

Oklahoma

Small businesses totaled 325,725 in Oklahoma in 2009. They represent 97.2 percent of all employers and employ 53.6 percent of the private-sector workforce. Being such a large part of the state's economy, these businesses are central to Oklahoma's health and well-being.

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

- Oklahoma's economy was mixed in 2010, with real gross state product increasing 1.6 percent and private-sector employment decreasing 1.3 percent (Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics).
- Most of Oklahoma's small businesses are very small as 78.0 percent of all businesses did not have employees and most employers have fewer than 20 employees.
- Small businesses employed 691,016 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 Oklahoma represented 77 percent of the net new private-sector jobs from 2005-2008.
- Self-employment in Oklahoma declined over the last decade. Female self-employment fared the best compared with other demographic groups during the decade.*
- Throughout 2010, the number of opening establishments was higher 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.

Oklahoma Small Business Facts

	2009*	2008	2000
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<500 employees)	70,256	71,313	68,291
Large employers (500+ employees)	1,987	1,997	1,865
Nonemployers	255,469	262,667	219,026
Level in 2007* (000)			
	Firms	Employment	Receipts(\$)
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	154	438	87,418
Woman-owned	84	96	12,679
Equally male/female-owned	85	106	16,465
African American-owned	10	6	473
Asian-owned	7	16	1,529
Hispanic-owned	8	9	1,415
Native American/Alaskan-owned	21	27	3,905
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander-owned	0	0	16
Veteran-owned	61	106	26,459
Publicly held, unclassified	11	582	191,468
	Level in 2010*	% Change from 2009 2000	
Workforce (Thousands)			
Private-sector employment	1,187	-1.3	-0.5
Government employment	340	0.1	18.2
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	190	1.8	-12.4
Female self-employment	80	28.0	9.5
Male self-employment	110	-11.3	-23.4
Minority self-employment	29	-31.0	2.6
Veteran self-employment	11	-53.2	-73.6
Unemployment Rate (Percent)	7.1	0.5†	4.0†
Business Turnover			
Quarterly establishment openings	15,405	-2.9	8.4
Quarterly establishment closings	15,094	-16.2	6.7
Business bankruptcies	541	6.7	-38.2
	2010*	2009	2000
Income and Finance			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	13.3	10.4	10.3
Number of bank branches	1,411	1,396	1,141
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	36,630	66,015	43,720
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	545	695	585
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 Oklahoma 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	255.5	72.2	62.2	70.3	1,290.3	257.7	691.0
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	3.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.9	0.5	0.9
Mining	13.4	2.5	2.1	2.4	43.8	7.8	20.7
Utilities	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	9.8	0.3	3.2
Construction	37.8	8.3	7.6	8.2	72.6	30.6	61.9
Manufacturing	3.7	3.4	2.4	3.2	134.6	13.8	56.4
Wholesale trade	3.5	3.7	2.6	3.4	59.9	12.9	38.2
Retail trade	23.9	8.6	7.4	8.3	173.8	34.7	70.0
Transportation and warehousing	11.1	2.2	1.8	2.0	43.7	6.3	17.3
Information	2.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	30.3	3.0	8.7
Finance and insurance	8.3	4.0	3.4	3.8	62.3	10.4	31.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	19.0	3.2	2.9	3.1	25.0	7.8	14.5
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	28.2	8.6	8.0	8.5	64.4	26.0	49.4
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.4	0.1	0.3	28.9	0.2	3.7
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	24.0	4.0	3.4	3.8	90.1	12.6	38.9
Educational services	4.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	19.0	2.2	10.2
Health care and social assistance	16.8	8.2	6.9	8.0	207.0	32.2	112.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	9.7	1.0	0.8	1.0	28.4	3.4	16.2
Accommodation and food services	3.6	5.1	3.7	4.9	133.9	21.6	80.2
Other services (except public admin.)	41.7	8.4	7.7	8.3	61.6	31.2	56.5
Unclassified	--	0.1	0.1	0.1	D	D	D

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.)

(D) Data suppressed to protect the confidentiality of individual firms.

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	59,798	11,262	3,835	4,282	10,433	10,440	40,252	19,546
2006 - 2007	26,499	12,293	1,593	1,447	3,269	2,053	20,655	5,844
2007 - 2008	24,513	11,416	876	745	4,281	7,103	24,421	92
2008 - 2009	-45,923	8,055	-1,105	-3,554	-8,078	-17,731	-22,413	-23,510

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	3.9	3.7	3.5	4.2	13.8	13.8	13.2	15.2
Expansions	16.3	17.4	17.5	17.9	52.9	60.3	60.8	60.5
Contractions	18.0	17.1	17.0	16.8	54.0	52.1	55.1	52.4
Closings	3.5	3.3	5.3	3.0	12.2	11.8	20.0	10.8

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.