



Data User Guide

This guide provides steps to access County Business Patterns (CBP) data in Comma Separated files (CSV) or the American FactFinder (AFF). You may also contact the U.S. Census Bureau's CBP staff at 301-763-2580 or ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov for assistance.

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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 multi-establishment companies. Data comes from a variety of sources, including the [Economic Census](#), [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, please see the [Census Bureau's economic data](#).

- **Can I find data on a specific company or get a list of companies in an area?**

The Census Bureau is forbidden by Federal Law, Title 13 of the U.S. Code, from providing data that can be linked to specific establishments, which includes any lists of companies in a designated area. Even revealing that an entity is in the data is prohibited under this law.

- **Can CBP be used as a time series?**

We don't recommend using CBP data as a time series. While CBP publishes annually, the data is meant to be more of a snap shot in time. Further, CBP does not revise data for prior years. CBP relies on administrative data that is subject to non sampling error.



Definitions

- **Legal Form of Organization (LFO)** – An LFO is the organizational structure a firm chooses to adopt.
- **North America Industry Classification System (NAICS)** – The standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments. For more information, visit the [NAICS website](#).
- **Noise Infusion** – A method of disclosure avoidance in which values for each firm are perturbed prior to the data being released. Read more on our [How the Data Are Collected](#) page.
- **NOISE Flags**–
 - G - Low Noise Infusion
 - H - Medium Noise Infusion
 - J - High 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
- **Statewide** – Classification for employees in a state without a fixed location.

County Business Patterns



Using the Homepage



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Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > County Business Patterns (CBP)

County Business Patterns (CBP)

About this Program

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Technical Documentation

CBP is an annual series that provides subnational economic data by industry. This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll.



What is CBP?



Where can I find CBP data?



Visualizations



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Data



2016 County Business Patterns Shows Overall Growth in
April 19, 2018
Construction led all sectors in the largest rate of employment growth, with an increase of 5.0 percent from 2015 to 2016, according to new e

Data is available:

- through AFF
- downloadable (in CSV)
- by the Congressional District tool
- API



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Last updated: 05/24/2018

<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>



Using the Data Page

Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > County Business Patterns (CBP) > Data

County Business Patterns (CBP)

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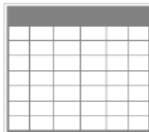
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Data

County Business Patterns has been produced as a consistent, annual series since 1964 and ZIP Code Business Patterns since 1994. Printed reports were published annually through 2004 and at irregular intervals dating back to 1946. Printed volumes in major depository libraries are the only forms in which data are available prior to 1986.

Visit The National Archives to find files for years prior to 1986.



CBP Tables

CBP data tables are available in American Factfinder from 2004-present



CBP Datasets

CBP data are available in downloadable CSV format, along with record layouts and reference guides, from 1986-present.



CBP by Congressional District

My Congressional District tool allows data users to view the most recent CBP data and American Community Survey data by congressional district.



API

The Census Bureau's Application Programming Interface (API) allows users to create custom queries. Users can embed these statistics into web or mobile apps.

County Business Patterns



Accessing Data using American FactFinder (AFF)

Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > County Business Patterns (CBP) > Data > CBP Tables

County Business Patterns (CBP)

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CBP Tables

U.S., States, and Counties tables start from 1993 to current year.

Puerto Rico tables start from 1998 to current year.

Island Areas tables start from 2008 to current year.

ZIP Codes tables start from 2004 to current year.

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas tables start from 2003 to current year.

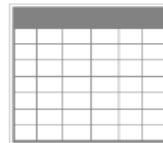
Congressional District tables start from 2013 to current year.

Beginning February 1, 2017, the Censtats databases located on the censtats.census.gov website will no longer be available. We consolidate older dissemination systems. Censtats, one of the earliest data access tools on census.gov, provides access to programs, including County Business Patterns. While the applications in Censtats will no longer be available, the data are available on American Fact Finder.

Data User Notice posted on April 20, 2017: In July 2016, Census Bureau staff identified a processing error that affects selected 2014 County Business Patterns (CBP). At that time, we suppressed the affected estimates in published tables. With the release of the revised 2014 employment and payroll totals in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector (Sector 62) for the following states: Michigan; Battle Creek, MI metro area; Calhoun County, MI; the 3rd congressional district of Michigan; and ZIP codes 48801-48809, the processing error did not affect other sectors.

If you have comments on the retirement of this system, please send them to: cnmp.web.comments@census.gov

For more information on how to access CBP data on American FactFinder (AFF), please click [here](#) to reference our Data



CBP Tables 2016



To access data using AFF, simply click on any of the tables on the CBP Tables page. You will then be prompted to select year, which will then take you to AFF.

County Business Patterns



Accessing Data using American FactFinder (AFF)

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder interface. The top navigation bar includes 'United States Census Bureau', 'AMERICAN FactFinder', and a map of the United States. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'MAIN', 'COMMUNITY FACTS', 'GUIDED SEARCH', 'ADVANCED SEARCH', and 'DOWNLOAD CENTER'. The 'ADVANCED SEARCH' tab is selected.

