

Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, and Payroll Services: 2002

Issued August 2004

EC02-54I-02

2002 Economic Census

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

Industry Series



U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

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U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
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-- Not applicable for this report.

Introduction to the Economic Census

PURPOSES AND USES OF THE ECONOMIC CENSUS

The economic census is the major source of facts about the structure and functioning of the nation's economy. It provides essential information for government, business, industry, and the general public. Title 13 of the United States Code (Sections 131, 191, and 224) directs the Census Bureau to take the economic census every 5 years, covering years ending in "2" and "7."

The economic census furnishes an important part of the framework for such composite measures as the gross domestic product estimates, input/output measures, production and price indexes, and other statistical series that measure short-term changes in economic conditions. Specific uses of economic census data include the following:

- Policymaking agencies of the federal government use the data to monitor economic activity and to assess the effectiveness of policies.
- State and local governments use the data to assess business activities and tax bases within their jurisdictions and to develop programs to attract business.
- Trade associations study trends in their own and competing industries, which allows them to keep their members informed of market changes.
- Individual businesses use the data to locate potential markets and to analyze their own production and sales performance relative to industry or area averages.

INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATIONS

Data from the 2002 Economic Census are published primarily according to the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). NAICS was first adopted in the United States, Canada, and Mexico in 1997. The 2002 Economic Census covers the following NAICS sectors:

21	Mining
22	Utilities
23	Construction
31-33	Manufacturing
42	Wholesale Trade
44-45	Retail Trade
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing
51	Information
52	Finance and Insurance
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
61	Educational Services
62	Health Care and Social Assistance
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
72	Accommodation and Food Services
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)

(Not listed above are the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting sector (NAICS 11), partially covered by the census of agriculture conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Public Administration sector (NAICS 92), largely covered by the census of governments conducted by the Census Bureau.)

The 20 NAICS sectors are subdivided into 100 subsectors (three-digit codes), 317 industry groups (four-digit codes), and, as implemented in the United States, 1,179 industries (six-digit codes).

RELATIONSHIP TO HISTORICAL INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATIONS

Prior to the 1997 Economic Census, data were published according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. While many of the individual NAICS industries correspond directly to industries as defined under the SIC system, most of the higher level groupings do not. Particular care should be taken in comparing data for retail trade, wholesale trade, and manufacturing, which are sector titles used in both NAICS and SIC, but cover somewhat different groups of industries. The 1997 Economic Census *Bridge Between NAICS and SIC* demonstrates the relationships between NAICS and SIC industries. Where changes are significant, it may not be possible to construct time series that include data for points both before and after 1997.

Most industry classifications remained unchanged between 1997 and 2002, but NAICS 2002 includes substantial revisions within the construction and wholesale trade sectors, and a number of revisions for the retail trade and information sectors. These changes are noted in industry definitions and will be demonstrated in the *Bridge Between NAICS 2002 and NAICS 1997*.

For 2002, data for enterprise support establishments (those functioning primarily to support the activities of their company's operating establishments, such as a warehouse or a research and development laboratory) are included in the industry that reflects their activities (such as warehousing). For 1997, such establishments were termed auxiliaries and were excluded from industry totals.

BASIS OF REPORTING

The economic census is conducted on an establishment basis. A company operating at more than one location is required to file a separate report for each store, factory, shop, or other location. Each establishment is assigned a separate industry classification based on its primary activity and not that of its parent company. (For selected industries, only payroll, employment, and classification are collected for individual establishments, while other data are collected on a consolidated basis.)

GEOGRAPHIC AREA CODING

Accurate and complete information on the physical location of each establishment is required to tabulate the census data for states, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, counties, and corporate municipalities (places) including cities, towns, townships, villages, and boroughs. Respondents were required to report their physical location (street address, municipality, county, and state) if it differed from their mailing address. For establishments not surveyed by mail (and those single-establishment companies that did not provide acceptable information on physical location), location information from administrative sources is used as a basis for coding.

AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL DATA

All results of the 2002 Economic Census are available on the Census Bureau Internet site (www.census.gov) and on digital versatile discs (DVD-ROMs) for sale by the Census Bureau. The American FactFinder system at the Internet site allows selective retrieval and downloading of the data. For more information, including a description of reports being issued, see the Internet site, write to the U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-6100, or call Customer Services at 301-763-4100.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The economic census has been taken as an integrated program at 5-year intervals since 1967 and before that for 1954, 1958, and 1963. Prior to that time, individual components of the economic census were taken separately at varying intervals.

The economic census traces its beginnings to the 1810 Decennial Census, when questions on manufacturing were included with those for population. Coverage of economic activities was expanded for the 1840 Decennial Census and subsequent censuses to include mining and some commercial activities. The 1905 Manufactures Census was the first time a census was taken apart

from the regular decennial population census. Censuses covering retail and wholesale trade and construction industries were added in 1930, as were some service trades in 1933. Censuses of construction, manufacturing, and the other business censuses were suspended during World War II.

The 1954 Economic Census was the first census to be fully integrated, providing comparable census data across economic sectors and using consistent time periods, concepts, definitions, classifications, and reporting units. It was the first census to be taken by mail, using lists of firms provided by the administrative records of other federal agencies. Since 1963, administrative records also have been used to provide basic statistics for very small firms, reducing or eliminating the need to send them census report forms.

The range of industries covered in the economic census expanded between 1967 and 2002. The census of construction industries began on a regular basis in 1967, and the scope of service industries, introduced in 1933, was broadened in 1967, 1977, and 1987. While a few transportation industries were covered as early as 1963, it was not until 1992 that the census broadened to include all of transportation, communications, and utilities. Also new for 1992 was coverage of financial, insurance, and real estate industries. With these additions, the economic census and the separate census of governments and census of agriculture collectively covered roughly 98 percent of all economic activity. New for 2002 is coverage of four industries classified in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing sector under the SIC system: landscape architectural services, landscaping services, veterinary services, and pet care services.

Printed statistical reports from the 1992 and earlier censuses provide historical figures for the study of long-term time series and are available in some large libraries. Reports for 1997 were published primarily on the Internet and copies of 1992 reports are also available there. CD-ROMs issued from the 1987, 1992, and 1997 Economic Censuses contain databases that include all or nearly all data published in print, plus additional statistics, such as ZIP Code statistics, published only on CD-ROM.

SOURCES FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information about the scope, coverage, classification system, data items, and publications for the 2002 Economic Census and related surveys is published in the *Guide to the 2002 Economic Census* at www.census.gov/econ/census02/guide. More information on the methodology, procedures, and history of the census will be published in the *History of the 2002 Economic Census* at www.census.gov/econ/www/history.html.

