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Entrepreneurship in the Population Survey

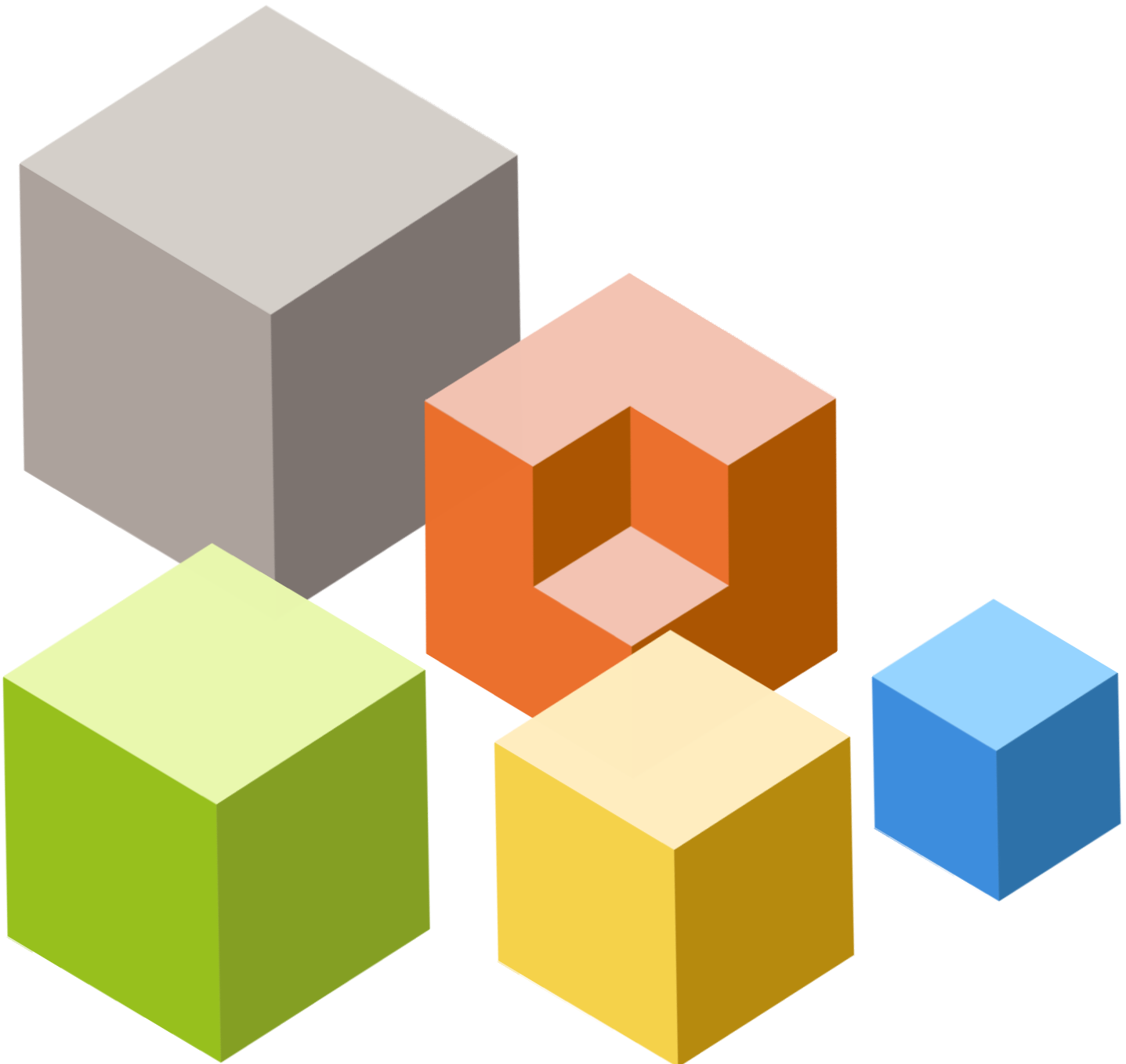
EPOP:2026 Data User Guide

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1. OVERVIEW

ABOUT THE EPOP SURVEY

The Entrepreneurship in the Population Survey, or EPOP Survey, has been conducted in 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026. EPOP:2026 is the final round and includes a longitudinal component that enables linking with the previous EPOP waves in the restricted use files.

The survey is designed to understand the scope of entrepreneurial activities from adults 18 years and older in United States and result in a variety of measures of entrepreneurial behavior including current and former business ownership, whether individuals are currently taking or have in the past taken steps towards starting a business, the extent to which individuals engage in freelance work, and engagement with the “gig economy.” In addition to capturing the characteristic profile of the individuals involved in these various entrepreneurial activities across the U.S., the survey collects information on the behaviors, challenges, and resources available to individuals during the entrepreneurial process.

Information about the EPOP Survey methods, data availability, publications, and access to data user support may be found on the project’s website: EPOP.norc.org.

EPOP SURVEY MANAGER AND CONSERVATOR

NORC at the University of Chicago (NORC) is developing and conducting the EPOP Survey Project with grant funding from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. NORC is responsible for collecting, maintaining, disseminating, and safeguarding the resulting EPOP Survey data. For the project, NORC is both the manager of the enterprise and conservator of the resulting data.

NORC is an independent research institution that delivers reliable data and rigorous analysis to guide critical programmatic, business, and policy decisions. We conduct objective, non-partisan research to help inform people in government, nonprofits, and businesses making decisions on key issues of the day. Our research addresses important issues like employment, education, and health care. Since 1941, NORC has conducted groundbreaking studies, created and applied innovative methods and tools, and advanced principles of scientific integrity and collaboration. Today, government, corporate, and nonprofit clients around the world partner with NORC to transform increasingly complex information into useful knowledge. For more information, visit NORC.org and connect with us via Twitter (twitter.com/norcnews) or Facebook (facebook.com/NORCatUofC).

SPONSOR AND PARTNER

The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation is a private, nonpartisan foundation based in Kansas City, MO., which seeks to prepare people for success in their jobs and careers, so that everyone

has the opportunity to achieve economic stability, mobility, and prosperity. Their work is grounded in the principles of racial equity, diversity, and inclusion and is consistent with the aspirations of their founder, Ewing Marion Kauffman.

For more information, visit their website at Kauffman.org or connect with Kauffman via Twitter (twitter.com/kauffmanfdn) or Facebook (facebook.com/kauffmanfdn).

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

EPOP survey data is available via both a restricted use data file (RUF) and a public use data file (PUF) for each annual survey including EPOP:2026. This document is designed to help data users analyze and better understand the EPOP:2026 data. For any survey methodology not covered in this document, see the full methodology report for the 2026 survey found on EPOP.norc.org.

2. EPOP SURVEY DESIGN AND RESPONSE RATES

TARGET POPULATION

The target population of the EPOP Survey includes noninstitutionalized adults 18 years or older in the United States.

The sample design supports the following estimation objective:

- National estimates of entrepreneurial activity by demographics such as race/ethnicity, gender, age, and education, but not necessarily by the cross of these demographic variables.

SAMPLE DESIGN

The EPOP:2026 survey sample was solely drawn from the AmeriSpeak panel, using sampling strata at the national level based on race/ethnicity, age, educational attainment, and sex. This is similar to EPOP:2025, but differs from previous waves:

- In EPOP:2022, 2023 and 2024, sample sources included AmeriSpeak, a probability-based sample, an address-based sample, and opt-in online survey panels.
 - In EPOP:2025 and EPOP:2026, the AmeriSpeak panel was the only sample source.
- EPOP:2022, 2023, and 2024 used a State and MSA sample design.
 - EPOP:2025 and EPOP:2026 used a national sample design designed to support national estimates.

Within each sampling stratum, sample selection considers the expected survey completion rates across the sampling strata. The size of the selected sample per stratum is determined such that the distribution of the complete surveys matches that of the target population as represented by the March 2024 Current Population Survey.¹ If a panel household has more than one active adult panel member, only one adult panel member is selected at random to complete the survey.

Samples selected from the AmeriSpeak Panel are probability samples with explicit stratification and known sample selection probabilities. As a result, EPOP:2026 only includes probability weights and not weights that combine probability and nonprobability samples. More information on prior round sample construction, including information regarding opt-in online survey panels and the ABS frame sources can be found in the EPOP:2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 Data User Guides.

¹ More information about the Current Population Survey may be found here: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/about.html>.

LONGITUDINAL SAMPLE

The EPOP:2026 introduced a longitudinal sample component to collect updated information from sample members relative to their reported activity in EPOP:2024 or EPOP:2025. Sample members were eligible to be selected for the EPOP:2026 longitudinal sample component if they completed either the EPOP:2024 or EPOP:2025 survey regardless of their entrepreneurial status reported in the prior cycle. Of the 12,961 eligible previous participants, 10,107 were selected to be in the longitudinal sample. The longitudinal sample comprises nearly 60% of the full EPOP:2026 sample. The remaining 6,814 invited panelists were selected to be a cross-sectional supplement to the longitudinal sample component.

DATA COLLECTION AND RESPONSE RATES

EPOP:2026 survey data collection began on February 20, 2026 and ended on March 11, 2026. Data were primarily collected via an online survey; computer-assisted telephone interviewing was a secondary mode and available upon request. The survey was available in both English and Spanish. All participants were compensated for their participation. The response rate for EPOP:2026 data collection was 59.1% for the full sample and 75.6% for the longitudinal sample.

