

January 18, 2024

Kathryn Nelson
U.S. Census Bureau
Economic Indicators Division
4600 Silver Hill Rd
Washington, DC 20233

RE: *Federal Register Notice* of December 8, 2023 for the U.S. Census Bureau's Quarterly Services Survey (OMB Number: 0607-0907)

Dear Ms. Nelson:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the Census Bureau for the Quarterly Services Survey (QSS). The data collected on these forms are crucial to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

BEA uses data from these forms to prepare the national income and product accounts (NIPA) and quarterly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry statistics. In the NIPAs, the expense and revenue data currently collected are used to prepare quarterly estimates of personal consumption expenditure (PCE) for services and of software in private equipment and software. In the GDP by industry estimates, revenues are used to estimate gross output for taxable industries and expenses are used to estimate gross output for tax-exempt industries. A list of items used by BEA appears in the attached table.

Please keep BEA informed about any modifications to these 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 Tiffany Burrell, Source Data Coordinator, on 301-278-9618 or by e-mail at Tiffany.Burrell@bea.gov. Should you need assistance in justifying these forms to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Fixler
Chief Economist

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

BEA's Use of Data from the Quarterly Services Survey

| Item Used: | BEA Use: |
|--------------------|---|
| Operating revenue | <p>Estimate PCE services (proprietary and nonprofit industries).</p> <p>Estimate gross output in taxable industries for quarterly GDP by Industry statistics.</p> <p>Estimate software component of private equipment and software.</p> |
| Operating expenses | <p>Estimate PCE services (nonprofit industries).</p> <p>Estimate gross output in tax-exempt industries for quarterly GDP by Industry statistics.</p> |