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U.S. Government Estimates of Quarterly Revenue for Selected Services 2nd Quarter 2009

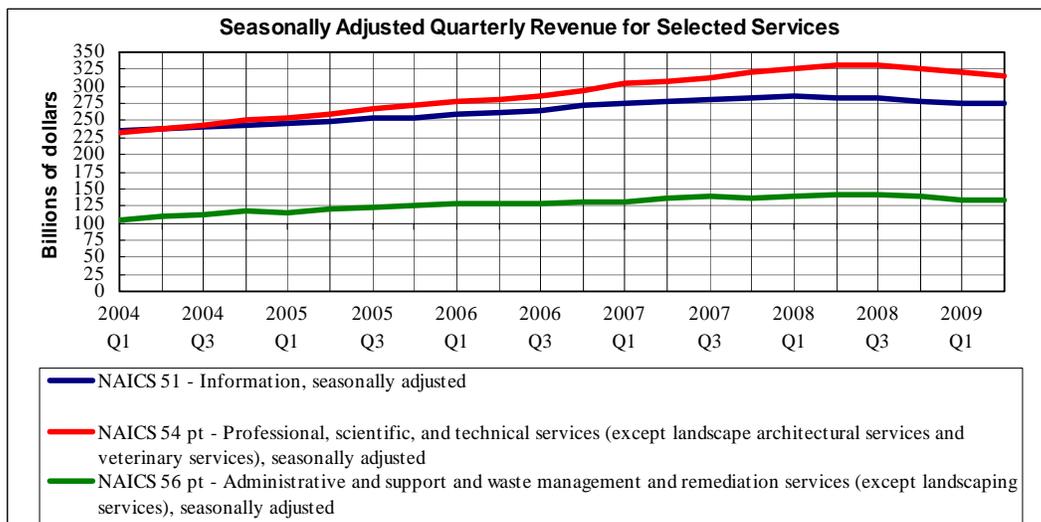
Special Notice: Preliminary quarterly service estimates are included for the first time for Ambulatory health care services and Social assistance services.

Intention to Expand Coverage: Effective with the third quarter 2009 press release, the coverage of the Quarterly Services Survey will be expanded to include estimates for Truck transportation; Couriers and messengers; Warehousing and storage; Rental and leasing services; Arts, entertainment, and recreation; and Other services (except public administration). These estimates are scheduled to be released on December 10, 2009.

Information The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that the estimate of U.S. information sector revenue for the second calendar quarter of 2009, *adjusted* for seasonal variation but not for price changes, was \$274.3 billion, a decrease of 0.4 percent ($\pm 0.5\%$)* from the first quarter of 2009 and down 3.3 percent ($\pm 0.7\%$) from the second quarter of 2008. The fourth quarter of 2008 to first quarter of 2009 percent change was not revised from -0.9 percent ($\pm 0.5\%$).

Professional, scientific, and technical services (except landscape architectural services and veterinary services) The estimate of U.S. professional, scientific, and technical services (except landscape architectural services and veterinary services) revenue for the second quarter of 2009, *adjusted* for seasonal variation but not for price changes, was \$315.1 billion, a decrease of 1.6 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$) from the first quarter of 2009 and down 4.7 percent ($\pm 1.7\%$) from the second quarter of 2008. The fourth quarter of 2008 to first quarter of 2009 percent change was revised from -1.6 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$) to -1.9 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$).

Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (except landscaping services) The estimate of U.S. administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (except landscaping services) revenue for the second quarter of 2009, *adjusted* for seasonal variation but not for price changes, was \$133.3 billion, a decrease of 0.5 percent ($\pm 2.0\%$)* from the first quarter of 2009 and down 5.4 percent ($\pm 3.8\%$) from the second quarter of 2008. The fourth quarter of 2008 to first quarter of 2009 percent change was revised from -3.2 percent ($\pm 2.0\%$) to -3.0 percent ($\pm 2.0\%$).



Health care and social assistance The estimate of U.S. health care and social assistance revenue for the second quarter of 2009, *not adjusted* for seasonal variation, or price changes, was \$452.5 billion, an increase of 3.1 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) from the first quarter of 2009.

