

Colorado

563,917 Small Businesses

123,435 Small Businesses with Employees

440,482 Small Businesses without Employees (Nonemployers)

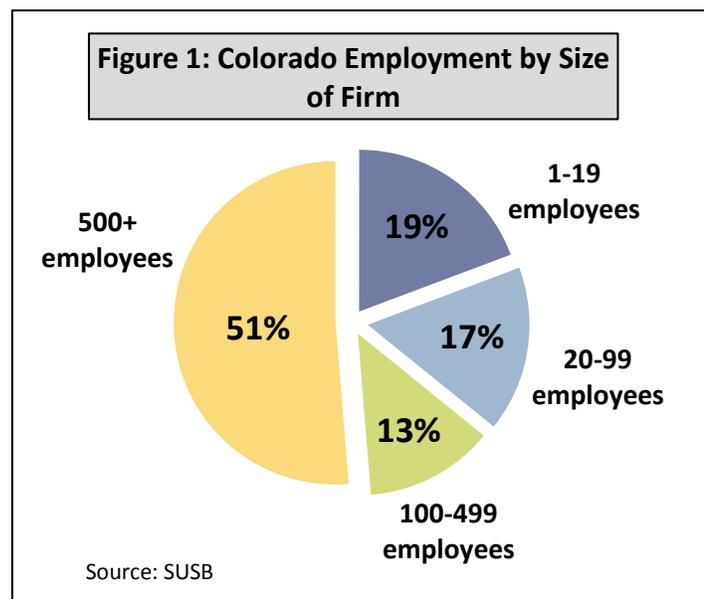
991,542 Workers Employed by Small Businesses

State Economy Overall

- Colorado's economy grew at a faster rate than the United States in 2013. Colorado's real gross state product increased by **3.8 percent** compared to **2.2 percent** for U.S. gross domestic product. (Source: BEA)
- The employment picture in Colorado has improved. The unemployment rate in Colorado declined from **6.5 percent** in October 2013 to **4.3 percent** in October 2014. This is below the national average of **5.8 percent** for the same time period. (Source: BLS)

Employment

- Colorado's small businesses employed about half or **991,542** of the state's private workforce in 2012. (Source: SUSB)
- Almost all firms with employees are small. They make up **97.6 percent** of all employers in the state. (Source: SUSB)
- Firms with fewer than 100 employees have the largest share of small business employment. **Figure 1** offers further detail.
- In Colorado, small businesses created **44,285** net new jobs in 2012. The biggest gain was in the smallest firm size category of 1-4 employees. (Source: BDS)
- The number of people who were primarily self-employed in 2013 increased by **1.5 percent** relative to the previous year.
- The state's private-sector employment growth increased by **2.5 percent** over the 12-month period ending in October 2014; this was above the national average growth rate of **2.3 percent**. (Source: BLS)



The *Small Business State and Territory Profiles* report on the economic status of small business from 2007 to 2014. They include information on the number of firms, employment, demographics and other topics using the most recently available government data. They are a reference tool for researchers, policymakers, and small entities who are interested in how small firms are performing regionally or nationally. *Note that this report defines small businesses as firms with fewer than 500 employees.*

Income and Finance

- The number of banks reported in the Call Reports between June 2013 and June 2014 declined. (Source: FDIC)
- In 2012, **117,165** loans under \$100,000 (and valued at **\$1.4 billion**) were issued by Community Reinvestment Act lending institutions in Colorado. (Source: FFIEC)
- The median income for individuals who are self-employed at their own incorporated businesses for the past 12 months was **\$49,222** in 2013. For individuals self-employed at their own unincorporated firms, this figure was **\$22,258**. (Source: ACS)

Note: Median income represents earnings from all sources. Unincorporated self-employment income includes unpaid family workers, a very small percent of the unincorporated self-employed.

Business Owner Demographics

- Table 1** shows the top industry for nine business owner demographics. For example, **30.6 percent** of female-owned businesses were in the professional, scientific, and technical services industry, and female-owned firms made up **17.8 percent** of this industry.

