



Business statistics snapshot June 2020



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Department of State Growth

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Introduction

The following summary of statistics is sourced from:

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, June 2016 to June 2020 (catalogue number 8165.0).

The data is based on;

- counts of actively trading businesses,
- rates of entry to and exits from the market sector of the Australian economy
- rates of business survival.

For further detailed data visit www.abs.gov.au

Australian Businesses – Overview 2019-20

At 30 June 2020, there were 2 422 404 actively trading businesses in the Australian economy.

Financial Year	Number of businesses at start of year	Number of businesses at end of year	Change in number of businesses over year
2010-11	2 124 650	2 132 412	7 762 (+0.4%)
2011-12	2 132 412	2 141 280	8 868 (+0.4%)
2012-13	2 141 280	2 079 666	-61 614 (-2.9%)
2013-14	2 079 666	2 100 162	20 496 (+1.0%)
2014-15	2 100 162	2 121 235	21 073 (+1.0%)
2015-16	2 121 235	2 171 544	50 309 (+2.4%)
2016-17	2 171 544	2 238 299	66 755 (+3.1%)
2017-18	2 238 299	2 313 291	74 992 (+3.4%)
2018-19	2 313 291	2 375 753	62 462 (+2.7%)
2019-20	2 375 753	2 422 404	46 651 (+2.0%)

Source: ABS Catalogue No. 8165.01, table 4

In 2019-20 there was a:

- 2.0% or 46 651, increase in the number of businesses,
- 14.5% entry rate, with 344 472 entries,
- 12.5% exit rate, with 297 821 exits.

Three industries accounted for more than half of the net annual increase in businesses (business entrants *less* business exits), these were;

- Transport, postal and warehousing, accounting for 22.3% of net annual growth in businesses,
- Professional, scientific and technical services, accounting for 15.9% of net annual growth in businesses,
- Health care and social assistance, accounting for 15.0% of net annual growth in businesses.

Australian Businesses – State Highlights 2019-20

In 2019-20 there was a:

- 3.8% increase in the number of businesses in Tasmania, the largest of any state/territory, with an increase of 1 500 to 40 955 total,
- 3.0% increase in the number of businesses in Victoria, with an increase of 19 491 to 660 214 total,
- 0.5% increase in the number of businesses in Western Australia, the lowest of any state, with an increase of 1 156 to 234 103 total.

At 30 June 2020, almost two-thirds (61.1%) of all businesses in Australia were in New South Wales (820 735 businesses) and Victoria (660 214 businesses).

Businesses in the ACT had both the highest entry (16.2%) and exit rates (13.7%) in 2019-20.

Businesses in South Australia had the lowest entry rate (12.3%) while businesses in Tasmania had the lowest exit rate (10.5%) in 2019-20.

From June 2016 to June 2020, Tasmania had the highest business survival rate among states and territories at 68.7%, and above the national average of 65.1%.

Australian Businesses - Industry Division Highlights 2019-20

Construction continues to be the industry with the largest number of businesses in Australia at 30 June 2020, accounting for 16.4% or 397 020 of all businesses.

The Transport, Postal and Warehousing industry contributed most (10 401) to the increase in number of businesses in Australia in 2019-20 and the highest annual growth at 5.5%.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry had an annual decrease in business counts in 2019-20, down 1.0% or 1 782 businesses. This industry had the lowest entry rate (6.7%) of businesses in the same period.

Australian Businesses - Employment Size Highlights 2019-20

At 30 June 2020, almost two-thirds of businesses in Australia (63.9% or 1 546 865 businesses) were non-employing. Non-employing businesses had the largest increase (up 3.8% or 55 933 businesses) in 2019-20.

Over one-third of all businesses in Australia at 30 June 2020 were employing (36.1% or 875 539 businesses).

The most common employing businesses had between 1 and 4 employees (68.7% or 601 687 businesses).

The least common employing businesses had 200 or more employees (0.5% or 4 367 businesses).

The number of businesses in 5-19 and 200+ employment size brackets increased, while the number of businesses in the 1-4 and 20-199 employee size range went down.

The highest annual growth rate was from those in the 200+ employee size range (up 2.2% or 96 businesses). The lowest growth rate was from the 1-4 employee size range (down 1.6% or less 9 761 businesses).

In 2019-20, non-employing businesses had both the highest entry (17.3%) and exit (15.3%) rates, while businesses with 200+ employees had both the lowest entry (1.4%) and exit (2.6%) rates.

