Data User Guide

This guide provides steps to access County Business Patterns (CBP) data in Comma Separated files (CSV), on data.census.gov. 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 snapshot 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. LFO is derived from administrative records data sources.

- **North America Industry Classification System (NAICS)** – The standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments. For more information, visit the [NAICS website](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/about/glossary.html).

- **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](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/about/glossary.html) 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 (used prior to reference year 2017)
  - S - Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards
  - N - Not available or not comparable

- **Statewide** – Classification for employers in a state without a fixed location.
County Business Patterns (CBP)

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.

Data is available:
- Through Data.census.gov
- Downloadable (in CSV) on the survey page
- API

Visualizations

- County Business Patterns: Average Annual Payroll Per Employee by Industry
- Number of U.S. Breweries by Employment Size Ranges: 2017-2019
- County Business Patterns by Industry: 2019

News

Press Release | April 28, 2022
2020 County Business Patterns Now Available

Last updated: 4/28/2022
http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html
Using the Data Page

Data

County Business Patterns has been produced as a consistent, annual series since 1964 and ZIP Code Business Patterns since 1994.

CBP Tables
CBP data tables are available on data.census.gov from 2012 to the current reference year and in print publication from 1993-2004.

CBP Datasets
CBP data are available in downloadable CSV format, along with record layouts and reference guides, from 1986 to the current reference year.

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 allows developers to create custom queries. Users can embed these statistics into web or mobile apps.
To access data using data.census.gov, simply click on the hyperlink after selecting the desired year on the CBP Data Tables Page (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data/tables.html). You will then be directed to data.census.gov. Alternatively, you can go directly to data.census.gov and search for ‘County Business Patterns’.
# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov

**Economic Surveys**

CB2000CBP | All Sectors: County Business Patterns, including ZIP Code Business Patterns, by Legal Form of Organization and Employment S...

CBP2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Area</th>
<th>2017 ...</th>
<th>Meaning of NAICS ...</th>
<th>Meaning of Legal ...</th>
<th>Meaning of Employment ...</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Establishments</th>
<th>Annual Payroll ($1,000)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with less than 10 employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 5 to 9 employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 10 to 49 employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 50 to 99 employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 100 to 499 employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 500 to 999 employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 1,000 or more employees</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>C-corporations and other legal forms</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000,178</td>
<td>7,564,809,878</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Customize your table for Geography by clicking ‘Geos’ or NAICS by clicking ‘Code’.

**Last updated: 4/28/2022**

Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov

Geographies

Select ‘Geos’ and then select the desired geography (this example starts at the county level).

Scroll to the state that the county you want is in, or select the top box for all counties.
Within that state, select the county or counties you wish to view and hit the ‘X’ to return to the table.
Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov

ZIP Codes

Click the ‘Filter’ Menu at the top Left of the screen


Once you select your desired ZIP Codes, click the double arrows at the top-right of the screen to return to your table.
Alternatively, you can select the ‘Summary Levels’ option in the ‘Geography’ menu and then select the ‘5-Digit ZIP Code’ option.

If you select a state, a list of ZIP Codes within that state will appear.

Once you select your desired ZIP Codes, click the double arrows at the top-right of the screen to return to your table.
Lastly, you can search for a specific ZIP Code manually. After clicking the ‘Filters’ button at the top left of the screen, click the ‘Search’ button.

Type in the 5-digit ZIP code, or the name of the city related to the ZIP Code. A list of options will appear. Select options with the format ‘ZIP XXXXX (City, State)’. Do NOT select any options that start with ‘ZCTA’.
Select ‘Codes’ and then select ‘Industry Codes (NAICS)’

Select a check box to see all codes of that level

Or navigate through a folder to see Sector specific codes

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United States Census Bureau
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Last updated: 4/28/2022
### Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov

#### NAICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Geos</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Surveys</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Hide</th>
<th>Filter</th>
<th>Restore</th>
<th>Excel</th>
<th>CSV</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>More Data</th>
<th>Map</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Industry Codes (NAICS) / 11 - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting / Select 11 - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Selecting the top check box will show that NAICS at that level (in this example it will show just data for Sector 11)

- Selecting the top check box will show that NAICS at that level (in this example it will show just data for Sector 11).

