

## Georgia

Small businesses significantly impact Georgia's economy. They represent 97.7 percent of all employers and employ 44.8 percent of the private-sector labor force. Small businesses are crucial to the fiscal condition of the state and numbered 937,544 in 2010.

This profile uses the latest available data to illustrate the status of Georgia's small businesses. (Note that a small business is defined as one with fewer than 500 employees.)

- Georgia's economy was strong in 2011, with real gross state product increasing 3.9 percent and private-sector employment increasing 1.5 percent (Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics).
- Small businesses employed 1.5 million workers in 2010 (Table 1) with most of the employment coming from firms with 20-499 employees.
- The employment situation from 2007-2010 was weak, and small businesses in Georgia had a net job loss (Table 2). The unemployment rate in 2010-2011 decreased by 0.4 percent.
- Most of Georgia's small businesses are very small as 81.9 percent of all businesses have no employees, and most employers have fewer than 20 employees.
- In 2011, the number of opening establishments was lower than closing establishments, and the net employment change from this turnover was positive (Table 3).
- Self-employment in Georgia improved over the last decade. Veteran self-employment fared the best compared with other demographic groups.

### For Further Information

- Data on all states and territories are available at [www.sba.gov/advocacy/848](http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/848).
- For other small business data and analysis, visit [www.sba.gov/advocacy/847](http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/847), call (202) 205-6533, or email [advocacy@sba.gov](mailto:advocacy@sba.gov).
- Visit [www.sba.gov/updates](http://www.sba.gov/updates) to subscribe to Advocacy's Listservs.

Georgia Small Business Facts			
	2010*	2009	2000
<b>Number of Businesses</b>			
Small employers (<500 employees)	166,389	167,864	156,507
Large employers (500+ employees)	3,856	3,883	3,933
Nonemployers	771,155	750,194	468,430
<b>Level in 2007* (000)</b>			
	<b>Firms</b>		<b>Employment Receipts(\$M)</b>
<b>Business Owner Demographics</b>			
Male-owned	475	1,300	258,013
Woman-owned	278	228	34,553
Equally male/female-owned	122	179	23,625
African American-owned	184	55	5,278
Asian-owned	46	82	13,330
Hispanic-owned	33	26	4,667
Native American/Alaskan-owned	6	6	652
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander-owned	-	-	-
Veteran-owned	133	270	54,885
Publicly held, unclassified	25	1,838	575,194
	<b>Level in 2011*</b>	<b>% Change from</b>	
		<b>2010</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>Workforce (Thousands)</b>			
Private-sector employment	3,211	1.5	-4.2
Government employment	669	-1.5	12.1
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	408	-3.7	20.5
Female self-employment	132	-1.4	9.2
Male self-employment	275	-4.7	26.8
Minority self-employment	120	-6.6	54.0
Veteran self-employment	55	23.1	66.4
Unemployment Rate (Percent)	9.8	-0.4†	6.3‡
<b>Business Turnover</b>			
Quarterly establishment openings	52,788	-0.3	8.3
Quarterly establishment closings	53,005	-3.6	25.4
Business bankruptcies	2,242	-15.4	121.5
	<b>2011*</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2000</b>
<b>Income and Finance</b>			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	27.2	26.0	21.0
Number of bank branches	2,711	2,758	2,329
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	70,858	99,654	139,331
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	1,322	1,220	1,902

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Admin. Office of the U.S. Courts; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; and U.S. Small Business Admin., Office of Advocacy.

\* Latest available data. †Percentage point change. ‡Data are for CRA loans.

**Table 1: Firms and Employment in Georgia by Industry and Firm Size, 2010  
(Nonfarm, Thousands)**

Industry	Nonemployer Firms	Employer Firms			Employment		
		All Firms Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees	All Firms Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees
Total	771.2	170.2	148.5	166.4	3,315.3	568.4	1,483.9
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	5.5	0.9	0.8	0.9	7.6	4.1	7.3
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.9	0.4	2.3
Utilities	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	25.1	0.2	5.8
Construction	95.1	17.2	15.7	17.1	149.9	56.9	126.3
Manufacturing	9.0	6.8	4.7	6.2	327.0	25.0	115.1
Wholesale trade	12.2	11.1	8.6	10.4	184.1	34.7	99.7
Retail trade	57.0	21.4	19.4	20.9	428.6	74.8	141.0
Transportation and warehousing	35.6	4.7	3.7	4.3	149.8	12.4	36.9
Information	10.0	2.2	1.6	1.9	119.1	5.7	22.9
Finance and insurance	21.7	7.6	6.5	7.2	162.3	20.1	55.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	68.5	7.8	7.2	7.6	55.7	16.8	34.7
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	95.0	26.1	24.0	25.6	229.2	66.0	133.3
Management of companies and enterprises	0.0	1.1	0.2	0.6	111.5	0.5	10.5
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	89.3	10.1	8.5	9.6	305.9	29.8	101.2
Educational services	18.5	2.4	1.9	2.3	77.6	8.0	37.4
Health care and social assistance	62.5	17.9	15.4	17.6	437.9	76.3	198.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	33.3	2.5	2.1	2.5	41.3	8.1	27.3
Accommodation and food services	13.1	13.2	10.1	13.0	343.4	59.5	200.3
Other services (except public admin.)	144.1	19.1	17.6	19.0	153.8	68.9	127.5
Unclassified	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses. (See [www.sba.gov/advocacy/849/12162](http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/849/12162) for data from other years, and for starts, closures, job creation and destruction by industry and by size category.)

**Table 2: Net Job Change by Firm Size, 2007–2010 (Nonfarm)**

	Total Net New Jobs	Employment Size of Firm						
		1-4	5-9	10-19	20-99	100-499	<500	500+
2010	-78,984	14,547	-2,785	-7,389	-22,324	-7,989	-25,940	-53,044
2009	-181,251	4,030	-13,141	-18,574	-54,851	-42,453	-124,989	-56,262
2008	4,853	17,919	-1,729	-4,187	-1,896	1,189	11,296	-6,443
2007	55,594	28,201	4,147	814	2,609	-912	34,859	20,735

Note: Data source differs from previous publications.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Business Dynamic Statistics. (For more detailed data see [www.sba.gov/advocacy/849/12162](http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/849/12162).)

**Table 3: Establishment and Employment Turnover by Quarter, 2011 (Nonfarm, Thousands)**

	Establishments				Employment			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Openings	12.8	13.2	13.5	13.3	50.4	45.9	50.1	48.7
Expansions	40.9	40.7	40.6	40.3	158.8	158.2	155.5	153.0
Contractions	39.5	40.6	40.9	40.2	141.1	151.6	153.4	146.6
Closings	13.7	12.7	12.4	14.2	48.1	46.4	45.7	53.7

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics. (For more detailed data see [www.bls.gov/bdm/](http://www.bls.gov/bdm/).)

Note: These figures contain all firm sizes; Census data from 2010 show that 87 percent of establishment births and deaths were in firms with fewer than 500 employees.