

# 2021 Small Business Profile

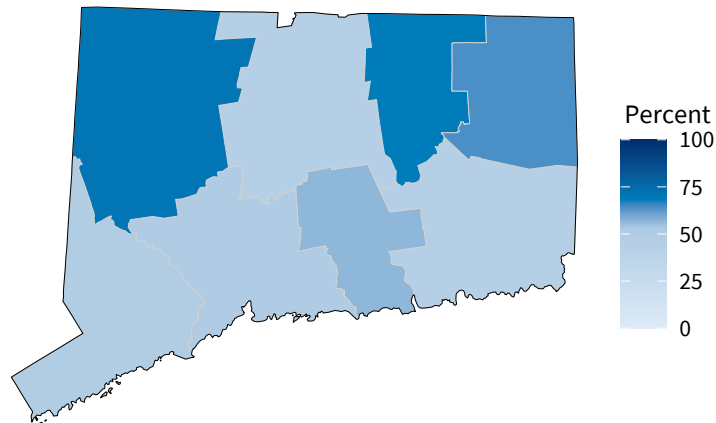
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
**OFFICE OF ADVOCACY**

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## Connecticut

**355,596** small businesses  
**99.4 percent** of Connecticut businesses

**739,870** small business employees  
**48.4 percent** of Connecticut employees



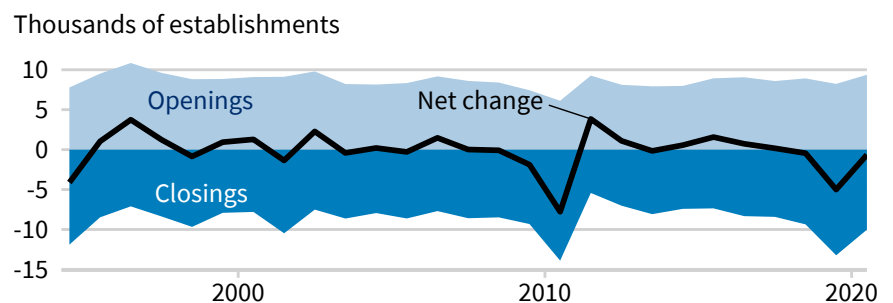
### Share of employees working at small businesses by county

Source of data: [Statistics of US Businesses](#) (Census)

## Business dynamics

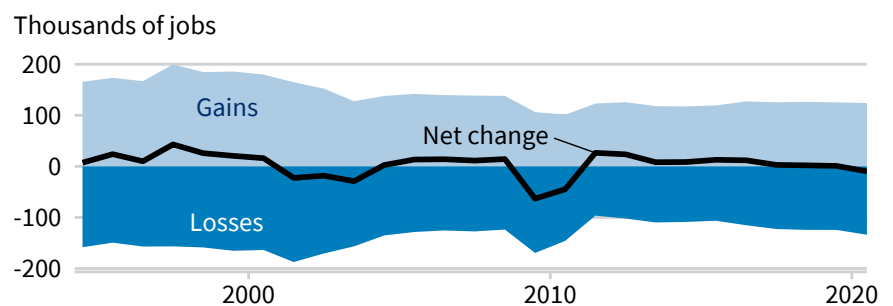
### Establishments

Between March 2019 and March 2020, 9,373 Connecticut establishments opened and 10,025 closed, for a net decrease of 652. Employment expanded at 21,782 and contracted at 23,627. Small businesses accounted for 9,205 openings and 9,850 closings.