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Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

SCOPE

The Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services sector (sector 54) comprises establishments that specialize in performing professional, scientific, and technical activities for others. These activities require a high degree of expertise and training. The establishments in this sector specialize according to expertise and provide services to clients in a variety of industries and, in some cases, to households. Activities performed include: legal advice and representation; accounting, bookkeeping, and payroll services; architectural, engineering, and specialized design services; computer services; consulting services; research services; advertising services; photographic services; translation and interpretation services; veterinary services; and other professional, scientific, and technical services.

This sector excludes establishments primarily engaged in providing a range of day-to-day office administrative services, such as financial planning, billing and recordkeeping, personnel, and physical distribution and logistics. These establishments are classified in Sector 56, Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services.

Data for this sector are shown for establishments of firms subject to federal income tax, and separately, of firms that are exempt from federal income tax under provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Many of the “kinds of business” included in this sector are not thought of as commercial businesses and the terms (such as “business,” “establishment,” and “firm”) used to describe them may not be descriptive of such services. However, these terms are applied to all “kinds of business” in order to maintain conformity in the measures of the production and delivery of goods and services and in the presentation of data.

Exclusions. The tabulations for this sector do not include central administrative offices, warehouses, or other establishments that serve professional, scientific, and technical service establishments within the same organization. Data for such establishments are classified according to the nature of the service they provide. For example, separate headquarters establishments are reported in NAICS sector 55, Management of Companies and Enterprises.

The reports described below exclude establishments of firms with no paid employees. These “nonemployers,” typically self-employed individuals or partnerships operating businesses that they have not chosen to incorporate, are reported separately in *Nonemployer Statistics*. The contribution of nonemployers, relatively large for this sector, may be examined at www.census.gov/nonemployerimpact.

Definitions. Industry categories are defined in Appendix B, NAICS Codes, Titles, and Descriptions. Other terms are defined in Appendix A, Explanation of Terms.

REPORTS

The following reports provide statistics on this sector.

Industry Series. There are nine reports, each covering a group of related industries. The reports present, by kind of business for the United States, general statistics for establishments of firms with payroll on number of establishments, receipts/revenue, expenses of tax-exempt establishments, payroll, and employment; comparative statistics for 2002 and 1997; product lines; and concentration of business activity in the largest firms. The data in industry reports are preliminary and subject to change in the following reports.

Geographic Area Series. There is a separate report for each state, the District of Columbia, and the United States. Each state report presents, for establishments of firms with payroll, general statistics on number of establishments, receipts/revenue, expenses of tax-exempt establishments, payroll, and employment by kind of business for the state, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, counties, and places with 2,500 inhabitants or more. Greater kind-of-business detail is shown for larger areas. The United States report presents data for the United States as a whole for detailed kind-of-business classifications.

Subject Series:

- **Product Lines.** This report presents product lines data for establishments of firms with payroll by kind of business. Data are presented for the United States and states. Establishments may report negative revenue for selected product lines. Because of this, percentages for product lines may be in excess of 100 or less than 0.
- **Establishment and Firm Size (Including Legal Form of Organization).** This report presents receipts/revenue, payroll, and employment data for the United States by receipts/revenue size, by employment size, and by legal form of organization for establishments of firms with payroll; and by receipts/revenue size (including concentration by largest firms), by employment size, and by number of establishments operated (single units and multiunits) for firms with payroll.
- **Miscellaneous Subjects.** This report presents data for a variety of industry-specific topics for establishments of firms with payroll. Presentation of data varies by kind of business.

ZIP Code Statistics. This report presents data for establishments of firms with payroll by United States ZIP Code.

Other reports. Data for this sector are also included in reports with multisector coverage, including *Nonemployer Statistics*, *Comparative Statistics*, *Bridge Between 2002 NAICS and 1997 NAICS*, *Business Expenses*, and the Survey of Business Owners reports.

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS COVERED

The level of geographic detail varies by report. Maps are available at www.census.gov/econ2002maps. Notes specific to areas in the state are included in Appendix D, Geographic Notes. Data may be presented for –

1. The United States as a whole.
2. States and the District of Columbia.
3. Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. A core based statistical area (CBSA) contains a core area with a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. CBSAs are differentiated into metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas based on size criteria. Both metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas are defined in terms of entire counties, and are listed in Appendix E, Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas.
 - a. Metropolitan Statistical Areas (metro areas). Metro areas have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.
 - b. Micropolitan Statistical Areas (micro areas). Micro areas have at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000, but less than 50,000 population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.
 - c. Metropolitan Divisions (metro divisions). If specified criteria are met, a metro area containing a single core with a population of 2.5 million or more may be subdivided to form smaller groupings of counties referred to as Metropolitan Divisions.

-
- d. Combined Statistical Areas (combined areas). If specified criteria are met, adjacent metro and micro areas, in various combinations, may become the components of a new set of areas called Combined Statistical Areas. The areas that combine retain their own designations as metro or micro areas within the larger combined area.
4. Counties and county equivalents defined as of January 1, 2002. Counties are the primary divisions of states, except in Louisiana where they are called parishes and in Alaska where they are called boroughs, census areas, and city and boroughs. Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, and Virginia have one place or more that is independent of any county organization and constitutes primary divisions of their states. These places are treated as counties and as places.
 5. Economic places.
 - a. Municipalities of 2,500 inhabitants or more defined as of January 1, 2002. These are areas of significant population incorporated as cities, boroughs, villages, or towns according to the 2000 Census of Population. For the economic census, boroughs, census areas, and city and boroughs in Alaska and boroughs in New York are not included in this category.
 - b. Consolidated cities defined as of January 1, 2002. Consolidated cities are consolidated governments that consist of separately incorporated municipalities.
 - c. Townships in Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and towns in New York, Wisconsin, and the six New England states with 10,000 inhabitants or more (according to the 2000 Census of Population).
 - d. Balance of county. Areas outside the entities listed above, including incorporated municipalities with populations of fewer than 2,500, towns and townships not qualifying as noted above, and the remainders of counties outside places are categorized as "Balance of county."

DOLLAR VALUES

All dollar values presented are expressed in current dollars; i.e., 2002 data are expressed in 2002 dollars, and 1997 data, in 1997 dollars. Consequently, when making comparisons with prior years, users of the data should consider the changes in prices that have occurred.

All dollar values are shown in thousands of dollars.

