

Service bulletin

Specialized Design Services

2006



Highlights

- Specialized design service firms generated \$2.5 billion in operating revenues in 2006, up 9% from the previous year.
- Nearly two-thirds of the operating revenue growth came from businesses classified to the interior design services industry, which is closely associated with building construction and renovation activity. It posted a 19% revenue growth rate. Graphic design, industrial design, and other design service industries recorded single-digit revenue growth rates.
- Graphic design services, the largest of the specialized design industries, recorded the lowest rate of growth (+4%). Even though graphic design businesses represent half of operating revenues earned by the specialized design group, they accounted for only about a quarter of the group's revenue growth.
- In Ontario, total operating revenues were flat compared with the previous year as a moderate revenue increase in interior design was offset by declines in the other industries. Businesses in Ontario still made up half of total national operating revenues.
- National revenue growth was attributable mostly to gains posted by interior design firms located in Alberta, British Columbia and Quebec.
- Operating expenses grew at a slower pace than operating revenues, resulting in a slight increase in operating profit. The operating profit margin reached 12%, up from 11% the previous year. Salaries, wages and benefits continued to account for nearly one-third of total operating expenses.

Note: The Annual Survey of Specialized Design Services comprises four North American Industry Classification System industries; interior design (54141), industrial design (54142), graphic design (54143), and other specialized design (54149). Prior to 2006, it also included landscape architectural services (541320), which is now included with the Annual Survey of Architectural Services.



Statistical tables

Table 1

Summary statistics for specialized design services, by province and territory, 2004 to 2006

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	Salaries, wages and benefits	Operating profit margin	Statistical establishments
	millions of dollars			percent	number
2006					
Newfoundland and Labrador	3.7	3.6	1.0	3.1	30
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	18.1	14.1	4.2	21.9	152
New Brunswick	16.1	13.8	3.9	14.1	100
Quebec	525.4	453.5	143.3	13.7	2,736
Ontario	1,300.2	1,163.6	372.6	10.5	5,946
Manitoba	33.9	28.8	11.4	15.0	178
Saskatchewan	10.8	8.4	3.4	22.2	86
Alberta	259.0	224.7	67.4	13.2	1,201
British Columbia	360.5	308.8	90.8	14.3	1,937
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	2,538.9	2,230.3	700.5	12.2	12,411
2005					
Newfoundland and Labrador	3.9	3.8	1.1	2.5	32
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	16.6	14.0	4.3	15.8	136
New Brunswick	11.7	10.5	3.8	9.6	63
Quebec	471.1	409.2	135.2	13.3	2,550
Ontario	1,298.1	1,170.1	370.0	9.9	5,851
Manitoba	29.2	24.4	9.2	16.4	205
Saskatchewan	7.6	6.3	2.6	17.0	62
Alberta	195.2	167.8	52.1	14.0	1,176
British Columbia	289.2	255.8	84.7	11.5	1,741
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	2,332.9	2,071.2	665.6	11.2	11,854
2004					
Newfoundland and Labrador	4.5	4.0	1.1	10.6	42
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	17.8	14.9	5.3	16.2	144
New Brunswick	10.5	9.2	3.2	12.7	63
Quebec	443.9	380.8	115.1	14.3	2,583
Ontario	1,274.3	1,149.9	360.5	9.8	6,061
Manitoba	30.4	26.8	10.0	11.9	198
Saskatchewan	9.1	8.7	2.4	4.8	63
Alberta	170.1	142.3	40.2	16.3	1,094
British Columbia	259.3	229.6	78.9	11.5	1,732
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	2,229.9	1,975.2	619.1	11.4	12,014

Note(s): According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 5414). See "Data source, definitions and methodology" at the end of tables for definition of terms. Due to rounding, components may not add to total.

