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(08-2015)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FROM THE DIRECTOR
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

The U.S. Census Bureau is conducting the Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders Survey. This survey collects data on sales and unfilled orders for 2015 and 2014 from domestic manufacturing companies; the data collected will be used in the development of estimates of monthly unfilled orders in the Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) survey.

The M3 survey measures monthly current industrial activity and provides an indication of future production; it is a principal economic indicator and is critical to assessing current economic activity. The data are used by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Counsel of Economic Advisors, the Federal Reserve Board, the Conference Board and members of the business community such as the National Association of Manufacturers, Wall Street Journal, Market Watch and Bloomberg business analysts. The Manufacturers' Unfilled Orders survey will provide benchmark totals for the monthly series and improve the quality of the current estimates.

The information collected on this survey is authorized by Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182. Sections 224 and 225 make the collection mandatory. By Section 9 of the same law, your report to the Census Bureau is confidential. It may be seen only by persons sworn to uphold the confidentiality of Census Bureau information and may be used only for statistical purposes. The law also provides that copies retained in your files are immune from legal process.

Please report company sales and unfilled orders for your total domestic manufacturing activities as printed on your form. Further instructions for completing the report form are enclosed. The list of manufacturing activities to assist you in identifying the industry codes as defined by the 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is also included. Reasonable estimates are acceptable if actual values are not available. We also encourage you to report online. The Internet address along with your User ID and Password can be found in the "Report electronically" section on the first page of the enclosed survey form.

Please return your completed form by June 3, 2016. If you have any questions concerning this survey or which establishments to include on this report, contact the staff on (301) 763-1779. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

John H.
Thompson
Director
Enclosures

OMB Number

You are not required to respond to this collection of information if it does not display a valid approval number from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB number is 0607-0561 and appears in the upper right corner of the report form/login screen.

Authority and Confidentiality

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Burden Estimate Statement

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to be approximately one hour per response for multi-divisional companies and fifteen minutes for single divisional companies, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: ECON Survey Comments 0607-0561, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Room EMD-8K122, Washington, DC 20233. You may e-mail comments to ECON.Survey.Comments@census.gov. Be sure to use ECON Survey Comments 0607-0561 as the subject.