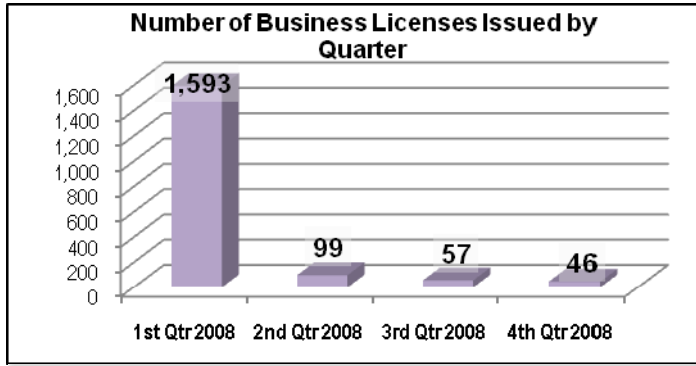




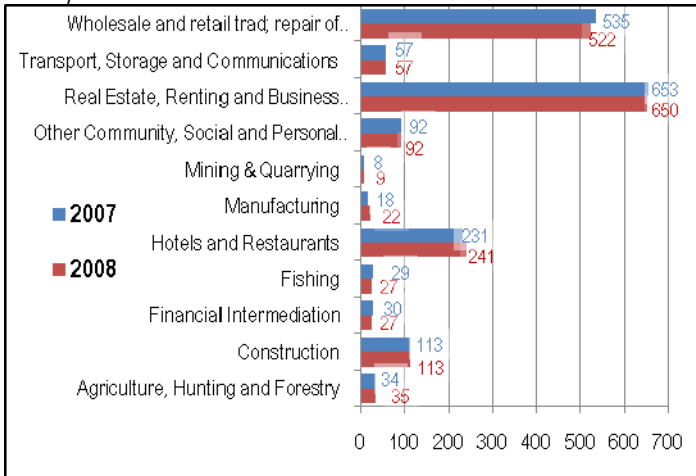
DECEMBER 2008 QUARTER RELEASE
BUSINESS LICENSE INDICATORS



➤ *Business licenses issued include both new and renewals for the current calendar year. Please see Key Points below for further explanation.*

DECEMBER 2008 QTR BUSINESS LICENSE KEY FIGURES

Industry	Total Business Licenses Issued Jan - Dec 2006	Total Business Licenses Issued Jan - Dec 2007	Total Business Licenses Issued Jan - Dec 2008
Agriculture, Hunting & Forestry	37	34	35
Construction	107	113	113
Financial Intermediation	37	30	27
Fishing	27	29	27
Hotels & Restaurants	225	231	241
Manufacturing	67	18	22
Mining & Quarrying	5	8	9
Other Community, Social & Personal Act.	164	92	92
Real Estate, Rent & Business Act.	488	653	650
Transport, Storage & Communications	154	57	57
Wholesale & Retail Trade	561	535	522
Total	1,873	1,800	1,795



*Please Note:
 Industry classification is based on Business Activity descriptions provided by the Bureau of Revenue, Customs & Taxation.*

The Office of Statistics assists with the classification; however, the Bureau of Revenue, Customs & Taxation is responsible for all Business License data reported.

DECEMBER 2008 QTR KEY POINTS

Source: Bureau of Revenue, Customs & Taxation / OPS

- Business License numbers include both renewal and new licenses issued. By law, all license renewals must be completed and issued certificates before commencement of the calendar year (January 1). For this reason, 1st quarter business license numbers are typically much higher than any other quarter in the given year. Licenses issued for new businesses on the other hand may be filed any time within the year.
- The number of licenses issued in the 4th Quarter of 2008 is 46 according to data from the referenced source.
- A total of 1,795 business licenses were issued during the 2008 calendar year. This suggests there was a -0.3% drop in licenses issued.
- Overall, comparison by industry, shows number of licenses issued have been about the same as previous year levels provided some renewals may not have been processed on time. The downward trend over the calendar year is typical because most license renewals are done at the beginning of the year on an annual basis.
- The Real Estate, Rent & Business Activities industry together with the Wholesale & Retail Trade industry comprises around 65% of all business licenses issued during 2008.