COMPARABILITY OF THE 1997 AND 2002 ECONOMIC CENSUSES

Both the 2002 Economic Census and the 1997 Economic Census present data based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). However, for 2002, data for NAICS 54132, Landscape Architectural Services, and NAICS 54194, Veterinary Services, are included. These NAICS industries were out of scope in 1997.

Data for this sector for 2002 include totals for taxable and tax-exempt businesses together, not present in 1997 reports. For 1997, only data for taxable establishments were shown at county and place levels in the Geographic Area Series. For 2002, data for taxable and tax-exempt establishments, as well as the combined totals, are shown at these geographic levels.

These tables for 2002 include professional, scientific, and technical service establishments that primarily serve other establishments of the same enterprise. These "enterprise support" establishments were not included in data for the professional, scientific, and technical services sector in 1997, but were instead included in the "Other auxiliary establishments" kind-of-business category in the "Auxiliaries, Excluding Corporate, Subsidiary, and Regional Managing Offices" reports.

For 2002, the revenue data for tax-exempt establishments include gains or losses from the sale of real estate, investments, or other assets. In 1997, these gains or losses were excluded from revenue. Also, the 2002 expenses data for tax-exempt establishments exclude program service grants, contributions and gifts paid, specific assistance to individuals, and benefits paid to or for members. In 1997, these types of expenses were included.

RELIABILITY OF DATA

All data compiled for this sector are subject to nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources: inability to identify all cases in the actual universe; definition and classification difficulties; differences in the interpretation of questions; errors in recording or coding the data obtained; and other errors of collection, response, coverage, processing, and estimation for missing or misreported data. Data presented in the Miscellaneous Subjects and Product Lines reports for this sector are subject to sampling errors, as well as nonsampling errors.

The accuracy of these tabulated data is determined by the joint effects of the various nonsampling errors or by the joint effects of sampling and nonsampling errors. No direct measurement of these effects has been obtained except for estimation for missing or misreported data, as by the percentages shown in the tables. Precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data in an effort to minimize the effects of nonsampling errors. More information on the reliability of the data is included in Appendix C, Methodology.

DISCLOSURE

In accordance with federal law governing census reports (Title 13 of the United States Code), no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual establishment or business. However, the number of establishments in a kind-of-business classification is not considered a disclosure; therefore, this information may be released even though other information is withheld. Techniques employed to limit disclosure are discussed at www.census.gov/epcd/ec02/disclosure.htm.

AVAILABILITY OF MORE FREQUENT ECONOMIC DATA

The Census Bureau conducts the Service Annual Survey (SAS) each year. This survey, while providing more frequent observations, yields less kind-of-business and geographic detail than the economic census. In addition, the County Business Patterns program offers annual statistics on the number of establishments, employment, and payroll classified by industry within each county, and Statistics of U.S. Businesses program provides annual statistics classified by the employment size of the enterprise, further classified by industry for the United States, and by broader categories for states and metropolitan areas.

CONTACTS FOR DATA USERS

Questions about these data may be directed to the U.S. Census Bureau, Service Sector Statistics Division, Service Census Branch, 1-800-541-8345 or scb@census.gov.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used with these data:

D	Withheld to avoid disclosing data of individual companies; data are included in higher level totals
N	Not available or not comparable
S	Withheld because estimates did not meet publication standards
X	Not applicable
Z	Less than half the unit shown
a	0 to 19 employees
b	20 to 99 employees
c	100 to 249 employees
e	250 to 499 employees
f	500 to 999 employees
g	1,000 to 2,499 employees
h	2,500 to 4,999 employees
i	5,000 to 9,999 employees
j	10,000 to 24,999 employees
k	25,000 to 49,999 employees
l	50,000 to 99,999 employees
m	100,000 employees or more

r Revised
– Represents zero (page image/print only)
(CC) Consolidated city
(IC) Independent city

Table 1. Summary Statistics for the United States: 2002

[These data are preliminary and are subject to change; they will be superseded by data released in later reports. Includes only establishments of firms with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. Data based on the 2002 Economic Census. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see note at end of table. Enterprise support establishments are included. Because of this, comparability to 1997 Economic Census data may be limited. See introductory text for an explanation of the treatment of enterprise support establishments in the 2002 Economic Census compared to the 1997 Economic Census]

2002 NAICS code	Kind of business	Estab-lishments (number)	Receipts/ revenue (\$1,000)	Annual payroll (\$1,000)	First-quarter payroll (\$1,000)	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	Percent of receipts/ revenue—	
							From admini-strative records ¹	Estimated ²
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	112 223	84 604 468	40 374 141	10 187 195	1 368 737	20.1	11.9
54121	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	112 223	84 604 468	40 374 141	10 187 195	1 368 737	20.1	11.9
541211	Offices of certified public accountants	56 720	48 548 817	20 567 120	4 986 368	431 632	22.7	5.4
541213	Tax preparation services	19 222	5 446 167	1 786 705	683 483	272 411	19.3	30.0
541214	Payroll services	4 064	20 167 144	12 765 620	3 227 784	486 069	6.7	21.8
541219	Other accounting services	32 217	10 442 340	5 254 696	1 289 560	178 625	34.5	13.4

¹Includes receipts/revenue information obtained from administrative records of other federal agencies.

²Includes receipts/revenue information that was imputed based on historic data, administrative data, industry averages, or other statistical methods.

Note: The data in this table are based on the 2002 Economic Census. To maintain confidentiality, the Census Bureau suppresses data to protect the identity of any business or individual. The census results in this table contain nonsampling error. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this table should cite the Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. See also explanation of terms and geographic definitions. For the full technical documentation, see Appendix C.

Table 2. Comparative Statistics for the United States (1997 NAICS Basis): 2002 and 1997

[These data are preliminary and are subject to change; they will be superseded by data released in later reports. Includes only establishments of firms with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. Data based on the 2002 and 1997 Economic Censuses. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see note at end of table. Enterprise support establishments are included. Because of this, comparability to 1997 Economic Census data may be limited. See introductory text for an explanation of the treatment of enterprise support establishments in the 2002 Economic Census compared to the 1997 Economic Census]

1997 NAICS code	Kind of business	Establishments (number)	Receipts/revenue (\$1,000)	Annual payroll (\$1,000)	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)	
5412	Accounting, tax return preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services.....	2002..	112 223	84 604 468	40 374 141	1 368 737
		1997..	97 512	61 117 315	26 104 086	966 533
54121	Accounting, tax return preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services.....	2002..	112 223	84 604 468	40 374 141	1 368 737
		1997..	97 512	61 117 315	26 104 086	966 533
541211	Offices of certified public accountants	2002..	56 720	48 548 817	20 567 120	431 632
		1997..	53 651	38 601 265	15 167 282	389 340
541213	Tax return preparation services	2002..	19 222	5 446 167	1 786 705	272 411
		1997..	12 830	2 184 210	760 170	147 698
541214	Payroll services	2002..	4 064	20 167 144	12 765 620	486 069
		1997..	2 709	14 113 017	7 598 085	316 425
541219	Other accounting services	2002..	32 217	10 442 340	5 254 696	178 625
		1997..	28 322	6 218 823	2 578 549	113 070

Note: The data in this table are based on the 2002 and 1997 Economic Censuses. To maintain confidentiality, the Census Bureau suppresses data to protect the identity of any business or individual. The census results in this table contain nonsampling error. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this table should cite the Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. See also explanation of terms and geographic definitions. For the full technical documentation, see Appendix C.

