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
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dietary Guidelines for Americans: Request for Comments on Topics and Questions

AGENCY: Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Health and Human Services (HHS) solicit written comments on the topics and questions to be examined in the review of scientific evidence supporting the development of the 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

DATES: The topics and questions are available for review and public comment. Electronic or written/paper comments will be accepted through midnight Eastern Time on March 30, 2018.

ADDRESSES: The topics and questions are available on the internet at www.DietaryGuidelines.gov. You may submit comments as follows:

- Electronic submissions: Follow the instructions for submitting comments at www.regulations.gov. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, will be posted to the docket.
- Written/paper submissions: Mail/courier to Kristin Koegel, USDA Food and Nutrition Service, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, 3101 Park Center Drive, Suite 1034, Alexandria, VA 22302. For written/paper submissions, CNPP will post your comment, as well as any attachments, to www.regulations.gov.

For further information contact:
Kristin Koegel, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, (703) 305–7600 or by email at dietaryguidelines@cnpp.usda.gov. If members of the public need special accommodations, please notify Kristin Koegel by March 30, 2018, at (703) 305–7600, or email at dietaryguidelines@cnpp.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341) requires the Secretaries of USDA and HHS to publish the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (Dietary Guidelines) jointly at least every five years. Recent editions of the Dietary Guidelines have provided food and nutrition advice for Americans ages two years and older to promote health and help prevent chronic disease. The 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines, and subsequent editions, must address the mandate from the Agricultural Act of 2014 which requires the provision of nutritional and dietary guidelines and information for women who are pregnant and children, from birth to 2 years of age.

To inform effective management of resources and enhance transparency, the Departments are identifying topics and questions to be considered in the review of scientific evidence supporting the development of the 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines. In establishing this list of topics and questions, the Departments considered the following criteria for prioritization:

- Relevance: Topic is within the scope of the Dietary Guidelines. The focus of the Dietary Guidelines is food-based recommendations; changes to the Dietary Reference Intakes are not included within the scope of the Dietary Guidelines. Clinical guidelines for the medical treatment and care of individuals with specific diseases and conditions are not included in the Dietary Guidelines.

- Importance: Topics for which there are new, relevant data and that represent an area of substantial public health concern, uncertainty, and/or a knowledge gap.

- Potential Federal Impact: Probability that guidance on the topic in the Dietary Guidelines would inform Federal food and nutrition policies and programs.

- Duplication: Topic is not currently addressed through existing evidence-based Federal guidance (other than the Dietary Guidelines).

Electronic or Written Public Comments: Comments on the topics and questions are encouraged from the public and will be accepted through March 30, 2018. The www.regulations.gov electronic filing system will accept electronic comments until midnight Eastern Time at the end of March 30, 2018. Comments received by mail/courier will be considered if they are postmarked or the delivery service acceptance receipt date is on or before that date. Written comments via mail/courier will be uploaded into www.regulations.gov and are under the same limitations as for those directly submitted electronically into www.regulations.gov. USDA and HHS request comments on the topics and questions to be examined in the review of scientific evidence supporting the development of the 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines. Specifically, USDA and HHS request comments in support or opposition of the proposed topics and questions available at www.DietaryGuidelines.gov.

If a new topic or question is suggested, provide a brief summary of the topic, including information pertaining to the prioritization criteria listed above. It is requested that comments be limited to one page per topic. USDA and HHS will consider all comments in finalizing the list of topics and questions to be examined in the development of the 2020–2025 Dietary Guidelines. This final list of topics and questions will inform the scope of the next edition of the Dietary Guidelines.

Brandon Lipps,
Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
The QFR program collects and publishes up-to-date aggregate statistics on the financial results and position of U.S. corporations. The QFR target population consists of all corporations engaged primarily in manufacturing with total assets of $250,000 and over, and all corporations engaged primarily in mining; wholesale trade; retail trade; information; or professional and technical services (except legal services) industries with total assets of $50 million and over.

The QFR program is a principal federal economic indicator that has published up-to-date aggregate statistics on the financial results and position of U.S. corporations since 1947. The QFR provides critical source data to the Bureau of Economic Analysis’ (BEA) quarterly estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Domestic Income (GDI), key components of the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA). The QFR data are also vital to the Federal Reserve Board’s (FRB) Financial Accounts. Title 13 of the United States Code, Section 91 requires that financial statistics of business operations be collected and published quarterly. Public Law 114–72 extended the authority of the Secretary of Commerce to conduct the QFR Program under Section 91 through September 30, 2030.

The main purpose of the QFR is to provide timely, accurate data on business financial conditions for use by government and private-sector organizations and individuals. Primary public users include U.S. governmental organizations with economic measurement and policymaking responsibilities such as the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistic and the Federal Reserve Board. In turn, these organizations provide guidance, advice, and support to the QFR program. The primary non-governmental data users are a diverse group including universities, financial analysts, unions, trade associations, public libraries, banking institutions, and U.S. and foreign corporations.

II. Method of Collection

The Census Bureau uses two forms of data collection: Mail out/mail back paper survey forms and a secure encrypted internet data collection system called Centurion. Centurion has automatic data checks and is context-sensitive to assist respondents in identifying potential reporting problems before submission, thus reducing the need for follow-up from Census Bureau staff. Data from Centurion is completed via the internet, eliminating the need for downloading software and ensuring the integrity and confidentiality of the data.

Companies are asked to respond to the survey within 25 days of the end of the quarter for which the data are being requested. Census Bureau staff contact companies that have not responded by the designated time through letters and/or telephone calls to encourage participation.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0607–0432.
Form Number(s): QFR 200 (MT), QFR 201 (MG) and QFR 300 (S).

Type of Review: Regular submission.
Affected Public: Manufacturing corporations with assets of $250,000 or more and Mining, Wholesale Trade, Retail Trade, Information, Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (excluding legal) with assets of $50 million or more.

Estimated Number of Respondents:
Form QFR 200 (MT)—5,200 per quarter
Form QFR 201 (MG)—5,500 per quarter
Form QFR 300 (S)—1,550 per quarter

Total 49,000 annually

Estimated Time per Response:
Form QFR 200 (MT)—Average hours 3.0
Form QFR 201 (MG)—Average hours 1.2
Form QFR 300 (S)—Average hours 3.0

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 107,400 hours.