

# Export Promotion: States' Export Promotion Agency Survey (GAO-09-148SP), an E-supplement to GAO-09-144

Read the Full Report: Export Promotion: Commerce Needs Better Information to Evaluate Its Fee-Based Programs and Customers (GAO-09-144, March 2009)

**Background Information** 

Instructions for Viewing This E-Supplement

#### **Background Information**

This document presents information from a GAO survey of states' trade offices throughout the United States on the nature of states' export promotion services and their partnerships with the Commercial Service (CS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. We surveyed these offices to obtain information including (1) the types of export promotion services these states' trade offices provide and the user fees charged, (2) the number of state trade office staff providing these services, (3) whether small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) can use state grant programs or direct payments to defray the cost of CS's export promotion programs and services, (4) the importance of CS services to the operations of states' trade offices, and (5) the effect of CS user fees on SMEs' participation in CS export promotion programs. We surveyed all 50 states' trade offices and received responses from 45 of them. For a further discussion of our scope and methodology, see *Export Promotion: Commerce Needs Better Information to Evaluate Its Fee-Based Programs and Customers*. (GAO-09-144). We administered the survey from May 2008 to October 2008 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

#### **Agency Comments**

We received comments from the Department of Commerce about the e-supplement. These comments appear in and are addressed in the full report, GAO-09-144.

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#### **Instructions for Viewing This E-Supplement**

#### **How to View the Survey and the Summary Results**

We present a blank copy of the survey as the respondent saw it during data collection.

The blank copy of the survey is followed by several tables that summarize the results of the survey.

Next to each question is a symbol 🖾 which links to the summary table for that specific question.

On the summary table, there is an arrow as well as the word Back (i.e., < Back) that provides a link back to the blank questionnaire.

#### How to Print the Results of Surveys

To print only the page you are viewing, select "Current Page" from the Print menu.

To print specific pages, enter the page range under "Pages from:" on the Print menu.

To print the entire document, select "All" from the Print menu, or simply select the Printer icon from the standard toolbar.

#### **Contact Information**

If you have questions concerning these data, please contact Loren Yager (202) 512-4347 or yagerl@gao.gov

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# **United States Government Accountability Office State Trade Office Export Promotion Questionnaire**

#### Introduction

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) is a federal agency that assists the U.S. Congress in evaluating federal programs. GAO has received a Congressional request to review the U.S. Department of Commerce's (Commerce) export promotion programs and services and the associated user fees to determine 1) what is known about how Commerce's fees affect small and medium-sized enterprises'(SME) participation; and 2) the extent to which states subsidize SMEs' participation in these programs. The purpose of this questionnaire is to understand the nature of your state trade office's export promotion programs and the extent to which your office assists SME firms in gaining access to Commerce's export promotion programs and services. The GAO report to the Congress will not specify how any individual state answered these questions; instead, it will present combined data for all responding states. A copy of the questionnaire with aggregated responses will be published with the report.

#### **Instructions**

In order to complete this questionnaire, please return a single survey response to GAO via email to State\_Trade@gao.gov. We would greatly appreciate if you would return the completed questionnaire by May 16, 2008.

This questionnaire can be filled out using MS-Word

- To answer a question that requires that you write a comment, click on the answer field and begin typing. The box will expand to accommodate your answer.
- To answer a question with a check box  $\square$  click the box.
- To change your answer, click on the check box again and the 'X' will disappear.

Once you have completed the questionnaire, you may return an electronic copy via email or paper copy via fax. To return it by email, save the file to your hard drive, hold down the Ctrl key and click the link at the end of the questionnaire and attach the file. If you prefer, you may print a copy of the survey, complete it by hand and fax it to GAO at (202) 512-2514 or (202) 512-2502.

If you have any questions about the contents of this survey, please contact:

Barbara Shields Bradley Hunt

Phone: (202) 512-9467 OR Phone: (213) 830-1087 email: <a href="mailto:shieldsb@gao.gov">shieldsb@gao.gov</a> email: <a href="mailto:huntb@gao.gov">huntb@gao.gov</a>

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

1.	<b>■</b> Does your state have	e an export promotion p	rogram?	
	Yes			
	No		lescribe your state's phil omotion.) THEN – Plea	
2.		omotion program or stat Cs) as firms with fewer th		all-to-medium
	Yes□ <b>⇒</b> S	kip to 3		
a.	No	question 2, what is your	export promotion progran	n's or state
	office's definition of an		1 1 1 0	
3.		proximately what propor get the export needs of S		ort promotion
	Less than 50%	•		
	50-74%	······		
	75-90%			
	91% or more Don't know	<u>—</u>		
4		<u>—</u>	<b>-</b>	-4-4-2
4.	How many stall are	currently working on ex		state's office?
		Number full time staff	Number part-time staff	l
	Domestic locations	staff	staff	
	Overseas locations	staff	staff	