Table 2
Summary statistics for interior design services, by province and territory, 2004 to 2006

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	Salaries, wages and benefits	Operating profit margin	Statistical establishments
	millions of dollars			percent	number
2006					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	3.3	2.8	1.1	12.7	33
New Brunswick	2.6	2.1	0.5	18.3	25
Quebec	122.4	107.2	32.6	12.4	756
Ontario	418.6	378.6	106.4	9.6	1,642
Manitoba	10.5	8.4	3.0	20.1	58
Saskatchewan	3.9	2.8	0.9	26.9	28
Alberta	108.3	97.1	24.2	10.3	403
British Columbia	142.4	130.3	32.6	8.5	572
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	814.9	731.9	201.6	10.2	3,537
2005					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.8	1.7	0.5	8.1	12
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	3.1	2.7	0.9	12.9	29
New Brunswick	1.2	0.9	0.3	21.1	14
Quebec	98.8	84.8	26.7	14.2	585
Ontario	395.4	361.8	104.6	8.5	1,503
Manitoba	8.9	7.1	2.5	19.9	65
Saskatchewan	1.7	1.4	0.5	14.1	9
Alberta	73.0	65.1	16.8	10.8	380
British Columbia	97.8	90.8	24.6	7.2	486
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	682.2	616.7	177.5	9.6	3,086
2004					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.4	1.2	0.4	16.0	14
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	2.5	2.4	1.2	4.8	23
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	106.5	86.8	25.7	18.5	649
Ontario	354.1	318.3	105.9	10.1	1,495
Manitoba	8.5	7.2	2.9	14.6	61
Saskatchewan	1.9	1.5	0.4	18.7	17
Alberta	68.7	57.2	15.8	16.7	361
British Columbia	73.2	64.5	20.8	11.9	433
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	618.1	540.3	173.2	12.6	3,067

Note(s): According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 54141). See "Data source, definitions and methodology" at the end of tables for definition of terms. Due to rounding, components may not add to total.

Table 3
Summary statistics for industrial design services, by province and territory, 2004 to 2006

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	Salaries, wages and benefits	Operating profit margin	Statistical establishments
	millions of dollars			percent	number
2006					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	x	x	x	x
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	80.0	70.2	29.3	12.2	310
Ontario	95.1	84.9	27.9	10.8	571
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Alberta	48.0	41.4	15.0	13.7	196
British Columbia	15.7	13.1	6.1	16.6	109
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	243.1	213.2	79.7	12.3	1,232
2005					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	x	x	x	x
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	70.2	63.8	25.8	9.1	312
Ontario	99.4	90.0	27.6	9.4	583
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Alberta	41.8	37.4	12.6	10.6	229
British Columbia	13.8	13.3	7.0	3.0	110
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	228.6	207.3	73.8	9.3	1,271
2004					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	0.4	0.2	0	49.6	7
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	61.8	60.2	22.6	2.5	315
Ontario	115.7	109.8	28.0	5.1	623
Manitoba	1.0	1.0	0.3	4.7	12
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Alberta	29.3	26.6	6.3	9.2	177
British Columbia	12.9	11.8	5.8	8.2	130
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	222.5	210.5	63.4	5.4	1,279

Note(s): According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 54142). See "Data source, definitions and methodology" at the end of tables for definition of terms. Due to rounding, components may not add to total.

Table 4
Summary statistics for graphic design services, by province and territory, 2004 to 2006

