

# Missouri Business Growth

## Growth in Number of Firms by Industry (Large Firm vs. Small Firm)

The major contributors to the growth in the number of firms in Missouri vary according to which industry is studied. The top table identifies industries where the number of small firms is growing at a faster rate than large firms. In the bottom table, the number of larger firms is growing at a faster rate than the small firms. Small firms are defined as companies employing less than 100 workers, while large firms consist of 100 or more workers.

### Industry Trends in Growth Rates for the Number of Firms (2001-2006)

Small Firm Growth > Large Firm Growth
Construction of Buildings
Specialty Trade Contractors
Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents/Brokers
Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation
Support Activities for Transportation
Real Estate
Administrative and Support Services
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries

Small businesses have benefited over the last five years from market demand in construction, real estate, and temporary workers.

Industries such as telecommunications and internet service providers have increased their firm size along with increased market demand, moving from small businesses to the level of large firms. Other large firms have benefited by increasing their presence in the market with various types of multi-location retail chains. Ambulatory Health Care Services is the only industry to experience positive gains across all firm sizes.

Large Firm Growth > Small Firm Growth
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing
Merchant Wholesalers
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers
Electronics and Appliance Dealers
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers
Food and Beverage Stores
Health and Personal Care Stores
Gasoline Stations
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores
General Merchandise Stores
Miscellaneous Store Retailers
Publishing Industries (except internet)
Broadcasting (except internet)
Telecommunications
Internet Service Providers
Rental and Leasing Services
Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets (except copyrights)
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries
Accommodation
Food Service and Drinking Places

Source: MERIC and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages