



Dear APA Member,

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is currently visiting firms to update the sample of goods and services comprising the monthly Producer Price Index (PPI) data for our industry. I encourage your participation in this important effort.

Sound economic policy and successful business planning require reliable, accurate, and timely data. The PPI is one of the Nation's primary measures of price change for goods and services produced in the U.S. The quality of PPI data depends greatly on the number of businesses responding to the PPI survey, so your participation helps us all. If you are called upon to volunteer, you need only contribute a few minutes per month to provide information on a selection of your firm's transactions. All data is used for statistical purposes only and is published only in aggregated form, so no individual firm is identifiable. To allay any confidentiality concerns, below is the Standard BLS Confidentiality Pledge that appears on the BLS website, <https://www.bls.gov/bls/confidentiality.htm>

Standard BLS Confidentiality Pledge

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics, its employees, agents, and partner statistical agencies, will use the information you provide for statistical purposes only and will hold the information in confidence to the full extent permitted by law. In accordance with the Confidential Information and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (Title 5 of Public Law 107-347) and other applicable Federal laws, your responses will not be disclosed in identifiable form without your informed consent. Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, Federal information systems are protected from malicious activities through cybersecurity screening of transmitted data."

On that same page is a set of laws that apply to BLS employees to further ensure confidentiality.

For more information about participating in the survey, please access the link <http://www.bls.gov/respondents/ppi/home.htm>.

The BLS wants your experience as a survey respondent to be a valuable one. You will be assigned an economist who can assist you not only with reporting prices but also by answering your questions about PPI data. Currently, the PPI program tracks prices for most goods and services produced in the United States and all indexes are available for free online at www.bls.gov/ppi.

Thank you in advance for your assistance,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Elias".

Ed Elias
President, APA