internal analytic research and for evaluation of other surveys. In addition, we need these data to correctly control estimates of other characteristics to the proper proportions of age, gender, race, and origin.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Frequency:* Monthly.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 U.S.C., Section 182.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Susan Schechter, (202) 395-5103.

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