Table 3. Product Lines by Kind of Business for the United States: 2002

[These data are preliminary and are subject to change; they will be superseded by data released in later reports. Includes only establishments of firms with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. Data based on the 2002 Economic Census. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see note at end of table. Enterprise support establishments are included. Because of this, comparability to 1997 Economic Census data may be limited. See introductory text for an explanation of the treatment of enterprise support establishments in the 2002 Economic Census compared to the 1997 Economic Census]

2002 NAICS code	2002 Product line code	Kind of business and product line	Establishments with the product line		Product line receipts/revenue			Response coverage ² (percent)
			Number	Total receipts/revenue (\$1,000)	Amount ¹ (\$1,000)	As percent of total receipts/revenue of—		
						Establishments with the product line	All establishments ¹	
5412		Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	112 223	X	84 604 468	X	100.0	77.4
	34060	Financial auditing services	24 082	37 846 906	10 872 018	28.7	12.9	X
	34070	Bookkeeping, compilation, payroll, and taxation services	109 586	82 570 921	60 391 183	73.1	71.4	75.0
	34071	General accounting services	40 093	30 786 083	4 203 130	13.7	5.0	X
	34072	Bookkeeping and compilation services	62 998	35 056 048	8 466 431	24.2	10.0	X
	34073	Payroll services	43 333	39 554 533	21 113 797	53.4	25.0	X
	34074	Tax preparation services for businesses	76 810	50 154 183	8 844 430	17.6	10.5	X
	34075	Tax preparation services for individuals	91 759	51 502 916	12 887 284	25.0	15.2	X
	34076	Tax consulting services for individuals and businesses	31 733	33 375 529	4 858 071	14.6	5.7	X
	34080	Computerized accounting systems services	9 553	13 417 317	574 375	4.3	.7	X
	34550	Training services	2 233	4 319 208	42 992	1.0	.1	X
	35800	Tax auditing services	6 749	10 560 977	699 047	6.6	.8	X
	35810	Financial statement review and agreed upon procedures	26 260	34 085 537	2 411 904	7.1	2.9	X
	35820	Other assurance and financial auditing services	6 917	24 027 541	4 508 537	18.8	5.3	X
	36030	Management consulting services	16 650	23 749 876	2 776 521	11.7	3.3	X
	39500	All other receipts	10 844	18 970 588	2 327 735	12.3	2.8	76.9
	39539	All other operating receipts	10 844	18 970 588	2 327 735	12.3	2.8	X
54121		Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services	112 223	X	84 604 468	X	100.0	77.4
	34060	Financial auditing services	24 082	37 846 906	10 872 018	28.7	12.9	X
	34070	Bookkeeping, compilation, payroll, and taxation services	109 586	82 570 921	60 391 183	73.1	71.4	75.0
	34071	General accounting services	40 093	30 786 083	4 203 130	13.7	5.0	X
	34072	Bookkeeping and compilation services	62 998	35 056 048	8 466 431	24.2	10.0	X
	34073	Payroll services	43 333	39 554 533	21 113 797	53.4	25.0	X
	34074	Tax preparation services for businesses	76 810	50 154 183	8 844 430	17.6	10.5	X
	34075	Tax preparation services for individuals	91 759	51 502 916	12 887 284	25.0	15.2	X
	34076	Tax consulting services for individuals and businesses	31 733	33 375 529	4 858 071	14.6	5.7	X
	34080	Computerized accounting systems services	9 553	13 417 317	574 375	4.3	.7	X
	34550	Training services	2 233	4 319 208	42 992	1.0	.1	X
	35800	Tax auditing services	6 749	10 560 977	699 047	6.6	.8	X
	35810	Financial statement review and agreed upon procedures	26 260	34 085 537	2 411 904	7.1	2.9	X
	35820	Other assurance and financial auditing services	6 917	24 027 541	4 508 537	18.8	5.3	X
	36030	Management consulting services	16 650	23 749 876	2 776 521	11.7	3.3	X
	39500	All other receipts	10 844	18 970 588	2 327 735	12.3	2.8	76.9
	39539	All other operating receipts	10 844	18 970 588	2 327 735	12.3	2.8	X
541211		Offices of certified public accountants	56 720	X	48 548 817	X	100.0	83.3
	34060	Financial auditing services	24 078	37 845 760	10 872 018	28.7	22.4	X
	34070	Bookkeeping, compilation, payroll, and taxation services	55 381	47 485 603	25 930 117	54.6	53.4	81.5
	34071	General accounting services	26 577	27 210 577	2 451 104	9.0	5.0	X
	34072	Bookkeeping and compilation services	39 232	27 798 535	3 765 654	13.5	7.8	X
	34073	Payroll services	25 035	16 342 865	591 875	3.6	1.2	X
	34074	Tax preparation services for businesses	50 373	44 949 287	7 920 705	17.6	16.3	X
	34075	Tax preparation services for individuals	52 439	42 680 842	6 575 182	15.4	13.5	X
	34076	Tax consulting services for individuals and businesses	25 734	31 885 912	4 625 597	14.5	9.5	X
	34080	Computerized accounting systems services	7 867	12 764 299	451 567	3.5	.9	X
	34550	Training services	1 336	4 019 037	25 222	.6	.1	X
	35800	Tax auditing services	5 961	10 368 864	651 720	6.3	1.3	X
	35810	Financial statement review and agreed upon procedures	24 809	33 345 008	2 203 997	6.6	4.5	X
	35820	Other assurance and financial auditing services	6 215	23 068 962	3 679 957	16.0	7.6	X
	36030	Management consulting services	14 241	22 718 130	2 598 428	11.4	5.4	X
	39500	All other receipts	7 795	18 084 387	2 135 791	11.8	4.4	83.0
	39539	All other operating receipts	7 795	18 084 387	2 135 791	11.8	4.4	X
541213		Tax preparation services	19 222	X	5 446 167	X	100.0	60.2
	34070	Bookkeeping, compilation, payroll, and taxation services	19 158	5 446 167	5 429 666	99.7	99.7	58.6
	34071	General accounting services	525	104 288	12 270	11.8	.2	X
	34072	Bookkeeping and compilation services	2 304	444 002	38 060	8.6	.7	X
	34073	Payroll services	1 672	280 299	15 528	5.5	.3	X
	34074	Tax preparation services for businesses	7 114	1 490 916	298 290	20.0	5.5	X
	34075	Tax preparation services for individuals	18 617	5 337 171	5 065 222	94.9	93.0	X
	34550	Training services	103	122 587	2 832	2.3	.1	X
	39500	All other receipts	580	88 986	13 669	15.4	.3	59.8
	39539	All other operating receipts	580	88 986	13 669	15.4	.3	X
541214		Payroll services	4 064	X	20 167 144	X	100.0	74.7
	34070	Bookkeeping, compilation, payroll, and taxation services	3 859	20 166 988	20 127 976	99.8	99.8	72.7
	34071	General accounting services	52	22 406	6 094	27.2	Z	X
	34072	Bookkeeping and compilation services	321	84 022	23 741	28.3	.1	X
	34073	Payroll services	3 845	20 149 045	20 070 241	99.6	99.5	X
	34074	Tax preparation services for businesses	67	85 423	7 871	9.2	Z	X
	34075	Tax preparation services for individuals	64	14 386	2 285	15.9	Z	X
	36030	Management consulting services	39	105 638	5 323	5.0	Z	X
	39500	All other receipts	288	166 498	33 562	20.2	.2	74.7
	39539	All other operating receipts	288	166 498	33 562	20.2	.2	X
541219		Other accounting services	32 217	X	10 442 340	X	100.0	64.7
	34070	Bookkeeping, compilation, payroll, and taxation services	31 188	9 472 163	8 903 424	94.0	85.3	57.5
	34071	General accounting services	12 939	3 448 812	1 733 662	50.3	16.6	X
	34072	Bookkeeping and compilation services	21 141	6 729 489	4 638 976	68.9	44.4	X
	34073	Payroll services	12 781	2 782 324	436 153	15.7	4.2	X
	34074	Tax preparation services for businesses	19 256	3 628 557	617 564	17.0	5.9	X
	34075	Tax preparation services for individuals	20 639	3 470 517	1 244 595	35.9	11.9	X
	34076	Tax consulting services for individuals and businesses	5 999	1 489 617	232 474	15.6	2.2	X

