

Massachusetts

Massachusetts's 595,959 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.)

- Massachusetts had 141,961 small employers in 2006, representing 98.0% of the state's employers and 48.3% of its private-sector employment.
- The health care and social assistance industry was the state's largest small business and overall employer in 2006 (Table 1).
- Small businesses created 34.7% of the state's net new jobs from 2004 to 2005 (Table 2).
- Massachusetts's real gross state product increased by 2.5% in 2007. By comparison, growth in the New England region was 2.1% 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.
- For other small business data and analysis, visit www.sba.gov/advo/research, call (202) 205-6533, or email advocacy@sba.gov.
- To learn about state efforts to adopt or implement regulatory flexibility, visit 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 for RSS feeds.

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

Massachusetts Small Business Facts

	Level in 2006†	% Change from 2005 2000	
Number of Businesses			
Small employers (<500 employees)	141,961	-0.4	-2.3
Large employers (500+ employees)	2,912	1.0	-1.8
Nonemployers	453,998	-3.7	10.6
	Level in 2002†	% Change from 1997	
Business Owner Demographics			
Male-owned	338,774	5.7	
Woman-owned	161,918	13.5	
Equally male/female-owned	44,148	-27.1	
African American-owned	12,819	8.3	
Asian-owned	18,081	43.5	
Hispanic-owned	15,933	25.2	
Native American/Alaskan-owned	2,231	NA	
Hawaiian and Pacific Islander-owned	208	58.8	
	Level in 2007†	% Change from 2006 2000	
Workforce (Thousands) /Unemployment (%)			
Private-sector employment	2,845	1.0	-1.7
Government employment	433	0.8	-0.6
Self-employed (incorp. & uninc.)	364	9.4	21.5
Female self-employment	117	13.5	25.7
Male self-employment	247	7.6	19.5
Minority self-employment	32	115.8	152.3
Veteran self-employment	30	-22	-25.8
Unemployment rate (%)	4.5	-0.3	1.8
Business Turnover			
Quarterly establishment openings	33,968	-0.1	-1.4
Quarterly establishment closings	36,084	4.4	13.7
Business bankruptcies	333	31.6	-81.9
Income and Finance			
Proprietors' income (\$billion)	25	-0.4	44.2
Bank branches	2,177	0.9	10.4
No. of bus. loans under \$100,000	34,061	-0.7	NA
Total value of business loans under \$100,000 (\$million)	945	-3.5	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).

† Latest available data; certain figures are economywide.

**Table 1. Firms and Employment in Massachusetts 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	454.0	144.9	125.0	142.0	3,044.1	519.0	1,471.4
Forestry, etc. and agriculture support	5.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.2	1.1	(D)
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.2	(D)	(D)
Utilities	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	12.2	(D)	1.4
Construction	61.4	19.4	18.1	19.3	132.6	62.7	121.3
Manufacturing	6.0	7.3	5.0	6.9	275.2	29.7	147.8
Wholesale trade	7.5	7.6	5.7	7.1	144.6	26.5	86.1
Retail trade	31.1	17.9	15.7	17.5	368.0	68.6	148.7
Transportation and warehousing	15.8	3.3	2.6	3.1	77.6	10.2	35.1
Information	8.3	2.3	1.6	2.0	118.1	7.1	29.5
Finance and insurance	14.0	5.7	4.7	5.4	211.0	18.6	61.3
Real estate and rental and leasing	41.7	5.5	5.1	5.4	48.9	16.0	35.1
Professional, scientific, and technical svcs.	92.3	21.1	18.9	20.6	260.8	63.2	148.4
Management of companies and enterprises	--	0.8	0.1	0.4	103.8	0.3	8.7
Admin., support, waste mgt., remed. svcs.	28.6	8.4	7.1	8.0	186.4	24.2	88.3
Educational services	17.5	2.3	1.6	2.2	182.3	8.0	50.4
Health care and social assistance	40.0	12.6	10.5	12.4	499.9	54.9	203.5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	28.8	2.9	2.4	2.8	48.8	9.8	35.9
Accommodation and food services	5.2	12.5	10.1	12.3	247.7	53.6	160.1
Other services (except public admin.)	50.4	15.5	14.4	15.4	122.1	62.3	105.9
Unclassified	--	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.7	(D)	1.7

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Statistics of U.S. Businesses. (See 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	22,023	12,867	1,468	-3,752	-3,355	409	7,637	14,386
2003 - 2004	12,558	17,254	4,038	2,121	4,172	-7,150	20,435	-7,877
2002 - 2003	-32,300	22,227	4,797	1,123	6,314	-4,527	29,934	-62,234

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. (For more detailed data see 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	8.5	35.3	36.8	9.4	30.2	133.8	136.4	33.6
Quarter 3	8.3	34.4	37.8	9.5	33.6	131.1	141.1	33.0
Quarter 2	8.5	36.8	35.5	8.3	32.0	148.5	123.7	25.0
Quarter 1	8.6	35.3	36.7	8.9	29.7	124.4	128.1	28.9

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics. (For more detailed data see 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.