**Linking Additional Data Sources to the Business Register**

The Census Bureau is undergoing a significant transformation process to modernize and revolutionize how we do business to ensure we continually achieve our mission “To serve as the nation’s leading provider of quality data about its people and economy.”

Response rates are continuing to decline, jeopardizing not only data quality, but also the ability to publish granular statistics. Yet, in direct contrast, data users need more data, faster, and at lower geographical levels. To achieve this, we must increase our operational efficiencies by leveraging our existing data more effectively, while also harvesting new data sources

To facilitate this, a data infrastructure must exist that allows users to access and link various data sources. Correspondingly, sound methodologies for linking datasets must be developed and integrated into this infrastructure. We are constructing a prototype that allows the business register to continue to provide full coverage of the business populations, including linkages between statistical units and associated administrative data. This prototype will also include a collection of auxiliary data across multiple sources integrated with the master list of units. This will provide an enhanced statistical infrastructure that will strengthen research capabilities and promote innovation, simplify processes and systems, and promote managing data as a strategic asset. Existing statistical programs can leverage this robust foundation as they look to meet the demand for faster, relevant, and increased granularity in their data products.

This paper will discuss the various data sources under evaluation, methods and challenges used to link data from multiple sources, and the data architecture used to construct the prototype.

This paper will discuss the various data sources **currently being evaluated, methods for linking multiple data sources including challenges associated with the process,** and the data architecture used to construct the prototype."