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Product Lines by Kind of Business for the United States: 2002—Con.

[These data are preliminary and are subject to change; they will be superseded by data released in later reports. Includes only establishments of firms with payroll. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. Data based on the 2002 Economic Census. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see note at end of table. Enterprise support establishments are included. Because of this, comparability to 1997 Economic Census data may be limited. See introductory text for an explanation of the treatment of enterprise support establishments in the 2002 Economic Census compared to the 1997 Economic Census]

2002 NAICS code	2002 Product line code	Kind of business and product line	Establishments with the product line		Product line receipts/revenue			Response coverage ² (percent)
			Number	Total receipts/revenue (\$1,000)	Amount ¹ (\$1,000)	As percent of total receipts/revenue of—		
						Estab-lishments with the product line	All estab-lishments ¹	
541219		Other accounting services—Con.						
	34080	Computerized accounting systems services	1 686	653 018	122 808	18.8	1.2	X
	34550	Training services	792	160 143	14 811	9.2	.1	X
	35800	Tax auditing services	788	192 113	47 327	24.6	.5	X
	35810	Financial statement review and agreed upon procedures	1 451	740 529	207 907	28.1	2.0	X
	35820	Other assurance and financial auditing services	702	958 579	828 580	86.4	7.9	X
	36030	Management consulting services	2 370	926 108	172 770	18.7	1.7	X
	39500	All other receipts	2 181	630 717	144 713	22.9	1.4	57.3
	39539	All other operating receipts	2 181	630 717	144 713	22.9	1.4	X

¹Product line receipts/revenue and product line percents may not sum to total due to exclusion of selected lines to avoid disclosing data for individual companies, due to rounding, and/or due to exclusion of lines that did not meet publication criteria.

²Receipts/revenue of establishments reporting product lines as percent of total receipts/revenue.

Note: The data in this table are based on the 2002 Economic Census. To maintain confidentiality, the Census Bureau suppresses data to protect the identity of any business or individual. The census results in this table contain nonsampling error. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this table should cite the Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. See also explanation of terms and geographic definitions. For the full technical documentation, see Appendix C.

Table 4. Concentration by Largest Firms for the United States: 2002

[These data are preliminary and are subject to change; they will be superseded by data released in later reports. Includes only firms and establishments of firms with payroll. Excludes data for corporate, subsidiary, and regional managing offices and establishments of these firms that are classified in other categories than those specified in this table. For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text. For explanation of terms, see Appendix A. For method of assignment to categories shown, see Appendix C. Data based on the 2002 Economic Census. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see note at end of table. Enterprise support establishments are included. Because of this, comparability to 1997 Economic Census data may be limited. See introductory text for an explanation of the treatment of enterprise support establishments in the 2002 Economic Census compared to the 1997 Economic Census]