For survey description and an explanation of the measures of sampling variability included in this report, please see the last page of the publication.

Third quarter 2009 revenue is scheduled to be released on December 10, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. EST.

This report is available on the day of issue through the Department of Commerce's STAT-USA Website; for more information, call (202) 482-1986.

* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

Our Internet site is <http://www.census.gov/services/index.html>.

Table 1a. Selected Services - Estimated Quarterly Revenue for Employer Firms, Seasonally Adjusted¹

[Estimates are adjusted for seasonal variation but not for price changes and are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey. For additional information see www.census.gov/qss]

2002 NAICS code ²	Kind of business	Total revenue (millions of dollars)						Percent change					
		2Q 2009 (p)	1Q 2009	4Q 2008	3Q 2008	2Q 2008	1Q 2008	2Q 2009 from 1Q 2009 (p)	1Q 2009 from 4Q 2008	4Q 2008 from 3Q 2008	3Q 2008 from 2Q 2008	2Q 2009 from 2Q 2008	1Q 2009 from 1Q 2008
51	Information	274,271	275,329	277,868	281,967	283,552	284,607	-0.4	-0.9	-1.5	-0.6	-3.3	-3.3
54 pt	Professional, scientific, and technical services (except landscape architectural services and veterinary services)	315,126	320,400	326,698	331,775	330,535	325,192	-1.6	-1.9	-1.5	0.4	-4.7	-1.5
5411	Legal services	63,341	62,104	61,655	64,057	63,990	62,521	2.0	0.7	-3.7	0.1	-1.0	-0.7
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	30,079	30,094	31,015	31,954	32,517	32,352	Z	-3.0	-2.9	-1.7	-7.5	-7.0
56 pt	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (except landscaping services)³	133,260	133,868	137,997	140,560	140,939	140,353	-0.5	-3.0	-1.8	-0.3	-5.4	-4.6
5613	Employment services	41,540	42,703	45,131	46,964	46,963	47,075	-2.7	-5.4	-3.9	Z	-11.5	-9.3
5615	Travel arrangement and reservation services	7,180	7,305	7,616	8,033	8,020	8,169	-1.7	-4.1	-5.2	0.2	-10.5	-10.6
562	Waste management and remediation services	18,614	18,858	19,102	19,148	19,574	18,805	-1.3	-1.3	-0.2	-2.2	-4.9	0.3

(p) Preliminary estimate. Z Less than .05 percent.

(1) The seasonal factors are based on a short time series that may not have stable seasonal patterns. As more estimates are added to the time series, large revisions in seasonal factors and consequently historical estimates may be observed. Data users should exercise caution when drawing inferences based on the seasonally adjusted estimates. Unless otherwise specified, seasonally adjusted estimates are obtained using a direct seasonal adjustment at the published NAICS level.

(2) For a full description of the NAICS (North American Industry Classification Code) codes used in this table, see the 2002 NAICS manual or <http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>.

(3) Seasonally adjusted estimates for 56pt are obtained by summing the seasonally adjusted estimates for 5613, 5615, and 562 and the not seasonally adjusted estimate for 561pt* found in Table 1b.

Note: Sector totals and subsector totals may include data for kinds of business not shown. Table 2 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this report should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/svsd/www/qssreliability.html.

Table 1b. Selected Services - Estimated Quarterly Revenue for Employer Firms, Not Seasonally Adjusted

[Estimates are not adjusted for seasonal variation or for price changes and are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey. For additional information see www.census.gov/qss]