### Employment

Opening and expanding Connecticut establishments added 124,153 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 133,913, for a net decrease of 9,760 jobs. Small businesses gained 103,088 jobs and lost 114,339, for a net decrease of 11,251 jobs.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings

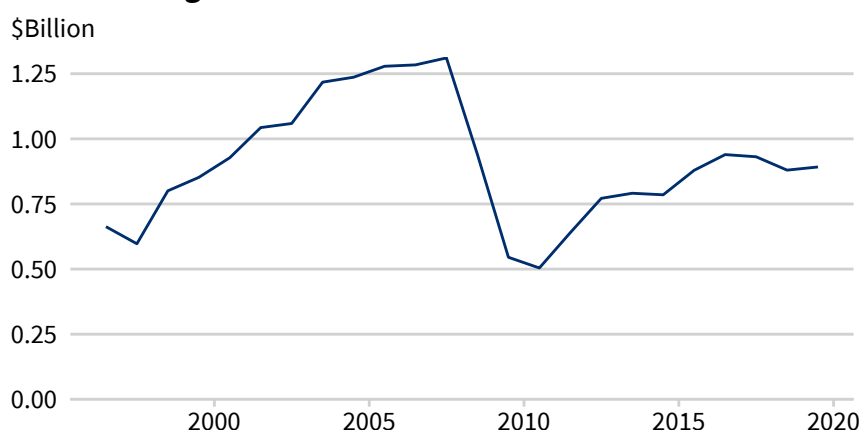
Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (BLS)

## Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2019, reporting banks issued \$892.0 million in loans to Connecticut businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$1.2 billion, and total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$2.7 billion.

Source: [CRA Aggregate Data](#) (FFIEC)

### New lending to businesses with revenues under \$1 million



## Small business count by size and industry

Industry	No employees	1–19 employees	20–499 employees	All small businesses
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	48,049	7,364	691	56,104
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	37,589	2,249	149	39,987
Construction	31,311	7,206	559	39,076
Other Services (except Public Administration)	24,383	8,306	541	33,230
Health Care and Social Assistance	25,859	5,685	1,431	32,975
Retail Trade	19,667	7,059	808	27,534
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	22,660	4,149	465	27,274
Transportation and Warehousing	19,365	1,019	210	20,594
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	18,028	1,256	307	19,591
Finance and Insurance	11,061	2,682	346	14,089
Educational Services	11,490	1,072	281	12,843
Accommodation and Food Services	4,281	5,758	1,521	11,560
Wholesale Trade	4,180	2,398	653	7,231
Manufacturing	3,417	2,579	974	6,970
Information	4,047	730	157	4,934
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,265	78	2	1,345
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	73	154	227
Utilities	158	18	15	191
Industries not classified	*	105	0	105
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	64	27	5	96
Total	286,874	59,752	8,970	355,596

\* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2018 (Census); [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2018 (Census)



### Small business exports

A total of 5,645 identified firms exported goods worth \$15.3 billion from Connecticut in 2019. Of those exporters, 4,968—or 88.0 percent—were small. Small firms exported goods worth \$7.1 billion, making up 46.4 percent of exports by identified firms.

Source: [A profile of US importing and exporting companies, 2018–2019](#) (Census)

## Business ownership share by demographic group

### Women



Women made up 48.3 percent of workers and owned 40.7 percent of businesses.

### Veterans



Veterans made up 3.8 percent of workers and owned 5.5 percent of businesses.

### Hispanics



Hispanics made up 15.6 percent of workers and owned 9.0 percent of businesses.

### Racial minorities



Racial minorities made up 21.8 percent of workers and owned 12.1 percent of businesses.

Ownership shares include equal and majority ownership

Sources of data: [American Community Survey](#), 2018 (Census and IPUMS); [Annual Business Survey](#), 2018 (Census); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics](#), 2017 (Census)

