

advance sales estimates 9 days after the end of the data month in a press release called "Advance Monthly Retail Sales Report." Without these early estimates, the next available measure of retail sales is the "preliminary" estimate released about 40 days after the data month.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Council of Economic Advisors, and other government agencies and businesses use the data to formulate economic policy and make decisions. These estimates have a high BEA priority because of their timeliness. Other users of the advance sales estimates include the Council of Economic Advisors, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Federal Reserve Board, other government agencies, and businesses.

We are increasing the sample size from 3,363 to 4,100 to improve the quality of the data.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Frequency: Monthly.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

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

OMB Desk Officer: Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395-7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

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

Dated: February 24, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-5352 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

1999 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey; Proposed Collection

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 May 4, 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 Peter Fronczek, Census Bureau, FB3-1433, Washington, DC 20233-8500, phone: 301-457-3199.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to conduct the 1999 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey (NYCHVS) under contract for the City of New York. The primary purpose of the survey is to measure the rental vacancy rate which is the primary factor in determining the continuation of rent control regulations. Other survey information is used by city and state agencies for planning purposes as well as the private sector for business decisions. The laws of New York require such a survey to be conducted every three years.

Information to be collected includes: Age, gender, race, hispanic origin, and relationship of all household members; employment status, education level, and income for persons aged 15 & above; owner/renter status (tenure) for all households, amount of rent paid, as well as kitchen and bathroom facilities availability, maintenance deficiencies, neighborhood suitability, and specific questions about each unit such as number of rooms and bedrooms. The survey also poses a number of items relating to handicapped accessibility. Finally, a shorter series of similar questions are asked for any units that are vacant. Note that all vacant units and approximately five percent of occupied units will be reinterviewed for quality assurance purposes.

II. Method of Collection

All information will be conducted by personal interview.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0757 (expired 09/30/96)

Form Number: H-100, H-108(reinterview)

Type of Review: Regular

Affected Public: Households and businesses

Estimated Number of Respondents: 17,200 interviews; 2,000 reinterviews

Estimated Time Per Response: 40 minutes occupied (16,000); 10 minutes vacant (1,200); 10 minutes reinterview (2,000)

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 11,200

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

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary
Legal Authority: Local Emergency Housing Rent Control Act, Laws of New York (Chapters 8603 and 657)

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: February 25, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-5349 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Current Industrial Reports Surveys—WAVE II (Mandatory and Voluntary Submissions)

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 May 4, 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:

Contact	Industries	Telephone	Address
Michael Zampogna	Manufactured nondurable products.	(301) 457-4810	Bureau of Census, Manufacturing & Construction Division, Room 2212, Building 4, Washington, DC 20233.
Kenneth Hansen	Manufactured durable products ...	(301) 457-4755	Bureau of Census, Manufacturing & Construction Division, Room 2207, Building 4, Washington, DC 20233.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Census Bureau conducts a series of monthly, quarterly, and annual surveys as part of the Current Industrial Reports (CIR) program. The CIR deal mainly with the quantity and value of shipments of particular products and occasionally with data on production and inventories; unfilled orders, receipts, stocks and consumption; and comparative data on domestic production, exports, and imports of the products they cover. These surveys

provide continuing and timely national statistical data on manufacturing. The results of these surveys are used extensively by individual firms, trade associations, and market analysts in planning or recommending marketing and legislative strategies.

The CIR program includes both mandatory and voluntary surveys. Typically the monthly and quarterly surveys are conducted on a voluntary basis. Those companies that choose not to respond to the voluntary surveys are required to submit a mandatory annual counterpart. The annual counterpart

collects annual data from those firms not participating in the more frequent collection.

