

U.S. County Manufacturing Industry Data, 1927 (cross-section)

File Names: county_ind_shares_1927.xlsx [Excel], county_ind_shares_1927.dta [Stata]

Supporting files: 1927_state_ind_avg.xlsx [Excel]

Description. This file contains a county-level cross-section of industries in the U.S. in 1927 as published in the Market Data Handbook of the United States (Table 8). The source gives aggregate number of establishments by industry by county from a special tabulation of the 1927 Census of Manufacturers. The data reported here is aggregated up to the 16 main manufacturing industries - for a more granular level, please contact me directly. I use state-industry-level averages of wage earners/establishment, total wages/establishment, and output/establishment to transform establishment shares into other, possibly more meaningful, shares. The state-industry-level averages come from the 1927 Census of Manufacturers and are reported in the supporting file. For example, the output share of industry I in county C is computed as follows:

[Data] Establishment Share_{I,C} = Establishments_{I,C} / Total Establishments_{C}

[Approx.] Output Share_{I,C} = Establishments_{I,C} × Avg. Output_{I,S(C)} / Total Output_{C}

where Avg. Output_{I,S(C)} is the average output per establishment in industry I in state S in 1927 and Total Output_{C} is the total approximated output across all industries in county C (shares sum to 1).

Notes.

- Total observations: 2,065
- Industry Codes:
 - 1: Food and kindred products (e.g. bread, butter, canning, ice, meat packing)
 - 2: Textiles and their products (e.g. clothing, cotton goods, silk manufacturers)
 - 3: Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery (e.g. cast-iron pipe)
 - 4: Forest products (e.g. boxes, caskets, furniture)
 - 5: Leather and its manufactures (e.g. belts, boots, saddles)
 - 6: Rubber products (e.g. rubber tires and inner tubes)
 - 7: Paper, printing, and related industries (e.g. paper, printing and publishing)
 - 8: Chemicals and allied products (e.g. explosives, fertilizers, grease, oils, paints)
 - 9: Stone, clay, and glass products (e.g. cement, lime, concrete)
 - 10: Metals and metal products, other than iron and steel (e.g. aluminum)
 - 11: Tobacco manufactures (e.g. cigars and cigarettes)
 - 12: Machinery, not including transportation equipment
 - 13: Musical instruments and phonographs (e.g. pianos, phonographs)
 - 14: Transportation equipment, air, land, and water (e.g. motor-vehicle, ships)
 - 15: Railroad repair shops (e.g. car and general construction and repairs)
 - 16: Miscellaneous industries (e.g. brooms, fur goods, surgical appliances)

Definitions.

At the biennial censuses, data have been obtained only from establishments reporting products to the value of \$5,000 or more. An establishment signifies a single plant or factory.

Variables.

1. county_name, county_fips, state_fips, state_name, state_abbv:
County and state identifiers, self-explanatory

1. ind[x]_est_share: Establishments of industry [x] over total establishments
2. ind[x]_n_work_share: Approximate number of wage earners in industry [x] over total approximated wage earners in county
3. ind[x]_d_wages_share: Approximate payroll of wage earners in industry [x] over total approximated payroll in county
4. ind[x]_d_products_share: Approximate products produced of industry [x] over total products produced in county

Sources.

Stewart, Paul William. *Market Data Handbook of United States*. No. 30. US Government Printing Office, 1929. Table 8.

Acknowledgements.

This work was done when Janas was completing his Ph.D. at the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University. He would like to thank the Economic History Association and the Kellogg Dean's Office for financial assistance.

Please email pawel.janas8@gmail.com with questions and corrections.