#### All X-digit codes within a sector can be selected, or further folders can be navigated through

- All X-digit codes within a sector can be selected, or further folders can be navigated through.
The **Hide** feature allows data users to hide/show columns, such as identifier codes.
The **Filter** feature allows users to filter a column for a specific value or meaning.

Users can opt to only show certain rows. In this example hitting ‘APPLY’ would limit the table to only rows that have ‘All Establishments’.
To find Statewide, select ‘Geos’, and select ‘Summary Levels’, then ‘040 – State’

Select the box that has the ‘State – Statewide’ text for whichever state desired
**County Business Patterns**

**Downloading Data using Data.census.gov**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Surveys</th>
<th>CB2000CBP</th>
<th>All Sectors: County Business Patterns, including ZIP Code Business Patterns, by Legal Form of Organization and Employment Size Clas...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Select the desired download format and the table will download with all applied Geographies, Codes, and Filters**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Area Name</th>
<th>2017 NAICS code</th>
<th>Meaning of NAICS code</th>
<th>Meaning of Legal form of or...</th>
<th>Meaning of Employment...</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of establishments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with less than ...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 5 to 9 emp...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>1,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 10 to 19 e...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 20 to 49 e...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 50 to 99 e...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 100 to 249...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>Total for all sectors</td>
<td>All establishments</td>
<td>Establishments with 250 to 499...</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Last updated: 4/28/2022**

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 2015. Selecting ‘CBP Datasets’ on our webpage, and then ‘County Business Patterns: YEAR’ in the desired year will take the user to the page that has all of the datasets in .csv format.
Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

County Business Patterns: 2020

APRIL 28, 2022

This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. CBP datasets are downloadable files in comma-separated value (CSV) format. In addition, corresponding record layouts and reference files are available.

The Census Bureau did not collect district boundaries for the 117th Congress, in keeping with the practice of not collecting the session which aligns with the decennial census. As a result, County Business Patterns estimates were tabulated using 116th Congressional districts and state and local geographies.

The Census Bureau has reviewed this data product for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and has approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied. (Approval ID: CBDR8-FY22-088)

Datasets

- Complete Congressional District File [11 MB]
- Complete County File [11.2 MB]
- Complete County Equivalents for Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [11 MB]
- Complete CSA File [2.3 MB]
- Complete MSA File [6.1 MB]
- Complete Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [11 MB]
- Complete State File [10 MB]
- Complete U.S. File [11 MB]

Record Layouts

- County Record Layout [11 MB]

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.
Loading Data in API

The API page will link the user to information about CBP API information. All of the API calls to CBP will start with the address ‘api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?’

Clicking on the ‘Examples and Geographies’ or ‘Example Call’ will take the user to a page with data pulled from the API.

## 2020

**County Business Patterns**

- **API Call**: api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp
- **Examples and Geographies**: api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp.html
- **Variables**: api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp/variables.html
- **Example Call**: Total number of establishments for all legal forms of organization, in California for Accommodation and food services industry.

```plaintext
api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?
get=ESTAB,LFQ,NAICS2017_LABEL_NAME&for=state:06&NAICS2017=72
```

**Related Information**

- **API Forum**
  Check out our Developer Forum to submit questions, share your apps, and provide feedback.

- **FTP Server**
  To download full datasets, visit our FTP Server.

- **County Business Patterns (CBP)**
  Provides subnational economic data by industry, including the number of establishments, employment, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll.

