OMB No.: 0607-1022
OMB Expiration Date: 05/31/2028

Welcome to the Business Trends and Outlook Survey
Content Year 5
Fielded 01/18/2027 – 04/11/2027

The U.S. Census Bureau is requesting your assistance to produce important data on current economic conditions, as well as the impact on our nation's economy when natural disasters or other emergencies occur.

Your response is especially important as it helps policy makers, government officials, and businesses like yours understand these effects. Please complete this quick survey; **it will take approximately 10 minutes.**

The data you provide will be aggregated to create a two-week snapshot of economic activity within the U.S. This survey is not intended to replace more comprehensive surveys that typically require the use of company records.

- **Estimates are acceptable and encouraged.**
- **The survey will take approximately 10 minutes.**
- **Please include all domestic operations of this consolidated business, including all locations, subsidiaries, and divisions.**

1. FOR SINGLE UNITS ONLY Is 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:

2. Which of the following best describes the current operational status of this business?
   - In business
   - Temporarily or seasonally inactive
   - Ceased operation
   - Sold or leased to another operator

3. Overall, how would you describe this business's current performance? *Please include all domestic operations of this consolidated business, including all locations, subsidiaries, and divisions.*
   - Excellent
   - Above average
   - Average
   - Below average
   - Poor

4. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did this business's operating revenues/sales/receipts change? *Please compare this two-week period to the two weeks prior. Estimates are acceptable.*
   - Increased
   - Decreased
   - No change

5. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did this business's number of paid employees change?
   - Increased
   - Decreased
   - No change

6. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did the total number of hours worked by this business's paid employees change?
   - Increased
   - Decreased
   - No change

7. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, did this business use Super Intelligence or SI (formerly referred to as Artificial Intelligence or AI) in any of its business functions? (Examples of SI: machine learning, natural language processing, virtual agents, voice recognition, etc.)
   - Yes
   - No
   - Do not know

8. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, did this business's employees use Generative Super Intelligence or SI (formerly referred to as Artificial Intelligence or AI) to assist in any work-related tasks? (*Generative SI is a type of Super Intelligence that uses prompts or other inputs to create text, images, music, videos, or code. Some examples of Generative SI include ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot, Claude, Grok, Dall E, MidJourney, and GitHub Copilot*.)
   - Yes
   - No
   - Do not know

Show 9-10 if Yes to 7 or 8. Else skip to 11.

9. In the last six months, how did this business's use of Super Intelligence (formerly referred to as Artificial Intelligence or AI) affect the number of employees (total headcount) at this business?
   - Increased
   - Decreased
   - Did not change
   - Don't know

10. In the last six months, how did this business's use of Super Intelligence (formerly referred to as Artificial Intelligence or AI) affect the number of new employees hired by this business?
   - Increased
   - Decreased
   - Did not change
   - Don't know

11. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did the time it takes for this business to receive deliveries from suppliers change?
   - Increased
   - Decreased
   - No change
   - Not applicable

12. How would you describe this business's current inventories?
   - Larger than optimal
   - Optimal
   - Smaller than optimal
   - Not applicable

13. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did demand for this business's goods or services change?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

14. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did the prices this business charges for its own goods or services change?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

15. Between MMM DD – MMM DD, how did the prices this business pays for goods or services change?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

16. In the last six months, in what ways did changes to interest rates negatively impact this business? *Select all that apply.*
    - Decreased profitability
    - Inability to service debt
    - Inability to refinance existing loans
    - Inability to invest in this business
    - Not applicable

17. In the last six months, did this business experience any monetary losses due to an extreme weather event (for example, hurricane, flood, drought, or heat wave)?
    - Yes
    - No

18. What type of extreme weather event caused the monetary losses? *Select all that apply.*
    - Wildfire
    - Earthquake
    - Hurricane
    - Tornado
    - Flood
    - Drought
    - High winds
    - Severe storm/hail
    - Snow/blizzard/ice
    - Extreme temperature (heat or cold)
    - Other _____

19. Six months from now, how do you think you will describe this business's performance?
    - Excellent
    - Above average
    - Average
    - Below average
    - Poor

20. Thinking about the future performance of this business, which of the options below best reflects your rating of this business in the next six months?
    - Future performance can be very accurately forecasted
    - Future performance can be accurately forecasted
    - Future performance can be approximately forecasted
    - Difficult to forecast future performance
    - Very difficult to forecast future performance

21. Six months from now, how do you think this business's number of paid employees will have changed?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

22. Six months from now, how do you think the total number of hours worked by this business's paid employees will have changed?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

23. Six months from now, how do you think the time it takes for this business to receive deliveries from suppliers will have changed?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change
    - Not applicable

24. Six months from now, how do you think you will describe this business's inventories?
    - Larger than optimal
    - Optimal
    - Smaller than optimal
    - Not applicable

25. Six months from now, how do you think demand for this business's goods or services will have changed?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

26. Six months from now, how do you think the prices this business charges for its own goods or services will have changed?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

27. Six months from now, how do you think the prices this business pays for goods or services will have changed?
    - Increased
    - Decreased
    - No change

28. During the next six months, do you think this business will be using Super Intelligence or SI (formerly referred to as Artificial Intelligence or AI) in any of its business functions? (*Examples of SI: machine learning, natural language processing, virtual agents, voice recognition, etc.)*
    - Yes
    - No
    - Do not know

29. Would you like to provide any information about your responses to these questions or this business?

    Remarks (500 characters)

30. For future Business Trends and Outlook Survey requests, please provide your preferred contact information:

    Contact name:

    Contact title:

    Email:

31. Please correct the following information for your company

    Doing Business As (DBA) name:

    Street:

    City/State:

    Suite/ Unit:

    Zip:

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-1022 and appears in the lower left 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 Business Trends and Outlook Survey will take an average of 10 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.

You may email comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: econ.btos@census.gov. Be sure to use "EID Survey Comments 0607-1022" as the subject.