

Survey of Minnesota Business Services Firms – 2008

The BusinessinfoUSA directory of U.S. businesses provided the population of approximately 11,691 services businesses (most firms in NAICS codes 541 and 518) for the survey. A random sample of 1,200 was drawn from the population.

Two mailings of a post card survey were sent to each of the selected businesses. The first mailing was in early May and the second mailing went out to businesses that had not responded at the end of May. The cutoff for survey responses was June 9th. A total of 275 usable surveys were received, for a response rate of 22.9 percent. Additional surveys were returned as undeliverable or were unusable.

Survey results were tabulated for all business services firms. The confidence interval for sampling error was calculated. The 95 percent confidence interval for the table of results is plus or minus 5.8 percentage points. Results are also subject to errors introduced by other factors such as the wording of questions and differences between survey respondents and non-respondents.