

# 2025 Small Business Profile

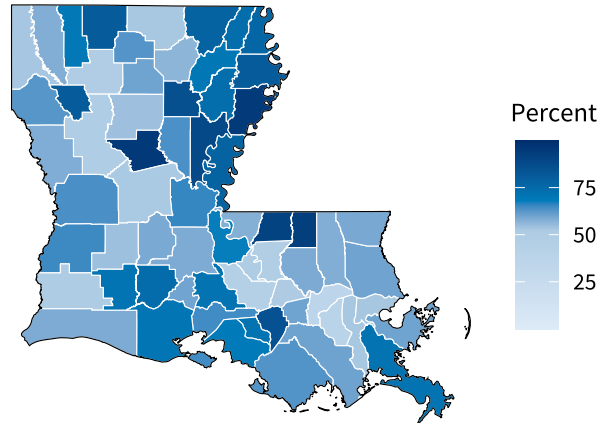
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
**OFFICE OF ADVOCACY**

REGULATION • RESEARCH • OUTREACH

## Louisiana

**511,235** small businesses  
**99.5 percent** of Louisiana businesses

**889,431** small business employees  
**54.1 percent** of Louisiana employees



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

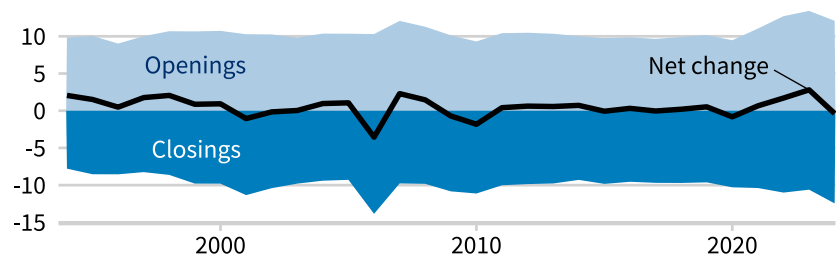
Sources of original data: [Nonemployer Statistics](#) (Census), [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#) (Census)

## Employer and employment dynamics

### Establishments

Between March 2023 and March 2024, 12,078 Louisiana establishments opened and 12,456 closed, for a net decrease of 378. Employment expanded at 26,627 establishments and contracted at 27,606. Small businesses accounted for 11,047 openings and for 11,456 closings.

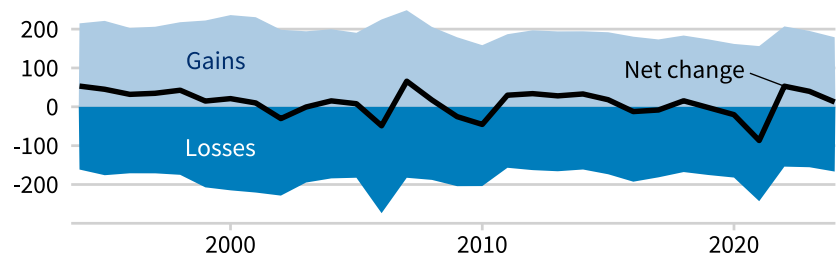
Thousands of establishments



### Employment

Opening and expanding Louisiana establishments added 178,974 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 166,651, for a net increase of 12,323 jobs. Small businesses contributed a net increase of 5,470 jobs, or 44.4 percent of that total.

Thousands of jobs



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings.

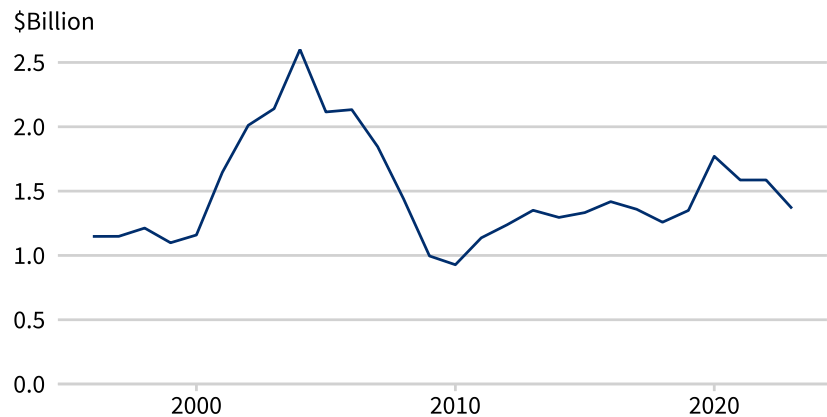
Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

## Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2023, reporting banks issued \$1.4 billion in loans to Louisiana businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$3.7 billion. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$1.2 billion.

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

### New lending to businesses with revenues under \$1 million



## Small business count by size and industry

Industry	Without employees	1–19 employees	20–499 employees	All small businesses
Other Services (except Public Administration)	57,647	8,425	665	66,737
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	54,564	3,580	623	58,767
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	45,410	10,194	812	56,416
Construction	46,297	7,646	909	54,852
Health Care and Social Assistance	37,571	8,070	1,658	47,299
Transportation and Warehousing	40,857	2,375	444	43,676
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	39,446	3,854	288	43,588
Retail Trade	29,377	8,565	1,159	39,101
Accommodation and Food Services	13,419	5,811	1,798	21,028
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	18,769	1,218	211	20,198
Finance and Insurance	10,668	3,381	318	14,367
Educational Services	9,509	804	360	10,673
Manufacturing	5,956	1,832	653	8,441
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,911	488	28	8,427
Wholesale Trade	4,846	2,551	772	8,169
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	4,008	718	205	4,931
Information	3,763	557	100	4,420
Utilities	206	159	25	390
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	67	225	292
Industries not classified	*	86	1	87
All industries	430,224	70,307	10,704	511,235

\* Not reported by the Census Bureau

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



### Small business exports

A total of 3,508 identified firms exported goods worth \$78.6 billion from Louisiana in 2023. Of those exporters, 2,971—or 84.7 percent—were small. At \$30.6 billion, exports by small firms made up 38.9 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 48.0 percent of workers and owned 48.0 percent of businesses.