The main content area is titled 'Search - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results'. On the left side, there is a 'Your Selections' panel with 'Program: Business Patterns' and 'Year: 2016'. Below this, there are four search filters: 'Topics', 'Geographies', 'Race and Ethnic Groups', and 'Industry Codes'. The 'Geographies' and 'Industry Codes' filters are highlighted with red boxes and red stars.

The search results are displayed in a table with the following columns: ID, Table, File or Document Title, Dataset, and About. The table contains 14 rows of results, all for the year 2016. The first two rows are highlighted in blue.

ID	Table, File or Document Title	Dataset	About
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A11	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A12	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A13	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A14	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A15	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600CZ11	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Total for Zip Code	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600CZ21	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Zip Code Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A11_FTP	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A12_FTP	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A13_FTP	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A14_FTP	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600A15_FTP	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600CZ11_FTP	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Total for Zip Code	2016 Business Patterns	?
<input type="checkbox"/> CB1600CZ21_FTP	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Zip Code Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	?

Customize your search in Advanced Search...

1. Filter data by Geographies (U.S., state, county, ZIP, metropolitan and micropolitan areas, or congressional district).
2. Filter by Industry Codes (NAICS)
3. Once you have applied any specific, click directly on the Table, File, or Document Title you wish to view

The default is U.S. totals at the industry (2-digit NAICS) level

County Business Patterns



AFF Features

Search Results: 1-14 of 14 tables and other products match "Your Selections" per page: 25

Refine your search results: topics race/ancestry industries occupations

2 Selected Show results from:

ID	Table, File or Document Title	Dataset	About
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns 1	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Total for Zip Code	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Zip Code Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Legal Form of Organization	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns by Employment Size Class for Puerto Rico and the Island Areas	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Total for Zip Code	2016 Business Patterns	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZIP Code Business Statistics: Zip Code Business Patterns by Employment Size Class	2016 Business Patterns	i

2 Selected:

- Open by simply clicking on table title (1)
- OR check off the boxes of multiple tables (2) and ...
- ...click View (3)

County Business Patterns



AFF Features

United States Census Bureau | AMERICAN FactFinder | MISSOURI | KANSAS | VIRGINIA | KENTUCKY | NORTH CAROLINA

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MAIN | COMMUNITY FACTS | GUIDED SEARCH | **ADVANCED SEARCH** | DOWNLOAD CENTER

Advanced Search - Search all data in American FactFinder

1 Advanced Search | 2 **Table Viewer** | Result 1 of 1 | VIEW ALL AS PDF

CB1600A11 | Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns | 2016 Business Patterns

Table View | **Modify Table** | Actions: Hide Table Tools | Add/Remove Geographies | Bookmark/Save | Print | Download | Create a Map

Table Tools: Reset Table | Show Hidden Rows/Columns | Transpose Rows/Columns

Legend: show/hide rows and columns | collapse/expand data categories | rearrange columns | rearrange rows | sort ascending/descending | filter rows

Not all rows may be displayed below. Click Back to Search to select other geographies or industry codes using the search options on the left.

BACK TO ADVANCED SEARCH

Table Notes

Table contains a total of 3,166,593 records

Release Date : 04/19/2018

NOTE: Data based on the 2016 County Business Patterns. For information on confidentiality protection, see the instructions. Data in this table represent those available.

Versions of this table are available for the following years: 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012

Geographic area name	2012 NAICS code	Meaning of 2012 NAICS code	Year	Number of establishments	Paid employees for production and services, March 12 (in thousands)
United States	00	Total for all sectors	2016	7,757,807	117,000,000
United States	11	Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	2016	22,594	1,898
United States	21	Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	2016	27,234	1,008
United States	22	Utilities	2016	18,159	1,898
United States	23	Construction	2016	696,733	156,083
United States	31-33	Manufacturing	2016	291,543	11,837,334,098
United States	42	Wholesale trade	2016	412,526	6,110,000

Modify Table allows data users to Show Hidden Rows/Columns, such as noise flags.

County Business Patterns



Searching for Statewide in AFF



AMERICAN
FactFinder



MAIN | COMMUNITY FACTS | GUIDED SEARCH | **ADVANCED SEARCH** | DOWNLOAD CENTER

Search - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results

Your Selections

Search using...
Search: 2016
Program: Business Patterns
clear all selections and start a new search
load search | save search

Search using the options below:

Topics (age, income, year, dataset, ...)

Geographies (states, counties, places, ...)

Race and Ethnic Groups (race, ancestry, tribe)

Industry Codes (NAICS industry, ...)

EEO Occupation Codes (executives, analysts, ...)

