



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

We request your participation with the **2020 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey**. The Annual Wholesale Trade Survey produces national estimates of total annual sales, e-commerce sales, end-of-year inventories, purchases, total operating expenses, gross margins, and commissions (for electronic markets, agents, and brokers) for wholesale businesses located in the United States. Data generated from this survey are often used by government agencies, private businesses, and researchers. For example, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) utilizes the estimates as an input to estimate sales and inventories for the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

**Authentication Code:**

**Due Date:**

**Account Manager:**

1. **Sign in OR register** at <https://portal.census.gov>
2. **Add** your authentication code.
3. **Report** by clicking on "REPORT NOW." You can return to your account over multiple sessions to complete the survey.

**YOUR RESPONSE IS REQUIRED BY LAW** and will be kept strictly **CONFIDENTIAL**. 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, please sign into your Census Bureau account or call our customer help line at 1-877-787-9860 (option 3), Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern time.

**Thank you** in advance for your time and participation, and for helping the U.S. Census Bureau measure America's people and economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven D. Dillingham".

Steven D. Dillingham  
Director

**OMB Number**

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-0195 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 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 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 Annual Wholesale Trade Survey will take an average of 31 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.