

Louisiana

Small businesses totaled 392,621 in Louisiana in 2009. They represent 97.4 percent of all employers and employ 54.4 percent of the private-sector workforce. Being such a large part of the state's economy, these businesses are central to Louisiana's health and well-being.

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

- Louisiana's economy struggled in 2010, with real gross state product decreasing 1.4 percent and private-sector employment decreasing 0.9 percent (Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics).
- Most of Louisiana's small businesses are very small as 79.3 percent of all businesses did not have employees and most employers have fewer than 20 employees.
- Small businesses employed 890,873 workers in 2009 (Table 1) with most of the employment coming from firms with 20-499 employees.
- While the employment situation in 2008-2009 was weak (Table 2), small businesses in Louisiana represented all of the net new jobs from 2005-2008.
- Self-employment in Louisiana surged over the last decade. Minority self-employment fared the best compared with other demographic groups during the decade.*
- Throughout 2010, the number of opening establishments was lower than closing establishments and the net employment change from this turnover was positive (Table 3).

For Further Information

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

* Because of the relatively low number of veterans in the survey data source, the veteran self-employment figure is susceptible to large fluctuations.

Louisiana Small Business Facts

	2009*	2008	2000
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<500 employees)	79,403	80,188	79,569
Large employers (500+ employees)	2,138	2,113	2,100
Nonemployers	313,218	311,347	234,114
Level in 2007* (000)			
	Firms	Employment	Receipts(\$M)
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	189	613	112,719
Woman-owned	103	108	19,696
Equally male/female-owned	72	134	17,161
African American-owned	60	24	1,700
Asian-owned	10	20	2,295
Hispanic-owned	11	13	2,140
Native American/Alaskan-owned	3	3	560
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander-owned	0	0	8
Veteran-owned	57	145	24,774
Publicly held, unclassified	12	710	357,401
	Level in 2010*	% Change from 2009 2000	
Workforce (Thousands)			
Private-sector employment	1,518	-0.9	-1.7
Government employment	366	-0.9	-2.0
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	174	-24.3	9.7
Female self-employment	48	-43.1	-2.7
Male self-employment	126	-13.5	15.3
Minority self-employment	36	-35.0	131.0
Veteran self-employment	20	-34.5	-25.9
Unemployment Rate (Percent)	7.5	0.9†	2.5†
Business Turnover			
Quarterly establishment openings	18,127	2.2	3.5
Quarterly establishment closings	19,240	-3.0	6.4
Business bankruptcies	760	-12.5	22.8
	2010*	2009	2000
Income and Finance			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	14.5	13.2	9.7
Number of bank branches	1,650	1,633	1,476
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	45,289	85,163	59,528
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	695	965	794
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 Louisiana by Industry and Firm Size, 2009
(Nonfarm, Thousands)**

Industry	Nonemployer Firms	Employer Firms			Employment		
		Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees	Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees
Total	313.2	81.5	68.8	79.4	1,639.1	306.9	890.9
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	8.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	3.9	2.7	3.7
Mining	5.7	1.3	0.9	1.1	50.5	3.8	17.6
Utilities	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	D	0.7	2.6
Construction	40.3	8.6	7.6	8.5	133.4	32.9	84.5
Manufacturing	3.8	3.0	2.1	2.8	134.8	11.9	52.9
Wholesale trade	4.0	4.3	3.1	3.9	77.0	16.0	48.1
Retail trade	22.6	11.0	9.6	10.7	229.9	45.7	98.9
Transportation and warehousing	14.3	3.0	2.4	2.8	67.9	9.4	31.0
Information	2.8	0.7	0.4	0.6	28.0	2.0	7.2
Finance and insurance	9.6	3.9	3.4	3.8	64.2	12.1	34.7
Real estate and rental and leasing	25.4	3.5	3.2	3.4	30.6	9.6	20.1
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	35.7	10.7	9.7	10.5	89.8	33.0	68.5
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.5	0.1	0.3	17.7	D	5.7
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	33.6	3.9	3.2	3.7	105.8	13.2	50.5
Educational services	6.2	1.0	0.6	0.9	33.2	3.2	22.5
Health care and social assistance	26.7	9.9	8.1	9.7	276.6	42.7	156.2
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	12.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	24.6	4.6	14.6
Accommodation and food services	6.1	6.3	4.6	6.1	183.7	27.5	104.4
Other services (except public admin.)	55.4	9.0	8.1	8.8	75.7	35.2	67.0
Unclassified	--	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses. (See 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, 2005–2009 (Nonfarm)

	Total Net New Jobs	Employment Size of Firm						
		1-4	5-9	10-19	20-99	100-499	<500	500+
2005 - 2006	-25,196	6,665	-2,190	-1,478	-5,036	-2,825	-4,864	-20,332
2006 - 2007	53,368	20,720	8,413	8,323	14,670	4,993	57,119	-3,751
2007 - 2008	9,545	12,132	2,405	854	3,740	-783	18,348	-8,803
2008 - 2009	-16,048	10,846	-320	-152	-5,549	-11,906	-7,081	-8,967

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

Table 3: Establishment and Employment Turnover by Quarter, 2010 (Nonfarm, Thousands)

	Establishments				Employment			
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Openings	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.8	17.0	19.0	18.2	18.4
Expansions	20.8	21.1	21.2	22.8	78.1	84.8	81.0	84.9
Contractions	21.8	22.2	22.0	21.0	77.8	81.7	80.4	83.7
Closings	4.8	4.5	5.0	4.9	16.6	17.5	19.5	18.8

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

Note: These figures contain all firm sizes; Census data from 2009 show that 85 percent of establishment births and deaths were in firms with fewer than 500 employees.