

2021 Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS) Release Notes

The 2021 release includes several improvements to the BDS.

1. Improvements to the utilization of employment data

To provide a more complete time series, we are better utilizing all available data source files and preferencing employment data that agree across multiple data files. This led to changes in establishment counts and employment totals throughout the entire time series. While all industries are impacted by these improvements, the enhanced utilization of available employment data is especially apparent in industry 622 between the years 1978 and 1987.

2. Improvements to industry coding

We made multiple improvements to the consistency of industry codes in the years where Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes were used for industry classification. Significant changes can be seen in industries 3241, 3311, and 7121, between the years 1978 and 1997.

3. Addition of 1978 data quality suppressions

Some cells in the BDS tables will be suppressed due to quality concerns. The criteria uses prior and subsequent year data to determine whether a data cell should be suppressed. As such, there can be no quality suppressions ('S' suppressions) in the final year of time series. Previously, there were no quality suppressions applied in the first year of time series. However, we are now able to utilize 1977 data to apply quality suppressions in 1978, where appropriate.

4. Changes in non-numeric values across data platforms

- A new value of "N" has been implemented to indicate rate variables that are not able to be calculated.
- Standardized display of all flag variables (i.e., D,N,S,X).

5. 2021 BDS Explorer v 1.23.1

- Counties can be selected by Regional Commission when selecting *County* in the X-Axis, Group, or Geography dropdown.

6. 2021 BDS Experimental Products

There are several experimental products that accompany our 2021 BDS release. More information on these innovative products can be found at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ces/data/public-use-data/experimental-bds.html>.