

Saskatchewan Small Business Profile 2019



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Introduction

Small business is big business in Saskatchewan.

Small businesses – businesses with fewer than 50 employees – account for over 98.9% of the more than 150,000 business enterprises in the province. They are active in virtually every sector of the economy, providing vital inputs that keep the wheels of industry turning. Small businesses are a source of innovative products and services that contribute to the quality of life we all enjoy.

In 2018, small businesses employed 31.0% of Saskatchewan's workers and paid out over \$6.3 billion (B) in wages and salaries, which was 25.3% of the province's total payroll. In addition, 24% of Saskatchewan's gross domestic product (GDP) was attributed to small business.

Small business in Saskatchewan is growing.

Saskatchewan's business-friendly policies and strong economy have generally been reflected in a growing small business sector. In the last five years, small business employment in the health care and social assistance sector increased by 10.6%, and accommodation and food services increased by 9.7%.

Employees are sharing in the of a prosperous small business sector. Over the last 10 years, nominal wages paid by Saskatchewan small businesses grew by 22.4%, compared to 2008.

Technical Note

This report looks at the role of small business establishments in Saskatchewan through recent trends. It reports on a number of key indicators, including the number of small businesses operating in Saskatchewan, the industry breakdown of small businesses, growth in small business employment, and the small business sector's contribution to the provincial economy.

The paper also compares activities in the small business sector to medium- and large-sized enterprises. Trends in the small business sector are examined in a historical context, as well as in comparison to small businesses in other provinces and the national average.

In this report, businesses are classified according to number of employees. Small businesses are classified as those with fewer than 50 employees (including business establishments that do not keep payroll employment, known as "non-employer", or "indeterminate"), medium-sized businesses are those with 50 to 499 employees, while businesses with 500 or more employees are considered to be large enterprises.

The main data for this report were obtained from Statistics Canada's Business Register¹ and the Survey of Employment, Payroll, and Hours (SEPH²). Other data were obtained from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey and the Statistical Service of B.C. (B.C. Stats).

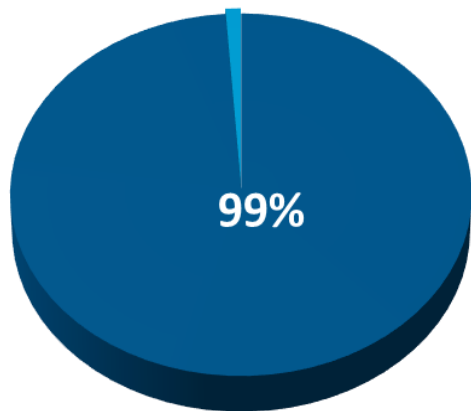
It is important to note a methodological change by Statistics Canada in 2014: the status of "Indeterminate" was revised to "Without Employees." This caused a shift in the categorization of approximately 70,000 businesses across Canada to the "Without Employees" category.

¹ The Business Register contains stratification, collection and response information for Canadian businesses. The Business Register maintains a complete, up to date and unduplicated list of all active businesses in Canada that have a corporate income tax (T2) account, are an employer or have a GST account. Industry breakdowns are based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

² The SEPH covers employer businesses and reports on number of payroll employees and average weekly earnings. Self-employed persons who are not on payroll are not included in the SEPH data. Also not included are employees in agriculture, fishing and trapping industries, private household services, religious organizations, and military personnel of defence services.

Key Facts

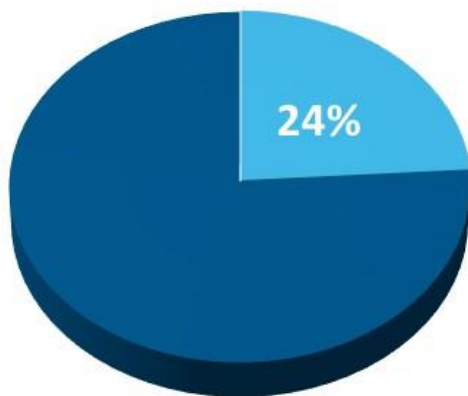
Share of Total number of Businesses



Most businesses are small businesses

Approximately 99% of the businesses in Saskatchewan are small businesses. In 2018, there were about 149,465 small businesses operating in the province.

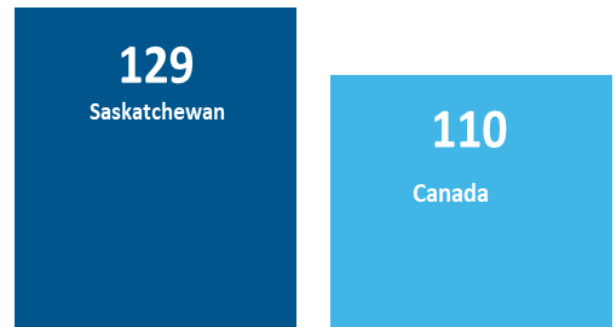
Contribution to GDP



An essential contributor to the economy

Small businesses contributed 24% of Saskatchewan's gross domestic product in 2018.

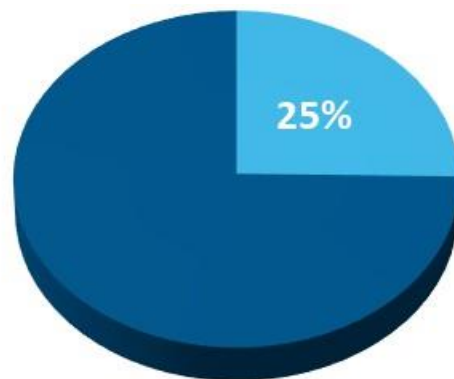
Concentration of Small Businesses



Saskatchewan has a high concentration of small businesses

There are 129 small businesses per thousand people in Saskatchewan, which is the highest rate among the provinces and above the national average of 110.

Share of Payroll Earnings



A source of quality jobs

One-quarter of Saskatchewan's payroll earnings are from small businesses. Small business created 7,253 new jobs in the past decade. In 2018, earnings of small business employees in Saskatchewan were the fourth highest among the provinces, and had the second highest growth rate among the provinces from 2008.

1. Small Business Sector

As of December 31, 2018, there were 151,139 business establishments in Saskatchewan. Of these, 71.6% (108,142) were classified as “non-employer” meaning they do not maintain employee payroll accounts. Typically these would be owner-operator businesses, which may use unpaid labour from family members or contract the services of other companies, as needed, as an alternative to maintaining staff of their own. The remaining 28.4% (42,997) are classified as “employer businesses” because they maintain at least one paid employee, as indicated by the payroll deduction remitted to the Canada Revenue Agency.

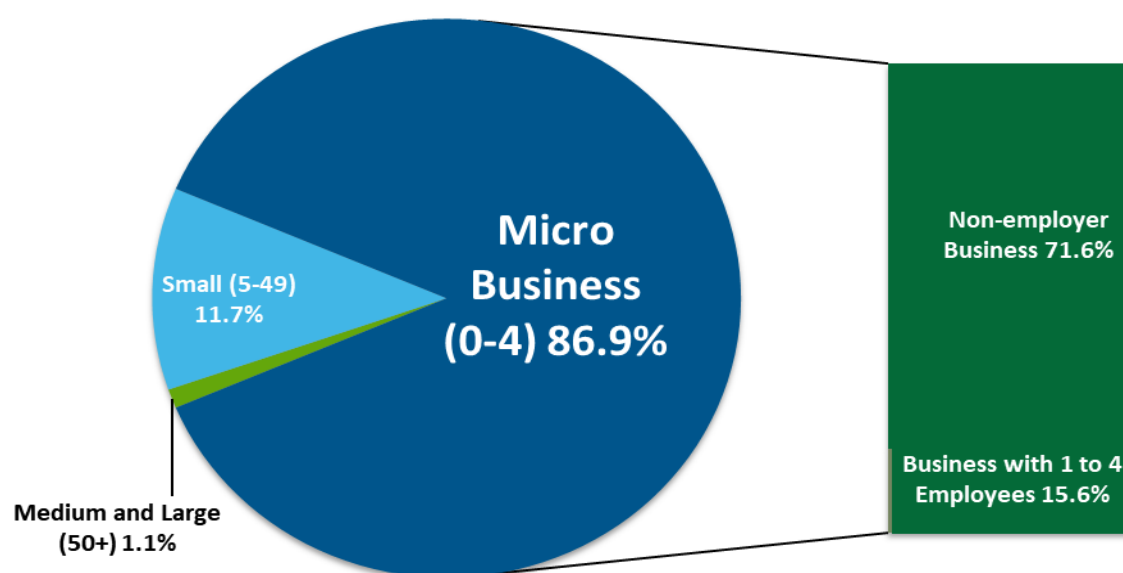
Table 1: Saskatchewan Businesses by Size, 2018

	Number of Businesses	% of Total
Small Businesses (0-49 Employees)	149,465	98.9%
Non-employer Businesses	108,142	71.6%
Medium Businesses (50-499 Employees)	1,590	1.1%
Large Businesses (500+ Employees)	84	0.1%
Total Businesses	151,139	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

When defined as both employers with less than 50 paid employees plus those in the non-employer category (including farmers and ranchers), the small business sector in Saskatchewan represented 98.9% (149,465) of total businesses in 2018.

