

Information About North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Codes and Business Descriptions

When a business becomes certified with the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE), it is assigned NAICS codes according to the goods and services the business indicates it will provide. These codes and an approved business description are listed in OMWBE's [directory of certified firms](#).

Government agencies and some private businesses have goals for the participation of minority and women owned firms in procurement and contracting. These entities use OMWBE's database to find certified firms that have the NAICS codes and business description that match the goods and services they want to contract for or buy.

More Information about NAICS Codes

NAICS codes are defined by the United States Census Bureau. You can find more information on their web site.

1. To look up NAICS codes, click [here](#). You will see this screen:

The screenshot shows the 'North American Industry Classification System' page on the U.S. Department of Commerce website. The page features a search bar at the top right and a navigation menu with tabs for 'Main', 'History', 'Development Partners', 'Federal Register Notices', 'NAPCS', and 'FAQs'. Below the navigation, there is a 'NAICS Search' section with three search boxes labeled '2012 NAICS Search', '2007 NAICS Search', and '2002 NAICS Search'. To the right of the search boxes is an 'Introduction to NAICS' section with text explaining the system and providing links to related resources.

2. Click on this search tool to look up NAICS codes and their definitions and index entries:

The screenshot shows the '2012 NAICS Definition' page on the U.S. Department of Commerce website. The page features a search bar at the top left and a navigation menu with tabs for 'Main', 'History', 'Development Partners', 'Federal Register Notices', 'NAPCS', and 'FAQs'. Below the navigation, there is a '2012 NAICS Definition' section with text explaining the system and providing links to related resources. A red arrow points to the '2012 NAICS' link in the 'Downloads/Reference Files/Tools' section, which is highlighted with a red box.

3. You will see this screen. Scroll to find various industry categories:

2012 NAICS

The following table provides detailed information on the structure of NAICS. Also included, on this page, are downloadable, Excel and text, concordance files for 2012, 2007 and 2002.

Sector	Description
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
22	Utilities
23	Construction
31-33	Manufacturing
42	Wholesale Trade
44-45	Retail Trade
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing
51	Information
52	Finance and Insurance
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
61	Educational Services
62	Health Care and Social Assistance
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation
72	Accommodation and Food Services
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)

4. Once you click on a category, you will see a screen like below. This example is from the Construction category. OMWBE assigns six-digit NAICS codes.

2012 NAICS Definition

T = Canadian, Mexican, and United States industries are comparable.

Search results for: 23
 Number of records found: 73

- [23](#) Construction^T
- [236](#) Construction of Buildings^T
- [2361](#) Residential Building Construction^T
- [23611](#) Residential Building Construction^T
- [236115](#) New Single-Family Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)
- [236116](#) New Multifamily Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)
- [236117](#) New Housing For-Sale Builders
- [236118](#) Residential Remodelers

Six-digit NAICS code ← [236115](#) → Index description