

Bureau of the Census **Statistical Brief**

Black-Owned Businesses: Strongest in Services

Black-owned firms grew 46 percent between 1987 and 1992.

The number of Black-owned businesses increased from 424,165 to 620,912—growing more than U.S. businesses as a whole. The number of all businesses increased by 26 percent, from 13.7 million to 17.3 million.

Receipts for Black-owned firms grew at about the same rate as for all businesses. Black-owned business receipts increased from \$19.8 billion to \$32.2 billion (63 percent). Receipts for all businesses increased from \$1,995 billion to \$3,324 billion (67 percent). Receipts reported by Black-owned businesses were about 1 percent of the total receipts for all firms in 1992, unchanged from 1987.

Average receipts for Black-owned businesses were less than for all U.S. firms.

Receipts for Black-owned firms averaged \$52,000 per firm, compared with \$193,000 for all U.S. firms. Fifty-six percent of Black-owned firms had receipts under \$10,000. Less than 1 percent had receipts of \$1 million or more. These firms sell

less partly because they are in the service industries where average receipts are generally less. In contrast, 45 percent of all U.S. firms had receipts under \$10,000 and 2 percent had receipts of a million or more.

Service industries dominate.

In 1992, 54 percent of Black-owned firms were in industries that provide services to individuals, businesses, and others. These firms accounted for 34 percent of all Black-owned business receipts.

Business services (such as advertising firms and employment agencies) and personal services (such as dry cleaners and beauty shops) accounted for 47 percent of the total number of

Black-owned service industry firms and 35 percent of their receipts.

More information:

1992 Black-Owned Businesses (MB92-1)

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These data were collected as part of the 1992 Economic Census from a large sample of all nonfarm businesses filing tax forms as sole proprietorships, partnerships, or subchapter S corporations and with receipts of \$500 or more in 1992.

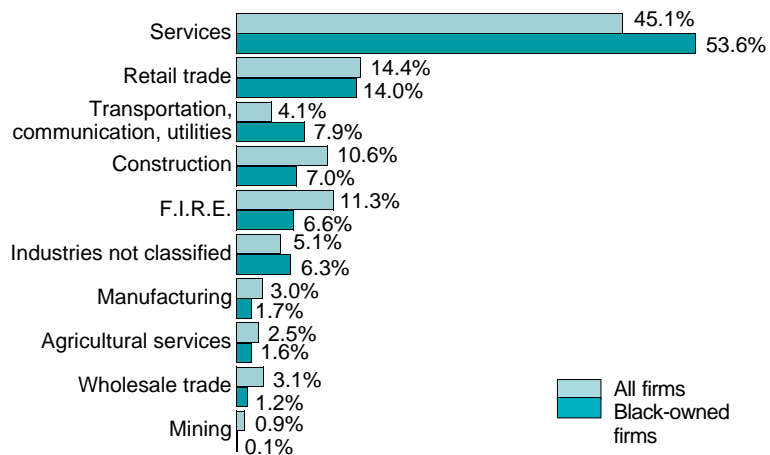


SB/96-3
Issued August 1996

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

More Than Half Are Services

Percent distribution of all firms and Black-owned firms by industry group: 1992



Note: F.I.R.E. Finance, insurance, and real estate.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Top 50 Metro Areas in Number of Black-Owned Firms

Number of firms and total receipts for all firms and Black-owned firms: 1992
(1992 population rank is in parentheses)