	Has your overall staffing level increased				nve years:
I	Decreased				
	Stayed the same			<u> </u>	_
	hat portion, if any, of the costs or covered by the		ng any of the	following pro	ograms and
	·	No fee ▼	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided
	Foreign company background checks				
b.	Licensee, joint venture, partnership contracts				
c.	Market research				
d.	<u> </u>				
e.	Trade shows (U.S., foreign, catalog)				
f.	<ul><li>Foreign trade missions</li><li>Marketing/promotional</li></ul>				
g.	literature reviews				
	Training programs & seminars				
i.	Product analysis/pricing information				
j.	Market entry strategy development				
k.	Export counseling				
I. _	Other [please specify below]				

No				<b>Skip</b> to 8
Yes				
a. What	was the activity, type	of provider and cos	st sharing rate?	
8. 🖼 Does v	our state trade office	numently offer SME	s any grant programs	or direct
o. <u>m</u> Dues y	our state trade office	currently offer Sivies	s any grant programs	or arrect
payments		currently offer SME	s any grant programs	or un eet
payments		•	V 0 1 0	
payments No	s?			Skip to
payments No	s?			Skip to 1
No Yes	s?			Skip to I
No Yes  9. Eacan th	s?	<u>lirect payments</u> be u		Skip to ∑
No Yes  9. Eacan the export properties and the export properties are also as a second properties.	s?  ne grant programs or o	<u>lirect payments</u> be u		<b>Skip to</b>
yes  9. Eacan the export properties to t	s? ne <u>grant programs or c</u> romotion programs ar	lirect payments be u		<b>Skip to</b>

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

	Not purchased ▼	Purchased directly from Commerce ▼				
a. Gold Key Service						
<b>b.</b> Enternational Company Profile (ICP)						
c. Enternational Partner Search (IPS)						
d. Exporter (FUSE)						
e. Business Facilitation Service						
f. <u>E</u> Customized Market Research						
g. Platinum Key Service						
h. QuickTake						
i. Catalog event/product literature center						
j. Seminar/webinar						
<ul> <li>k. Trade fair</li> <li>l. Commerce-led certified trade mission/trade mission</li> </ul>						
m. Single company promotion						
n. Other programs [please specify below]						
11. During the last three fiscal years, did your state trade office conduct any additional activities jointly with Commerce? [Other than the formal programs and services listed above, e.g., business recruitment projects, program and event planning, etc.]  No						
Yes <b>□ a. What activities</b>	were these?					

12	2. In your opinion, did Commerce's 2005 fee schedule changes cause your office to
	increase or decrease its use of the following Commerce export promotion services?
	(Click this link to go to appendix at back of survey for the fee structure after the
	increase.)

	Greatly increase ▼	Somewhat increase ▼	Stayed the same ▼	Somewhat decrease ▼	Greatly decrease ▼	No basis to judge ▼
a. Gold Key						
<b>b.</b> <u>M</u> ICP						
c. <u>M</u> IPS						

In May of this year, Commerce introduced the new fee structure for its export promotion services: (Click this link to go to appendix at back of survey for the NEW fee structure.)

13. In your opinion, will Commerce's new fee schedule cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following services that it purchases directly to assist SMEs (both new-to-export and those that already export)?

	Greatly increase ▼	Somewhat increase	Stay the same	Somewhat decrease ▼	Greatly decrease ▼	No basis to judge ▼
a. <u>M</u> Gold Key						
b. <u>M</u> ICP						
c. <u>M</u> IPS						

14. What private sector providers does your state use for trade promotion programs (e.g., private consultants, American Chambers of Commerce overseas, etc.)?

15.	. In your view, are Commerce' or just about right compared						too low,
		Much too low ▼	Somewhat too low	About right ▼	Somewhat too high	Much too high ▼	No basis to judge
a.	Gold Key Service						
b.	International Company Profile (ICP)						
c.	☐ International Partner Search (IPS) ☐ Featured U.S. Exporter						
	(FUSE)						
e. f.	Domestic Business Provider Customized Services (e.g. Business Facilitation Service, Platinum Key Service, Single						
g.	Company Promotion, Trade Missions, Catalog Events, and Customized Market Research)  Other [please describe]						
16.	. Han general, do you view Contoo low, or about right compa						high,
	Much too low						

