

# Data Downloads User Guide

July 15, 2021

## Data Products

The Small Business Pulse Survey (SBPS) produces the following data files for each survey collection period (weekly).

Survey collection period ([DATE\_RANGE] in the filenames) includes the beginning and end dates of the period during which responses were collected. For example,

national\_sector\_15Feb21\_21Feb21.xlsx

The following table includes the name of the download files and their contents.

<b>Downloads Tab Name</b>	<b>Table Name</b>	<b>Table Contents</b>	<b>Previous Revision</b>
<b>National, Sector</b>	national_sector_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	National estimates overall and by sector (2-digit NAICS). National overall estimates are designated by a '-' in the sector (NAICS2) column	
<b>National, State</b>	national_state_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	National estimates overall and by state. National overall estimates are designated by a '-' in the state (ST) column.	
<b>National, State by Sector</b>	national_state_sector_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	National, state, and sector estimates as well as state by sector estimates. National overall estimates are designated by a '-' in the sector (NAICS2) and state (ST) columns.	
<b>Top 50 MSA</b>	top_50_msa_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	Estimates for the largest 50 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA). The SBPS uses 2017 CBSA codes. <a href="#">Geographic reference files.</a>	Revised on 1/14/2021

<b>Sub-sector (NAICS3)</b>	naics3_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	National estimates overall and by sub-sector (3-digit NAICS).	
<b>National, State, Sector by Employment Size</b>	empclass_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	National, state, and sector estimates overall and by three employment size classes: A (1-4 employees), B (5-19 employees), and C (20 or more employees).	
<b>Index values - National, State, Sector</b>	indexes_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	Index estimates at the national, state, and sector levels.	Revised on 1/14/2021
<b>Unit Response Rate</b>	response_urr_[DATE_RANGE].xlsx	Unit response rates. See " <a href="#">How the data are collected</a> " for more information.	
<b>All Files</b>	ZIP	Includes all week files listed above	Revised on 1/14/2021

Moved to xlsx files in February 2021

## Data Dictionary

The following table includes the name of data items found in the SBPS download files as well as a description for each item.

ITEM NAME	ITEM DESCRIPTION
<b>ST</b>	State postal code
<b>NAICS_SECTOR</b>	North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) 2-digit sector code
<b>NAICS3_CODE</b>	North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) 3-digit sector code
<b>MSA</b>	Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) name
<b>CBSA_CODE</b>	Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) code
<b>EMPCLASS</b>	Employment size class of business (A=1-4, B=5-19, C=20 or more employees)
<b>INSTRUMENT_ID</b>	Question number from the SBPS instrument
<b>ANSWER_ID</b>	Answer number from the SBPS instrument; note that these are unique only within each question and should be used with INSTRUMENT_ID.
<b>ESTIMATE_PERCENTAGE</b>	The weighted percent of responses for the (INSTRUMENT_ID, ANSWER_ID)
<b>SE</b>	The standard error for the corresponding ESTIMATE_PERCENTAGE
<b>URR</b>	Unit response rate. See " <a href="#">How the data are collected</a> " for more information.

## Sampling Error

Differences between estimates may be attributed to sampling or non-sampling error, rather than to differences in underlying economic conditions. High levels of non-response contribute to large non-sampling error. Caution should be used when drawing conclusions from the estimates and any comparisons over time.

While standard errors for the index estimates are not provided, the standard errors for the indexes may be large and differences in the index estimates over time may not be statistically significant.

Please refer to [How the Data are Collected](#) for more information.

## File Revision Tracking

Download files were updated for all phases for the following reasons: update XLS format to XLSX; add question and answer text; and minor revisions to the “National, State”, “National, Sector” and “Unit Response Rate” files. The updated files were released at 10:00am EST on 2/25/2021 and are currently available.

The following download files were replaced for all three phases: Top 50 MSA, Sub-sector (NAICS3), Index values - National, State, Sector due to data suppression errors and All Files zips. The Survey Index Weekly Comparison visual was refreshed with the updated data. The correct data were released at 10:00am EST on 1/14/2021 and are currently available. Please disregard any previous data download versions.