

Survey of Iowa Employers on Their Awareness of the Voluntary Shared Work Program

[Survey will be administered online; paper and CATI surveys will be used for follow-up]

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to this collection of information, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Your obligation to reply to this survey is voluntary. The public burden for this survey is estimated to be two minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the necessary data, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments concerning this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Room XXXX, 200 Constitution Ave., Washington, DC.

Introduction

Who is conducting the survey?

This survey is being conducted by Westat on behalf of the Iowa Workforce Development agency and the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget approved this research (OMB Control No. XXX, expiration date of XXX).

What is the purpose of the survey?

The purpose of this survey is to gather information to provide a better understanding of Iowa employers' familiarity with Iowa's Voluntary Shared Work (VSW) program. The VSW program is an unemployment insurance program that provides employers and their workers with an alternative to layoffs by reducing employees' hours and partially replacing lost earnings with Unemployment Insurance. You might also know of it as "work sharing" or "short-time compensation."

Participation and privacy

Your participation in the study is important to provide an accurate estimate of how familiar Iowa employers are with the program. We estimate that the survey will take only 1 to 2 minutes to complete. Participation is voluntary and will not affect your firm's current or future unemployment insurance tax rate or eligibility for any public-funded program. Survey responses will be analyzed together with state unemployment insurance administrative information to get a fuller understanding of employer's experiences and perspectives. Your answers will be kept private to the extent permitted by law. You and your business will never be identified in any report based on the survey.

Who to call if you have questions about the survey

[Westat contact information here]

SECTION A—Awareness of VSW

1. Have you heard of Iowa's Voluntary Shared Work program available through Iowa Workforce Development? This program is sometimes known as "shared work," "work sharing" or "short-time compensation."

- Yes, have heard of it 1 GO TO QUESTION 2
- No.....2 GO TO END

2. When did you first learn about the Voluntary Shared Work program? If you can't remember exactly, your best estimate is acceptable.

- The letter for this survey is the first I heard of it
- After September 2015 but before the letter for the survey
- Between September 2014 and September 2015
- Before September 2014

3. How did you hear about the Voluntary Shared Work program? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- From one or more of our employees..... 01
- From organized labor..... 02
- From another employer..... 03
- Through a trade association..... 04
- From advertisement or public service announcements..... 05
- By email from Iowa Workforce Development..... 06
- By mail from Iowa Workforce Development..... 07
- On the Iowa Workforce Development website..... 08
- From an Iowa Workforce Development business representative 09
- From an Iowa Workforce Development Unemployment Insurance Services staff person..... 10
- From an Iowa Workforce Development Rapid Response Team 11
- From the U.S. Department of Labor..... 12
- Don't remember..... 13
- Other..... 14

Please specify _____

End of Survey

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY. PLEASE TELL US WHO YOU ARE:

Name of person completing the survey: _____

Name of company: _____

Voluntary Shared Work is a program in Iowa that offers employers an alternative to layoff during declines in regular business activity. Under Voluntary Share Work, work reductions are shared by reducing employees' work hours, and Unemployment Insurance partially replaces lost earnings. By avoiding layoffs, employees stay connected to their jobs and employers maintain their skilled workforce for when business improves.

You can obtain more information about Voluntary Shared Work by visiting the Iowa Workforce Development website at www.iowaworkforce.org/vsw4

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO EXIT THE SURVEY.