Chart 1: Distribution of Businesses by Size, Saskatchewan, 2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

Micro-businesses (businesses having 0-4 employees) accounted for 86.9% of all businesses. Businesses with no payroll employees accounted for 71.6% of total businesses and 15.6% of the total employed one to four staff.

Looking specifically at Saskatchewan's 149,465 small businesses in 2018, micro-businesses comprised 88.2% of the total. Businesses with 5-19 employees accounted for 9.5%, and businesses with 20-49 employees contributed 2.3% to the total.

Table 2: Number of Small Businesses in Saskatchewan, by Employment Size, 2018

	Number of Businesses	% of Total
Total Businesses with 0-4 Employees	131,762	88.2%
Non-employer Business	108,142	72.4%
Business with 1-4 Employees	23,620	15.8%
Business with 5-19 Employees	14,200	9.5%
Business with 20-49 Employees	3,503	2.3%
Total Small Businesses	149,465	100%

Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

Inter-Provincial Comparisons – Business Count

As of December 31, 2018, there were 4.1 million (M) business establishments in Canada. Of these, more than half (59.4%) were located in Ontario and Québec, and 35.6% were in the Western Canada. The remaining 5.0% were spread among the Atlantic provinces (4.8%) and the territories (0.2%). In each of the provinces, more than 97.9% of businesses had fewer than 50 employees.

Chart 2: Small Businesses Per 1,000 Population by Province, 2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

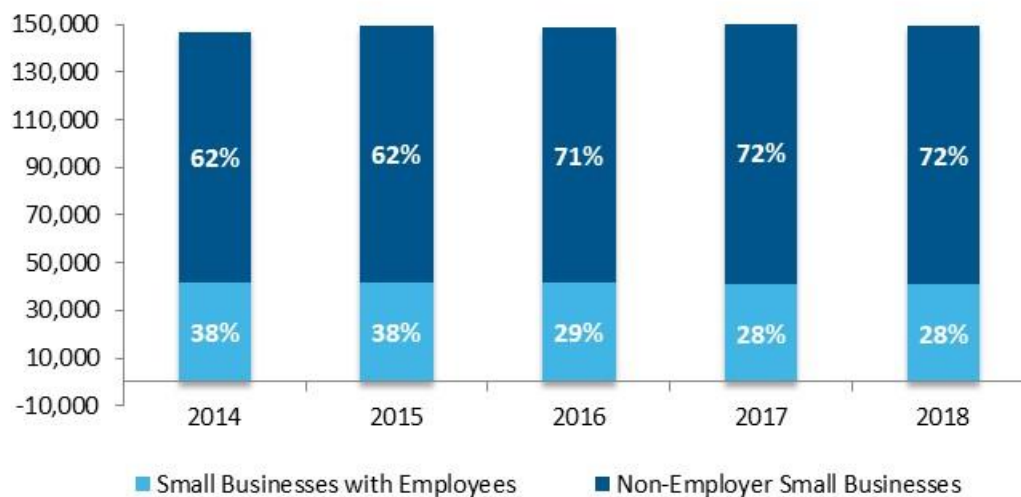
Note: All accounts for Canada include the numbers of businesses for the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and Nunavut.

Saskatchewan has the highest per capita count of small business establishments among Canadian provinces, with a rate of 129 businesses per 1,000 people. The national average was 110 per 1,000 population. The large agriculture sector in Saskatchewan is part of the reason for Saskatchewan's high small business count. In 2018 there were 40,104 businesses in the agriculture sector, of which 40,089 were small businesses.

2. Small Business Trends: 2008 to 2018

As of 2018, incorporated companies that show a minimum of \$30,000 in revenue (taxable or non-taxable) without payroll employees are considered non-employer businesses. This methodological change by Statistics Canada dramatically shifted the number of non-employer businesses compared to previous years. The number of small businesses in Saskatchewan was up by 60,691 (+68.4%) in 2018, compared to 2008, but it is not clear how much of the growth is a result of methodological changes and how much is the actual increase in the number of non-employer businesses. Most of the growth occurred in small businesses with no payroll employees (+54,749), as a consequence of the change in methodology, while those with payroll employees increased by a smaller amount (+5,942 or 16.8%).

Chart 3: Breakdown of Employer/Non-Employer Small Businesses, Saskatchewan, 2014-2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

From 2017 to 2018, the number of small businesses increased by 0.2% (+289), an increase of 66 in the number of employer businesses was complemented by the increase in non-employer businesses (+223). From 2008 and 2018, the increase of 68.4% in the number of small businesses can be explained by the shift caused by the change in methodology for the non-employer businesses (+102.5%), together with a 16.8% increase in employer businesses. Medium-sized enterprises increased by 19.5% (+259) and the number of large enterprises remained the same during this period³.

³ Changes in business count do not necessarily indicate the true number of new or discontinued businesses. Some businesses may move between size categories as they reduce or increase staff, adding to the count in the new category, and simultaneously reducing the count in the old category.

Table 3: Changes in Total Business Count

	% 2017-2018	% 2008-2018
Non-Employer	0.2%	102.5%
Small (1-49)	0.2%	16.8%
Medium (50-499)	-4.2%	19.5%
Large (500+)	-2.3%	10.5%
Total all Small Business(0-49)	0.2%	68.4%

Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

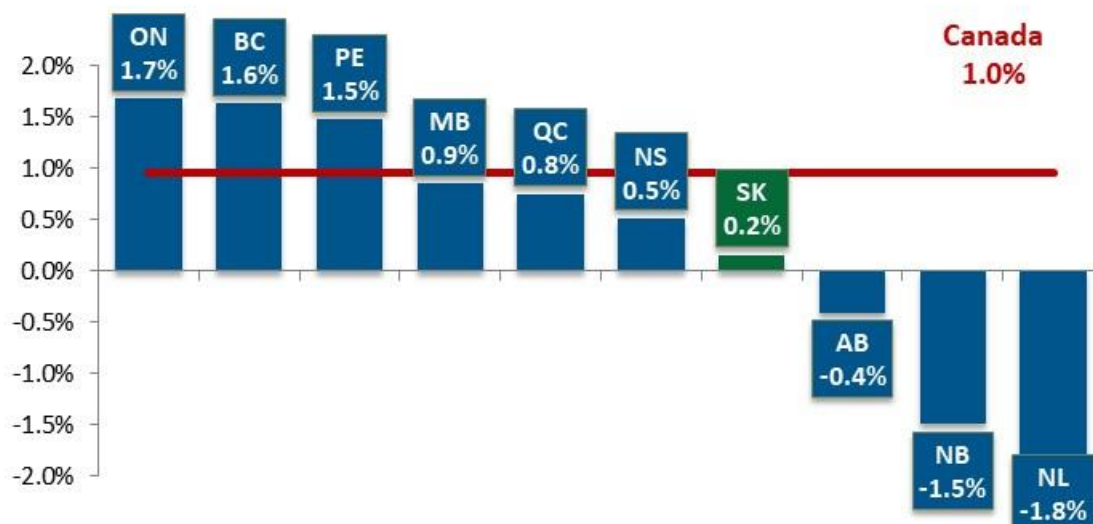
3. Small Business Trends by Province

Small businesses constitute 94% or more of each province's total employer businesses. In Saskatchewan, Alberta, and B.C., the 2018 small business share of employer businesses was over 95%, while Manitoba had the lowest share with 94.8%. The national average was 95.2%.

Saskatchewan had 41,323 small business establishments with payroll employees in 2018, which represented 3.4% of the 1.2M small employer establishments in Canada, and 9.4% of those in Western Canada (441,804). Saskatchewan's share was fifth-highest among the provinces.

