Business Database Handbook is a series of introductions to the business databases subscribed by Fogler Library at University of Maine. It covers general questions relating to how to access the database, what the database is used for, how to use it, where the data come from and what are alternatives to the database.

For any questions about the business databases, please feel free to contact me.

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On-campus Access

Off-campus Access: Troubleshooting

Public Access: https://www.bizminer.com/

**Purpose of Use**

BizMiner is used for basic industry and market research, particularly for establishing business benchmarks. It contains basic data on industry financial ratios, balance sheet and profit & loss statement. It also contains US, State, Metro, and down to county level market statistics and sales-per-square-foot data for limited companies.

It is not for company research and it doesn’t contain detailed company information.

It is not an in-depth analytical report. Most of the reports consist of datasets and charts. Although some reports are narrative, they almost restate the data.

It could be used for industry and market research in student’s entrepreneurship, accounting, finance and marketing programs.

**Content Details**

**Industry Financial Analysis**

**US Industry Financial Reports**

- **Content:** Industry financial ratios, balance sheet and profit & loss statement
- **Coverage:** 5,500 lines of business; 34 financial ratios; 3-5 year reports; Time Series: 2009-2013.

**Local Industry Financial Reports**

- **Content:** State and Metro versions of industry financials.

**Micro Firm Profit-Loss Reports**

- **Content:** Startup or sole proprietorship industry profit-loss and cash flow analysis
- **Coverage:** 4,000 lines of business; 3-5 year reports; Time Series: 2009-2013.

**Industry Market Analysis**

**Industry Market Reports**

- **Content:** US-State-Metro-County and zip code markets area reports, including industry population, cessation rates, market volume, average annual sales, sales trends, industry startup trends and activity and industry vitality trends etc.

**Competitive Market Analyzer**
Content: narrative competitive analysis of industry and market area -- down to the zip code. Time Series: 2013q2

Real Estate Content

Sales per Square Foot Report

Content: Industry sales per square foot research compiled from 139,500 retail stores.
Coverage: 14 industries.

Additional Resources:

Financial Glossaries and Report Companions

Glossaries offer detailed definition of various measures in its reports

Samples of the reports can be retrieved from BizMiner public website.

How to Use It?

Get started with this BizMiner Tutorial and FAQ. Video tutorials created by Chad Boeninger from Ohio University Library on using Bizminer:

- How to find industry financial ratios with Bizminer.
- How to analyze financial ratios, startup risk, and vitality of the fitness industry using Bizminer.
- How to find financial ratios for the sporting goods retail industry and understand the local market with Bizminer.
- How to find industry financial ratios for popcorn stores using Bizminer
- How to find industry financial averages and ratios for the coffee shops, cafes, bakeries and more in Bizminer.

Research Reminder

The database may contain some data errors or missed information. And neither the Brandow Company (the publisher of BizMiner) nor its resellers has undertaken independent primary research to confirm the accuracy of the data utilized in the Profile analyses. They are not responsible for conclusions drawn or decisions made based upon this data or analysis.

Data Sources

Raw data analyzed for BizMiner reports is sourced from an array of the nation's government and private statistical sources. As indicated by BizMiner, the data source includes:

- IRS SOI Corporation Income Tax Returns
- IRS SOI Corporation Tax Book
- IRS SOI 1040 Schedule C Income Tax Returns
- IRS SOI Statistics of Income- Individual Tax Statistics
- US Economic Census of Manufactures
- US Census Economy Overview
- US Census Annual Survey of Manufactures
- US Census Annual Retail Trade Survey
- US Census Annual Wholesale Trade Survey
- US Census Quarterly Financial Reports
- US Census County Business Patterns
- Bureau of Labor Statistics Monthly Employment Reports
- Bureau of Labor Statistics Monthly Unemployment Reports
- Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Wage Survey
Alternative Resources

Print resources for business and financial ratio analysis fall under Library of Congress Classification System HF5681.R25 Ratio analysis. Some most recent resources available at Fogler library reference collection include:

**Almanac of business and industrial financial ratios**
Highlights financial ratios using tax return information from the IRS. The almanac covers 50 operating and financial ratios for 179 areas of business. Provides performance figures and ratios for 10 years.
In Print and CDROM. 2014
Location: UM Orono Reference REF HF 5681 R25 A45

**Industry norms and key business ratios, one year**
Contains industry norms and business ratios for public and privately-owned businesses, organized by SIC code, covers over 800 lines of business and the data is based on balance sheets, income statements and financial ratios.
In Print. 2013.
Location: UM Orono Reference REF HF 5681 R25 I53b

**RMA annual statement studies**
Industry ratios are used to measure company's or an industry's financial strengths and weaknesses. They are based on data found in balance sheets, income statements and sometimes based on share prices.
In Print. 2013/2014
Location: UM Orono Reference REF HF 5681 B2 R6

Additional resources to help you understand the business ratios:

**Business ratios and formulas**
In Print.
Location: UM Orono Reference HF5691 .B73 2012

Report a Problem

If you encounter a technical problem accessing this database, please let us know.