

## Estimation

As the sample drawn for this survey was only one of many possible samples that could have been drawn, a sampling error was attributed to it. Standard errors were used to provide a guide as to the reliability of the results where estimates are expressed as a percentage. The coefficient of variation was used where estimates are an average of responses.

Another kind of error that can occur with estimates is non-sampling error. These kinds of errors are not taken into account in computing the CV or standard error nor can CV or standard errors be used to measure them. Survey response rate, coverage rate and imputation rate can be used as indicators of the possible extent of non-sampling errors. Response rate by question for non-mandatory questions was evaluated for completed questionnaires. The highest rate on non-response by question was for Questions 27 and 28 (which used block imputation) at 33.16%. The lowest was for Question 19E at 10.65%. Given an imputation rate above 10%, the imputation rate was considered in an evaluation of the reliability of estimates.

Where imputation rates were above 15% the reliability symbol was lowered one level. The reliability of the data was reported using the following symbol convention for quality indicator interpretation. This convention combines the effect of sampling (since we did not do a census) and the imputation rate.

CV	Imputation Rate			
	< 15%	≥ 15% and < 35%	≥ 35% and < 50%	≥ 50%
< 5.0%	A	B	E	F
> 5.0% and < 15%	B	E	F	F
> 15.0% and < 30.0%	E	F	F	F
> 30.0%	F	F	F	F

A: Very reliable      B: Reliable  
E: Use with caution      F: Too unreliable to be published

Standard Error	Imputation Rate			
	< 15%	≥ 15% and < 35%	≥ 35% and < 50%	≥ 50%
<2.5%	A	B	E	F
>2.5% and <7.5%	B	E	F	F
>7.5 and <15%	E	F	F	F
>15%	F	F	F	F

A: Very reliable      B: Reliable  
E: Use with caution      F: Too unreliable to be published

