The Small Business Charter of Australia

Updated 4 October 2025

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The Charter

The Small Business Charter of Australia is the central document which can include Appendages for use by the Commonwealth and its Territories and individual States, to suit their needs. They must record their Appendage in conjunction with the content of the Small Business Charter of Australia.

Charter Review / Update

The Charter is a high-level Principles Document that proposes a number of headline topics from which detailed analysis and remedies could evolve, appropriate to good policy making. These to be considered by the government at all levels to protect, support and develop a stronger consciousness of the national and longer-term importance of small business.

It is intended that the Charter be reviewed on a regular basis sufficient to embrace the significant evolution of legislation, market movements, digital and technological adoptions, best practice and other advancement, guiding the making of small business policy. The purpose is to sustain the small business sector's relevance and the important values it delivers within the Australian economy.

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Signing of the Charter - Queensland 2024

On the 21 August 2024 in Brisbane – The Small Business Association of Australia (SBAA) was proud to announce the adoption of the Small Business Charter of Australia by the Queensland Government. This landmark decision marked a significant step forward in supporting and empowering small businesses across the state.

The Charter, which has been in development since 2018, is a comprehensive framework designed to address the core needs of small businesses. It is built on ten pillars: entrepreneurship, industrial relations, technology, competitiveness, finance, tax, regulation, trade, education and training, and climate change/energy. The Charter aims to create a supportive environment where small businesses can thrive, innovate, and contribute to the national economy.

A key component of the Charter is the "Think Small Business" principle. This principle emphasises the need for policymakers to prioritize the needs of small businesses when creating legislation and policies. By adopting a "Think Small Business" mindset, the Charter ensures that the unique challenges and opportunities faced by small businesses are at the forefront of policy decisions. This approach helps in reducing regulatory burdens and fosters an environment where small businesses can flourish without being overshadowed by larger enterprises.

Anne Nalder, Founder and CEO of the Small Business Association of Australia, expressed her gratitude and excitement:

"This is a monumental milestone for the Small Business Association of Australia and for every small business in Queensland. The adoption of the Small Business Charter of Australia by the Queensland Government is a testament to the importance of small businesses and their vital role in our economy. We are immensely proud of this achievement and look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on small businesses across the state."

Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development, Lance McCallum MP, emphasised the importance of the Charter in fostering a sustainable economic environment:

"Our small businesses are the engine room of the economy, the heart and soul of our communities, and there is no better place in the country to be a small business owner, operator, or worker than Queensland".

"We can thank a small business – our local tradies, hairdressers, and cafe owners – and those that support them with initiatives like the Small Business Charter of Australia for growing our economy and supporting our regions and local communities".

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"The Miles Government is so serious about our commitment that our new Queensland Small Business Strategy: powering small business provides a $250 million boost to the opportunities, capability, and diversity of Queensland's small business sector".

"Our new plan for the future will deliver a range of actions over three years to support and enable small businesses to thrive and combat the pressures associated with the cost-of-doing business".

"By adopting the Small Business Charter of Australia, the Miles Labor Government is reaffirming our commitment to creating a supportive and inclusive environment for small businesses."

The Small Business Association of Australia extends its heartfelt thanks to the Premier of Queensland, Steven Miles, and Minister Lance McCallum MP for their support and leadership in championing this cause. The SBAA looks forward to working closely with the Queensland Government to implement the principles of the Charter and drive positive change for small businesses across the state.

Anne Nalder, Founder and CEO of the Small Business Association of Australia and Premier of Queensland, Steven Miles.

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Foreword

By Anne Nalder, Founder and CEO of the Small Business Association of Australia

The decline of small business in Australia is a growing emergency.

The economic landscape has changed dramatically as commerce has become more digitally globalised and the need for small businesses to remain competitive is essential to success. Rapid changes in data gathering, analysis and multi-channel marketing are also precipitated by new and evolving technologies. The digital transformation is driving the necessity for small businesses to become digitally skilled.

Australia's competitiveness in the global economy is underpinned by the input from small businesses and we must continue to think 'Small Business First' in support of their contribution.

Currently in Australia several different definitions exist to describe what a small business is. The outcome of which is confusion arising from the various terminologies being used by organisations and government departments.

"The Charter advocates that a common denomination be agreed which clearly defines what 'small business' means"?

