

February 25, 2019

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

RE: *Federal Register* notice of February 1, 2019, for the Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenue (OMB Number: 0607-0112)

Dear Ms. Jessup:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) uses data collected by the Census Bureau on forms:

- F-71, Quarterly Survey of Property Tax Collections
- F-72, Quarterly Survey of State Tax Collections

BEA uses the information from these surveys to prepare the national income and product (NIPA) and regional accounts. As part of our effort to maintain and improve the quality of the source data used to prepare these accounts, BEA has reviewed the *Federal Register* notice of February 1, 2019, and has the following comments.

The data obtained through these forms are important to BEA for maintaining reliable estimates of state and local government personal current taxes and taxes on production and imports in the NIPAs. For annual NIPA state and local tax estimates, the quarterly data based on these forms are used to help convert Census State Government Tax Collections Survey data from a fiscal year basis to a calendar year basis.

For many quarterly NIPA state and local tax series, the data from these forms are seasonally-adjusted and used to determine the quarterly pattern of change. These data underlie NIPA estimates of state and local government receipts, disposable personal income (DPI), and gross domestic income (GDI). They are also used in preparing estimates of disposable personal income by state and of gross state product for the most recent year. See the attachment for the items used and how they are used in the NIPA and regional estimates.

BEA is currently not using the data from the Quarterly Survey of Non-Property Taxes (Form F-73) for estimation purposes. Following the redesign of the survey form in 2013, we found that the new sample lacked consistency with the historical time series. We do, however, continue to collect the data for research to improve our estimates in the future. Our current research seeks to determine if the F-73 tax time series exhibit the necessary stability to act as good indicators for their respective counterparts in the local portion of the Annual Surveys of State & Local Government Finance data.

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 301-287-9618 or by e-mail at [Tiffany.Burrell@bea.gov](mailto:Tiffany.Burrell@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 Economist

Attachment

## Attachment

### Items Used by BEA from Forms F-71 and F-72

Form	Item	BEA Use
F-71	1. Total Property tax by agency	1. Government Receipts
F-72	1. Property tax 2. General Sales tax 3. Fuel tax 4. Selective sales tax 5. License tax 6. Income tax	1. DPI- Total and by state 2. GDI- Total and by state 2. Personal current taxes 3. Taxes on production and imports