

# **Survey of State Government Research and Development: FY 2017**

## **Appendix. Survey Introduction Letter**

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**A Message from the  
U.S. Census Bureau and National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics**

We are requesting that your office appoint a coordinator for the **FY 2017 Survey of State Government Research and Development**. The U.S. Census Bureau is collaborating with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to collect research and development (R&D) expenditure information from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. You may recall that your state participated in the FY2016 survey. Your survey response will be compiled by the Census Bureau and forwarded to the NSF, the federal agency charged with collecting and reporting national R&D statistics. These statistics are used to measure states' contributions to our nation's science and technology base, a building block of a strong U.S. economy.

Your state coordinator will be asked to confirm the names and contact information for your state departments and agencies that are most likely to fund or conduct R&D activities. These departments and agencies will receive a web survey questionnaire asking about their R&D activities. The coordinator also serves as the authorizing official for your state's survey response after all departments and agencies complete their survey questionnaires. The coordinator may be called upon to assist the Census Bureau and the NSF to obtain responses from any delinquent agencies. A copy of the FY2017 survey questionnaire is included.

To ensure the NSF issues the most accurate statistics for your state's R&D investments, it is important that all agencies selected for the survey respond, even if they do not have qualifying R&D expenditures for fiscal year ending in 2017. Since each state is a unique legal and economic entity there are no standard methods for imputing R&D for any non-responding agencies. Therefore, any non-response may contribute to an undercount in official U.S. government statistics of your state's public investments in R&D.

Please contact Vicki Mills, Census Bureau project manager for this survey, with your state coordinator selection by e-mailing: [erd.sgrd@census.gov](mailto:erd.sgrd@census.gov) or calling 1-888-340-7525. Please respond by September 12, 2017. For the FY2016 survey, <<CONTACT NAME>> served as your state's survey coordinator.

**Thank you** in advance for your continuing help to complete a picture of our nation's R&D expenditures by state governments. You can find previous survey results and additional information on the NSF Web page: <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvystaterd/>.

Sincerely,

John R. Gawalt  
Director  
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics  
National Science Foundation

Nick Orsini  
Acting Associate Director  
Economic Programs  
U.S. Census Bureau