

Quarterly Financial Report

Measuring the U.S. Economy

A Vital Resource for Business Financial Data

The U.S. Census Bureau measures the nation's people, places, and economy.

Visit the QFR Web site for access to the latest data, full release reports, historical data, information on methodology, and to create your own customizable time series at www.census.gov/econ/QFR.

For more information on the QFR, contact [301-763-6600](tel:301-763-6600) or e-mail csd.qfr@census.gov.

For more information on the Economic Indicators, visit www.census.gov/economic-indicators/.



Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App for both Apple and Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators. See <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>.

What is the Quarterly Financial Report?

The Quarterly Financial Report (QFR) is a principal economic indicator conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. It provides timely, accurate data on business financial conditions for use by government and private sector organizations and individuals. Data back to 1947 are available.

Who uses the Quarterly Financial Report?

- The Bureau of Economic Analysis uses QFR data for their National Income and Products Accounts.
- The Federal Reserve Board uses QFR data in their financial accounts.
- The Small Business Administration uses QFR data to estimate financial performance of small businesses.
- QFR data are also used by newspapers, trade magazines, research papers, and individual companies.

What geographic levels are provided?

Data are provided at the national level.

How frequently is it conducted and released?

The QFR is conducted quarterly. Data are released for the calendar quarter approximately 75 days after the end of the first, second, and third calendar quarters, and approximately 90 days after the end of the fourth calendar quarter.

What data items are included?

- Estimated statements of income and retained earnings.
- Balance sheets.
- Related financial and operating ratios.

What industries are covered?

- Mining (NAICS Sector 21)
- Manufacturing (NAICS Sector 31-33)
- Wholesale Trade (NAICS Sector 42)
- Retail Trade (NAICS Sector 44-45)
- Information Services (NAICS Sector 51)
- Professional and Technical Services, except Legal Services (NAICS Sector 54)

Is it mandatory?

Title 13 of the United States Code, Section 91, authorizes this collection and requires that financial statistics of business operations be collected and published quarterly.

Is respondent information kept confidential?

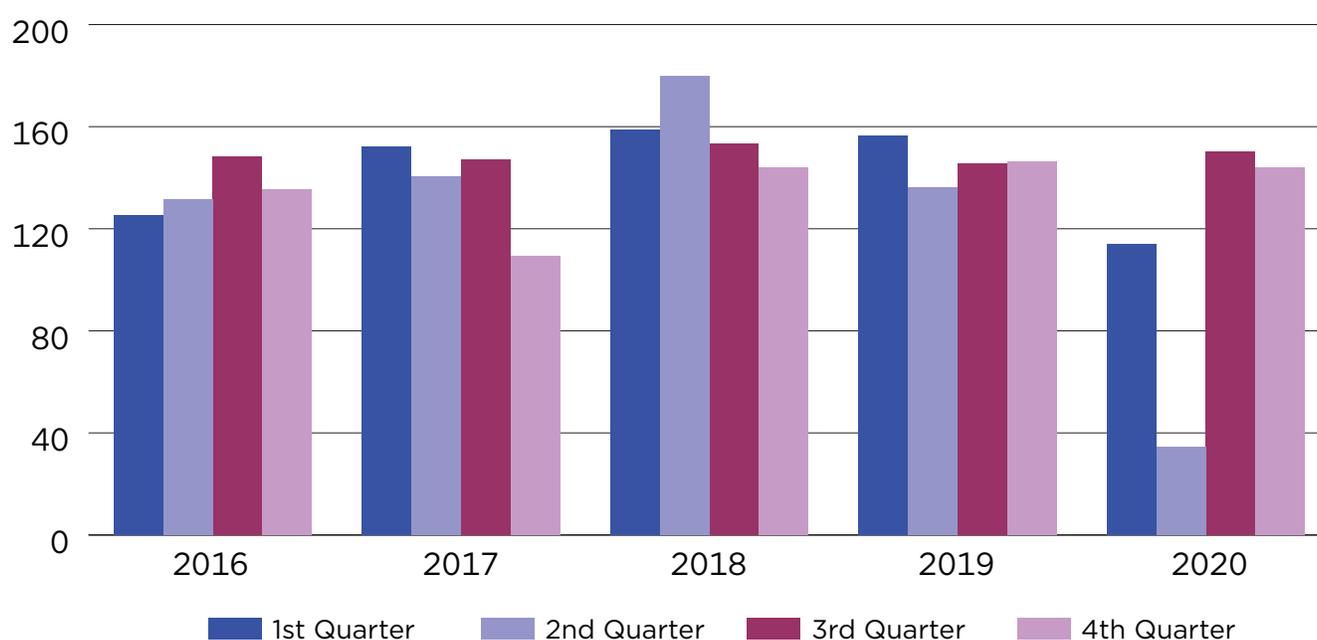
Title 13, United States Code, Section 9, requires the Census Bureau to keep respondent information confidential and to use responses only to produce statistics.

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U.S. Manufacturing Corporations Seasonally Adjusted Quarterly After-Tax Profits

(Billions of dollars)



Note: Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Quarterly Financial Report, March 22, 2021.

Latest Release Highlights

U.S. manufacturing corporations' seasonally adjusted after-tax profits in the fourth quarter of 2020 totaled \$144.1 billion, down \$6.3 (± 1.3) billion from the after-tax profits of \$150.3 billion recorded in the third quarter of 2020, and down \$2.1 (± 0.6) billion from the after-tax profits of \$146.2 billion recorded in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Are there other programs that provide similar data?

Selected annual data are available, including data from the Annual Wholesale Trade Survey <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/awts.html> and the Annual Retail Trade Survey <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/arts.html>. Detailed statistics from the 5-year Economic Census <www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html> are also available.