

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Survey of Respirator Use and Practices (SRUP)? What types of questions will be asked?

The Survey of Respirator Use and Practices (SRUP) is intended to provide the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) with estimates of the number of companies and employees who use respirators by type of respirator and for what purposes. We will also ask whether the COVID-19 pandemic affected respirator usage or procurement at your company.

How do I know this is an official survey?

You can visit {NIOSH URL} to read the official announcement of this survey. You can also contact our contracted partner, Abt Associates, at XXX-XXX-XXXX or EMAIL@abtassoc.com to make sure the survey is official. If you would like to contact someone at NIOSH, please email ODAAdmin@cdc.gov to request information about the project. We are not selling anything or asking for money.

Is this part of an enforcement effort?

SRUP is conducted for informational purposes only and results will not be used for any type of enforcement activity. All responses will remain confidential and used only for statistical purposes. All data will be reported at the aggregate level with the inability to link you or your company to your responses.

This research is covered by a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health. This means that the researchers cannot release or use information, documents, or samples that may identify you in any action or suit unless you say it is okay. They also cannot provide them as evidence unless you have agreed. This protection includes federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceedings. An example would be a court subpoena.

Who should complete SRUP?

Someone knowledgeable about the use of respirators in your company should complete the survey. If you think someone else in your organization knows more about respirator usage than you do, please pass the survey instructions on to them. Complete this survey even if no workers at your company use respirators.

Why should I participate in SRUP?

The information collected in this survey is important to provide NIOSH with the data it needs to evaluate and improve the respirator approval program. This information helps NIOSH maintain a current understanding of respirator use in the U.S. which improves the education provided by NIOSH's respirator approval program, as well as supporting necessary respiratory protection research and development.

What will the data be used for?

The information will be used to understand how and to what frequency employees are using respirators in the workplace, identify how the COVID-19 pandemic may have affected the use of respirators and other devices, and to guide respiratory protection research and development, including updates to the respirator approval program.

Who will have access to my responses?

Abt Associates is the consulting firm that has been contracted to conduct the SRUP. Only project staff at Abt will have access to any information you provide. Your company name, your name, and any other identifying information will be removed from data provided to NIOSH and OSHA. The information you provide will be used to inform research only. All data will be reported at the aggregate level and neither NIOSH nor OSHA will be able to link you or your company to your responses.

Is participation mandatory?

Participation by your company is voluntary but we hope you will take part. Your responses will provide NIOSH with valuable information to aid in the effort to make America's workplaces safer and healthier.

How long will the survey take?

The length of the survey will vary depending on the answers you provide, but most people find that it takes about 10 to 15 minutes to complete.

What will I receive for taking this survey?

In appreciation for the time you've taken to complete the survey, we will provide you with a respirator usage summary for the industry of your choice.