

## Application to use the SynLBD Beta Data Product

The Census Bureau has placed the SynLBD Beta Data Product on a restricted remote access site requiring a password for data access and not permitting data downloads. Researchers interested in using these data should complete this application form and submit it to the Census Bureau. As part of this application, researchers must include a Feasibility statement. File access will be approved or denied based only on the feasibility of the proposal, which is determined by evaluating whether the data necessary to conduct the analysis are included on the SynLBD.

Once file access has been granted, an account holder is expected to perform data analysis on the SynLBD using any or all of the file variables. The restricted access site will provide analysis software and a computing environment similar to the one used to analyze the confidential LBD Gold Standard file on Census Bureau internal computers. While researchers will not be allowed to download data sets, they will be able to view results of their analysis and request specific files that are a result of their analyses from the Synthetic BETA File.

Users of the SynLBD Beta Data Product who have prepared their analysis programs on the restricted access site according to the protocol listed thereon, may request that *limited* output from the analyses using SynLBD data be repeated on the LBD Gold Standard File.

*IMPORTANT: Request for disclosure of tabular output will not be accommodated unless the requests involves simple descriptive means/deviations of the kind you would find in a research paper (min/max, pctiles are not allowed unless masked). Tabular datasets will not be released under any circumstance. Requests for regression output will be considered as long as they are reasonable (meaning a limited number of models/subsets such as those you would find in a research paper). Reseachers are required to provide observation counts for each of the statistics they want released (number of establishments/firms). These counts are used in the disclosure review. Counts should be provided in a separate file and in a format that is easily relatable to the desired statistics. All output files submitted for disclosure review have to be submitted in ascii text file format.*

Researchers requesting validation are expected to share results from their analyses with the Census Bureau and Statistics of Income program (SOI) at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). They will do so by filling out a Results Documentation Form together with their Validation Request.

The Census Bureau will reproduce analyses conducted using the SynLBD on the LBD Gold Standard File. This activity will be undertaken by Census Bureau employees authorized to use these confidential data. Once an analysis has been repeated on the LBD Gold Standard File, the Gold Standard result summaries will be reviewed by the appropriate Disclosure Review Officer (DRO). Some output may not be approved for disclosure. Data products and output approved by the DRO will be released to the users and SOI/IRS.

Please submit this completed application to [ces.synthetic.data.use@census.gov](mailto:ces.synthetic.data.use@census.gov).

Name

Affiliation

Address 1

Address 2

City  State  Postal Code

Email

Phone

**Project Summary:** Please include a brief description of your project and how the SynLBD data will be used in your research.

**Feasibility Statement:** Please list the variables required by the project, and briefly explain how you plan to use them. Project approval depends only on the availability of the required data. The *only variables available* in the SynLBD are at the establishment-level and include: emp, firstyear, lastyear, lbdnum, mu, pay, and sic3. For an explanation of variables on the SynLBD Beta Data Product, please see the SynLBD Codebook at [http://www.census.gov/ces/pdf/SynLBD\\_Codebook.pdf](http://www.census.gov/ces/pdf/SynLBD_Codebook.pdf).



Census Response: Approval/Denial

Approved

Denied

VRDC Account

Project Number

Approval/Denial Date

Comments: