

Annual Capital Expenditures Survey

The Annual Capital Expenditures Survey (ACES) provides the only national-level estimates of annual capital investment in new and used buildings, structures, machinery, and equipment (including computer software) by U.S. non-farm businesses with employees and without employees. The ACES data on the amount of business expenditures for new plant and equipment and measures of the stock of existing facilities are critical to evaluate productivity growth, the ability of U.S. business to compete with foreign business, changes in industrial capacity, measures of overall economic performance, and to support informed decision making by businesses and government leaders.

Why did I receive this survey?

Our records show that you had some kind of business activity during 2015. The activity might have been as a self-employed individual, a sole proprietorship, a start-up company, an independent contractor, or a member of a partnership. United States Code Title 13, authorizes this survey and makes responding **mandatory**. United States Code Title 13 also protects the **confidentiality** of respondents and the data they provide. It is important that we receive a response from each business surveyed. Your response will contribute to the timeliness and reliability of the estimates used to assess the condition of the United States economy. If you did not have any business activity during 2015, please complete the "Ownership Information Section" of the survey only.

How can I respond to the survey or get help?

To respond, visit our secure site – bhs.econ.census.gov/bhs/aces and click the "Survey Log in" button.

• Log in using the **User ID** and **Password** found on the letter we mailed to your company.

• You can also request a time extension and check your filing status – click "**Self-Service Log In**."

Call us at **(800) 528-3049** from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Email us at ewd.aces@census.gov

When is my response due?
Your response is due **April 27, 2016**

What information does the Census Bureau need?

We need you to report all 2015 business spending for new and/or used structures and new and/or used equipment. If purchases were for both business and personal use, estimate and report the share of the purchases for business use.

Do I need to complete the survey if I had NO expenditures in 2015?

You do, if you operated a business at any time during the year. If you spent nothing on structures and equipment during the year, enter "0" under total capital expenditures.

What does the Census Bureau mean by "structures" and "equipment"?

Examples of **structures** include new and/or used offices, buildings, and residential real estate purchased or built for business use. Count major additions and improvements to such business structures as new structures. Examples of **equipment** include new and/or used computer software, furniture, fixtures, computers, desks, chairs, automobiles, machinery and specialized equipment for business use.

Thank you for your participation in the Annual Capital Expenditures Survey. Your response will contribute to the timeliness and reliability of the estimates used to assess the condition of the United States economy. **Your response is mandatory and the information that you provide is confidential by law under United States Code Title 13.**

Find more data about the American people, places, and economy at census.gov.
For more information about the Annual Capital Expenditures Survey, please visit census.gov/econ/aces