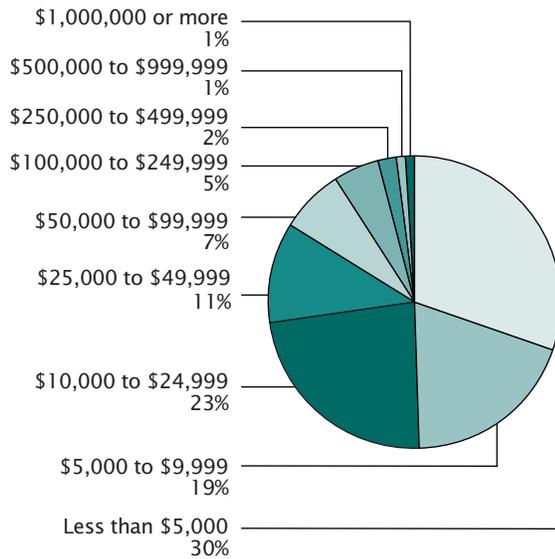


Figure 2.

Black-Owned Firms by Amount of Receipts: 1997



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

owned. Maryland and Mississippi also exceeded the 10 percent mark. As shown in Figure 1, almost all of the states with high concentrations of Black-owned firms (5 percent or more) bordered one another. These states stretch along the coastline from Maryland to Louisiana.

More than one-quarter of Black-owned businesses located in five metropolitan areas.

Reflecting patterns seen in the states, 28 percent of Black-owned firms could be found in metropolitan areas of New York, N.Y.; Washington, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W. Va.; Los Angeles-Long Beach, Calif.; Chicago, Ill.; and Atlanta, Ga.

Average receipts of Black-owned firms approached \$90,000.

Receipts per firm averaged \$86,500 for Black-owned firms compared with \$410,600 for all U.S. firms, excluding publicly held corporations and firms whose owners' race or ethnicity was indeterminate (e.g., mutual companies whose ownership is shared by its

members). As shown in Figure 2, Black-owned firms were widely distributed in the amount of their receipts:

- Forty-nine percent had receipts of under \$10,000.
- For 23 percent, receipts ranged between \$10,000 and \$24,999.
- Eighteen percent reported receipts between \$25,000 and \$99,999.
- For 10 percent, receipts totaled \$100,000 or more. A small subset of these firms — 8,682

in all — had receipts of \$1 million or more and accounted for more than half of the total receipts of all Black-owned firms.

Highest number of Black-owned firms were in service industries.

As shown in Figure 3, a little more than half (53 percent) of all Black-owned firms operated in service industries, accounting for 36 percent of the receipts for all Black-owned businesses; of these firms, 48 percent were concentrated in business and personal services.

Retail trade industries accounted for 11 percent of all Black-owned firms and 19 percent of receipts.

More information

The information in this Census Brief is based on findings from the 1997 Survey of Minority-Owned Business Enterprises: Black. The report may be found on the Internet at <<http://www.census.gov/csd/mwb/>>.

Contacts

Black-Owned Businesses:

Geoffrey Hill
301-457-3320

Valerie Strang
301-457-3316

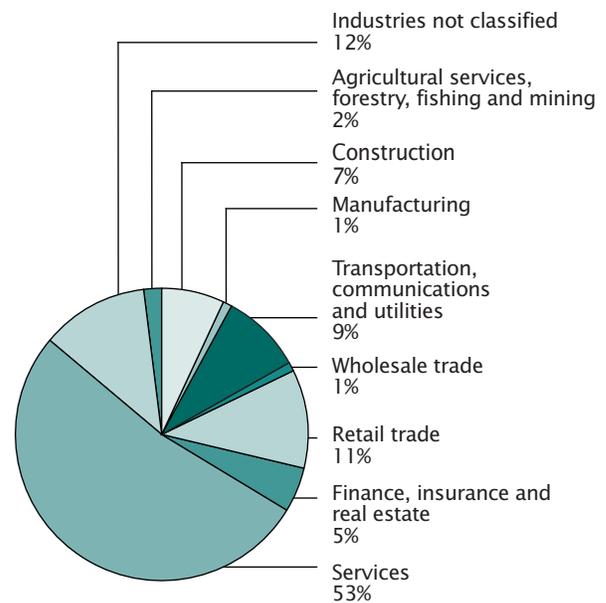
Census Briefs:

Robert Bernstein
301-457-8242

The data were collected in a sample survey and are subject to sampling variability, as well as nonsampling errors. Sources of nonsampling error include errors of response, nonreporting and coverage. Further details concerning survey design, methodology and data limitations are contained in the full report. Comparisons with 1992 should be carried out with extreme caution because changes in tax laws caused inconsistencies between the 1992 and the 1997 data. Changes in survey methodology also may contribute to differences.

Figure 3.

Percentage Distribution of Black-Owned Firms by Industry Division: 1997



Note: Some firms may be counted in more than one industry division, so percentages add to more than 100 percent.