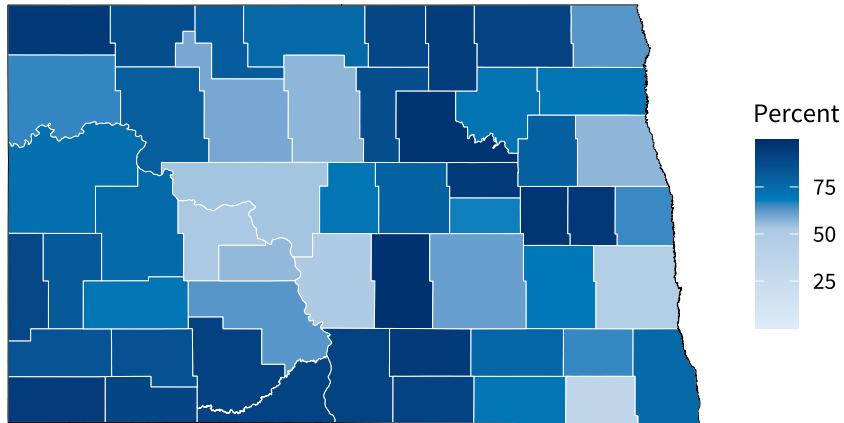


North Dakota

76,290 small businesses
98.8 percent of North Dakota businesses

189,834 small business employees
57.1 percent of North Dakota employees



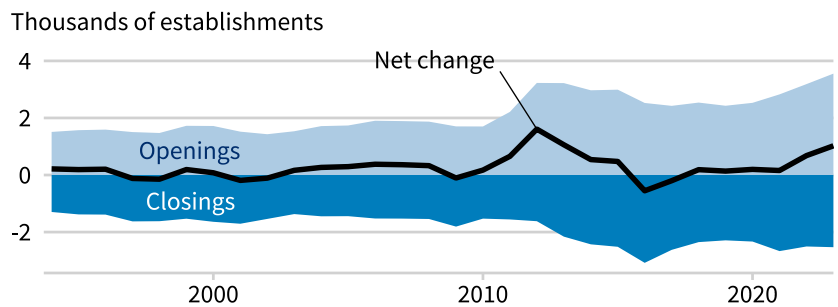
Share of employees working at small businesses by county

Sources of original data: [Nonemployer Statistics](#) (Census), [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#) (Census)

Employer and employment dynamics

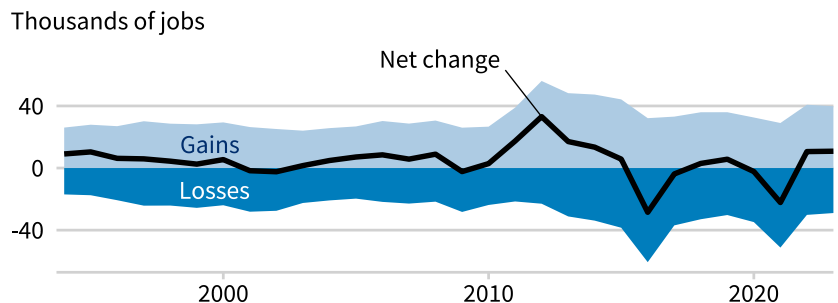
Establishments

Between March 2022 and March 2023, 3,554 North Dakota establishments opened and 2,531 closed, for a net increase of 1,023. Employment expanded at 7,186 establishments and contracted at 6,217. Small businesses accounted for 3,232 openings and 2,317 closings.



Employment

Opening and expanding North Dakota establishments added 39,818 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 28,978, for a net increase of 10,840 jobs. Small businesses contributed a net increase of 8,971 jobs, or 82.8 percent of that total.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings.

Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

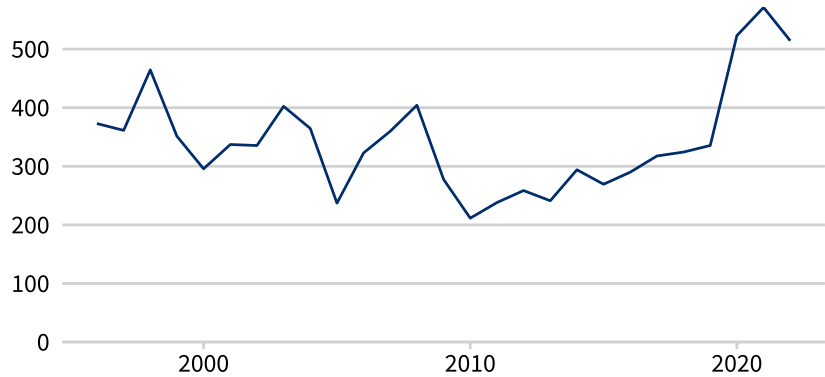
Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2022, reporting banks issued \$514.3 million in loans to North Dakota businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$293.4 million. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$1.3 billion.

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

New lending to businesses with revenues under \$1 million

\$Million



Small business count by size and industry

Industry	Without employees	1–19 employees	20–499 employees	All small businesses
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8,405	866	64	9,335
Construction	5,470	2,610	231	8,311
Retail Trade	6,231	1,645	276	8,152
Other Services (except Public Administration)	5,375	2,337	128	7,840
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	5,590	1,480	164	7,234
Transportation and Warehousing	5,464	1,108	129	6,701
Health Care and Social Assistance	4,574	1,379	280	6,233
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	4,120	873	111	5,104
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,971	375	52	3,398
Finance and Insurance	2,236	864	84	3,184
Accommodation and Food Services	1,045	1,344	367	2,756
Educational Services	1,521	131	39	1,691
Wholesale Trade	752	643	266	1,661
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,470	102	3	1,575
Manufacturing	753	395	137	1,285
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	764	294	104	1,162
Information	461	165	47	673
Utilities	30	20	20	70
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	26	36	62
Industries not classified	*	43	0	43
All industries	57,232	16,682	2,376	76,290

* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2021 (Census); [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#), 2021 (Census)



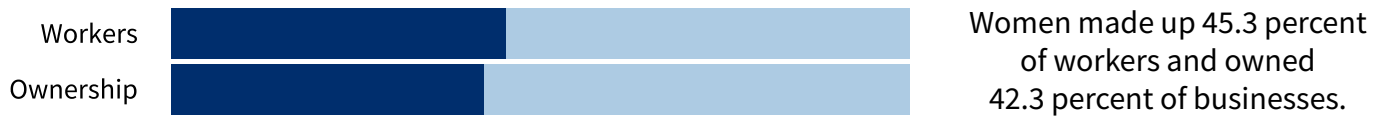
Small business exports

A total of 1,608 identified firms exported goods worth \$4.7 billion from North Dakota in 2022. Of those exporters, 1,357—or 84.4 percent—were small. Exports by small firms reached \$1.6 billion, making up 33.6 percent of exports by identified firms.

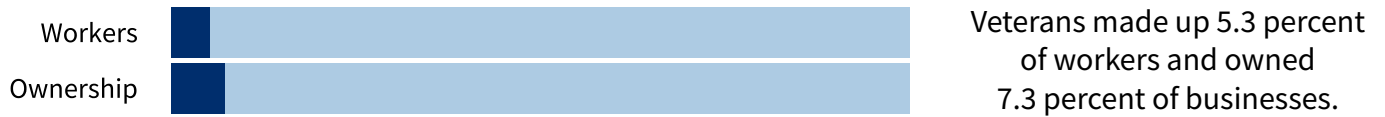
Source: [A profile of U.S. importing and exporting companies, 2021-2022](#) (Census)

Business ownership share by demographic group

Women



Veterans



Hispanics



Racial minorities



Ownership shares include equal and majority ownership.

Sources of original data: [American Community Survey, 2021 5-Year Data \(Census\)](#); [Annual Business Survey, 2021 \(Census\)](#); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2021 \(Census\)](#)

Business count by owner demographic group

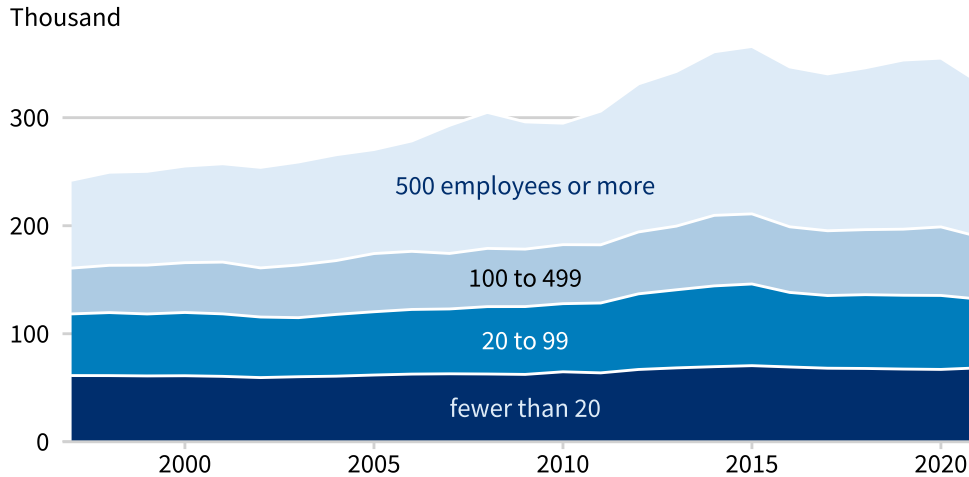
Ownership	Without employees	With employees	Total businesses
Female	23,000	3,285	26,285
Male	31,000	11,336	42,336
Owned equally by both groups	2,200	2,538	4,738
Veteran	3,600	926	4,526
Not Veteran	52,000	15,872	67,872
Owned equally by both groups	450	362	812
Hispanic	1,400	118	1,518
Not Hispanic	54,500	16,977	71,477
Owned equally by both groups	40	*	104
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,500	285	1,785
Asian	850	475	1,325
Black or African American	2,400	*	2,472
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	60	*	*
White	52,000	16,382	68,382
Hispanic or Racial Minority	6,000	984	6,984
White and Not Hispanic	50,000	16,058	66,058
Owned equally by both groups	150	116	266

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

Sources: [Annual Business Survey, 2021 \(Census\)](#); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2021 \(Census\)](#)

Total North Dakota employment by business size

Source of original data: [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#) (Census)



North Dakota small business employment grew by 18.1 percent between 1997 and 2021, 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	2,841	98.9	19,585	89.9	1,416,225	87.1
Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,465	98.4	12,975	94.9	450,544	92.0
Retail Trade	1,921	92.4	22,975	49.6	902,255	57.8
Accommodation and Food Services	1,711	97.5	24,440	78.9	522,097	79.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,659	96.8	28,362	43.5	1,256,632	34.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,644	95.4	11,547	66.5	853,583	69.9
Transportation and Warehousing	1,237	94.3	8,971	57.1	514,308	55.0
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	984	93.4	7,798	57.1	310,108	54.3
Finance and Insurance	948	90.2	7,378	40.2	516,481	36.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	930	95.9	3,965	74.3	203,918	72.6
Wholesale Trade	909	83.5	12,534	59.2	844,878	57.2
Manufacturing	532	89.9	10,895	43.6	602,872	38.2
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	427	98.6	4,507	88.9	90,727	87.8
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	398	88.6	5,913	43.7	605,305	41.4
Information	212	83.5	2,974	45.1	187,156	36.2
Educational Services	170	91.4	2,561	63.1	77,004	64.1
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	105	97.2	301	72.5	16,047	68.2
Management of Companies and Enterprises	62	56.4	755	16.3	58,357	13.8
Industries not classified	43	100.0	56	100.0	1,939	100.0
Utilities	40	78.4	1,342	36.6	150,708	36.7
All industries	19,058	95.3	189,834	57.1	9,581,144	51.7

Source: [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#), 2021 (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 for additional resources.