Quarterly Workforce Indicators: New Jobs Data by Firm Age and Firm Size

We are pleased to announce the release of new Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) containing employment, wage, and job creation/destruction information by firm size and age. These new data will allow users to consider topics such as the role of start-ups in generating new jobs, and the fluctuations in employment of small and large firms at the local and state level. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time firm age information has been released at the sub-state geographic level in a statistical product. During an initial comment period, we are releasing them only to data providers and to the Virtual Research Data Center (available to the public) for feedback and comments. More information on how to access the data is provided below. These data will become available via online applications such as QWI Online and Industry Focus in a subsequent release.

The new national firm size variable measures the firm’s national employment on March 12th of the previous year (current year for new firms). This measures the overall size of the firm and differs from establishment size (e.g. a local Starbucks is regarded as part of a large firm while a neighboring mom and pop is classed in a smaller size category). Firm age is the national age of the firm (specifically, the age of the oldest establishment), which may differ from the age of local establishments affiliated with the firm. The source data on firm size and age are the Center for Economic Studies’ Longitudinal Business Database (LBD) microdata, linked via firm identifiers to the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) microdata.

Highlights:

New QWI tabulations by national age and size of firm
Private employment universe only

Firm size categories:
- 0-19 employees
- 20-49 employees,
- 50-249 employees
- 250-499 employees
- 500 or more employees

Firm age categories:
- 0-1 years
- 2-3 years
- 4-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11 or more years

Data Access:

The new tabulations are available here: http://www.vrdc.cornell.edu/qwipu/(release)/(state)/beta/.
More information about downloading the data is available here:

Questions and feedback to: CES.Local.Employment.Dynamics@census.gov