

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 1/5/22 4:15 PM
Received: December 04, 2021
Status: Posted
Posted: December 10, 2021
Category: Participants
Tracking No. kws-e3y8-9wcs
Comments Due: January 31, 2022
Submission Type: Web

Docket: FNS-2021-0044
2023 Farm to School Census

Comment On: FNS-2021-0044-0001
Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: 2023 Farm to School Census

Document: FNS-2021-0044-0002
Comment on FR Doc # 2021-26195

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General Comment

Document ID: FNS-2021-0044-0001
Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: 2023 Farm to School Census

The collection of this information may help contribute to later studies on how utilizing SFA's contributes to a school program, the benefits of utilizing SFAs, what SFA provisions work best, and provides directions for future changes and improvements to Farm to School Programs. There may be a better way to collect that data that may decrease the potential burden other than using email and phone calls to conduct the survey.

The usage of cellphones has increased exponentially (Steeh, 2007; Lee et. al, 2010). A publication by Charlotte Steeh mentioned that use of mobile phones to conduct surveys comes with various difficulties including but not limited to limited cell coverage, serial non-response, and convincing participants Steeh, 2007; Lee et. al, 2010). The use of phone calls to distribute a survey is inconvenient (Steeh, 2007). Not considering the increased use of cellphones can lead to an inaccurate collection of data (Lee et. al, 2010). A study by Laws et. al, (2021) suggests that the utilization of app-based surveys is more effective when used in conjunction with a preannouncement letter and an email reminder than using email alone. Using an app or some type of online portal to distribute surveys may provide a more uniform way to reach SFAs and include some data storage. Additionally, it may be more convenient than waiting on a phone call or email to conduct the survey. Increased convenience should increase compliance, which in turn will result in a larger quantity of data that can be used to make more accurate conclusions.

References

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