2002 NAICS code ¹	Kind of business	Total revenue (millions of dollars)						Percent change				Year to date		
		2Q 2009 (p)	1Q 2009 (r)	4Q 2008	3Q 2008	2Q 2008	1Q 2008	2Q 2009 from 1Q 2009 (p)	1Q 2009 from 4Q 2008 (r)	2Q 2009 from 2Q 2008 (p)	1Q 2009 from 1Q 2008 (r)	2009 (p)	2008	2009 from 2008 (p)
51	Information	274,271	267,344	285,926	281,685	283,552	276,923	2.6	-6.5	-3.3	-3.5	541,615	560,475	-3.4
511	Publishing industries (except Internet)	67,161	64,532	75,030	73,856	74,358	72,795	4.1	-14.0	-9.7	-11.4	131,693	147,153	-10.5
51111	Newspaper publishers	9,286	8,753	10,571	10,473	10,779	10,748	6.1	-17.2	-13.9	-18.6	18,039	21,527	-16.2
51112	Periodical publishers	9,649	9,839	11,792	12,268	11,800	11,739	-1.9	-16.6	-18.2	-16.2	19,488	23,539	-17.2
5111 pt	Book, directory and mailing list, and other publishers ²	13,398	12,816	14,134	15,766	13,787	13,295	4.5	-9.3	-2.8	-3.6	26,214	27,082	-3.2
5112	Software publishers	34,828	33,124	38,533	35,349	37,992	37,013	5.1	-14.0	-8.3	-10.5	67,952	75,005	-9.4
512	Motion picture and sound recording industries ...	24,919	23,550	25,161	23,844	26,203	24,694	5.8	-6.4	-4.9	-4.6	48,469	50,897	-4.8
515	Broadcasting (except Internet)	23,515	22,803	25,787	25,136	25,389	24,292	3.1	-11.6	-7.4	-6.1	46,318	49,681	-6.8
5151	Radio and television broadcasting	11,644	11,215	13,195	13,530	13,949	13,717	3.8	-15.0	-16.5	-18.2	22,859	27,666	-17.4
5152	Cable and other subscription programming	11,871	11,588	12,592	11,606	11,440	10,575	2.4	-8.0	3.8	9.6	23,459	22,015	6.6
516, 5181, 519	Internet publishing and broadcasting, Internet service providers and web search portals, and other information services	14,342	14,135	15,123	14,827	14,331	14,322	1.5	-6.5	0.1	-1.3	28,477	28,653	-0.6
517	Telecommunications	126,545	124,769	126,817	126,738	125,212	123,511	1.4	-1.6	1.1	1.0	251,314	248,723	1.0
5171	Wired telecommunications carriers	44,759	44,294	45,754	46,689	46,505	46,710	1.0	-3.2	-3.8	-5.2	89,053	93,215	-4.5
5172	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	47,700	47,025	47,589	47,123	45,947	45,116	1.4	-1.2	3.8	4.2	94,725	91,063	4.0
5175	Cable and other program distribution	28,871	28,225	28,141	27,389	27,113	26,341	2.3	0.3	6.5	7.2	57,096	53,454	6.8
517 pt	Other telecommunications ³	5,215	5,225	5,333	5,537	5,647	5,344	-0.2	-2.0	-7.7	-2.2	10,440	10,991	-5.0
5182	Data processing, hosting, and related services ...	17,789	17,555	18,008	17,284	18,059	17,309	1.3	-2.5	-1.5	1.4	35,344	35,368	-0.1
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services ...	325,418	321,970	342,583	334,466	340,849	327,843	1.1	-6.0	-4.5	-1.8	647,388	668,692	-3.2
54 pt	Professional, scientific, and technical services (except landscape architectural services and veterinary services)	317,017	314,633	335,192	326,467	332,849	320,639	0.8	-6.1	-4.8	-1.9	631,650	653,488	-3.3
5411	Legal services	63,151	57,570	68,129	62,327	63,670	58,082	9.7	-15.5	-0.8	-0.9	120,721	121,752	-0.8
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	31,733	35,842	28,193	26,969	34,273	38,661	-11.5	27.1	-7.4	-7.3	67,575	72,934	-7.3
5413	Architectural, engineering, and related services ...	60,709	62,749	69,092	68,440	66,462	62,563	-3.3	-9.2	-8.7	0.3	123,458	129,025	-4.3
5413 pt	Architectural and related services ⁴	14,664	15,308	18,168	19,174	18,837	18,100	-4.2	-15.7	-22.2	-15.4	29,972	36,937	-18.9
54133	Engineering services	46,045	47,441	50,924	49,266	47,625	44,463	-2.9	-6.8	-3.3	6.7	93,486	92,088	1.5
5415	Computer systems design and related services ...	64,245	61,928	64,816	63,693	63,612	61,714	3.7	-4.5	1.0	0.3	126,173	125,326	0.7
5416	Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	38,889	38,398	43,035	42,663	42,812	40,851	1.3	-10.8	-9.2	-6.0	77,287	83,663	-7.6
5417	Scientific research and development services	28,045	26,950	27,686	27,998	27,419	25,503	4.1	-2.7	2.3	5.7	54,995	52,922	3.9
5418	Advertising and related services	18,572	19,002	21,256	21,286	20,765	20,240	-2.3	-10.6	-10.6	-6.1	37,574	41,005	-8.4
541 pt	Other professional, scientific, and technical services ⁵	20,074	19,531	20,376	21,090	21,836	20,229	2.8	-4.1	-8.1	-3.5	39,605	42,065	-5.8
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	145,039	141,440	150,869	154,028	153,540	148,024	2.5	-6.2	-5.5	-4.4	286,479	301,564	-5.0
56 pt	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (except landscaping services)	133,611	131,646	139,387	141,014	141,290	138,222	1.5	-5.6	-5.4	-4.8	265,257	279,512	-5.1
561	Administrative and support services	126,202	123,374	131,538	134,516	133,751	130,046	2.3	-6.2	-5.6	-5.1	249,576	263,797	-5.4
5613	Employment services	41,208	41,507	46,665	46,917	46,634	45,992	-0.7	-11.1	-11.6	-9.8	82,715	92,626	-10.7
5615	Travel arrangement and reservation services ...	7,640	7,071	7,243	8,170	8,485	7,948	8.0	-2.4	-10.0	-11.0	14,711	16,433	-10.5
561 pt	Other administrative and support services ⁶	77,354	74,796	77,630	79,429	78,632	76,106	3.4	-3.7	-1.6	-1.7	152,150	154,738	-1.7
561 pt*	Other administrative and support services (except landscaping services) ⁷	65,926	65,002	66,148	66,415	66,382	66,304	1.4	-1.7	-0.7	-2.0	130,928	132,686	-1.3
562	Waste management and remediation services	18,837	18,066	19,331	19,512	19,789	17,978	4.3	-6.5	-4.8	0.5	36,903	37,767	-2.3

