

# Statistical Business Register - Dissemination

Data Integration Infrastructure Division

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Statistics  
Canada

Statistique  
Canada

Canada



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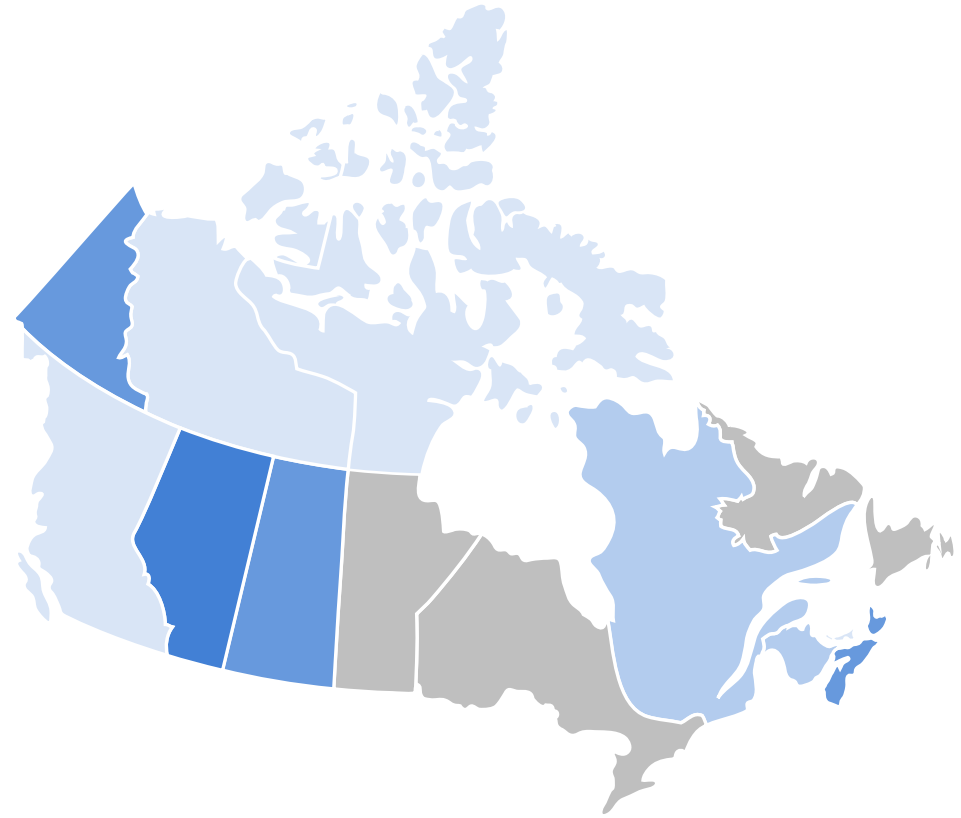


# Statistical Business Register Overview

- Context: What is the Statistical Business Register?
  - The Statistical Business Register (BR) is Statistics Canada's central repository for information on businesses and institutions operating in Canada. As a statistical register, it provides lists of units and related attributes required for survey sampling frames, data integration, stratification and certain business statistics.
    - Base attributes: NAICS, geography, income and employment, and statistical structure
  - Up-to-date, unduplicated list of all businesses in Canada with :
    - T2; PD7; GST/HST Account; T5013 Corporation Account; T3010 Registered Charity Account.
    - Individuals who report any of the various types of business income on personal income tax forms (T1) are also included in the Statistical Business Register (whether they paid GST/HST or PD7).

# Coverage

- All businesses engaged in producing goods and/or services in Canada.
  - Corporations
  - Sole Proprietorships
  - Partnerships
  - Governments
  - Non-profit organizations
  - Agricultural operations
  - Trusts

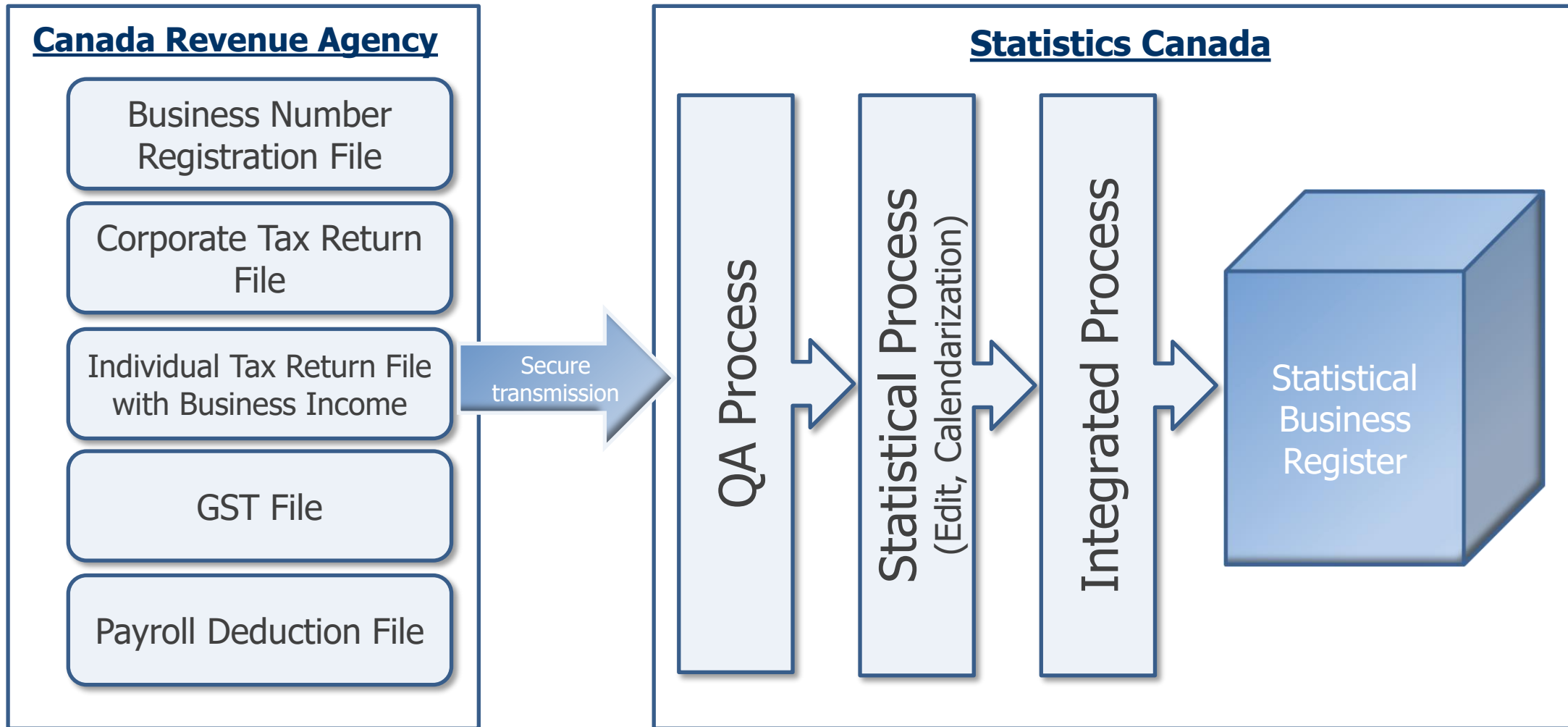


# How is the Statistical Business Register Constructed?

Administrative base using Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) information

- Business Number (BN) Registration File, complemented by:
  - Employment Numbers from Payroll Deduction filers (PD7)
  - Revenue and Assets from Corporate Tax Filers (T2)
  - Sales from GST Registrants (GST)
  - Individual Tax Filers Reporting Business Income with BN (T1)
  - Individual Tax Filers Reporting Business Income without BN (T1)
  - Other Tax Filers such as Partnerships (T5013) and Charities (T3010)
- Other value-added activities
  - Profiling activities – building legal and operating structures
  - Industrial and other classifications
  - Creation of Collection Entities to support data collection