- **NAICS Site**
  The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is the standard used by Federal statistics agencies in classifying business establishments.
The Examples page has many useful calls that can be used as starting points for more specific API requests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography Hierarchy</th>
<th>Geography Level</th>
<th>Example URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>us</td>
<td>010</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME">https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME</a> NAICS2017_LABEL ESTAB PAYANN PAYQTR1_EMP&amp;for=us *&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state</td>
<td>040</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME">https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME</a> NAICS2017_LABEL ESTAB PAYANN PAYQTR1_EMP&amp;for=state *&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state/county</td>
<td>050</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME">https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME</a> NAICS2017_LABEL ESTAB PAYANN PAYQTR1_EMP&amp;for=county *&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>metropolitan statistical area</td>
<td>310</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME">https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME</a> NAICS2017_LABEL ESTAB PAYANN PAYQTR1_EMP&amp;for=metropolitan%20statistical%20area *&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>combined statistical area</td>
<td>330</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME">https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME</a> NAICS2017_LABEL ESTAB PAYANN PAYQTR1_EMP&amp;for=combined *&amp;N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state/congressional district</td>
<td>500</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME">https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME</a> NAICS2017_LABEL ESTAB PAYANN PAYQTR1_EMP&amp;for=congressional%20district *&amp;N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The variables page will show the user what variables can be displayed in a table, and/or used as a filter.
To call Statewide rows for post 2017, the qualifier ‘GEOCOMP=S0’ will need to be put into a call for state-level geographies.

Specific states data can be selected by replacing the ‘state:*’ with ‘state:FIPS_Code’ where FIPS code is the 2 digit FIPS state desired.

Loading Data in API Statewide

```
[["NAME", "EMP", "ESTAB", "NAICS2017", "NAICS2017_LABEL", "PAYANN", "PAYQTR1", "YEAR"],
 ["Alabama -- Statewide", "57596", "568", "00", "Total for all sectors", "2175882", "532834", "2018", "00", "50", "01"],
 ["Alaska -- Statewide", "5998", "129", "00", "Total for all sectors", "669553", "154291", "2016", "00", "50", "02"],
 ["Arizona -- Statewide", "129966", "717", "00", "Total for all sectors", "6986711", "1534949", "2018", "00", "50", "04"],
 ["California -- Statewide", "165238", "736", "00", "Total for all sectors", "5486186", "1351838", "2018", "00", "50", "26"],
 ["Arkansas -- Statewide", "24143", "394", "00", "Total for all sectors", "87766", "76445", "2018", "00", "50", "05"],
 ["Colorado -- Statewide", "88998", "1577", "00", "Total for all sectors", "5436596", "12029253", "2018", "00", "50", "06"],
 ["Florida -- Statewide", "1394265", "1279", "00", "Total for all sectors", "7899752", "1768777", "2018", "00", "50", "12"],
 ["Georgia -- Statewide", "176495", "878", "00", "Total for all sectors", "6952196", "1711148", "2018", "00", "50", "13"],
 ["Hawaii -- Statewide", "1833", "239", "00", "Total for all sectors", "864926", "2018", "00", "50", "15"],
 ["Illinois -- Statewide", "220441", "912", "00", "Total for all sectors", "8349020", "2094086", "2018", "00", "50", "17"],
 ["Indiana -- Statewide", "19143", "691", "00", "Total for all sectors", "587249", "1647368", "2018", "00", "50", "18"],
 ["Iowa -- Statewide", "32936", "439", "00", "Total for all sectors", "1500854", "377498", "2018", "00", "50", "19"],
 ["Kansas -- Statewide", "32222", "518", "00", "Total for all sectors", "1392774", "2018", "00", "50", "20"],
 ["Kentucky -- Statewide", "12487", "637", "00", "Total for all sectors", "308676", "148134", "2018", "00", "50", "21"],
 ["Louisiana -- Statewide", "54804", "553", "00", "Total for all sectors", "388676", "148134", "2018", "00", "50", "21"]]
```
Additional Links

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

Feedback for Data.census.gov
• Cedsci.feedback@census.gov

Related links:
• 2017 Economic Census: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html
• Business Dynamics Statistics: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/bds.html
• Census Bureau Other Economic Programs: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-surveys.html
• Nonemployer Statistics: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html
• North American Industry Classification System: https://www.census.gov/naics/
• Statistics on U.S. Businesses: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html