NOTES ON DATA AND METHODOLOGY

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF ADVOCACY
REGULATION • RESEARCH • OUTREACH

1. What data series are used in the congressional district maps?

The self-employment statistics displayed in the congressional district maps come from the Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. Only the portions of the census tracts within each congressional district are shown for tracts that extend beyond the boundary of the district. The total self-employment figure is the sum of the following two categories of workers:

- **Self-employed in own not incorporated business** - Includes people who worked for profit or fees in their own unincorporated business, profession, or trade, or who operated a farm.

- **Self-employed in own incorporated business, professional practice, or farm** - Includes people whose business was incorporated with private wage-and salary-workers because they are paid employees of their own companies.

For further information, see the ACS 2018 Subject Definitions.

2. What data series are used for the small employer business statistics?

In collaboration with the Census Bureau's Statistics of US Businesses (SUSB), the Office of Advocacy co-funds a special tabulation of congressional district statistics. This new data set provides congressional district–level statistics on businesses with employees, establishments with employees, employment, and payroll by firm size.

- For these profiles, Advocacy defines a small business as an independent business having fewer than 500 employees. For the industry-level definitions of small business used in government programs and contracting, see https://www.sba.gov/document/support--table-size-standards.

- The SUSB statistics do not include nonemployers, which make up about 80% of US small businesses and generate about 3% of small business revenue (2012 Survey of Business Owners, Census).

3. Which industries are covered in the report?

The congressional district profiles provide industry data at the 2-digit level. SUSB classifies businesses according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information on the NAICS codes, see the 2017 NAICS Manual. For some congressional districts, certain industries are not reported because they are not represented in the district or due to suppression of estimates by SUSB. For more information, see the SUSB Methodology.

4. What is the "other services (except public administration)" industry?

According to Census, the "other services (except public administration)" sector comprises establishments engaged in providing services not specifically provided for elsewhere in the classification system. Establishments in this sector are primarily engaged in activities such as equipment and machinery repairing, promoting or administering religious activities, grantmaking, and advocacy. The sector also provides drycleaning and laundry services, personal care services, death care services, pet care services, photofinishing services, temporary parking services, and dating services.

5. What does "—" signify in the tables?

Values labeled "—" in the tables were withheld by the Census Bureau because they do not meet publication standards or could disclose information regarding individual businesses.