



The Financial Services Industry in the United States

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Financial markets in the United States are the largest and most liquid in the world. In 2010, finance and insurance represented 8.4 percent (or \$1.235 trillion) of U.S. gross domestic product. Leadership in this large, high-growth sector translates into substantial economic activity and direct and indirect job creation in the United States.

Financial services and products help facilitate and finance the export of U.S. manufactured goods and agricultural products. In 2009, the United States exported \$70 billion in financial services and had a \$1.6 billion deficit in financial services and insurance trade. The securities subsector of the industry shows great potential for employment growth, with a 12 percent increase expected by 2018. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 803,100 people were employed in the securities and investment sector at the end of 2010.



Investment in the U.S. financial services industry offers significant advantages for financial firms. At least 140 of Fortune's Global 500 companies have chosen to locate their headquarters in the United States to take advantage of its creative, competitive, and comprehensive financial services sector. The industry offers the greatest array of financial instruments and products to allow consumers to manage risk, create wealth and meet financial needs.

Industry Subsectors

Banking: The U.S. banking system has \$13.3 trillion (end of 2010) in assets and supports the world's largest economy with the greatest diversity in banking institutions and concentration of private credit.

Asset Management: The U.S. asset management subsector is unrivaled in its depth and diversity. U.S. asset managers are currently meeting the pension management needs for almost 70 percent of the global retirement market. Total U.S. retirement assets were \$21 trillion at the end of 2009, up nearly \$5 trillion.

Insurance: In 2009, the insurance industry's net premiums written totaled \$934 billion, with premiums recorded by life/health insurers accounting for 55 percent and premiums by property/casualty insurers accounting for 45 percent, according to The Insurance Information Institute. Additionally, about one-third of all reinsurance sold worldwide is bought by U.S. firms.

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Venture Capital: The United States created the venture capital industry and maintains the oldest and most dominant position worldwide. In 2008, venture capital-backed companies employed more than 12 million people and generated nearly \$3 trillion in revenue. Respectively, these figures accounted for 11 percent of private sector employment and represented the equivalent of 21 percent of U.S. gross domestic product during that same year.

Industry Associations:

[American Bankers Association](#)

[American Benefits Council](#)

[American Council of Life Insurance](#)

[America's Health Insurance Plans](#)

[American Insurance Association](#)

[American Insurance Association](#)

[Emerging Markets Private Equity Association](#)

[Equipment Leasing and Finance Association](#)

[Finance, Credit & International Business](#)

[Investment Company Institute](#)

[Latin American Venture Capital Association](#)

[Mortgage Bankers Association](#)

[National Association of Insurance Commissioners](#)

[National Association of Small Business Investment Companies](#)

[National Venture Capital Association](#)

[Property Casualty Insurers Association of America](#)

[Reinsurance Association of America](#)

[Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association](#)

[The National Association of Seed and Venture Funds](#)

Industry Publications:

[American Banker](#)

[Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#)

[Global Finance](#)

[Institutional Investor](#)

[Mortgage Banking](#)

[Pensions & Investments](#)

[The Wall Street Journal](#)