Table 1b. Selected Services - Estimated Quarterly Revenue for Employer Firms, Not Seasonally Adjusted

[Estimates are not adjusted for seasonal variation or for price changes and are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey. For additional information see www.census.gov/qss]

2002 NAICS code ¹	Kind of business	Total revenue (millions of dollars)						Percent change				Year to date			
		2Q 2009 (p)	1Q 2009 (r)	4Q 2008	3Q 2008	2Q 2008	1Q 2008	2Q 2009 from 1Q 2009 (p)	1Q 2009 from 4Q 2008 (r)	2Q 2009 from 2Q 2008 (p)	1Q 2009 from 1Q 2008 (r)	2009 (p)	2008	2009 from 2008 (p)	
62	Health care and social assistance	452,544	438,941	X	X	X	X	3.1	X	X	X	X	891,485	X	X
62 pt	Selected health care services ⁸	237,507	230,853	225,527	221,984	224,456	223,760	2.9	2.4	5.8	3.2	468,360	448,216	4.5	
621	Ambulatory health care services	182,395	177,533	X	X	X	X	2.7	X	X	X	359,928	X	X	
6211	Offices of physicians.....	94,007	90,641	X	X	X	X	3.7	X	X	X	184,648	X	X	
6212	Offices of dentists.....	25,244	25,884	X	X	X	X	-2.5	X	X	X	51,128	X	X	
6213	Offices of other health practitioners	13,225	12,804	X	X	X	X	3.3	X	X	X	26,029	X	X	
6214	Outpatient care centers	19,048	18,402	X	X	X	X	3.5	X	X	X	37,450	X	X	
6215	Medical and diagnostic laboratories	10,163	9,714	X	X	X	X	4.6	X	X	X	19,877	X	X	
6216	Home health care services	14,127	13,638	X	X	X	X	3.6	X	X	X	27,765	X	X	
6219	Other ambulatory health care services	6,581	6,450	X	X	X	X	2.0	X	X	X	13,031	X	X	
622	Hospitals	193,235	187,618	182,315	179,208	181,400	181,581	3.0	2.9	6.5	3.3	380,853	362,981	4.9	
623	Nursing and residential care facilities	44,272	43,235	43,212	42,776	43,056	42,179	2.4	0.1	2.8	2.5	87,507	85,235	2.7	
624	Social assistance	32,642	30,555	X	X	X	X	6.8	X	X	X	63,197	X	X	
6241	Individual and family services.....	15,964	15,179	X	X	X	X	5.2	X	X	X	31,143	X	X	
6242	Community food and housing, and emergency and other relief services	4,868	4,126	X	X	X	X	18.0	X	X	X	8,994	X	X	
6243	Vocational rehabilitation services	4,511	4,165	X	X	X	X	8.3	X	X	X	8,676	X	X	
6244	Child day care services	7,299	7,085	X	X	X	X	3.0	X	X	X	14,384	X	X	

