

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
FEDERAL ECONOMIC STATISTICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

CHARTER

1. **Committee's Official Designation.** Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee
2. **Authority.** The Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) determined that it is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed by law on the U.S. Department of Commerce (Department) pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1512 and established within the Department the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee (FESAC or Committee) in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The Committee will advise the Directors of the Department's statistical agencies, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) and the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as the Commissioner of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), on statistical methodology and other technical matters related to the design, collection, tabulation, and analysis of federal economic statistics.
4. **Description of Duties.** The Committee will function solely as an advisory committee to the senior officials of BEA, the Census Bureau, and BLS (the agencies). Important aspects of the Committee's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Recommending research to address important technical problems arising in federal economic statistics;
 - b) Identifying areas in which better coordination of the agencies' activities would be beneficial;
 - c) Exploring ways to enhance the agencies' economic indicators to make them timelier, more accurate, and more specific to meeting changing demands and future data needs;
 - d) Improving the means, methods, and techniques to obtain economic information needed to produce current and future economic indicators; and
 - e) Coordinating, in its identification of agenda items, with other existing academic advisory committees chartered to provide agency-specific advice, for the purpose of avoiding duplication of effort.
5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports.** The Committee will report to the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs.
6. **Support.** The Committee will be administratively housed at the Department of Commerce. The Census Bureau will provide necessary funding support for the Committee for the two-year term of this Charter.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The estimated annual cost of operating the Committee is approximately \$120,000, which includes .5 person years of

staff support. Members of the Committee will not be compensated for their services but will be reimbursed for travel expenses upon request as authorized by 5 U.S.C. § 5703.

8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The Under Secretary for Economic Affairs will appoint a full-time employee to serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the Committee's and subcommittees' meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Under Secretary of Economic Affairs. Technology, such as videoconferencing and teleconferencing, may be used for committee meetings.
9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Committee will meet approximately twice per year budget permitting. Special meetings may be called when appropriate.
10. **Duration.** Continuing.
11. **Termination.** The Committee will terminate two years from the date of this charter's filing with the standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives having legislative jurisdiction of the agency, unless earlier terminated or renewed by proper authority.
12. **Membership and Designation.** FESAC will comprise approximately 16 members who serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. Members shall be nominated by the Department and appointed by the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs and agencies. Committee members shall be professionals in appropriate disciplines, including economists, statisticians, survey methodologists, behavioral scientists, and computer scientists/engineers who are prominent experts in their fields, recognized for their scientific, professional, and operational achievements and objectivity. Membership will include data users with expertise from the public sector, academia, and the private sector. Members will be chosen to achieve a balanced membership, considering such factors as geography, technical expertise, community involvement, and knowledge of programs and/or activities related to FESAC. Individuals will be selected based on their expertise or experience in specific areas as needed by FESAC. The diverse membership of the Committee assures expertise reflecting the full breadth of the Committee's responsibilities, and, where possible, the Department of Commerce will also consider the ethnic, racial, and gender diversity and various abilities of the United States population.
 - a) Members shall serve as Special Government Employees (SGEs) as defined in Title 18 of United States Code, section 202(a) and are subject to conflict of interests laws and regulations (such as annually completing ethics training and a New Entrant Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 450)).
 - b) Committee members generally will serve for a three-year term. However, appointments also may be for one or two years to provide staggered terms when


- needed for continuity purposes. All members will be evaluated at the conclusion of their terms with the prospect of renewal for additional terms. Active attendance and participation in meetings and activities (e.g., conference calls and assignments) will be factors considered when determining term renewal or membership continuance. Members may be reappointed for additional terms totaling no more than eight consecutive years, pending Committee needs and at the discretion of the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs and agencies. After serving eight consecutive years, members may not serve another term on the FESAC until at least three years have passed.
- c) Should a Committee member be unable to complete their term, at the discretion of the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs and agencies, a new member may be selected to complete that term for the duration of the time remaining or begin a new term of one, two, or three years. Members appointed to a vacancy term may be reappointed for additional terms totaling no more than eight consecutive years, pending Committee needs and at the discretion of the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs and agencies. After serving eight consecutive years, members may not serve another term on the FESAC until at least three years have passed.
 - d) Members who were appointed to a full term prior to July 13, 2021 (the date of the charter amendment introducing term limitations) are eligible for reappointment as follows, pending Committee needs and at the discretion of the Secretary, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs and agencies. Members currently serving their first full three-year term are eligible for reappointments totaling no more than six additional consecutive years. Members currently serving their second or more three-year term are eligible for reappointments totaling no more than three additional consecutive years. After the conclusion of these reappointments, members may not serve another term until at least three years have passed.
 - e) The agencies, by consensus agreement, shall appoint the chairperson and a vice chairperson annually from the Committee membership. Chairpersons and vice chairpersons shall be permitted to succeed themselves.

Members shall not reference or otherwise utilize their membership on the Committee in connection with public statements made in their personal capacities without a disclaimer that the views expressed are their own and do not represent the views of the Federal Economic Statistics Advisory Committee, the Census Bureau, BEA, BLS, the Departments of Commerce or Labor, or the U.S. Government.

- 13. **Subcommittees.** The Under Secretary for Economic Affairs may establish such subcommittees from among the Committee members as may be necessary. Subcommittees must report back to the Committee and must not provide advice or work products directly to the agencies.
- 14. **Recordkeeping.** The records of the Committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the Committee, will be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule.

Subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, records presented to or prepared for or by the Committee are available for public inspection.

JEREMY PELTER

 Digitally signed by JEREMY PELTER
Date: 2022.09.27 11:19:27 -04'00'

Acting Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary
for Administration

Filing Date