

Dear API Member,

A core API principle is to promote free markets, free trade, and cost-effective government regulations and policies that allows the U.S. oil and natural gas industry to compete and assess current and future energy needs. Doing so requires robust, accurate, timely, and relevant economic statistics — as sound economic policy is based on sound economic data. But sound economic data requires a small amount of effort from us all.

Currently, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is visiting firms to update the sample of goods and services comprising the monthly Producer Price Index (PPI) data for the oil and natural gas industry. The PPI is one of the Nation's primary measures of price changes for goods and services produced in the U.S., and all PPI indexes are available for free online at https://www.bls.gov/ppi.

However, the quality of PPI data depends greatly on the number of businesses responding to the PPI survey. Therefore, I encourage your active participation in this important data gathering effort.

If you are called upon to volunteer information, you need only contribute a few minutes per month to provide data on a selection of your firm's transactions. All data is used for statistical purposes only. Data is always released in aggregated form, so no individual firm is identifiable. See https://www.bls.gov/respondents/ppi for more information about participating in the survey.

The BLS wants your experience as a survey respondent to be a positive one. You will be assigned a BLS economist who can assist you not only with reporting prices but also by answering your questions about PPI data.

Thank you in advance for your assistance, your participation benefits the U.S. oil and gas industry and the country.

T. Mason Hamilton

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