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	Salaries, wages and benefits	Operating profit margin	Statistical establishments
	millions of dollars			percent	number
2006					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	13.7	10.5	2.9	23.7	91
New Brunswick	11.6	10.2	2.9	12.4	57
Quebec	278.8	235.8	72.2	15.4	1,458
Ontario	718.8	640.7	222.6	10.9	3,233
Manitoba	20.3	17.9	7.3	11.9	94
Saskatchewan	4.9	3.6	1.9	25.7	42
Alberta	90.8	75.8	24.4	16.6	502
British Columbia	161.1	128.8	40.8	20.0	981
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	1,311.3	1,134.7	377.9	13.5	6,501
2005					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	12.8	10.7	3.4	16.6	93
New Brunswick	8.9	8.4	3.0	5.4	36
Quebec	262.3	225.2	74.0	14.2	1,437
Ontario	731.1	652.2	222.8	10.8	3,263
Manitoba	16.8	14.4	5.7	14.0	107
Saskatchewan	5.0	4.1	1.8	17.6	45
Alberta	72.6	58.7	20.4	19.1	488
British Columbia	145.3	122.4	42.7	15.8	961
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	1,265.6	1,106.8	376.9	12.6	6,480
2004					
Newfoundland and Labrador	2.6	2.4	0.7	8.5	24
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	14.4	12.0	4.2	16.8	104
New Brunswick	8.6	7.6	2.7	11.3	41
Quebec	245.4	207.5	60.8	15.4	1,414
Ontario	733.9	662.3	209.8	9.8	3,432
Manitoba	18.8	16.6	6.3	11.6	107
Saskatchewan	5.7	4.9	1.7	14.4	38
Alberta	65.5	53.1	16.9	18.9	489
British Columbia	142.0	123.3	42.5	13.1	985
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	1,246.2	1,098.6	347.6	11.8	6,662

Note(s): According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 54143). See "Data source, definitions and methodology" at the end of tables for definition of terms. Due to rounding, components may not add to total.

Table 5
Summary statistics for other specialized design services, by province and territory, 2004 to 2006

	Operating revenue	Operating expenses	Salaries, wages and benefits	Operating profit margin	Statistical establishments
	millions of dollars			percent	number
2006					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	x	x	x	x
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	44.2	40.3	9.3	8.8	212
Ontario	67.7	59.5	15.7	12.2	500
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Alberta	11.9	10.4	3.9	12.2	100
British Columbia	41.2	36.6	11.3	11.2	275
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	169.5	150.5	41.4	11.2	1,141
2005					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	x	x	x	x	x
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	40.4	35.5	8.7	12.2	216
Ontario	72.3	66.0	15.0	8.7	502
Manitoba	x	x	x	x	x
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Alberta	7.9	6.6	2.3	15.5	79
British Columbia	32.2	29.3	10.4	9.1	184
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	156.5	140.4	37.5	10.3	1,017
2004					
Newfoundland and Labrador	x	x	x	x	x
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	0.4	0.3	0	27.1	10
New Brunswick	x	x	x	x	x
Quebec	30.2	25.9	6.1	14.2	205
Ontario	70.6	59.5	16.7	15.7	511
Manitoba	2.1	1.9	0.6	7.2	18
Saskatchewan	x	x	x	x	x
Alberta	6.7	5.4	1.3	19.9	67
British Columbia	31.2	29.9	9.8	4.0	184
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	143.1	125.7	35.0	12.1	1,006

Note(s): According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 54149). See "Data source, definitions and methodology" at the end of tables for definition of terms. Due to rounding, components may not add to total.

Table 6
Operating revenue by type of client for specialized design services, by province and territory, 2004 to 2006

	Clients in Canada			Governments and public institutions			Businesses		
	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004
	percent								
Newfoundland and Labrador	100.0	99.9	96.8	0.7	7.0	9.0	29.4	63.0	59.5
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Nova Scotia	99.2	99.6	99.4	18.0	12.5	22.0	76.0	76.6	70.2
New Brunswick	99.6	99.5	95.3	14.9	21.1	22.9	79.8	77.4	70.9
Quebec	91.8	90.6	94.0	6.1	3.3	10.1	76.1	77.5	73.8
Ontario	90.5	86.1	91.1	8.1	5.0	7.1	65.3	68.9	69.9
Manitoba	99.4	99.1	99.0	10.8	10.0	15.1	76.7	80.1	74.9
Saskatchewan	98.0	99.6	99.6	15.9	27.1	29.4	59.2	71.2	56.8
Alberta	95.9	92.4	97.0	5.8	4.0	8.2	65.8	69.4	69.5
British Columbia	92.8	87.6	84.2	7.1	6.0	7.4	68.4	65.9	69.2
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Canada	92.0	88.7	91.6	7.7	5.5	8.4	68.2	70.5	70.4
	Individuals and households			Clients outside Canada					
	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004			
	percent								
Newfoundland and Labrador	69.9	29.9	28.3	0	0.2	3.3			
Prince Edward Island	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Nova Scotia	5.2	10.5	7.2	0.8	0.3	0.6			
New Brunswick	4.9	1.0	1.5	0.4	0.5	4.7			
Quebec	9.6	9.8	10.1	8.2	9.4	6.0			
Ontario	17.1	12.2	14.1	9.5	13.9	8.9			
Manitoba	11.9	9.0	9.0	0.6	0.9	0.9			
Saskatchewan	23.0	1.3	13.4	2.0	0.4	0.4			
Alberta	24.3	19.0	19.3	4.1	7.7	2.9			
British Columbia	17.3	15.7	7.6	7.2	12.4	15.8			
Yukon	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Northwest Territories	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Nunavut	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Canada	16.1	12.7	12.8	8.0	11.3	8.4			

