November 24, 2024

«RespFirst» «RespLast» «RespTitle» «Company» «Street» «City», «State» «Zip»

Dear «RespFirst» «RespLast»:

Recently «FE_FirstName» «FE_LastName» of my staff contacted your company to obtain data on your «imported/exported/imported and exported» products for the U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes (MXP) published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). I understand that your company has reservations about the value of the MXP and has declined to participate. The MXP is widely used by the government and businesses to make better-informed decisions. The BLS takes pride in providing this essential information to the public, but we cannot accomplish our mission without the help of companies like «Company». I urge you to please reconsider your decision.

How is the MXP used? In addition to being a general measure of our country's economic health, the MXP is used extensively by businesses such as yours and throughout the economy.

IPP Private and Public Sector Uses

Private Sector Uses

- Analyze economic conditions
 - Adjust contracts
 - Assess competition in international markets
- Federal Government Uses
- Set fiscal and monetary policy
- Negotiate trade agreements
- Adjust trade statistics
- Input to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

I would like to emphasize the importance of including your company in the MXP. The trade sampled for your company represents other companies' activity for similar product areas. For our sampling process to remain statistically valid, we cannot replace your company with another business. Your participation will strengthen our indexes.

We respect the value of your time and will limit our request accordingly. We can use existing company records or your knowledge of your business, so that you do not need to create any special reports.

At the BLS, we also produce a variety of other statistics including retail inflation, wages and benefit costs, unemployment, and many other topics. Our products are available at <u>www.bls.gov</u>, and we also have staff members in our Economic Analysis & Information department who are available to assist you at «EAI_Phone».

«FE_FirstName» «FE_LastName» will contact you soon to provide a more complete explanation of the MXP and arrange a brief meeting. We also have enclosed some additional information

regarding the MXP. If you have any questions, please contact «FE_FirstName» «FE_LastName» at «FE_Tel». We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely yours,

NAME «Title» Enclosure «Enclosure_Name»