

- 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 collected; 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 submissions of responses.

III. Current Action

The IPP continues to modernize data collection and processing to permit more timely release of its indexes, and to reduce reporter burden. The IPP is testing initiation techniques to reduce burden such as less frequent sampling of more stable item areas, use of broader item areas in certain cases, and retention of items initiated in previous samples that reporters still trade. In order to reduce the time required for processing new items, direct entry of initiation data from the field was recently implemented. The IPP is testing the application of new technology to repricing and the use of fax telephone lines to permit direct collection and

entry into the BLS reporters' repricing database. The IPP also is considering use of the Internet for monthly repricing.

Type of Review: Revision.
Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Title: International Price Program/U.S. Import Price Indexes.
OMB Number: 1220-0026.
Affected Public: Business or other for profit.
Total Respondents: (FY 2000) 4,935.
Frequency: Quarterly/Monthly.
Total Responses: (FY 2001) 40,240.
Average Time Per Response: 36.18 minutes.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: (FY 2001) 24,246 hours.

Form	Total respondents	Frequent	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Estimated total burden (hours)
Initiation Visit (includes form 3008)	1,700	annually	1,700	1.00	1,700
Form 3007D	3,235	Monthly/quarterly ...	38,540	.585	22,546
Totals	4,935	40,240	24,246

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 17th day of April 2000.

W. Stuart Rust, Jr.,
 Chief, Division of Management Systems,
 Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[FR Doc. 00-9977 Filed 4-20-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can

be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the "International Price Program—U.S. Export Price Indexes." A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice on or before June 20, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Sytrina D. Toon, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20212, telephone number 202-691-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sytrina D. Toon, BLS Clearance Officer, telephone number 202-691-7628. (See **ADDRESSES** section.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The U.S. Export Price Indexes, produced continuously by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' International Price Program (IPP) since 1971, measure price change over time for all categories of

exported products, as well as many services. The Office of Management and Budget has listed the Export Price Indexes as a Principal Federal Economic Indicator since 1982. The indexes are widely used in both the public and private sectors. The primary public sector use is the deflation of the U.S. Trade Statistics and the Gross Domestic Product; the indexes also are used in formulating U.S. trade policy and in trade negotiations with other countries. In the private sector, uses of the Export Price Indexes include market analysis, inflation forecasting, contract escalation, and replacement cost accounting.

The IPP indexes are closely followed statistics and are viewed as a sensitive indicator of the economic environment. The U.S. Department of Commerce uses the monthly statistics to produce monthly and quarterly estimates of inflation-adjusted trade flows. Without continuation of data collection, it would be extremely difficult to construct accurate estimates of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product. In addition, Federal policymakers in the Department of Treasury, the Council of Economic Advisers, and the Federal Reserve Board utilize these statistics on a regular basis to improve these agencies' formulation and evaluation of monetary and fiscal policy and evaluation of the general business environment.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested 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 collected; 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 submissions of responses.

III. Current Action

The IPP continues to modernize data collection and processing to permit more timely release of its indexes, and to reduce reporter burden. The IPP is testing initiation techniques to reduce burden such as less frequent sampling of more stable item areas, use of broader item areas in certain cases, and retention of items initiated in previous samples that reporters still trade. In order to reduce the time required for processing new items, direct entry of initiation data from the field was recently implemented. The IPP is testing the application of new technology to

repricing and the use of fax telephone lines to permit direct collection and entry into the BLS reporters' repricing database. The IPP also is considering use of the Internet for monthly repricing.

Type of Review: Revision.
Agency: Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Title: International Price Program/U.S. Export Price Indexes.
OMB Number: 1220-0025.
Affected Public: Business or other for profit.
Total Respondents: (FY 2000) 4,935.
Frequency: Quarterly/Monthly.
Total Responses: (FY 2001) 40,240.
Average Time Per Response: 34.86 minutes.
Estimated Total Burden Hours: (FY 2001) 23,379 hours.

Form	Total respondents	Frequency	Total responses	Average time per response (hours)	Estimated total burden (hours)
Initiation visit (includes form 4008)	2,700	Annually	1,700	1.00	1,700
Form 3007D	3,235	Montly, Quarterly ...	38,540	.5625	21,679
Totals	4,935	40,240	23,379

Total Burden Cost (capital/startup): \$0.

Total Burden Cost (operating/maintenance): \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 17th day of April 2000.

W. Stuart Rust, Jr.,

Chief, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation programs to provide the general public and Federal agencies an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44

U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses. A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed in the Addresses section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the Addresses section of this notice on or before June 20, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Sytrina D. Toon, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20212, telephone number 202-691-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sytrina D. Toon, BLS Clearance Officer, telephone number 202-691-7628. (See Addresses section.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 24(a) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 requires

the Secretary of Labor to develop and maintain an effective program of collection, compilation, and analysis of statistics on occupational injuries and illnesses. The Commissioner of Labor Statistics has been delegated the responsibility for "Furthering the purpose of the Occupational Safety and Health Act by developing and maintaining an effective program of collection, compilation, analysis and publication of occupational safety and health statistics." The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) fulfills this responsibility, in part, by conducting the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in conjunction with participating State agencies. The BLS Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses provides the nations's primary indicator of the progress towards achieving the goal of safer and healthier workplaces. The survey produces the overall rate of occurrence of work injuries and illnesses by industry, which can be compared to prior years to produce measures of the rate of change. These data are used to improve safety and health programs and measure the change in work-related injuries and illnesses.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is particularly interested in comments which: