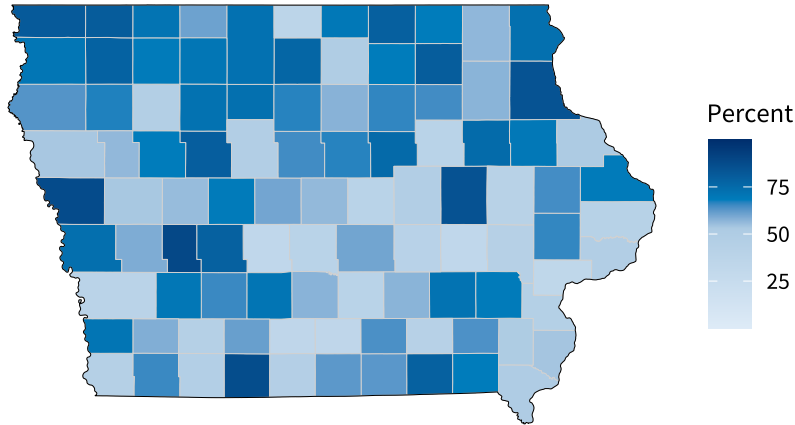


# 2023 Small Business Profile

## Iowa

**272,465** small businesses  
99.2 percent of Iowa businesses

**638,811** small business employees  
45.9 percent of Iowa employees



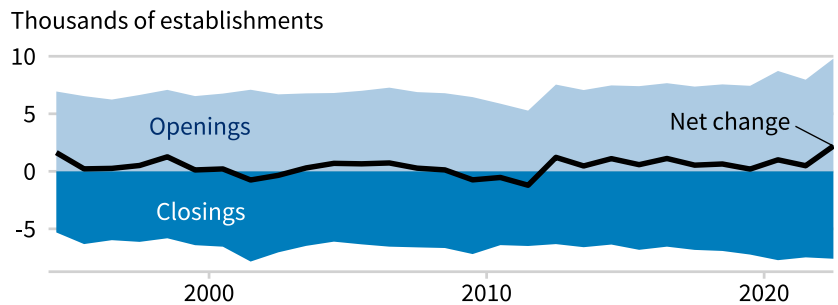
### Share of employees working at small businesses by county

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

## Business dynamics

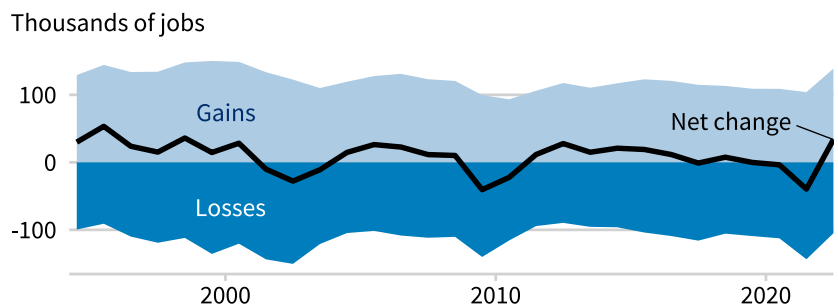
### Establishments

Between March 2021 and March 2022, 9,797 Iowa establishments opened and 7,599 closed, for a net increase of 2,198. Employment expanded at 24,444 establishments and contracted at 20,462. Small businesses accounted for 9,177 establishment openings and 7,138 closings.



