

U.S. Territories

	Number of Small Establishments, 2012	Employment by Small Establishments, 2012
American Samoa	459	4,611
Guam	3,430	50,235
Northern Mariana Islands	1,529	13,461
Puerto Rico	44,631	554,976
Virgin Islands	2,708	28,892

Source: CBP. Note: Small establishments are defined as having fewer than 500 employees.

A Note about Data on the U.S. Territories

- This profile uses the latest available government data on the U.S. territories. Territory data is older and less detailed than data on the states. The size of the territories varies greatly. The largest, Puerto Rico, has as many establishments as some states, while, American Samoa, the smallest, is the size of a small county. Data availability varies, and more items are available for the larger territories. Consequently, the format of the territories profile differs from the state profiles.

Overall Economy

- Economic growth among the U.S. territories is uneven. In 2013, real gross domestic product increased by **4.4 percent** in the Northern Marianas compared with **2.2 percent** for the United States (excluding the territories). Real gross domestic/island product increased in Guam, but it declined in American Samoa and the Virgin Islands in 2013.¹
- Puerto Rico's unemployment rate declined from **14.9 percent** in October 2013 to **14.0 percent** in October 2014; these are above the national average of **5.8 percent**. (Source: BLS) The Virgin Islands' unemployment rate decreased from **13.7 percent** to **13.1 percent** over the same period.²
- Private sector employment growth increased in Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands by **0.2 percent** and **0.7 percent** respectively over the year ending in October 2014; this was below the U.S. average growth rate of **2.3 percent**.
- Table 1** shows the total number of establishments and employment levels for all five territories for 2010-2012.

Table 1: Establishments and Employment in the U.S. Territories

	2012*	2011	2010
Number of All Private Sector Establishments			
American Samoa	461	479	466
Guam	3,436	3,379	3,320
Northern Marianas	1,529	1,237	1,182
Puerto Rico	44,767	44,056	44,693
Virgin Islands	2,711	2,725	2,772
Employment by All Private Sector Establishments			
American Samoa	7,147	7,369	6,856
Guam	54,940	53,539	50,721
Northern Marianas	13,461	10,450	10,570
Puerto Rico	690,597	673,677	678,376
Virgin Islands	31,620	32,454	31,932
Source: CBP. *Latest available data. Because of limited firm size information, establishments are used as a proxy for small businesses.			

The *Small Business State and Territory Profiles* report on the economic status of small business from 2010 to 2014 using the most recently government data. The profiles are a reference tool for researchers, policymakers, and small entities who are interested in how small firms are performing regionally or nationally. *This profile defines small businesses as firms with fewer than 500 employees and small establishments as nonfarm establishments with fewer than 500 employees.*

- **Table 2** shows the industry breakout of small establishments in all five territories for 2012. **Table 3** shows the industry breakout of small establishments and employment in Puerto Rico in 2012.

Table 2: Number of Small Establishments in U.S. Territories by Industry, 2012					
Industry	American Samoa	Guam	Northern Marianas	Puerto Rico	Virgin Islands
Forestry, fishing & hunting	2	3	2	9	1
Mining	0	1	1	45	3
Utilities	0	6	7	24	9
Construction	24	355	75	2,067	186
Manufacturing	31	58	46	1,739	59
Wholesale trade	19	220	82	2,174	71
Retail trade	157	681	330	10,407	590
Transportation & warehousing	29	102	45	1,012	116
Information	10	60	17	593	43
Finance & insurance	11	139	52	1,915	121
Real estate & rental & leasing	19	278	167	1,617	195
Professional, scientific, & tech. svcs.	22	259	100	4,306	243
Management of comp. & enterprises	3	14	4	103	5
Admin., supp., waste mgt., remed. svcs.	18	165	123	1,798	152
Educational services	7	51	53	830	46
Health care & social assistance	17	193	39	7,503	265
Arts, entertainment, & recreation	3	79	49	412	56
Accommodation & food services	38	464	167	4,376	309
Other services (except public admin.)	46	291	147	3,439	225
Unclassified	3	11	23	262	13
Total	459	3,430	1,529	44,631	2,708