Note(s): According to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 5414). Survey portion only based on a sample of firms (weighted). See "Data source, definitions and methodology" at the end of tables for definition of terms. Due to rounding, components may not add to total.

Table 7
Operating revenue by type of service for specialized design services, by province and territory, 2005 and 2006

	Newfound- land and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Sotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskat- chewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Territories ¹	Canada
	percent											
Interior design services												
2006	85.8	x	16.0	11.0	19.7	27.1	25.2	30.0	32.2	32.2	x	26.6
2005	38.3	x	16.9	0.9	16.5	26.7	26.7	0	29.2	26.9	x	24.5
Full-service interior design services												
2006	81.5	x	13.2	8.2	16.2	23.0	19.9	27.0	26.7	29.1	x	22.6
2005	31.1	x	15.0	0.9	14.9	22.1	22.2	0	25.1	23.9	x	20.8
Interior design services, sold separately												
2006	4.3	x	2.8	2.8	3.5	4.1	5.3	3.0	5.5	3.1	x	4.0
2005	7.2	x	1.9	0	1.6	4.6	4.5	0	4.1	3.0	x	3.7
Industrial design services												
2006	0	x	1.9	5.3	11.9	5.9	4.1	0	10.4	3.7	x	7.1
2005	0	x	0	5.8	12.7	6.9	0	9.2	16.5	3.7	x	8.3
Product industrial design services												
2006	0	x	0.4	4.4	5.8	2.9	1.6	0	4.7	3.0	x	3.6
2005	0	x	0	3.6	6.8	3.8	0	0.1	8.6	2.9	x	4.6
Model design and fabrication services												
2006	0	x	1.2	0.1	1.0	1.0	1.4	0	0.7	0.1	x	0.8
2005	0	x	0	0	0.6	0.7	0	0.4	0.9	0.1	x	0.6
Other industrial design services												
2006	0	x	0.3	0.8	5.1	2.0	1.1	0	5.0	0.6	x	2.7
2005	0	x	0	2.2	5.3	2.4	0	8.7	7.0	0.7	x	3.1
Graphic design services												
2006	2.2	x	58.5	54.7	39.5	49.6	39.9	48.4	24.8	38.7	x	43.3
2005	39.4	x	67.2	82.1	38.6	46.9	40.3	70.5	29.9	41.5	x	43.6
Corporate image graphic design services												
2006	1.1	x	34.5	21.7	13.3	17.6	11.4	16.4	11.3	14.9	x	15.7
2005	12.2	x	26.3	29.1	11.1	22.0	13.7	19.2	13.6	16.9	x	18.4
Advertising creative services												
2006	0	x	9.1	18.0	10.6	14.9	14.7	20.2	6.9	11.3	x	12.7
2005	16.6	x	23.4	29.5	10.5	11.2	11.6	26.8	9.8	12.0	x	11.4
Other graphic design services												
2006	1.1	x	14.9	15.0	15.6	17.1	13.8	11.8	6.6	12.5	x	14.9
2005	10.6	x	17.5	23.5	17.0	13.7	15.0	24.5	6.5	12.6	x	13.8
Other specialized design services ²												
2006	0	x	0	0	7.8	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.0	10.4	x	5.8
2005	0	x	0	0.4	8.6	5.2	9.0	1.2	3.8	10.7	x	6.4
Secondary revenue sources												
2006	11.9	x	23.5	29.0	20.4	12.9	26.0	17.0	28.1	14.8	x	16.7
2005	22.2	x	15.9	10.7	23.6	14.2	24.1	18.9	20.6	17.2	x	17.2
Drafting services												
2006	0	x	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.5	x	0.6
2005	2.4	x	0	0.6	1.3	0.2	0.4	0	0.7	0.8	x	0.6
Printing												
2006	0	x	16.6	22.6	8.3	4.0	7.4	8.1	5.3	3.7	x	5.3
2005	1.2	x	4.2	1.7	5.6	4.4	7.3	8.0	3.3	5.5	x	4.7
Architectural services												
2006	2.3	x	0.1	1.2	0.8	0.1	1.2	0.4	1.6	0.8	x	0.5
2005	1.2	x	0	0.6	0.6	0.1	0	2.2	0.3	0.2	x	0.3
Engineering design services												
2006	0	x	0	0.5	1.2	0.3	0.1	0	1.3	0.5	x	0.6
2005	3.1	x	0	2.1	1.8	0.7	0.4	6.6	2.5	2.1	x	1.2
Sales of merchandise purchased for resale as is												
2006	9.6	x	1.7	2.6	5.1	4.3	11.8	7.4	8.1	6.8	x	5.3
2005	13.3	x	2.9	1.9	8.8	3.6	13.4	0.3	5.9	5.5	x	5.2
All other sales												
2006	0	x	4.1	1.2	3.8	3.8	4.8	0.7	11.1	2.5	x	4.4
2005	1.0	x	8.8	3.8	5.5	5.2	2.6	1.8	7.9	3.1	x	5.2