### Employment

Opening and expanding Iowa establishments added 138,821 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 105,043, for a net increase of 33,778 jobs. Small businesses contributed a net increase of 26,905 jobs, or 79.7 percent of that total.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings

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

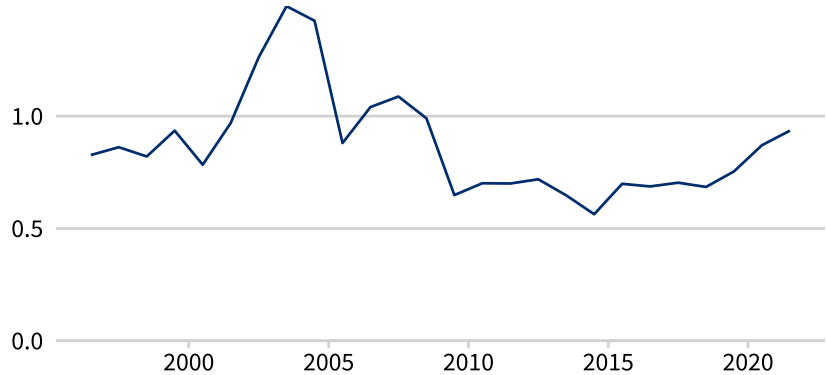
## Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2021, reporting banks issued \$935.5 million in loans to Iowa businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$847.9 million. 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

\$Billion



## Small business count by size and industry

Industry	Without employees	1–19 employees	20–499 employees	All small businesses
Construction	27,618	7,878	649	36,145
Other Services (except Public Administration)	22,578	7,977	455	31,010
Retail Trade	23,569	5,587	748	29,904
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	26,299	2,545	158	29,002
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	21,137	5,223	451	26,811
Health Care and Social Assistance	17,346	4,325	1,133	22,804
Transportation and Warehousing	17,863	2,956	291	21,110
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	16,884	2,877	322	20,083
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	9,423	1,173	162	10,758
Finance and Insurance	7,159	2,912	335	10,406
Accommodation and Food Services	3,052	4,323	1,225	8,600
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	5,620	308	19	5,947
Wholesale Trade	3,003	2,134	690	5,827
Educational Services	4,995	557	161	5,713
Manufacturing	2,943	1,791	756	5,490
Information	1,994	632	136	2,762
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	46	205	251
Utilities	174	38	32	244
Industries not classified	*	133	0	133
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	53	32	17	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>211,710</b>	<b>53,358</b>	<b>7,397</b>	<b>272,465</b>

\* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2020 (Census); [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2020 (Census)



### Small business exports

A total of 3,369 identified firms exported goods worth \$14.4 billion from Iowa in 2021. Of those exporters, 2,785—or 82.7 percent—were small. Exports by small firms reached \$2.3 billion, making up 15.7 percent of exports by identified firms.

Source: [A profile of US importing and exporting companies, 2020-2021](#) (Census)

## Business ownership share by demographic group

### Women



Women made up 47.5 percent of workers and owned 43.2 percent of businesses.

### Veterans



Veterans made up 4.4 percent of workers and owned 7.3 percent of businesses.

### Hispanics



Hispanics made up 5.4 percent of workers and owned 3.0 percent of businesses.

### Racial minorities



Racial minorities made up 8.9 percent of workers and owned 4.8 percent of businesses.

Ownership shares include equal and majority ownership

Sources of original data: [American Community Survey, 2019 5-Year Data \(Census\)](#); [Annual Business Survey, 2019 \(Census\)](#); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2019 \(Census\)](#)