The number of Saskatchewan small businesses with payroll employees increased by 0.2% in the 2017-2018 period, which was seventh-highest among Canadian provinces, and below the Canadian average of 1.0% increase. During the 10-year period 2008-2018, the number of small employer businesses in Saskatchewan grew by 16.8%, which was the fifth-highest growth rate, tied with Alberta, among the provinces and below the Canadian average (+18.8%).

Chart 4: Growth in Small Businesses with Payroll Employees, Canada and Provinces, 2018



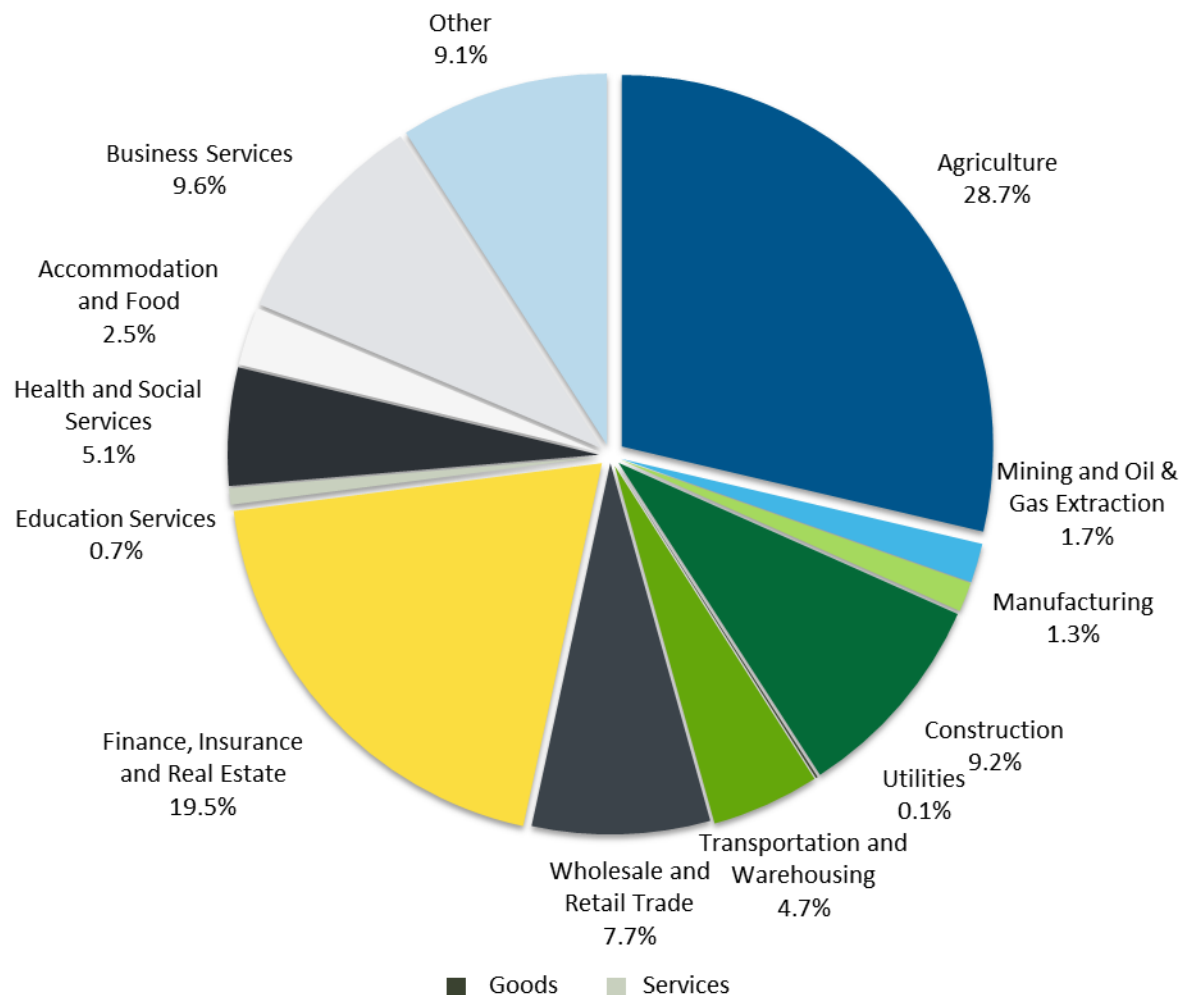
Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

In 2018, there were 36 small businesses with payroll employees per 1,000 population in Saskatchewan, compared to the national average of 33 businesses per 1,000 population.

4. Number of Businesses by Sector

In 2018, there were more small businesses in Saskatchewan's agriculture sector (40,089) than in any other sector of the economy. The agriculture sector⁴ accounted for 13.3% of employer small businesses (5,311) and 34.8% of non-employer businesses (34,778).

Chart 5: Industry Distribution of Saskatchewan Small Businesses (0-49 Employees), 2018



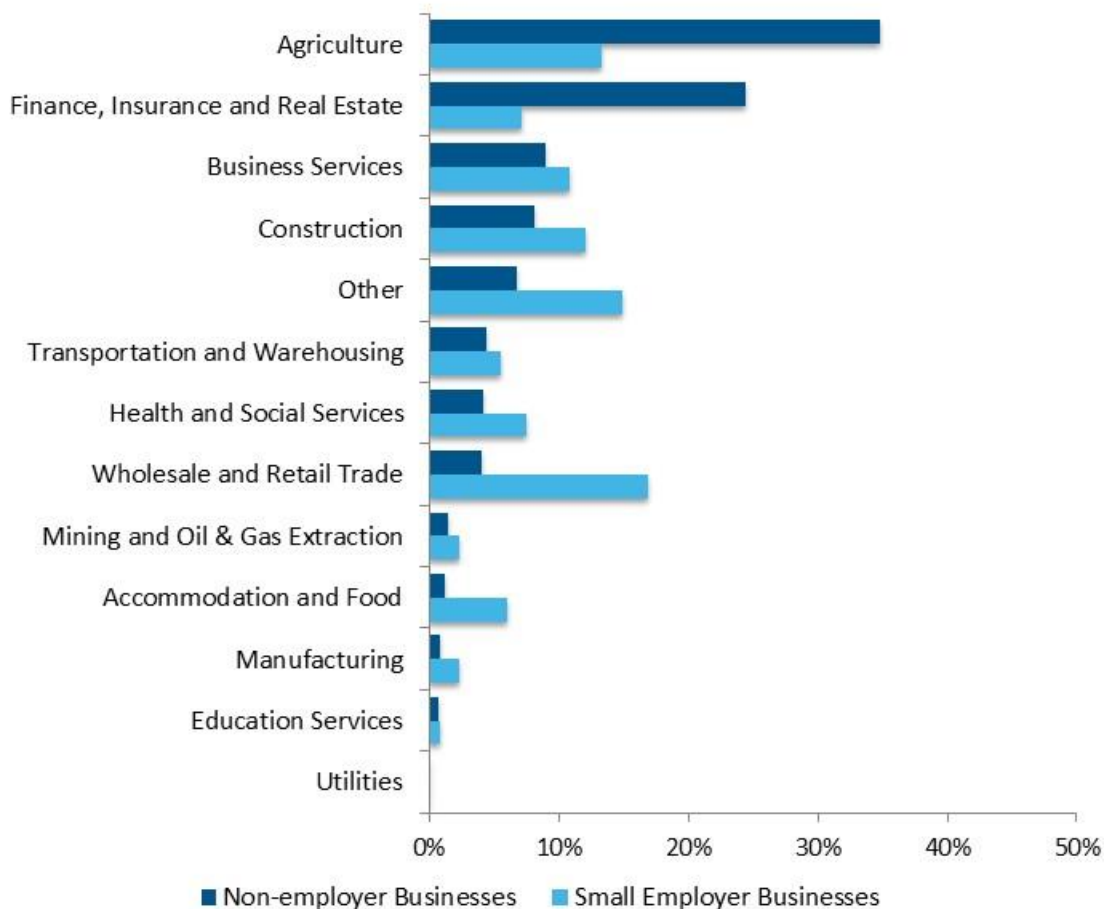
Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

Goods-producing industries comprise 40.9% of all the small businesses in Saskatchewan. This is largely due to the fact that the largest individual sector, agriculture, accounts for 28.7% of all small businesses in Saskatchewan. Finance, insurance and real estate (19.5%) represent the highest percentage of small businesses in the service sector.

⁴ The agriculture sector includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, as well as related support activities.