Table 3: Establishments and Employment in Puerto Rico by Industry and Employment Size, 2012					
Industry	Total Establishments	Employment Size of Establishment			Private Sector Employment
		1-19	20-499	500+	
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	9	8	1	0	140
Mining	45	35	10	0	675
Utilities	24	21	3	0	374
Construction	2,071	1,713	354	4	32,650
Manufacturing	1,776	1,287	452	37	83,422
Wholesale trade	2,175	1,798	376	1	32,484
Retail trade	10,416	9,198	1,209	9	128,989
Transportation & warehousing	1,013	855	157	1	15,242
Information	598	492	101	5	17,880
Finance & insurance	1,921	1,640	275	6	33,902
Real estate & rental & leasing	1,617	1,531	86	0	11,174
Professional, scientific, & tech. svcs.	4,308	4,052	254	2	28,014
Management of comp. & enterprises	104	63	40	1	4,607
Admin., supp., waste mgt., remed. svcs.	1,826	1,404	394	28	81,258
Educational services	839	492	338	9	39,116
Health care & social assistance	7,528	7,050	453	25	81,634
Arts, entertainment, & recreation	412	364	48	0	3,418
Accommodation & food services	4,384	3,330	1,046	8	75,182
Other services (except public admin.)	3,439	3,267	172	0	20,021
Unclassified	262	259	3	0	415
Total	44,767	38,859	5,772	136	690,597

Source, Tables 2 and 3: CBP. Note: Small establishments are defined as nonfarm establishments with fewer than 500 employees; large firms may operate small establishments. Because of noise infusion, industries may not add to totals.

Lending and Finance

- The number of business loans under \$100,000 rebounded in Puerto Rico in 2012, after dropping in 2011. The value increased modestly (**Table 4**).
- Additional lending and finance information is shown in **Table 4**. The number and value of business loans under \$100,000 are not available for the Northern Marianas.
- **Table 5** shows bank branch trends for all five U.S. territories.

Table 4: Number and Value of Business Loans In the U.S. Territories, 2010-2012			
	2012	2011	2010
Number of Business Loans under \$100,000			
American Samoa	n.a	3	5
Guam	523	572	497
Puerto Rico	14,975	12,341	15,007
Virgin Islands	605	187	486
Value of Business Loans under \$100,000 (in millions of dollars)			
American Samoa	n.a	n.a	n.a.
Guam	12.3	12.3	10.4
Puerto Rico	412.5	410.5	475.6
Virgin Islands	9.2	6.7	9.5
Sources: FDIC; U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy, www.sba.gov/advocacy/7540/173967 . n.a. not available.			

Business Turnover

- Establishment survival rates are available for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.
- In Puerto Rico, **3,560** establishments opened in 2010, and **70.2 percent** survived through 2012. In 2013, **3,437** establishments opened, and **81.3 percent** survived through the next year, 2014. (Source: BLS, BED)
- In the Virgin Islands, **182** establishments opened in 2010, and **72.5 percent** survived through 2012. In 2013, **188** establishments opened, and **78.2 percent** survived through the next year, 2014. (Source: BLS, BED)
- In Puerto Rico, **1,266** establishments opened and **1,616** closed the first quarter of 2014. In the Virgin Islands, **73** establishments opened and **93** closed. (Source: BED)
- Business bankruptcies declined, on net, from 2011 to 2014 in all of the U.S. territories, signaling stronger economies (**Table 6**). They remained at a very low level from 2010 to 2013 in the Northern Marianas (Source: U.S. Courts). Data for American Samoan bankruptcies are unavailable.

Table 5: Number of Bank Branches in the U.S. Territories, 2010-2014 (fiscal year)					
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
American Samoa	3	5	5	6	6
Guam	27	29	33	33	32
Northern Marianas	8	9	9	9	10
Puerto Rico	391	419	433	443	484
Virgin Islands	22	23	23	22	24
Sources: FDIC; U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy, www.sba.gov/advocacy/7540/173967 . n.a. not available.					

