

**note 1-429-001**  
January 2010

## Note on Economic Variation Across Firms

### Introduction

---

There is wide variation among firms – in revenues, profits, size, employment, capital intensity, output per worker, profitability, and many other factors.

This note presents a set of tables that illustrate the variation across firms and among industries. The data are meant to support a class discussion. There is no case protagonist or decision to be made.

The data on the following pages are drawn from various public sources – primarily the U.S. Census Bureau.

### Variation in Firm Size

---

**Table 1** reports the list of the largest firms in the United States in 2009. The list is ranked by revenues and also includes profits and net profit margin (%).