Table 1: Top Industry by Demographic Group in Colorado, 2007

Demographic Group of Business Owners	Most Common Industry	% of Industry in Demographic Group	% of Demographic Group in Industry
Female	Prof., sci., & tech. services	30.6	17.8
Male	Construction	69.8	19.3
American Indian and Alaska Native	Other services	1.5	17.2
Asian	Other services	7.8	27.6
Black or African American	Other services	2.6	14.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	Construction	0.3	35.4
White	Prof., sci., & tech. services	93.7	17.6
Hispanic	Construction	9.9	21.4
Veteran	Prof., sci., & tech. services	10.1	19.4

For more detailed information on businesses in your state, see www.sba.gov/advocacy/847/841921.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners via American FactFinder.

- Figures **2a** and **2b** show the demographic makeup of the self-employed in four demographic groups. For example, **Figure 2a** shows that **9.9 percent** of females were self-employed, and **Figure 2b** shows that **41.9 percent** of all self-employed people were female.

Figure 2a: What percent of each demographic group are self-employed in Colorado?

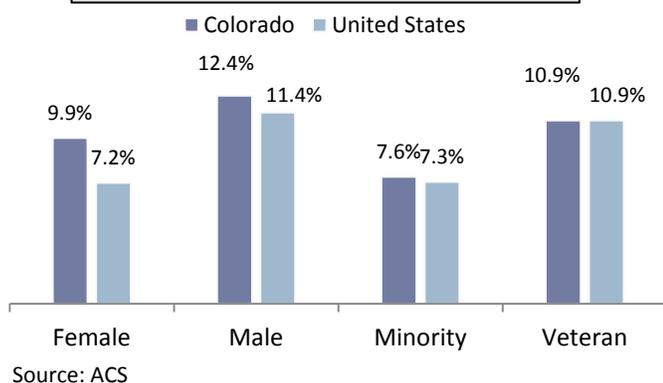
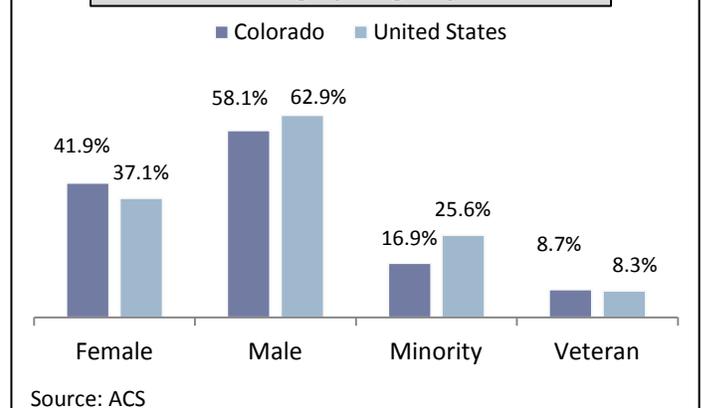


Figure 2b: What percent of self-employed individuals in Colorado are in each demographic group?



Business Turnover

- In 2010, **11,438** establishments opened in Colorado, and **65.8 percent** survived through 2012. In 2013, **13,881** establishments opened, and **79.2 percent** survived through 2014. (Source: BLS, BED)
- In the 1st quarter of 2014, **8,416** establishments opened and **8,949** closed in the state of Colorado. (Source: BED)
- Business bankruptcies declined from 2010 to 2014, signaling a stronger state economy. (Source: U.S. Courts)

International Trade

- A total of **5,580** companies exported goods from the state in 2012. Of these, **4,900** or **87.8 percent** were small firms; they generated about a third (**31.8 percent**) of the state's total known export value. (Source: ITA)

Small Businesses and Employment by Industry

- **Table 2** ranks the state's industries by the number of small employer firms. For comparison, the three most common industries for small employer firms across the United States are professional, scientific, and technical services; other services (except public administration); and retail trade.

