

Idaho

Small businesses totaled 143,348 in Idaho in 2009. They represent 96.9 percent of all employers and employ 57.4 percent of the private-sector workforce. Being such a large part of the state's economy, these businesses are central to Idaho's health and well-being.

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

- Idaho's economy struggled in 2010, with real gross state product decreasing 3.0 percent and private-sector employment decreasing 1.3 percent (Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics).
- Most of Idaho's small businesses are very small as 74.1 percent of all businesses did not have employees and most employers have fewer than 20 employees.
- Small businesses employed 287,006 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 Idaho represented all of the net new jobs from 2005-2008.
- Self-employment in Idaho 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 negative (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.

Idaho Small Business Facts

	2009*	2008	2000
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<500 employees)	36,319	38,203	31,197
Large employers (500+ employees)	1,163	1,165	984
Nonemployers	107,029	110,461	84,378
Level in 2007* (000)			
	Firms	Employment	Receipts(\$M)
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	61	197	34,223
Woman-owned	36	33	3,459
Equally male/female-owned	49	85	10,381
African American-owned	0	0	33
Asian-owned	1	3	457
Hispanic-owned	4	4	367
Native American/Alaskan-owned	1	1	171
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander-owned	--	--	--
Veteran-owned	26	52	8,527
Publicly held, unclassified	5	258	71,347
	Level in 2010*	% Change from 2009 2000	
Workforce (Thousands)			
Private-sector employment	484	-1.3	7.3
Government employment	119	-0.4	9.4
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	107	-11.7	26.2
Female self-employment	43	-12.7	26.4
Male self-employment	63	-11.1	26.1
Minority self-employment	5	-50.4	37.6
Veteran self-employment	10	1.5	-26.8
Unemployment Rate (Percent)	9.3	1.6†	4.7†
Business Turnover			
Quarterly establishment openings	10,932	0.6	19.6
Quarterly establishment closings	11,677	-8.7	36.5
Business bankruptcies	351	-7.9	30.5
	2010*	2009	2000
Income and Finance			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	5.5	4.8	3.9
Number of bank branches	541	543	448
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	31,039	35,858	16,323
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	520	550	217
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 Idaho 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	107.0	37.5	32.8	36.3	500.2	123.9	287.0
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	2.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	3.0	1.3	3.0
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.4	0.3	1.5
Utilities	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.6	0.3	0.7
Construction	14.4	6.9	6.6	6.9	32.8	19.8	31.9
Manufacturing	2.3	1.7	1.3	1.6	55.3	6.6	23.4
Wholesale trade	1.8	1.6	1.1	1.4	24.1	4.5	15.8
Retail trade	11.7	4.2	3.4	3.9	74.3	16.4	35.1
Transportation and warehousing	4.1	1.5	1.3	1.4	16.9	3.9	9.9
Information	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	13.5	1.3	4.2
Finance and insurance	3.6	1.6	1.3	1.5	21.4	3.8	9.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	11.7	1.9	1.8	1.9	7.1	3.9	5.8
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	13.3	4.0	3.6	3.9	31.4	11.2	18.6
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.2	0.0	0.1	7.8	D	1.8
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	7.2	2.0	1.7	1.9	37.3	5.6	15.3
Educational services	2.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	9.8	1.4	4.3
Health care and social assistance	9.3	4.1	3.5	4.0	78.5	16.6	47.7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	4.5	0.7	0.6	0.7	8.7	2.2	6.3
Accommodation and food services	1.4	2.8	2.3	2.7	53.3	13.7	35.8
Other services (except public admin.)	15.4	3.1	2.9	3.1	18.9	10.9	16.4
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	26,508	9,646	3,348	3,154	5,527	962	22,637	3,871
2006 - 2007	914	8,770	1,171	143	596	-1,376	9,304	-8,390
2007 - 2008	-6,648	3,817	-1,456	-2,067	-4,176	-779	-4,661	-1,987
2008 - 2009	-37,493	-129	-4,988	-5,587	-10,795	-5,203	-26,702	-10,791

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	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.9	6.9	7.4	9.5	8.4
Expansions	8.4	8.6	8.8	8.8	28.7	28.8	29.7	32.2
Contractions	9.4	9.3	8.8	9.0	31.0	31.3	27.2	29.5
Closings	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8	7.6	8.6	7.9	8.4

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.