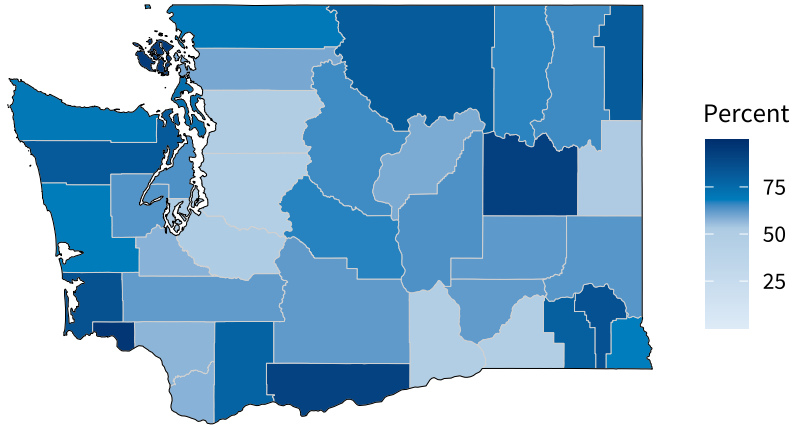


Washington

644,868 small businesses
99.5 percent of Washington businesses

1.4 million small business employees
49.0 percent of Washington employees



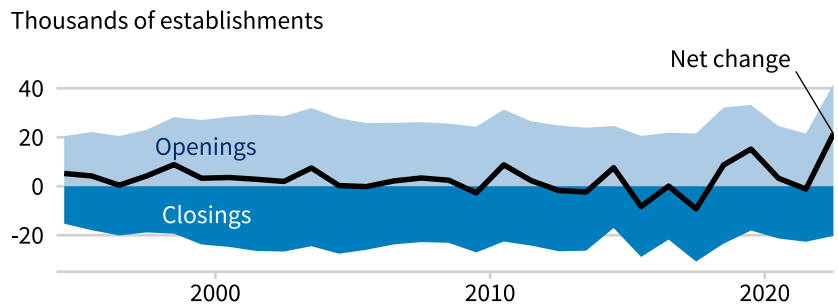
Share of employees working at small businesses by county

Source of original data: [Statistics of US Businesses](#) (Census)

Business dynamics

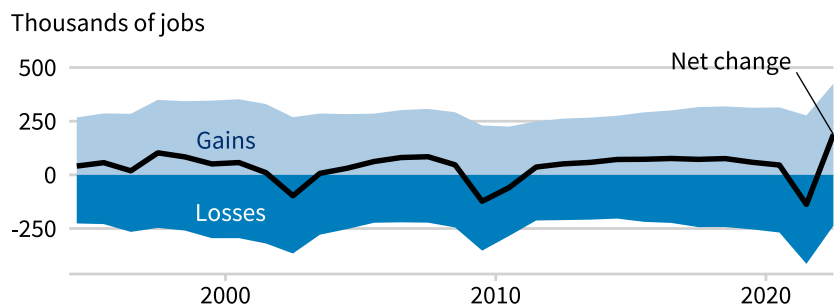
Establishments

Between March 2021 and March 2022, 41,711 Washington establishments opened and 20,297 closed, for a net increase of 21,414. Employment expanded at 60,150 establishments and contracted at 44,128. Small businesses accounted for 29,963 openings and 13,419 closings.



Employment

Opening and expanding Washington establishments added 424,524 jobs, while closing and contracting establishments lost 236,726, for a net increase of 187,798 jobs. Small businesses contributed a net increase of 161,791 jobs, or 86.2 percent of that total.



Counts include temporary closures and reopenings

Source: [Business Employment Dynamics](#) (BLS)

