

Maine

Maine's small businesses are key to the state's well-being. They account for a significant share of the state's economic production and hiring. This profile from the Office of Advocacy uses the latest available data to illustrate the status and contributions of Maine small businesses. (Note that a small business is defined as one with fewer than 500 employees.)

- Small businesses totaled 147,484 in the state in 2008. Of these, 33,962 were employers, and they accounted for 59.7% of private-sector jobs in the state (Table 1). Small firms made up 97.2% of the state's employers.
- Maine's real gross state product increased by 1.4% and private-sector employment decreased by 3.9% in 2009. By comparison, real GDP in the United States grew 0.7% and private-sector employment declined by 5.5%.
- Business ownership is becoming more inclusive in the state. The number of both women and minority business owners has grown. In particular, minority-owned businesses numbered 3,433 in 2007, a 34.4% increase over 2002.
- The state's small business employment has undergone major shifts in recent years (Table 2).
- The state's businesses showed signs of stability and improvement in the fourth quarter of 2009 compared to the first quarter (Table 3).

For Further Information

- Data on all states and territories is 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.

Maine Small Business Facts

	2008*	2007	2000
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<500 employees)	33,962	34,838	33,284
Large employers (500+ employees)	980	938	864
Nonemployers	113,522	118,500	98,499
	Level in 2007*	% Share in 2007	% Change 2002-2007
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	78,725	52.3	-1.2
Woman-owned	38,510	25.6	18.4
Equally male/female-owned	28,261	18.8	53.4
African American-owned	743	0.5	127.2
Asian-owned	1,143	0.8	37.2
Hispanic-owned	979	0.7	33.9
Native American/Alaskan-owned	713	0.5	4.9
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander-owned	51	0.0	75.9
Veteran-owned	15,982	10.6	n.a.
	Level in 2009*	% Change from 2008 2000	
Workforce (Thousands) /Unemployment (%)			
Private-sector employment	483	-3.9	-2.7
Government employment	100	-0.6	4.7
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	95	-2.1	-8.5
Female self-employment	31	-0.7	-11.9
Male self-employment	65	-2.8	-6.9
Minority self-employment	3	14.2	75.8
Veteran self-employment	10	-18.1	-46.4
Unemployment rate (%)	8.0	2.7†	4.7†
Business Turnover			
Quarterly establishment openings	9,088	-5.5	4.9
Quarterly establishment closings	9,958	0.7	25.7
Business bankruptcies	241	33.9	48.8
	2009*	2008	2000
Income and Finance			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	3.5	3.7	2.4
Number of bank branches	521	518	512
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	32,845	43,566	13,633
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	459	544	197
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 Maine by Industry and Firm Size, 2008
(Nonfarm, Thousands)**

Industry	Nonemployer Firms	Employer Firms			Employment		
		Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees	Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees
Total	113.5	34.9	30.7	34.0	509.1	117.1	299.0
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	9.3	0.8	0.7	0.8	3.6	1.9	3.6
Mining	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	D	D	D
Utilities	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	D	0.1	0.9
Construction	20.7	5.4	5.1	5.3	27.7	15.2	25.5
Manufacturing	2.5	1.7	1.3	1.6	58.8	6.3	27.5
Wholesale trade	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.3	19.0	4.3	12.3
Retail trade	9.7	5.0	4.3	4.7	85.0	19.9	40.8
Transportation and warehousing	3.5	1.1	0.9	1.1	15.9	3.2	8.7
Information	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.4	13.2	1.6	5.8
Finance and insurance	2.1	1.0	0.7	0.9	27.2	2.6	10.7
Real estate and rental and leasing	9.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	7.3	3.4	5.6
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	12.8	3.4	3.0	3.3	23.4	10.0	17.6
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.2	0.0	0.1	7.9	D	1.8
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	7.9	1.8	1.6	1.8	23.0	5.5	15.3
Educational services	2.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	14.5	1.6	7.4
Health care and social assistance	8.4	3.3	2.7	3.2	105.7	12.8	53.8
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	6.2	0.9	0.8	0.9	7.2	2.6	6.2
Accommodation and food services	1.6	3.5	2.9	3.5	47.7	13.9	38.1
Other services (except public admin.)	13.6	3.5	3.3	3.5	19.1	12.2	17.3
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.)

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

Table 2: Net Job Change by Firm Size, 2004–2007 (Nonfarm)

	Total Net New Jobs	Employment Size of Firm						
		1-4	5-9	10-19	20-99	100-499	<500	500+
2004 - 2005	2,519	3,682	427	-637	-140	-999	2,333	186
2005 - 2006	9,315	4,601	621	838	525	1,547	8,132	1,183
2006 - 2007	-4,851	3,651	-1,208	-1,816	-2,203	-2,442	-833	-4,018

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, 2009 (Nonfarm, Thousands)

	Establishments				Employment Change Due To:			
	Openings	Expansions	Contractions	Closings	Openings	Expansions	Contractions	Closings
Quarter 1	2.0	6.7	9.2	2.6	7.3	23.6	33.6	8.5
Quarter 2	2.2	7.6	8.5	2.7	8.5	28.8	31.2	8.4
Quarter 3	2.3	7.5	8.1	2.4	8.5	27.4	29.1	7.6
Quarter 4	2.5	7.5	8.3	2.3	8.6	26.8	29.9	7.9

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

Note: These figures contain all firm sizes; Census data from 2007 show that 86 percent of establishment births and deaths were in firms with fewer than 500 employees.