

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 79, No. 221

Monday, November 17, 2014

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Notice of Intent To Request Revision and Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to request revision and extension of a currently approved information collection, the Field Crops Objective Yield Surveys. Revision to burden hours may be needed due to changes in the size of the target population, sampling design, and/or questionnaire length.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by January 16, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number 0535-0088, by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.

Include docket number above in the subject line of the message.

- *eFax:* (855) 838-6382.

- *Mail:* Mail any paper, disk, or CD-ROM submissions to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2024.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* Hand deliver to: David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 5336 South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250-2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Renee Picanso, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202)

720-2707. Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from David Hancock, NASS Clearance Officer, at (202) 690-2388.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Field Crops Objective Yield.

OMB Control Number: 0535-0088.

Expiration Date of Approval: April 30, 2015.

Type of Request: To revise and extend a currently approved information collection for a period of three years.

Abstract: The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is to collect, prepare and issue State and national estimates of crop and livestock production, prices and disposition as well as economic statistics, farm numbers, land values, on-farm pesticide usage, pest crop management practices, as well as the Census of Agriculture. The Field Crops Objective Yield Surveys objectively predicts yields for corn, cotton, potatoes, soybeans, and wheat. Sample fields are randomly selected for these crops, plots are laid out, and periodic counts and measurements are taken and then used to forecast production during the growing season. Production forecasts are published in USDA Crop Production reports.

Authority: These data will be collected under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2204(a). Individually identifiable data collected under this authority are governed by Section 1770 of the Food Security Act of 1985 as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2276, which requires USDA to afford strict confidentiality to non-aggregated data provided by respondents. This Notice is submitted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) and Office of Management and Budget regulations at 5 CFR part 1320.

NASS also complies with OMB Implementation Guidance, "Implementation Guidance for Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA)," **Federal Register**, Vol. 72, No. 115, June 15, 2007, p. 33362.

Estimate of Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average between 20 and 30 minutes per respondent.

Respondents: Farmers, ranchers, or farm managers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,000.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,900 hours.

Copies of this information collection and related instructions can be obtained without charge from NASS Clearance Officer, at (202) 720-2248 or at ombofficer@nass.usda.gov.

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 will have practical utility; (b) 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; (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 those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, technological or other forms of information technology collection methods.

All responses to this notice will become a matter of public record and be summarized in the request for OMB approval.

Signed at Washington, DC, October 29, 2014.

R. Renee Picanso,

Associate Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2014-27119 Filed 11-14-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Comparing Health Insurance Measurement Error (CHIME)

AGENCY: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

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.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be submitted on or before January 16, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at jjessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Joanne Pascale, 301-763-4920, joanne.pascale@census.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. Abstract

This study is designed to assess reporting accuracy in surveys that measure health insurance. Several federal, state and private surveys measure health insurance coverage, but have different origins and methodological approaches, and serve different purposes. They also produce different estimates of coverage, and few studies have assessed reporting accuracy across surveys. Previous research indicates that much of the variation in the estimates is rooted in subtle differences in the questionnaires. A common strategy for assessing the validity of a self-reported measure from a survey is a reverse “record check” study in which administrative records are assumed to contain the correct status on a given measure (e.g., health insurance coverage). Contact information from the records is used as sample to conduct a survey in which the same information, in this case health insurance, is asked about. Data from the records is then compared to the answers from the survey to assess reporting accuracy.

The proposed study will survey a sample of people enrolled in Medica Health Plans (a Minnesota based health insurance plan) whose coverage type is known from the records to be Medicaid, MinnesotaCare, employer-sponsored insurance, non-group coverage within the marketplace (called MNSure) or non-group coverage outside the marketplace. The sample will be randomly assigned to one of two questionnaire modules on health insurance—the newly-redesigned Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS) or the American Community Survey (ACS)—in order to contrast reporting error across different questionnaire versions. For analysis, the level of agreement between the data from the records and the survey report is referred

to as “absolute accuracy,” and the comparison of absolute accuracy for any given survey to the absolute accuracy for a different survey is referred to as “relative accuracy.”

In order to minimize respondent burden but still mimic actual survey conditions of the CPS and ACS to an extent, the survey includes a short subset of questions from those surveys in order to set the context for the health insurance modules. Thus typical questions on demographics (e.g.: age, race, education), employment status, government program participation will precede the health insurance questions.

II. Method of Collection

The study will consist of a computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) conducted by Census Bureau interviewers from the Hagerstown, Md., call center. Sample is being provided by Medica Research Institute (MRI), an affiliate of Medica Health Plans, based in Minnesota. Medica will mail an advance letter to enrollees from among five different markets: Medicaid, MinnesotaCare (a state-specific program for low income), employer-sponsored insurance, direct purchase through the marketplace, and direct purchase outside the marketplace. The letter will explain that Medica has partnered with the Census Bureau on a study, and it will invite enrollees who do not wish to participate to opt-out by calling in to the Medica call center. Medica will then draw a sample from among enrollees who did not opt out for transfer to the Census Bureau. Data collection is to take place from late February through early April, 2015, in order to mimic the actual time frame of the CPS ASEC.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0607–XXXX.

Form Number(s): Not yet assigned.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Medica enrollees and their household members.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,000 household respondents.

Estimated Time per Response: 13 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: Interviewing: 5,000 household cases * 13 minutes/case = 1,083 hours; Contact attempts not resulting in completed interviews = 11,667 cases * 10 seconds/case = 1,945 hours; Total = 3,028 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C. 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: November 12, 2014.

Glenna Mickelson,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014–27085 Filed 11–14–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economics and Statistics Administration

Establishment of Commerce Data Advisory Council; Solicitation of Nominations for Membership

AGENCY: Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of establishment of the Commerce Data Advisory Council (CDAC) and solicitation of nominations for membership.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1512 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2, hereinafter the Act), the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Economics and Statistics Administration, announces the establishment of the Commerce Data Advisory Council (CDAC) by the Secretary, Department of Commerce. The CDAC will provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary on ways to make Commerce data easier to find, access, use, combine, and disseminate, and on other such matters as the Secretary determines. The Council will continue for two years unless renewed by the Secretary, Department of Commerce. With the exception of the limitations set out in 41 CFR part 102–3, the Under Secretary for