



FROM THE DIRECTOR
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

During the summer of 2001, the Census Bureau will take the Residential Finance Survey (RFS) of mortgage lenders. We are writing to let you know about the survey and to ask for your help. We need to know who your contact person will be for the survey and in what format you would like to respond.

The 2001 RFS is part of Census 2000, the census of population and housing that we conduct every ten years. The purpose of the RFS is to collect information about the acquisition and financing of residential properties in the United States. We will conduct the RFS in two parts:

- We will select a sample of homeowner and rental properties and contact their owners to ask for information about the property and the address of the organization that owns or services the mortgage(s) on the property.
- We will contact that organization to ask about each mortgage on the property (please see the enclosed copy of the questionnaire for an example).

Both business and government need accurate economic data to plan for the future. The RFS is supported by:

- The Mortgage Bankers Association.
- The National Association of Home Builders.
- The National Association of Realtors.
- The Federal Reserve Board.
- The Bureau of Economic Analysis.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Fannie Mae.
- Freddie Mac.
- National Multi Housing Council.
- Many other business organizations and federal agencies.

Title 13, United States Code, Section 141, requires your response to the RFS and guarantees that we will keep your responses confidential and that we will use them only to produce statistical summaries. The Census Bureau has the authority to receive financial information under the provisions of Section 1113(d) of the Right to Financial Privacy Act (Title 12, United States Code, Section 3413(d)). You may access Titles 12 and 13 on our web site listed on the back.

Please designate someone on the enclosed Form D-2903(LC) to whom we can send survey questionnaires. We have allowed space for up to four contact persons if the records for different types of mortgages or for different areas of the country are kept at different locations. **Please return the form in the enclosed envelope within ten (10) business days.** With your help, we will be able to conduct the 2001 RFS in the most cost-effective way and with the least inconvenience to you.

For further information, please contact Mary Schwartz at 301-457-3190 or by e-mail at **<mary.b.schwartz@ccmail.census.gov>**. You also can find more information about the RFS on the Internet at **<www.census.gov/hhes/www/rfs.html>**.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth Prewitt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K" and a distinct "Prewitt" ending.

Kenneth Prewitt

Enclosures