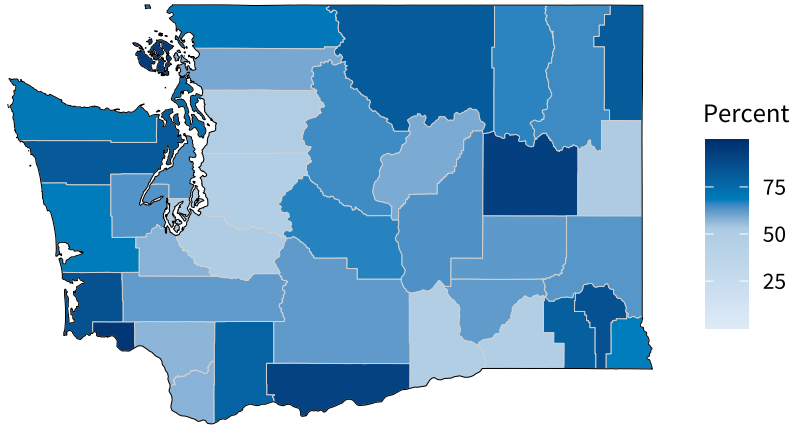


## Washington

**657,529** small businesses  
**99.5 percent** of Washington businesses

**1.4 million** small business employees  
**49.8 percent** of Washington employees



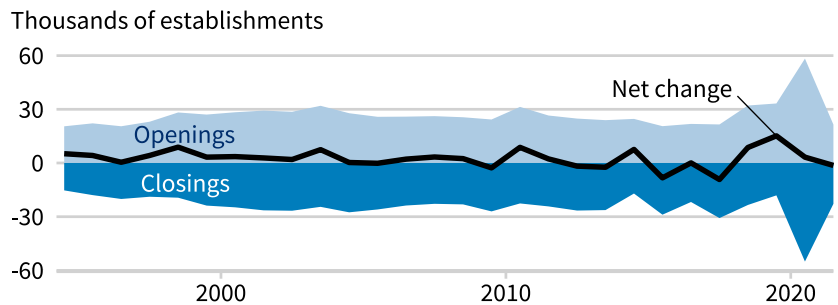
**Share of employees working at small businesses by county**

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

### Business dynamics

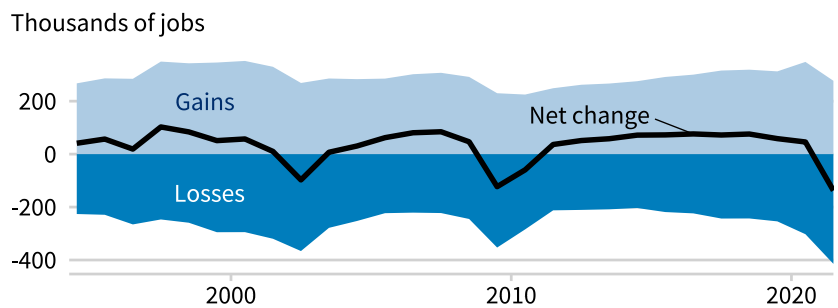
#### Establishments

Between March 2020 and March 2021, 21,459 Washington establishments opened and 22,829 closed, for a net decrease of 1,370. Employment expanded at 44,748 establishments and contracted at 57,333. Small businesses accounted for 19,138 openings and 18,933 closings.



#### Employment

Opening and expanding Washington establishments added 276,978 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 414,628, for a net decrease of 137,650 jobs. Small businesses gained 190,913 jobs and lost 284,911, for a net decrease of 93,998 jobs.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings

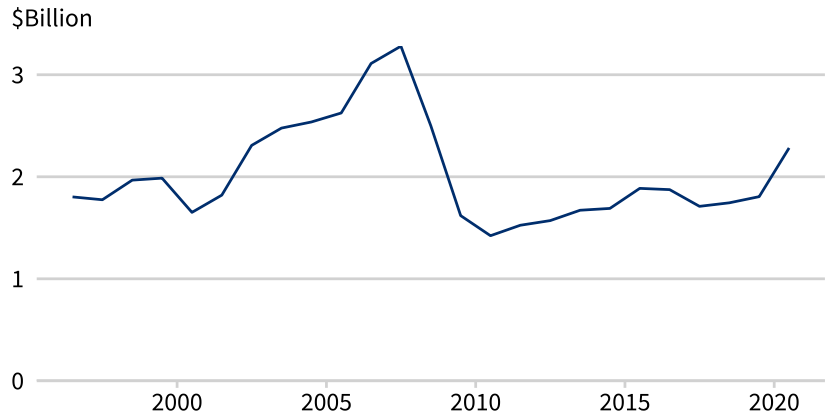
Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (BLS)

## Small business loans





The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2020, reporting banks issued \$2.3 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 \$2.9 billion. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$9.5 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	90,128	18,934	1,584	110,646
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	60,378	9,312	416	70,106
Transportation and Warehousing	58,921	4,096	627	63,644
Construction	34,689	22,895	1,864	59,448
Other Services (except Public Administration)	41,326	15,032	1,030	57,388
Retail Trade	41,193	12,302	1,633	55,128
Health Care and Social Assistance	34,719	14,974	1,966	51,659
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	34,252	8,069	859	43,180
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	35,185	2,445	482	38,112
Educational Services	20,049	2,312	464	22,825
Accommodation and Food Services	8,001	11,216	2,939	22,156
Finance and Insurance	11,542	4,433	379	16,354
Manufacturing	8,082	4,664	1,404	14,150
Wholesale Trade	6,678	5,165	1,305	13,148
Information	7,767	1,845	386	9,998
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,506	1,263	126	8,895
Utilities	330	147	20	497
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	145	301	446
Industries not classified	*	349	0	349
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	208	83	20	311
<b>Total</b>	<b>500,954</b>	<b>139,552</b>	<b>17,023</b>	<b>657,529</b>

\* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2019 (Census); [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2019 (Census)



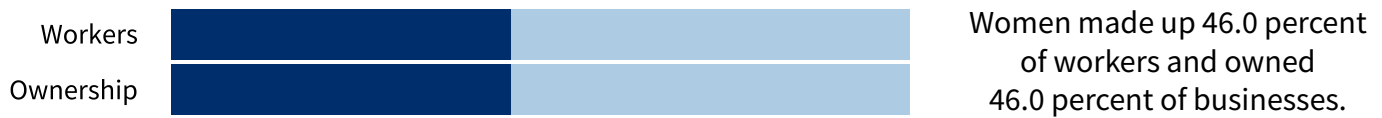
### Small business exports

A total of 11,341 identified firms exported goods worth \$37.6 billion from Washington in 2020. Of those exporters, 10,082—or 88.9 percent—were small. Exports by small firms reached \$12.3 billion, making up 32.6 percent of exports by identified firms.

Source: [A profile of US importing and exporting companies, 2019-2020](#) (Census)

## Business ownership share by demographic group

### Women



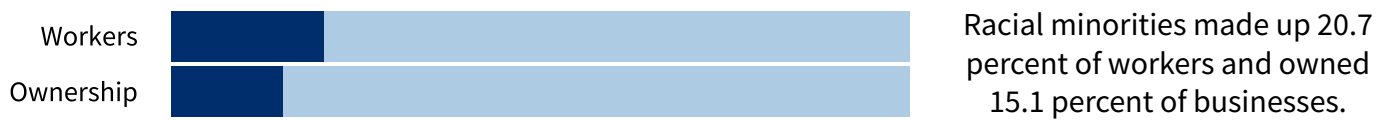
### Veterans



### Hispanics



### Racial minorities



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, 2018](#) (Census)