Table 6: Business Bankruptcies in the U.S. Territories, 2011-2014				
	2014	2013	2012	2011
Guam	6	10	6	10
Northern Marianas	0	1	2	1
Puerto Rico	374	383	410	493
Virgin Islands	3	8	10	10
Source: U.S. Courts				

International Trade

- A total of **1,804** and **149** companies exported goods from Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, respectively, in 2012. Of these **1,520 (84.3 percent)** from Puerto Rico and **95 (63.8 percent)** from the Virgin Islands, were small firms. For Puerto Rico, small firms generated **24.9 percent** of the total export value. (Source: ITA)

Employment Distribution

- Most of the jobs in the U.S. territories are in small establishments. **Figures 1-4** show the distribution of employment in four of the territories (Source: CBP). American Samoa has about **7,100** employees and fewer than 500 establishments; its employment distribution is not shown here.

Figure 1: Puerto Rico Employment by Size of Establishment, 2012

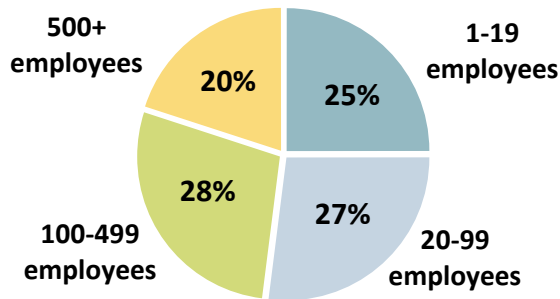


Figure 2: Guam Employment by Size of Establishment, 2012

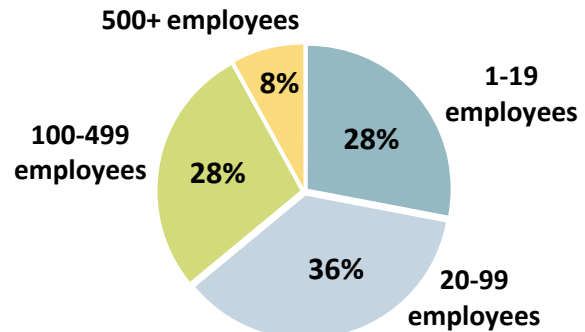


Figure 3: Virgin Islands Employment by Size of Establishment, 2012

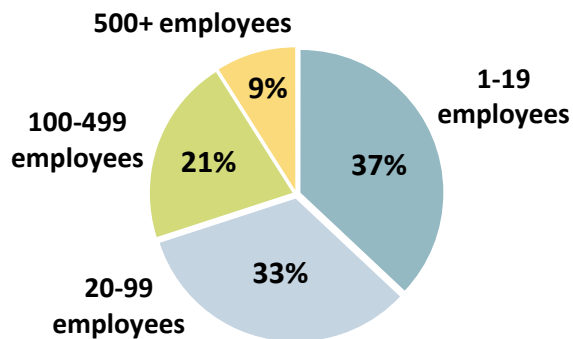
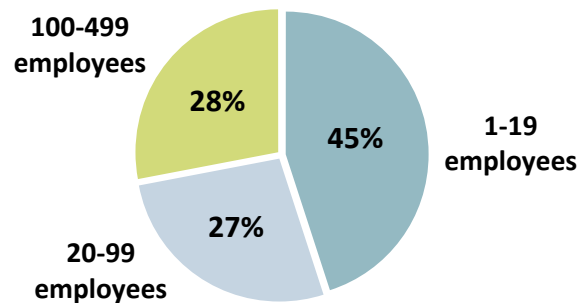


Figure 4: Northern Mariana Islands Employment by Size of Establishment, 2012



Abbreviations and Resources

BED	Business Employment Dynamics, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/bdm .
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, www.bls.gov .
CBP	County Business Patterns, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov/econ/cbp .
FDIC	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, www.fdic.gov .
FFIEC	Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, www.ffiec.gov .
ITA	International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, www.trade.gov .
SBO	Survey of Business Owners, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov/econ/sbo .
U.S. Courts	Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, www.uscourts.gov .

¹ Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the U.S. Territories. U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis. http://www.bea.gov/national/gdp_territory.htm.

² Virgin Islands Electronic Workforce System website, based on Virgin Islands Department of Labor, <https://www.vidolviews.org/gsipub/index.asp?docid=430>.