Agriculture had the largest non-employer small businesses followed by finance, insurance and real estate at 34.8% and 24.4% respectively. Wholesale and retail trade had the highest share of small businesses with payroll employees (16.9%).

Chart 6: Comparison of Non-employer and Employer Small Businesses, 2018



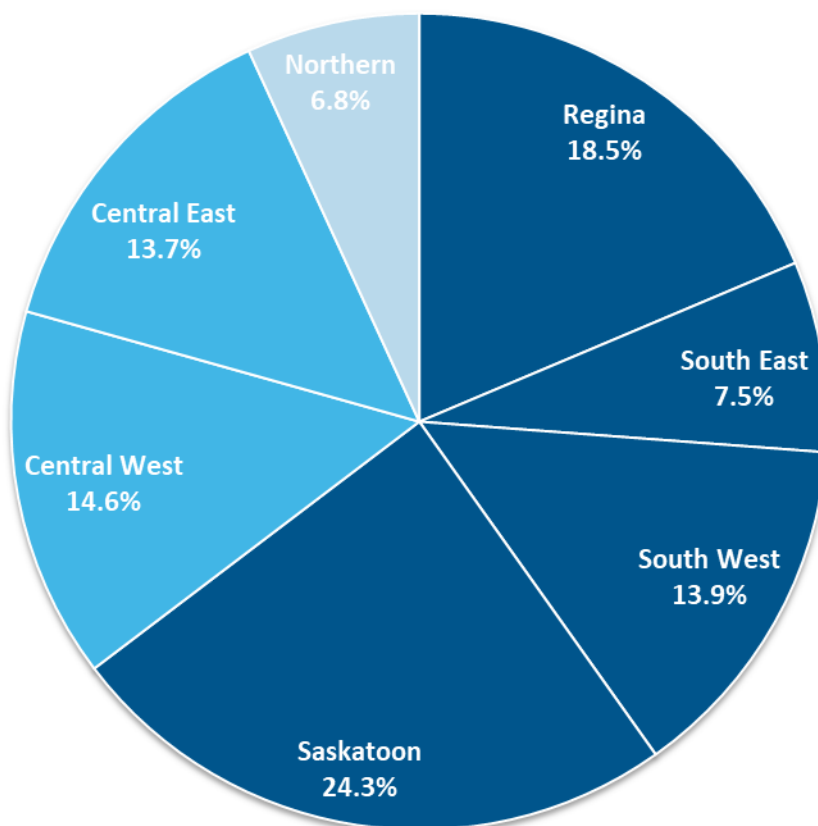
Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

5. Regional Analysis

The number of small business in the Saskatoon census metropolitan area (CMA) (33,621 or 22.5%) and Regina CMA (23,527 or 15.7%) accounted for 38.2% of the province's 149,465 small businesses in 2018. The Moose Jaw census agglomeration (CA) and the Prince Albert CA contributed 2.4% and 2.6% of total small businesses, respectively.

Looking at broader geographic areas, the Saskatoon region was home to 24.3% (36,310) of Saskatchewan's small business establishments. The Regina region had 18.5% (27,645) of the total. Small businesses were relatively evenly distributed across the South West region (13.9%), Central East region (13.7%), and Central West region (14.6%).

Chart 7: Number of Small Businesses by Region, Saskatchewan, 2018



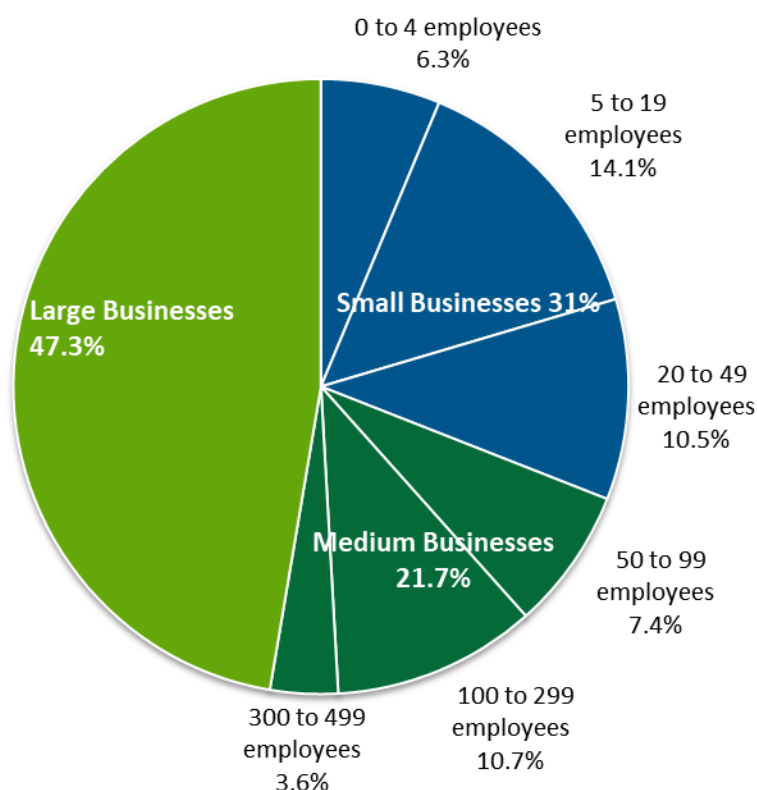
Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register.

Between 2013 and 2018, the Saskatoon and Regina regions recorded 8.8% and 4.7% growth in the number of small businesses respectively. During this period, the number of small businesses with payroll employees declined in the Northern region (-9.5%), South East region (-7.0%), Central East region (-6.2%), Central West region (-6.0%), and the South West region (-0.6%).

6. Employment by Business Size

According to the Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours (SEPH) data, in 2018, 470,797 employees were on payroll in Saskatchewan. Although large enterprises only comprise 0.1% of Saskatchewan businesses, they employ 47.3% of all employees (222,859). Small enterprises employ 31.0% (145,760) of the total, and medium-sized enterprises employ 21.7% (102,178).

Chart 8: Saskatchewan Employment by Size of Business, 2018



Source: Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours.

From 2008 and 2018, the share of total employees attributed to large and medium enterprises increased by 0.5% and 0.8% percentage points to reach 47.3% and 21.7% respectively, while the share belonging to the small-sized business category decreased by 1.3% to reach 31.0%. Large enterprises added a total of 22,367 jobs between 2008 and 2018.

Table 4: Share of Payroll Employees, 2018

	% change 2017-18	% change 2008-18	Share 2018	Share 2008
Micro (0-4)	0.0%	1.6%	6.3%	6.8%
Small (0-49)	-0.6%	5.2%	31.0%	32.3%
Medium (50-499)	1.0%	14.1%	21.7%	20.9%
Large (500+)	0.4%	11.2%	47.3%	46.8%

Source: Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH).

From 2008 to 2018, there were 42,282 new jobs created in the province for all businesses. Small businesses were responsible for 7,253 new jobs. The number of jobs in medium-sized businesses went up by 12,663 and 22,367 new jobs by large-sized businesses.

Between 2017 and 2018, payroll employment decreased among small businesses by 868 (-0.6%), while large businesses increased by 954 (+0.4%), and medium-sized businesses increased by 1,024 (+1.0%). Overall, payroll employment rose by 1,093 (0.2%) from 2017 to 2018.

Table 5: Number of Employees by Business Size, 2008 to 2018

	2008	2017	2018	chg 2017-18	% chg 2017-18	chg 2008-18	% chg 2008-18
All Sizes	428,515	469,704	470,797	1,093	0.2%	42,282	9.9%
Small (0-49)	138,507	146,628	145,760	-868	-0.6%	7,253	5.2%
Medium (50-499)	89,515	101,136	102,178	1,042	1.0%	12,663	14.1%
Large (500+)	200,492	221,905	222,859	954	0.4%	22,367	11.2%

Source: Statistics Canada Table 14-10-0215-01.

Note that self-employed persons who are not on payroll are not included. Also not included are employees in agriculture, fishing and trapping industries, private household services, religious organizations, and military personnel of defence services.