		No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease ▼	No basis to judge ▼
	Gold Key Service						
b.		П	П				
u.	Featured U.S. Exporter (FUSE)						
e. f.	Domestic Business Provider Customized Services (e.g. Business Facilitation Service, Platinum Key Service, Single Company Promotion, Trade Missions, Catalog Events, and Customized Market Research)						
g.	Other [please describe]						
1	8. All things considered, does y reasonable or unreasonable?	our office	consider (	Commerce <sup>s</sup>	s new fee	schedule t	o be
	Very reasonable  Somewhat reasonable  Neither reasonable nor unreaso  Somewhat unreasonable  Very unreasonable	nable					

19. Do you have any other comments about Commerce's new fee schedule?

No basis to judge .....

20. 🔠	Do you have any offices that are colocated with Commerce? [Check all that apply]
N	No
Ŋ	Yes, we have domestic offices
Y	Yes, we have overseas offices
	In your opinion, how much has colocation helped your SMEs access Commerceonsored export promotion programs and services?
Li	ttle or no help
	ome help
	oderate help
G	reat help
N	o basis to judge
	In your opinion, how important are Commerce services to your state's export omotion capabilities?
7	/ery important
	Moderately important
	lightly important
Λ	Not important
Ι	Oon't know
	Has your state trade office conducted or identified any evaluations about the effect of er fees on SMEs' participation in federal export promotion programs?
N	o
	es ☐ → If yes, please attach a copy and return via email.
1	, if jes, preuse actuent a copy and return via cinan.
24. Ple	ease put any additional comments below.

Thank you for completing the survey!

Please save this file now and send an e-mail with your saved questionnaire file as an attachment to: <a href="State\_Trade@gao.gov">State\_Trade@gao.gov</a>

#### **APPENDIX**

## **Former Commerce User Fee Schedule**

## Former Commerce User Fee Schedule (FY 2005-FY 2008)

## **Type of Service**

	Band I	Band II	Band III	Band IV			
Gold Key Service	\$685 (each additional day: \$320)	\$735 (each additional day: \$360)	\$765 (each additional day: \$385)	\$770 (each additional day: \$385)			
International Company Profile	\$520	\$610	\$710	\$810			
International Partner Search	\$500	\$590	\$690	\$790			
Featured U.S. Exporter	\$25-\$50 (for 2 weeks)						
Business Service Provider	International: \$150 - \$500						
QuickTake	Domestic: \$250 \$750 for one industry sector \$500 for each additional industry sector						
Customized Services (e.g. Customized Market Research, Business Facilitation Service, Platinum Key Service)							

## Click here to return to question 12

## **NEW Commerce User Fee Schedule (as of May, 2008)**

#### **Standardized Services**

	5	tanuai uizcu Sci	VICCS			
		SME Company		Large C	Company	
Type of Service	First appointment	Additional appointments	New-to- Export 1 <sup>st</sup> use of service	First appointment	Additional appointments	
Gold Key Service	\$700	\$300	\$350	\$2,300	\$1,000	
International Company	\$600	*	\$350	\$900	*	
Profile						
International Partner	\$550	*	\$350	\$1,400	*	
Search						
Featured U.S. Exporter	\$150	*	\$75	\$300	*	
Domestic Business	\$300	*	\$150	\$600	*	
Provider						
	(	Customized Serv	vices			
e.g., Business Facilitation		SME Company		Large Company		
Service, Platinum Key	100% of direc	t costs	1	00% of direct co	osts	
Service, Single Company	35% of indirect costs		35% of indirect costs			
Promotion, Trade						
Missions, Catalog Events,						
and Customized Market						
Research						

Click here to return to question 13

## Survey Results Summary

#### <u>back</u>

1. Does your state have an export promotion program?

Number of respondents	No	Yes
44	2	42

#### **back**

2.Does your export promotion program or state trade office define small-to-medium sized enterprises (SMEs) as firms with fewer than 500 employees?

Number of respondents	No	Yes
44	7	37

#### back

3.During FY 2007, approximately what proportion of your state's export promotion budget was used to target the export needs of SMEs?

Less than 50%	50% - 74%	75% - 90%	91% or more	Don't know	Number of respondents
6	4	9	23	2	44

#### back

4a. How many staff are currently working on export promotion in your state's office?

**Domestic locations** 

Full-time staff

Mean	Number of respondents
6.1	45

#### **back**

4b. How many staff are currently working on export promotion in your state's office?

**Domestic locations** 

Part-time staff

	Number of
Mean	respondents
0.5	45

#### back

4c. How many staff are currently working on export promotion in your state's office?