There are several structural, economic, and cultural impediments to small business growth. These include barriers to start-ups in particular red tape, high personal and corporate taxes, the difficulty in raising capital, finding staff with the right skills, and other broader economic uncertainties.

In recognition of these barriers, it is considered crucial that the Small Business Association of Australia (SBAA) advocate the importance of small businesses within the economic framework of our country.

"To date Australia has never had a Small Business Charter or similar Plan".

Ten pillars were identified as core activities for small businesses. These pillars make up the framework of The Small Business Charter of Australia. The Charter is the foundation from which the advocacy of SBAA has been adopted. It incorporates all levels of Government, States and Territories. It seeks to ensure all governments will endorse the valid elements within the Charter to work positively in the best interests of Australia's small businesses.

"Once the Charter is accepted by the various levels of the Australian Governments, SBAA has the planning expertise to execute its structural requirements".

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Purpose of the Charter

The purpose is to encourage, help and improve the rate of success for micro, small and medium , small and medium businesses, including advocating at all levels of government to gain and support the endorsement of change for the implementation of an effective “Charter’ for micro, small and medium , small and medium businesses.

The 6 key objectives of the Charter are:

1. To recognise the importance of the micro, small and medium business sectors.
2. To provide greater business opportunities for participation by micro, small and medium businesses.
3. To facilitate the sustainability of micro, small and medium businesses across the sector.
4. To enhance the growth prospects for micro, small and medium businesses in a changing global economy.
5. To protect micro, small and medium businesses against the damage of early failures.
6. To reduce red tape becoming a barrier to the establishment and success of micro, small and medium businesses.

The intent of the charter is to shine a light on the contribution that small businesses make to the Australian economy and our way of life. The Small Business Charter of Australia is a collaborative effort that incorporates all levels of government across all States and Territories. It seeks to ensure that all governments recognize the valid elements within the Charter and work in the best interests of Australian small businesses.

A key component of the Charter is the ‘**Think Small Business’** principle. This principle emphasizes the need for policymakers to prioritize the needs of small businesses when creating legislation and policies. By adopting a “Think Small Business” mindset, the Charter ensures that the unique challenges and opportunities faced by small businesses are at the forefront of policy decisions. This approach helps in reducing regulatory burdens and fosters an environment where small businesses can flourish without being overshadowed by larger enterprises.

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Small Business Contribution

As at 30 June 2025 there were over 2.5 million actively trading businesses in the Australian economy (Sources: Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, July 2021 - June 2025 | Australian Bureau of Statistics, and National Small Business Strategy: Working together for small businesses | Australian Government Treasury).

In 2024-25, there was a:

- 2.5% or 66,650 increase in the number of businesses.
- 16.4% entry rate, with 437,150 entries.
- 13.9% exit rate, with 370,500 exits.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits July 2021 - June 2025

In 2024-25 the three industries with the largest percentage increase in businesses were:

- Health Care and Social Assistance (increase of 6.6% to 213,177 businesses).
- Transport, Postal and Warehousing (increase of 5.1% to 249,289 businesses).
- Financial and Insurance Services (increase of 3.7% to 133,743 businesses).

The industries with the largest percentage decrease in businesses in 2024-25 were:

- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (decrease of 0.8% to 170,890 businesses).
- Retail Trade (decrease of 0.4% to 156,169 businesses).

(Source: Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, July 2021 - June 2025 | Australian Bureau of Statistics)