Industry	Employer Firms With 1-499 Employees	Employer Firms With 1-19 Employees	Nonemployer Firms	Total Small Firms
Professional, scientific, & tech. svcs.	22,182	20,853	77,612	99,794
Construction	15,404	14,404	48,796	64,200
Health care & social assistance	12,212	10,908	32,407	44,619
Other services (except public admin.)	11,785	10,924	54,525	66,310
Retail trade	11,678	10,692	35,955	47,633
Accommodation & food services	9,385	7,220	5,111	14,496
Real estate & rental & leasing	7,678	7,335	55,872	63,550
Admin., supp., waste mgt., remed. svcs.	7,160	6,397	32,192	39,352
Finance & insurance	5,692	5,281	16,090	21,782
Wholesale trade	5,510	4,591	6,991	12,501
Manufacturing	4,452	3,648	7,324	11,776
Transportation & warehousing	2,723	2,371	13,820	16,543
Arts, entertainment, & recreation	2,292	2,019	25,483	27,775
Educational services	2,147	1,811	12,748	14,895
Information	1,663	1,403	7,256	8,919
Mining, quarrying, and oil & gas extrac.	1,122	961	3,998	5,120
Management of comp. & enterprises	394	96	*	394
Forestry, etc. & agriculture support	312	301	3,980	4,292
Utilities	192	151	322	514
Unclassified	101	101	*	101
Total	123,435	111,396	440,482	563,917

Source: SUSB and Nonemployer Statistics. *Data for nonemployers not collected in these two categories.

See www.sba.gov/advocacy/additional-data-state-profiles for more detailed data.

- **Table 3** shows small firm employment by industry. The three Colorado industries with the most small business employment were: accommodation and food services; health care and social assistance; and professional, scientific, and technical services (**Table 3**).

**Table 3: Employment in Colorado by Industry and Firm Size, 2012
(ranked by small firm employment)**

Industry	Employment		Small Firm % of Industry Employment
	Small Firms	Total Firms	
Accommodation & food services	147,734	244,653	60.4
Health care & social assistance	136,166	264,818	51.4
Professional, scientific, & tech. svcs.	102,401	177,810	57.6
Construction	93,094	115,908	80.3
Retail trade	87,615	244,702	35.8
Other services (except public admin.)	79,654	97,813	81.4
Admin., supp., waste mgt., remed. svcs.	67,683	218,357	31.0
Manufacturing	59,019	120,250	49.1
Wholesale trade	46,978	91,414	51.4
Finance & insurance	31,332	96,889	32.3
Real estate & rental & leasing	26,732	39,878	67.0
Arts, entertainment, & recreation	25,457	47,615	53.5
Educational services	25,172	45,416	55.4
Transportation & warehousing	20,164	60,750	33.2
Information	17,818	80,030	22.3
Mining, quarrying, and oil & gas extraction	12,218	28,958	42.2
Management of comp. & enterprises	7,915	50,015	15.8
Utilities	2,822	8,911	31.7
Forestry, etc. & agriculture support	1,473	1,521	96.8
Unclassified	D	D	D
Total	991,542	2,035,803	48.7

Source: SUSB. (D) indicates data suppressed to protect the confidentiality of individual firms.

For more detailed information on businesses in your state, see www.sba.gov/advocacy/847/841921.

Abbreviations and Resources

ACS	American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov/acs .
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, www.bea.gov .
BED	Business Employment Dynamics, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov/bdm .
BDS	Business Dynamics Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov/ces/dataproducts/bds .
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, www.bls.gov .
CEA	Council of Economic Advisers, www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/cea .
FDIC	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, www.fdic.gov .
FFIEC	Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, www.ffiec.gov .
ITA	International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, www.trade.gov .
Nonemployer Statistics	Nonemployer Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov/econ/nonemployer .
SUSB	Statistics of U.S. Businesses, U.S. Census Bureau, www.census.gov/econ/susb .
U.S. Courts	Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, www.uscourts.gov .