3. SURVEY CONTENT

QUESTIONNAIRE CHANGES FROM EPOP:2025 TO EPOP:2026

Based on data review of the EPOP:2025 data, some minor updates were made to the EPOP:2026 questionnaire beyond adding items to capture longitudinal outcomes. Appendix B lists all survey item updates, including the specific change made, variable name, questionnaire section, and update type and category. The three main categories of updates are:

1. New items,
2. Removed items, and
3. Changes to existing items.

Changes to existing items include logic updates, question text changes and response option changes. Questions in new content areas included questions on individual income, and a set of questions that collected information on physical and mental health. Additionally, new questions asked current business owners and freelancers about their use of generative AI technologies. A new set of longitudinal questions were also included to collect information on entrepreneurial activity reported in the last survey completed by the respondent (either EPOP:2025 or EPOP:2024).

Data users should be aware that not all new questions are included in the EPOP:2026 Public Use File (PUF). To simplify the disclosure review process for the 2026 round, all longitudinal questions and administrative variables that would identify a case as part of the longitudinal sample are only included in the EPOP:2026 Restricted Use File (RUF).

Items related to generative AI use (TECH_1-TECH_10) are currently under review and these data items will be included in a future data release.

SCREENER

The screener section of the survey determines a respondent's working status (e.g., currently employed, retired, student, etc.) and, if working, their working arrangements and any potential entrepreneurial activities they might be engaged in. Through a multiple step process, the screener section identifies various possible entrepreneurial activities capturing current and former business ownership, current and former freelance/consultant/independent contracting work, and any current new business planning as well as situations where respondents were planning to start a business of some type at one point but withdrew from the planning process. Additionally, the screener was designed to capture flexible work arrangements provided by the gig economy.

In EPOP:2026, an additional set of screener questions was added to the survey instrument for longitudinal cases. These questions confirm the prior entrepreneurial activity reported in the last EPOP survey completed by the respondent since 2024 and help determine which follow-up

survey questions a respondent qualifies for. If a respondent reports entrepreneurial activities in the EPOP:2026 survey that conflict with their most-recent survey responses, they are asked to confirm the prior activities. For example, if a respondent reported being a current or former business owner in 2025 (DLI_CUR_ENTR = 1 OR DLI_FRM_ENTR = 1) but did not report being a current or former business owner in 2026, the longitudinal screener questions ask them to confirm activity reported in the prior round.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS MEASUREMENT

The EPOP Survey first establishes the respondent's work status by asking, *"In the last week, did you work for pay at a job or business?"* Following the results of Abraham and Amaya (2019), the questionnaire also asks, *"In the last week, did you do ANY work for pay, even for as little as one hour?"* By asking this follow-up question of respondents who report they are not working, the survey ensures more informal work activities are captured and asked about which is important for determining an accurate measurement of gig work and the full suite of entrepreneurial activities.

JOB TYPE AND GIG WORK MEASUREMENT

After establishing employment status, the EPOP survey collects key job information from those employed to construct a typology for entrepreneurs. This includes three main job types: (1) self-employed/business owner (respondents who indicate they either own their own business or are freelancers), (2) working for a for-profit or non-for-profit company, or (3) working for the government. This information is collected for both primary and secondary jobs.

Additionally, respondents are asked if the primary or secondary job is gig-work. Given the potential for lack of clarity in what counts as gig work, the survey includes extensive examples of gig work activities and includes a definition of gig work in the main text of the question:

"Some people earn money through short, paid tasks or jobs online or in-person that are conducted through companies that coordinate payment for the service. This is sometimes referred to as 'gig work.'"

A final question is asked to determine if respondents are engaged in gig work regardless of the prior responses about the primary and secondary jobs to ensure all gig work activities are reported even if that gig work is not the primary or secondary job.

ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITIES

Once job information has been captured, the EPOP Survey asks questions to gauge entrepreneurial activities directly. These survey items include a series of questions designed to determine if a respondent currently owns a business but does not work at it; has owned any sort of business enterprise in the past which is now closed; is planning a new business enterprise; or considered starting a business in the past but ultimately withdrew from the enterprise. In

EPOP:2023, the survey broadened the set of respondents asked former ownership and freelancer questions and nascent business owner questions to make each entrepreneurial activity fully independent of one another. More information on these screener changes are detailed in the EPOP 2023 User Guide, Subsection 3, “Significant Changes from EPOP:2022 to EPOP:2023”.

1. **Former business ownership and freelancer.** Respondents are asked if they have ever owned a business or freelanced and if so when this activity stopped. Importantly, some respondents at this step report they currently own a business even though it is not reported as a current job. This likely reflects individuals who are currently passive business owners, and owning the business is not considered a job. The results presented below combine these business owners with those who report business ownership as their primary or secondary job.
2. **Nascent entrepreneur.** To measure whether respondents are currently taking steps towards owning a business venture of any type, respondents are asked, “*Are you, alone or with others, currently trying to start a new business, including any form of self-employment, freelancing, consulting, or independent contracting, or selling any goods or services to others?*”
3. **Withdrawn entrepreneur.** Respondents are asked if they have ever considered starting a business, but withdrew from planning the enterprise: “*Have you, alone or with others, ever considered starting a new business, including any form of self-employment, freelancing, consulting, or independent contracting, or selling any goods or services to others but decided to wait or change your mind?*”

PATHWAYS AND PRIORITIZATION

The EPOP Survey screener is intentionally designed to capture the full range of entrepreneurial activities in which an individual might be engaged. As a result, some respondents qualify for multiple categories. To limit the burden on survey participants, each respondent is assigned to just one entrepreneurship category for follow-up survey questions using a priority order schema. That priority schema and description of each entrepreneurship category are presented here and shown in Table 1.

1 CURRENT BUSINESS OWNERS

Respondents who report they currently own a business. Importantly, some respondents report that they currently own a business even though it was not reported as a current job. This likely reflects individuals who are currently passive business owners, but for whom the business ownership is not considered a job. The results presented below combine these business owners with those who report business ownership as one of their two primary jobs. Therefore, “current

business owners” includes individuals who report that they still own a business even if it is not one of their two primary jobs.

2 CURRENT FREELANCERS

Respondents who report they are currently freelancers, consultants, or independent contractors. Like the current business owner category, this category includes individuals who report that they are freelancers, consultants, or contractors even if they do not report their freelance work as one of their two primary jobs.

3 NASCENT ENTREPRENEUR

To measure whether respondents are currently taking steps towards owning a business, respondents are asked “*Are you, alone or with others, currently trying to start a new business, including any form of self-employment, freelancing, consulting, or independent contracting, or selling any goods or services to others?*” For the purposes of survey categorization, this classification does not condition on specific steps being taken towards entrepreneurship (such as Bennet and Chatterji (2019)), but this information is available in the EPOP Survey’s follow-up questions. In this way, individual researchers can create measures suited to different definitions of nascent business development.

4 FORMER BUSINESS OWNERS

Respondents who answer they used to own a business but are no longer current business owners.

5 FORMER FREELANCER

Respondents who report they were at one time a freelancer, consultant, or independent contractor but are no longer engaged in freelance work.

6 WITHDRAWN ENTREPRENEUR

Respondents who answer yes to the following question regarding whether they have considered starting a business, “*Have you, alone or with others, ever considered starting a new business, including any form of self-employment, freelancing, consulting, or independent contracting, or selling any goods or services to others but decided to wait or change your mind?*”

7 NON-ENTREPRENEUR

Respondents who are not engaged in any of the previous six entrepreneurial activities. These respondents receive “general population” questions.

Table 1. Assigned Entrepreneurship Categories by Reported Entrepreneurship Activities

Survey Pathway Priority	Assigned Entrepreneurship Category	Total Surveys	Reported Entrepreneurship Activity					
			Current Business Ownership	Current Freelancing	Entrepreneurship Planning	Former Business Ownership	Former Freelancing	Withdrawn Entrepreneurship Planning
1	Current Business Owner	1,343	1,343	643	466	245	486	790
2	Current Freelancer	1,451	0	1,451	398	417	440	786
3	Nascent Entrepreneur	446	0	0	446	138	204	382
4	Former Business Owner	1,255	0	0	0	1,255	758	483
5	Former Freelancer	1,215	0	0	0	0	1,215	474
6	Withdrawn Entrepreneur	1,165	0	0	0	0	0	1,165
7	Non-Entrepreneur	3,124	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		9,999	1,343	2,094	1,310	2,055	3,103	4,080

Source: NORC, Entrepreneurship in the Population Survey: 2026.

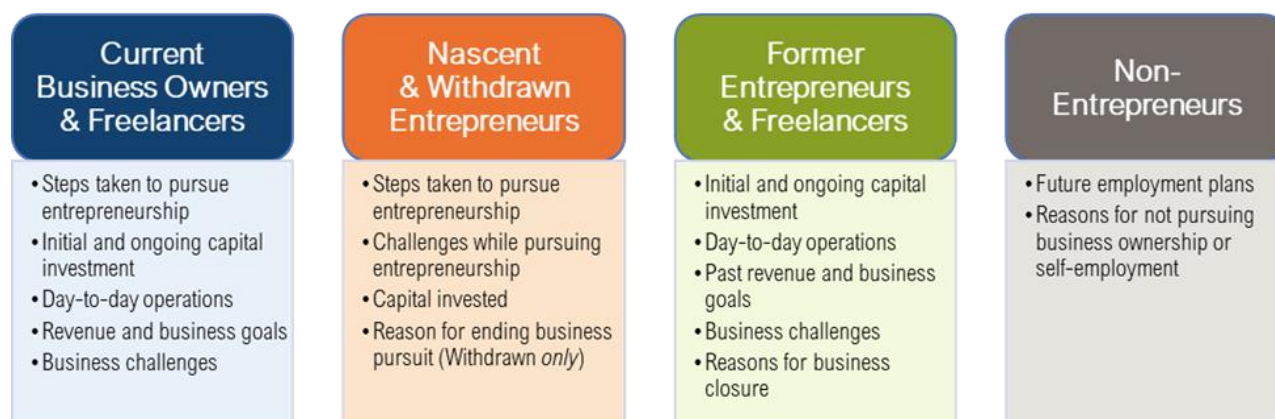
LONGITUDINAL PATHWAYS

The EPOP:2026 longitudinal design introduced new pathways for longitudinal cases. If longitudinal cases reported the same entrepreneurial activity in the 2026 survey as reported in their last completed survey (EPOP:2025 or EPOP_2024) the survey instrument skipped them out of key questions where the prior response would not have changed. In the EPOP:2026 PUF and RUF, these variables are filled with data from their most recent survey. For example, a respondent who reported that they are a former entrepreneur in 2026 and confirmed this is the same business they reported in the 2025 survey will not be asked again when they started their business (BO_STARTBIZ_1). The business start year variable will instead be filled with the start year they reported in 2025. A complete list of variables that were filled with prior-round responses can be found in Appendix x.

