County Business Patterns
Data User Guide

This guide provides steps to access County Business Patterns (CBP) data in Hypertext tables, Comma Separated files (CSV), or the American FactFinder (AFF). You may also contact the US Census Bureau's CBP staff at 301-763-2580 or

ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov *for assistance.*

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Note: Each slide has a unique link [here] that refers to the subject matter explained.

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Index of Topics

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Click here to access County Business Patterns Data.

Frequently Asked Questions

- ## What is the source of CBP data?

  CBP data are extracted from the Business Register, the Census Bureau's file of all known single and multiestablishment companies. Data comes from a variety of sources, including the Economic Censuses, the Annual Survey of Manufactures, and Current Business Surveys, as well as from administrative records of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

- ## Are sales and receipts data provided in CBP?

  No. Sales and receipts data are available from other Census Bureau programs. For more information, check out the Census Bureau's economic data.

- ## I need specific data for company X:

  The U.S. Census Bureau is forbidden by Federal Law from providing data that can be linked to specific employers.

- ## Time Series Data:

  Due to changes in methodology, county definitions, and classification codes over time, there is currently no way to batch download multiple years of data. However, Census is developing a new database tool to accommodate these issues, due for release by the 2017 Economic Census.

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County Business Patterns Definitions

- **Legal Form of Organization (LFO)** – An LFO is the organizational structure a firm chooses to adopt. The following LFO's are incorporated under nonemployer statistics:
  - Corporations
  - Partnerships
  - Sole Proprietorships
- **North America Industry Classification System (NAICS)** – Is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy. For more information, visit the NAICS website: https://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics
- **NOISE** - Noise infusion is a method of disclosure avoidance in which values for each firm are perturbed prior to table creation by applying a random noise multiplier to the receipts data for each business. Disclosure protection is accomplished in a manner that results in a relatively small change in the vast majority of cell values. Read more on the How the Data Are Collected page.
- **NOISE Flags**–
  - G - Low Noise Infusion
  - H - Medium Noise Infusion
  - D - Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in higher level totals
  - S – Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards

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Using the Homepage

The CBP Homepage offers two easy methods of accessing the data; immediately through the hypertext tables feature, and in depth through the offline formats.

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Accessing CBP Data in Hypertext Tables

To access CBP data at the national or state level, select the **U.S., States, and Counties** drop down menu within the **View data in tables** box.

Select **United States** to create a table with data at the national level. Or select any of the 50 states to access state data.

County Business Patterns (CBP)
ZIP Code Business Patterns (ZBP)

County Business Patterns (CBP) is an annual series that provides subnational economic data by industry. This series includ and annual payroll. This data is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas; analyzing economic changes over t censuses. Businesses use the data for analyzing market potential, measuring the effectiveness of sales and advertising pro administration and planning.

ZIP Code Business Patterns data is available shortly after the release of County Business Patterns. It provides the number

These two programs cover most of the country's economic activity based on establishments, with a few noted exclusions. Fo information on businesses without paid employees, see Nonemployer Statistics.

Data for **2013** were released in April 2015. For help accessing the data via hypertext tables or American FactFinder, please

For Internet Explorer 9 and 10 enable Compatibility View in the event tables do not display properly.

For frequently asked questions (FAQs), visit Ask.Census.Gov or click the FAQs tab at the top of the screen. Enter 'CBP' or '

View data in tables

U.S., States, and Counties [1,2] (1998-2013) Select Area | United States | Go!
Alabama
Alaska
Puerto Rico (2003-2013) **and Island Areas** (2008 to 201 | Arizona | Rico
Arkansas
Zip Codes [3] (1998 to 2013) Enter 5-digit ZIP Code | California
Colorado
Connecticut
Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas [4] (1998 | Delaware | erdeen, SD Micro Area
District of Columbia
Florida

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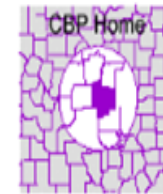
County Business Patterns

This table allows data users to:

1. Switch between national and state level data.
2. Select a **State** from the dropdown menu. The **Areaname** box will allow users to select a county within the selected state.
3. Display data with or without *Legal Form of Organization (**LFO**) break down.
4. Display data with or without **Noise Flag**.
5. Select data **Year**.
6. Choose **Counties** within selected state.
5. Choose **Metropolitan/Micropolitan** areas within a selected state.
6. View data by **NAICS** code.
7. Compare data by the selected geography level.

2013 County Business Patterns (NAICS)

CenStat

CBP Home

United States

State: [Alabama] ①
Areaname: [State total] ②

LFO: [Without LFO] ③
Noise Flag: [Without noise flag] ④
Year: [2013] ⑤ Go!