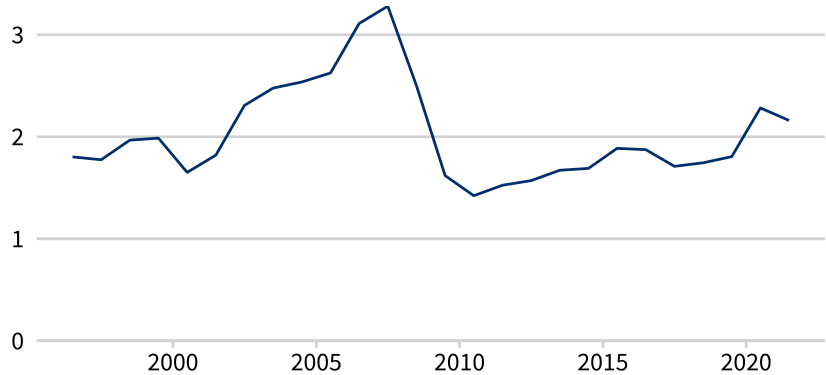
Small business loans

The Community Reinvestment Act requires large banks to report new small business loans. In 2021, reporting banks issued \$2.2 billion in loans to Washington businesses with revenues of \$1 million or less. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$100,000 or less was \$2.5 billion. Total reported new lending to businesses through loans of \$1 million or less was \$7.4 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	85,914	19,086	1,605	106,605
Transportation and Warehousing	67,394	4,220	654	72,268
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	60,103	9,600	431	70,134
Construction	34,747	22,788	1,940	59,475
Retail Trade	42,023	11,994	1,611	55,628
Other Services (except Public Administration)	39,697	14,867	1,051	55,615
Health Care and Social Assistance	34,435	15,094	1,983	51,512
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	32,339	7,941	908	41,188
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	28,239	2,411	491	31,141
Accommodation and Food Services	7,305	10,927	2,786	21,018
Educational Services	16,533	2,275	481	19,289
Finance and Insurance	11,239	4,403	376	16,018
Manufacturing	7,544	4,561	1,362	13,467
Wholesale Trade	6,348	5,053	1,280	12,681
Information	7,101	1,861	391	9,353
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	7,384	1,238	120	8,742
Utilities	322	139	24	485
Management of Companies and Enterprises	*	160	294	454
Industries not classified	*	403	0	403
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	204	83	17	304
Total	488,871	138,968	17,029	644,868

* Not reported by the Census Bureau

Sources: [Nonemployer Statistics](#), 2020 (Census); [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2020 (Census)



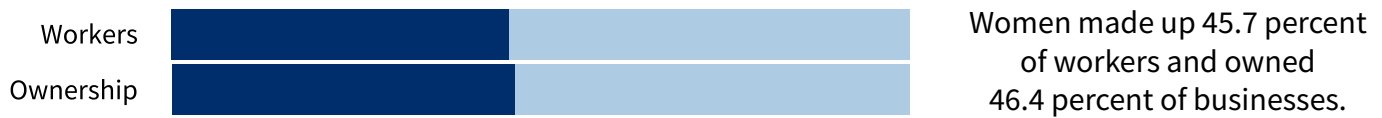
Small business exports

A total of 11,652 identified firms exported goods worth \$49.1 billion from Washington in 2021. Of those exporters, 10,412—or 89.4 percent—were small. Exports by small firms reached \$15.4 billion, making up 31.3 percent of exports by identified firms.

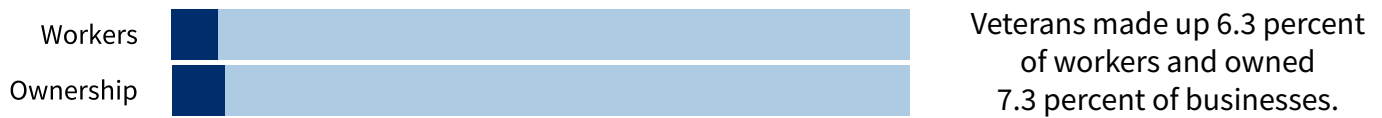
Source: [A profile of US importing and exporting companies, 2020-2021](#) (Census)

Business ownership share by demographic group

Women



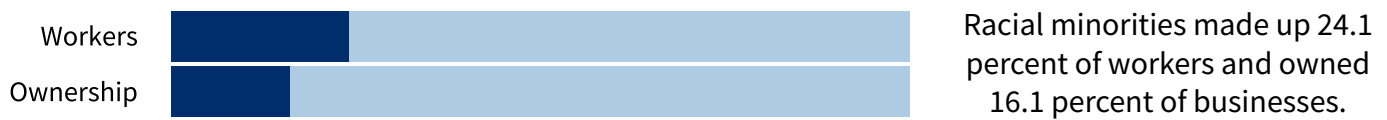
Veterans



Hispanics



Racial minorities



Ownership shares include equal and majority ownership

Sources of original data: [American Community Survey, 2019 5-Year Data \(Census\)](#); [Annual Business Survey, 2019 \(Census\)](#); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2019 \(Census\)](#)

