

## Alaska

Alaska's 16,184 small employers and 53,615 nonemployers make significant contributions to the state's economy, and they bring innovative products and services to the marketplace.\* They are an important source of employment and opportunity throughout the state. This profile by the Office of Advocacy uses the latest statistics to describe the small business contribution in the greatest possible detail. (Note: A small business is defined as one with fewer than 500 employees.)

- Alaska's real gross state product decreased by 2.0% and private-sector employment increased by 1.4% in 2008. By comparison, real GDP growth in the United States was 0.7% and private-sector employment declined by 0.7%.
- The health care and social assistance industry was the state's largest small business and overall employer in 2006 (Table 1).
- Small businesses are a major force in the state's net job change, as shown in Table 2.
- The number of small employers in Alaska was 16,184 in 2006, accounting for 96.8% of the state's employers and 55.6% of its private-sector employment. (Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce: Bureau of the Census.)

### For Further Information

- Data on all states and territories is available at [www.sba.gov/advo/research/profiles](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/profiles).
- For other small business data and analysis, visit [www.sba.gov/advo/research](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research), call (202) 205-6533, or email [advocacy@sba.gov](mailto:advocacy@sba.gov).
- Visit <http://web.sba.gov/list> to subscribe to listservs for Advocacy's newsletter, press releases, regulatory news, and research reports.
- For RSS feeds, visit [www.sba.gov/advo/rsslibrary.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/rsslibrary.html)

\* Small employer data from 2006; nonemployer from 2007.

### Alaska Small Business Facts

	2007†	2006	2000
<b>Number of Businesses</b>			
Small employers (<500 employees)	n.a.	16,184	15,447
Large employers (500+ employees)	n.a.	529	481
Nonemployers	53,615	50,670	47,691
	2002‡	% Share in 2002	% Change 1997–2002
<b>Business Owner Demographics</b>			
Male-owned	32,108	51.7	4.5
Woman-owned	16,308	26.2	-2.0
Equally male/female-owned	10,427	16.8	-29.1
African American-owned	926	1.5	5.7
Asian-owned	1,908	3.1	14.9
Hispanic-owned	1,241	2.0	-10.4
Native American/Alaskan-owned	5,151	8.3	n.a.
Hawaiian and Pacific Islander-owned	152	0.2	-1.9
	2008‡	% Change from	
		2007	2000
<b>Workforce (Thousands) /Unemployment (%)</b>			
Private-sector employment	238	1.4	14.9
Government employment	78	1.4	12.8
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	42	-1.6	14.1
Female self-employment	17	-2.3	25.5
Male self-employment	26	-1.1	7.8
Minority self-employment	6	0.5	85.3
Veteran self-employment	6	21.8	-1.0
Unemployment rate (%)	6.7	0.5	0.5
<b>Business Turnover</b>			
Quarterly establishment openings	4,446	0.0	3.5
Quarterly establishment closings	4,610	1.7	4.6
Business bankruptcies	81	15.7	-31.4
	2008‡	2007	2000
<b>Income and Finance</b>			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	2.4	2.4	1.6
Number of bank branches	134	133	134
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	n.a.	28,136	7,092
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	n.a.	371	161
Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy ( <a href="http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/sbl_08study.pdf">www.sba.gov/advo/research/sbl_08study.pdf</a> , Table 4b.) n.a. not available.			
† Latest available data; certain figures are economywide. ‡ Data are for CRA loans.			

**Table 1. Firms and Employment in Alaska by Industry and Firm Size, 2006 and 2007  
(Nonfarm, Thousands)**

Industry	Nonemployer Firms (2007)	Employer Firms (2006)			Employment (2006)		
		Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees	Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees
Total	53.6	16.7	14.7	16.2	241.6	56.3	134.4
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	9.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.0	(D)	(D)
Mining	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	7.6	0.2	1.6
Utilities	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.8	(D)	(D)
Construction	5.1	2.6	2.5	2.6	20.8	8.2	14.8
Manufacturing	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.4	10.2	1.6	(D)
Wholesale trade	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	8.6	1.7	4.9
Retail trade	4.4	2.1	1.8	2.0	35.3	8.1	16.9
Transportation and warehousing	2.4	0.8	0.7	0.8	19.0	2.0	6.9
Information	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	7.3	0.6	2.5
Finance and insurance	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	7.8	1.2	3.4
Real estate and rental and leasing	4.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	4.7	2.2	4.1
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	6.5	1.7	1.5	1.6	14.1	5.1	9.2
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.4	(D)	0.8
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	3.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	18.8	2.8	6.8
Educational services	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.6	(D)	(D)
Health care and social assistance	4.0	1.7	1.5	1.7	39.5	7.4	22.3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	3.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	4.3	1.2	3.0
Accommodation and food services	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.7	24.2	6.4	18.2
Other services (except public admin.)	5.1	1.7	1.5	1.6	10.5	6.2	9.8
Unclassified	--	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	(D)	0.1

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses. (See [www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html) for data from other years, and for starts, closures, job creation and destruction by industry and by size category.)

(D) Data suppressed to protect the confidentiality of individual firms.

**Table 2: Net Job Change by Firm Size, 2003–2006 (Nonfarm)**

	Total Net New Jobs	Employment Size of Firm						
		1-4	5-9	10-19	20-99	100-499	<500	500+
2003 - 2004	6,780	3,174	1,014	818	-804	1,640	5,842	938
2004 - 2005	6,025	2,848	586	-70	-936	-808	1,620	4,405
2005 - 2006	10,541	3,058	117	-70	515	183	3,803	6,738

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. (For more detailed data see [www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html).)

**Table 3: Establishment and Employment Turnover by Quarter, 2008 (Nonfarm, Thousands)**

	Establishments				Employment Change Due To:			
	Openings	Expansions	Contractions	Closings	Openings	Expansions	Contractions	Closings
Quarter 1	1.1	4.3	4.2	1.1	3.5	20.5	17.5	3.8
Quarter 2	1.2	4.2	4.5	1.2	5.4	22.0	19.3	3.9
Quarter 3	1.1	4.0	4.5	1.2	4.9	18.4	22.0	3.9
Quarter 4	1.1	4.2	4.3	1.2	4.3	21.7	21.9	4.6

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics. (For more detailed data see [www.bls.gov/bdm/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/bdm/home.htm).)

Note: These figures contain all firm sizes; Census data from 2006 show that 86 percent of establishment births and deaths were in firms with fewer than 500 employees.