Overseas locations

Full-time staff

Mean	Number of respondents
4.7	45

4d. How many staff are currently working on export promotion in your state's office?

Overseas locations

Part-time staff

	Number
Mean	of respondents
	-

#### back

5. Has your overall staffing level increased or decreased over the past five years?

Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same	Number of respondents
12	17	15	44

#### **back**

6.What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

a. Foreign company background checks

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
23	3	3	15	44

#### back

6.What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

b. Licensee, joint venture, partnership contracts

No fee	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
11	1	2	29	43

#### back

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

c. Market research

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
31	5	1	7	44

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### d. Agent/distributor searches

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
25	7	2	10	44

#### back

6.What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### e. Trade shows (U.S., foreign, catalog)

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
2	28	9	5	44

#### back

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### f. Foreign trade missions

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
3	28	8	5	44

#### back

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### g. Marketing/promotional literature reviews

N	lo fee				
		Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
	23	6	2	13	44

#### **back**

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### h. Training programs & seminars

No fee	Fees cover	Fees cover	Service not	Number of
	part of cost	all of cost	provided	respondents
8	23	8	4	43

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### i. Product analysis/pricing information

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
26	2	1	15	44

#### back

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### j. Market entry strategy development

No fee				
	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
30	4	1	9	44

#### back

6.What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### k. Export counseling

No fee	Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
38	1	0	5	44

#### back

6. What portion, if any, of the costs of providing any of the following programs and services to SMEs is recovered by user fees?

#### I. Other

No	fee				
		Fees cover part of cost	Fees cover all of cost	Service not provided	Number of respondents
	4	1	0	2	7

#### **back**

7. During the last 3 fiscal years, did your state trade office share program costs for any activities with any other organization (e.g., other government agency, association, etc.)?

No	Yes	Number of respondents
17	25	42

#### back

8. Does your state trade office currently offer SMEs any grant programs or direct payments?

ı	No	Yes	Number of respondents
	25	19	44

9.Can the grant programs or direct payments be used to defray the cost of Commerce's export promotion programs and services?

No	Yes	Number of respondents
5	14	19

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### a. Gold Key Service

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
22	22	44

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### b. International Company Profile (ICP)

Number of respondents	Purchased directly from Commerce	Not purchased
44	3	41

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### c. International Partner Search (IPS)

Number of respondents	Purchased directly from Commerce	Not purchased
44	3	41

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### d. Featured U.S. Exporter (FUSE)

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
 44	0	44

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### e. Business Facilitation Service

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
36	8	44

#### back

10.During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### f. Customized Market Research

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
41	3	44

#### **back**

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### g. Platinum Key Service

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
37	7	44

#### **back**

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### h. QuickTake

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
42	2	44

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### i. Catalog event/product literature center

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
36	8	44

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### j. Seminar/webinar

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
25	19	44

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### k. Trade fair

Number of respondents	Purchased directly from Commerce	Not purchased
44	14	30

#### **back**

10.During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

I. Commerce-led certified trade mission/trade mission

Number of respondents	Purchased directly from Commerce	Not purchased
44	9	35

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### m. Single company promotion

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
40	3	43

#### back

10. During the last 3 fiscal years, which of the following Commerce-sponsored programs and services, if any, has your state trade office purchased directly from Commerce?

#### n. Other programs

Not purchased	Purchased directly from Commerce	Number of respondents
16	4	20

11. During the last three fiscal years, did your state trade office conduct any additional activities jointly with Commerce?

_	No	Yes	Number of respondents
	8	34	42

#### back

12.In your opinion, did Commerce's 2005 fee schedule changes cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following Commerce export promotion services?

#### a. Gold Key

Greatly increased	Somewhat increased	Stayed about the same	Somewhat decreased	Greatly decreased	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	0	11	9	5	19	44

#### back

12.In your opinion, did Commerce's 2005 fee schedule changes cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following Commerce export promotion services?

b. International Company Profile (ICP)

Greatly increased	Somewhat increased	Stayed about the same	Somewhat decreased	Greatly decreased	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	1	6	3	1	32	43

#### **back**

12.In your opinion, did Commerce's 2005 fee schedule changes cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following Commerce export promotion services?

c. International Partner Search (IPS)

Greatly increased	Somewhat increased	Stayed about the same	Somewhat decreased	Greatly decreased	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	0	7	3	1	32	43

#### **back**

13.In your opinion, will Commerce's new fee schedule cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following services that it purchases directly to assist SMEs (both new-to-export and those that already export)?

