County Business Patterns

WHAT IS COUNTY BUSINESS PATTERNS?

County Business Patterns (CBP) is an annual series that provides statistics for businesses with paid employees in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas at detailed levels of geography and industry. CBP data are useful for studying the economic activity of small areas, economic changes over time, and serves as a benchmark for other statistical series, surveys, and databases between economic censuses. Additionally, CBP is an input source for Zip Code Business Patterns, the Statistics of U.S. Businesses, Longitudinal Business Database and Business Dynamics Statistics, and the Annual Business Survey, among others.

WHAT DATA VARIABLES ARE INCLUDED?

County Business Patterns provides data on the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first-quarter payroll, and annual payroll. Data are also shown by employment size class and Legal Form of Organization (LFO); LFO is only available at the national and state level.

WHICH BUSINESS TYPES ARE COVERED?

County Business Patterns covers most North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industries excluding Crop and Animal Production (NAICS 111 and 112); Rail Transportation (NAICS 482); National Postal Service (NAICS 491); Pension, Health, Welfare, and Vacation Funds (NAICS 525110, 525120, and 525190); Private Households, Trusts, Estates, and Agency Accounts (NAICS 525920); Office of Notaries (NAICS 541120); Private Households (NAICS 814); and Public Administration (NAICS 92). Most government establishments are excluded.

HOW FREQUENTLY IS THE CBP PUBLISHED?

CBP has been published annually (approximately 16 months after each reference year) since 1964.

WHAT INDUSTRY LEVELS ARE PUBLISHED?

County Business Patterns provides data at the 2- through 6-digit NAICS code levels; except for congressional district, which is published at the sector level (2-digit NAICS level).

WHAT GEOGRAPHIC LEVELS ARE PUBLISHED?

Data are shown at the national, state, metropolitan/micropolitan statistical area, county, ZIP Code, congressional district levels, and at the combined statistical area (CSA) level.

ARE THE DATA KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

In accordance with U.S. Code, Title 13, Section 9, no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual employer.

County Business Patterns (CBP) uses noise infusion as a method of disclosure avoidance in which values for each establishment are perturbed prior to table creation by applying a random noise multiplier to the data. Cells with fewer than three establishments are omitted from publication.

WHERE ARE THE DATA FROM?

They are primarily administrative data in the Business Register, supplemented (especially for large, multiunit establishments) by the Report of Organization and Economic Census data.

WHERE CAN I ACCESS THE DATA?

Data tables for the CBP are found at <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data.html>. Additionally, data from the CBP are included in Census Business Builder, QuickFacts, and the My Congressional District data tools.

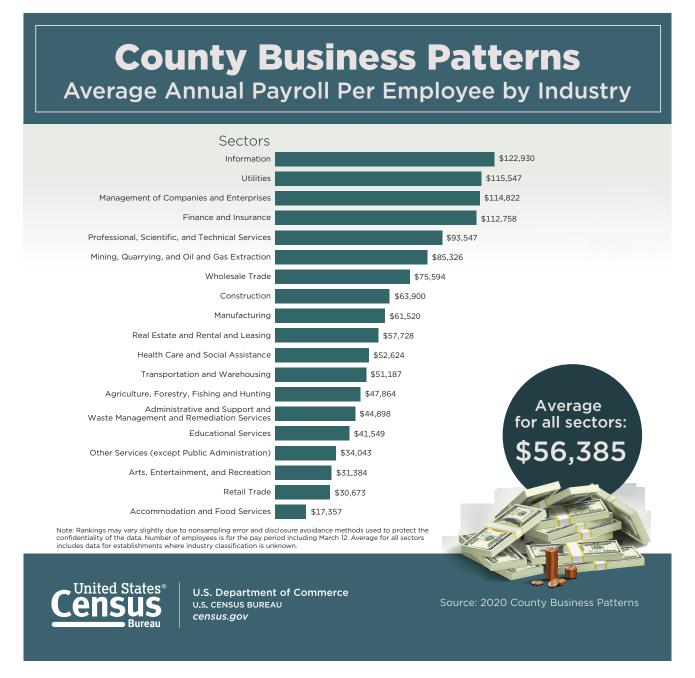Developers can find CBP data at <www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/cbp-nonemp-zbp/cbp-api.html>.

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Average Annual Payroll Per Employee by Industry

Sectors

Sector	Average Annual Payroll
Information	$122,930
Utilities	$115,547
Management of Companies and Enterprises	$114,822
Finance and Insurance	$112,758
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	$93,547
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	$85,326
Wholesale Trade	$75,594
Construction	$63,900
Manufacturing	$61,520
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	$57,728
Health Care and Social Assistance	$52,624
Transportation and Warehousing	$51,187
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	$47,864
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	$44,898
Educational Services	$41,549
Other Services (except Public Administration)	$34,043
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	$31,384
Retail Trade	$30,673
Accommodation and Food Services	$17,357

Average for all sectors: $56,385

Note: Rankings may vary slightly due to nonsampling error and disclosure avoidance methods used to protect the confidentiality of the data. Number of employees is for the pay period including March 12. Average for all sectors includes data for establishments where industry classification is unknown.

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Source: 2020 County Business Patterns

OTHER ECONOMIC SURVEYS AND SERIES

Selected annual data are available from a variety of annual business series including the Statistics of U.S. Businesses <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html> and Nonemployer Statistics <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html>. Detailed statistics from the 5-year Economic Census <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html> are also available.

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

For information about County Business Patterns, contact <ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov> or call 301-763- 2580. For more information, visit <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>.