1. Territories include: Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

2. Other specialized design services include : fashion, jewellery, footwear and other design services.

Data sources and methodology

Description

This annual sample survey collects the financial and operating data needed to produce statistics on the Specialized Design Services in Canada. The survey also collects detailed information on the characteristics of the businesses, such as type of revenue and type of client. These data are aggregated with information from other sources to produce official estimates of the national and provincial economic production of Specialized Design Services industry in Canada. The results from this survey provide data to businesses, governments, investors, and associations. These data allow these groups to monitor the growth of the industry, measure performance, allow comparison across similar businesses and to better understand this industry to react to trends and patterns.

Target population

The target population consists of all establishments classified to Specialized Design Services industry (5414) according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) during the reference year. This industry comprises establishments primarily engaged in interior design services (54141), industrial design services (54142), graphic design services (54143) and other specialized design services (54149).

Sampling

This is a sample survey with a cross-sectional design.

The frame is the list of establishments from which the portion eligible for sampling is determined and the sample is taken. The frame provides basic information about each firm including address, industry classification, and information from administrative data sources. The frame is maintained by Statistics Canada's Business Register and is updated using administrative data.

The basic objective of the survey is to produce estimates for the whole industry - incorporated and unincorporated businesses. The data come from two different sources: a sample of all businesses with revenue above or equal to a certain threshold (note: the threshold varies between surveys and sometimes between industries and provinces in the same survey) for which either survey or administrative data may be used; and administrative data only for businesses with revenue below the specified threshold. It should be noted that only financial information is available from businesses below the threshold; e.g., revenue, and expenses such as depreciation and salaries, wages and benefits. Detailed characteristics are collected only for surveyed establishments.

Prior to the selection of a random sample, establishments are classified into homogeneous groups (i.e., groups with the same NAICS codes and same geography). Quality requirements are targeted, and then each group is divided into sub-groups called strata: take-all, must-take, and take-some.

The take-all stratum represents the largest firms in terms of performance (based on revenue) in an industry. The must-take stratum is comprised of units selected based on complex structural characteristics (multi-establishment, multi-legal, multi-NAICS, or multi-province enterprises). All take-all and must-take firms are selected to the sample. Units in the take-some strata are subject to simple random sampling.