## Business count by owner demographic group

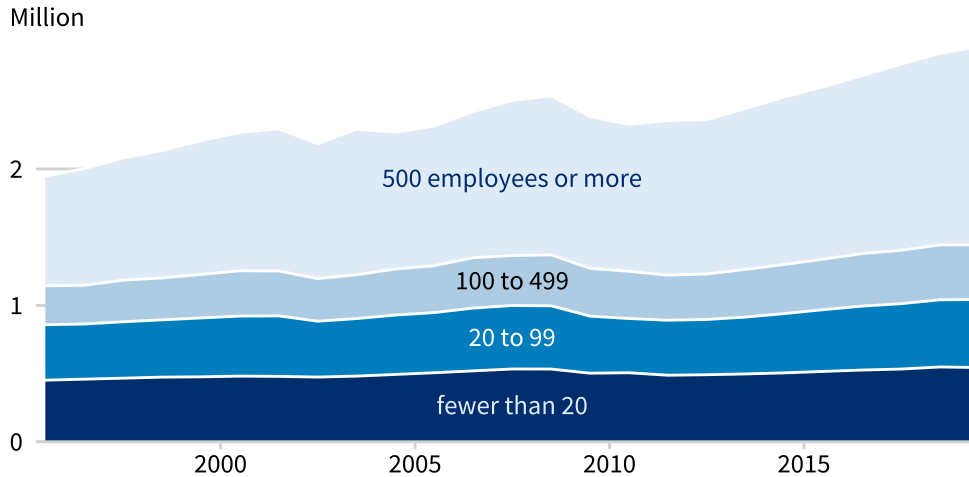
	Without employees	With employees	Total businesses
Ownership			
Female	210,000	29,128	239,128
Male	260,000	76,461	336,461
Owned equally by both groups	12,500	34,764	47,264
Veteran	31,000	9,327	40,327
Not Veteran	449,000	125,179	574,179
Owned equally by both groups	2,300	5,847	8,147
Hispanic	30,500	6,170	36,670
Not Hispanic	452,000	132,657	584,657
Owned equally by both groups	750	1,524	2,274
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,900	889	2,789
Asian	47,000	15,801	62,801
Black or African American	25,000	1,364	26,364
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1,600	266	1,866
White	407,000	121,929	528,929
Hispanic or Racial Minority	102,000	24,359	126,359
White and Not Hispanic	379,000	112,690	491,690
Owned equally by both groups	1,700	3,304	5,004

Counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group

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

## Total Washington employment by business size

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



Washington small business employment grew by 26.3 percent between 1995 and 2019, which exceeded the national small business employment growth rate.

### Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employees		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Construction	24,759	99.4	171,577	81.8	11,430,362	75.2
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	20,518	97.8	130,174	59.9	11,385,158	54.9
Health Care and Social Assistance	16,940	98.5	198,836	44.7	9,140,510	35.1
Other Services (except Public Administration)	16,062	99.1	102,204	82.6	3,591,575	75.9
Accommodation and Food Services	14,155	98.6	201,932	66.5	5,024,931	65.5
Retail Trade	13,935	97.1	137,013	40.3	5,290,178	44.9
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	9,728	98.5	38,565	71.7	2,185,949	68.3
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	8,928	96.9	73,397	45.8	3,361,867	41.5
Wholesale Trade	6,470	92.0	75,591	54.9	5,092,373	50.0
Manufacturing	6,068	93.9	112,009	41.5	6,159,530	32.0
Finance and Insurance	4,812	93.6	35,173	32.0	2,974,939	29.0
Transportation and Warehousing	4,723	94.3	38,986	36.3	1,975,360	30.9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,927	98.2	41,907	60.7	1,136,119	49.5
Educational Services	2,776	97.6	34,935	61.6	1,128,994	63.5
Information	2,231	90.9	28,368	18.7	3,039,397	11.4
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,389	99.1	11,776	77.7	656,850	78.8
Management of Companies and Enterprises	446	58.8	8,515	7.3	655,547	4.3
Industries not classified	349	100.0	382	100.0	13,926	100.0
Utilities	167	87.9	1,399	14.5	119,009	10.9
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	103	88.0	1,201	62.5	83,102	59.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,575</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>1,443,940</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>74,445,676</b>	<b>38.9</b>

Source: [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2019 (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 problematic data. Data analyzed here largely predate the COVID-19 pandemic, which has had [impacts on businesses](#) that have differed by industry, geography, and demographic group. Electronic versions of this and other [geographic profiles](#) are available online. Visit [advocacy.sba.gov](http://advocacy.sba.gov) for additional resources.