



YourEconomy Time Series (YTS) 2016-2017

YTS is a brand new time series being developed by BDRRC and UW-Extension. YTS uses the Infogroup Historical Database (currently 1997-2015) as its nucleus, with additional Infogroup pre-verified data added to include companies that are most likely to be in business. We have developed processes that are ongoing to combine, verify and refurbish the historical data into a longitudinal database through techniques we have learned during our 10-years of experience with large establishment data sets and developing youreconomy.org.

Infogroup Verified Historical Data Assembly

- Start with Infogroup Business Historical (“in business” strong verified file) data, annual snapshots from 1997-2015. Each Infogroup annual historical file is closed at the end of each year (12/31) and no other info is added to file
- Combine all historical annual files into one database using the Infogroup unique ID; ABI (American Business Identifier), and remove all ABI duplicate records (establishments)
- Add YTS unique annual field variables; e.g. HQFIPS, CBSA, CDIST (congressional district), Type (resident, nonresident, or noncommercial), Startup (new establishment or new from existing establishment), EstEmp and EstSales (tracking whether employment and sales are estimated by BDRRC each year), and add single or “last year” variables that refer to the first or last year the ABI contains information; e.g. FirstYear, LastYear, and StockTicker

YTS Preliminary Version completed 6/1/2016

- “Stitch” together all annual snapshots by ABI, completing any missing field information by taking the previous year (including 0 and null values) and rolling it up to the next year that contains complete values
- Added 2 million “pre-verified” records acquired from Infogroup that were not in full or part, in the Infogroup historical business snapshots, primarily for 2014 & 2015
- Complete (estimate) employment variable where there was either 0 or null values
- Complete and repair a small percentage of targeted (growth companies) sales variables
- Fixed <600 records (primarily sales) that were consistent outliers using external data sources to verify
- Add over 100 summary fields for resulting calculations used for data aggregates on YourEconomy.org and GrowthEconomy.org

YTS Version 1 (Final Initial Release) estimated complete 12/23/2016 - Run new version of YourEconomy.org (1998-2015) by end of January 2017

- Redesigned the annual “stitching” process completing any missing field information by taking

the previous year (including 0 and null values) and rolling it up to the next year that contains complete values

- Find all the 0 and null values for employment and sales, and where appropriate, completing these values using medians derived from 6-digit NAICS weighted by 7 categories of employment size
- Add new field variables to YTS from Infogroup historical database
- From an Infogroup pre-verified database with over 28 million records, updating 5 million businesses and adding over 33 million jobs with additional years of data, and adding (new) over 13 million new businesses with 73 million jobs for establishments that are most likely in business from 1997-2015
- Build and verify firm level data using HQ/siblings relationships
- Verify and repair select outliers found calculating annual change results ranked by county, CBSA, and state
- Run second version of YourEconomy.org (1998-2015)
- Import into DDaTSL and begin availability for paid subscriptions by first of February 2017

2016 (Annual Release) estimated complete 6/1/2017

- Acquire 2016 annual data (both historical file and pre-verified updated) from Infogroup and add to YTS using processes described in Version 2 above
- Build and verify firm level data using HQ/siblings relationships
- Verify and repair select outliers found calculating annual change results ranked by county, CBSA, and state
- Run 2016 version of YourEconomy.org (1998-2016) by June 1, 2017

Rinse and Repeat - this version will be the ongoing annual update performed with each release of Infogroup data.

