



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

United States Mint

Agency Information Collection Activity; Proposed Collection; U.S. Coinage Practices

AGENCY: United States Mint, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and Comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Mint, a bureau of the Department of the Treasury, is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information regarding the public's use of U.S. coins with special emphasis on low denomination coins. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), agencies are required to publish notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information and to allow 30 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on a proposed information collection concerning U.S. coinage practices as required to determine the public's interest according to the Coin Modernization, Oversight, and Continuity Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-302).

DATES: Submit either electronic or written comments on the collection of information by 30 days after the notice is published.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestion for reducing the burden, to (1) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for Treasury, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, or e-mail at OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV and (2) Treasury PRA Clearance Officer, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Suite 8140, Washington, DC 20220, or e-mail at PRA@treasury.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Yvonne Pollard; Compliance Branch; United States Mint; 801 9th Street, NW, 6th Floor; Washington, DC 20220; 202-354-8400 (this is not a toll-free number); YPollard@usmint.treas.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice of the proposed collection of information before submitting the proposed collection of information to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, we are publishing notice of the proposed collection of information described in this document.

With respect to the following collection of information, the United States Mint invites comments on – (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the United States Mint's functions, including whether the information will have practical

utility; (2) the accuracy of the United States Mint’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

U.S. Coinage Practices Survey

The Coin Modernization, Oversight, and Continuity Act of 2010, Public Law 111-302, section 2(b)(3), authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to consider such factors he deems appropriate and in the public interest when preparing a report and recommendations to Congress with respect to the nation’s circulating coins.

Understanding the public’s use and perception of United States circulating coins and coin usage is necessary for the United States Mint to carry out its mission to mint and issue circulating coins in amounts that the Secretary of the Treasury determines are necessary to meet the needs of the United States and to prepare recommendations to Congress as authorized by Public Law 111-302. The information collected will cover the following topics, with special emphasis on low denomination coins:

1. use of coins as payment,
2. general payment preferences,
3. general awareness concerning low denomination coins,
4. attitudes regarding potential changes in coinage,
4. the use of rounding retail transactions, and
6. demographic characteristics.

The data will be used to understand the public’s use and perception of specific U.S. circulating coinage for the purpose of analyzing options and proposing recommendations for possible changes to the nation’s circulating coins.

To obtain this information, the United States Mint will conduct a nationally representative random-digit-dial (RDD) survey of 1,000 U.S. adults. The proposed survey will include both landline (700 interviews) and cellular (300 interviews) telephones. Interviewing will be conducted in both English and Spanish. The questionnaire should take 12 minutes to complete, including two minutes to screen for eligible participants (adults in the cellular telephone sample, the adult with the most recent birthday in the household in the landline telephone survey). The United States Mint estimates the burden of this collection of information will be as described in the table below.

Survey component	Estimated time to complete	Population	Total burden (hours)
Screener	2 minutes	1250	41.67
Main survey	10 minutes	1000	166.67

Authority: 31 U.S.C. 5112(p)(3)(A); Public Law 111-302, section 2(b)(3)

Dated: July 1, 2014.

Robert Dahl,
Treasury Departmental Clearance Officer.

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