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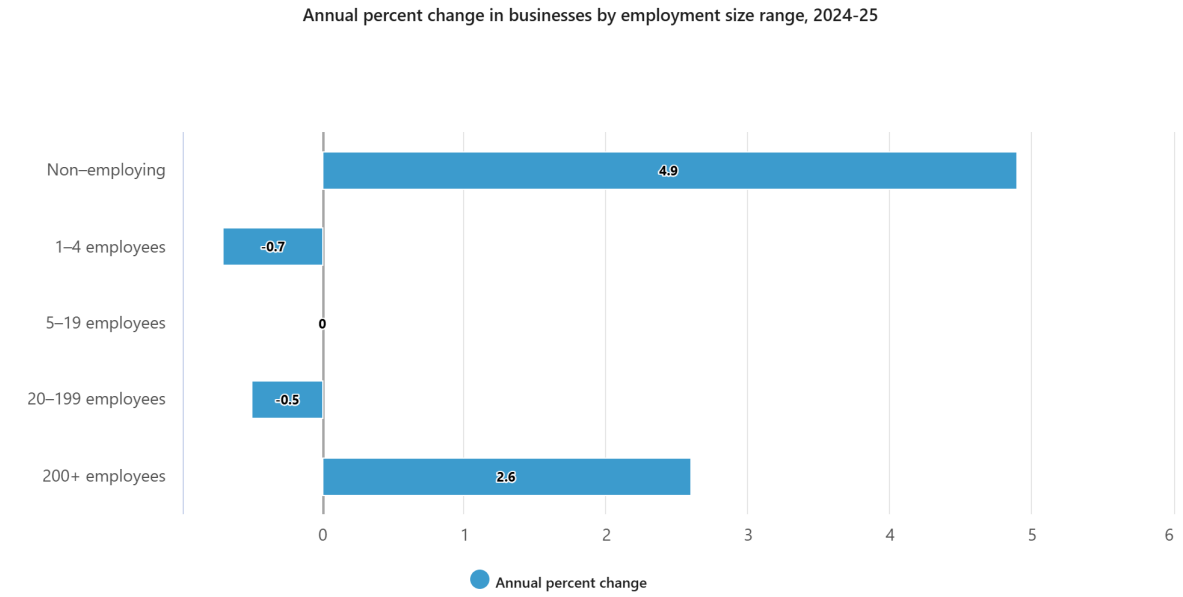
Employment Size

In 2024-25 the number of non-employing businesses increased by 4.3% (71,633), with a net movement of 32,428 surviving businesses from employing to non-employing.

There was also a:

- 2.6% (133) increase in businesses with 200+ employees to 5,322 total.
- 0.7% (4,688) decrease in businesses with 1-4 employees to 688,870 total.
- 0.5% (357) decrease in businesses with 20-199 employees to 67,857 total.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits July 2021 - June 2025

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Contribution to Australian Gross Domestic Product

The value that small business adds to Australia's economy can be calculated by its contribution to Australian Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Small businesses (employing less than 20 people) added nearly $590 billion of value in 2022-23 (Source: Contribution to Australian Gross Domestic Product | ASBFEO).

GDP measures the total value of final goods and services produced in the economy.

Table 1: Industry value added by business size

Value added by business size	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
	$m	%	$m	%	$m	%
Small business (0-19 employees)	438,502	33	504,944	32	589,843	33
Medium business (20-199 employees)	285,284	21	343,731	22	409,972	23
Large business (200+ employees)	619,540	46	717,280	46	792,892	44
Total	**1,343,326**	**100**	**1,565,955**	**100**	**1,792,706**	**100**

Source: *ABS Australian Industry*, Table 5, May 2024 and ASBFEO calculations, private sector industry. The ABS publish this data for selected industries, which excludes financial and insurance services. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Number of Small Businesses by Employment

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) defines small businesses as those with less than 20 employees. The number of businesses increased in 2023-24 in all business sizes except small businesses with 1-4 employees, which decreased 1.4%.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Self-employed	1441105	1410049	1550151	1585693	1663837
1-4 employees	599516	711364	728759	703467	693558
5-19 employees	213218	220427	227102	231259	232200
20-199 employees	56252	56046	59355	64559	68214
200+ employees	4357	4368	4533	4895	5189

Download data Show chart

Source: *ABS Counts of Australian Business*, Table 13a, August 2024 and ASBFEO calculations (excludes businesses that are not registered for GST).