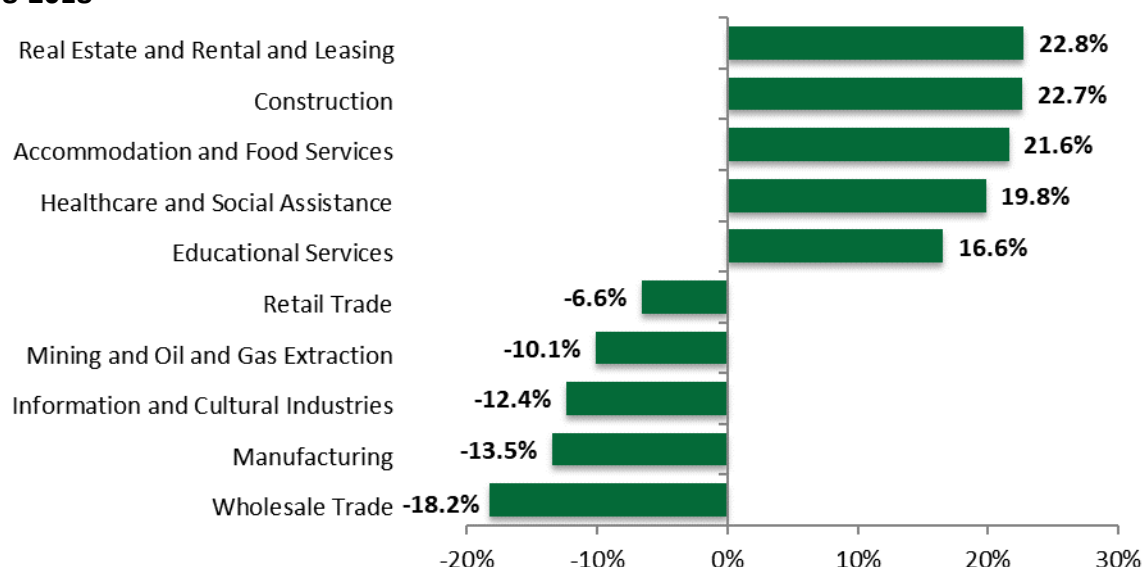
7. Employment by Sector

In 2018, five industry sectors had the majority of their workers employed by small businesses. These sectors were construction (65.1%), real estate and rental and leasing (61.1%), accommodation and food services (59.1%), professional, scientific and technical services (54.8%) and other services⁵ (73.1%),

In another four sectors, at least one-third of the work force was employed by small enterprises: administrative and support (40.6%), transportation and warehousing (39.5%), arts, entertainment and recreation (33.4%) and retail trade (33.0%).

Since 2008 the sectors with the highest levels of small business employment growth have been real estate and rental and leasing (+22.8%), construction (+22.7%), accommodation and food services (+21.6%), healthcare and social assistance (+19.8%) and educational services (+16.6%). The sectors with the lowest levels of small business employment growth have been retail trade (-6.6%), mining and oil and gas (-10.1%), information and cultural industries (-12.4%), manufacturing (-13.5%) and wholesale trade (-18.2%).

Chart 9: Saskatchewan Small Business Employment Change, Top and Bottom Five Sectors, 2008-2018



Source: Statistics Canada Table 14-10-0215-01

⁵ This sector comprises establishments, not classified to any other sector, primarily engaged in repairing, or performing general or routine maintenance, on motor vehicles, machinery, equipment and other products to ensure that they work efficiently; providing personal care services, funeral services, laundry services and other services to individuals, such as pet care services and photo finishing services; organizing and promoting religious activities; supporting various causes through grant-making, advocating (promoting) various social and political causes, and promoting and defending the interests of their members. Private households are also included.

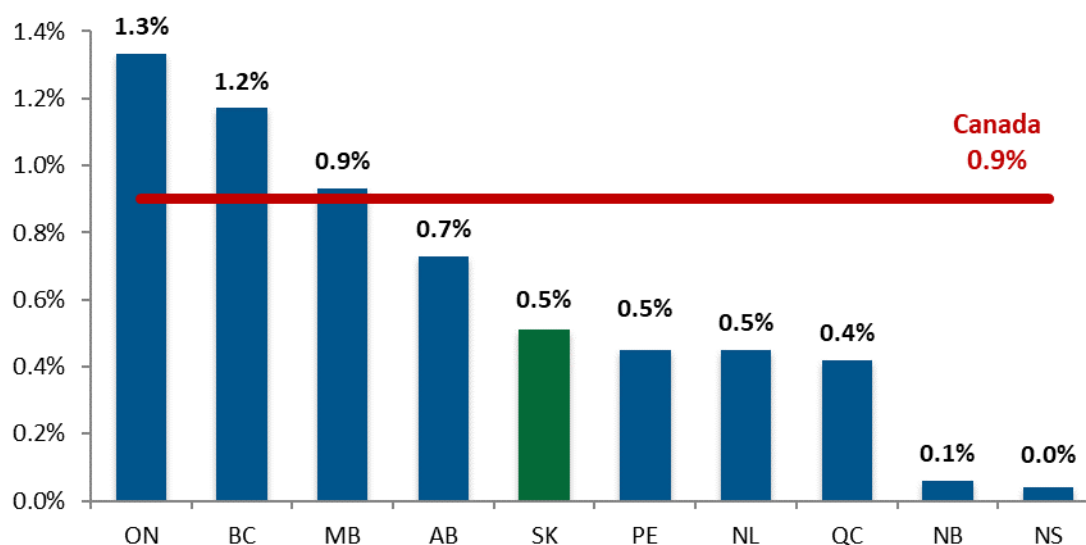
8. Employment by Province

In 2018, there were 5.0M small business employees in Canada. Ontario had 1.8M small business employees, or 36.1% of the Canadian total. B.C. (792,190) and Alberta (611,801) were home to 15.8% and 12.2% of Canadian small business employees, respectively. Small enterprises in Manitoba employed 167,790 (3.3% of the national total), and there were 145,760 employees in Saskatchewan small businesses (2.9% of the national total). Together, the four western provinces had almost 1.7M small business employees in 2018, or 34.2% of the Canadian total.

In Saskatchewan, the small business sector's share of provincial payroll employment was 31.0% in 2018, just above the national average (30.8%). B.C., at 35.6%, had the highest proportion of payroll employment derived from small businesses, followed by P.E.I. (32.5%), Québec (32.4%), and New Brunswick (31.9%). Manitoba had the lowest share at 28.1%.

Between 2008 and 2018, small business jobs in Saskatchewan grew, on average, by 0.5% per year, similar to Newfoundland and Labrador (+0.5%) and Prince Edward Island (+0.5%), ahead of Québec (+0.4%), New Brunswick (+0.1%) and Nova Scotia (+0.0%). For western provinces, small business employment grew in British Columbia by 1.2%, Manitoba by 0.9%, and Alberta by 0.7% per year, on average. The national average was 0.9%.

Chart 10: Small Business Payroll Employment Average Annual Growth Rate, 2008-2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0215-01.

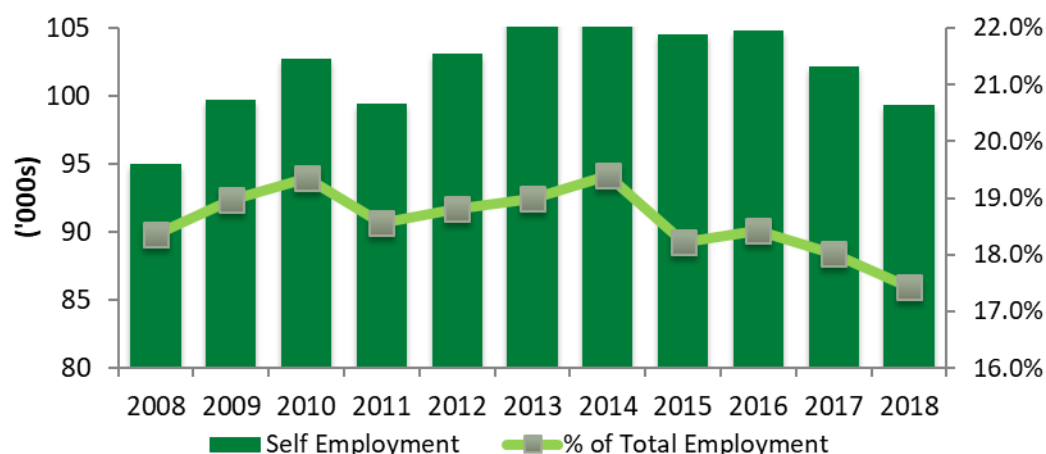
9. Self-Employment Trends: 2008-2018

Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey identifies self-employed workers as working owners of a business, persons who work on their own account but do not have a business, and persons working without pay in a family business. The data include farmers and ranchers⁶. In a recent study by Statistics Canada, the proportion of self-employed that reported independence, freedom or being their own boss as the reason for being self-employed was 31.9% in Saskatchewan, lower than the national average of 33.5%⁷.

