



# Qualex Case Study

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Goal:** Improve the timeliness, accuracy, and relevance of our surveys and censuses through new applications of technologies and methodologies. Improve the efficiency of survey processes. Produce new information using existing data sources by developing cutting-edge techniques and promoting knowledge sharing.

**Solution:** Qualex Consulting Services qualified SAS consultant has and is presently applying, supporting, developing and transferring their technical expertise in a variety of projects to fulfill the Census strategic goals by working on-site full time.

**Results:** Census personnel (software developers) have immediate SAS technical support. SAS knowledge gets transferred more effectively. Development, Migration, Performance and Reporting Projects get completed on time. Effective use of resources and productivity increases. Production systems are well supported.



## CUSTOMER PROFILE

**The U.S. Census Bureau**  
[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

The U.S. Census Bureau is the premier source of information about the American people and the economy. More than just numbers, this information shapes important policy decisions that help improve the nation's social and economic conditions.

**Industry:**  
U.S. Federal Government

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## With Technological Knowledge Transfer, Qualex Helps The U.S. Census Bureau to Improve Survey Processing at their Economic Directorate

The U.S. Census Bureau Economic Directorate provides statistics that are critical to understanding current conditions in our economy, including principal federal economic indicators, such as merchandise trade; construction put in place; new residential construction; retail sales; wholesale inventories; manufacturer's shipments, inventories, and orders; business sales and inventories; service industry revenues; and corporate profits.

All of these statistics get produced utilizing a variety of application like StEPS (Standard Economic Processing System) which process more than a hundred Economic surveys today.

Qualex was brought initially to improve batch night run survey-processing performance in the StEPS system (SAS V8 – Compaq Tru64 Platform). Those improvements ranged from 20% to 65%.

Later on Qualex was utilized to make software improvements-modifications-enhancements-fixes to the StEPS system while additional surveys were migrated into it.

At the same time Qualex started providing a transfer of SAS knowledge to a group of more than a hundred programmers which were migrating programs into SAS or simply creating new programs/applications to support survey specific needs not addressed by the generalized system StEPS.

Qualex also provided Grid Computing insight to reduce survey-processing time from 120 hours down to 10 hours for the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Tabulation.

Qualex later on participated on the migration of StEPS from SAS V8 to SAS V9. Qualex has supported/installed and configured SAS Software in the new Blade Servers Platform – Linux. The StEPS system runs under a distributed architecture of more than twenty servers.

Lately, Qualex is providing programming support to complete the tabulations for the last Economic Census and is actively engage in a variety of projects and the better utilization of SAS Software and emerging technologies.

## Benefits

OBJECTIVE	BENEFITS RECEIVED
Knowledge transfer	Qualex's highly skilled personnel helped to support and improve survey processing, while empowering and educating Census employees.
Solid return on investment	Better utilization of resources and multi-tasking