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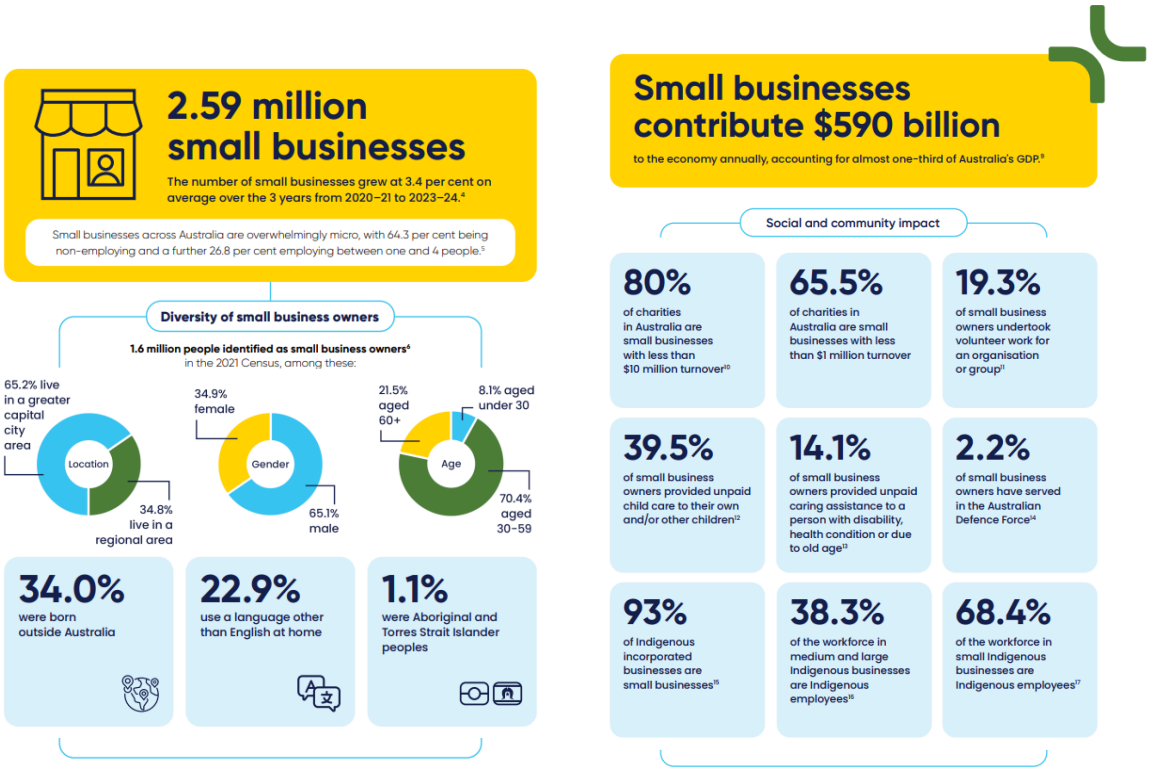
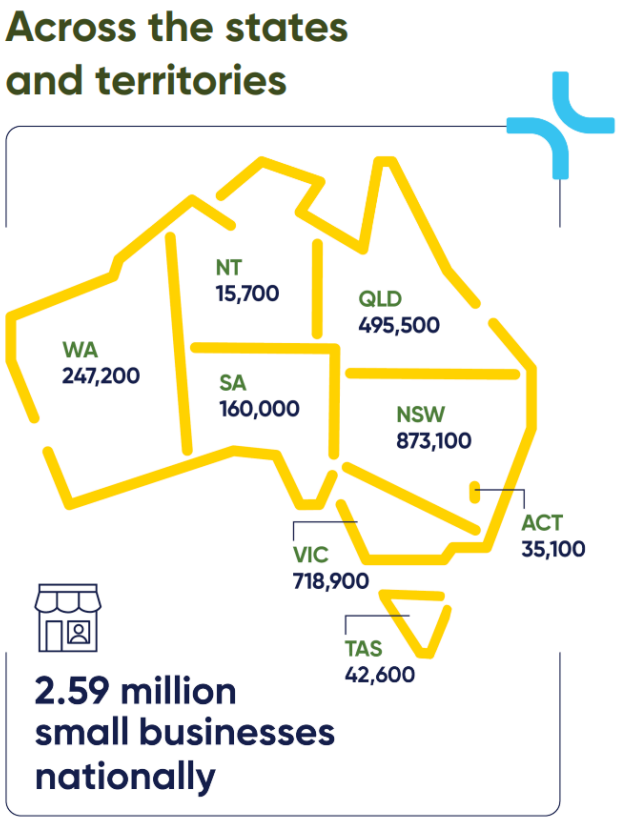
A National Perspective

(Source: National Small Business Strategy: Working together for small businesses | Australian Government Treasury).