Due to the large number of surveys in the CIR program, for clearance purposes we group the surveys into three Waves. The mandatory and voluntary surveys in each Wave are separately submitted. Thus, a total of six clearances cover all of the surveys in the CIR program. One Wave is submitted for reclearance each year. This year the Census Bureau plans to submit mandatory and voluntary surveys of Wave II for clearance. The surveys in Wave II are as follow:

Mandatory surveys	Voluntary surveys
M20J—Oilseeds, Beans and Nuts	*M20A—Flour Milling.
M20L—Fats and Oils (Renderers)	*M32G—Glass Containers.
M22N—Cotton in Public Storage	*M33J—Steel (Producers).
M22P—Cotton Manmade Fiber Staple	MQ28A—Inorganic Chemicals.
MQ23A—Apparel	MQ28C—Industrial Gases.
MQ23X—Bed and Bath Furnishings	MQ28F—Paint, Varnish, & Lacquer.
MA22F—Yarn	MQ31A—Shoes and Slippers.
MQ35W—Metalworking Machinery	*MQ36C—Fluorescent Lamp Ballast.
MA22F—Yarn	MA20D—Confectionery.
MA22K—Knit Fabric	MA35N—Fluid Power Products.
MA22Q—Carpet and Rugs	MA35U—Vending Machines.
MA24T—Lumber	MA36L—Electric Light Fixtures.
MA28A—Inorganic Chemicals.	
MA28B—Inorganic Fertilizer.	
MA28C—Industrial Gases.	
MA28G—Pharmaceutical.	
MA31A—Shoes and Slippers.	
MA33L—Insulated Wire and Cable.	
MA35L—Internal Combustion Engines.	
MA35P—Pumps and Compressors.	
MA36E—Electric Housewares and Fans.	
MA36M—Consumer Electronics.	
MA36Q—Semiconductor & Etc.	
MA38R—Electromed/Irradiation Equipment.	

*These voluntary surveys have mandatory annual counterparts.

II. Method of Collection

The Census Bureau will use mail out/mail back survey forms to collect data. We ask respondents to return monthly report forms within 10 days, quarterly report forms within 15 days, and annual report forms within 30 days of the initial mailing. Telephone calls and/or letters encouraging participation will be

mailed to respondents that have not responded by the designated time.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0607-0395—Mandatory Surveys. 0607-0206—Voluntary & Annual Counterparts Surveys.

Form Number: See Chart Above.

Type of Review: Regular Review.

Affected Public: Businesses, other for profit, or organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: Mandatory Surveys—35,931; Voluntary & Annual Counterparts Surveys—7,333; Total—43,264.

Estimated Time Per Response: Mandatory Surveys—20.50 hrs. avg.

Voluntary & Annual Counterparts Surveys—9.52 hrs. avg.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: Mandatory Surveys—27,636 hours. Voluntary & Annual Counterparts Surveys—5,330 hours. Total—32,970 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The estimated cost to respondents for all the CIR reports in Wave II for fiscal year 1998 is \$426,302.

Respondent's Obligation: The CIR program includes both mandatory and voluntary surveys. Typically the monthly and quarterly surveys are conducted on a voluntary basis. Those companies that choose not to respond to the voluntary surveys are required to submit a mandatory annual counterpart. The annual counterpart collects annual data from those firms not participating in the more frequent collection.

Legal Authority: Title 13, United States Code, Sections 61, 81, 131, 182, 224, and 225.

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: February 25, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-5350 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

Export Procedures for Non-parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and Exports of Schedule 1 Chemicals 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 May 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental 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 Stephen Baker, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, room 6877, Washington, DC, 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is a multilateral arms control treaty that seeks to achieve an international ban on chemical weapons (CW). The CWC was signed by the United States in Paris on January 13, 1993, and was submitted by President Clinton to the United States Senate on November 23, 1993, for its advice and consent to ratification. The CWC prohibits, *inter alia*, the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, and direct or indirect transfer of chemical weapons.

The U.S. is under obligation by this international treaty to impose certain trade controls and notify the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) of exports of all Schedule 1 chemicals. Therefore, the Bureau of Export Administration will require exporters to obtain an End-Use Certificate, issued by government of the importing country, prior to export of all Schedule 2 and 3 chemicals to countries not party to the CWC. BXA will also require prior notification of all exports of Schedule 1 chemicals to CWC States Parties, and annual reports of such exports.

II. Method of Collection

Written notification and recordkeeping.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: N/A.

Type of Review: Submission for new collection.

Affected Public: Individuals, businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 350.

Estimated Time Per Response: 2 hours per response.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 700.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

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 will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 26, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-5462 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

National Defense Authorization Act; 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 May 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and