ANCILLARY QUESTIONS BY ENTREPRENEURSHIP CATEGORIES

The focus of the EPOP Survey ancillary or follow-up questions asked of each assigned entrepreneurship category is shown in Figure 1 and are briefly described below. Survey questions for current and former business owners and freelancers focus on concepts such as the operations and goals of the activities, whereas nascent and withdrawn entrepreneurs are asked more about concepts such as challenges starting a business. Non-entrepreneurs are asked more general questions about future employment plans as well as reasons for not pursuing business ownership or self-employment.

Figure 1. EPOP Survey Content Focus by Assigned Entrepreneurship Categories



PURSUING ENTREPRENEURSHIP SECTION

The questions in this section focus on the steps respondents took to pursue starting a business or working for themselves. The topics covered within this section are asked of current business owners and Freelancers as well as nascent and withdrawn entrepreneurs.

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP OPERATIONS SECTION

The questions in this section focus on the day-to-day operations of business owners and freelancers/consultants/independent contractors when their businesses were in full operation. For former business owners and freelancers, the questions pertained to the last year when their business was in operation. Specifically, the topics covered in this section include questions on when they started the business or self-employment and general descriptions of the type of business, legal status of the business, and how they came up with the idea for the business or self-employment.

For current and former business owners and freelancers, this section also asked for the types and amounts of additional financing they requested and/or received to continue the business or self-employment, the number and types of employees they used in their business, how much time they spent managing or working in their business, their revenue and profit/loss margin, their goals for the next five years, their biggest challenges facing their business (or former business), and their post-entrepreneurship plans and exit strategy.

Finally, all entrepreneurship categories were asked to indicate the industry that best classifies their current, former, or idea for a business.

NON-ENTREPRENEUR SECTION

The questions in this section focus on respondents who did not have any prior experience with business ownership and were not currently taking steps to own a business or be self-employed. These respondents are asked to provide reasons why they have not considered entrepreneurship

and to describe their current work arrangements including how long they've been in their current job, how many coworkers they have, how much they've worked in the past year, what type of benefits they receive with their work, and their likelihood of starting a new job or changing jobs in the future.

See Appendix A from a detailed graphic showing the question topics asked across all the assigned entrepreneurship groups.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The EPOP Survey asks a comprehensive set of demographic questions. The demographic questions asked at the start of the survey are critical for weighting and are considered primary. The remaining demographic survey items are asked last and considered secondary.

PRIMARY

For EPOP:2026, the sample was solely drawn from NORC's AmeriSpeak Panel. Because AmeriSpeak panel member data on age, education, ethnicity, and race were already known at the time of the survey, they were not asked again as part of the EPOP Survey questionnaire. The EPOP:2026 survey did include questions asking the gender at birth and current gender of respondents. Responses to current gender were combined with AmeriSpeak baseline survey responses to create a two-category gender variable that provided updated information but was consistent with the Statistical Disclosure Limitation (SDL) plan (for more information see the Data Protection section).

SECONDARY

Secondary demographic variables included student status, health insurance and benefits, debt amount, marital status, number of household members, number of children in the household, military status, and citizenship status. These secondary demographic questions were asked of all respondents from all sample types.

4. WORKING WITH EPOP DATA FILES

EPOP survey data is available via both a restricted use data file (RUF) and a public use data file (PUF) for each annual survey. Both data file types include variables for all survey questions in a format suitable for analysis without disclosure risk. Many variables in the RUF and PUF represent all response choices in the original survey questions. However, based on the need to protect respondent identity, question responses have been aggregated as necessary. In some cases, as with open-ended questions, variables were omitted entirely as the answers are unique to the respondent. The [EPOP:2026 Questionnaire](#) shows how the survey item was asked and the data file codebooks (described below) will show if any response options were aggregated for the restricted and public use analysis files. Together, these documents allow data users to clearly see where and how survey item aggregation was implemented.

The RUF provides more finely grained response options aligned more closely to the original response choices in the survey. To obtain the RUF, data file data users must undergo training on disclosure and publishing considerations and sign an agreement. (Please see the “Data Protection” section of this document for more information on the disclosure review process and disclosure considerations). The PUF presents some survey data items in broader categories. The PUF is available on the project website and is available to all interested data users without the need for a formal data use agreement.

ADMINISTRATIVE VARIABLES

Both the RUF and PUF contain a set of administrative variables. Administrative variables include information relevant to how the survey was administered, how data was edited, or sample information. Table 2 shows the administrative variables included in the files. More information on these variables is provided in the data codebooks.

Table 2. EPOP Survey Data File Administrative Variables

Variable Name	Variable Label	RUF or PUF
R_SUID	RESPONDENT ID	Both
SAMP_TYPE	EPOP SAMPLE TYPE	Both
PARTIAL_CASE	INDICTOR FOR PARTIAL COMPLETE CASES	Both
Q_LANGUAGE	SURVEY LANGUAGE	Both
Q_MODE	SURVEY MODE	Both

EPOP:2026 LONGITUDINAL EDITING INDICATORS

To improve the consistency and interpretability of longitudinal responses, two variables were added to the EPOP:2026 RUF to document edits applied to a subset of cases. These variables identify instances where responses were reviewed and, when necessary, edited to address inconsistencies in reported entrepreneurial activities across survey cycles or to protect the confidentiality of respondents PUF.

LONGIT_EDITNOTE

LONGIT_EDITNOTE documents cases in which reported entrepreneurial activities in EPOP:2026 appeared inconsistent with information previously reported in EPOP:2024 or EPOP:2025. The variable indicates whether a case was reassigned from the longitudinal sample to the cross-sectional sample, retained in the longitudinal sample despite inconsistencies, or required no editing because reported activities were consistent across survey cycles.

LONGIT_EDITNOTE values are as follows:

- 0** – Current and previously reported entrepreneurial activities are consistent across EPOP cycles.
- 1** – Conflicting entrepreneurial activity resulted in reassignment from the longitudinal sample to the cross-sectional sample.
- 2** – Potentially conflicting entrepreneurial activity was retained in the longitudinal sample.
- .** – Logical skip.

Cases coded 1 were reassigned from the longitudinal sample to the cross-sectional sample because they reported entrepreneurial activity in a prior EPOP cycle but did not report any entrepreneurial activity in EPOP:2026 (i.e., they were classified as members of the general population, DOV_GROUP = 7). In these situations, the discrepancy was considered substantial enough that the case was no longer suitable for inclusion in longitudinal analyses of entrepreneurial activity and the case was only considered part of the cross-sectional sample.

Cases coded 2 remained in the longitudinal sample despite reporting potentially inconsistent entrepreneurial activities across cycles. These discrepancies generally reflected plausible entrepreneurial transitions or redefining past entrepreneurial activity in hindsight. These cases were retained in the longitudinal sample.

Cases coded 0 reported entrepreneurial activities that were consistent with their prior survey responses and therefore required no longitudinal editing. Cases with a value of missing (.) represent logical skips.

FILTER_EDITNOTE

FILTER_EDITNOTE identifies cases in which selected screener variables were edited in the PUF to prevent users from inferring whether a respondent belonged to the longitudinal or cross-sectional sample. These edits were implemented solely for disclosure protection purposes to screener variables and do not affect respondent data contained in follow-up questions in the RUF.

In some instances, a respondent only confirmed their past entrepreneurial activity in a longitudinal question and not in the screener variables that defined entrepreneurial activity status in prior rounds. For example, if the respondent answers ‘yes’ to the question “In [prior round month and year] you reported...having owned a business, professional practice, or farm (excluding consultant, freelancer, and independent contractor work)” (S_FORMBIZ_CHK1) the indicator for being a former business owner is set only on past survey responses and not on the filters that are included in the PUF (e.g. S_FORMBIZ_1, S_FORMBIZ_2, or S_ADDBIZ_3). Because this response pattern could reveal that a case originated from the longitudinal sample, selected screener responses in the PUF were modified to align with prior reported entrepreneurial status. For example, a respondent who confirmed their prior status as a business owner in the longitudinal questions and is assigned an entrepreneurial activity status group of ‘former entrepreneur’ (DOV_GROUP = 4) based the longitudinal question S_FORMBIZ_CHK1 that is included only in the RUF. The screener questions included in the PUF would then contradict the assigned DOV_GROUP and reveal that case as longitudinal. To prevent this, current-round screener variables were edited based on their most recent survey data which aligned with a DOV_GROUP status of former entrepreneur. These edits maintained the internal consistency of the case while preventing PUF users from identifying a case as longitudinal.

FILTER_EDITNOTE values are as follows:

- 0** – Screener variables were not edited.
- 1** – One or more screener variables were edited to align with previously reported business-owner status.
- 2** – One or more screener variables were edited to align with previously reported freelancer status.
- .** – Logical skip.

