

## Colorado

Colorado's 532,106 small businesses provide economic opportunities to diverse groups of people and bring innovative products and services to the marketplace.\* This profile from the Office of Advocacy compiles the latest facts and figures on the status and role of small business in the state. (Note that a small business is defined here as one with fewer than 500 employees.)

- Colorado had 126,951 small employers in 2006, representing 97.8% of the state's employers and 51.7% of its private-sector employment.
- The construction industry was the state's largest small business employer in 2006; retail trade was the largest overall employer (Table 1).
- Small businesses created 99.7% of the state's net new jobs from 2004 to 2005 (Table 2).
- Colorado's real gross state product increased by 2.0% in 2007. By comparison, growth in the Rocky Mountain region was 2.9% and the United States, 2.0%. (Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce: Bureau of Economic Analysis)

### For Further Information

- Data on all the states and territories is available at [www.sba.gov/advo/research/profiles](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/profiles).
- For other small business data and analysis, visit [www.sba.gov/advo/research](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research), call (202) 205-6533, or email [advocacy@sba.gov](mailto:advocacy@sba.gov).
- To learn about state efforts to adopt or implement regulatory flexibility, visit [www.sba.gov/advo/laws/law\\_modeleg.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/laws/law_modeleg.html).
- Visit <http://web.sba.gov/list> to subscribe to listservs for Advocacy's newsletter, press releases, regulatory news and research reports.
- Visit [www.sba.gov/advo/rsslibrary.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/rsslibrary.html) for RSS feeds.

\* The number of small businesses is the number of small employers plus the number of nonemployers in 2006.

### Colorado Small Business Facts

	Level in 2006†	% Change from 2005 2000	
<b>Number of Businesses</b>			
Small employers (<500 employees)	126,951	1.7	12.0
Large employers (500+ employees)	2,910	2.5	0.5
Nonemployers	405,155	1.0	21.5
	Level in 2002†	% Change from 1997	
<b>Business Owner Demographics</b>			
Male-owned	253,266	22.7	
Woman-owned	135,220	17.8	
Equally male/female-owned	63,149	-19.6	
African American-owned	7,066	43.4	
Asian-owned	10,910	24.9	
Hispanic-owned	24,054	15.3	
Native American/Alaskan-owned	3,931	NA	
Hawaiian and Pacific Islander-owned	391	32.1	
	Level in 2007†	% Change from 2006 2000	
<b>Workforce (Thousands) /Unemployment (%)</b>			
Private-sector employment	1,955	2.3	4.2
Government employment	375	2.1	11.2
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	366	8.0	21.8
Female self-employment	140	5.9	22.0
Male self-employment	226	9.4	21.6
Minority self-employment	19	-6.7	50.3
Veteran self-employment	44	14.9	20.7
Unemployment rate (%)	3.8	-0.5	1.1
<b>Business Turnover</b>			
Quarterly establishment openings	38,445	4.3	19.5
Quarterly establishment closings	35,939	7.4	30.0
Business bankruptcies	645	48.3	-40.7
<b>Income and Finance</b>			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	24.1	-2.2	57.6
Bank branches	1,612	4.7	27.4
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000	40,603	-10.3	NA
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)	856	3.0	NA

Sources: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Summary of Deposits; and U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy ([www.sba.gov/advo/research/lending.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/lending.html)).

† Latest available data; certain figures are economywide.

**Table 1. Firms and Employment in Colorado by Industry and Firm Size, 2006  
(Non-farm, thousands)**

Industry	Nonemployer firms	Employer firms			Employment		
		Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees	Total	1-19 Employees	1-499 Employees
Total	405.2	129.9	114.5	127.0	2,019.1	409.0	1,044.6
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	3.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.3	(D)	(D)
Mining	2.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	19.6	2.9	8.4
Utilities	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	8.0	(D)	(D)
Construction	51.9	19.6	17.9	19.5	167.5	59.4	141.4
Manufacturing	6.4	5.0	3.9	4.8	134.6	19.0	65.7
Wholesale trade	6.8	6.3	4.9	5.8	100.0	19.1	54.0
Retail trade	35.7	13.1	11.5	12.6	257.0	48.2	96.4
Transportation and warehousing	12.9	3.0	2.4	2.7	61.2	7.4	21.0
Information	6.9	2.0	1.6	1.8	80.0	5.9	19.4
Finance and insurance	18.8	6.7	6.0	6.4	107.4	15.2	36.8
Real estate and rental and leasing	55.0	8.7	8.2	8.5	47.9	18.7	31.6
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	67.9	21.3	19.6	20.9	164.1	52.1	102.0
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.6	0.1	0.4	45.4	0.3	6.4
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	25.0	7.2	6.2	6.9	187.2	21.5	68.1
Educational services	9.9	1.9	1.6	1.8	37.3	(D)	(D)
Health care and social assistance	29.2	11.0	9.6	10.9	229.7	42.3	125.3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	20.3	2.3	1.9	2.2	46.0	6.5	26.1
Accommodation and food services	4.6	9.1	6.9	8.9	229.5	41.4	138.9
Other services (except public admin.)	47.3	11.7	10.7	11.6	95.1	41.7	78.2
Unclassified	--	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	(D)	0.4

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses. (See [www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html) 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, 2002–2005 (Non-farm)**

	Total	Employment size of firm						
		1-4	5-9	10-19	20-99	100-499	<500	500+
2004 - 2005	26,864	17,788	2,304	2,639	-167	4,215	26,779	85
2003 - 2004	20,603	19,258	5,496	2,220	704	-2,232	25,446	-4,843
2002 - 2003	-27,281	17,743	1,571	8	-6,342	-10,220	2,760	-30,041

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. (For more detailed data see [www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html](http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/data.html).)

**Table 3: Establishment and Employment Turnover by Quarter, 2007 (Non-farm, thousands)**

	Establishments				Employment			
	Openings	Expansions	Contractions	Closings	Openings	Expansions	Contractions	Closings
Quarter 4	11.1	32.0	31.5	8.7	31.2	116.0	115.2	26.7
Quarter 3	9.4	31.4	31.5	9.0	32.3	115.7	115.3	29.5
Quarter 2	9.0	32.3	30.9	8.7	29.3	121.2	110.1	25.8
Quarter 1	9.0	32.2	30.5	9.6	31.0	115.7	106.6	25.2

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

Note: The establishment turnover figures contain all firm sizes, but Census data from 2005 showed that 87 percent of establishment births and deaths were in firms with fewer than 500 employees.