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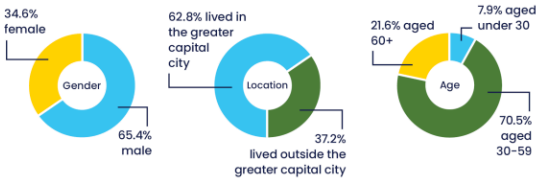
Small businesses in **New South Wales:**

Totalled **873,137** in 2023–24[21]

- Represented **97.4 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 3.0 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **1.8 million** people in 2022-23[22]
- **61.6 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

492,000 small business owners[23] in New South Wales in 2021, of those:



34.8% were born outside Australia

25.7% use a language other than English at home

1.4% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in NSW in 2023–24 were:

17.3% Construction

14.1% Professional, scientific and technical services

11.5% Rental, hiring and real estate services[24]

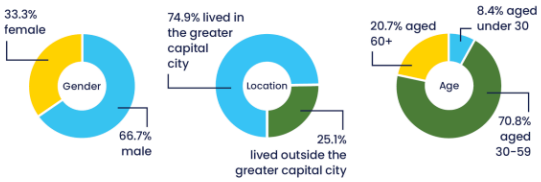
Small businesses in **Victoria:**

Totalled **718,864** in 2023–24[18]

- Represented **97.4 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 4.0 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **1.4 million** people in 2022-23[19]
- **67.3 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

424,500 small business owners[20] in Victoria in 2021, of those:



35.1% were born outside Australia

28.1% use a language other than English at home

0.4% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in VIC in 2023–24 were:

17.2% Construction

12.6% Professional, scientific and technical services

11.0% Rental, hiring and real estate services[25]

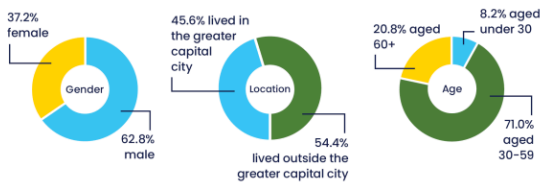
Small businesses in **Queensland:**

Totalled **495,487** in 2023–24[26]

- Represented **97.1 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 3.4 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **1 million** people in 2022-23[27]
- **63.1 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

323,000 small business owners[28] in Queensland in 2021, of those:



31.0% were born outside Australia

15.3% use a language other than English at home

1.5% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in QLD in 2023–24 were:

17.2% Construction

12.5% Professional, scientific and technical services

11.9% Rental, hiring and real estate services[29]

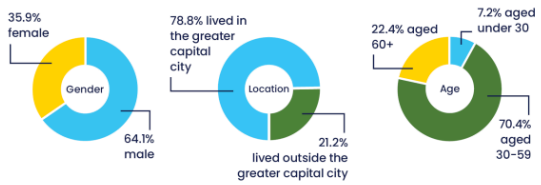
Small businesses in **Western Australia:**

Totalled **247,224** in 2023–24[30]

- Represented **96.8 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 3.4 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **532,200** people in 2022-23[31]
- **65.9 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

164,000 small business owners[32] in Western Australia in 2021, of those:



41.2% were born outside Australia

19.9% use a language other than English at home

0.8% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in WA in 2023–24 were:

17.2% Construction

12.8% Professional, scientific and technical services

11.4% Rental, hiring and real estate services

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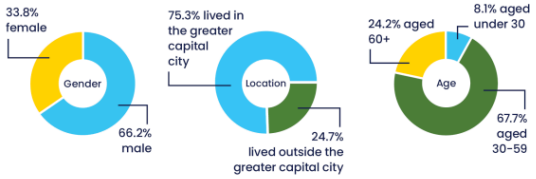
Small businesses in **South Australia:**

Totalled **159,978** in 2023–24[33]

- Represented **97.3 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 3.2 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **323,500** people in 2022-23[34]
- **68.0 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

109,200 small business owners[35] in South Australia in 2021, of those:



27.9% were born outside Australia

19.1% use a language other than English at home

0.6% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in SA in 2023–24 were:

16.4% Construction

12.6% Rental, hiring and real estate services

10.3% Professional, scientific and technical services[36]

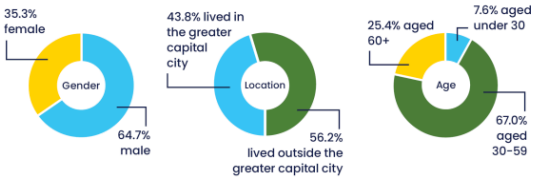
Small businesses in **Tasmania:**

Totalled **42,585** in 2023–24[37]

