

ASE-L1
(05-16-2017)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau

Washington, DC 20233-0001
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau:

We are requesting your cooperation with the **2016 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs**. The U.S. Census Bureau, in conjunction with the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), is conducting this survey. It is an annual collection of information on the characteristics of U.S. businesses by ownership categories, i.e., by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status for employer businesses.

Please report online using the information below, and keep this letter for future reference.

YOUR RESPONSE IS REQUIRED BY LAW and will be kept strictly **CONFIDENTIAL**. We estimate this survey will take an average of 35 minutes to complete. Additional information about the authority, confidentiality, and burden of this data collection can be found on the back of this letter.

For assistance with completing this survey, visit us online at the website above or call our customer help line at 1-888-824-9954, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern time. Si necesita ayuda, llame libre de cargos: 1-888-824-9954, de lunes a viernes, de 8:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m. hora del Este.

Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation, and for helping the U.S. Census Bureau measure America's people, places, and economy. Your response makes a difference.

Sincerely,

John H. Thompson

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OMB Number

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-0986 and appears in the upper right of the login screen. Without this approval, we could not conduct this survey.

Authority and Confidentiality

Title 13 United States Code, Sections 8(b), 131, and 182, authorizes this collection. Sections 224 and 225 require your response. The U.S. Census Bureau is required by Section 9 of the same law to keep your information confidential and can 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 data.

On behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, pursuant to Section 1(a)(3) of Executive Order 11625, the MBDA may enter into this agreement with the Census Bureau to establish a means for the development, collection, summation, and dissemination of information that will be helpful to persons and organizations throughout the nation in undertaking or promoting the establishment and successful operation of minority business enterprises.

Burden Estimate Statement

We estimate this survey will take an average of 35 minutes to complete, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.