

September 25, 2013

Ms. Jennifer Jessup
Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer
Department of Commerce, Room 6616
14th and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

RE: *Federal Register* notice of August 19, 2013, for the U.S. Census Bureau's Information and Communication Technology Survey (OMB Number: 0607-0909)

Dear Ms. Jessup:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the Census Bureau for the Information and Communication Technology Survey (ICTS). The data collected on the ICT-1 forms are critical to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

BEA uses data from ICT-1 to prepare the benchmark and annual input-output (I-O) accounts, and to validate critical estimates of communication technology in the national income and product accounts (NIPA), and the fixed assets accounts (FAA). The collection of expensed ICT alongside capitalized ICT, both of which are considered investment in the NIPA, is especially useful to BEA since comprehensive information of this type is not collected anywhere else. The attachment below summarizes BEA's use of ICT-1 data in the national accounts.

Please keep BEA informed concerning any modifications to this form. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the form's approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, please contact Ruth Bramblett, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9653 or by e-mail at Ruth.Bramblett@bea.gov. Should you need assistance in justifying this form to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Fixler
Chief Statistician

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Items Used by BEA from the Census Bureau's Information and Communication Technology Survey

Item	BEA Use
Expenditures for: Equipment Computer Software	Private fixed investment in the NIPA, the I-O accounts, and the FAA