

**Technical Information for the  
2016 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs (ASE): Company Summary (CS)  
Dataset Accessible via the Application Programming Interface (API)**

Estimates are provided for employer firms classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status, (DATA FIELDS described under the single attributes of “SEX”, “ETH\_GROUP”, “RACE\_GROUP”, and “VET\_GROUP”) as well as for publicly held and other firms not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status.

Data are tabulated by:

- Geography (U.S., states, and the fifty most populous metropolitan statistical areas)
- Industry (2-digit 2012 North American Industry Classification System code (NAICS2012) and meaning of code (NAICS2012\_TTL)) [See <https://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/> for detailed information.]
- Years in business (YIBSZFI)
- Receipts size of firm (RCPSZFI)
- Employment size of firms with paid employees (EMPSZFI)

The full list of geographies can be found at <https://api.census.gov/data/2016/ase/csa/geography.html> and the full list of variables can be found at <https://api.census.gov/data/2016/ase/csa/variables.html>.

**Abbreviations and Symbols:**

Please note that Symbols will show in the associated flag field for variables. The data value shown will be zero. The following abbreviations and symbols are used with these data:

- S** - Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards
- N** - Not available or not comparable
- X** - Not applicable

For the complete list of all economic programs symbols, see the Symbols Glossary at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census/technical-documentation/data-dictionary.html>.

**Technical Notes:**

Detail may not add to the total or subgroup total because a Hispanic or Latino firm may be of any race, and because a firm could be tabulated in more than one racial group. For example, if a firm responded as both Chinese and Black majority-owned, the firm would be included in the detailed Asian and Black estimates, but would only be counted once toward the higher level estimates for all firms.

For all firms classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status, the details are counted based on the person(s) owning 51 percent or more of the stock or equity in the business. These estimates are tabulated by single attribute (such as female-owned). Separate estimates are counted and tabulated for firms equally owned (50 percent / 50 percent).

Publicly held and other firms not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status are counted and tabulated separately.

Percentages are for respondent firms only and are not recalculated when the dataset is resorted. Percentages are always based on total reporting (defined above) within a gender, ethnicity, race, veteran status, and/or industry group for characteristics tabulated in this dataset. Firms with more than one domestic establishment are counted in each industry in which they operate, but only once in the U.S. total for all sectors. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see the Methodology section at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ase/technical-documentation/methodology.2016.html>.

### Valid Data Values

To build valid API queries, data users will need to refer to the following codes.

EMPSZFI represents the employment size categories of firms.

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
EMPSZFI	001	All firms
	611	Firms with no employees
	612	Firms with 1 to 4 employees
	620	Firms with 5 to 9 employees
	630	Firms with 10 to 19 employees
	641	Firms with 20 to 49 employees
	642	Firms with 50 to 99 employees
	651	Firms with 100 to 249 employees
	652	Firms with 250 to 499 employees
657	Firms with 500 employees or more	

RCPSZFI represents the sales/receipts/revenue size categories of firms.

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
RCPSZFI	001	All firms
	510	Firms with sales/receipts of less than \$10,000
	520	Firms with sales/receipts of \$10,000 to \$49,999
	522	Firms with sales/receipts of \$50,000 to \$99,999
	523	Firms with sales/receipts of \$100,000 to \$249,999
	525	Firms with sales/receipts of \$250,000 to \$499,999
	531	Firms with sales/receipts of \$500,000 to \$999,999
	532	Firms with sales/receipts of \$1,000,000 or more

YIBSZFI represents the number of years the firm has been in business.

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
YIBSZFI	001	All firms
	311	Firms with less than 2 years in business
	318	Firms with 2 to 3 years in business
	319	Firms with 4 to 5 years in business
	321	Firms with 6 to 10 years in business
	322	Firms with 11 to 15 years in business
	323	Firms with 16 or more years in business

If any one **person** owned 10 percent or more of the business in 2016, the respondent was asked to provide the gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status for up to four persons owning the largest percentage(s) of the business in 2016. Please refer to these questions and valid codes (listed by DATA FIELD in the order asked on the questionnaire) for a better understanding of the information collected on the 2016 ASE-1 report survey, which resulted in the classification of majority business ownership. Please note that only the race question instructed the respondent to ***Select all that apply.***"

"What is the sex of **Owner 1 (2, 3, or 4)**?"

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
SEX	001	All firms
	002	Female-owned
	003	Male-owned
	004	Equally male-/female-owned
	096	All firms classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status
	098	Publicly held and other firms not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status

"Has **Owner 1 (2, 3, or 4)** ever served in any branch of the U.S. military service, including the Coast Guard, the National Guard, or a Reserve component of any service branch?"

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
VET_GROUP	001	All firms
	002	Veteran-owned
	003	Equally veteran-/nonveteran-owned
	004	Nonveteran-owned
	096	All firms classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status
	098	Publicly held and other firms not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status

"Is **Owner 1 (2, 3, or 4)** of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?"

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
ETH_GROUP	001	All firms
	020	Hispanic
	028	Equally Hispanic/non-Hispanic
	029	Non-Hispanic
	096	All firms classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status
	098	Publicly held and other firms not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status

"What is **Owner 1 (2, 3, or 4)**'s race? **Select all that apply.** (For this survey, Hispanic origins are not races.)"

DATA FIELD	Valid codes	Meaning of code
RACE_GROUP	00	All firms
	30	White
	40	Black or African American
	50	American Indian and Alaska Native
	60	Asian
	70	Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
	80	Some other race
	90	Minority
	91	Equally minority/nonminority
	92	Nonminority
	96	All firms classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status
	98	Publicly held and other firms not classifiable by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status