Welcome to the Small Business Pulse Survey

The U.S. Census Bureau is requesting your assistance in understanding the effect of changing business conditions due to the Coronavirus pandemic on your business. Your response is especially important right now as it helps policy makers, government officials, and businesses like yours understand these effects. Please complete this short 21 question survey; it will take approximately 6 minutes.

For the completion of this survey, please provide data for: [Name of company]

Q1. Is XX-XXXXXXX the Employer Identification Number (EIN) used on this business's latest Internal Revenue Service Form 941, Employer's Federal Quarterly Tax Return?

• Yes
• No

If no, please provide EIN:

Q2. Overall, how has this business been affected by the Coronavirus pandemic?

• Large negative effect
• Moderate negative effect
• Little or no effect
• Moderate positive effect
• Large positive effect

Q3. In the last month, what were the total operating revenues/sales/receipts for this business, not including any financial assistance or loans?

• $0 - $500
• $501 - $2,500
• $2,501 - $5,000
• $5,001 - $15,000
• $15,001 - $50,000
• $50,001 - $125,000
• $125,001 - $200,000
• $200,001 - $500,000
• $500,001 or more
• Don't know
Q4. In the last week, did this business have a change in operating revenues/sales/receipts, not including any financial assistance or loans?

- Yes, increased
- Yes, decreased
- No change

Q5. In the last week, did this business do any of the following?

- Open a previously closed location
- Temporarily close a location
- Permanently close a location
- None of the above

Q6. In the last week, did this business have a change in the number of paid employees?

- Yes, increased
- Yes, decreased
- No change

Q7. In the last week, did this business have a change in the total number of hours worked by paid employees?

- Yes, increased
- Yes, decreased
- No change

Q8. In the last week, did this business require employees to have proof of COVID-19 vaccination before physically coming to work?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable, this business did not have employees physically coming to work in the last week.

Q9. In the last week, did this business require employees to test negative for COVID-19 before physically coming to work?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable, this business did not have employees physically coming to work in the last week.
Q10. In the last week, did this business have difficulties hiring paid employees?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Q11. In the last week, did this business have any of the following?

- Domestic supplier delays
- Foreign supplier delays
- Difficulty locating alternative domestic suppliers
- Difficulty locating alternative foreign suppliers
- Production delays at this business
- Delays in delivery/shipping to customers
- None of the above

Q12. In the last week, was this business affected by any of the following?

- Availability of current employees to work
- Availability of COVID-19 tests for employees
- Availability of supplies or inputs used to provide goods or services
- None of the above

Q13. How would you describe the current availability of cash on hand for this business, including any financial assistance or loans?

Currently, cash on hand will cover:

- 1-7 days of business operations
- 1-2 weeks of business operations
- 3-4 weeks of business operations
- 1-2 months of business operations
- 3 or more months of business operations
- No cash available for business operations
- Don’t know

Q14. What changes did this business make to its planned capital expenditures for 2021?

- Canceled planned capital expenditures
- Postponed planned capital expenditures
- Decreased planned capital expenditures
- Increased planned capital expenditures
- Introduced new unplanned capital expenditures
• This business had no changes to planned capital expenditures for 2021.
• This business had no planned capital expenditures for 2021.

Q15. Comparing now to six months ago, how has the number of hours paid employees worked from home changed?

• Large increase in number of hours worked from home
• Moderate increase in number of hours worked from home
• Little or no change in number of hours worked from home
• Moderate decrease in number of hours worked from home
• Large decrease in number of hours worked from home

Q16. Comparing now to six months ago, how has demand for this business’s goods or services changed?

• Large increase in demand
• Moderate increase in demand
• Little or no change in demand
• Moderate decrease in demand
• Large decrease in demand

Q17. Comparing now to six months ago, how have the prices this business pays for goods and services changed?

• Large increase in prices
• Moderate increase in prices
• Little or no change in prices
• Moderate decrease in prices
• Large decrease in prices

Q18. In the next six months, do you think this business will do any of the following?

• Adopt or expand use of digital technologies
• Change management practices
• Change business strategies
• Introduce new goods or services
• Improve existing goods or services
• Improve methods of producing goods or services
• Improve methods of logistics, delivery, or distribution
• None of the above

Q19. In the next six months, do you think this business will have business travel expenditures for air, rail, car rental, or lodging?
• Yes
• No
• Not applicable, this business does not usually have business travel expenditures

Q20. In the next six months, do you think this business will need to do any of the following?

• Obtain financial assistance or additional capital
• Identify new supply chain options
• Develop online sales or websites
• Increase marketing or sales
• Identify and hire new employees
• Make a capital expenditure
• Cancel or postpone a planned capital expenditure
• Identify potential markets for exporting goods or services
• Permanently close this business
• None of the above

Q21. In your opinion, how much time do you think will pass before this business returns to its normal level of operations?

• 1 month or less
• 2-3 months
• 4-6 months
• More than 6 months
• I do not believe this business will return to its normal level of operations.
• This business has permanently closed.
• There has been little or no effect on this business's normal level of operations.
• This business has returned to its normal level of operations

Would you like to provide any information about your responses to these questions or this business's experiences during the Coronavirus pandemic?

Remarks (500 characters)

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-1014 and appears in the top right corner of each reporting screen. Without this approval, we could not conduct this survey.
Authority and Confidentiality

Title 13, United States Code, Sections 131 and 182, authorizes the U.S. Census Bureau to conduct this collection and to request your voluntary assistance. The Census Bureau is required by Section 9 of the same law to keep your information confidential and use your responses only to produce statistics. The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify your business, organization, or institution. Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data.

Burden Estimate Statement

We estimate the Small Business Pulse Survey will take an average of 6 minutes to complete. Factors such as company size, complexity and activity will affect your actual time to complete the survey. This estimate includes the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the survey.

Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

EID Survey Comments 0607-1014
U.S. Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Road
Room EID-6K081
Washington, DC 20233

You may email comments to econ.pulse.comments@census.gov. Be sure to use “EID Survey Comments 0607-1014” as the subject.