

2025 Small Business Profile

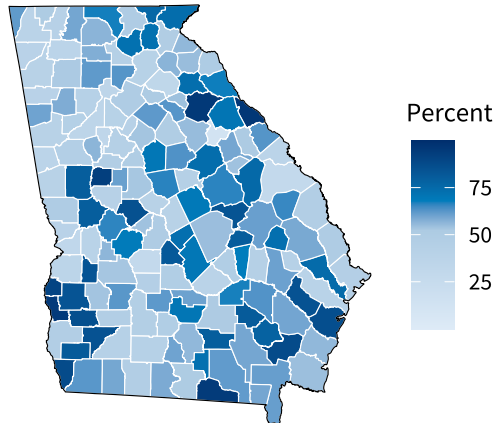
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

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Georgia

1.4 million small businesses
99.7 percent of Georgia businesses

1.8 million small business employees
42.5 percent of Georgia employees



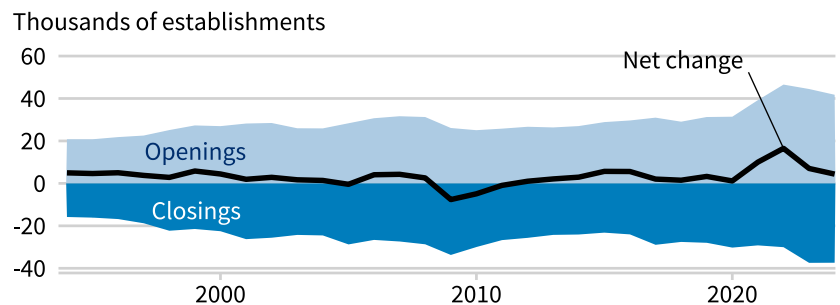
Share of employees working at small businesses by county

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

Employer and employment dynamics

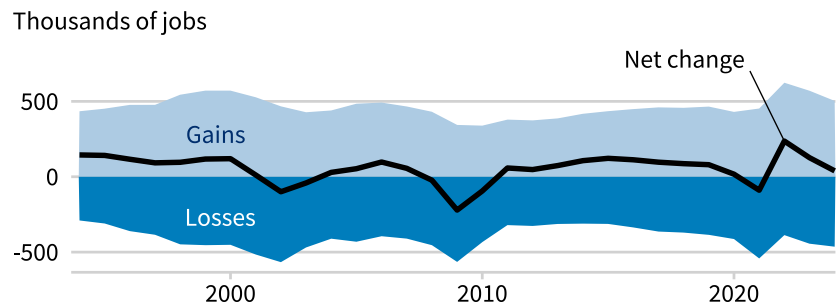
Establishments

Between March 2023 and March 2024, 41,761 Georgia establishments opened and 37,392 closed, for a net increase of 4,369. Employment expanded at 64,634 establishments and contracted at 61,196. Small businesses accounted for 38,952 openings and for 34,762 closings.



Employment

Opening and expanding Georgia establishments added 503,226 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 464,031, for a net increase of 39,195 jobs. Small businesses gained 348,076 jobs and lost 302,126, for a net increase of 45,950 jobs.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings.

