

How do I find my SIC and NAICS codes?

SIC stands for Standard Industrial Classification. SIC codes were developed by the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census to collect, tabulate and analyze data by business type. SIC codes use a four-digit numbering system to classify a business by its primary activity. For example: SIC code 7539 identifies "automotive repair shops" and SIC code 2521 identifies "wood office furniture manufacturing." In 1997 the Bureau of Census replaced the SIC codes with North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). This means that old SIC codes don't match directly with the new NAICS codes.

Some environmental regulations, for example the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) industrial storm water requirements, continue to reference the SIC codes. In addition, some permit applications, registrations and reports require that the business be identified by its SIC code, so, it is important that you have information on both your SIC and NAICS codes.

You may already have your NAICS code on your tax forms. If you do, you can go to <https://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/concordances/concordances.html>, find the most recent NAICS to SIC spreadsheet, and cross-reference the corresponding SIC code. (Note that an ISIC is not the same as SIC, so be careful when selecting the appropriate spreadsheet).

If you don't have an NAICS code to reference, go to <https://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/> and you can use the look up tools to help you find an appropriate NAICS code for your company. Then use the above crosswalk document to cross-reference your SIC code.

Note that for the Clean Water Branch NPDES forms you will need to input both your NAICS and corresponding SIC codes.