## Business count by owner demographic group

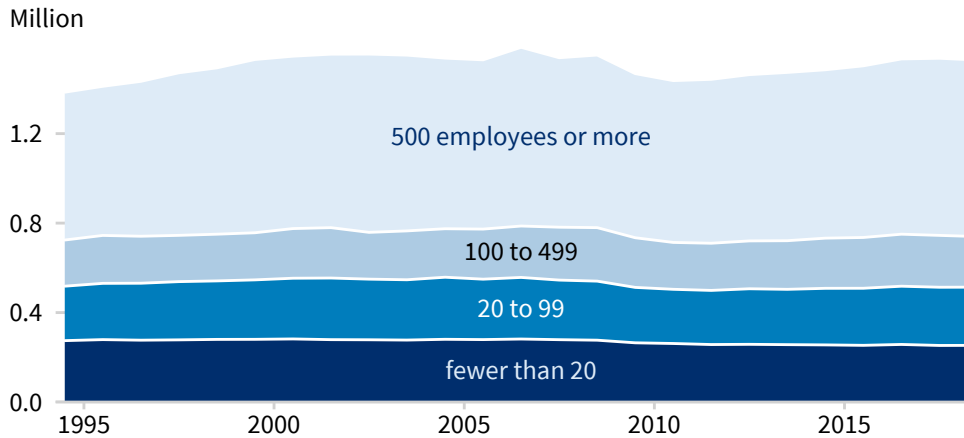
Ownership	Without employees	With employees	Total
Female	111,000	11,409	122,409
Male	156,000	43,797	199,797
Owned equally by both groups	8,200	6,243	14,443
Veteran	12,500	3,717	16,217
Not veteran	261,000	56,705	317,705
Owned equally by both groups	1,200	*	*
Hispanic	27,500	2,067	29,567
Not Hispanic	247,000	59,144	306,144
Owned equally by both groups	550	241	791
American Indian and Alaska Native	450	*	*
Asian	11,500	5,960	17,460
Black or African American	22,000	*	*
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	200	18	218
White	241,000	54,623	295,623
Hispanic or racial minority	57,500	8,700	66,200
White and not Hispanic	217,000	52,243	269,243
Owned equally by both groups	850	504	1,354

\* Not reported by the Census Bureau; counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group

Sources: [Annual Business Survey](#), 2018 (Census); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics](#), 2017 (Census)

## Total Connecticut employment by business size

Source of data: [Statistics of US Businesses](#) (Census)



Small businesses accounted for 48.4 percent of Connecticut employment in 2018, which exceeded the national share.

## Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employment		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	8,847	98.9	54,154	88.5	1,792,327	85.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	8,055	96.3	54,488	51.8	4,547,631	43.9
Retail Trade	7,867	95.4	67,371	37.0	2,671,153	45.6
Construction	7,765	99.3	47,925	87.6	3,374,401	85.1
Accommodation and Food Services	7,279	98.3	98,959	68.2	2,073,502	62.4
Health Care and Social Assistance	7,116	97.4	143,255	49.0	5,976,996	40.7
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	4,614	95.4	42,408	48.8	1,946,547	48.1
Manufacturing	3,553	94.7	74,615	46.7	4,513,965	37.8
Wholesale Trade	3,051	89.8	39,057	52.4	2,893,901	46.0
Finance and Insurance	3,028	91.0	28,905	25.8	4,034,883	22.7
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,398	96.1	12,155	59.9	726,319	61.7
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,563	97.7	22,236	74.1	631,825	79.6
Educational Services	1,353	96.6	24,340	30.6	1,078,023	28.6
Transportation and Warehousing	1,229	90.4	14,280	32.8	739,641	35.9
Information	887	86.5	9,964	24.1	696,133	17.4
Management of Companies and Enterprises	227	51.5	3,830	12.2	383,530	8.5
Industries not classified	105	100.0	109	100.0	7,062	100.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	80	100.0	319	100.0	14,511	100.0
Utilities	33	60.0	1,204	15.0	125,702	13.1
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	32	86.5	296	46.0	21,819	49.4
Total	68,722	96.8	739,870	48.4	38,249,871	39.1

Source: [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2018 (Census)

### About this profile

Small businesses are defined here as firms with fewer than 500 employees. Figures and statistics may incorporate approximations because of missing or otherwise problematic data. Data analyzed here predate the COVID-19 pandemic, the impacts of which have differed by industry, geography, and demographic group. More information about [the impacts of the pandemic](#), electronic versions of these and other [geographic profiles](#), and additional resources are available at <http://advocacy.sba.gov>.