MERGING EPOP 2026 LONGITUDINAL CASES WITH EPOP YEAR 4 AND 3 DATA

Users will be able to merge longitudinal cases with the EPOP Year 4 (2025) and EPOP: Year 3 (2024) RUF and PUF datafiles. A crosswalk of Year 3, 4, and 5 respondent IDs (R_SUID) is provided with the RUF download.

LOCATION VARIABLES

Both the RUF and the PUF include the respondents' residence location data. Each file includes a four-category Census region derived from the respondent's county or ZIP code. The RUF also includes a county and state variable. Some respondents provided their ZIP code if they could not identify their county. ZIP code was then linked to county. Note that many ZIP codes cross multiple counties. For these cases where county was identified from ZIP codes, the case was coded to the county with the highest population based on 2021 Census estimates. The derived variable ZIP_TO_M_COUNTY is set to '1' for these cases. Table 3 shows the location variables.

Table 3. EPOP Survey Location Variables

Variable Name	Variable Label	RUF or PUF
REGION_DRV	CENSUS REGION DERIVED FROM ZIP CODE	Both
COUNTY_DRV	COUNTY FIPS CODE DERIVED FROM ZIP CODE	Only RUF
DEM_STATE	RESPONDENT STATE	Only RUF

CHANGES TO YEAR 5 LOCATION VARIABLES

In EPOP:2022, 2023, and 2024 a nine-category Census division was included in the RUF and PUF files. Because of concerns regarding disclosure avoidance, EPOP:2026 uses a 4-category Census region variable. For more information, please reference the Data Protection section of this document.

WEIGHTING VARIABLES

In addition to the probability weight (WTPROB) and longitudinal weight (WTLONGIT), design variables (PSU, STRATA) are included to allow for calculating accurate standard errors (more information on the weighting process is in the "Weights" section of this document). Table 4 shows the available survey weight variables.

Table 4. EPOP Survey Weight Variables by Survey Years 1 Through 5

Variable Name	Variable Label	Included in EPOP:2022, 2023, 2024	Included in EPOP:2025, 2026
WTPROB	PROBABILITY SAMPLE WEIGHT: FOR WORK WITH ONLY ABS AND AMERISPEAK SAMPLES	Both	Both
WTLONGIT	LONGITUDINAL WEIGHT: APPLIES TO LONGITUDINAL CASES	n/a	n/a
STRATA	SAMPLING STRATA	Both	Both
PSU	PRIMARY SAMPLING UNIT (PSU)	Both	Both

CHANGES TO YEAR 5 WEIGHT VARIABLES

Similar to EPOP:2025, for EPOP:2026, the probability weight (WTPROB) is provided in both the RUF and PUF and is constructed consistently in both rounds. Additionally, a longitudinal weight (WTLONGIT) is provided in the RUF only for the 9,999 sample members in the longitudinal sample component.

DATA FILE CONVENTIONS

VARIABLE NAMES

In most instances, variable names within the RUF and PUF match each other and the variable names in the EPOP Survey Questionnaire. In instances when survey responses were aggregated to protect respondent confidentiality, variable names have been modified. For example, the original variable name in the questionnaire for the highest level of education is “DEM_EDU.” Both the RUF and PUF require a different level of aggregation based on disclosure considerations. The variable recoded for the RUF is appended with “_RUF.” The variable recoded for the PUF is appended with “_PUF.” When a variable is recoded using the same level of aggregation for both the RUF and the PUF, the variable name is appended with “_DRV.” For instance, the nine-category census division the same grouping for both the PUF and the RUF. This variable is named “REGION_DRV” in both files. Table 5 shows the variable name convention used to indicate which variables are modified for the RUF or PUF.

Beginning with the 2023 data collection round, additional naming conventions were developed to track differences between EPOP survey rounds. Efforts were made to use the same variable across rounds but in a small number of circumstances, this was not possible. In some instances, improvements to the survey content or flow required the use of new variable names and at times different aggregations were necessary to preserve respondent confidentiality during the disclosure review process. When this occurred, we added a ‘Y2’ to the variable to indicate that the content or the code-frame of this variable changed from the Year 1 round, EPOP:2022.

If a variable changed in Year 2 but underwent no further changes in the Year 3, the ‘Y2’ naming convention was retained. For example, the response options to the survey question “*Are you still working for yourself as a consultant, freelancer, or independent contractor either full-time or part-time?*” (S_FORMFREE_STAT_1) changed from Year 1 to Year 2. No further changes were made in Year 3, so the Year 2 variable name was retained. Therefore, the delivery variable name changed from ‘S_FORMFREE_STAT_1’ in Year 1 to ‘S_FORMFREE_STAT_1_Y2’ in Year 2 and remained ‘S_FORMFREE_STAT_1_Y2’ in Year 3. There were no further changes to the variable in Year 3, so the Year 2 name was retained. Therefore, variables that contain ‘Y2’ in the variable name, indicate a previously existing question had a variable format change from the Year 1 to the Year 2 but no further changes in the Year 3. Variables with a ‘Y3’ in the variable name indicate there was a change in a previously existing variable’s format from Year 2 to Year 3. Tables 5 and 6 provide examples of how the ‘Y2’ naming convention is used.

Table 5. EPOP Survey Data Variable Name Conventions indicating Aggregation

Variable Source	Name Convention	Example
Original Questionnaire Variable	No change	DEM_EDU
Aggregated for RUF	_RUF	DEM_EDU_RUF
Aggregated for PUF	_PUF	DEM_EDU_PUF
RUF Aggregations updated in Year 2, retained in Year 3 & 4	_Y2_RUF	BO_REVENUE_1_Y2_RUF
RUF Aggregations updated in Year 5	_Y5_RUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y5_RUF
PUF Aggregations updated in Year 2, retained in Year 3 & 4	_Y2_PUF	BO_REVENUE_1_Y2_PUF
PUF Aggregations updated in Year 3 and used in Year 4	_Y3_PUF	BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_Y3_PUF
Aggregated for RUF and PUF	_DRV	REGION_DRV

Table 6. EPOP Survey Data Variable Name Conventions indicating Across-Round Changes in Questionnaire Content

Variable Source	Name Convention	Example
EPOP Year 1, 2, and 3 variables	No change	PE_GIGREASON_1_1
EPOP Year 2 and 3	_Y2	PE_CHALLENGE_1_8_Y2
EPOP Year 3 variable	_Y3	PE_CAPITAL_5_1_Y3
EPOP Year 5 variable	_Y5	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y5_RUF

When merging files from multiple rounds together, these naming conventions will prevent data users from accidentally combining variables that have a different meaning. In some instances, variables that have answer choices specific to EPOP:2026 (i.e., Year 5) can be recoded and combined with Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, or Year 4 variables. Tables in Appendix C show which variables can be combined and provides guidance on how to combine these variables.

RESERVE CODES

When respondents skipped or refused questions or indicated they did not know the response to a question, the response is coded with a reserve code value. Similarly, data points that present a disclosure risk either in isolation or in combination with other data points are masked with a reserve code value. Table 7 shows the list of reserve codes used in the EPOP Survey data files.

Table 7. EPOP Survey Reserve Code Values

Reserve Code	Label
-3	Missing
-5	Don't Know
-7	Suppressed

DATA PROTECTION

To protect the EPOP Survey data from allowing the potential re-identification of respondents, these four Statistical Disclosure Limitation (SDL) techniques have been used:

1. **Recoding.** Recoding can be used for both categorical and continuous variables. For categorical variables, it involves combining smaller categories into larger categories. It can also be used for continuous variables to code numbers into categories.
2. **Local Suppression.** Local suppression creates missing values to replace some the values.
3. **Rounding.** Rounding is applied to continuous variables like numbers to make the data harder to re-identify.

4. **Micro-aggregation.** Micro-aggregation clusters records into small groups and then the average is released as the value for some of the sensitive units.

The variables that have undergone recoding, rounding, or micro-aggregation are indicated in the data files with variable names with the suffixes _PUF, _RUF, or _DRV (see Table 6). Variables that have undergone local suppression are in Table 8. All suppressed values in the PUF and RUF are indicated by -7 (see Table 7). For a full description of the various recoding schemas used in the PUF and RUF and the SDL methods used in the EPOP Survey data files, see the methodology report on EPOP.norc.org.

Table 8. EPOP Survey Restricted and Public Data File Suppression Count by Variable

Variable Name	Suppression Case Counts
RUCC_DRV	42
DEM_AGE	10
RACE	0
DEM_GENDER	0
DEM_EDU	185
DEM_MARITAL	149
DEM_HHINC	138
DEM_INDINC	138
DEM_MILITARY_1	175
DEM_CITIZEN	163
DEM_HOUSEHOLD_2_Y2_DRV	2
DEM_NUMCHILD_DRV	1
DEM_HOUSECHILDB_DRV	2
DEM_STUDENT	53
BO_INDUSTRY1	89
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_1	36
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_2	17
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_3	20
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_4	0
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_5	20
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_6	5
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_7	9

Variable Name	Suppression Case Counts
BO_EMPLOYEES_1_8	4
BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_Y3_PUF	87
BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y4_PUF	53
BO_WORKHOME_1	43
BO_PLMARGIN_1	2
BO_REVENUE_1_Y2_PUF	23
DEM_DISABILITY_1A_PUF	15
DEM_DISABILITY_1B_PUF	38
DEM_DISABILITY_1C_PUF	31
DEM_DISABILITY_1D_PUF	20
DEM_DISABILITY_1E_PUF	58
DEM_DISABILITY_1F_PUF	66
DEM_DISABILITY_1G_PUF	54

Suppressed values are noted with a value of -7 in the data except in cases where only one category is suppressed. When only one category of the variable is suppressed, suppressed cases are coded as -3 so they are intermixed with other missing values.