Select Geographies

List | Name | Address | Map

Enter a geography name or use the Geography Filter Options below:
Enter a geography name (Alabama, Marengo County, ...) GO

Your Geography Filters

Search: statewide
clear all filters

Geography Filter Options

Within State
Within Region

Include in results:
 All geographies
 Individual geographies
 Groups of geographies
 Show Geographic Components (e.g., urban, rural)

Search using FIPS code:
Select a geographic type: State

Select geographies to add to Your Selections

Select from:
 most requested geographic types
 all geographic types
 individual blocks

Geography Results: 1-25 of 55

Selected: Add Check All Clear All Reset Sort

	Geography Name	Geography Type	About
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alabama -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alaska -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arizona -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arkansas -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	California -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Colorado -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connecticut -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Delaware -- Statewide	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Florida -- Statewide	State	i

To search for statewide data in AFF:

1. Make sure Business Patterns is selected (under Program).
2. Select Geographies
3. Under the 'Name' tab and under 'Enter a geography name or use the Geography Filter Options below:', type 'statewide' and hit enter
4. Be sure to select the 'Show Geographic Components (e.g., urban, rural)' box under Geography Filter Options.



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Last updated: 05/24/2018

<http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

County Business Patterns



Downloading Data in American FactFinder

To download the desired table, select your preferred options, click OK, and then click **Download**.

Advanced Search - Search all data in American FactFinder

1 Advanced Search 2 Table Viewer

CB1600A11 Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns 2016 Business Patterns

Table View

Actions: Modify Table Add/Remove Geographies Bookmark/Save Print **Download** Create a Map

This table is displayed with default geographies and industry codes. Not all rows may be displayed below. Click Back to Search to select other geographies or industry codes using the filters.

The table contains a total of 3,166,593 data rows.

Release Date : 04/19/2018

NOTE: Data based on the 2016 County Business Patterns. CBP html tables are subject to confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and other factors. Data in this table represent those available when this report was created; data may be updated in future releases.

View Geography Notes View Table Notes

Geographic area name	2012 NAICS code	Meaning of 2012 NAICS code	Year	establishments	pay period including March 12 (number)	First-quarter payroll (\$1,000)	Annual payroll (\$1,000)
United States	00	Total for all sectors	2016	7,757,807	126,752,238	1,604,399,617	6,435,142,055
United States	11	Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	2016	22,594	160,411	1,473,183	6,598,512
United States	21	Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	2016	27,234	587,017	13,917,793	49,397,708
United States	22	Utilities	2016	18,159	638,917	19,556,341	65,402,898
United States	23	Construction	2016	696,733	6,311,264	80,778,450	371,256,083
United States	31-33	Manufacturing	2016	291,543	11,590,420	164,366,878	663,734,098

County Business Patterns



Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)



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CBP Datasets

This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. In addition, the record layouts and the references for industry and geographies are available within their year.

Complete downloadable data files in comma-separated values (CSV) format from 1986 to current year.

Visit The National Archives to find files for years prior to 1986.

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[County Business Patterns: 2016](#)
April 19, 2018

[County Business Patterns: 2015](#)
April 20, 2017

[County Business Patterns: 2014](#)
April 24, 2016

[County Business Patterns: 2013](#)
April 23, 2015
Congressional District data started in 2013.

[County Business Patterns: 2012](#)
May 29, 2014

[County Business Patterns: 2011](#)
April 30, 2013

Data users can download CBP datasets in CSV format by clicking on **CBP Datasets** and selecting the desired year.

Data files are available from 1986 to 2016



Economic Statistics

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Last updated: 05/24/2018
<http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data/datasets.html>



Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

Census.gov > ECON > County Business Patterns: 2016

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County Business Patterns: 2016

April 19, 2018



This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. This data is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas; analyzing economic changes over time; and as a benchmark for other statistical series, surveys, and databases between economic censuses. Businesses use the data for analyzing market potential, measuring the effectiveness of sales and advertising programs, setting sales quotas, and developing budgets. Government agencies use the data for administration and planning.

Datasets

- Complete Congressional District File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete County File [15.6 MB]
- Complete County Equivalents for Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete Metropolitan Area File [7.5 MB]
- Complete Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete State File [10.9 MB]
- Complete U.S. File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete ZIP Code Industry Detail File [28.2 MB]
- Complete ZIP Code Totals File [<1.0 MB]

Record Layouts

2015-2016

txt [County Record Layout](#) [<1.0 MB]

2015-2016

txt [Metro Area Record Layout](#) [<1.0 MB]

Related Information



CBP Datasets

Datasets are available as .ZIP files which may contain multiple files

Once selecting a year, you will have access to all available datasets for that year.

Record layouts are also available for reference.



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:

- 2017 Economic Census: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html>
- American FactFinder: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>
- Business Dynamics Statistics: <https://www.census.gov/ces/dataproducts/bds/>
- Census Bureau Other Economic Programs: http://www.census.gov/econ/other_econ.html
- Nonemployer Statistics: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics/data.html>
- North American Industry Classification System: <http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>
- Statistics on U.S. Businesses: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html>