# Tax Data Integration to the Statistical Business Register



# Statistical Entities (Units)

- Statistics Canada classifies records based on the level of information available.
- **Enterprise**
  - An enterprise is the legal operating entity at the top of the operating structure. There is only one enterprise per operating structure. It's associated with a complete set of financial statements.
- **Establishment**
  - A statistical establishment is the production entity or the smallest grouping of production entities that
    1. produces a homogeneous set of goods or services.
    2. doesn't cross provincial boundaries.
    3. provides data on the value of output, together with the cost of principal intermediate inputs used, along with the cost and quantity of labour resources used to produce the output.
- **Location**
  - The location is an operating entity, specifically a production entity that
    1. conducts economic activity at, or from, a single physical location or group of locations.
    2. provides employment data at a minimum.

# Data Quality and Limitations

- Time series

- Changes to the SBR's methodology or to business industrial classification strategies can cause increases or decreases in the number of active businesses. As a result, the data do not represent changes in the business population over time. **Statistics Canada recommends that users not use the data as a time series.**
- To view recent methodological changes, please refer to the [Data variations caused by methodological changes, by year](#)

- Creations

- Generally, the creation of an entity on the SBR occurs shortly after the business registers with the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA). The Business Number (BN) registrations are used to update the SBR database monthly. Businesses with multiple locations may also be contacted or profiled to obtain the necessary information for the creation of operating entities (Establishments/Locations).



# Data Quality and Limitations (cont.)

- Inactivation

- Businesses are assigned an inactive status on the SBR when neither a tax payment nor payroll remittance has been made by these businesses for some time or following the closure of CRA tax accounts.

- [The Daily — Monthly estimates of business openings and closures, November 2024](#)

- North American Industry Classification System

- For newly created businesses, the primary industrial coding is initially processed using automated coding software. This software evaluates the activity description indicated by the business and assigns the appropriate industry classification coding to about 50% of new business records. Activity descriptions lacking precision are subjected to a manual coding process.

- [North American Industry Classification System](#)



# Reference Periods & Classifications

- Data
  - With employees: 1988 - present
  - Without employees: 1997 – present
- Industry Classification
  - SIC: 1988 – 2004
  - New NAICS version every 5 years starting in 1997
  - NAICS 2012: December 2012
  - NAICS 2017: December 2017 – February 2023
  - NAICS 2022: March 2023 - present
- Geography
  - New Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) every Census
  - SGC 2011: June 2013
  - SGC 2016: January 2018 – June 2022
  - SGC 2021: June 2022 – present
  - SGC 2026: Coming soon



# Methodology for Aggregate and Canadian Business Counts

Statistical Business Register



Conditions

Active (revenue, asset, employee, Canadian); and  
1 or more employees; or  
Minimum of \$30,000 in revenue (taxable or not); or  
Incorporated

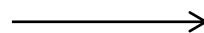


Edits and imputation

Employment, Revenue and Geography



Select and create variables



Statistical Business Register Universe  
File for Aggregate Statistics



# Key Variables for Aggregate Data

- North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)
  - a system used to classify the economic activity of a business from 2 to 6-digit code
  - NAICS is based on supply or production-oriented principles to ensure that industrial data, classified to NAICS, are suitable for the analysis of production-related issues such as industrial performance.
  - [North American Industry Classification System](#)



# Key Variables for Aggregate Data (cont.)

- Geography (Standard Geographical Classification)
  - The Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) is Statistics Canada's official classification for the geographical areas in Canada.
  - It was developed to facilitate the analysis of statistical data using a uniform geographical area definition.
  - It defines various geographical areas that function as stratification variables for statistical units, such as locations, which are essential for analysis, data collection, and compilation.
  - [Structure of the Standard Geographical Classification](#)



# Key Variables for Aggregate Data (cont.)

- Employee Size Ranges
  - Choice of Employee Size Ranges of 9, 13, 21.
  - [Employee Size Ranges](#)
- Revenue Ranges

Code	English
09	Total
01	0 - 99 k
02	100 k - 499 k
03	500 k - 1,9 m
04	2 m - 9,9 m
05	10 m - 49,9 m
06	50 m +