#### a. Gold Key

Greatly increased	Somewhat increased	Stayed about the same	Somewhat decreased	Greatly decreased	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
5	10	12	3	0	14	44

13.In your opinion, will Commerce's new fee schedule cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following services that it purchases directly to assist SMEs (both new-to-export and those that already export)?

b. International Company Profile (ICP)

Greatly increased	Somewhat increased	Stayed about the same	Somewhat decreased	Greatly decreased	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
3	6	8	3	0	23	43

#### back

13.In your opinion, will Commerce's new fee schedule cause your office to increase or decrease its use of the following services that it purchases directly to assist SMEs (both new-to-export and those that already export)?

c. International Partner Search (IPS)

Greatly increased	Somewhat increased	Stayed about the same	Somewhat decreased	Greatly decreased	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
3	6	8	3	0	23	43

#### back

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

a. Gold Key Service

Much too low	Somewhat too low	About right	Somewhat too high	Much too high	Don't know/No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	1	18	10	6	9	44

#### back

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

b. International Company Profile (ICP)

Number of respondents	Don't know/No basis to judge	Much too high	Somewhat too high	About right	Somewhat too low	Much too low
44	17	4	10	13	0	0

#### back

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

c. International Partner Search (IPS)

Number of respondents	Don't know/No basis to judge	Much too high	Somewhat too high	About right	Somewhat too low	Much too low
44	17	4	10	13	0	0

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

d. Featured U.S. Exporter (FUSE)

Much too low	Somewhat too low	About right	Somewhat too high	Much too high	Don't know/No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	0	10	6	2	26	44

#### back

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

e. Domestic Business Provider

Much too low	Somewhat too low	About right	Somewhat too high	Much too high	Don't know/No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	0	7	6	2	27	42

#### back

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

f. Customized Services (e.g., Business Facilitation Service, Platinum Key Service, Single Company Promotion, Trade Missions, Catalog Events, and Customized Market Research)

Number of respondents	Don't know/No basis to judge	Much too high	Somewhat too high	About right	Somewhat too low	Much too low
43	16	6	10	11	0	0

#### back

15.In your view, are Commerce's new fees for SMEs that already export too high, too low, or just about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

g. Other

Number of respondents	Don't know/No basis to judge	Much too high	Somewhat too high	About right	Somewhat too low	Much too low
16	9	1	2	4	0	0

#### back

16.In general, do you view Commerce's new fees for new-to-export SMEs as too high, too low, or about right compared to fees charged by private sector providers?

Much too low	Somewhat too low	About right	Somewhat too high	Much too high	Don't know/No basis to judge	Number of respondents
 0	0	27	9	3	5	44

#### back

- 17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?
- a. Gold Key Service

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
1	2	6	5	23	7	44

- 17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?
- b. International Company Profile (ICP)

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	3	5	3	19	14	44

#### back

- 17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?
- c. International Partner Search (IPS)

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	3	6	2	19	14	44

#### back

- 17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?
- d. Featured U.S. Exporter (FUSE)

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	3	4	2	14	21	44

#### **back**

- 17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?
- e. Domestic Business Provider

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	4	2	1	16	21	44

#### **back**

- 17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?
- f. Customized Services (e.g., Business Facilitation Service, Platinum Key Service, Single Company Promotion, Trade Missions, Catalog Events, and Customized Market Research)

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
1	4	4	3	19	12	43

17. Based on your experience, to what extent, if any, would you expect usage by SMEs of the following programs/ services to decrease if Commerce charged SMEs the same fees it now charges large firms under its new fee schedule?

#### g. Other

No decrease	Slight decrease	Moderate decrease	Great decrease	Very great decrease	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
0	1	1	0	7	8	17

#### back

18.All things considered, does your office consider Commerce's new fee schedule to be reasonable or unreasonable?

Very reasonable	Somewhat reasonable	As reasonable as not	Somewhat unreasonable	Very unreasonable	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
11	13	4	6	3	6	43

#### back

20.Do you have any offices that are colocated with Commerce?

No	Yes, domestically	Yes, overseas	Both, domestically and overseas	Number of respondents
28	12	2	1	43

#### **back**

21.In your opinion, how much has colocation helped your SMEs access Commerce-sponsored export promotion programs and services?

Little or no help	Some help	Moderate help	Great help	No basis to judge	Number of respondents
 1	3	3	8	28	43

#### back

22.In your opinion, how important are Commerce services to your state's export promotion capabilities?

Very important	Moderately important	Slightly important	Not important	Don't know	Number of respondents
28	8	6	1	1	44

#### <u>back</u>

23. Has your state trade office conducted or identified any evaluations about the effect of user fees on SMEs' participation in federal export promotion programs?

No	Yes	Number of respondents
43	0	43