WEIGHTS

DEVELOPMENT OF WEIGHTS

The EPOP:2026 survey data contains two sets of probability sample weights for the AmeriSpeak sample – one for cross-sectional and one for longitudinal analysis. The cross-sectional weight is provided for the full sample, and the longitudinal weight is provided only for respondents who completed EPOP:2025 or EPOP:2024 and were considered part of the longitudinal sample. The cross-sectional weight is included in both the PUF and RUF files, whereas the longitudinal weight is included in only the RUF file. For more information on the creation of weights in prior rounds, please reference the EPOP:2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 User Guides.

Creation of the sample weights follows these steps:

1. **AmeriSpeak sample base weights.** For the non-longitudinal portion of the sample, the sample base weight is computed as the AmeriSpeak Panel weights divided by the probabilities of selection from the AmeriSpeak Panel to the study sample. For the longitudinal portion of the sample. The sample base weight is computed as the final

probability weight from previous EPOP year divided by the probabilities of selection to the study sample.

2. ***Adjustment for interview nonresponse.*** The interview nonresponse adjustments inflated the weights w_{2i} assigned to eligible complete cases so that they represented the incomplete cases among the eligible sample members. Nonresponse adjustments required information about both respondents and nonrespondents. Baseline survey responses for the AmeriSpeak panel sample provided information on nonrespondents.

For the AmeriSpeak sample, adjustment cells were constructed by cross-classifying:

- a. *Sample Type* (Longitudinal, Non-Longitudinal),
 - b. *Race/Ethnicity* (Hispanic/Non-Hispanic Black, and All Other),
 - c. *Age* (18-34, 35-64, 65 and older),
 - d. *Education* (Some college or less and bachelor's degree or above) and,
 - e. *Gender* (Male and Female).
3. ***Raking to derive probability sample final weights.*** Raking benchmarks are developed using the 2024 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year estimates. Raking adjustments are conducted at the national-level using these dimensions:
 - a. Race and Ethnicity (Non-Hispanic White, Non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, Non-Hispanic Other)
 - b. Gender (Male, Female)
 - c. Age (18-24, 26-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-64, 65+)
 - d. Education (Less than High School, High School/GED, Some College, and BA and Above)
 - e. Number of Adults in Household (1 adult in Household, 2 adults in Household, 3 or more adults in Household)
 - f. Census Division (New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, West North Central, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, Mountain, and Pacific)
 - g. Age by Gender (18-34, 35-49, 50-64, 65+ by Male, Female)
 - h. Age by Race (18-34, 35-49, 50-64, 65+ by Non-Hispanic White, All Other)
 - i. Race by Gender (Non-Hispanic White, All Other by Male, Female)
 - j. MSA (50 most populous metropolitan areas, remainder)

The longitudinal and full cross-sectional sample are separately raked to the above benchmarks, so that each sample is representative of the U.S. population of adults 18 and over.

Survey weights are developed to reduce estimation bias that could arise from unequal selection probabilities, nonresponse, and frame coverage errors. However, excessive weight variation could increase the total sampling error by inflating the variance of the estimates. For that reason,

at the final stage of the weighting process, extreme final weights greater than the median ± 10 times the interquartile range were trimmed so that extreme weights do not overly influence the survey estimates.

HOW TO USE WEIGHTS

The final EPOP:2026 analysis data contains 9,999 records, of which 7,411 are in the longitudinal sample. The provided weight (WTPROB) can be used to generate approximately unbiased estimates of the population. The longitudinal weight (WTLONGIT) should be used when creating longitudinal estimates.

Any software package that can handle sample weights should produce correct weighted point estimates. The probability sample weights are available in both the restricted use file and public use file.

VARIANCE ESTIMATION

The EPOP Survey uses a complex sample design that needs to be accounted for in variance estimation. Otherwise, statistical software will likely underestimate standard errors of estimates. To facilitate variance estimation, we provide sample weights as well as two design variables: PSU and STRATA.

For samples selected from the AmeriSpeak Panel, these variables are pseudo-PSUs and pseudo STRATA that are defined to represent the first stage PSUs and STRATA associated with the NORC National Frame (Master Sample) that was used as the sampling frame for AmeriSpeak Panel recruitment sampling. Using PSU and STRATA with the probability sample weights will provide approximately unbiased variance estimates.

Standard variance estimation method can be used to approximate the variance of estimates based on the probability sample. NORC can provide additional information to support proper variance estimation.

The sample code provided in Figure 2 shows examples of how variable AVAR can be analyzed using corrections for weighting and sample design in R and Stata. This example uses the probability sample with the corresponding weight variable, WTPROB. SAS users can use PROC SURVEYFREQ and PROC SURVEYMEANS to calculate the design-corrected standard errors.

Figure 2. EPOP Survey Sample Stata and R Code

STATA

Load data	<code>use EPOP_YR54_PUF.dta, clear</code>
Set survey design	<code>svyset [pweight=WTPROB], /// strata(STRATA) psu(PSU) singleunit(scaled)</code>
Weighted mean	<code>svy: mean AVAR</code>
Weighted percentage	<code>svy: proportion AVAR</code>
Weighted total	<code>svy: total AVAR</code>

Weighted one-way table	svy: tabulate AVAR
Subset mean	svy, subpop (if SUBGROUP==1): mean AVAR
Specifying subgroups	svy: mean AVAR, over(GROUPVAR)

R

Install & load required packages	install.packages(c("tidyverse", "survey")) library(haven) library(survey)
Load data	mydata <- read_dta("EPOP_YR54_PUF.dta")
Set survey design	mydesign <- svydesign(id = ~PSU, weights = ~WTPROB, strata = ~STRATA, data = mydata, nest = TRUE)
Singleton PSU correction	options(survey.lonely.psu = "adjust")
Weighted mean	svymean(~AVAR, mydesign, na.rm = TRUE)
Weighted total	svytotal(~AVAR, mydesign, na.rm = TRUE)
Weighted one-way table	svytable(~AVAR, mydesign)
Subset mean	svymean(~AVAR, subset(mydesign, SUBGROUP == 1), na.rm = TRUE)
Specifying subgroups	svyby(~AVAR, by = ~GROUPVAR, mydesign, svymean)

Statistical software may return errors when conducting variance estimation on subsamples and/or variables with a large number of observations with missing values. STRATA and PSU were created so that there was a minimum number of respondents within a STRATA/PSU cell. However, if all respondents within a cell are missing on a variable, it will be impossible to calculate the standard error. This is sometimes referred to as a “lonely PSU” or “singleton PSU.” If the dataset is subset (to current entrepreneurs, for example), this error becomes more likely to happen. In these situations, you may receive an error such as this:

STATA error handling: "missing standard error because of stratum with single sampling unit"

The best workaround to avoid this type of error is to manually combine the single-PSU stratum with a similar stratum. Alternatively, the sample code provided addresses the lonely PSU issue using automatic adjustments. In Stata, the correction is made with the svyset option “singleunit(scaled)” and in R, with the command “options (survey.lonely.psu = “adjust”).” These methods of adjustment involve taking variance averages from stratum with multiple sampling units. Users should refer to their software documentation for more information on automatic adjustment methods before implementing them in their own research.

DATA FILE FORMATS

Both the RUF and PUF are available in three file formats: .csv, SAS, and STATA. Each file provides a different set of meta-data requiring different accompanying programs. As an example, the PUF package will include the data files and formatting programs shown in Table 9.

Table 9. EPOP Survey PUF Package File and Formatting Program Contents

File	Name
CSV data file	EPOP_YR5PUF.csv
STATA data file with formatting applied	EPOP_YR5_PUF.dta
SAS data file	EPOP_YR5_PUF.sas7bdat
SAS program containing labels	EPOP_YR5_PUF_LABELS.sas
SAS program containing formats	EPOP_YR5_PUF_FORMATS.sas
SAS program to apply labels & formats	EPOP_YR5_PUF_APPLY_FORMATS_LABELS.sas

USING THE .CSV DATA FILE

Users of the .csv can refer to the variable names in the header column and review the data codebooks to retrieve variable format information.

USING THE STATA DATA FILE

The STATA file provided is a formatted file. The file contains all labels and format information. STATA users can simply import that file and run frequencies to review variable formats and variable labels.

USING THE SAS DATA FILE

Users of the SAS file may apply label and variable format information by applying the provided label and format definitions. To do this, open the provided SAS program ‘EPOP_YR5_PUF_APPLY_FORMATS_LABELS.sas’ and update the folder reference to the location where the data user has saved the EPOP data files and programs. Then run the program to apply the formatting information.

CODEBOOKS

A separate codebook is provided for the RUF and PUF. Each codebook includes an index of all variables included in the file. For each variable, a table is presented containing the variable name, variable label, original question text, and any survey skip logic. For most variables, a frequency table was the appropriate format to report answer choices. Each frequency table includes unweighted and weighted counts and percentages for each response choice and reserve code (i.e., -3-missing, -5-don’t know, -7-suppressed). Continuous variables were reported as a table containing descriptive statistics: valid n, mean, median, min, max. Variables that were not continuous but contained many categories (e.g., the case identifier [R_SUID]) were reported in a frequency table where rows were grouped by valid and reserve code categories.

DATA USER SUPPORT

If you are having issues accessing the link for the PUF, specific files that were sent, or you have other questions about the EPOP Survey data or methods, please contact the EPOP research team at EPOPresearch@norc.org.