- Represented **96.7 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 2.5 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **105,700** people in 2022-23[38]
- **62.4 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

32,600 small business owners[39] in Tasmania in 2021, of those:



20.7% were born outside Australia

10.4% use a language other than English at home

2.8% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in TAS in 2023–24 were:

18.1% Construction

12.7% Agriculture, forestry and fishing

10.0% Rental, hiring and real estate services

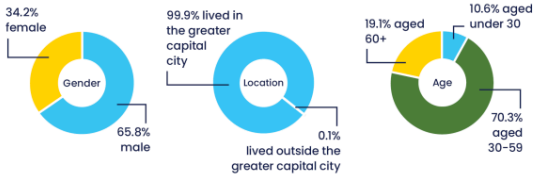
Small businesses in **Australian Capital Territory:**

Totalled **35,143** in 2023–24[40]

- Represented **96.8 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 4.8 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **86,700** people in 2022-23[41]
- **59.2 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

21,000 small business owners[42] in Australian Capital Territory in 2021, of those:



37.1% were born outside Australia

29.2% use a language other than English at home

1.2% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in ACT in 2023–24 were:

20.0% Professional, scientific and technical services

19.0% Construction

10.0% Rental, hiring and real estate services[43]

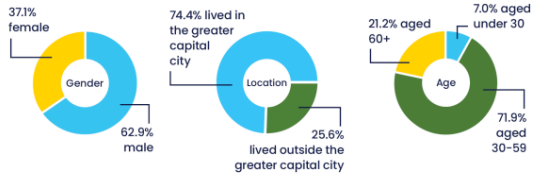
Small businesses in **Northern Territory:**

Totalled **15,675** in 2023–24[44]

- Represented **95.7 per cent of all businesses** in this jurisdiction
- **Grew by 2.9 per cent** on average between 2021 and 2024
- Employed **41,300** people in 2022-23[45]
- **60.7 per cent** are non-employing

Diversity of small business owners

9,200 small business owners[46] in Northern Territory in 2021, of those:



33.7% were born outside Australia

24.4% use a language other than English at home

3.6% were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Top 3 industries

with the **largest number of small businesses** in NT in 2023–24 were:

18.4% Construction

12.4% Rental, hiring and real estate services

10.6% Professional, scientific and technical services[47]

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Charter Priorities

In creating 'The Small Business Charter of Australia', SBAA's emphasis is on:

- **Establishing** the Small Business Charter under the guiding tenets of the 10 pillars.
- **Promoting** the need for a Charter to all levels of Government.
- **Lobbying** Government(s) to adopt the mindset **'Think Small Business First'**.
- **Adopting** clear and common definitions in identifying what 'small business' means.
- **Scrutinising** outcomes and providing feedback to SBAA and its stakeholders.
- **Advising the government** of the changing needs of micro, small and medium businesses in alignment with the intents of the Charter.

Whole of Government Priorities:

- Ensuring the Federal, State and Territorial Small Business Ministers activities reflect the importance of micro, small and medium business to the economy in alignment with the Charter.
- All levels of Government to be responsible for the impacts of economic development and the regulatory, fiscal, and administrative frameworks affecting micro, small and medium businesses.
- Adoption of a **'Think Small Business First'** mind-set.

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Charter Framework

The Charter has been constructed upon 10 pillars which make up a 'Statement of Expectations' These should be in alignment with the Whole-of-Government Priorities. For the purposes of the Charter, SBAA uses the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) explanation of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

For statistical purposes, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) defines the 3 key groups that make up small business as:

1. Micro - being 0-4 employees.
2. Small - being 4-20 employees.
3. Medium - being 20-200 employees.

For definition purposes, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) defines the micro, small and medium business as:

1. A micro business – can be a consultant or freelancer, sole traders such as electricians, plumbers, gardeners, handy man etc.
2. A small business – can be a business offering services such as legal, accountant or retail services such as a grocery store, bakeries and small manufacturing units.
3. A medium business – can be a university, hospital, larger manufacturers, farmers etc.

