



December 17, 2024

Dear USTMA Member:

U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association (USTMA) encourages your business to support the Producer Price Index (PPI) and the Import/Export Price Indexes (MXP) of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in their efforts to collect data that is used to publish timely and accurate price indexes. This data is important to U.S. policy experts who are working to create a favorable business climate in the United States and around the world.

As you know, USTMA is the national trade association for tire manufacturers that produce tires in the United States. USTMA's mission is to strengthen the competitiveness, societal impact and reputation of the U.S. tire manufacturing industry, and the Association advances a sustainable tire manufacturing industry through thought leadership and a commitment to science-based public policy advocacy. USTMA member support of the BLS initiative is consistent with these principles.

The PPI and MPX are two of the nation's primary measures of price change for goods and services produced in or imported into the U.S. The Producer Price Index measures the change in selling prices received by domestic producers of goods and services, while the Import/Export Price Indexes measure price changes for goods and selected services exported out of and imported into the United States. The Producer Price Indexes are used to inform fiscal and monetary policies, analyze supply chains, depreciate inventory values, and adjust contract terms. The Import/Export Price Indexes are used to measure inflation, negotiate trade contracts, and analyze exchange rates.

Businesses, such as yours, may be visited by BLS economists to secure cooperation for participation in these surveys. The quality of PPI and MPX data depends greatly on the number of businesses responding to the PPI survey, so your participation is valuable. Firms selected for participation in the index need only contribute a few minutes per month to provide pricing information on a small selection of transactions. As a survey respondent, you will be assigned an economist who can assist you not only with reporting prices, but also with your questions about BLS data. All data will only be used in an aggregated format so that no individual firm is identifiable. The prices collected are kept confidential in accordance with the Confidential Information and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA).

USTMA supports the BLS mission to "collect, analyze, and disseminate essential economic information to support public and private decision-making" and we encourage our member companies to participate in the data collection efforts of the Producer Price Index and the Import/Export Price Indexes. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Forristall Luke", is written over a thin horizontal line.

Anne Forristall Luke
President and CEO