### Veterans



Veterans made up 4.3 percent of workers and owned 6.3 percent of businesses.

### Hispanics



Hispanics made up 5.6 percent of workers and owned 5.9 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

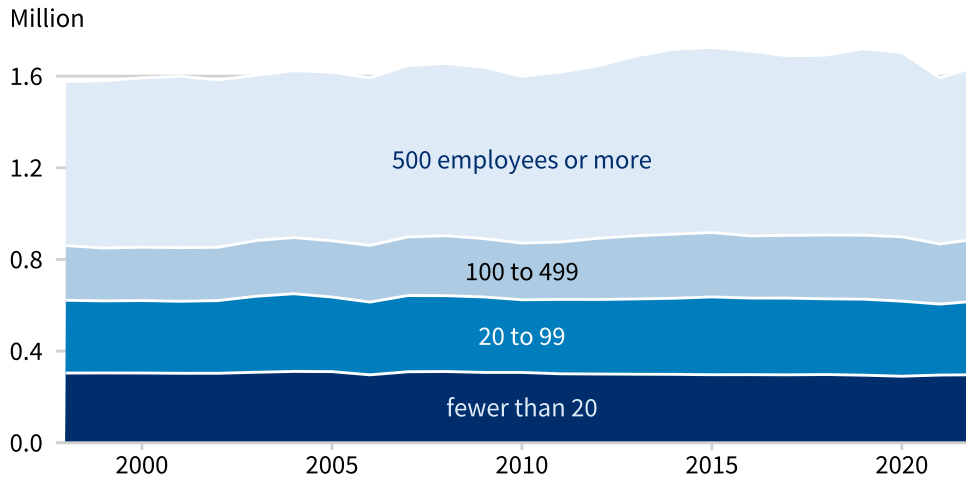
Group	Without employees	%	With employees	%	Total businesses
Female	201,000	92.9	15,396	7.1	216,396
Male	212,000	82.3	45,597	17.7	257,597
Owned equally by both groups	9,900	47.3	11,014	52.7	20,914
Veteran	23,500	85.4	4,031	14.6	27,531
Not Veteran	398,000	85.7	66,252	14.3	464,252
Owned equally by both groups	1,700	49.6	1,724	50.4	3,424
Hispanic	26,000	92.9	2,002	7.1	28,002
Not Hispanic	396,000	85.1	69,419	14.9	465,419
Owned equally by both groups	600	50.6	586	49.4	1,186
Rural	93,000	89.1	11,425	10.9	104,425
Urban	297,000	83.3	59,466	16.7	356,466
American Indian and Alaska Native	4,200	87.4	606	12.6	4,806
Asian	16,000	76.6	4,890	23.4	20,890
Black or African American	140,000	97.3	3,846	2.7	143,846
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	450	94.7	25	5.3	475
White	267,000	80.9	62,918	19.1	329,918
Hispanic or Racial Minority	178,000	94.1	11,136	5.9	189,136
White and Not Hispanic	243,000	80.2	59,849	19.8	302,849
Owned equally by both groups	1,300	56.0	1,022	44.0	2,322

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 Louisiana employment by business size

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



Small businesses accounted for 54.1 percent of Louisiana employment in 2022, which exceeded the national small business employment share.

## Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employees		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	11,006	97.5	69,803	70.6	5,169,142	67.2
Health Care and Social Assistance	9,728	98.0	149,910	50.9	6,485,064	40.1
Retail Trade	9,724	96.8	91,517	41.2	3,648,114	50.1
Other Services (except Public Administration)	9,090	98.7	62,541	88.0	2,255,871	83.1
Construction	8,555	98.8	81,213	55.8	4,944,979	50.8
Accommodation and Food Services	7,609	97.8	122,119	62.6	2,635,946	59.3
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	4,203	95.2	55,309	52.0	2,612,165	52.9
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	4,142	97.4	20,730	72.0	1,133,489	67.4
Finance and Insurance	3,699	93.5	31,092	51.1	2,158,468	44.3
Wholesale Trade	3,323	89.3	41,168	58.0	2,710,414	54.6
Transportation and Warehousing	2,819	92.7	31,058	44.2	2,078,368	44.3
Manufacturing	2,485	91.5	51,990	44.6	3,358,811	34.2
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,429	98.0	17,115	71.2	915,563	85.2
Educational Services	1,164	96.2	31,198	62.8	1,173,307	55.2
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	923	92.3	13,964	44.4	1,289,918	41.4
Information	657	85.8	5,588	29.6	345,637	28.6
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	516	99.2	2,856	83.3	156,544	80.1
Management of Companies and Enterprises	292	64.2	7,308	30.9	532,320	22.4
Utilities	184	89.8	2,771	23.6	182,573	13.1
Industries not classified	87	100.0	181	100.0	5,095	100.0
All industries	81,011	97.1	889,431	54.1	43,791,788	48.4

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](https://advocacy.sba.gov) for additional resources.