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

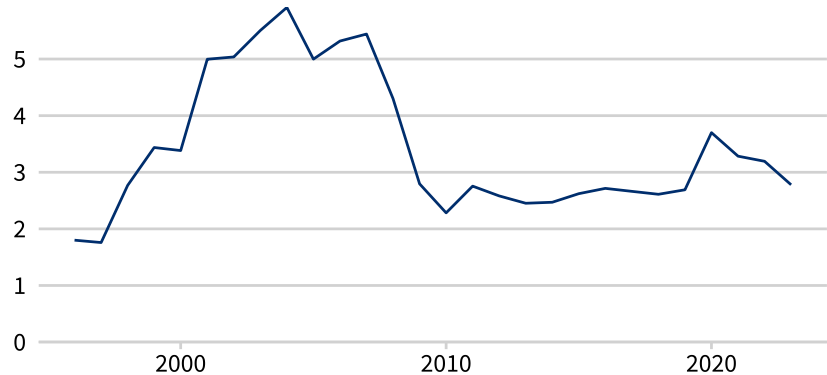
Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2023, reporting banks issued \$2.8 billion in loans to Georgia businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$8.1 billion. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$3.7 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
Other Services (except Public Administration)	160,552	20,672	1,440	182,664
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	136,063	27,844	1,932	165,839
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	146,388	10,284	1,348	158,020
Transportation and Warehousing	147,534	6,696	988	155,218
Construction	123,942	19,314	1,844	145,100
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	96,075	11,295	489	107,859
Retail Trade	81,653	21,010	1,664	104,327
Health Care and Social Assistance	82,625	17,837	2,929	103,391
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	55,855	3,384	423	59,662
Accommodation and Food Services	31,278	13,006	4,316	48,600
Educational Services	34,583	2,509	569	37,661
Finance and Insurance	25,497	7,479	588	33,564
Wholesale Trade	14,439	7,684	1,699	23,822
Manufacturing	15,304	4,562	1,711	21,577
Information	15,594	2,422	386	18,402
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,384	826	88	8,298
Utilities	547	82	60	689
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	157	321	478
Industries not classified	*	368	1	369
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	228	63	23	314
All industries	1,175,541	177,382	22,049	1,374,972

* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2022 (Census); [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#), 2022 (Census)



Small business exports

A total of 14,416 identified firms exported goods worth \$47.1 billion from Georgia in 2023. Of those exporters, 12,604—or 87.4 percent—were small. At \$13.7 billion, exports by small firms made up 29.0 percent of exports by identified firms.

Source: [A profile of U.S. importing and exporting companies, 2022-2023](#) (Census)

Business ownership share by demographic group

Women



Women made up 48.1 percent of workers and owned 48.4 percent of businesses.

Veterans



Veterans made up 5.4 percent of workers and owned 6.4 percent of businesses.

Hispanics



Hispanics made up 9.8 percent of workers and owned 10.4 percent of businesses.

Ownership shares include equal and majority ownership.

Sources of original data: [American Community Survey](#), 2022 5-Year Data (Census); [Annual Business Survey](#), 2022 (Census); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics](#), 2022 (Census)

Business count by owner demographic group or location type

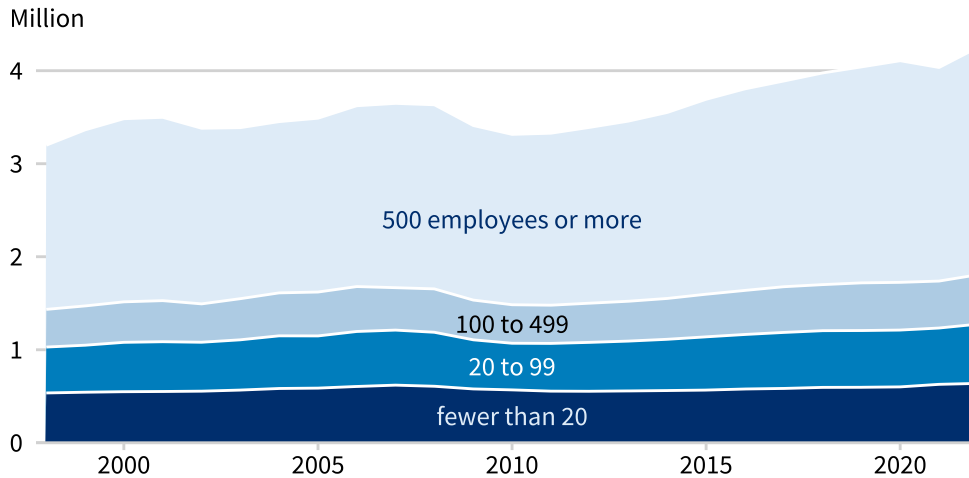
Group	Without employees	%	With employees	%	Total businesses
Female	566,000	92.8	44,187	7.2	610,187
Male	572,000	83.0	117,497	17.0	689,497
Owned equally by both groups	19,000	52.8	16,977	47.2	35,977
Veteran	69,000	86.9	10,394	13.1	79,394
Not Veteran	1,084,000	86.8	165,015	13.2	1,249,015
Owned equally by both groups	3,300	50.4	3,253	49.6	6,553
Hispanic	128,000	93.7	8,613	6.3	136,613
Not Hispanic	1,027,000	85.9	169,186	14.1	1,196,186
Owned equally by both groups	1,500	63.5	862	36.5	2,362
Rural	228,000	89.9	25,654	10.1	253,654
Urban	846,000	85.0	149,144	15.0	995,144
American Indian and Alaska Native	8,900	89.2	1,077	10.8	9,977
Asian	88,500	77.2	26,144	22.8	114,644
Black or African American	457,000	96.4	16,973	3.6	473,973
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1,900	92.4	157	7.6	2,057
White	616,000	82.1	134,690	17.9	750,690
Hispanic or Racial Minority	638,000	92.5	52,089	7.5	690,089
White and Not Hispanic	515,000	80.5	124,488	19.5	639,488
Owned equally by both groups	3,400	62.0	2,084	38.0	5,484

Counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group or location type. Percentages represent shares of row totals.

Sources: [Annual Business Survey](#), 2022 (Census); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics](#), 2022 (Census)

Total Georgia employment by business size

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



Georgia small business employment grew by 26.0 percent between 1998 and 2022, 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	%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	29,776	97.9	168,601	50.9	13,722,866	43.4
Retail Trade	22,674	97.9	154,059	30.6	6,662,057	38.3
Other Services (except Public Administration)	22,112	99.1	134,695	83.4	5,074,022	79.0
Construction	21,158	99.0	161,509	77.7	10,504,951	72.4
Health Care and Social Assistance	20,766	98.3	246,539	44.2	12,327,656	37.0
Accommodation and Food Services	17,322	98.2	277,660	62.3	6,087,095	61.7
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	11,784	98.2	42,402	55.6	2,899,978	45.9
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	11,632	95.6	124,825	28.1	5,900,879	27.0
Wholesale Trade	9,383	92.1	103,059	47.2	7,722,866	44.2
Finance and Insurance	8,067	94.8	52,530	27.1	4,523,149	21.6
Transportation and Warehousing	7,684	94.6	62,649	23.8	3,208,859	20.9
Manufacturing	6,273	90.8	135,449	33.6	7,364,022	30.5
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,807	98.3	34,287	60.5	1,065,750	44.9
Educational Services	3,078	97.3	50,850	57.0	1,868,322	43.1
Information	2,808	90.6	32,409	25.8	3,103,008	21.0
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	914	98.8	6,573	84.0	345,812	83.2
Management of Companies and Enterprises	478	49.7	9,849	7.6	972,342	6.1
Industries not classified	369	100.0	436	100.0	19,405	100.0
Utilities	142	83.5	7,196	29.0	706,861	27.0
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	86	81.1	1,055	20.3	71,758	18.3
All industries	199,431	97.7	1,806,632	42.5	94,151,658	36.2

Percentages were calculated by dividing industry totals for small employers by industry totals for all employers.

Source: [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#), 2022 (Census)

About this profile

Small businesses are generally defined here as firms with fewer than 500 employees. Statistics of U.S. Businesses and Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics are produced through a partnership between the Office of Advocacy and the Census Bureau. Where notes say "Source of original data," values may have been approximated because of missing values in the original data. Electronic versions of this and other [geographic profiles](#) are available online, along with technical notes about data, methods, and definitions. Visit advocacy.sba.gov for additional resources.