(p) Preliminary estimate. (r) Revised estimate. X Not applicable.

(1) For a full description of the NAICS (North American Industry Classification Code) codes used in this table, see the 2002 NAICS manual or <http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>.

(2) Includes NAICS 51113 (book publishers), 51114 (directory and mailing list publishers), and 51119 (other publishers).

(3) Includes NAICS 5173 (telecommunications resellers), 5174 (satellite telecommunications), and 5179 (other telecommunications).

(4) Includes all of NAICS 5413 (architectural, engineering, and related services) except 54133 (engineering services).

(5) Includes NAICS 5414 (specialized design services) and 5419 (other professional, scientific, and technical services).

(6) Includes NAICS 5611 (office administrative services), 5612 (facilities support services), 5614 (business support services), 5616 (investigation and security services), 5617 (services to buildings and dwellings), and 5619 (other support services).

(7) Includes NAICS 5611 (office administrative services), 5612 (facilities support services), 5614 (business support services), 5616 (investigation and security services), 5617 (services to buildings and dwellings except 56173 (landscaping services)), and 5619 (other support services).

(8) Includes NAICS 622 (hospitals) and 623 (nursing and residential care facilities).

Note: Sector totals and subsector totals may include data for kinds of business not shown. Table 2 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this report should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/svsd/www/qssreliability.html.

Table 2. Selected Services - Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability

[Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey]

2002 NAICS code	Kind of business	Median coefficient of variation for quarterly total revenue	Median standard error ¹ for percent change		Coefficient of variation for year to date	Standard error for percent change
			Ratio of two consecutive quarters	Current quarter to current quarter last year	2009	2009 year to date from 2008 year to date
51	Information	1.0	0.3	0.4	1.1	0.4
511	Publishing industries (except Internet)	2.7	0.8	1.5	2.6	1.6
51111	Newspaper publishers	5.3	1.8	1.6	5.5	3.1
51112	Periodical publishers	5.9	1.4	2.0	5.8	2.1
5111 pt	Book, directory and mailing list, and other publishers	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.7
5112	Software publishers	4.5	1.3	2.8	4.6	2.4
512	Motion picture and sound recording industries	3.7	1.8	1.9	3.4	2.1
515	Broadcasting (except Internet)	2.3	0.3	0.6	2.2	0.4
5151	Radio and television broadcasting	3.4	0.5	1.0	3.4	0.6
5152	Cable and other subscription programming	1.5	0.2	0.8	1.3	0.5
516,	Internet publishing and broadcasting, Internet					
5181,	service providers and web search portals,					
519	and other information services	7.7	1.2	2.0	8.0	1.6
517	Telecommunications	1.2	0.2	0.8	1.2	0.5
5171	Wired telecommunications carriers	3.1	0.5	1.4	3.0	0.7
5172	Wireless telecommunications carriers (except satellite)	2.0	0.3	0.9	2.0	0.5
5175	Cable and other program distribution	1.5	0.2	0.5	1.6	0.4
517 pt	Other telecommunications	7.2	1.2	2.9	7.5	2.7
5182	Data processing, hosting, and related services	4.4	1.7	2.9	4.5	1.8
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services	2.6	0.6	1.0	2.9	1.1
54 pt	Professional, scientific, and technical services (except landscape architectural services and veterinary services)	2.6	0.6	1.0	2.8	1.1
5411	Legal services	7.7	2.7	2.7	7.6	2.6
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	8.9	2.1	2.8	8.2	2.5
5413	Architectural, engineering, and related services	3.1	1.3	2.0	3.4	2.0
5413 pt	Architectural and related services	6.6	2.9	3.4	6.0	1.1
54133	Engineering services	3.0	1.4	2.1	3.3	2.9
5415	Computer systems design and related services	6.2	1.5	3.3	7.0	3.7
5416	Management, scientific, and technical consulting services	5.2	1.7	2.0	5.7	1.5
5417	Scientific research and development services	11.3	1.4	2.6	11.4	1.4
5418	Advertising and related services	4.0	2.0	3.7	3.8	3.1
541 pt	Other professional, scientific, and technical services	5.0	1.4	3.1	5.2	2.7
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	2.6	1.4	2.1	2.7	2.0
56 pt	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (except landscaping services)	2.9	1.2	2.3	2.9	2.3
561	Administrative and support services	2.7	1.6	2.2	2.6	2.2
5613	Employment services	5.6	1.0	2.4	5.4	2.1
5615	Travel arrangement and reservation services	4.4	2.1	4.2	4.2	4.6
561 pt	Other administrative and support services	3.8	2.3	3.2	3.8	2.8
561 pt*	Other administrative and support services (except landscaping services)	4.8	2.1	3.3	4.8	3.2
562	Waste management and remediation services	8.5	1.5	4.3	8.5	1.7

