

Mississippi

Small businesses totaled 229,518 in Mississippi in 2009. They represent 96.5 percent of all employers and employ 49.4 percent of the private-sector workforce. Being such a large part of the state's economy, these businesses are central to Mississippi's health and well-being.

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

- Mississippi's economy struggled in 2010, with real gross state product decreasing 0.4 percent and private-sector employment decreasing 0.7 percent (Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics).
- Most of Mississippi's small businesses are very small as 80.0 percent of all businesses did not have employees and most employers have fewer than 20 employees.
- Small businesses employed 446,555 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 Mississippi represented all of the net new jobs from 2005-2008.
- Self-employment in Mississippi declined 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.

Mississippi Small Business Facts

	2009*	2008	2000
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<500 employees)	44,518	45,875	46,753
Large employers (500+ employees)	1,619	1,614	1,581
Nonemployers	185,000	185,926	134,853
Level in 2007* (000)			
	Firms	Employment	Receipts(\$)
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	122	363	65,016
Woman-owned	61	57	7,325
Equally male/female-owned	36	53	6,925
African American-owned	41	11	874
Asian-owned	4	12	1,242
Hispanic-owned	2	3	252
Native American/Alaskan-owned	1	1	137
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander-owned	0	--	--
Veteran-owned	38	90	16,223
Publicly held, unclassified	7	409	112,762
	Level in 2010*	% Change from 2009 2000	
Workforce (Thousands)			
Private-sector employment	841	-0.7	-8.6
Government employment	249	-0.3	6.5
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	116	-1.9	-27.2
Female self-employment	29	-23.6	-31.9
Male self-employment	87	8.5	-25.4
Minority self-employment	24	-14.5	-10.5
Veteran self-employment	11	-37.8	-51.2
Unemployment Rate (Percent)	10.4	0.8†	4.7†
Business Turnover			
Quarterly establishment openings	9,020	-3.7	-6.6
Quarterly establishment closings	9,514	-11.9	-1.7
Business bankruptcies	465	-3.9	129.1
	2010*	2009	2000
Income and Finance			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	7.6	7.0	5.6
Number of bank branches	1,209	1,199	1,102
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000‡	58,021	45,699	58,619
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)‡	821	644	1,034
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 Mississippi 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	185.0	46.1	39.2	44.5	904.0	171.6	446.6
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	4.0	0.7	0.6	0.7	4.2	3.0	3.9
Mining	1.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	5.3	1.0	3.0
Utilities	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	9.3	1.2	4.4
Construction	29.6	4.5	4.0	4.5	46.5	16.8	39.1
Manufacturing	2.3	2.1	1.3	1.9	149.4	7.6	46.0
Wholesale trade	2.7	2.3	1.6	2.1	35.1	7.9	23.9
Retail trade	15.7	7.7	6.7	7.4	137.7	30.0	60.2
Transportation and warehousing	9.3	1.8	1.4	1.6	34.0	5.8	14.0
Information	1.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	14.1	1.5	4.1
Finance and insurance	6.3	2.4	2.0	2.2	35.1	6.5	17.5
Real estate and rental and leasing	11.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	10.4	4.8	7.9
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	16.6	4.3	3.9	4.2	32.6	13.8	25.3
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.2	0.0	0.2	7.6	D	2.5
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	20.9	1.9	1.6	1.8	46.3	6.4	21.9
Educational services	3.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	17.4	1.5	9.9
Health care and social assistance	16.5	4.8	4.0	4.7	154.2	21.5	67.1
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	5.3	0.6	0.6	0.6	8.2	2.5	6.4
Accommodation and food services	3.1	3.5	2.6	3.4	116.6	15.9	51.5
Other services (except public admin.)	33.9	6.2	5.7	6.1	40.0	23.8	37.7
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	11,423	6,177	1,723	1,032	2,647	1,005	12,584	-1,161
2006 - 2007	-3,003	9,006	1,462	1,509	-2,235	-7,828	1,914	-4,917
2007 - 2008	5,223	5,472	487	-1,224	-1,365	1,703	5,073	150
2008 - 2009	-42,280	5,561	-2,624	-4,086	-11,908	-10,628	-23,685	-18,595

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	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.5	8.9	11.2	9.9	11.1
Expansions	12.0	12.1	12.3	12.6	41.5	44.6	45.4	45.6
Contractions	12.7	12.6	12.2	12.2	42.4	44.7	45.6	43.9
Closings	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.3	7.5	8.6	11.9	10.7

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.