



Congressional District Small Business Profile

2026

**SOUTH
DAKOTA**



The Office of Advocacy at the Small Business Administration was created by Congress in 1976 and provides an independent voice for small business within the executive branch. Appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, Chief Counsel Casey Mulligan directs the office. Chief Counsel Mulligan advances the views, concerns, and interests of small business before Congress, the White House, federal agencies, federal courts, and state policy makers. Regional advocates and an office in Washington, DC, support his efforts.

The statutory mission of the Office of Advocacy includes examining the role of small business in the economy. The Office of Economic Research accomplishes this objective by publishing small business research products and sponsoring and disseminating small business data and statistics. This report uses the latest government data to profile the small businesses in the at-large congressional district of South Dakota. It was prepared by Research Economist Daniel Wilmoth with editorial support by Editor Akira Loring, Senior Editor M. B. Humphrey, and Director of the Office of Information David Tokarz.

This report is part of a series that shows the important roles that small businesses play in congressional districts across the nation. District 1 of Montana, located in the western part of the state, led the nation in small business share of employment, at 70.4 percent. District 12 of New York, located in Manhattan, had the most small businesses with employees, at 51,317. District 32 of California, which includes Malibu and parts of Los Angeles, had the highest self-employment rate, at 19.2 percent. Readers are invited to compare congressional districts to the [nation](#), [states](#), [rural areas](#), and [metropolitan areas](#).

The Office of Advocacy regularly releases other research products, ranging from short fact sheets that use new data to show emerging trends to lengthy reports that use sophisticated statistical techniques to explore complex issues. To learn more about small businesses, regulatory issues, and the Office of Advocacy, visit advocacy.sba.gov.

February 2026

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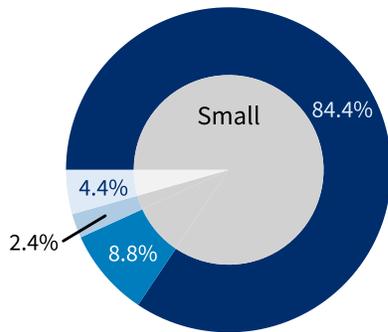
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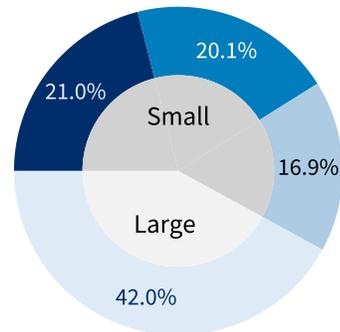
South Dakota Congressional District at Large

22,742 small businesses with employees
95.6 percent of district employers



Employers by size

216,705 employees of small businesses
58.0 percent of district employees



Employment by size

Employer size

■ Less than 20
 ■ 20 to 99
 ■ 100 to 499
 ■ 500 or more employees

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

Employer count by size and industry

Industry	1-19 employees	20-99 employees	100-499 employees	500+ employees
Construction	3,404	203	33	22
Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,627	116	29	29
Retail Trade	2,229	291	75	179
Accommodation and Food Services	1,670	410	63	62
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,784	110	40	99
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,569	278	80	62
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	1,088	75	21	74
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,106	28	19	37
Finance and Insurance	1,012	82	52	149
Transportation and Warehousing	1,050	56	25	65
Wholesale Trade	708	182	73	178
Manufacturing	606	152	75	97
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	595	66	16	8
Educational Services	199	36	16	13
Information	194	33	12	72
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	143	2	3	0
Management of Companies and Enterprises	16	27	49	40
Utilities	37	19	4	14
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	38	7	2	8
Industries not classified	31	0	0	0
All industries	20,078	2,089	575	1,046

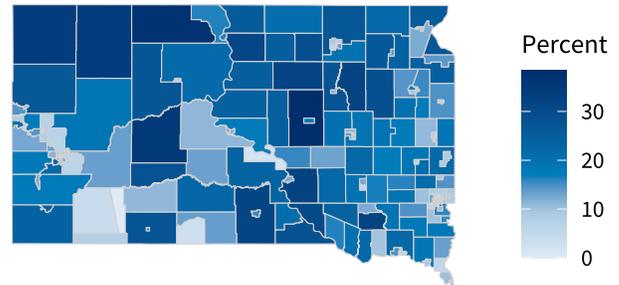
Source of original data: [Statistics of U.S. Businesses, 2022](#) (Census)

Self-employment

In 2024, 11.8 percent of private workers in the congressional district were self-employed, above the national rate of 9.9 percent. The percent of district workers who were self-employed included 4.2 percent of private workers who paid themselves through corporations they owned. The median income of the incorporated self-employed was \$71,872, while the median income of the unincorporated self-employed was \$55,627. The median income for all workers in the district was \$55,708.