2002 NAICS code	Kind of business and largest firms based on receipts/revenue	Establishments (number)	Receipts/revenue		Annual payroll (\$1,000)	First-quarter payroll (\$1,000)	Paid employees for pay period including March 12 (number)
			Amount (\$1,000)	As percent of total			
5412	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services						
	All firms	112 223	84 604 468	100.0	40 374 141	10 187 195	1 368 737
	4 largest firms	1 303	18 028 176	21.3	6 757 908	1 764 795	208 451
	8 largest firms	7 151	27 923 964	33.0	10 415 070	2 952 769	387 683
	20 largest firms	7 702	35 047 563	41.4	13 874 881	3 782 358	505 486
	50 largest firms	8 205	39 583 875	46.8	16 144 752	4 352 288	590 073
54121	Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and payroll services						
	All firms	112 223	84 604 468	100.0	40 374 141	10 187 195	1 368 737
	4 largest firms	1 303	18 028 176	21.3	6 757 908	1 764 795	208 451
	8 largest firms	7 151	27 923 964	33.0	10 415 070	2 952 769	387 683
	20 largest firms	7 702	35 047 563	41.4	13 874 881	3 782 358	505 486
	50 largest firms	8 205	39 583 875	46.8	16 144 752	4 352 288	590 073
541211	Offices of certified public accountants						
	All firms	56 720	48 548 817	100.0	20 567 120	4 986 368	431 632
	4 largest firms	1 338	16 463 515	33.9	5 341 554	1 251 923	75 290
	8 largest firms	1 558	19 355 751	39.9	6 730 687	1 768 461	106 547
	20 largest firms	1 884	21 085 754	43.4	7 446 670	1 951 718	119 644
	50 largest firms	2 083	22 326 986	46.0	7 928 880	2 072 212	130 891
541213	Tax preparation services						
	All firms	19 222	5 446 167	100.0	1 786 705	683 483	272 411
	4 largest firms	5 913	3 280 221	60.2	905 604	406 653	187 143
	8 largest firms	5 953	3 398 096	62.4	943 060	422 383	190 670
	20 largest firms	6 054	3 505 481	64.4	980 138	436 629	195 238
	50 largest firms	6 193	3 605 738	66.2	1 019 365	448 916	198 598
541214	Payroll services						
	All firms	4 064	20 167 144	100.0	12 765 620	3 227 784	486 069
	4 largest firms	443	9 922 721	49.2	4 290 721	1 219 008	192 402
	8 largest firms	538	11 971 857	59.4	5 617 109	1 464 185	225 377
	20 largest firms	691	14 129 257	70.1	7 196 421	1 859 573	277 165
	50 largest firms	742	15 475 897	76.7	8 206 095	2 114 023	319 253
541219	Other accounting services						
	All firms	32 217	10 442 340	100.0	5 254 696	1 289 560	178 625
	4 largest firms	92	708 254	6.8	371 175	87 591	5 923
	8 largest firms	103	1 045 760	10.0	482 727	111 487	8 579
	20 largest firms	159	1 728 377	16.6	662 523	156 347	13 430
	50 largest firms	234	2 347 339	22.5	906 834	215 501	18 932

Note: The data in this table are based on the 2002 Economic Census. To maintain confidentiality, the Census Bureau suppresses data to protect the identity of any business or individual. The census results in this table contain nonsampling error. Data users who create their own estimates using data from this table should cite the Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. See also explanation of terms and geographic definitions. For the full technical documentation, see Appendix C.

Appendix A.

Explanation of Terms

ANNUAL PAYROLL

Payroll includes all forms of compensation such as salaries, wages, commissions, dismissal pay, bonuses, vacation allowances, sick-leave pay, and employee contributions to qualified pension plans paid during the year to all employees and reported on Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 941 as taxable Medicare Wages and tips (even if not subject to income or FICA tax). Also included are tips and gratuities received by employees from patrons and reported to employers. If an employee works at more than one location, the payroll is included in the one location where they spend most of their time. Also included are salaries of members of professional service organizations or associations that operate under state professional corporation statutes and file a corporate federal income tax return. Excluded are payrolls of departments or concessions operated by other companies at the establishment; payments to or withdrawals by proprietors or partners of an unincorporated company; and annuities or supplemental unemployment compensation benefits, even if income tax was withheld. Payroll is reported before deductions for social security, income tax, insurance, union dues, etc. This definition of payroll is the same as that used by the IRS on Form 941.

ESTABLISHMENTS

An establishment is a single physical location at which business is conducted and/or services are provided. It is not necessarily identical to a company or enterprise, which may consist of one establishment or more. Economic census figures represent a summary of reports for individual establishments rather than companies. For cases where a census report was received, separate information was obtained for each location where business was conducted. When administrative records of other federal agencies were used instead of a census report, no information was available on the number of locations operated. Each economic census establishment was tabulated according to the physical location at which the business was conducted. The count of establishments represents those in business at any time during 2002.

When two activities or more were carried on at a single location under a single ownership, all activities generally were grouped together as a single establishment. The entire establishment was classified on the basis of its major activity and all data for it were included in that classification. However, when distinct and separate economic activities (for which different industry classification codes were appropriate) were conducted at a single location under a single ownership, separate establishment reports for each of the different activities were obtained in the census.

Leased service departments (separately owned businesses operated as departments or concessions of other service establishments or of retail businesses, such as a separately owned shoe-shine parlor in a barber shop, or a beauty shop in a department store) are treated as separate service establishments for census purposes. Leased retail departments located in service establishments (e.g., a gift shop located in a hotel) are considered separate retail establishments.

FIRMS

A firm is a business organization or entity consisting of one domestic establishment (location) or more under common ownership or control. All establishments of subsidiary firms are included as part of the owning or controlling firm. For the economic census, the terms "firm" and "company" are synonymous.

FIRST-QUARTER PAYROLL

Represents payroll paid to persons employed at any time during the quarter January to March 2002.

PAID EMPLOYEES FOR PAY PERIOD INCLUDING MARCH 12

Paid employees consists of full- and part-time employees, including salaried officers and executives of corporations, who were on the payroll during the pay period including March 12. Included are employees on paid sick leave, paid holidays, and paid vacations, and salaried members of professional service organizations or associations that operate under state professional corporation statutes and file corporate federal income tax returns. Not included are proprietors and partners of unincorporated businesses; employees of departments or concessions operated by other companies at the establishment; full- and part-time leased employees whose payroll was filed under an employee leasing company's Employer Identification Number (EIN); and temporary staffing obtained from a staffing service. The definition of paid employees is the same as that used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on Form 941.

RECEIPTS/REVENUE

Receipts (basic dollar volume measure for service establishments of firms subject to federal income tax). Includes gross receipts from customers or clients for services provided, from the use of facilities, and from merchandise sold in 2002 whether or not payment was received in 2002. For advertising agencies, travel industries, and other service establishments operating on a commission basis, receipts include commissions, fees, and other operating income, NOT gross billings and sales. Excise taxes on gasoline, liquor, tobacco, etc., that are paid by the manufacturer or wholesaler and passed on in the cost of goods purchased by the service establishment, are also included. The establishments share of receipts from departments, concessions, and vending and amusement machines operated by others are included as part of receipts. Receipts also include amounts received from the rental and leasing of vehicles, equipment, instruments, and tools; the total value of service contracts; market value of compensation received in lieu of cash; amounts received for work subcontracted to others; and dues and assessments from members and affiliates. Receipts from services performed for foreign parent firms, subsidiaries, and branches are included.