Table 2. Selected Services - Estimated Measures of Sampling Variability

[Estimates are shown as percents and are based on data from the Quarterly Services Survey]

2002 NAICS code	Kind of business	Median coefficient of variation for quarterly total revenue ¹	Median standard error ¹ for percent change		Coefficient of variation for year to date	Standard error for percent change
			Ratio of two consecutive quarters	Current quarter to current quarter last year	2009	2009 year to date from 2008 year to date
62	Health care and social assistance	1.3	0.5	X	1.1	X
62 pt	Selected health care services	2.7	0.9	1.4	2.5	1.2
621	Ambulatory health care services	2.5	0.3	X	2.5	X
6211	Offices of physicians.....	3.0	0.7	X	3.0	X
6212	Offices of dentists.....	4.5	0.8	X	4.3	X
6213	Offices of other health practitioners	4.3	0.8	X	4.2	X
6214	Outpatient care centers	5.2	0.7	X	5.2	X
6215	Medical and diagnostic laboratories	1.9	0.8	X	2.2	X
6216	Home health care services	10.3	1.0	X	10.4	X
6219	Other ambulatory health care services	3.0	0.8	X	2.9	X
622	Hospitals	3.3	1.1	1.9	3.1	1.7
623	Nursing and residential care facilities	6.4	0.5	1.7	6.5	1.4
624	Social assistance	6.6	0.9	X	6.5	X
6241	Individual and family services.....	6.2	1.7	X	6.4	X
6242	Community food and housing, and emergency and other relief services	6.8	1.4	X	5.5	X
6243	Vocational rehabilitation services	19.8	2.3	X	19.4	X
6244	Child day care services	7.0	1.2	X	6.9	X

X Not applicable.

(1) The medians are based on estimates for the most recent four quarters.

Note: Estimated measures of sampling variability are based on data not adjusted for seasonal variation, and should be used when drawing inferences about both adjusted and not adjusted estimates. Additional information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, sample design, and definitions may be found at www.census.gov/svsd/www/qssreliability.html.

Survey Description

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the Quarterly Services Survey (QSS) to provide national estimates of quarterly revenue for employer firms located in the United States and classified in select service industries. The industry coverage has increased since the survey's inception in 2004, as shown in the following table. The current total sample size is approximately 8,000 employer firms.