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The Charter's Ten Pillars: Policies and Principles

All levels of government should support the central role that micro and small businesses play by putting in place and maintaining a comprehensive policy framework. A policy framework that supports their growth and sustainability, built upon the following principles:

1. **Entrepreneurship** - adapt government policy that recognises the necessity to support innovation and enhances the value of micro, small and medium entrepreneurships.
2. **Industrial Relations (IR)** - ensure micro, small and medium business needs are fairly represented in IR and associated policy making.
3. **Technology** - facilitate access to the best information, training, research and digital technologies.
4. **Competitiveness** - enable micro, small and medium businesses to compete in local, regional, national, and global opportunities.
5. **Finance** - facilitate access to finance at favourable terms in a supportive fiscal, legal, and competitive business environment. Destructive legal actions against micro, small and medium business owners are to be decisively avoided!
6. **Taxes** - ensure the development of micro, small and medium small businesses are supported during their early years with lower tax rates and similar incentives that promote their sustainability.
7. **Regulation** - ensure Government administrators are responsive to the needs of micro, small and medium businesses. Adopt clear and consistent terminologies as to the definition of small businesses.
8. **Trade** - facilitate small business participation in Government procurement policy, international trade, and related activities.
9. **Education and Training of business owners** – provide and support affordable education and training in best business practice, technologies, innovation, business management and leadership skills.
10. **Climate Change/Energy** – ensure micro, small and medium businesses can become engaged in positive environmental and infrastructural activities including water, energy, telecommunications, digital infrastructure, technologies, reporting, governance and government and industry initiatives.

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Pillar 1: Entrepreneurship

Expectations

There is a need:

- For initiatives that take account of regional and local factors which assist entrepreneurship convert opportunities into marketable concepts and the building of local strengths.
- To address the dynamics of entrepreneurship which successfully promote innovation and micro and small business clusters.
- To introduce market incentives and goal-based approaches to meet the growing challenges posed by globalisation.

Outcomes

- To enable the development of Small Business Economic Planning which takes into consideration regional and local factors that recognise the dynamics of entrepreneurship and the benefits of micro, small and medium business clusters.
- To introduce market incentives and goal-based approaches for traditional micro, small and medium business operations.

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Pillar 2: Industrial Relations

Expectations

There is a need:

- For initiatives that promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth to provide employment and non-discriminatory work.
- To promote sustainable industrialisation and foster innovations that help to reduce income inequalities.
- To provide effective protections for self-employed workers, micro, small and medium business owners, contractors and sub-contractors.

Outcomes

- Enable micro, small and medium business owners to grow and employ more staff.
- A fairer system for micro, small and medium business owners enabling them to succeed.

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Pillar 3: Technology

Expectations

The use of technologies such as cybernetics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, drones, big data, analytics, robotic process automation, wireless connectivity, digitisation, the internet of things (IoT) and evolving technologies which will fundamentally change how micro, small and medium businesses will operate. The digital transformation is changing the nature of work and workforces, plus the skills necessary in managing digital businesses.

There is a need:

- To strengthen programmes promoting technology propagation for micro, small and medium businesses by providing the capability to adopt technologies that support changing business models.
- For better access to digital technologies and related services across Australia.
- For providing affordable high-speed broadband and access to digital products and services.
- To provide affordable digital literacy and upskilling.
- To build trusted environments as well as continuous information flows on cybersecurity, privacy, data security, data breach and cloud technologies.
- Provider skills and knowledge around artificial intelligence, machine learning and robotic process automation.
- For governments to become more agile in changing needs that enable micro, small and medium businesses to remain competitive in local, national, and global markets.

Outcomes

- Creating level playing fields for digital networks and innovative services by providing high-speed, secure, and trustworthy infrastructures.
- Ensuring that Australia's micro, small and medium business can take full advantage of digitalisation.
- Reducing unnecessary red-tape and providing legislative frameworks so micro, small and medium businesses may compete in national and global markets.
- Creating new 'Smart City' infrastructures and related AI and digital products and services which support micro, small and medium business.
- The government creates policies that are founded on evidence-based research.

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Pillar 4: Competitiveness

Expectations

There is a need:

- To create conditions enabling the benefits of open markets and technological progress so that micro, small and medium businesses are provided with the opportunities to participate in the globalised economy.
- To improve regulatory environments which reduce barriers and allow greater micro, small and medium business participation.
- To simplify government procurement processes to enable micro, small and medium businesses to participate competitively in exporting and importing.