5. REPORTING, DISSEMINATION AND FUTURE FILES

ABBREVIATIONS AND CITATIONS

The full title of the survey is “The Entrepreneurship in the Population Survey” and the abbreviation is EPOP Survey. In referencing a specific year, follow these standards:

Full Project Title: **The Entrepreneurship in the Population Survey Project: 2026**

Project Abbreviation: **EPOP Survey**

Survey Cycle

Abbreviation: **EPOP:2026**

User Guide Citation: **“Entrepreneurship in the Population Survey User Guide: 2026.”**
NORC at the University of Chicago. June 30, 2026.
EPOP.norc.org.

Data File Citations: **“Entrepreneurship in the Population (EPOP) Survey Project**
Restricted Use Data File: <year>.” NORC at the University of
Chicago. <month> <day>, <year>. EPOP.norc.org.

“Entrepreneurship in the Population (EPOP) Survey Project Public
Use Data File: <year>.” NORC at the University of Chicago.
<month> <day>, <year>. EPOP.norc.org.

EPOP WEBSITE: NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

The EPOP Survey project website at EPOP.norc.org posts up-to-date news and information on research using the EPOP Survey data. As researchers use the data to write journal articles, research briefs, book chapters, presentations, and other products, the EPOP research team will post links to their publications on the website at their request.

Other individuals and organizations—in government, non-profit, and for-profit sectors—will also find EPOP data compelling. Ideally, they will use the data for a variety of purposes including policy action, advocacy, media releases, and proposals. Should changes to policies or programs be made based on the EPOP Survey data, the EPOP research team would appreciate being notified and will create a post about it, if permissible.

WHERE TO FIND OTHER PUBLICATIONS

As the EPOP Survey data gets analyzed by NORC and other researchers and mentioned by news media, a repository of EPOP related research, publications and media mentions will be available on the EPOP website: EPOP.norc.org.

PUBLISH YOUR ANALYSIS ON THE EPOP WEBSITE

The EPOP research team welcomes information on research using EPOP Survey data. Please contact EPOPresearch@norc.org if you have analyzed EPOP data and would like your research displayed on the website.

ANTICIPATED DATA RELEASE SCHEDULE

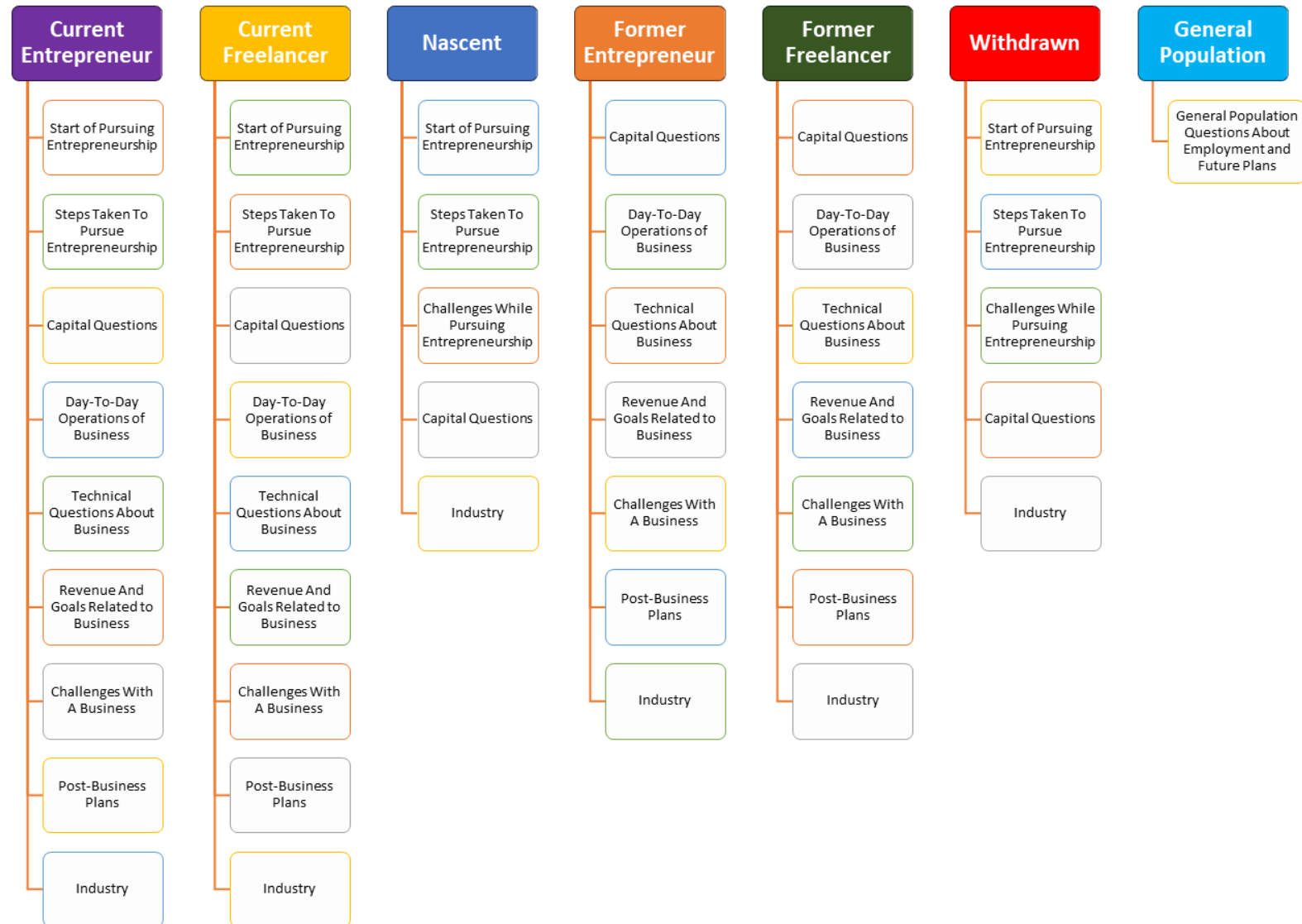
The EPOP:2026 RUF is the only forthcoming data file, and it is expected to be available for qualified users as of mid-September 2026. Should there be changes to this schedule or any continuation of EPOP, information will be posted on the project website: EPOP.norc.org.

REFERENCES

- Abraham, K.G. and Amaya, A., (2019). Probing for Informal Work Activity. *Journal of Official Statistics*, 35(3), pp.487-508. <https://doi.org/10.2478/jos-2019-0021>.
- “Entrepreneurship in the Population (EPOP) Survey Project Questionnaire: 2022.” NORC at the University of Chicago. October 12, 2022. [EPOP.norc.org](https://www.norc.uchicago.edu/ePOP).
- “Entrepreneurship in the Population (EPOP) Survey Project Questionnaire: 2023.” NORC at the University of Chicago. October 12, 2023. [EPOP.norc.org](https://www.norc.uchicago.edu/ePOP).

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A: ENTREPRENEURSHIP PATHWAYS AND TOPICAL AREAS IN EPOP:2026



APPENDIX B: SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE CHANGES FROM EPOP:2025 TO EPOP:2026

No.	Change	Variable	Section	Type	Category
1	New Longitudinal question	S_FORMBIZ_CHK1	Longitudinal Screener	New Item	New Item
2	New Longitudinal question	S_ADDBIZ_CHK1	Longitudinal Screener	New Item	New Item
3	New Longitudinal question	S_FORMFREE_CHK1	Longitudinal Screener	New Item	New Item
4	New Longitudinal question	S_ADDFREE_CHK1	Longitudinal Screener	New Item	New Item
5	New Longitudinal question	S_WITHDRAW_CHK1	Longitudinal Screener	New Item	New Item
6	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_MULTI_DLI	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
7	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
8	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
9	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
10	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
11	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A3_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
12	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_B1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
13	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_B1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
14	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_B2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
15	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_B2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
16	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_B2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
17	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_C1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
18	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_C1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
19	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_C2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
20	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_C2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
21	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_C2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
22	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_D1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
23	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_D2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
24	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_D2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
25	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_D2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
26	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_D3_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
27	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_E2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
28	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_E2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
29	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_F2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
30	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_F2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
31	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_G2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
32	New Longitudinal question	CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_G2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
33	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_MULTI_DLI	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
34	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_A2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item

No.	Change	Variable	Section	Type	Category
35	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_A2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
36	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_B1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
37	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_B1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
38	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_B2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
39	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_B2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
40	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_C1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
41	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_C1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
42	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_C2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
43	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_C2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
44	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_D2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
45	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_D2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
46	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_E2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
47	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_E2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
48	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_F2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
49	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_F2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
50	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_G2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
51	New Longitudinal question	NASCENT_CHANGE_G2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
52	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_MULTI_DLI	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
53	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_A1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
54	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_A2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
55	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_A2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
56	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_A2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
57	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_B1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
58	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_B1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
59	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_B2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
60	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_B2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
61	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_B2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
62	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_C1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
63	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_C1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
64	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_C2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
65	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_C2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
66	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_C2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
67	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
68	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
69	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
70	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D2_3	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item