⑥	⑦	NAICS code	NAICS code description	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	First-quarter payroll ($1,000)	Annual payroll ($1,000)	Total establishments
	Compare	------	Total for all sectors	118,266,253	1,411,380,886	5,621,697,325	7,488,353
Detail	Compare	11----	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	154,496	1,309,440	5,826,857	22,111
Detail	Compare	21----	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	732,186	16,709,958	64,776,917	28,720

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Accessing County Business Patterns Data in Hypertext Tables

The following options will allow users to view **County Business Patterns** in different formats :
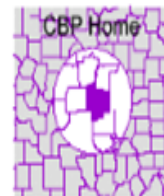
1. **NAICS Detail** – data will display at the different NAICS levels for the selected sector. *Click here to see **NAICS Detail** feature*

2. **Compare Areas** – this option will compare data by state, county, or metropolitan area *Click here to see **Compare Areas** feature*

2013 County Business Patterns (NAICS)

CenStats

CBP Home

Autauga County, AL

State	Areaname
Alabama	Autauga County, AL

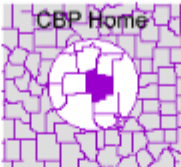| LFO	Noise Flag	Year
Without LFO	Without noise flag	2013	Go!

1	2	NAICS code	NAICS code description	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	First-quarter payroll ($1,000)	Annual payroll ($1,000)	Total establishments
	Compare	------	Total for all sectors	10,120	71,267	291,673	817
Detail	Compare	11----	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	33	277	1,480	5
Detail	Compare	21----	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	b	D	D	2
Detail	Compare	22----	Utilities	198	4,376	17,223	9

Data Displayed by NAICS Detail Feature

2013 County Business Patterns (NAICS)

CBP Home

Autauga County, AL
Construction

State | **Areaname**
Alabama | Autauga County, AL

Noise Flag | **Year**
Without noise flag | 2013 | Go!

Compare Areas	NAICS code	NAICS code description	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	First-quarter payroll ($1,000)	Annual payroll ($1,000)	Total establishments
Compare	23----	Construction	391	2,984	12,776	74
Compare	236	Construction of Buildings	94	623	2,775	17
Compare	2361	Residential Building Construction	b	170	702	11
Compare	23611	Residential Building Construction	b	170	702	11
Compare	236115	New Single-Family Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)	15	80	392	5

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Data Displayed By Compare Area Feature (county)

2013 County Business Patterns (NAICS)

CBP Home

Industry Code Comparison
23----
Construction

Noise Flag: [Without noise flag ▾] Year: [2013 ▾] [Go!]

						Number of establishments by employment-size class									
FIPS Code	Area Name	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	First-quarter payroll ($1,000)	Annual payroll ($1,000)	Total establishments	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1000 or more
001	Autauga County, AL	391	2,984	12,776	74	45	17	8	4	0	0	0	0	0
003	Baldwin County, AL	2,893	26,381	116,834	487	333	76	48	24	5	1	0	0	0
005	Barbour County, AL	130	932	3,870	32	22	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	0

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Additional CBP Data Products

Additional CBP data products include:

1. Data for **Puerto Rico and Island Areas** *(American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands)*

2. Data by **Zip codes**

3. Data by **Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas**

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Downloading CBP Data

CBP data can be downloaded in two different ways:

1. By using American Fact Finder (AFF) – *click here*

2. Through the CBP main webpage, in comma separated value (CSV) files – *click here*

Data in other formats for manipulation and analysis

1. Extract and manipulate data in the New American FactFinder.

2. Download the data in Comma-Separated Value (csv) format starting with year 1986.

- See the discussion of Historical CBP Data for earlier years, including data for selected years on CD-ROM.

- **For help** accessing the data via hypertext tables or American FactFinder, please refer to the Data User Guide [PDF].

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Downloading CBP Data in American FactFinder (AFF)

CBP Data in AFF

When accessing County Business Patterns data in AFF, users will be able to filter data by Geographies (U.S., state, county, zip code, metropolitan and micropolitan areas) as well as Industry Codes (NAICS). For help using the AFF interface, see the following links:

- **Using FactFinder**
- **What We Provide**

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Click here to access County Business Patterns Data. **13**

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American FactFinder (AFF) Table

Opening Tables

To open a table, simply click on the hyperlinked table title.

To open multiple tables:

1. Check off the checkboxes next to the tables you would like to view, then click the "View" button.

2. The first table opens. To view the next table, click the right-arrow on the top right corner.

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Click here to access County Business Patterns Data. **14**

Downloading CBP Data
Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

CBP Data in CSV Format:

The CSV links will display data at the U.S., county, state, metropolitan, and zip code level, as well as data for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

The **Record Layout** links are available to aid in better understanding the data tables.

Additional Links

Further help

Help with County Business Patterns Data
- Phone: (301)763-2580
- E-mail: ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov

Help with American FactFinder (economic data only)
- Phone: (301)763-5185
- E-mail: econ.dissemination@census.gov

Help with American FactFinder (demographic and other data)
- Phone: (301)763-INFO(4636)
- Website: https://ask.census.gov/newrequest.php

Related links:
- American FactFinder: http://factfinder.census.gov/
- County Business Patterns: http://www.census.gov/econ/cbp/
- Nonemployer Statistics: http://www.census.gov/econ/nonemployer/
- 2012 Economic Census: http://www.census.gov/econ/census/
- Census Bureau Other Economic Programs: http://www.census.gov/econ/other_econ.html

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