Of those businesses operating in June 2017, non-employing businesses had the lowest survival rate to June 2020 (49.8%); while businesses with 200+ employees had the highest survival rate (72.5%) to 30 June 2020.

Tasmanian Overview – Number of Tasmanian Businesses 2019-20

At the end of the financial year 2019-20 there was an estimated;

- **40 955 businesses (all sizes) in Tasmania.** This was 1 500 more businesses (+3.8%) than the previous year.
- At the end of the financial year 2019-20 there were **39 767 small businesses** (less than 20 employees). This was 1 625 more businesses (+4.3%) than the previous year.
- At 30 June 2020, small businesses accounted for **97%** of all businesses in Tasmania.

Financial Year	Number of businesses at start of year	Number of businesses at end of year	Change in number of businesses
2011-12	38 859	38 797	-62 (-0.16%)
2012-13	38 797	37 464	-1 153 (-3.0%)
2013-14	37 464	37 032	-432 (-1.2%)
2014-15	37 032	36 798	-234 (-0.6%)
2015-16	36 798	37 057	259 (+0.7%)
2016-17	37 057	37 730	673 (+1.8%)
2017-18	37 730	38 450	720 (+1.9%)
2018-19	38 450	39 455	1 005 (+2.6%)
2019-20	39 455	40 955	1 500 (+3.8%)

Source: ABS Catalogue No. 8165.01, table 4

Tasmanian Business – Survival of Tasmanian Businesses

When compared with other states and territories, Tasmanian businesses have the highest survival rate (businesses still in operation at the end of each financial year).

Of the 37 057 Tasmanian businesses operating in June 2016;

- 90.0% were operating in June 2017
- 81.8% were operating in June 2018
- 74.6% were operating in June 2019
- 68.7% were operating in June 2020.

Tasmanian Business – Business Employment Size Ranges 2019-20

At 30 June 2020 there were 39 767 small businesses (less than 20 employees).

Small businesses made up 97% of all businesses in Tasmania.

63.8% of small businesses in Tasmania were non-employing (sole operators).

2.9% (1 198) of Tasmanian businesses had 20 or more employees.

Tasmanian Businesses in Local Government Area

Tasmanian businesses by Local Government Area, 30 June 2020			
Local Government Area	Small Business	Total Businesses	Small businesses as % of total
Break O'Day	529	535	99%
Brighton	605	617	98%
Burnie	1 158	1 198	97%
Central Coast	1 450	1 475	98%
Central Highlands	241	252	96%
Circular Head	877	897	98%
Clarence	3 553	3 638	98%
Derwent Valley	438	458	96%
Devonport	1 670	1 724	97%
Dorset	870	873	99%
Flinders	169	172	98%
George Town	315	326	97%
Glamorgan/Spring Bay	466	482	97%
Glenorchy	2 720	2 828	96%
Hobart	6 675	6 913	97%
Huon Valley	1 257	1 292	97%
Kentish	520	524	99%
King Island	306	308	99%
Kingborough	2 626	2 686	98%
Latrobe	767	793	97%
Launceston	5 437	5 628	97%
Meander Valley	1 639	1 670	98%
Northern Midlands	1 108	1 137	97%
Sorell	914	920	99%
Southern Midlands	520	523	99%
Tasman	183	195	94%
Waratah/Wynyard	863	892	97%
West Coast	185	188	98%
West Tamar	1 533	1 558	98%
Location unknown	156	234	67%

Source: ABS Catalogue No. 8165.10

Tasmanian Businesses by Industry Division

Tasmanian businesses by Industry Divisions, 30 June 2020			
Industry Division	Small businesses	Total businesses	Small businesses as % of total
Accommodation and Food Services	2 192	2 352	93%
Administrative and Support Services	1 347	1 418	95%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	5 416	5 597	97%
Arts and Recreation Services	496	531	93%
Construction	6 345	6 446	98%
Education and Training	426	464	92%
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	116	126	92%
Financial and Insurance Services	2 733	2 761	99%
Health Care and Social Assistance	2 532	2 619	97%
Information Media and Telecommunications	248	252	98%
Manufacturing	1 599	1 808	88%
Mining	114	115	99%
Other Services	1 846	1 850	99%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	3 789	3 850	98%
Public Administration and Safety	110	115	96%
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	3 899	3 951	99%
Retail Trade	2 522	2 638	96%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	2 904	2 992	97%
Wholesale Trade	961	1 022	94%
Currently Unknown	65	73	89%

Source: ABS Catalogue No. 8165.02