

## AEASat

### **Displaced Worker, Job Tenure, and Occupational Mobility Supplement, Current Population Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics**

#### Public Comment Opportunity

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) conducts the Current Population Survey (CPS) [Displaced Worker, Job Tenure, and Occupational Mobility Supplement](#) biennially. The supplement was last collected in January 2016. It gathers information on workers who have lost or left their jobs because their plant or company closed or moved, there was insufficient work for the workers to perform, or their position or shift was abolished. It collects data on the extent to which displaced workers received advanced notice of job cutbacks or the closing of their plant or business. It gathers data on the types of jobs reemployed workers have found and will compare current earnings with those from the lost job. It asks about the incidence and nature of occupational changes in the preceding year. The survey probes for the length of time workers, including those who have not been displaced, have been with their current employer. Data are collected on the receipt of unemployment compensation, the loss of health insurance coverage, and the length of time spent without a job.

AEA members are encouraged to describe the value of the CPS Displaced Worker Supplement for economic research; comment on the data collection instruments and methods; and suggest changes that would enhance data quality, value, and accessibility and lower respondent burden and federal cost.

*Federal Register* notice: [December 1, 2017](#) (includes instructions for submitting comments)

- [Information Collection Request](#) (ICR) submitted to OMB, including:
  - [Survey instrument](#)
  - [Supporting Statement](#)
- Due date: January 2, 2017
- More information: Dori Allard, Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics, (202) 691-6470

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#### Information on ICR Process:

- By law, each data collection carried out by a federal agency must be cleared by OMB. Through the *Federal Register* notice, BLS is announcing that it has submitted a request to OMB for clearance to conduct the CPS Displaced Worker Supplement and offers the public a 30-day opportunity to submit comments to OMB.
- After the close of the 30-day comment period, OMB will make its decision.

### Guidance on Preparing Comments:

- AEA members may comment on any aspect of the proposed data collection. Possible topics, for instance, include needs, uses, methodology, design, cost, schedule, and consultation with data users.
- AEA members may frame their comments on specific topics in any way, such as:
  - assessments – identifying what they do and do not like and support
  - suggestions – for how BLS might proceed in this or future collections
  - requests – for example, for a change in the design of the survey instrument, to be consulted in the future, to carry out research on an alternative approach
  - observations – for example, implications of the sample size for statistical reliability
- AEA members may consider proposing that OMB incorporate a request in its “terms of clearance.” For instance, a member could suggest as a term of clearance that BLS research the efficacy of an alternative set of questions and report back to OMB in a year on the results.

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For assistance in preparing comments, feel free to contact AEASat staff—Andrew Reamer (Research Professor, George Washington Institute of Public Policy, George Washington University) at [areamer@gwu.edu](mailto:areamer@gwu.edu) or (202) 994-7866.