

Form	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Annual responses	Minutes to complete report	Annual burden hours
Total .....	391,800	.....	4,746,600	.....	536,100

*Total Annualized capital/startup costs:* 0.

*Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services):* 0.

**Description:** The Current Employment Statistics program provides current monthly statistics on employment, hours, and earnings by industry. The statistics produced are fundamental inputs in economic decision processes at all levels of government, private enterprise, and organized labor.

**Agency:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

**Title:** The 13 Carcinogens Standard.

**OMB Number:** 1218-0085.

**Frequency:** On occasion.

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

**Number of Respondents:** 930.

**Estimated Time Per Respondent:** 2.76 hours.

**Total Burden Hours:** 2,568.

Signs, Labels and Training.....0.  
Medical Surveillance.....1,379.  
Operations Report.....194.  
Emergency and Incident Report.....970.  
Records Access and Transfer.....25.

*Total Annualized capital/startup costs:* 0.

*Total annual costs (operating/maintaining systems or purchasing services):* \$82,875.

**Description:** The 13 Carcinogens Standard is designed to provide protection for employees from the adverse health effects associated with occupational exposure to the following 13 carcinogens: 4-Nitrobiphenyl, alpha-Naphthylamine, Methyl chloromethyl ether, 3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine (and its salts), bis-Chloromethyl ether, beta-Naphthylamine, Benzidine, 4-Aminodiphenyl, Ethyleneimine, beta-Propiolactone, 2-Acetylaminofluorene, 4-Dimethylaminoazobenzene, and N-Nitrosodimenthylamine. Employers must post signs to regulate areas warning of cancer-suspect agents, as well as label containers identifying the carcinogen. Employees are to be trained prior to being authorized to enter regulated areas. Also employers are required to notify OSHA area directors of regulated areas, changes to regulated areas, and of incidents/emergencies. A medical surveillance program for employees considered for assignment to

enter regulated areas must also be established and implemented.

Theresa M. O'Malley,

Acting Departmental Clearance Officer.

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BILLING CODE 4510-24-M

## 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 with 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. Currently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the "The Consumer Expenditure quarterly Interview and Diary Surveys."

A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the addressee section of this Notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the addressee section below on or before January 27, 1997. BLS is particularly interested in comments which help the agency to:

- 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.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Karin G. Kurz, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3255, 2 Massachusetts Avenue N.E., Washington, D.C. 20212. Ms. Kurz can be reached on 202-606-7628 (this is not a toll free number).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Background:** The Consumer Expenditure surveys collect data on consumer expenditures, demographic information, and related data needed by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and other public and private data users. The continuing surveys provide a constant measurement of changes in consumer expenditure patterns for economic analysis and to obtain data for future CPI revisions.

The CE Survey has been an ongoing survey since 1979.

The data from the Consumer Expenditure Surveys is used to (1) provide data required for the CPI revision; (2) provide a continuous flow of data on income and expenditure patterns for use in economic analysis and policy formulation; and (3) provide a flexible consumer survey vehicle that is available for use by other Federal Government agencies. Public and private users of price statistics, including Congress and the economic policy making agencies of the executive branch, rely on data collected in the CPI in their day-to-day activities. Hence, data users and policy makers widely accept the need to improve the process used for revising the CIP. If the CE were not conducted on a continuing basis, current information necessary for more timely as well as more accurate updating of the CPI would not be available. In addition, data would not be available to respond to the continuing demand—from the public and private sectors—for current information on consumer spending.

In the Quarterly Interview Survey, each consumer unit (CU) in the sample

is interviewed every three months over five calendar quarters. The sample for each quarter is divided into three panels, with CU's being interviewed every three months in the same panel of every quarter. The Quarterly Interview Survey is designed to collect data on the types of expenditures which respondents can be expected to recall for a period of three months or longer. In general the expenses reported in the Interview Survey are either relatively large, such as property, automobiles, or major appliances, or are expenses which occur on a fairly regular basis, such as rent, utility bills, or insurance premiums.