The effective sample size for reference year 2006 was 1,427 collection entities.

Definitions

- Estimates for the most recent year are preliminary. Preliminary data are subject to revision.
- **Operating revenue** excludes investment income, capital gains, extraordinary gains and other non-recurring items.
- **Operating expenses** exclude write-offs, capital losses, extraordinary losses, interest on borrowing, and other non-recurring items.
- **Salaries, wages and benefits** include vacation pay and commissions for all employees for whom T4 slips were completed. This category also includes the employer portion of employee benefits for items such as Canada/Québec Pension Plan or Employment Insurance premiums. Salaries and wages do not include working owners' dividends nor do they include the remuneration of owners of unincorporated business. Therefore the relative level of salaries, wages and benefits will be lower in industries where unincorporated businesses are significant contributors.
- **Operating profit margin** is derived as follows: operating revenue minus operating expenses, expressed as a percentage of operating revenue. The derived figure excludes corporation income tax paid by incorporated businesses and individual income tax paid by unincorporated businesses. For unincorporated businesses, operating profit margin includes unpaid remuneration to partners and proprietors, which is not recorded as salaries, wages and benefits. Therefore the profit estimate will be higher in industries where unincorporated proprietorships and partnerships are significant contributors.
- An active **statistical establishment** is one production entity or the smallest grouping of production entities which produces as homogenous a set of goods and/or services as possible; which does not cross provincial boundaries, and for which records provide data on the value of output together with the cost of principal intermediate inputs used and cost and quantity of labour resources used to produce the output.

Quality evaluation

Prior to dissemination, combined survey results are analyzed for overall quality; in general, this includes a detailed review of individual responses (especially for the largest companies), an assessment of the general economic conditions portrayed by the data, historic trends, and comparisons with other data sources.

Disclosure control

Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any data which would divulge information obtained under the Statistics Act that relates to any identifiable person, business or organization without the prior knowledge or the consent in writing of that person, business or organization. Various confidentiality rules are applied to all data that are released or published to prevent the publication or disclosure of any information deemed confidential. If necessary, data are suppressed to prevent direct or residual disclosure of identifiable data.

Data accuracy

Of the units contributing to the estimate, the (weighted) response rate was 78%. CVs were calculated for each estimate and are available upon request.

Related products

CANSIM

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0002 - Summary statistics for specialized design services (all establishments), by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), annual (525 series)

Survey(s)

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4719 - Annual Survey of Service Industries: Specialized Design

Publications

Service Industries Newsletter, Catalogue no. 63-018-X.

Analytical paper series - Service Industries Division, Catalogue no. 63F0002X.

Release date: June 2008

Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 ^s	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
p	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published

To access this product

This product, Catalogue no. 63-251-X, is available free in electronic format. To obtain a single issue, visit our website at www.statcan.ca and select "Publications" > "Free Internet publications."

Frequency: Annual / ISSN 1916-8977

For information on the wide range of data available from Statistics Canada, please call our national inquiries line at 1-800-263-1136.

La version française de cette publication est disponible sur demande (n° 63-251-X au catalogue).

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2008. All rights reserved. The content of this electronic publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part, and by any means, without further permission from Statistics Canada, subject to the following conditions: that it be done solely for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary, and/or for non-commercial purposes; and that Statistics Canada be fully acknowledged as follows: Source (or "Adapted from", if appropriate): Statistics Canada, year of publication, name of product, catalogue number, volume and issue numbers, reference period and page(s). Otherwise, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, by any means—electronic, mechanical or photocopy— or for any purposes without prior written permission of Licensing Services, Client Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.

Standards of service to the public

Statistics Canada is committed to serving its clients in a prompt, reliable and courteous manner. To this end, Statistics Canada has developed *standards of service* that its employees observe.

To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact Statistics Canada toll-free at 1-800-263-1136. The service standards are also published on www.statcan.ca under "About us" > "Providing services to Canadians."

Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.