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Help us improve the Producer Price Index (PPI) program to better meet your needs!

The Producer Price Index (PPI) program focuses on the average change in selling prices received by domestic producers of goods and services. PPI measures price change from the perspective of the seller. Also, as you may know, there is a family of indexes covering different industries; different product lines and categories; commodity classifications; and three stages of processing including finished goods; intermediate materials, supplies, and components; and crude materials for further processing. We are interested in feedback on any of these indexes or even if you have never used PPI data.

If you have any questions, you may e-mail us at PPI_UserSurveyTeam@bls.gov or call us at (202) 691-7705. Thank you in advance for your help.

To begin the survey, click the 'Next' button on the bottom of this page. You can navigate within the survey using the "Next" and "Prev" buttons at the bottom of each page.

We estimate that it will take you 10 minutes to complete the voluntary survey. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. OMB control number is 1225-0059 and expires 11/30/2012.

Please note that this survey is being administered by SurveyMonkey.com and resides on a server outside of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) domain. The BLS cannot guarantee the protection of survey responses and advises against the inclusion of sensitive personal information in any response.

How did you first become knowledgeable about the Producer Price Index (PPI) program and its products?

- BLS website Any selection, except the one noted below, or no selection will send the survey to page 3.
- Colleague or coworker
- Conference
- Educational course work
- Industry or trade association
- Media or press (print or electronic)
- Participation in PPI monthly price survey
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.)
- Statistical or economic publications
- Work-related activities
- Never heard of it prior to taking this survey This selection sends the survey to page 24.
- Other*

*(please specify)

Price index data measure changes in prices over time. Have you ever used price index data produced by the PPI program?

- Yes This selection will send the survey to page 5.
- No This selection will send the survey to page 4.
- Don't know This selection will send the survey to page 4.

If no selection is made the survey will go to page 24.

Why haven't you used Producer Price Indexes (PPIs)? (Check all that apply)

- Not familiar to me **Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 24.**
- Difficult to use
- Difficult to find the data I need
- Not applicable to my needs
- Not timely enough
- Other BLS data available
- Similar to data available from another (non-BLS) source
- Other*

*(please specify)

How frequently do you use PPI data?

- At least monthly Any selection or no selection will send the survey to page 6.
- Quarterly
- Semiannually
- Annually
- Infrequently (i.e., less than annually)

How do you access PPI data? (Check all that apply)

- Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) website
- Department of Labor website
- Email subscription (BLS News Service)
- Federal statistics website (i.e., Data.gov; FEDSTATS)
- PPI information phone line
- Private subscription-based provider
- Social media (i.e., Facebook; Twitter)
- Trade association
- Other*

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 7.

*(please specify)

How do you use PPI data? (Check all that apply)

- Classroom instruction Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 12 except for the one selection noted below.
- General indicator of inflation
- Comparison to my input costs
- Comparison to prices charged by my company for goods/services
- Contract escalation (nominal price deflator) This selection alone or in any combination sends the survey to page 8.
- Inventory valuation
- Price trend analysis/forecasting
- Other*

*(please specify)

What is the approximate total dollar value of your contracts adjusted by the PPI?

(Enter whole numbers only. Do not use commas, periods, dollar signs, or any other characters or letters. If you don't know leave the box blank.)

Whole dollar amount is:

Any entry or no entry will send the survey to page 9.

How did you learn to use the PPI for contract adjustment? (Check all that apply)

- PPI Contract Escalation Guide
- On the job training
- Training provided at a conference
- Academia
- Self taught
- Other*

*(please specify)

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 10.

Is there anything the BLS can do to better support your use of the PPI for contract adjustment purposes? For example, provide more detailed documentation on how to use the PPI for contract adjustment; explain how to select specific indexes to use for adjustment; or provide seminars at conferences about the PPI and contract adjustment.

Yes This selection will send the survey to page 11.

No This selection will send the survey to page 12.

If no selection is made the survey will go to page 12.

Please describe what BLS can do to better support your use of the PPI for contract adjustment purposes.

Any entry or no entry will send the survey to page 12.

Are you familiar with the classification systems used by the PPI program?

- **Stage of processing -- WPUSOP or WPSSOP**
- **Industry -- PCU**
- **Commodity -- WPU or WPS**
- **Durability of product -- DUR**
- **Materials and supply inputs to construction industry -- BCON, BMNR, BMRP, BMRS, BNCS, BNEW, BNIS, BNON, BONS, BRES**
- **Experimental aggregation -- FD, ID5, or ID6**

Yes This selection will send the survey to page 13.

No This selection will send the survey to page 14.

If no selection is made the survey goes to page 14.

Please indicate below whether you have or have not used a price index from one of the following categories.

	Have used	Have not used	Not sure
Stage of processing (i.e., finished, intermediate, and crude goods indexes. These indexes would have a Series ID starting with WPUSOP or WPSSOP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Industry (data organized by NAICS. These indexes would have a Series ID starting with PCU)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Commodity (data organized by type of good or service. These indexes would have a Series ID starting with WPU or WPS)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Durability of product (These indexes would have a Series ID starting with DUR)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Materials and supply inputs to construction industry (These indexes would have a Series ID starting with BCON, BMNR, BMRP, BMRS, BNCS, BNEW, BNIS, BNON, BONS, or BRES)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Experimental aggregation (i.e., final demand or intermediate demand indexes. These indexes would have a Series ID starting with FD, ID5, or ID6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 14.

