

# Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs

## Welcome to the 2015 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs

Please use this website to complete this survey.

- Persons who reported business activity for all or any part of 2015 should respond to this survey.
- To access electronic reporting, enter your User ID and Password issued to you by the Census Bureau, then click "Login".
- Note: Your session will expire if you remain on one screen for 50 minutes without navigating to another screen.

This report is **mandatory and confidential**. Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131 and 182, authorizes this collection. Sections 224 and 225 require businesses and other organizations that receive this survey to answer the questions and submit responses to the Census Bureau. Section 9 of the same law ensures that your response is confidential and will only be used for statistical purposes. Information collected cannot be used for taxation, regulation, or investigation and is exempt from release under the Freedom of Information Act. On behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, pursuant to Section 1(a)(3) of Executive Order 11625, the MBDA may enter into this agreement with the Census Bureau to establish a means for the development, collection, summation, and dissemination of information that will be helpful to persons and organizations throughout the nation in undertaking or promoting the establishment and successful operation of minority business enterprises.

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight digit- OMB approval number is 0607-0986 and appears at the upper right of this screen. Without this approval we could not conduct this survey.

**User ID:**

**Password:**  
(numbers and lowercase letters only)

For help, use our [Business Help Site](#) or call 1-888-824-9954, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**\*\* WARNING \*\***

You have accessed a UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT computer. Use of this computer without authorization or for purposes for which authorization has not been extended is a violation of Federal law and can be punished with fines or imprisonment (PUBLIC LAW 99-474). System usage may be monitored, recorded, and subject to audit. Any information you enter into this system may be used by the Census Bureau for statistical purposes, including but not limited to improving the efficiency of our data collection programs. For information regarding the use of this system, and how your privacy is protected, visit our online privacy webpage at <http://www.census.gov/privacy/>. Use of this system indicates consent to the collection, monitoring, recording, and use of information provided inside this system.

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## Main Menu

Please complete the survey below by clicking on the Start button. You will have an opportunity to review your responses at the end.

Please use the 'Previous' or 'Save & Continue' buttons to navigate through the survey. We do not recommend using the 'Back' button in your web browser.

Action	Status	Company Address	Survey Preview	View/Print Responses
<a href="#">Resume</a>	In Progress			

The letters PDF or the  icon indicate a document is in the [Portable Document Format \(PDF\)](#). To view the file you will need the [Adobe® Reader](#), which is available for free from the Adobe web site.

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Measuring America—People, Places, and Our Economy

# Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs



## Burden Statement

We estimate the average time to complete this survey is 35 minutes, 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 0607-0986  
U.S. Census Bureau  
4600 Silver Hill Road  
Room EMD-6K064  
Washington, DC 20233

You may e-mail comments to [Econ.Survey.Comments@census.gov](mailto:Econ.Survey.Comments@census.gov); use "Econ Survey Comments 0607-0986" as the subject.

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Measuring America—People, Places, and Our Economy



## Business Help Site

### Legal/Confidentiality

This area addresses the **Census Bureau's authority to gather these data** and the protections guaranteed to your company. See [Census Bureau's Data Protection and Privacy Policy](#) for additional detailed information.

#### Confidentiality of Reported Data

Title 13 U.S. Code, Section 9, provides complete protection for all reported information. Your **Census Bureau form 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. Our publications provide **no information about individual company operations**. In addition, the forms you send to us and copies you retain are immune from legal action. Federal law specifically exempts the reports from the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

Note: Some surveys compile data from public records (e.g., building permits). The United States Code, Title 13, authorizes such data collection, but Section 9 provides an exception to the confidentiality of data compiled from public records.

#### Legal Authority to Conduct the Economic Census and Surveys

Title 13 of the U.S. Code, Section 131, directs the Census Bureau to conduct the economic census at 5-year intervals covering years ending in 2 and 7. Title 13, Section 182, authorizes the Census Bureau to conduct monthly, quarterly, and annual surveys to furnish more timely reports on subjects covered by the economic census.

#### Use of Data Your Company Reported to Other Government Agencies

We make extensive use of administrative information from other government agencies in order to help reduce your reporting burden. These provide basic data - total receipts, total payroll, and total employment - needed to produce statistics for geographic areas and types of businesses. However, we must obtain data from all large companies and a small, scientifically designed sample of smaller ones, in order to provide data on a wide range of subjects covered by the censuses. Confidentiality of data used from other federal agencies is strictly enforced. Also, please note that these same agencies cannot obtain data for an individual establishment or company from us.

#### Full Text of Laws Authorizing and Controlling Data Collection by the Census Bureau

Full text of the [United States Code](#).

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# Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs

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### DUE DATE

**June, 2016**

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## About the Survey

### Purpose

The survey provides estimates of number of firms, sales/receipts, annual payroll, and employment by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status. Title 13 of the United States Code authorizes this survey and provides for mandatory responses.

### Coverage

The Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs collects data that is not industry-specific and covers nearly all U.S. nonfarm employer businesses that file Internal Revenue Service tax forms as individual proprietorships, partnerships, or any type of corporation.

### Content

The survey collects data on the gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status for up to four persons owning the majority of rights, equity, or interest in the business. Additional demographic and economic characteristics of the business owners and their businesses will be collected, such as: owner's age, education level, and primary function in the business; family- and home-based businesses; types of customers and workers; and sources of financing for capital improvements or start-up.

The Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs introduces a new data collection module each year focusing on an important component related to business growth. For the 2014 reference year, the module selected covers innovation and research and development. The survey will also collect data on entrepreneurs' access to capital to conduct their business.

### Frequency

The Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs is conducted annually as an intercensal economic census program based on the Survey of Business Owners required by law under Title 13 U.S.C. Sections, 131, 182, 224, and 225.

### Methods

The 2014 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs collection is electronic only. The current estimate of the sample is 290,000 employer businesses that were in operation anytime during 2014. An initial letter that informs the respondents of their requirement to complete the survey and provides survey access instructions will occur in September 2015, with a due date of November 4, 2015.

### Data Products

The Census Bureau will collect data starting with the 2014 reference year, with corresponding estimates releasing in 2016. Estimates will include number of firms, sales/receipts, annual payroll, and employment by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status.

### Uses

Government program officials, industry organization leaders, economic and social analysts and researchers, and business entrepreneurs are anticipated users of Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs statistics. Examples of data use include:

- The Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency to assess business assistance needs and allocate available program resources.
- Local government commissions on small and disadvantaged businesses to establish and evaluate contract procurement practices.
- Federal, state and local government agencies as a framework for planning, directing and assessing programs that promote the activities of disadvantaged groups.
- The National Women's Business Council to assess the state of women's business ownership for policymakers, researchers, and the public at large.
- Consultants and researchers to analyze long-term economic and demographic shifts, and differences in ownership and performance among geographic areas.
- Individual business owners to analyze their operations in comparison to similar firms, compute their market share, and assess their growth and future prospects.

### RELATED SITES

- [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)
- [Census Bureau Economic Programs](#)

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