No.	Change	Variable	Section	Type	Category
71	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_E2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
72	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_E2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
73	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_F2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
74	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_F2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
75	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_G2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
76	New Longitudinal question	FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_G2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
77	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_MULTI_DLI	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
78	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_B1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
79	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_B1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
80	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_B2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
81	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_B2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
82	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
83	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1_CONF	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
84	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
85	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
86	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_F2_1	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
87	New Longitudinal question	WITHDRAW_CHANGE_F2_2	Longitudinal	New Item	New Item
88	New Business Operations Item	BO_BIZNAME_1	Business Operations	New Item	New Item
89	Changed the acceptable number range to 1920-2026 instead of 1920-2025.	S_FORMSTAT_2	Screener	Changed Item	Range Option Change
90	Changed the acceptable number range to 1920-2026 instead of 1920-2025.	S_FORMFREE_STAT_2	Screener	Changed Item	Range Option Change
91	Changed the acceptable number range to 1920-2026 instead of 1920-2025.	BO_STARTBIZ_1	Business Operations	Changed Item	Range Option Change
92	Changed the logic for qualifying as a microbusiness from “(BO_EMPLOYEES_1 = 10 OR (SUM(BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_A : BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_B) < 10 AND SUM(BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_A : BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_B) >= 0))” to “ SUM(BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_A : BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_B) < 10 AND SUM(BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_A : BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_B) >= 0”. The logic for those who do not qualify was also changed from “IF DOV_GROUP=1 AND	DOV_MICROBIZ	Business Operations	Removed Item	Removed Item

No.	Change	Variable	Section	Type	Category
	ANY(BO_EMPLOYEES_1_1 THROUGH BO_EMPLOYEES_1_2) = 1) AND ALL ANY (BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_A THROUGH BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_B) = 777777, 999998, 999999,MISSING” to “IF DOV_GROUP=1 AND ANY(BO_EMPLOYEES_1_1 THROUGH BO_EMPLOYEES_1_2) = 1 AND ANY (BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_A THROUGH BO_NUMEMPLOY_1_B) = 777777, 999998, 999999”.				
93	Removed Year 4 Item	BO_IMPACT_1	Business Operations/ Microbusiness	Removed Item	Removed Item
94	Removed Year 4 Item	BO_IMPACT_2_1 through BO_IMPACT_2_4	Business Operations/ Microbusiness	Removed Item	Removed Item
95	Removed Year 4 Item	BO_TAX_FILING_1	Business Operations/ Microbusiness	Removed Item	Removed Item
96	Removed Year 4 Item	BO_SERVICES_1_1 through BO_SERVICES_1_12	Business Operations/ Microbusiness	Removed Item	Removed Item
97	Removed Year 4 Item	BO_SERVICES_2	Business Operations/ Microbusiness	Removed Item	Removed Item
98	Removed Year 4 Item	BO_SERVICES_3	Business Operations/ Microbusiness	Removed Item	Removed Item
99	New Item	REMOTE_1_Y5	Non-Entrepreneurial Focus	New Item	New Item
100	New Item	REMOTE_2_Y5	Non-Entrepreneurial Focus	New Item	New Item
102	Changed the question wording	GP_EMP_BENEFIT_Y5	Non-Entrepreneurial Focus	Changed Item	Changed Item
103	Changed the question wording	TECH_1_Y5	Business Technology	Changed Item	Changed Item
104	Changed the question and response option wording	TECH_2_Y5	Business Technology	Changed Item	Changed Item
105	Changed the response option wording	TECH_3_Y5	Business Technology	Changed Item	Changed Item
106	Changed the response option wording	TECH_4_Y5	Business Technology	Changed Item	Changed Item

No.	Change	Variable	Section	Type	Category
107	Changed the response option wording	TECH_5_Y5	Business Technology	Changed Item	Changed Item
108	Changed the question wording	TECH_6_Y5	Business Technology	Changed Item	Changed Item
109	New business technology question	TECH_9A_Y5	Business Technology	New Item	New Item
110	New business technology question	TECH_9B_Y5	Business Technology	New Item	New Item
111	Removed business technology item	TECH_9	Business Technology	Removed Item	Removed Item
112	Removed business technology item	TECH_11	Business Technology	Removed Item	Removed Item
113	Removed business technology item	TECH_12	Business Technology	Removed Item	Removed Item
114	New demographics item	DEM_INDINC	Demographics	New Item	New Item
115	New demographics item	DEM_GENERAL_HEALTH_1	Demographics	New Item	New Item
116	New demographics item	DEM_MENTAL_HEALTH_1	Demographics	New Item	New Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_BACKGROUND_1	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_BACKGROUND_2	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_BACKGROUND_3	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_BACKGROUND_4	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_HRM_1	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_HRM_2	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_HRM_3	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_CHALLENGES	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item
	Removed AEO Item	AEO_CHALLENGES_OPEN	AEO	Removed Item	Removed Item

APPENDIX C: CROSS ROUND VARIABLE CHANGES TO REFERENCE WHEN COMPARING OR MERGING DATA FROM EPOP:2022 TO EPOP:2026

Table C-1. EPOP Round Specific Variable Names For Cross-Round Merging

Survey Section	Entrepreneurial Activity Reported in 2026 and Prior Cycle	2026 Current Entrepreneurial Activity (DOV_GROUP)	Conditional Fill Logic	Variables Filled with Prior Round Data Based on Logic
Pursuing entrepreneurship	Same owned business, same nascent business idea, or same withdrawn business idea as in most-recent survey round.	1 “current business owner” 2 “current freelancer” 3 “nascent entrepreneur” 6 “withdrawn entrepreneur”	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,3, or 6 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or NASCENT_CHANGE_B1 = 1 or WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1 = 1) DOV_GROUP = 1,2,3,4,5, or 6 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or NASCENT_CHANGE_B1 = 1 or WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1 = 1 or FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D1 = 1)	PE_EMPSTAT_1, PE_EMPSTAT_2, PE_REASONS_1 through PE_REASONS_3, ENTR_EXPERIENCE_1 through ENTR_EXPERIENCE_3
Pursuing entrepreneurship	Same owned business, Same nascent business idea, same withdrawn business idea, or same former business as in most-recent survey round.	1 “current business owner” 2 “current freelancer” 3 “nascent entrepreneur” 4 “former business owner” 5 “former freelancer” 6 “withdrawn entrepreneur”	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,3,4,5, or 6 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or NASCENT_CHANGE_B1 = 1 or WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1 = 1 or FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D1 = 1)	PE_MOTIVE_1A through PE_MOTIVE_1D, PE_CAPITAL_1, PE_CAPITAL_INSTITUTION_1, PE_GRANT_TYPE_1, PE_CAPITAL_WS, PE_CAPITAL_2- PE_CAPITAL_7
Pursuing entrepreneurship	Same owned business or Same withdrawn business idea as in most-recent survey round.	1 “current business owner” 2 “current freelancer” 3 “nascent entrepreneur” 6 “withdrawn entrepreneur”	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,3, or 6 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1 = 1)	PE_STEPS_1 through PE_STEPS_8, PE_STEPS_REASONS_A through PE_STEPS_REASONS_F
Pursuing entrepreneurship	Same withdrawn business idea as in most-recent survey round.	6 “withdrawn entrepreneur”	DOV_GROUP = 6 and WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1 = 1	PE_STOPREASON_1- PE_STOPREASON_3

Survey Section	Entrepreneurial Activity Reported in 2026 and Prior Cycle	2026 Current Entrepreneurial Activity (DOV_GROUP)	Conditional Fill Logic	Variables Filled with Prior Round Data Based on Logic
Business Operations	Same owned business or same former business as in most-recent survey round.	1 "current business owner" 2 "current freelancer" 4 "former business owner" 5 "former freelancer"	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,4, OR 5 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D 1 = 1)	BO_STARTBIZ_1
Business Operations	Same owned business or same former business as in most-recent survey round.	1 "current business owner" 4 "former business owner"	DOV_GROUP = 1 or 4 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D 1 = 1)	BO_ACQOWN_1
Business Operations	Same former business as in most-recent survey round.	1 "current business owner" 4 "former business owner"	DOV_GROUP = 1 OR 4 and FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D 1 =	BO_OWNERSHIP_1, BO_OWNERSHIP_2, BO_LEGALSTAT_1, BO_BIZTYPE_1, BO_EMPBENEFIT_1, BO_EMPBENEFIT_HEALT HINS_1, BO_EMPBENEFIT_HEALT HINS_2
Business Operations	Same former business as in most-recent round.	1 "current business owner" 2 "current freelancer" 4 "former business owner" 5 "former freelancer"	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,4, OR 5 and FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D 1 = 1	BO_WORKHOME_1, BO_ADDFINANCE_1, BO_ADDFINANCE_2, BO_ADDFINANCE_INSTIT UTION_1, BO_GRANT_TYPE_1, BO_ADDFINANCE_WS, BO_ADDFINANCE_3 through BO_ADDFINANCE_8, BO_EMPLOYEES_1, BO_NUMEMPLOY_1, BO_ONLINE_1, REMOTE_3, BO_PLMARGIN_1, BO_CHALLENGE_1 through BO_CHALLENGE_7, BO_CHALLENGE_END, BO_REASONS_1, BO_REASONS_2, BO_NUMPREVBIZ_1
Business Operations	Same owned business, same nascent business idea, or same withdrawn	1 "current business owner" 2 "current freelancer" 3 "nascent entrepreneur"	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,3,4,5, or 6 and (CUR_ENTR_CHANGE_A1 = 1 or NASCENT_CHANGE_B1 =	BO_BIZEMERGE_1, BO_COLLAB_1

Survey Section	Entrepreneurial Activity Reported in 2026 and Prior Cycle	2026 Current Entrepreneurial Activity (DOV_GROUP)	Conditional Fill Logic	Variables Filled with Prior Round Data Based on Logic
	business idea as in most-recent survey round.	4 "former business owner" 5 "former freelancer" 6 "withdrawn entrepreneur"	1 or WITHDRAW_CHANGE_C1 = 1)	
Business Operations	Same former business as in most-recent survey round.	4 "former business owner" 5 "former freelancer"	DOV_GROUP = 4 OR 5 and FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D1 = 1	BO_WEEKSWK_2, BO_HOURSWK_2, BO_REVENUE_2, BO_PRIMARYINC_2, BO_POSTPLANS_2, BO_EXITSTRAT_1
Business Operations	Same former business as in most-recent survey round.	1 "current business owner" 2 "current freelancer" 3 "nascent entrepreneur" 4 "former business owner" 5 "former freelancer" 6 "withdrawn entrepreneur"	DOV_GROUP = 1,2,3,4,5, or 6 and FORM_ENTR_CHANGE_D1 = 1	BO_INDUSTRY_1