Outcomes

- Create conditions that enable the benefits of open markets and technological progress to flow to micro, small and medium businesses.
- Improve the regulatory environment to reduce barriers for micro, small and medium business participation, simplify government procurement processes and improve opportunities to compete.
- All levels of Government take into consideration the impacts of economic development decisions, regulations, fiscal and administrative frameworks may have on micro, small and medium businesses.

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Pillar 5: Finance

Expectations

Funding gaps are a major impediment to growth.

There is a need:

- To improve the relationship between the banking systems for micro, small and medium business.
- To increase opportunities for micro, small and medium businesses to obtain finance on acceptable terms from banks, lenders, and venture capital funders plus government guarantees.

Outcomes

- A review by government agencies and lending authorities assisted by the SBAA on financial models for micro, small and medium business.
- Create policies which improve access to finance and government guarantees for lenders.

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Pillar 6: Taxes

Expectations

There is a need:

- For tax systems to be adopted which reward success, encourage start-ups, assist micro, small and medium business growth, job creation and facilitate micro, small and medium business sustainability.
- Removing red tape, simplifying, and streamlining the collection and administration of the taxation system.

Outcomes

- A review by the government to ease tax compliance costs, assisted by SBAA in removing red tape, creating incentives, and streamlining the tax system affecting micro, small and medium business.

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Pillar 7: Regulation

Expectations

Structural reforms are a powerful complement to fiscal and monetary stabilisation policies that create sustained growth. The impact on regulatory policy of fiscal arrangements for the different levels of government, is an important issue.

There is a need:

- Building appropriate government 'clusters' to work towards reforming fiscal practices, enhancing regulatory performance and reducing administrative burdens.
- Defining a clear definition of 'Small Business' to be used consistently and universally, as accepted descriptors.

Outcomes

- A review by the government assisted by SBAA on building 'government clusters' for interoperability between agencies by reforming fiscal practice, enhancing regulatory performance, and reducing administrative burdens.

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Pillar 8: Trade

Expectations

There is a need:

- To encourage and support international trade engagements for micro, small and medium businesses.
- To consider in the early stages of policy making, the needs of micro, small and medium business and industry in terms of costs, benefits, and impacts.
- To ensure all industry sectors are fairly considered and encouraged to grow across all industry sectors.

Outcomes

- A review of national and international trade policies which could enhance micro, small and medium business competitiveness.
- All levels of government to consider the impacts of their economic development decisions on micro, small and medium businesses.
- Improve the regulatory environment by reducing barriers to micro, small and medium business participation, simplifying government procurement processes and improving opportunities.
- Creating conditions that enable micro, small and medium businesses to benefit from open markets and participate in the globalised economy.

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Pillar 9: Education and Training

Expectations

There is a need:

- To create opportunities that maintain up-to-date, effective training of digital literacy and upskilling by the access and delivery of relevant education for micro, small and medium businesses.

Outcomes

- Facilitating training and upskilling, specially designed and affordable, which cater to and match the changing needs of the jobs of today and tomorrow.
- Providing digital inclusion, digital literacy and upskilling for micro, small and medium business in the rural and regional areas of Australia.

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Pillar 10: Climate Change / Energy

Expectations

There is a need:

- To ensure that the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting and governance compliance take into consideration micro, small and medium business structures and how they fit into the bigger picture.
- To ensure that environmental, infrastructural, and related planning initiatives, take into consideration the economic impact(s) on small businesses.
- To ensure that digital cities, digital government, and digital industry initiatives consider **'Think Small Business First'**.
- To ensure the costs of energy, water, internet, and other communications are better governed and controlled.
- To ensure that environmental, infrastructural, and other planned developments include the needs of small businesses.
- For developments to consider the potential loss of businesses and an allowance for costly rentals. To take account of the need for convenient and reliable transport (rail, buses, and roads) and adequate parking spaces.

Outcomes

- Ensuring that the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting and governance compliance has taken into consideration the impacts on micro, small and medium business and how they fit into the bigger picture.
- Ensure that environmental, infrastructure and planning initiatives take into consideration financial and other damaging impact(s) on micro, small and medium business.
- Ensure that reliable wireless connections and Wi-Fi hubs are expanded to rural and marginal locations to support mobility and small business operations.
- Introduce governance and necessary controls to ensure energy, water, internet and communication costs are better regulated.
- That consideration should be given for planning and the needs of micro, small and medium business hubs in fringe suburbs not on rail/light-rail corridors, before approving planning initiatives.

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