

# Women's Business Ownership

The report, "[Women's Business Ownership: Data from the 2012 Survey of Business Owners](#)," uses the most recent Census Bureau data to create a highly detailed portrait of this group, including their role in minority business communities. Among other items, the report evaluates the industry distribution and business characteristics, like age and financing, of women-owned businesses. Featuring interactive charts, users can now easily understand the gender composition and performance of women-owned businesses in hundreds of industries.

Additional findings from the report include:

- The 9.9 million businesses that are majority-owned by women contribute \$1.4 trillion in sales to the economy.
- Thirty-six percent of all businesses are women-owned, accounting for 12% of all business sales and 15% of employment.
- Industries with the most women-owned employer firms range from restaurants to physicians and management consulting.
- Women-owned businesses without employees tend to be in the service industries, such as child day care and personal care.
- On average, women-owned businesses are smaller than their male-owned counterparts. Their average sales are lower, they are less likely to be employers, and they have fewer employees than male-owned businesses.
- Women own a larger share of businesses in every minority group compared to their overall share of businesses (36%). Almost 60% of Black/African American-owned businesses and 44% of Hispanic-owned businesses are women-owned.

The new issue brief is also available on the Office of Advocacy's website at [www.sba.gov/advocacy/issue-briefs](http://www.sba.gov/advocacy/issue-briefs) (number 13) or [www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/advocacy/Womens-Business-Ownership-in-the-US.pdf](http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/advocacy/Womens-Business-Ownership-in-the-US.pdf).