Table C-2. EPOP Round Specific Variable Code Frames Across EPOP:2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026

EPOP:2022 Variable Name & Response Values	EPOP:2023 Variable Name & Response Values	EPOP:2024 Variable Name & Response Values	EPOP:2025 Variable Name & Response Values	EPOP:2026 Variable Name & Response Values
BO_STARTBIZ_1_PUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y2_PUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y3_PUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y4_PUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y5_PUF
1: Before 1980	1: Before 1990	1: Before 1990	1: Before 1990	1: Before 1990
2: 1980-1989	2: 1990-1999	2: 1990-1999	2: 1990-1999	2: 1990-1999
3: 1990-1999	3: 2000-2009	3: 2000-2009	3: 2000-2009	3: 2000-2009
4: 2000-2009	4: 2010-2014	4: 2010-2014	4: 2010-2014	4: 2010-2014
5: 2010-2014	5: 2015-2016	5: 2015-2016	5: 2015-2016	5: 2015-2016
6: 2015-2016	6: 2017-2018	6: 2017-2018	6: 2017-2018	6: 2017-2018
7: 2017-2018	7: 2019	7: 2019	7: 2019-2021	7: 2019-2021
8: 2019	8: 2020	8: 2020	8: 2022-2024	8: 2022-2024
9: 2020	9: 2021	9: 2021	9: 2025	9: 2025-2026
10: 2021	10: 2022-2023	10: 2022-2024		
BO_STARTBIZ_1_RUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y2_RUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y3_RUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y4_RUF	BO_STARTBIZ_1_Y5_RUF
1: Before 1970	1: Before 1980	1: Before 1980	1: Before 1980	1: Before 1980
2: 1970-1979	2: 1980-1989	2: 1980-1989	2: 1980-1989	2: 1980-1989
3: 1980-1989	3: 1990-1999	3: 1990-1999	3: 1990-1999	3: 1990-1999
4: 1990-1999	4: 2000-2009	4: 2000-2009	4: 2000-2009	4: 2000-2009
5: 2000-2009	5: 2010	5: 2010	5: 2010	5: 2010
6: 2010	6: 2011	6: 2011	6: 2011	6: 2011
7: 2011	7: 2012	7: 2012	7: 2012	7: 2012
8: 2012	8: 2013	8: 2013	8: 2013	8: 2013
9: 2013	9: 2014	9: 2014	9: 2014	9: 2014
10: 2014	10: 2015	10: 2015	10: 2015	10: 2015
11: 2015	11: 2016	11: 2016	11: 2016	11: 2016
12: 2016	12: 2017	12: 2017	12: 2017	12: 2017
13: 2017	13: 2018	13: 2018	13: 2018	13: 2018
14: 2018	14: 2019	14: 2019	14: 2019	14: 2019
15: 2019	15: 2020	15: 2020	15: 2020	15: 2020
16: 2020	16: 2021	16: 2021	16: 2021	16: 2021
17: 2021	17: 2022	17: 2022	17: 2022	17: 2022
	18: 2023	18: 2023	18: 2023	18: 2023
		19: 2024	19: 2024	19: 2024
			20: 2025	20: 2025
				21: 2026

Table C-2B. EPOP Round Specific Variable Code Frames Across EPOP 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026

EPOP:2022 Variable Name	EPOP:2023 Variable Name	EPOP:2024, 2025 & 2026 Variable Name	EPOP:2022 Response Values	EPOP:2023 Response Values	EPOP:2024, 2025 & 2026 Response Values
BO_NUMEMPL OY_1_PUF	BO_NUMEMPL OY_1_Y2_PUF	BO_NUMEMPL OY_1_Y3_PUF	0: 0	0: 0	0: 0
			1: 1-4	1: 1-4	1: 1-9
			2: 5-9	2: 5-9	2: 10-49
			3: 10-19	3: 10-19	3: 50-99
			4: 20-49	4: 20-49	4: 100-199
			5: 50-74	5: 50-99	5: 200+
			6: 75-99	5: 50-99	
			7: 100+	6: 100-199	
			7: 100+	7: 200+	

Table C-3. EPOP Round Specific Variable Code Frames Across EPOP:2022 through EPOP:2026

EPOP:2022 Variable Name	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP: 2025 & EPOP: 2026 Variable Name	EPOP:2022 Response Values	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP:2025 & EPOP: 2026 Response Values
BO_EXITSTRAT_ 1	BO_EXITSTRAT_1_Y 2	1. Sold your business at a loss	1. Sold your business at a loss
		2. Sold your business at more or less break even	2. Sold your business at more or less break even
		3. Sold your business at a profit	3. Sold your business at a profit
		4. Bankruptcy or liquidation	4. Bankruptcy or liquidation
		5. Transferred business to a family member	5. Transferred business to a family member
		6. Did not complete any forms/paperwork, just stopped working or taking work	6. Did not complete any forms/paperwork, just stopped working or taking work
		<i>n/a: value not included in Year 1</i>	7. Transferred business to a non-family member
		<i>n/a: value not included in Year 1</i>	8. Converted the business to an employee ownership model
S_FORMFREE_S TAT_1	S_FORMFREE_STAT _1_Y2	7. Other, specify: [TEXTBOX]	9. Other, specify: [TEXTBOX]
		1. Yes, I am still working for myself as a freelancer, consultant, or independent contractor	1. Yes
		2. No, I stopped working as a freelancer, consultant, or independent contractor <u>within the last 5 years</u>	2. No
		3. No, I stopped working as a freelancer, consultant, or independent contractor <u>more than 5 years ago</u>	2. No

EPOP:2022 Variable Name	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP: 2025 & EPOP: 2026 Variable Name	EPOP:2022 Response Values	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP:2025 & EPOP: 2026 Response Values
S_GIGPLATFOR M_DRV	S_GIGPLATFORM_Y 2_DRV	1: Confirmed Gig Platform: Services	1: Confirmed Gig Platform: Services
		2: Confirmed Gig Platform: Selling/Renting of Goods	2: Confirmed Gig Platform: Selling/Renting of Goods
		3: Confirmed Gig Platform: Online Surveys	3: Confirmed Gig Platform: Online Surveys
		4: Payment Provider	4: Payment Provider
		5: Unconfirmed Gig Work	5: Unconfirmed/unlikely Gig Work
		6: Unlikely Gig Work	5: Unconfirmed/unlikely Gig Work
DEM_MARITAL_ PUF	DEM_MARITAL_Y2_ PUF	1: Married	1: Married/Cohabiting
		2: Widowed	2: Widowed/Divorced/Separated
		3: Divorced/Separated	2: Widowed/Divorced/Separated
		4: Single	3: Single
		5: Cohabiting	1: Married/Cohabiting
BO_NUMEMPLO Y_1_RUF	BO_NUMEMPLOY_1 _Y2_RUF	0: 0	0: 0
		1: 1	1: 1
		2: 2	2: 2
		3: 3	3: 3
		4: 4	4: 4
		5: 5	5: 5
		6: 6	6: 6
		7: 7	7: 7
		8: 8	8: 8
		9: 9	9: 9
		10: 10-14	10: 10-14

EPOP:2022 Variable Name	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP: 2025 & EPOP: 2026 Variable Name	EPOP:2022 Response Values	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP:2025 & EPOP: 2026 Response Values
		11: 15-19	11: 15-19
		12: 20-29	12: 20-29
		13: 30-49	13: 30-49
		14: 50-74	14: 50-74
		15: 75-99	15: 75-99
		16: 100-199	16: 100-199
		17: 200+	17: 200-499
		17: 200+	18: 500-999
		17: 200+	19: 1000+
BO_REVENUE_1 _PUF	BO_REVENUE_1_Y2 _PUF	1: 0-99	0: 0
		1: 0-99	1: 1-99
		2: 100-499	2: 100-499
		3: 500-999	3: 500-999
		4: 1,000-4,999	4: 1,000-4,999
		5: 5,000-9,999	5: 5,000-9,999
		6: 10,000-24,999	6: 10,000-24,999
		7: 25,000-49,999	7: 25,000-49,999
		8: 50,000-74,999	8: 50,000-74,999
		9: 75,000-99,999	9: 75,000-99,999
		10: 100,000-249,999	10: 100,000-249,999
		11: 250,000-499,999	11: 250,000-499,999
		12: 500,000-999,999	12: 500,000+
		13: 1,000,000+	12: 500,000+

EPOP:2022 Variable Name	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP: 2025 & EPOP: 2026 Variable Name	EPOP:2022 Response Values	EPOP:2023, EPOP:2024, EPOP:2025 & EPOP: 2026 Response Values
BO_REVENUE_2 _PUF	BO_REVENUE_2_Y2 _PUF	1: 0-99	0: 0
		1: 0-99	1: 1-99
		2: 100-499	2: 100-499
		3: 500-999	3: 500-999
		4: 1,000-4,999	4: 1,000-4,999
		5: 5,000-9,999	5: 5,000-9,999
		6: 10,000-24,999	6: 10,000-24,999
		7: 25,000-49,999	7: 25,000-49,999
		8: 50,000-74,999	8: 50,000-74,999
		9: 75,000-99,999	9: 75,000-99,999
		10: 100,000-249,999	10: 100,000-249,999
		11: 250,000-499,999	11: 250,000+
		12: 500,000+	11: 250,000+



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