Business count by owner demographic group

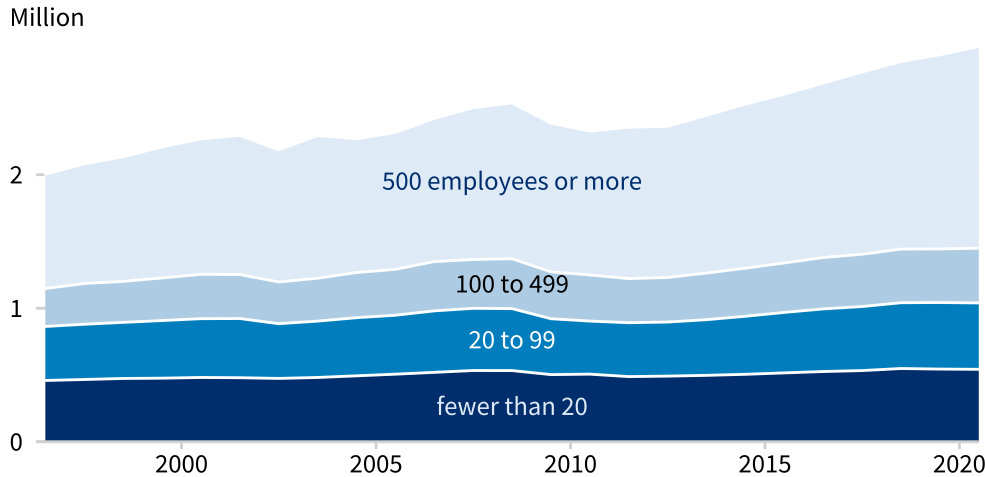
Ownership	Without employees	With employees	Total businesses
Female	215,000	32,424	247,424
Male	264,000	75,904	339,904
Owned equally by both groups	12,500	34,862	47,362
Veteran	30,500	8,349	38,849
Not Veteran	459,000	129,519	588,519
Owned equally by both groups	2,200	5,323	7,523
Hispanic	33,500	5,781	39,281
Not Hispanic	457,000	136,091	593,091
Owned equally by both groups	850	1,317	2,167
American Indian and Alaska Native	8,400	965	9,365
Asian	55,500	14,633	70,133
Black or African American	30,500	1,531	32,031
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	3,000	292	3,292
White	407,000	125,245	532,245
Hispanic or Racial Minority	123,000	23,028	146,028
White and Not Hispanic	367,000	116,580	483,580
Owned equally by both groups	2,100	3,581	5,681

Counts include only businesses classifiable by owner demographic group

Sources: [Annual Business Survey, 2019 \(Census\)](#); [Nonemployer Statistics by Demographics, 2019 \(Census\)](#)

Total Washington employment by business size

Source of original data: [Statistics of US Businesses](#) (Census)



Washington small business employment grew by 26.4 percent between 1996 and 2020, 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	24,728	99.4	178,254	82.7	11,611,307	76.1
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	20,691	97.7	131,945	58.9	11,877,241	53.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	17,077	98.4	198,942	44.6	9,215,707	35.0
Other Services (except Public Administration)	15,918	99.1	101,040	82.5	3,444,531	75.3
Accommodation and Food Services	13,713	98.5	197,038	65.7	3,888,194	64.7
Retail Trade	13,605	97.1	136,469	39.6	5,413,103	44.4
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	10,031	98.6	40,273	71.0	2,225,691	67.7
Administrative, Support, and Waste Management	8,849	96.8	77,927	47.5	3,515,782	41.2
Wholesale Trade	6,333	91.9	73,952	54.0	4,902,995	47.1
Manufacturing	5,923	93.9	107,761	40.1	5,882,424	31.1
Transportation and Warehousing	4,874	94.3	40,404	35.7	1,990,346	31.9
Finance and Insurance	4,779	93.4	35,753	31.3	3,299,444	28.1
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	2,902	98.2	42,548	62.6	908,354	50.1
Educational Services	2,756	97.6	35,429	61.9	1,109,040	62.6
Information	2,252	91.0	28,981	18.2	3,219,245	9.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1,358	99.1	11,705	79.8	644,296	81.8
Management of Companies and Enterprises	454	60.1	8,477	6.0	671,626	3.8
Industries not classified	403	100.0	492	100.0	17,792	100.0
Utilities	163	87.6	1,437	13.9	127,438	10.8
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	100	86.2	1,116	59.7	79,327	55.8
Total	155,997	97.9	1,449,943	49.0	74,043,883	36.3

Source: [Statistics of US Businesses](#), 2020 (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.