The Diary (or recordkeeping) Survey is completed at home by the respondent family for two consecutive one-week periods. The primary objective of the Diary Survey is to obtain expenditure data on small, frequently purchased items which normally are difficult to recall over longer periods of time.

**Current Actions:** The CE survey will introduce revisions to the Diary Survey form in January of 1998. The Diary Survey, which is divided into five recording parts (Food Away from Home, Food for Home Consumption, Food and Beverages Purchased as Gifts, Clothing, Shoes and Jewelry, and All Other Purchases and Expenses), will introduce changes to the classification categories in the Food Away from Home part of the diary in order to meet the requirements of the new CPI item structure for Food Away from Home. Changes are also being made to the classification categories in the Clothing portion of the Diary to facilitate better reporting of clothing-related expenditures. These changes are being made to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the data being collected in the Diary Survey.

The CE surveys will incorporate revisions into the Quarterly Interview Survey questionnaire in April of 1998. The changes being made to the Quarterly survey instrument are being made in an effort to reduce burden on CE respondents, where possible, and to enhance the quality and clarity of information being collected.

**Type of Review:** Revision of a currently-approved collection.

**Agency:** Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Title:** Consumer Expenditure Surveys.

**OMB Number:** 1220-0050.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households.

**Total Respondents:** 11,927.

**Frequency:** Quarterly Interview Survey respondents are interviewed quarterly for five consecutive quarters (four times in any one year). Diary Survey respondents complete two consecutive weekly reports.

**Total Responses:** 44,552.

**Average Time Per Response:** 87.7 minutes.

**Estimated Total Burden Hours:** 65,107 hours.

**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 requests; they also will become a matter of public record.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 20th day of November, 1996.

W. Stuart Rust, Jr.,

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

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## Mine Safety and Health Administration

RIN 1219-AA81

### Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers; Final Report

**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of final report.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the final report of the Secretary of Labor's Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers (Advisory Committee).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 631, Arlington, Virginia 22203; phone 703-235-1910.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee on the Elimination of Pneumoconiosis Among Coal Mine Workers (Advisory Committee) was established by the Secretary of Labor on January 31, 1995, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and Sections 101(a) and 102(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, and was chartered under the provisions of FACA.

The Advisory Committee was charged to make recommendations to the Secretary for improved standards, or other appropriate actions, on permissible exposure limits to eliminate black lung disease and silicosis; the

means to control respirable coal mine dust levels; improved monitoring of respirable coal mine dust levels and the role of the miner in that monitoring; and the adequacy of the operators' current sampling program to determine the actual levels of dust concentrations to which miners are exposed.

The nine-member Advisory Committee visited three working mines and held five public meetings during which it reviewed an extensive amount of material and heard formal presentations from a number of technical experts on respirable dust control and measurement. The Advisory Committee also heard from some 75 members of the public including many miners. The Advisory Committee has issued its final report to the Secretary of Labor.

This report is available to interested members of the public and may be obtained upon request to: Patricia W. Silvey, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 631, Arlington, Virginia 22203; phone 703-235-1910. The report is also available on MSHA's Homepage on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.msha.gov>.

The Advisory Committee unanimously recommended that the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) take full responsibility for all coal mine dust sampling conducted to determine compliance with exposure standards. As an interim measure, the group recommended that the current program of dust sampling by mine operators be strengthened, for example, by requiring only one full-shift sample to determine noncompliance rather than averaging five such samples.

Among other recommendations, the Advisory Committee said MSHA should:

1. Consider lowering the allowable exposure limit on coal mine dust;
2. Establish separate permissible exposure limits for silica (quartz) and coal mine dust;
3. Reduce silica exposure of coal miners to prevent silicosis;
4. Make better checks on the effectiveness of mine operators' dust control plans before MSHA approves them;
5. Improve dust control in surface coal mines;
6. Focus on dust exposure of independent contractor employees in coal mines;
7. Improve miner training on dust;
8. Expand the paid "walkaround rights" of miners' representatives to include participation in dust sampling;
9. Have mine operators pay for expanded government dust sampling;