Receipts are net after deductions for refunds and allowances for merchandise returned by customers. Receipts do not include sales and other taxes (including Hawaii's General Excise Tax) collected directly from customers and paid directly to a local, state, or federal tax agency. Also excluded are gross receipts from departments and concessions operated by others; sales of used equipment previously rented or leased to customers; domestic intracompany transfers; proceeds from the sale of real estate (land and buildings), investments, or other assets (except inventory held for resale); income from interest, rental of real estate, dividends, contributions, and grants; receipts of foreign parent firms and subsidiaries; and other nonoperating income, such as franchise fees. Receipts do not include service receipts of manufacturers, wholesalers, retail establishments, or other businesses whose primary activity is other than service. They do, however, include receipts other than from services rendered (e.g., sale of merchandise to individuals or other businesses) by establishments primarily engaged in performing services and classified in the service industries.

Revenue (basic dollar volume measure for firms exempt from federal income tax). Includes receipts from customers or clients for services provided in 2002, whether or not payment was received in 2002, and gross sales of merchandise, minus returns and allowances. Also included are income from interest, dividends, gross rents (including display space rentals and share of receipts from departments operated by other companies), gross contributions, gifts, grants (whether or not restricted for use in operations), royalties, dues and assessments from members and affiliates, commissions earned from the sale of merchandise owned by others (including commissions from vending machine operators), and gross receipts from fundraising activities. Revenue now includes gains or losses from the sale of real estate (land and buildings), investments, or other assets (except inventory held for resale). Receipts from taxable business activities of firms exempt from federal income tax (unrelated business income) are also included in revenue.

Revenue does not include sales and other taxes collected directly from customers or clients and paid directly to a local, state, or federal tax agency; gross receipts of departments or concessions operated by others; and amounts transferred to operating funds from capital or reserve funds.

Appendix B.

NAICS Codes, Titles, and Descriptions

PART 1. 2002 NAICS

5412 ACCOUNTING, TAX PREPARATION, BOOKKEEPING, AND PAYROLL SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in providing services, such as: auditing of accounting records, designing accounting systems, preparing financial statements, developing budgets, preparing tax returns, processing payrolls, bookkeeping, and billing.

54121 ACCOUNTING, TAX PREPARATION, BOOKKEEPING, AND PAYROLL SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in providing services, such as: auditing of accounting records, designing accounting systems, preparing financial statements, developing budgets, preparing tax returns, processing payrolls, bookkeeping, and billing.

541211 OFFICES OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

This industry comprises establishments of accountants that are certified to audit the accounting records of public and private organizations and to attest to compliance with generally accepted accounting practices. Offices of certified public accountants (CPAs) may provide one or more of the following accounting services: (1) auditing financial statements; (2) designing accounting systems; (3) preparing financial statements; (4) developing budgets; and (5) providing advice on matters related to accounting. These establishments may also provide related services, such as bookkeeping, tax return preparation, and payroll processing.

541213 TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments (except offices of CPAs) engaged in providing tax return preparation services without also providing accounting, bookkeeping, billing, or payroll processing services. Basic knowledge of tax law and filing requirements is required.

541214 PAYROLL SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments (except offices of CPAs) engaged in the following without also providing accounting, bookkeeping, or billing services: (1) collecting information on hours worked, pay rates, deductions, and other payroll-related data from their clients and (2) using that information to generate paychecks, payroll reports, and tax filings. These establishments may use data processing and tabulating techniques as part of providing their services.

541219 OTHER ACCOUNTING SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments (except offices of CPAs) engaged in providing accounting services (except tax return preparation services only or payroll services only). These establishments may also provide tax return preparation or payroll services. Accountant (except CPA) offices, bookkeeper offices, and billing offices are included in this industry.

PART 2. 1997 NAICS

5412 ACCOUNTING, TAX RETURN PREPARATION, BOOKKEEPING, AND PAYROLL SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in providing services, such as: auditing of accounting records, designing accounting systems, preparing financial statements, developing budgets, preparing tax returns, processing payrolls, bookkeeping, and billing.

54121 ACCOUNTING, TAX RETURN PREPARATION, BOOKKEEPING, AND PAYROLL SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in providing services, such as: auditing of accounting records, designing accounting systems, preparing financial statements, developing budgets, preparing tax returns, processing payrolls, bookkeeping, and billing.

541211 OFFICES OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

This industry comprises establishments of accountants that are certified to audit the accounting records of public and private organizations and to attest to compliance with generally accepted accounting practices. Offices of certified public accountants (CPAs) may provide one or more of the following accounting services: (1) auditing financial statements; (2) designing accounting systems; (3) preparing financial statements; (4) developing budgets; and (5) providing advice on matters related to accounting. These establishments may also provide related services, such as bookkeeping, tax return preparation, and payroll processing.

541213 TAX RETURN PREPARATION SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments (except offices of CPAs) engaged in providing tax return preparation services without also providing accounting, bookkeeping, billing, or payroll processing services. Basic knowledge of tax law and filing requirements is required.

541214 PAYROLL SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments (except offices of CPAs) engaged in the following without also providing accounting, bookkeeping, or billing services: (1) collecting information on hours worked, pay rates, deductions, and other payroll-related data from their clients and (2) using that information to generate paychecks, payroll reports, and tax filings. These establishments may use data processing and tabulating techniques as part of providing their services.

541219 OTHER ACCOUNTING SERVICES

This industry comprises establishments (except offices of CPAs) engaged in providing accounting services (except tax return preparation services only or payroll services only). These establishments may also provide tax return preparation or payroll services. Accountant (except CPA) offices, bookkeeper offices, and billing offices are included in this industry.

Appendix C.

Methodology

SOURCES OF THE DATA

For this sector, large- and medium-size firms, plus all firms known to operate more than one establishment, were sent report forms to be completed for each of their establishments and returned to the Census Bureau. For most very small firms, data from existing administrative records of other federal agencies were used instead. These records provide basic information on location, kind of business, receipts/revenue, payroll, number of employees, and legal form of organization.