## Business count by owner demographic group

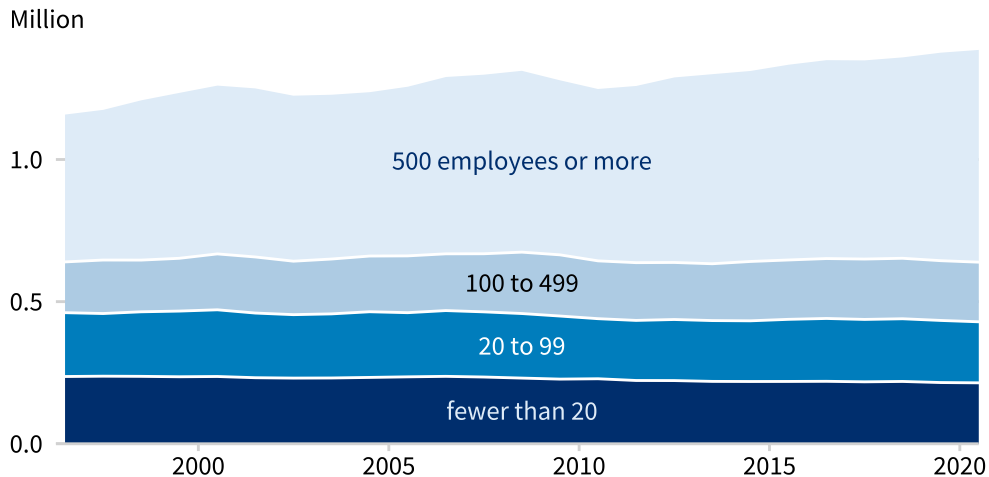
	Without employees	With employees	Total businesses
Ownership			
Female	84,500	9,466	93,966
Male	116,000	33,644	149,644
Owned equally by both groups	7,800	11,943	19,743
Veteran	13,000	3,273	16,273
Not Veteran	194,000	50,185	244,185
Owned equally by both groups	1,300	1,593	2,893
Hispanic	6,700	867	7,567
Not Hispanic	201,000	54,054	255,054
Owned equally by both groups	200	130	330
American Indian and Alaska Native	950	*	*
Asian	5,300	1,529	6,829
Black or African American	6,800	168	6,968
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	150	*	*
White	197,000	53,361	250,361
Hispanic or Racial Minority	19,500	2,624	22,124
White and Not Hispanic	189,000	52,094	241,094
Owned equally by both groups	400	*	*

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

Sources: [Annual Business Survey, 2019 \(Census\)](#); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2019 \(Census\)](#)

## Total Iowa employment by business size

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



✧  
Iowa small businesses employed 638,811 workers in 2020, accounting for 45.9 percent of total employment.  
✧

## Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employees		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Construction	8,527	99.3	59,592	87.5	3,639,871	83.7
Other Services (except Public Administration)	8,432	99.0	47,732	93.7	1,347,894	90.8
Retail Trade	6,335	95.2	59,224	32.2	2,004,702	40.7
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	5,674	96.5	36,284	60.4	2,259,851	55.6
Accommodation and Food Services	5,548	97.6	82,214	67.7	1,151,907	62.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	5,458	96.9	111,981	51.2	4,551,662	44.1
Transportation and Warehousing	3,247	95.2	21,760	32.9	1,040,625	33.7
Finance and Insurance	3,247	93.2	28,984	29.9	1,864,467	23.2
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	3,199	94.8	28,750	29.9	1,090,155	30.8
Wholesale Trade	2,824	88.8	39,848	56.6	2,303,209	55.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	2,703	97.4	11,575	76.5	518,060	75.9
Manufacturing	2,547	88.8	63,067	29.2	3,094,478	24.1
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,335	98.1	13,648	76.9	236,193	83.1
Information	768	87.6	9,885	31.3	541,025	29.6
Educational Services	718	94.8	14,469	42.3	381,710	38.5
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	327	98.8	1,759	64.1	93,749	59.6
Management of Companies and Enterprises	251	65.7	4,880	16.9	336,096	15.9
Industries not classified	133	100.0	143	100.0	3,488	100.0
Utilities	70	80.5	1,636	19.5	125,582	15.7
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	49	87.5	1,380	64.1	87,525	61.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,755</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>638,811</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>26,672,249</b>	<b>40.6</b>

Source: [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2020 (Census)

### About this profile

Small businesses are generally defined here as firms with fewer than 500 employees. Figures or statistics may involve approximations because of missing or problematic data. Where notes identify the source of “original data,” a value is approximate in at least one profile. The Technical Notes provide details on data, methods, and definitions. Electronic versions of this and other [geographic profiles](#) are available online. Visit [advocacy.sba.gov](http://advocacy.sba.gov) for additional resources.