

years. The results of the surveys are used to assess trends in R&D expenditures by industry sector, investigate productivity determinants, formulate science and tax policy, and compare individual company performance with industry averages. This survey is the Nation's primary source for international comparative statistics on business R&D spending.

BERD will continue to collect the following types of information:

- R&D expense based on accepted accounting standards.
- Worldwide R&D of domestic companies.
- Business segment detail.
- R&D related capital expenditures.
- Detailed data about the R&D workforce.

• R&D strategy and data on the potential impact of R&D on the market.

Beginning in 2019, in an effort to reduce burden, BERD began rotating select content off the survey in alternating years. In 2019, questions related to intellectual property and technology transfer were removed from the survey. In 2020, questions related to detail of R&D performed by others, activities with academia, industries of business and specific federal agency funding R&D, and areas of application for R&D were removed and the intellectual property and technology transfer questions rotated back on. This cycle of rotating content has continued. In 2021, the Capital Expenditures section was revised to collect additional information on assets. Proposed at that time was to collect two consecutive years of data (for 2021 and 2022) and rotate select asset content off the survey in alternating years. So, in 2023, BERD would have had a subset of the asset content, and in 2024, all of the asset content would have been included on the survey. This proposed content rotation did not occur in 2023.

However, the rotation will commence in 2024. Resulting in a subset of the asset content collected in 2024 and all of the asset content collected in 2025 and so on, similar to the other rotating content. Census and NCSES will continue to explore content that could be collected less frequently than annual in an effort to continue to reduce respondent burden.

Information from BERD will continue to support NCSES' responsibility to collect information on Research and Development for overall support for Federal policy discussions, as required under the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010.

Policy officials from many Federal agencies rely on these statistics for essential information. Businesses and

trade organizations rely on BERD data to benchmark their industry's performance against others. For example, total U.S. R&D expenditures statistics are used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) for incorporating R&D as fixed investment in updates to the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPAs). Also, NCSES, BEA and the Census Bureau periodically seek to use BERD data to augment global R&D investment information that is obtained from BEA's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and U.S. Direct Investment Abroad (USDIA) surveys. Further, the Census Bureau links data collected by BERD with other statistical files. At the Census Bureau, historical company-level R&D data are linked to a file that contains information on the outputs and inputs of companies' manufacturing plants. Researchers can analyze the relationships between R&D funding and other economic variables by using micro-level data.

Individuals and organizations access the survey statistics via the internet in annual InfoBriefs published by NCSES that announce the availability of statistics from each cycle of BERD and detailed statistical table reports that contain all the statistics NCSES produces from BERD. Information about the kinds of projects that rely on statistics from BERD is available from internal records of Census' Center for Economic Studies. In addition, survey statistics are regularly cited in trade publications and many researchers use the survey statistics from these secondary sources without directly contacting NCSES or the Census Bureau. Some of the users of the survey statistics and the types of information they request are described below.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

Legal Authority: The survey is conducted under the authority of Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131, and 182; Title 42, United States Code, Sections 1861–76 (National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended); and Section 505 within the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010.

This information collection request may be viewed at www.reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day

Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0607–0912.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2024–22361 Filed 9–27–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Census Bureau

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Current Population Survey (CPS) 2025 Field Test

AGENCY: Census Bureau, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment on the proposed new information collection, Current Population Survey (CPS) 2025 Field Test, prior to the submission of the information collection request (ICR) to OMB for approval.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 29, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by email to Kyra Linse, Survey Director, Current Population Surveys via the internet at dsd.cps@census.gov. Please reference Current Population Survey (CPS) 2025 Field Test in the subject line of your comments. You may also submit comments, identified by Docket Number USBC–2024–0023, to the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments received are part of the public record. No comments will be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> for public viewing until after the comment period has closed. Comments will generally be posted without change. All Personally Identifiable Information (for example, name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be

publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Kyra Linse, Survey Director, Current Population Surveys via the internet at dsd.cps@census.gov, or by phone at 301-763-9280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

The Census Bureau plans to request clearance from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the collection of information related to a field test of the Current Population Survey (CPS) in calendar year 2025.

The CPS has been the source of official government statistics on employment and unemployment since 1942. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Census Bureau jointly sponsor the basic monthly survey. The Census Bureau also prepares and conducts all the field work. The CPS collects labor force information for the civilian noninstitutional population including employment status, number of hours worked, job search activities, earnings, duration of unemployment, and the industry and occupation classification of the job held the previous week. Data for the CPS are currently collected by Census field interviewers via in-person interviews or by telephone.

The 2025 Field Test's goal is to test the use of an internet self-response method to measure its success as a possible method of contact and interviewing with the goal of review accuracy, reporting, and representativeness. In addition, should it prove as a viable response method, the goal is to experiment with timing and contacts in order to refine procedures that best fit the needs of CPS. This is the first of two major field tests with the second in 2026, and an ultimate goal to phase in changes to the survey in 2027.

II. Method of Collection

The 2025 field test is planned for April 2025 until November 2025. The goal is to replicate the expected mode interaction of adding a self-response mode as close as possible to a production environment. The first interview will be conducted via computer-assisted person interview

(CAPI) mode, and most cases will be followed up for three months with a mix of internet Self Response and CAPI follow-up based on the previous month's interview results and data reported. All cases will be in sample for four months. In addition, some cases will be put on hold for two months and then interviewed again in order to replicate the break in a normal CPS in a shorter interval. In addition, we will conduct experiments such as question wording, contact methods, and timing of mode switching in order to measure the best method to encourage response by internet mode and the best wording for accurate self-response reporting.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0607-XXXX.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission, New Information Collection Request.

Affected Public: Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 33,333 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Title 13 U.S.C. 8(b), 141, and 182.

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include, or summarize, each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying

information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2024-22369 Filed 9-27-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Census Bureau****Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions**

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on June 6, 2024, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

Title: Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions.

OMB Control Number: 0607-0143.

Form Number(s): F-10.

Type of Request: Regular submission, Request for an Extension, without Change, of a Currently Approved Collection.

Number of Respondents: 100.

Average Hours per Response: 45 minutes.

Burden Hours: 300.

Needs and Uses: The Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions provides a rich source of data on public retirement systems administered by state and local governments in the United States. Over 4.6 trillion dollars in public pension assets in the financial markets are controlled by a small number of large retirement systems. The frame for the 2012 Census of Governments identified 3,992 public retirement systems administered by state and local governments. The 100 largest systems, as measured by the system assets,