

2021 Small Business Profile

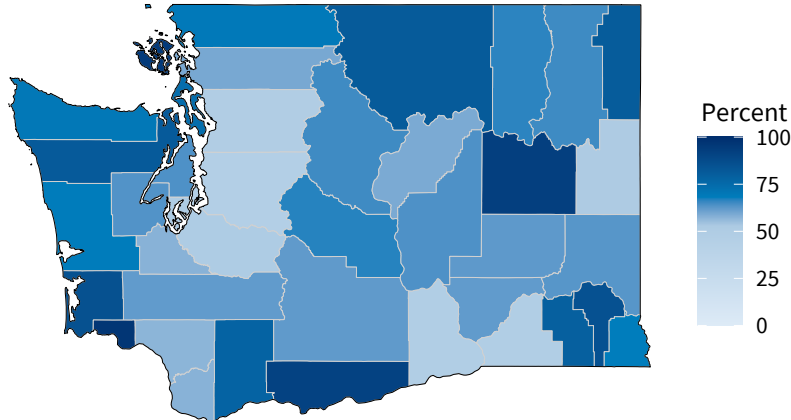
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

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Washington

647,639 small businesses
99.5 percent of Washington businesses

1.4 million small business employees
50.7 percent of Washington employees



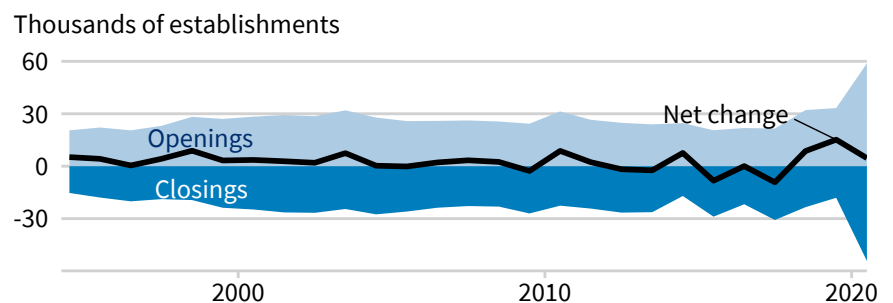
Share of employees working at small businesses by county

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

Business dynamics

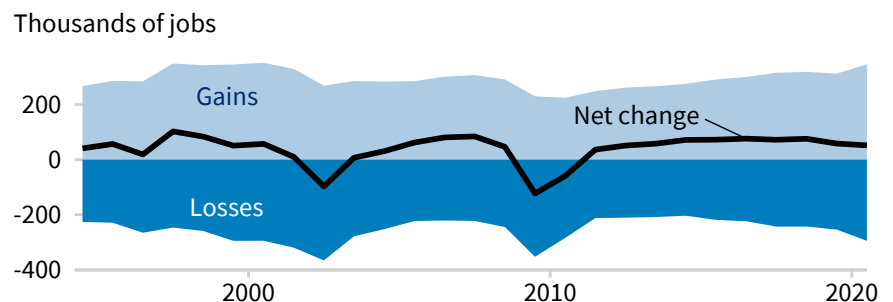
Establishments

Between March 2019 and March 2020, 58,839 Washington establishments opened and 54,221 closed, for a net increase of 4,618. Employment expanded at 47,261 and contracted at 46,848. Small businesses accounted for 44,253 expansions and 43,567 contractions.



Employment

Opening and expanding Washington establishments added 346,881 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 294,989, for a net increase of 51,892 jobs. Small business expansions added 175,570 jobs, while small business contractions lost 156,631.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings

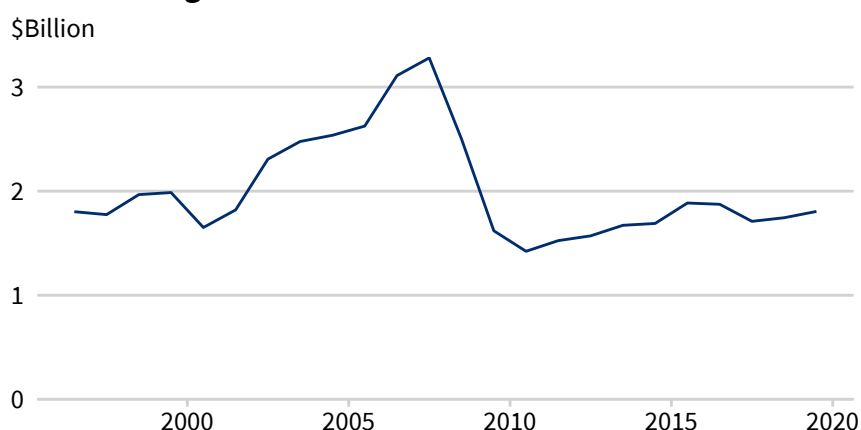
Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (BLS)

Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2019, reporting banks issued \$1.8 billion in loans to Washington businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$2.0 billion, and total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$5.2 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	89,215	18,875	1,577	109,667
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	59,657	9,159	414	69,230
Other Services (except Public Administration)	42,748	14,965	1,010	58,723
Transportation and Warehousing	53,986	3,982	620	58,588
Construction	33,926	22,447	1,857	58,230
Retail Trade	42,122	12,524	1,622	56,268
Health Care and Social Assistance	34,700	14,946	1,901	51,547
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	33,341	7,933	871	42,145
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	33,713	2,401	470	36,584
Accommodation and Food Services	7,477	11,137	2,881	21,495
Educational Services	18,045	2,304	445	20,794
Finance and Insurance	11,692	4,449	373	16,514
Manufacturing	8,381	4,741	1,403	14,525
Wholesale Trade	6,912	5,281	1,329	13,522
Information	7,778	1,820	397	9,995
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,672	1,271	128	9,071
Utilities	321	145	21	487
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	152	308	460
Industries not classified	*	389	1	390
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	222	92	19	333
Total	491,908	138,883	16,848	647,639

* Not reported by the Census Bureau

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



Small business exports

A total of 12,079 identified firms exported goods worth \$55.1 billion from Washington in 2019. Of those exporters, 10,778—or 89.2 percent—were small. Small firms exported goods worth \$14.1 billion, making up 25.7 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 46.0 percent of workers and owned 46.0 percent of businesses.

Veterans



Veterans made up 6.5 percent of workers and owned 8.0 percent of businesses.

Hispanics



Hispanics made up 12.1 percent of workers and owned 6.0 percent of businesses.

Racial minorities



Racial minorities made up 20.7 percent of workers and owned 14.5 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

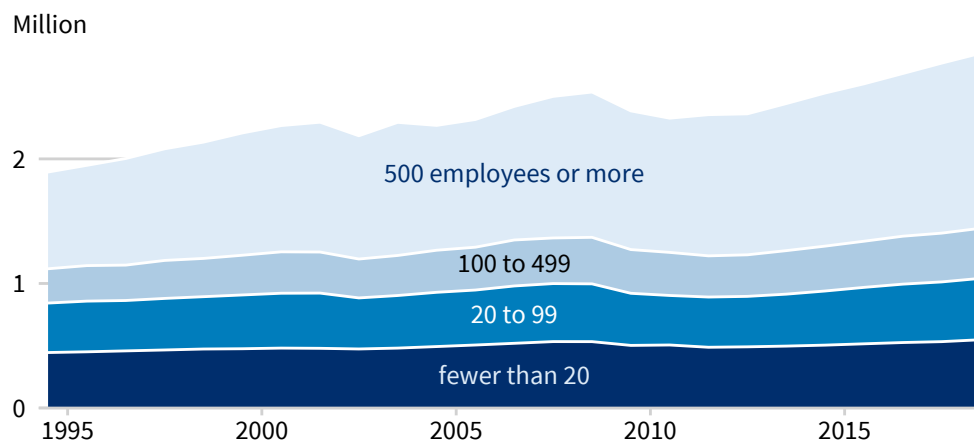
Ownership	Without employees	With employees	Total
Female	205,000	29,128	234,128
Male	253,000	76,461	329,461
Owned equally by both groups	12,000	34,764	46,764
Veteran	31,500	9,327	40,827
Not veteran	436,000	125,179	561,179
Owned equally by both groups	2,200	5,847	8,047
Hispanic	28,000	6,170	34,170
Not Hispanic	441,000	132,657	573,657
Owned equally by both groups	700	1,524	2,224
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,700	889	2,589
Asian	42,500	15,801	58,301
Black or African American	23,000	1,364	24,364
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1,500	266	1,766
White	400,000	121,929	521,929
Hispanic or racial minority	94,000	24,359	118,359
White and not Hispanic	374,000	112,690	486,690
Owned equally by both groups	1,600	3,304	4,904

Counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group

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

Total Washington employment by business size

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



Washington small business employment grew by 29.1 percent between 1994 and 2018, which exceeded the national small business employment growth rate.

Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employment		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Construction	24,304	99.5	173,265	84.3	11,116,758	78.0
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	20,452	97.8	130,521	61.6	10,753,675	55.3
Health Care and Social Assistance	16,847	98.5	197,613	45.2	8,736,343	34.8
Other Services (except Public Administration)	15,975	99.1	100,262	82.0	3,376,409	75.0
Retail Trade	14,146	97.1	138,702	40.4	5,151,370	44.7
Accommodation and Food Services	14,018	98.6	196,568	66.3	4,716,807	65.1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9,573	98.5	38,090	73.0	2,019,433	70.1
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	8,804	96.8	74,255	46.6	3,201,643	41.3
Wholesale Trade	6,610	92.4	78,775	57.4	5,026,704	51.8
Manufacturing	6,144	94.2	113,037	42.6	6,060,049	33.1
Finance and Insurance	4,822	93.7	35,764	33.2	2,886,305	30.3
Transportation and Warehousing	4,602	94.1	38,642	37.7	1,941,083	31.8
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,871	98.2	42,077	63.0	1,115,746	50.9
Educational Services	2,749	97.5	33,442	60.2	1,057,591	62.2
Information	2,217	91.1	28,947	19.7	2,740,230	10.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,399	99.2	11,523	79.5	634,588	80.7
Management of Companies and Enterprises	460	59.9	8,415	7.6	705,164	4.8
Industries not classified	390	100.0	296	100.0	13,396	100.0
Utilities	166	87.8	1,447	14.9	116,287	11.1
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	111	89.5	1,322	69.7	88,613	65.3
Total	155,731	98.0	1,442,963	50.7	71,458,194	39.0

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>.