Share of workers self-employed by Census tract

Source: [American Community Survey](#) (Census)



Small business employment and payroll by industry

Industry	Employers		Employees		Payroll (\$1,000s)	
	Small	%	Small	%	Small	%
Construction	3,640	99.4	21,911	90.9	1,392,646	90.7
Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,772	99.0	14,372	97.1	489,858	95.2
Retail Trade	2,595	93.5	27,281	50.8	1,009,348	55.5
Accommodation and Food Services	2,143	97.2	32,033	78.1	704,802	78.9
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,934	95.1	10,784	77.7	685,806	74.2
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,927	96.9	32,254	44.1	1,582,701	34.0
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	1,184	94.1	7,207	58.2	299,102	54.2
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,153	96.9	3,650	82.8	166,441	79.2
Finance and Insurance	1,146	88.5	9,909	39.5	743,042	37.3
Transportation and Warehousing	1,131	94.6	6,792	59.3	325,122	54.7
Wholesale Trade	963	84.4	12,311	62.6	793,233	57.9
Manufacturing	833	89.6	18,622	40.0	997,604	37.1
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	677	98.8	6,520	85.1	159,630	89.0
Educational Services	251	95.1	6,204	84.7	201,192	87.2
Information	239	76.8	3,339	56.1	174,431	49.1
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	148	100.0	415	100.0	24,607	100.0
Management of Companies and Enterprises	92	69.7	1,284	16.0	104,683	14.8
Utilities	60	81.1	1,219	42.7	104,820	36.7
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	47	85.5	557	40.7	44,862	32.4
Industries not classified	31	100.0	41	100.0	1,126	100.0
All industries	22,742	95.6	216,705	58.0	10,005,056	50.9

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 defined here as firms with fewer than 500 employees. Congressional district boundaries correspond to the 119th Congress. Statistics of U.S. Businesses are produced through a partnership between the Office of Advocacy and the Census Bureau. Where notes refer to the “source of original data,” values shown 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.

Technical Notes

Classification of businesses

A single business may encompass multiple establishments if it operates at multiple locations. A business is classified as small in these profiles if it employs fewer than 500 employees across all establishments. Classification by industry is made at the establishment level, so a business encompassing multiple establishments may participate in multiple industries. A business participating in multiple industries would be included in the total for each industry, so the sum of businesses across industries may exceed the total number of businesses. Boundaries for congressional districts correspond to the 119th Congress, which began on January 3, 2025.

Data

All data used in these profiles are publicly available and published online. Data and associated technical documentation can be accessed using the hyperlinks in the source notes for each feature. Years indicated in source notes are the years the data describe, which may not match the naming convention used by the data publisher. Where no year is listed, data from multiple years were used.

Statistics from the American Community Survey describing self-employment represent the population age 16 years and over. Self-employment rates were estimated using values from Table B24080. The total numbers of private workers used in the calculations were the numbers of “private for-profit wage and salary workers” in the table. Median incomes are from Table S2419 and include only income from labor, called “earnings” in the table. Statistics in the text are from 2024 one-year data while values shown in the maps are from 2023 five-year data.

Values were imputed for some features when published data were missing or obviously erroneous. A source note that begins “Source:” indicates that statistics in a feature are as reported by the source, with no imputation. A source note that begins “Source of original data:” indicates that the feature includes an imputed value for at least one profile.

Software

The profiles were created using R with formatting through HTML and CSS. Data visualizations were primarily created using the ggplot2 package in R. Tables were primarily created using the knitr and gt packages. Elements were combined into an HTML document using the knitr package. A PDF document was created from the HTML document using Prince XML.

Rounding

Numbers in these profiles have been rounded if they include a decimal point, with the number of digits after the decimal point indicating the precision preserved under rounding. Numbers ending in 5 were rounded up. For example, 1.05 would be rounded to 1.1, while 1.04 would be rounded to 1.0.

Contact

Any additional information that may be helpful for interpreting or reproducing the analysis is available by request. The SBA Office of Advocacy can be contacted at advocacy@sba.gov.