

2025 Small Business Profile

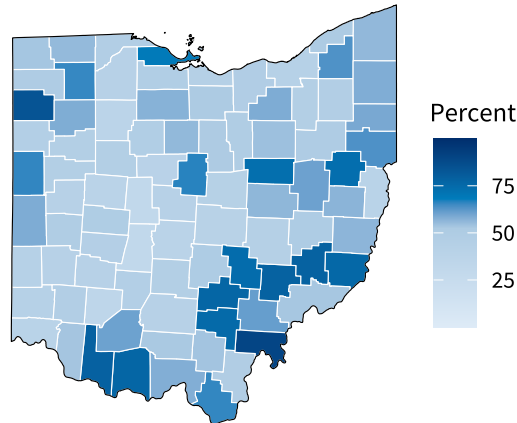
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

REGULATION • RESEARCH • OUTREACH

Ohio

1.1 million small businesses
99.6 percent of Ohio businesses

2.2 million small business employees
43.8 percent of Ohio employees



Share of employees working at small businesses by county

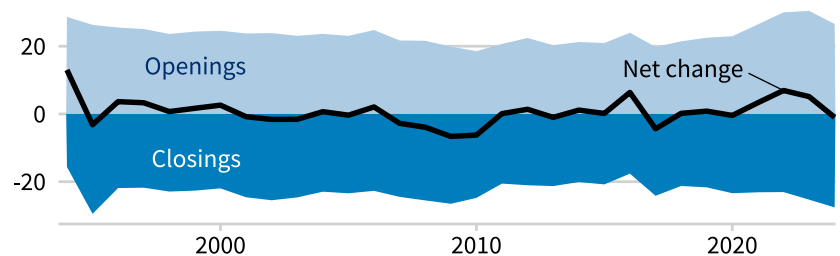
Sources of original data: [Nonemployer Statistics](#) (Census), [Statistics of U.S. Businesses](#) (Census)

Employer and employment dynamics

Establishments

Between March 2023 and March 2024, 26,579 Ohio establishments opened and 27,585 closed, for a net decrease of 1,006. Employment expanded at 70,298 establishments and contracted at 67,780. Small businesses accounted for 24,725 establishment openings and 25,604 closings.

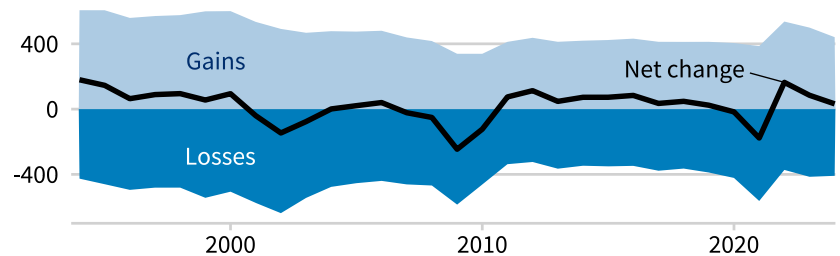
Thousands of establishments



Employment

Opening and expanding Ohio establishments added 440,780 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 408,640, for a net increase of 32,140 jobs. Small businesses contributed a net increase of 31,354 jobs, or 97.6 percent of that total.

Thousands of jobs



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings.

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

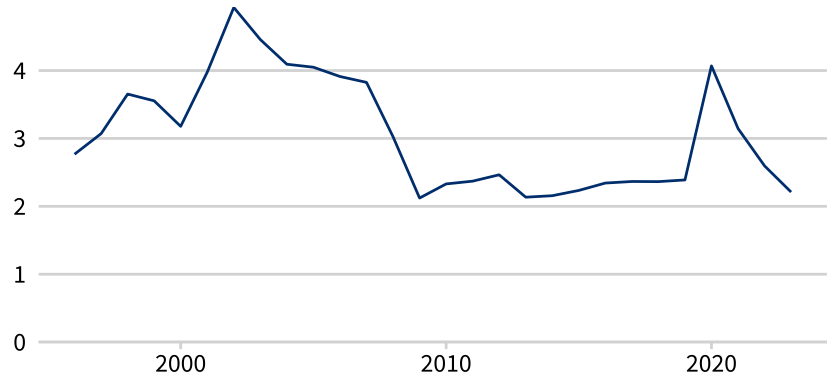
Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2023, reporting banks issued \$2.2 billion in loans to Ohio businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$6.7 billion. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$2.6 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
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	108,974	18,744	1,938	129,656
Transportation and Warehousing	122,482	5,791	999	129,272
Construction	97,209	18,689	1,941	117,839
Other Services (except Public Administration)	92,712	22,447	1,775	116,934
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	91,002	7,774	523	99,299
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	82,357	9,891	1,493	93,741
Health Care and Social Assistance	69,478	15,080	3,872	88,430
Retail Trade	68,573	16,769	2,084	87,426
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	50,333	3,079	595	54,007
Accommodation and Food Services	18,252	13,308	4,431	35,991
Educational Services	27,075	2,025	750	29,850
Finance and Insurance	21,711	6,747	617	29,075
Manufacturing	14,985	7,307	3,531	25,823
Wholesale Trade	12,840	6,816	1,923	21,579
Information	10,132	1,470	302	11,904
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,745	305	11	8,061
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	2,198	353	77	2,628
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	160	554	714
Utilities	393	99	52	544
Industries not classified	*	158	0	158
All industries	898,451	156,807	26,034	1,081,292

* Not reported by the Census Bureau

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



Small business exports

A total of 15,594 identified firms exported goods worth \$52.6 billion from Ohio in 2023. Of those exporters, 13,683—or 87.7 percent—were small. At \$13.4 billion, exports by small firms made up 25.5 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 47.5 percent of workers and owned 43.2 percent of businesses.

