



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

Thank you for your continued participation in the **Monthly Retail Trade Survey**. The U.S. Census Bureau's mission is to serve as the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy. This survey produces one of the Census Bureau's many important economic measurements. Data from this survey provide business leaders and policymakers with an up-to-date picture of the nation's economic condition, and are a key element in estimating the quarterly Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Online reporting is easy, reduces costs, and decreases processing times. Website and login information can be found below.

We invite you to browse through the wealth of data available through the Census Bureau's website. Start by viewing this survey's results at: <https://www.census.gov/retail>.

**YOUR RESPONSE 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 call our customer help line at 1-800-772-7852, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 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,

George M. Cook  
Chief of Staff, performing the non-exclusive functions  
and duties of the Director

**OMB Number**

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-0717 and appears in the top right corner of each online 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 Monthly Retail Trade Survey will take an average of 7 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.