WHAT IS A SMALL BUSINESS?
A small business is an independent business with fewer than 500 employees.

SMALL BUSINESSES COMPRISE:

- **ALL FIRMS** with paid employees: 99.9%
- **ALL FIRMS** exporting firms: 99.7%
- **EXPORTING FIRMS** known export value: 97.6%
- **KNOWN EXPORT VALUE** private sector employees: 32.9%
- **PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEES** private sector payroll: 47.5%
- **PRIVATE SECTOR PAYROLL**

30.2M SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE U.S.

- **20%** paid employees
- **80%** no employees

**NUMBER OF FIRMS**

- **19.2M** nonminority
- **8.0M** minority
- **273K** American Indian and Alaska Native
- **1.9M** Asian
- **2.5M** veteran
- **2.6M** Black or African American
- **3.3M** Hispanic
- **2.5M** equally male/woman owned
- **9.9M** woman owned
- **14.8M** man owned

**NET NEW JOBS**

- **66%** net new jobs

**TOTAL STARTUPS**

- **414K STARTUPS**
- **396K CLOSURES**

**BED [2000-2017]**

US CENSUS BUREAU

NES Nonemployer Statistics

BDS Business Dynamics Statistics

SBO Survey of Business Owners

SUSB Statistics of US Businesses


ITA International Trade Administration, US Department of Commerce

For even more information visit www.sba.gov/advocacy