# Products and Services

- Canadian Business Counts
- The Canadian business counts (CBC) are produced biannually every June and December and are released in August and February at the location level. This product can be used to compare the number of businesses across North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) categories, employment size ranges, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and the census subdivisions (CSDs) within them, as well as all CSDs in Canada with 10 or more active businesses with employees. The following data tables are available to the public on the Statistics Canada website:
  - business location counts with employees for Canada, by province, NAICS category and employment size range.
  - business location counts without employees for Canada, by province and NAICS category.
  - business location counts with employees by CMA, CSD, NAICS category and employment size range.
- Website link: [The Daily — Canadian business counts, December 2024](#)
- You can find all iterations of the CBC data product from the link above or through your web browser and search engine of choice using the following terms: "Canadian Business Counts" or "Canadian Business Patterns" (for historic counts).

# Products and Services (cont.)

- Cost Recovery Program
  - Aggregate Data Tables:

## Employment size ranges

- Units: Location, establishment or enterprise counts
- Geography: All geography
- Industry: All levels of NAICS
- Employment size ranges: Standard 9 ranges or custom 13 or 21 ranges
- Suppression or Rounding: None

## Revenue ranges

- Units: Location, establishment or enterprise counts
- Geography: Province and census agglomeration (CA) or CMA
- Industry: NAICS-2 and NAICS-3
- Suppression or Rounding: Rounding to the nearest five counts

## Profit and non-profit data (December only)

- Units: Establishment counts
- Geography: Province
- Industry: NAICS-2
- Suppression or Rounding: Suppression

## Business type and public and private data (December only)

- Units: Enterprise counts
- Geography: Province and CMA (14)
- Industry: NAICS-2
- Suppression or Rounding: Suppression



# Products and Services (cont.)

- Cost Recovery Program (cont.)
  - Statistical Business Register Microdata
    - SBR microdata files are provided to specific federal, provincial and territorial departments or agencies under specific orders authorized by the Statistics Act.
    - Under the terms of these orders, the use of this information is limited to statistical or research purposes, and recipients must undertake to strictly protect confidential information. In addition, only aggregated products may be published.
    - [How Far Do Canadians Need to Travel to Access Cash?](#)
  - Data Matching Service
    - Match statistical identifiers from a file to the Statistical Business Register.
- NAICS requests
  - Businesses obtain their NAICS code on the SBR



# Clients

- Federal Government Departments
  - NRCAN, HRSDC / Service Canada, Industry Canada, Bank of Canada, other
- Provincial Government Departments
  - Focal Points / Statistical Agencies, other
- Data Liberation Initiative
  - Participating Post-Secondary Schools (75)
- Other (through Regional Offices)
  - Consulting firms, research firms, cities, etc...
- Media – in the form of media requests asking to verify business counts or asking for business count data on a particular subject.

# In the Media

- Globe and Mail
- Montreal Gazette
- Toronto Star
- National Post
- Sun Media
- La Presse
- Bloomberg News
- Edmonton Journal
- Calgary Herald
- Newswire
- Rouge FM
- Hamilton Spectator
- Winnipeg Free Press
- Huffington Post
- MacLean's
- CBC
- Global News
- Radio Canada
- Metro
- Social Media

[Say cheese: World Photography Day - Statistics Canada](#)



# Useful Links

- [Business Register Data Products: User Guide](#) - This Guide provides in-depth information about the Business Register Data Products
- [Inter-corporate Ownership](#) - This *Inter-Corporate Ownership* (ICO) publication is a reliable index of who owns and/or controls whom in Canada.

# About the Data Service Centre

The Data Service Centre (DSC) offers to data users a complete range of services. The DSC assists data users:

- With simple and free data requests, technical and methodological questions;
- With complex requests requiring research, extraction or customization of data from multiple sources;
- By producing customized reports, analyses and maps;
- By offering standard and customized workshops for data users of all levels of expertise;
- Through various outreach activities such as webinars, newsletters, presentations, information sessions and open houses.

For any questions, contact us:

- 1-800-263-1136
- [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)

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