For which of the following economic areas do you use PPI data? (Check all that apply)

- Agriculture (including Forestry and Fishing) Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 15.
- Utilities
- Mining
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Trade (wholesale or retail margins)
- Transportation and warehousing
- Information
- Health care
- Finance
- Telecommunication
- Broadcasting
- Publishing
- Real Estate
- Professional services
- Other services
- Other*

*(please specify)

Do you use seasonally adjusted PPI data?

- Yes Any selection or no selection will send the survey to page 16.
- No
- Don't know

PPI indexes are subject to revision four months after the date of initial publication. When you use PPI index data, do you use the originally published data (preliminary data), or do you wait four months to see if the data are revised (final data), and then use revised data?

- Preliminary data (originally published/first release)
- Final data (possibly revised after 4 months)
- Use both preliminary and final data
- Don't know
- Other*

*(please specify)

Any selection or no selection will send the survey to page 17.

How satisfied are you with the PPI policy of revising indexes four months after initial publication?

- Very satisfied
 - Satisfied
 - Neutral
 - Dissatisfied
 - Very dissatisfied
 - Don't know
- The selection of 'Dissatisfied' or 'Very dissatisfied' will send the survey to page 18.
All other selections will send the survey to page 19.

Please explain why you are dissatisfied with the PPI policy of revising indexes four months after initial publication.

Any entry or no entry will send the survey to page 19.

Would you like to see additional economic areas covered by the PPI?

- Yes This selection will send the survey to page 20.
- No This selection will send the survey to page 21.
- Don't know This selection will send the survey to page 21.

If no selection is made the survey will go to page 21.

What additional areas would you like to see covered? (Check all that apply)

Professional, scientific, and technical services

Education

Computer systems design

Lessors of residential buildings

Highway, street, and bridge construction

Other*

*(please specify)

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 21.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	NO OPINION
PPI data are of high quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The publication frequency (monthly) of PPI data is satisfactory	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The level of detail for PPI data is sufficient for my needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The PPI methodology is understandable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information on PPI methodology is easily available	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can easily retrieve PPI data from the PPI website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PPI data are organized in an easy to understand manner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQs) section of the website addresses most of my questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you replied 'Disagree' or 'Strongly disagree' to any of the statements above please provide any comments regarding your reply.

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 22.

Have you ever attempted to contact PPI staff?

Yes This selection will send the survey to page 23.

No This selection will send the survey to page 24.

If no selection is made the survey will go to page 24.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements based on your interactions with the PPI staff?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I can easily contact someone in the PPI program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PPI staff are knowledgeable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PPI staff reply in a timely manner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 24.

What other BLS data do you use or have you used? (Check all that apply)

- U.S. Import and Export Price Index
- Consumer Price Index
- Employment Cost Index
- The Employment Situation (includes unemployment rate and payroll employment)
- Productivity and Costs
- Real Earnings
- Other*

*(please specify)

Any selection, combination of selections, or no selection will send the survey to page 25.

The PPI program is considering developing an informational webinar or computer-based training module that provides a general overview of the PPI. How interested would you, or your organization be in something like this?

- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- A little interested
- Not at all interested

Are you interested in training on specific PPI topics? If yes, please specify.

Any selection or no selection will send the survey to page 26.

Are there any products (indexes, publications, etc.) that you would be interested in seeing produced by the PPI program or any other comments you would like to provide? If so, please enter below.

Any entry or no entry will send the survey to page 27.

Which category best describes your organization? (Check only one)

- Academia
- Business **This selection will send the survey to page 30.**
- Federal government (excluding legislative branch) **This selection will send the survey to page 28.**
- Congress
- State government
- Local government
- Foreign government **This selection will send the survey to page 28.**
- Individual/private citizen
- Industry/trade association
- International organization
- Library
- Media
- Non-profit organization
- Union
- Other*

*(please specify)

Any selection other than those specified above will send the survey to page 31.

Is your organization primarily a statistical agency?

- Yes This selection will send the survey to page 29.
- No This selection will send the survey to page 31.
- Don't know This selection will send the survey to page 31.

If no selection is made the survey will go to page 31.

Which statistical agency are you affiliated with? (Check only one)

Any selection or no selection will send the survey to page 31.

- U.S. Census Bureau
- U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
- U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics
- U.S. Energy Information Administration
- USDA Economic Research Service
- USDA Foreign Agricultural Service
- U.S. National Center for Education Statistics
- U.S. National Center for Health Statistics
- Other U.S. statistical agency
- Non-U.S. statistical agency

What is the size of your business based on annual revenue?

- Less than \$1 million
- Between \$1 million and \$5 million
- Between \$5 million and \$10 million
- Between \$10 million and \$50 million
- Between \$50 million and \$100 million
- Between \$100 million and \$500 million
- More than \$500 million
- Do not know

Any selection or no selection will send the survey to page 31.

Which best describes your role/occupation in your organization? (Check only one)

- Accountant
- Business owner
- Controller/Finance officer
- Economist
- Lawyer
- Manager
- Purchasing agent
- Private individual
- Researcher
- Sales staff
- Statistician
- Student
- Teacher/Professor
- Other*

This is the last question. Any selection or no selection will send the survey to a 'Thank You' page.

*(please specify)