

# Statistics Bureau News Bulletin

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## The Second Pilot Survey for the 2009 Economic Census

The Economic Census will be launched in 2009 by integrating major censuses and statistical surveys such as the Establishment and Enterprise Census that has been conducted so far. The Economic Census aims to clarify comprehensively the economic activities of establishments and enterprises in all industrial sectors at the same time. The first Economic Census scheduled in 2009 is to grasp the existence of establishments and enterprises and their basic characteristics accurately. The results will be used as the survey frame for conducting the 2011 Economic Census, which will place emphasis on surveying accounting items.

The preparation for the 2009 Economic Census is now underway, and the second pilot survey for the Census was conducted as of 1 July 2008 to prepare for and to gain experiences of the census taking. The pilot survey enumerates all the establishments and enterprises in some selected areas.

In the Economic Census, headquarters of enterprises are asked to fill in the questionnaires not only for the headquarters themselves but also for their branches, if any, in respect of their economic activities. The survey is conducted through the following two channels:

) Survey by the enumerators

Enumerators will visit enterprises to deliver questionnaires and revisit them to collect the filled-in questionnaires.

) Survey by the central and local governments

The SBJ, prefectural governments or municipalities (cities and wards) will send either paper or electronic questionnaires by mail to the enterprises to be surveyed, and collect the filled-in questionnaires either by mail or through the Internet.