Veterans



Veterans made up 4.4 percent of workers and owned 5.9 percent of businesses.

Hispanics



Hispanics made up 3.9 percent of workers and owned 3.5 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	380,000	91.7	34,213	8.3	414,213
Male	482,000	81.5	109,119	18.5	591,119
Owned equally by both groups	20,500	56.6	15,729	43.4	36,229
Veteran	46,500	84.4	8,614	15.6	55,114
Not Veteran	833,000	84.9	147,848	15.1	980,848
Owned equally by both groups	3,400	56.7	2,600	43.3	6,000
Hispanic	32,000	91.5	2,969	8.5	34,969
Not Hispanic	850,000	84.5	155,720	15.5	1,005,720
Owned equally by both groups	700	65.2	373	34.8	1,073
Rural	206,000	86.6	31,809	13.4	237,809
Urban	647,000	82.9	132,991	17.1	779,991
American Indian and Alaska Native	5,800	*	*	*	*
Asian	33,500	78.0	9,466	22.0	42,966
Black or African American	132,000	95.9	5,611	4.1	137,611
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	850	88.9	106	11.1	956
White	724,000	83.4	143,985	16.6	867,985
Hispanic or Racial Minority	196,000	91.5	18,173	8.5	214,173
White and Not Hispanic	685,000	83.0	139,938	17.0	824,938
Owned equally by both groups	2,100	68.9	950	31.1	3,050

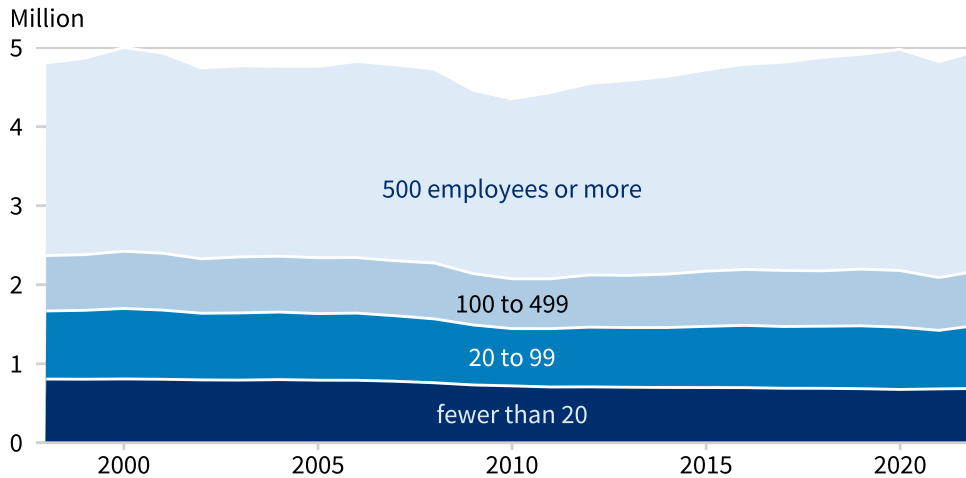
* Not available

Counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group or location type.

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

Total Ohio employment by business size

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



Ohio small businesses employed 2.2 million workers in 2022, accounting for 43.8 percent of total employment.

Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employees		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	24,222	99.1	166,974	85.5	5,492,221	79.4
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	20,682	97.2	159,229	58.8	12,263,135	52.5
Construction	20,630	99.2	174,178	82.4	12,025,187	78.2
Health Care and Social Assistance	18,952	97.8	342,936	40.0	14,706,842	29.6
Retail Trade	18,853	97.3	180,427	32.5	7,473,597	38.8
Accommodation and Food Services	17,739	98.3	288,958	61.0	5,797,960	60.8
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	11,384	96.0	134,778	31.1	6,077,512	29.5
Manufacturing	10,838	92.4	280,431	40.9	16,556,656	36.9
Wholesale Trade	8,739	92.0	121,016	52.8	8,707,711	50.0
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	8,297	98.0	44,820	66.5	2,623,290	63.0
Finance and Insurance	7,364	94.9	55,935	22.1	4,573,735	18.5
Transportation and Warehousing	6,790	94.3	70,828	30.4	3,581,423	26.5
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	3,674	98.2	47,745	63.5	1,753,708	49.5
Educational Services	2,775	97.3	60,274	54.3	2,095,841	52.5
Information	1,772	88.7	23,031	25.9	1,750,174	25.5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	714	56.6	14,121	7.5	1,213,970	6.7
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	430	91.1	4,699	51.0	318,014	43.5
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	316	99.1	1,161	94.1	43,166	88.7
Industries not classified	158	100.0	192	100.0	6,325	100.0
Utilities	151	81.2	3,296	13.9	290,220	10.7
All industries	182,841	97.6	2,175,029	43.8	107,350,687	37.6

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.