2002 NAICS Code	Kind of Business	First Publication Quarter
51	Information	2003, Q4
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services	
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	
622	Hospitals	2004, Q4
623	Nursing and residential care facilities	
621	Ambulatory health care services	2009, Q1
624	Social assistance	

Each quarter, questionnaires are mailed to a probability sample of employer firms selected from the larger Service Annual Survey (SAS) sample. The QSS sample includes firms of all sizes and is updated on a quarterly basis to account for new services businesses, deaths, and other changes to the survey universe. Data for nonresponding firms are imputed based on data for similar-sized firms classified in the same kind of business. The following table lists imputation rates of total quarterly revenue for the industries published in the QSS:

2002 NAICS Code	Kind of Business	Imputation Rate of Total Quarterly Revenue (in %)
51	Information	8
54 pt	Professional, scientific, and technical services (except landscape architectural services and veterinary services)	22
56 pt	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (except landscaping services)	30
62	Health care and social assistance	22

Quarterly revenue estimates are obtained by summing weighted data (either reported or imputed), where the weight for a particular unit is the reciprocal of its probability of being selected into the sample. The estimates are adjusted using SAS results. Additional information on the QSS can be found on the Census Bureau website at <http://www.census.gov/services/index.html>.

Description of Seasonal Adjustment

To derive the seasonally adjusted revenue estimates published in this report, we used quarterly revenue estimates for the fourth quarter of 2003 through the most recent quarter, as input to the Census Bureau's X-12 ARIMA program. With each quarterly release, we publish preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates for the current quarter and revised seasonally adjusted estimates for the previous five quarters. The seasonal adjustment models used to derive seasonal factors for each kind of business are evaluated annually and will not be revised until the next benchmarking operation. For a table of the seasonal adjustment factors, see <http://www2.census.gov/services/qss/2009/qssq2-09seasfactors.xls>. A list of "Frequently Asked Questions" on seasonal adjustment of QSS estimates is available at <http://www.census.gov/services/qss/qssseasfaq.html>.

Reliability of the Estimates

The estimates in this report may differ from the actual, but unknown, population values. For a particular estimate, statisticians define this difference as the total error of the estimate. When describing the accuracy of survey results, it is convenient to discuss total error as the sum of sampling error and nonsampling error. Nonsampling error is the difference between the actual population parameter and the value that would be derived by surveying the entire set of units identified as the survey universe (the sampling frame). There are many potential contributors to nonsampling error – the inclusion of erroneous units in the survey (overcoverage), the exclusion of eligible units from the survey (undercoverage), nonresponse, misreporting, mistakes in recording and coding responses, misinterpretation of questions, and other errors of collection, response, coverage, or processing. Though nonsampling error is not measured directly, the Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the process to minimize this type of error. Sampling error is the average difference between the estimate and the result that would be obtained from a complete enumeration of the sampling frame conducted under the same survey conditions. This error occurs because only a subset of the entire sampling frame is measured in a sample survey. Common measures of sampling error are the sampling variance, the standard error, and the coefficient of variation (CV). The sampling variance is defined as the squared difference, averaged over all possible samples of the same size and design, between the estimator and its average value. The standard error is the square root of the sampling variance. The CV expresses the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. For example, an estimate of 200 units that has an estimated standard error of 10 units has an estimated CV of 5 percent. The sampling variance, standard error, and CV of an estimate can be estimated from the selected sample because the sample was selected using probability sampling. Standard errors and coefficients of variation are given in Table 2 of this report. The first page of this release gives statements about the change in revenue from a prior period. Each change estimate is accompanied by a number in parentheses, called the "margin of error." The margin of error can be used to construct a 90-percent confidence interval, which is interpreted as follows. If, for each possible sample, an estimate and its approximate standard error are obtained, then for approximately 90 percent of the possible samples, the interval from 1.65 standard errors below to 1.65 standard errors above the estimate would include the average of the estimates derived from all possible samples. If, for example, a particular change estimate is +1.2 percent and its associated margin of error is ± 1.5 percentage points, then the 90-percent confidence interval for the change estimate is -0.3 percent to +2.7 percent. If the interval contains 0, then one does not have sufficient evidence to conclude at the 90-percent confidence level that the actual change is different from zero. Each comparison stated in this report has undergone statistical testing and is significant at the 90-percent confidence level, unless otherwise noted. Data users should take into account the estimates of sampling error and the potential effects of nonsampling error when using the statistics in this publication.