



**A message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau...**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is conducting the Rental Housing Finance Survey (RHFS), a very important study on the numbers and types of rental properties available in the U.S. The U.S. Census Bureau will be the collection agency for this study.

The 2015 RHFS will collect data on the following topics:

- Characteristics of residential structures
- Occupancy and capital improvement expenses
- Ownership structure
- Financing, government benefits, and non-governmental programs

You have been selected to participate in this survey for the property listed below. Your responses will be collected on a secure website, will remain confidential and will only be used for statistical purposes. To report online, please use the following information:

If you have any questions, please contact us, toll-free, at 1-888-595-1335. Someone will be available to take your call Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). At any other time, please leave a message and someone will return your call promptly.

For additional information about the RHFS visit <https://econhelp.census.gov/rhfs>. Results from the 2012 RHFS are available at <http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/rhfs/home.html>.

Thank you in advance for your contribution to this important survey effort. Your response helps ensure that the Census Bureau accurately measures America's people, places, and our Economy.

Sincerely,

John H. Thompson  
Director  
U.S. Census Bureau

**What is the purpose of this survey?**

The purpose of the 2015 Rental Housing Finance Survey (RHFS) is to provide a measure of financial, mortgage and property characteristics of rental housing properties in the United States.

**Who authorizes this survey?**

We are conducting this survey under the authority of Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 8, and Title 12, U.S.C., Sections 1701z-1, 1701z-2(g), and 1701z-10a.

**Why should you participate in this survey?**

The RHFS is the primary source of rental housing data for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), federal, state and local governments and to the public. This survey helps inform the development of rental housing policies, especially those pertaining to financing rental housing for targeted groups such as low-income families and individuals and the elderly. The data you provide will help policy makers evaluate the suitability of public policy initiatives. Academic researchers and private organizations may also utilize the data for facilitate their research and projects. The RHFS provides an overall portrait of rental housing in the United States.

**Will your responses be kept confidential?**

Your responses are protected under Title 13, U.S.C., Section 9. Your answers may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law. Your participation is voluntary, but your responses are necessary to make the results of this survey accurate and timely.

**How will your information be reported?**

The information you provide will be combined with the information provided by others in statistical reports. No individually-identifiable data will be included in the statistical reports.

**Paperwork Burden Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **2528-0276**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including the time spent to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, please write to: **U.S. Census Bureau, Paperwork Project 2528-0276, Attn: Joe Huesman, EID - 7K081, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233.**