

Supporting Statement
U.S. Department of Commerce
Bureau of Economic Analysis
BE-12, Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States
OMB Control Number 0608-0042

B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection method to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g. establishments, State and local governmental units, households, or persons) in the universe and the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form. The tabulation must also include expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection has been conducted before, provide the actual response rate achieved.

This survey is a benchmark survey, or census. A Form BE-12A, BE-12B, or BE-12C is required for all U.S. affiliates whose data are not consolidated or merged into a BE-12 report filed by another U.S. affiliate. BEA estimates it will mail the survey to approximately 26,400 U.S. companies. BEA estimates the universe of U.S. affiliates is 23,700 companies and that 2,700 companies that are contacted will not meet the criteria to be in the universe and will file a BE-12 Claim for Not Filing.

2022 BE-12 Universe and Response Rate	
Form Type	Estimated number of respondents
Universe	23,700
BE-12A	2,500
BE-12B	2,200
BE-12C	19,000
BE-12 Claim for Not Filing	2,700
Total respondents	26,400
Response rate in terms of assets of 2012 BE-12 survey	96.0%
Response rate in terms of assets of 2017 BE-12 survey	93.0%
Expected response rate in terms of assets of 2022 BE-12 survey	95.0%

2. Describe the procedures for the collection, including: the statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection; the estimation procedure; the degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification; any unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures; and any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.

This information collection employs statistical methods for the purpose of expanding the data reported for the smallest foreign affiliates to the same level of detail reported for the largest affiliates. Specifically, for majority-owned U.S. affiliates reporting on Form BE-12B or BE-12C, BEA will estimate the additional detail that would have been filed on Form BE-12A. For minority-owned U.S. affiliates reporting on Form BE-12C, BEA will estimate the additional detail that would have been filed on Form BE-12B. Thus, filing by these affiliates on Form BE-12B or BE-12C will not affect the amount of detail that can be published for majority-owned and minority-owned affiliates. In general, the estimation will be accomplished by prorating reported data, such as total assets, among subcomponents that are not reported, using the distribution observed in the next higher size class of companies.

Estimates for missing reports or reports that do not pass data quality requirements will be derived by extrapolating forward their reported data from earlier years on the basis of year-to-year movement in the data reported by other affiliates. For additional information on BEA's estimation methods please see the [U.S. International Economic Accounts Concepts and Methods](#) available on BEA's web site.

3. Describe the methods used to maximize response rates and to deal with nonresponse. The accuracy and reliability of the information collected must be shown to be adequate for the intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided if they will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.

Several steps will be taken to maximize response rates. First, BEA will provide respondents with advance notice of the survey by mailing them an announcement of the upcoming survey as soon as possible after the survey has been approved by OMB. The announcement will ask respondents to verify their mailing address and status as a reporter. It will also alert them to the availability of electronic filing. Later, in March, all companies will receive notification by mail of their obligation to file the BE-12 survey. BEA encourages respondents to file electronically but will also post PDF forms online that can be downloaded and filed by mail or fax. A completed form or a Claim for Not Filing is required by May 31, 2023 (or by June 30, 2023 for reporting companies that use BEA's eFile system). BEA has dedicated staff available to answer respondent questions via email or phone. Non-respondents will be sent follow-up notices and, in the event of continued nonresponse, may be referred to the Office of the General Counsel for further action, including possible referral to the Justice Department.

The response rates described in B.1., together with the estimation procedures described in B.2., will provide information of sufficient accuracy and reliability for the intended purpose.

4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Tests are encouraged as effective means to refine collections, but if ten or more test respondents are involved OMB must give prior approval.

No tests were conducted (aside from giving respondents the opportunity to comment on proposed changes, as described in A.8.).

5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on the statistical aspects of the design, and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collect and/or analyze the information for the agency.

The survey is designed and conducted within BEA by the Multinational Operations Branch (MOB) of the Direct Investment Division (DID). For further information, contact Kirsten Brew, Chief, MOB, via email at Kirsten.Brew@bea.gov or by phone at 301-278-9152. The survey proposal was reviewed and approved by BEA's Source Data Improvement and Evaluation Program (SDIEP). The SDIEP coordinator is Tiffany Burrell, (301) 278-9618.