

a. Add question on the presence of robots in the company.

b. Collect robotic equipment expenditures by industry segment.

D. Burden (only requested of non-employers).

a. Add a question requesting the amount of time it took to complete the non-employer survey.

As stated above, we plan to add questions related to the Coronavirus Pandemic. The primary objective is to measure the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic on businesses and the economy, and meet the needs of the data user community. As we continue in these unprecedented times, the Coronavirus Pandemic content may shift, change or evolve and require further modifications on ACES.

The initiative to integrate and re-engineer select annual programs is scheduled to begin implementation in survey year 2023. The goal is to shift select annual programs from individual independent surveys to a streamlined integrated annual program. The new annual program will move from industry focused, individual surveys to requesting a more holistic view of the companies. Prior to survey year 2023, we plan to begin to align our annual programs and improve efficiencies across programs in targeted areas related to consistent content, processes, and systems. The initiative is in response to data user needs (timely, granular, harmonized data), and declining response rates.

## II. Method of Collection

The initial mailing will include a letter instructing respondents to report online. The electronic reporting system provides a cost-effective and user-friendly method to collect data from companies. The Census Bureau will supply companies with a unique authentication code for the electronic reporting tool. Respondents will have the option of printing out a worksheet that lists all of the questions. Respondents will be able to print the worksheet to use as a guide to respond or can print the worksheet after completing the questionnaire as a record of their response. The online reporting instrument is tailored to the company's diversity of operations and number of industries with payroll. Employer companies will complete the ACE-1 electronic reporting instrument and non-employers will complete the ACE-2 electronic reporting instrument. Companies will be asked to respond to the survey within 30 days of the initial mailing. The Census Bureau will use reminder letters and/or telephone calls

to encourage participation of companies that have not responded within 30 days.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-0782.

*Form Number(s):* ACE-1 and ACE-2.

*Type of Review:* Regular Submission, Request for a Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

*Affected Public:* Private, non-farm businesses or other for-profit organizations, non-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* Approximately 70,000 (50,000 employer companies, and 20,000 non-employer businesses).

*Estimated Time per Response:* The average for all respondents is 2.27 hours. For employer companies completing form ACE-1, the range is 2 to 17 hours, averaging 2.78 hours. For companies completing form ACE-2, the range is less than 1 hour to 2 hours, averaging 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 159,000 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0. (This is not the cost of respondents' time, but the indirect costs respondents may incur for such things as purchases of specialized software or hardware needed to report, or expenditures for accounting or records maintenance services required specifically by the collection.)

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 United States Code, Sections 131 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 Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Census Bureau

#### **Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Supplemental Questions to the Annual Business Survey (0607-1004) To Capture a Baseline of Work From Home Options of Businesses in 2019**

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 July 6, 2020 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* U.S. Census Bureau.

*Title:* Supplemental questions to the Annual Business Survey (0607-1004) to capture a baseline of work from home options of businesses in 2019.

*OMB Control Number:* 0607-1015.

*Form Number(s):* None.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 300,000.

*Average Hours per Response:* 3 minutes.

*Burden Hours:* 15,000.

*Needs and Uses:* The U.S. Census Bureau requests an extension to the approved request for clearance of the adding supplemental questions to the Annual Business Survey (0607-1004) to capture a baseline of remote work options at businesses in 2019. The OMB

number for the supplemental questions is 0607–1015. The supplemental questions were approved by OMB under an emergency clearance through November 30, 2020. This extension is needed due to the necessity to keep the 2020 ABS in the field through December 31, 2020. We seek approval for this extension by November 30, 2020.

The additional questions are designed to measure work from home operations of businesses in 2019 to capture a baseline. If deemed warranted, next year's ABS would propose adding the same or similar questions to understand work from home operations of businesses during the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020. ABS is designed to allow for incorporating new content each survey year based on topics of relevance. The ABS includes all nonfarm employer businesses filing Internal Revenue Service (IRS) tax forms as individual proprietorships, partnerships, or any other type of corporations, with receipts of \$1,000 or more.

The questions are part of Section A—Company Information. The questions are designed to measure three concepts, specifically for 2019 (prior to the Coronavirus pandemic):

- (1) Does the firm allow work from home?
- (2) To what degree are employees of the firm engaging in work from home?
- (3) What are the limiting factors for work from home?

The supplemental questions are being collected in the ABS is to establish a baseline for the status of work from home prior to the coronavirus pandemic. These data are not available from any other source. The ABS is uniquely positioned to create these estimates, and we may want to ask these questions again in the future to see if the

coronavirus pandemic has an immediate effect (in 2020) or longer run effect (in 2021) on businesses offering work at home options to their employees. The goal of adding work from home content would be to:

- Create estimates of the number of businesses that provide work from home options for their employees by business characteristics (for example: Size, age, geography, industry)
- Create percent of workers who are working from home by business characteristics (for example: Size, age, geography, industry)
- Determine if businesses ability/willingness to offer expanded work from home options to employees changed during the pandemic and if those options were temporary or appear to be more permanent conditions of employment within those businesses.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13 United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131, and 182; Title 42 United States Code, Section 1861–76 (National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended); and Section 505 within the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 authorize this collection. Sections 224 and 225 of Title 13 United States Code require response from sampled firms.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://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/](http://www.reginfo.gov/)

[public/do/PRAMain](https://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 0607–1015.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Economic Development Administration

#### Notice of Petitions by Firms for Determination of Eligibility To Apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance

**AGENCY:** Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and opportunity for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has received petitions for certification of eligibility to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance from the firms listed below. Accordingly, EDA has initiated investigations to determine whether increased imports into the United States of articles like or directly competitive with those produced by each of the firms contributed importantly to the total or partial separation of the firms' workers, or threat thereof, and to a decrease in sales or production of each petitioning firm.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### LIST OF PETITIONS RECEIVED BY EDA FOR CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

[8/22/2020 through 9/2/2020]

Firm name	Firm address	Date accepted for investigation	Product(s)
Schafer Woodworks, Inc .....	10695 Macon Highway, Tecumseh, MI 49286.	8/24/2020 .....	The firm manufactures hardwood flooring.
Nuvar, Inc .....	895 East 40th Street, Holland, MI 49423.	8/25/2020 .....	The firm manufactures office furniture.
Salisbury, Inc .....	29085 Airpark Drive, Easton, MD 21601.	8/27/2020 .....	The firm manufactures tableware, kitchenware, and other household articles of pewter, silver, and aluminum.
Precise Tooling Solutions, Inc .....	3150 North Scott Drive, Columbus, IN 47201.	8/28/2020 .....	The firm manufactures molds for plastic injection molding.

Any party having a substantial interest in these proceedings may

request a public hearing on the matter. A written request for a hearing must be

submitted to the Trade Adjustment Assistance Division, Room 71030,