

Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey



# Using Westat's Virtual Listing System to Replace Listing in the Field

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# **CBECS** Overview

## **CBECS – Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey**



- Conducted by Energy Information Administration (EIA) of U.S.
  Department of Energy
- Examines current trends in energy use in commercial buildings
- Collects statistics on:
  - Building characteristics
  - Energy-related equipment
  - Quantity and costs of energy used





# Use of Listing for Sample Frame Development



- 1. Identification of Primary Sampling Units (PSUs)
- 2. Selection of Segments
- 3. Selection of Buildings requires listing!



#### **Drawbacks to field listing**

- 1. Expensive
- 2. Time-consuming
- 3. Data quality?



#### **CBECS-specific listing needs**

- **1.** Principal usage of building
- 2. Non-visible sampling criteria floor-to-ceiling walls, internal egresses
- 3. Strip malls and campuses
- 4. Square footage



#### **Square footage calculations**

- 1. Pacing
- 2. Measure using parking spaces
- 3. Measure using architectural features
- 4. Buildings with unusual shapes

#### Building square footage = Length x width x # of floors



# VIRTUAL LISTING SYSTEM - VLS

#### **Virtual Listing System Overview**

- Virtual Listing System (VLS) is a fully integrated, custom, web-based system, of observing, cataloging, and documenting CBECS eligible commercial buildings
- Developed by Westat's Geospatial Services Group
- VLS environment leverages Google Maps and includes custom enhancements

### **Virtual Listing System Overview**

- Multiple user roles enable all work to be handled within the system
  - Lister
  - Assigner
  - Reviewer
  - Administrator

## **VLS Home Page**

























## Next Steps – Evaluation

Thank you!