

any reports that are reasonably necessary for MSHA to perform its duties under the Mine Act. Section 103(j) of the Mine Act requires operators to notify MSHA of the occurrence of an accident and to take appropriate measures to preserve any evidence which would assist in the investigation into the cause or causes of the accident.

Data collected through MSHA Form 7000-1 and MSHA Form 7000-2 enable MSHA to publish timely quarterly and annual statistics, reflecting current safety and health conditions in the mining industry. These data are used not only by MSHA, but also by other Federal and State agencies, health and safety researchers, and the mining community to assist in measuring and comparing the results of health and safety efforts both in the United States and internationally.

MSHA tabulates and analyzes information from MSHA Form 7000-1, along with that from MSHA Form 7000-2, Quarterly Mine Employment and Coal Production Report, to derive quarterly evaluations of normalized injury and illness experience at the nation's mines. These data allow MSHA to detect accident, injury, and illness trends ascribable to specific mine sites, types of mining, work locations, or tasks.

MSHA uses this information to target its inspection and assistance activities toward those mines, industry segments, and geographical areas which the current data demonstrate as having particular problems. Injury rates must be computed at least quarterly for MSHA to target its enforcement and

assistance resources. Less frequent data collection would neither be timely nor statistically valid for this purpose.

The mining industry also uses this quarterly injury incidence data in its efforts to reduce injuries and illnesses. MSHA's compilations are the only source of information which permits a particular mining operation to compare its record with that of similar mines.

Ira Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 25, 2002.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection request (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). A copy of each individual ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor. To obtain documentation contact Marlene Howze at (202) 693-4158 or e-mail Howze-Marlene@dol.gov.

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for BLS, Office

of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 ((202) 395-7316), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collection; and minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Title: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Program Manual.

OMB Number: 1220-0017.

Affected Public: State, Local or Tribal Government.

Frequency: Monthly and Annually.

Estimated Time Per Response and Total Burden Hours:

Form	Number of respondents	Annual frequency	Total annual responses	Estimated hours/re-sponse	Total annual burden (Hours)
LAUS 3040	52	13 months	86,650	1.6	138,640
LAUS 8	52	11 months	572	1.6	915
LAUS 15	52	0.5 months	26	2	52
LAUS 16	52	1 yearly	52	1.4	73
Totals	87,300	139,680

Total Annualized Capital/Startup Costs: \$0.

Total Annual Costs (operation/maintaining systems or purchasing services: \$0.

Description: The Bureau of Labor Statistics has been charged by Congress [Congressional Act of July 7, 1930 (29 USC Chapters 1 and 21)] with the responsibility of collecting and publishing monthly information on employment, the average wage received, and the hours worked by area and industry. The process for developing residency based employment and

unemployment estimates is a cooperative Federal-State program that uses employment and unemployment inputs available in State agencies. The estimates are used in economic analysis by public agencies and private industry, and for State and area allocations and eligibility determinations according to legal and administrative requirements. The Manual provides the theoretic basis and essential technical instructions and guidance that States require to prepare State and area unemployment estimates, while the reports are integral parts of the LAUS program that ensure and/or

measure the timeliness, quality, consistency, and adherence to program directives and related research. Implementation of policy and legislative prerogatives could not be accomplished as now written without collection of the data.

Ira L. Mills,

Departmental Clearance Officer.

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