Metropolitan area	Number of firms		Receipts (mil. dol.)		Percent Black of total	
	Black-owned firms	All firms	Black-owned firms	All firms	Firms	Receipts
New York, NY (2)	39,404	533,831	1,692	204,759	7.4	0.8
Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV (6)	37,988	318,452	1,707	57,317	11.9	3.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach, CA (1)	32,645	667,299	3,618	148,194	4.9	2.4
Chicago, IL (3)	24,644	473,100	1,602	144,845	5.2	1.1
Atlanta, GA (9)	23,488	238,198	1,049	49,145	9.9	2.1
Houston, TX (7)	18,840	261,102	832	73,126	7.2	1.1
Philadelphia, PA-NJ (4)	13,956	299,705	1,110	84,720	4.7	1.3
Detroit, MI (5)	13,910	233,601	947	63,056	6.0	1.5
Baltimore, MD (17)	12,492	147,926	496	29,179	8.4	1.7
Dallas, TX (10)	11,395	236,920	865	52,504	4.8	1.6
Miami, FL (22)	10,387	161,642	800	35,733	6.4	2.2
Oakland, CA (19)	9,038	163,130	416	26,888	5.5	1.5
New Orleans, LA (34)	7,850	76,517	381	13,157	10.3	2.9
Newark, NJ (23)	7,806	128,795	399	33,053	6.1	1.2
Norfolk-Virginia Beach-Newport News, VA-NC (28)	7,441	71,598	203	13,222	10.4	1.5
St. Louis, MO-IL (15)	7,321	149,927	245	33,113	4.9	0.7
Fort Lauderdale, FL (35)	7,148	112,930	259	21,599	6.3	1.2
Memphis, TN-AR-MS (39)	7,139	55,153	229	13,417	12.9	1.7
Cleveland-Lorain-Elyria, OH (18)	6,878	133,245	419	29,885	5.2	1.4
Nassau-Suffolk, NY (11)	5,922	225,417	322	60,039	2.6	0.5
Richmond-Petersburg, VA (42)	5,752	52,003	227	13,237	11.1	1.7
Riverside-San Bernardino, CA (12)	5,611	163,306	192	20,963	3.4	0.9
Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC (44)	5,601	67,070	174	10,781	8.4	1.6
Boston, MA-NH (8)	5,036	255,204	307	65,434	2.0	0.5
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC (37)	4,882	78,474	169	16,695	6.2	1.0
Greensboro-Winston-Salem-High Point, NC (38)	4,742	76,617	154	15,256	6.2	1.0
Columbus, OH (32)	4,268	98,341	228	18,498	4.3	1.2
Indianapolis, IN (30)	3,990	100,220	390	25,085	4.0	1.6
Kansas City, MO-KS (26)	3,966	113,926	169	23,220	3.5	0.7
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (20)	3,943	144,642	164	24,433	2.7	0.7
Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN (27)	3,928	96,496	155	20,848	4.1	0.7
Nashville, TN (40)	3,866	81,943	184	17,832	4.7	1.0
San Diego, CA (14)	3,819	186,804	164	28,938	2.0	0.6
San Francisco, CA (25)	3,779	166,373	382	36,451	2.3	1.0
Jackson, MS (50)	3,757	24,841	126	4,019	15.1	3.1
Fort Worth-Arlington, TX (31)	3,542	103,227	108	16,335	3.4	0.7
Orlando, FL (36)	3,536	96,046	242	16,296	3.7	1.5
Birmingham, AL (45)	3,375	49,145	111	13,584	6.9	0.8
Denver, CO (24)	3,293	156,844	252	27,933	2.1	0.9
Columbia, SC (48)	3,265	29,341	181	5,530	11.1	3.3
Baton Rouge, LA (46)	3,024	31,066	100	5,031	9.7	2.0
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA (21)	2,884	175,550	180	37,741	1.6	0.5
Jacksonville, FL (41)	2,863	54,513	124	10,380	5.3	1.2
Charleston-North Charleston, SC (47)	2,785	29,060	85	3,667	9.6	2.3
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, FL (43)	2,765	82,190	137	15,347	3.4	0.9
Sacramento, CA (33)	2,734	105,050	87	13,816	2.6	0.6
Milwaukee-Waukesha, WI (29)	2,684	76,783	293	19,823	3.5	1.5
Pittsburgh, PA (16)	2,678	136,479	152	32,454	2.0	0.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI (13)	2,644	213,357	268	48,168	1.2	0.6
Augusta-Aiken, GA-SC (49)	2,563	21,321	98	3,055	12.0	3.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.