In 2018, the number of people self-employed (including farmers and ranchers) accounted for 17.4% of total employment in Saskatchewan. This is down from 26.0% of total employment in 1988 and 18.4% in 2008.

The number of self-employed workers increased by 4,300 (4.5%), from 95,000 in 2008 to 99,300 in 2018.

Chart 11: Saskatchewan Self-Employment, 2008-2018

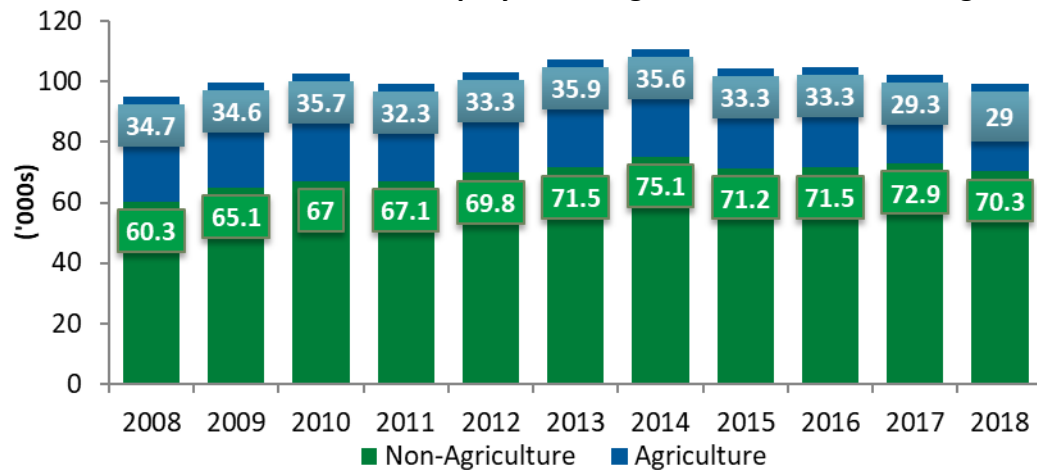


Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

The net increase of 4,300 in the number of self-employed workers in Saskatchewan between 2008 and 2018 is due to the gain of 10,000 self-employed workers in non-agriculture sectors, coinciding with a loss of 5,700 people in agriculture sector.

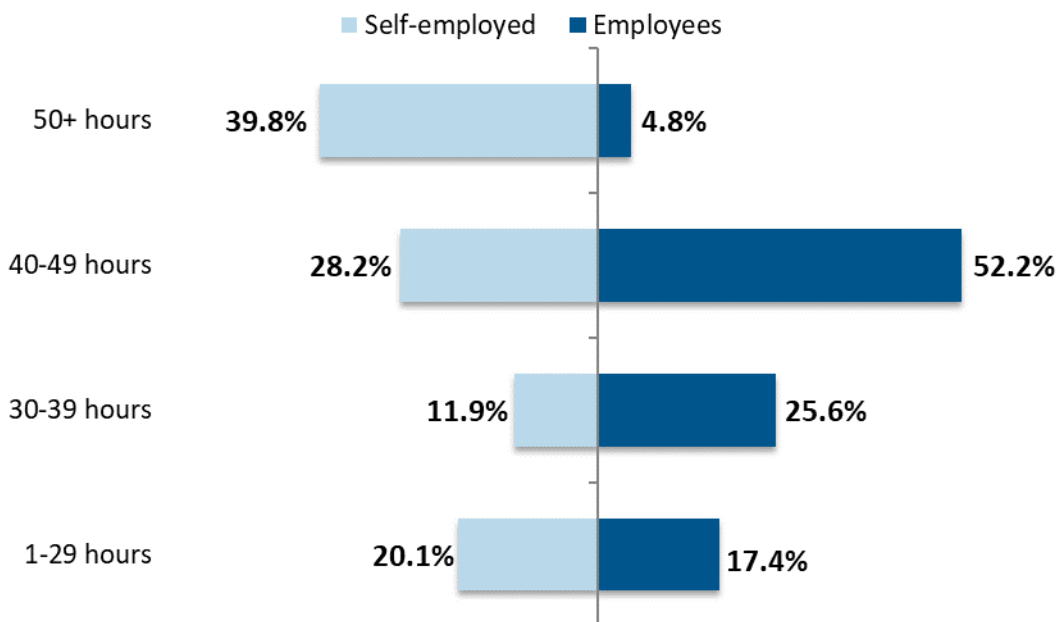
⁶ Self-employed businesses can be operated as an unincorporated or incorporated entity and within each of these categories can be further classified as operating with paid help or without paid help. Another category of self-employed workers consists of unpaid members of family businesses. This produces five categories of self-employed workers in the province.

⁷ Yssaad Lahouaria and Vincent Ferrao. May 2019. "Self-employed Canadians: Who and Why?". Statistics Canada.

Chart 12: Saskatchewan Self-Employment, Agriculture versus Non-Agriculture, 2008-2018

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

Self-employed workers tend to work more hours than those employed by other people. In 2018, 39.8% of self-employed workers worked more than 50 hours per week, compared to just 4.8% of employees.

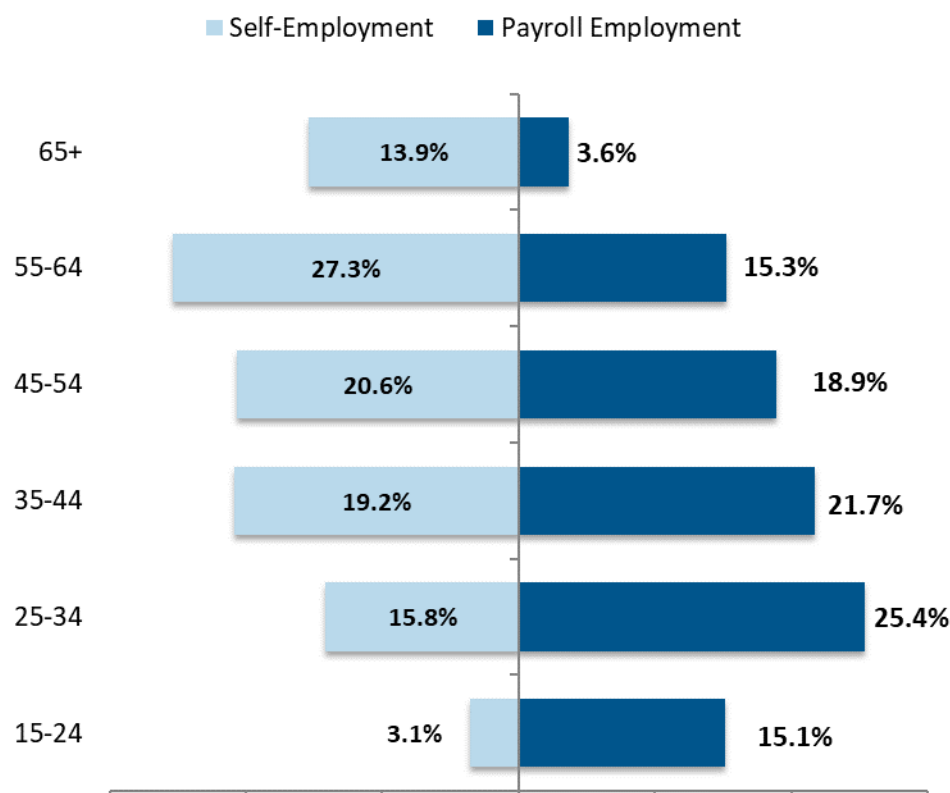
Chart 13: Hours Worked (per week), Self-Employed vs. Employees, Saskatchewan, 2018

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

10. Self-Employment by Age

Older age groups comprise the largest percentage of self-employment in Saskatchewan. In 2018, self-employed workers over 45 years of age made up almost two-thirds (61.8%) of total self-employment but only 37.8% of payroll employees. By comparison, self-employed youth (15-34 years) accounted for 18.9% of all self-employed people, but 40.5% of payroll employees.

Chart 14: Age Distribution of Saskatchewan Self-Employed versus Employees, 2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Decreased participation in self-employment by younger workers is a long-term trend. Between 2008 and 2018, self-employment among 15-24 year-old youth decreased by 2.8%. Self-employment among mid-career workers in the 35-44 year-old age category increased by 12.5% from 2008 to 2018. During the same period, the number of self-employed 55-64 year-olds increased by 15.1%. These changes are due, in part, to shifting demographics. The 15-24 year old population declined by 6,162 people, from 14.9% of the total population in 2008 to 12.5% in 2018, while the 55-64 year old population grew by 39,366 people, from 11.0% of the total population in 2008 to 13.0% in 2018.

