



A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau:

Your business has been selected to participate in the **2015 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs (ASE)**. The U.S. Census Bureau, in conjunction with the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), is conducting this survey. The ASE is an annual collection of information on the characteristics of U.S. businesses by ownership categories, i.e., by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status for employer businesses.

Please report online using the information below and keep this letter for future reference:

Website: <https://econhelp.census.gov/ase>

User ID:

Password:

Due Date:

Your response is required by law. Title 13, United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131 and 182 authorizes this collection. Sections 224 and 225 require your response. Section 9 of Title 13 requires that the Census Bureau keeps this report **strictly confidential**. The information you provide may be seen only by persons sworn to uphold the confidentiality of Census Bureau information and may be used only for statistical purposes. Further, copies retained in your files are immune from legal process. 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.

We estimate the average time to complete this survey is 35 minutes. You may use reasonable estimates if book figures are not readily available. On the back of this letter, you will find disclosure descriptions regarding Office of Management and Budget number, authority and confidentiality and burden estimate statement.

If you need assistance completing the survey, visit us online at <https://econhelp.census.gov/ase>. For further assistance, please call our customer help line at 1-888-824-9954, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern time. Si necesita ayuda, llame libre de cargos: 1-888-824-9954, de lunes a viernes, de 8 a.m. a 6 p.m., hora del Este.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and ensuring that the results of the 2015 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs are comprehensive, timely, and reliable. Your response makes a difference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Thompson".

John H. Thompson
Director
US Census Bureau

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE 2015 ANNUAL SURVEY OF ENTREPRENEURS

OMB Number

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

Authority and Confidentiality

Title 13 United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131 and 182 authorizes this collection. Title 13 U.S.C., Sections 224 and 225 require businesses and other organizations that receive this questionnaire to answer the questions and return the report to the U.S. Census Bureau. By Section 9 of the same law, your report 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 of your report retained in your files are immune from legal process. 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.

Burden Estimate 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. Be sure to use ECON Survey Comments 0607-0986 as the subject.