

September 17, 2021

Dameka Reese
U.S. Census Bureau
American Community Survey Office
4600 Silver Hill Rd
Washington, DC 20233

RE: *Federal Register* notice of September 14, 2021 on proposed extending collection of American Community Survey forms (OMB Control Number: 0607-0810)

Dear Ms. Reese:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the U.S. Census Bureau in the American Community Survey (ACS). This important survey provides BEA with more timely annual information previously available only in the decennial census.

BEA uses information collected from the ACS to prepare the regional economic accounts. The frequency of the ACS data allows for more estimation and less interpolation or extrapolation of those components that relied on the decennial census. Additionally, the increased accuracy of Census intercensal population estimates will improve BEA's per capita estimates, for which we use population as the denominator.

Please keep BEA informed of any modifications to the ACS forms. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the forms' approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, please contact Duke Tran, of the Regional Economics Directorate, with any questions you may have. He can be reached at (301) 278-9230 or at duke.tran@bea.gov.

Regards,

Dennis Fixler
Chief Economist
Bureau of Economic Analysis