Table 6: Self-employment by Age Group in Saskatchewan

Age Group	Self-Employment (% chg)		Total Employment (% chg)	
	2017-18	2008-18	2017-18	2008-18
15+	-2.8%	4.5%	0.4%	10.1%
15-24	-18.6%	-2.8%	-2.9%	-19.4%
25-34	0.7%	22.6%	0.2%	31.0%
35-44	-1.4%	12.5%	2.3%	19.0%
45-54	-2.4%	-25.7%	-0.8%	-15.1%
55-64	-7.4%	15.1%	0.6%	36.0%
65+	3.4%	26.4%	5.9%	66.2%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

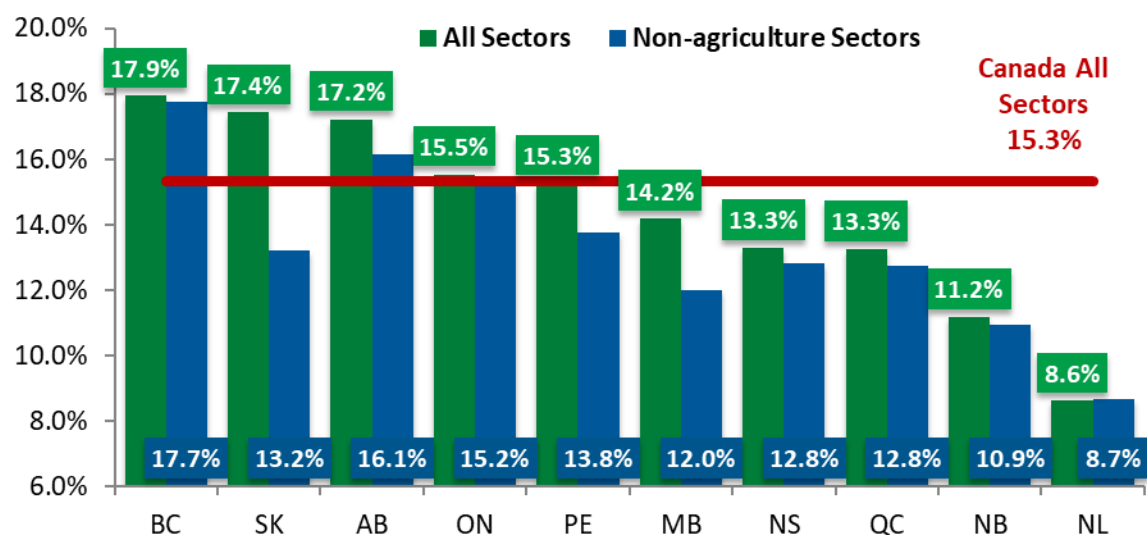
11. Self-Employment by Province

In 2018, Saskatchewan had a total of 99,300 self-employed persons, the fifth-largest number among the provinces, ahead of Manitoba and the four Atlantic provinces.

Compared to other provinces, Saskatchewan had the second largest proportion of self-employed individuals in the workforce, at 17.4%, behind British Columbia at 17.9%. This exceeded the national average of 15.3%, Alberta (17.2%), Ontario (15.5%) and Prince Edward Island (15.3%).

For the non-agricultural sector, 13.2% of total employment was self-employed in Saskatchewan, behind British Columbia (17.7%), Alberta (16.1%), Ontario (15.2%) and Prince Edward Island (13.8%).

Chart 15: Self Employment as % of Total Employment, 2018

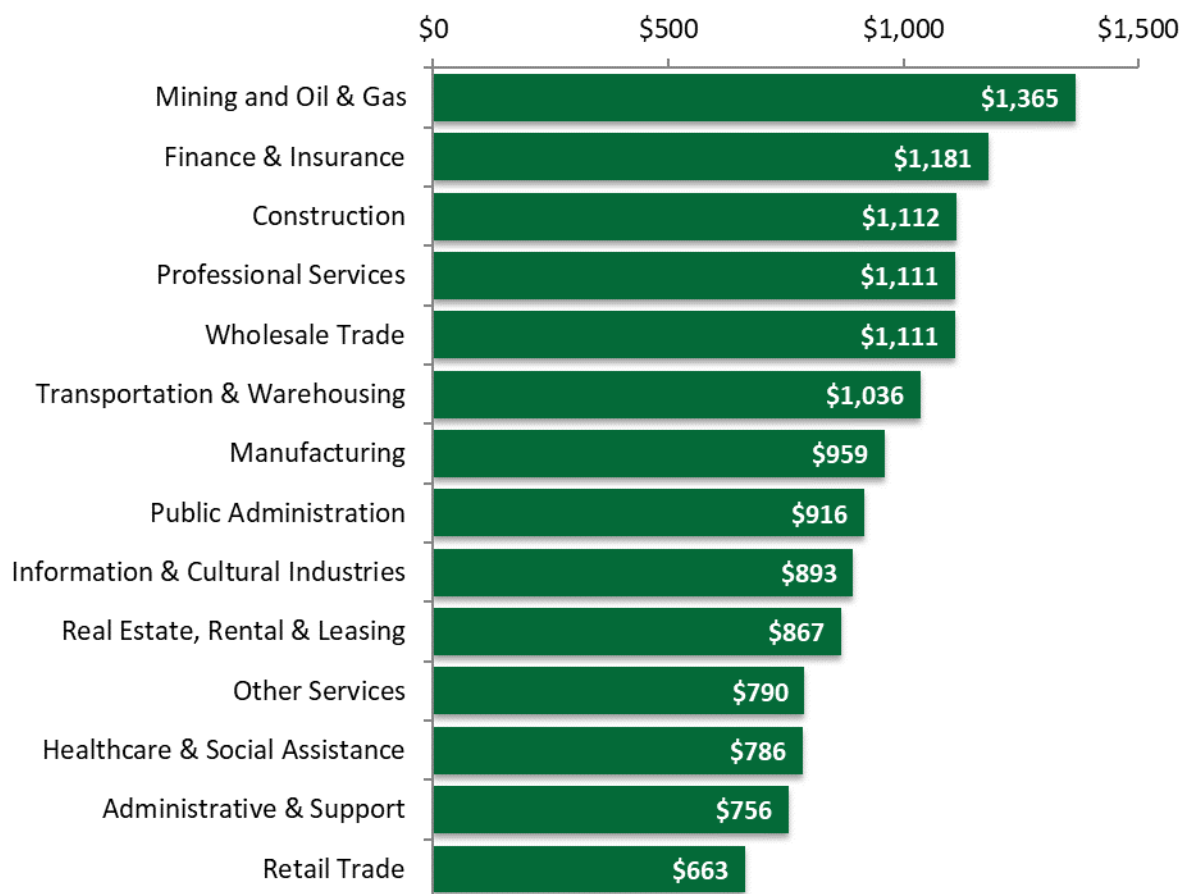


Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

12. Earnings by Sector

Average weekly earnings for Saskatchewan small businesses employees range from a high of \$1,365 for the mining and oil and gas sector to \$663 in retail trade.

**Chart 16: Saskatchewan Small Business Average Weekly Earnings by Sector, 2018
(Industrial Aggregate \$827)**



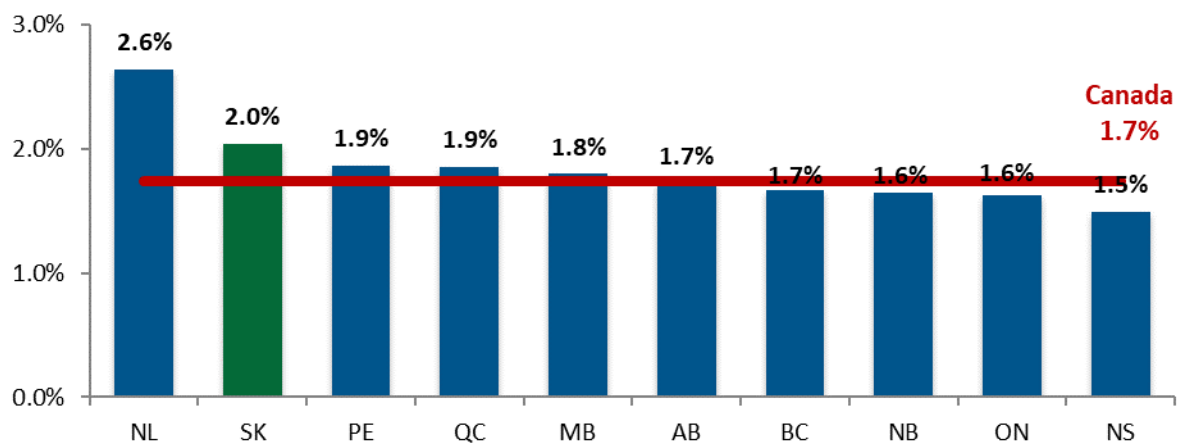
Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0217-01.

