

Small business owners share their experiences with new Beneficial Ownership Information reporting requirements

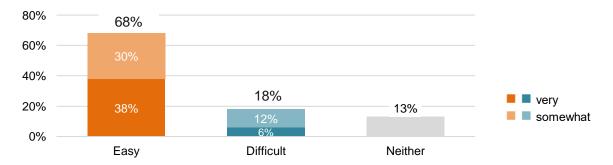
As of January 1, 2024, some small businesses in the United States are required to file a <u>Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI) Report</u> with the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).¹ This new reporting requirement is part of the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA), a law designed to help prevent and combat money laundering, tax fraud and other financial crimes. The CTA defines a <u>beneficial owner</u> as an individual who, directly or indirectly, exercises substantial control over a reporting company, or who owns or controls at least 25% of the ownership interests of a reporting company. A small business may be a domestic reporting company if:

- · The business is a corporation, or
- The business is a limited liability company (LLC), or
- The business was created by the filing of a document with a secretary of state or any similar office under the law of a state or Native American tribe.

A recent Small Business Majority national opinion poll gauged small business owners' awareness of the new BOI reporting requirement and their experiences with filing the report. The survey found that 58% of small business owners are aware of the new law.² Furthermore, as of January 31, 44% of small businesses had filed a Beneficial Ownership Information report. Of the small business owners who've already filed, more than two-thirds (68%) report that completing the Beneficial Ownership Information report was easy and only 18% found completing it difficult.

The survey reveals that while small business owners who have filed a BOI report are finding the process to be easy, a significant number of small businesses still need to be educated about the new requirement.

Figure: Majority of small business owners find it easy to file a Beneficial Ownership Information Report



Read our <u>blog post</u> on Venturize for more information about who qualifies for BOI reporting and next steps to take as a small business owner.³

¹ Read more on the official FinCEN website at https://www.fincen.gov/boi

² The poll was an online survey of 566 small business owners nationwide, conducted Jan. 30-31, 2024 via SurveyMonkey's online panel.

³ "New reporting requirement in 2024: Learn how small businesses will be impacted." Small Business Majority. https://yenturize.org/blog/new-reporting-requirement-2024-learn-how-small-businesses-will-be-impacted