Firms in the 2002 Economic Census are divided into those sent report forms and those not sent report forms. The coverage of and the method of obtaining census information from each are described below:

1. Establishments sent a report form:
 - a. Large employers, i.e., all multiestablishment firms, and all employer firms with payroll above a specified cutoff. (The term “employers” refers to firms with one or more paid employees at any time during 2002 as shown in the active administrative records of other federal agencies.)
 - b. A sample of small employers, i.e., single-establishment firms with payroll below a specified cutoff in classifications for which specialized data precludes reliance solely on administrative records sources. The sample was stratified by industry and geography.
2. Establishments not sent a report form:
 - a. Small employers, i.e., single-establishment firms with payroll below a specified cutoff, not selected into the small employer sample. Although the payroll cutoff varies by kind of business, small employers not sent a report form generally include firms with less than 10 employees and represent about 10 percent of total receipts/revenue of establishments covered in the census. Data on receipts/revenue, payroll, and employment for these small employers were derived or estimated from administrative records of other federal agencies.
 - b. All taxable nonemployers, i.e., all firms subject to federal income tax with no paid employees during 2002. Receipts information for these firms was obtained from administrative records of other federal agencies. Although consisting of many firms, nonemployers account for less than 10 percent of total receipts of all establishments covered in the census. Data for nonemployers are not included in this report, but are released in the annual *Nonemployer Statistics* series.

The report forms used to collect information for establishments in this sector are available at help.econ.census.gov/econhelp/resources/.

A more detailed examination of census methodology is presented in the *History of the Economic Census* at www.census.gov/econ/www/history.html.

INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS

The classifications for all establishments are based on the *North American Industry Classification System, United States, 2002* manual. Changes between 1997 and 2002 affecting this sector are discussed in the text at the beginning of this report. Tables at www.census.gov/epcd/naics02/ identify all industries that changed between the 1997 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and 2002 NAICS.

The method of assigning classifications and the level of detail at which establishments were classified depends on whether a report form was obtained for the establishment.

1. Establishments that returned a report form were classified on the basis of their self-designation, product line receipts/revenue, and responses to other industry-specific inquiries.
2. Establishments without a report form:
 - a. Small employers not sent a form were, where possible, classified on the basis of the most current kind-of-business classification available from one of the Census Bureau's current sample surveys or the 1997 Economic Census. Otherwise, the classification was obtained from administrative records of other federal agencies. If the census or administrative record classifications proved inadequate (none corresponded to a 2002 Economic Census classification in the detail required for employers), the firm was sent a brief inquiry requesting information necessary to assign a kind-of-business code.
 - b. Nonemployers were classified on the basis of information obtained from administrative records of other federal agencies.

METHOD OF ASSIGNING TAX STATUS

For kind-of-business classifications where there were substantial numbers of taxable and tax-exempt establishments, establishments were classified based on the federal income tax filing requirement for the establishment or organization. This classification was based primarily on the response to an inquiry on the census report form. Establishments that indicated that all or part of their income was exempt from federal income tax under provisions of section 501 of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) code were classified as tax-exempt; establishments indicating no such exemption were classified as taxable. All government-operated hospitals were classified as tax-exempt. For establishments without a report form, the tax status classification was based on administrative records of other federal agencies.

For selected kind-of-business classifications that are comprised primarily of tax-exempt establishments, all establishments in those classifications were defined as tax-exempt. All establishments in the remaining kind-of-business classifications (comprised primarily of taxable establishments) were defined as taxable.

RELIABILITY OF DATA

All data compiled in the economic census are subject to nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources during the development or execution of the census:

- inability to identify all cases in the actual universe;
- definition and classification difficulties;
- differences in the interpretation of questions;
- errors in recording or coding the data obtained; and
- other errors of collection, response, coverage, processing, and estimation for missing or misreported data.

Data presented in the Miscellaneous Subjects and the Product Lines reports for this sector are subject to sampling errors, as well as nonsampling errors. Specifically, these data are estimated based on information obtained from census report forms mailed to all large employers and to a sample of small employers in the universe. Sampling errors affect these estimates, insofar, as they may differ from results that would be obtained from a complete enumeration.

The accuracy of these tabulated data is determined by the joint effects of the various nonsampling errors or by the joint effects of sampling and nonsampling errors. No direct measurement of these effects has been obtained except for estimation for missing or misreported data; however, precautionary steps were taken in all phases of the collection, processing, and tabulation of the data in an effort to minimize the effects of nonsampling errors.

The Census Bureau obtains limited information extracted from administrative records of other federal agencies, such as gross receipts from federal income tax records and employment and payroll from payroll tax records. This information is used in conjunction with other information available to the Census Bureau to develop estimates for nonemployers, small employers, and other establishments for which responses were not received in time for publication.

Key tables in this report include a column for “Percent of receipts/revenue from administrative records.” This includes receipts/revenue information obtained from administrative records of other federal agencies. The “Percent of receipts/revenue estimated” includes receipts/revenue information that was imputed based on historic company ratios or administrative records, or on industry averages.

The Census Bureau recommends that data users incorporate this information into their analyses, as nonsampling error and sampling error could impact the conclusions drawn from economic census data.

TREATMENT OF NONRESPONSE

Census report forms included two different types of inquiries, “basic” and “industry-specific.” Data for the basic inquiries, which include location, kind of business or operation, receipts/revenue, payroll, and number of employees, were available from a combination of sources for all establishments. Data for industry-specific inquiries, tailored to the particular kinds of business or operation covered by the report form, were available only from establishments responding to those inquiries.

Data for industry-specific inquiries in this sector were expanded in most cases to account for establishments that did not respond to the particular inquiry for which data are presented. Unless otherwise noted in specific reports, data for industry-specific inquiries were expanded in direct relationship to total receipts/revenue of all establishments included in the category. In a few cases, expansion on the basis of the receipts/revenue was not appropriate, and another basic data item was used as the basis for expansion of reported data to account for nonrespondents.

All reports in which industry-specific data were expanded include a coverage indicator for each publication category, which shows the receipts/revenue of establishments responding to the industry-specific inquiry as a percent of total receipts/revenue for all establishments for which data are shown. For some inquiries, coverage is determined by the ratio of total payroll or employment of establishments responding to the inquiry to total payroll or employment of all establishments in the category.

CONCENTRATION CATEGORIES

Concentration categories are based on aggregate receipts/revenue of all establishments operated by the same firm in a given kind-of-business classification or group for which data are presented. For example, a firm operating two service establishments – a testing laboratory (NAICS 541380) and a surveying service (NAICS 541360) – would be treated as two one-establishment firms at the most detailed NAICS level, and as a two-establishment firm in NAICS 5413.

DISCLOSURE

In accordance with federal law governing census reports (Title 13 of the United States Code), no data are published that would disclose the operations of an individual establishment or business. However, the number of establishments in a kind-of-business classification is not considered a disclosure; therefore, this information may be released even though other information is withheld. Techniques employed to limit disclosure are discussed at www.census.gov/epcd/ec02/disclosure.htm.

Appendix D. Geographic Notes

Not applicable for this report.

Appendix E. Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas

Not applicable for this report.