13. Earnings by Province

In 2018, average weekly earnings in Saskatchewan's small businesses were, at \$827, the fourth - highest among the provinces in Canada.

In Saskatchewan, small business employee earnings grew, on average, by 2.0% per year between 2008 and 2018, the second-highest growth rate among the provinces. The national average was 1.7% per year. Small business employee earnings in seven provinces grew at or above the national growth rate.

Chart 17: Small Business Average Weekly Earnings (Average Annual Growth Rate), 2008-2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0217-01

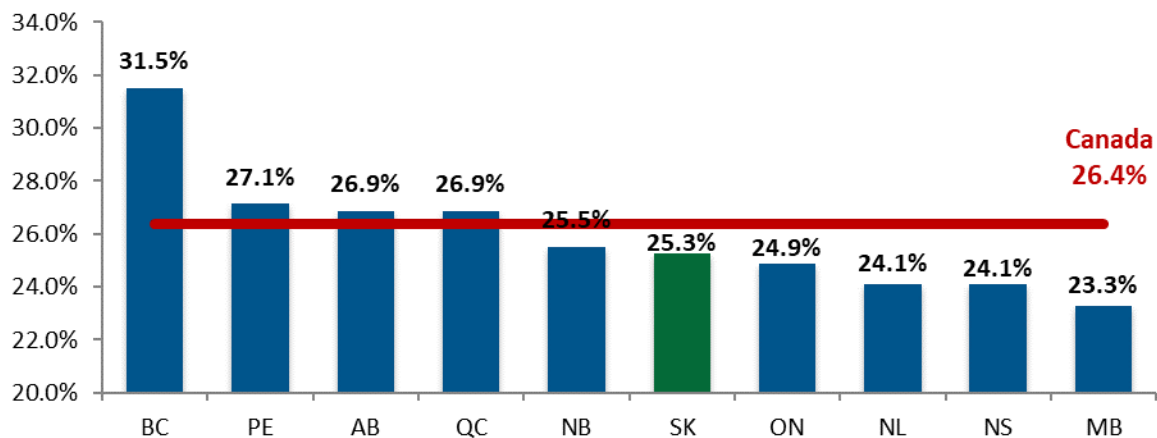
In absolute terms, the third largest increase in average weekly earnings for small businesses between 2008 and 2018 occurred in Saskatchewan (\$152), behind Alberta (\$156) and Newfoundland and Labrador (\$185).

Small business employees working in Alberta earned the most in 2018, at \$995 per week, followed by Ontario at \$891, British Columbia at \$857 and Saskatchewan at \$827. Small business employees in Prince Edward Island received the lowest weekly earnings, at \$702 on average, in 2018.

14. Payroll by Business Size

In 2018, small businesses paid out approximately \$6.3B in payroll and accounted for 25.3% of the total wages and salaries paid to workers in Saskatchewan. B.C., at 31.5%, had the highest proportion of payroll attributed to small businesses, followed by P.E.I. at 27.1%. The national average stood at 26.4%. Saskatchewan's share was the sixth-highest in Canada.

Chart 18: Small Business Sector's Share of Total Provincial Payroll, 2018



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0217-01

Micro-businesses, businesses with fewer than five employees, accounted for \$1.4B or 5.5% of the total, whereas businesses with 5-19 employees had a payroll of \$2.8B or 11.1% of the total. Those with 20-49 employees paid out \$2.1B or 8.6% of the total payroll.

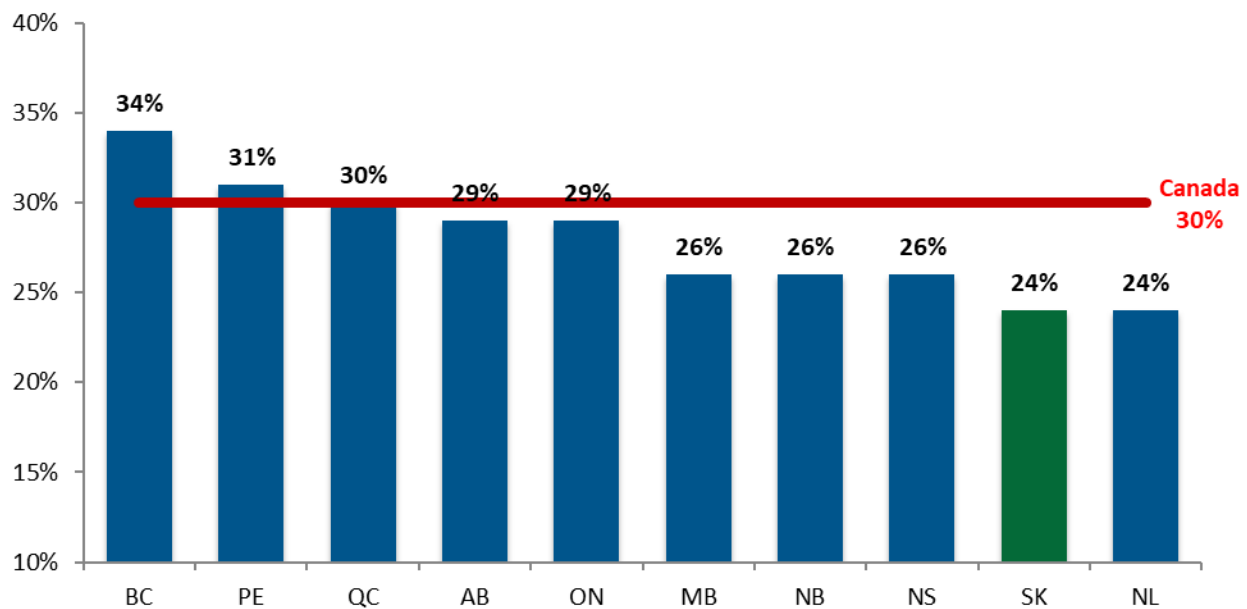
In 2018, large businesses (500 or more employees) accounted for more than half of the total payroll (54.2% or \$13.5B), while medium-sized businesses (50-499 employees) accounted for 20.5% or \$5.1B of the total.

15. Small Business Contribution to GDP

Small businesses contribute to the provincial economy as producers of goods and services, as consumers, and as employers.

In 2018, small businesses accounted for 24% of Saskatchewan's GDP.⁸ From 2008 to 2018, small business GDP for Saskatchewan exceeded or matched the corresponding national average seven times. The Canadian average was estimated to be 30% in 2018.

Chart 19: Small Business Contribution to GDP, 2018



Source: Statistical Service of British Columbia.

⁸ B.C. Stats has developed a method to determine the contribution of small businesses to GDP, using the income-based approach of the System of National Accounts. B.C. Stats' definition of "small business" covers businesses with fewer than 50 employees, plus those operated by the self-employed.

Sources of Data

Statistics Canada defines “businesses” as different types of organization from both the public and private sectors, such as a corporation, a self-employed individual, a government entity, a non-profit organization, a partnership, or financial fund. A business is viewed as an integrated structure composed of legal and non-legal operating units, and is assigned a NAICS code.

Statistics Canada, Business Register, Business Establishment Counts, Canada and Provinces, NAICS, End-of-Year Business Count.

Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0215-01 - Employment by Enterprise SEPH for all Employees, for selected industries classified using the NAICS, Annual (Persons).

Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0217-01 - Average Weekly Earnings by Enterprise SEPH for all Employees, for selected industries classified using the NAICS, Annual (Dollars).

Statistics Canada, LFS, Employment by Class of Worker, Public and Private Sector, Employees and Self-Employed, Sex, Industry, Canada, Provinces, Annual Average. Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0027-01 & Table 14-10-0018-01.

Statistics Canada, Survey of Suppliers of Business Financing.

Statistical Service of B.C., Small Business Contribution to GDP Estimates based on income-based approach of the System of National Accounts.

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