

Australia's Small Businesses by Region - States and Territories

Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise
Ombudsman

September 2022

This data presents Australia's small businesses according to their regional or metropolitan area classification, focusing on the state and territory in which they operate. Businesses can operate across multiple geographic locations. To prevent double counting, this data attributes them to one geographical location. For this reason, the business counts may not reflect the full extent of business activity in each location.

Please note that for this data the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman (ASBFEO) defines small businesses as those with less than 20 employees. The data is classified using the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).

Key findings

- The number of small businesses increased in all states and territories over the year to 30 June 2021. The largest increases in percentage terms were in the Australian Capital Territory (5.9%) and New South Wales (4.1%).
- The top five regions with the highest number of small businesses on 30 June 2021 were all in Greater Capital City areas: Sydney Inner City (NSW), Melbourne City (Vic), Boroondara (Vic), Perth City (WA) and Wyndham (Vic).
- The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses on 30 June 2021 were Geelong (Vic), Newcastle (NSW), Ormeau – Oxenford (Qld), Toowoomba (Qld) and Townsville (Qld).

Included in this data:

New South Wales

Victoria

Queensland

South Australia

Western Australia

Tasmania

Northern Territory

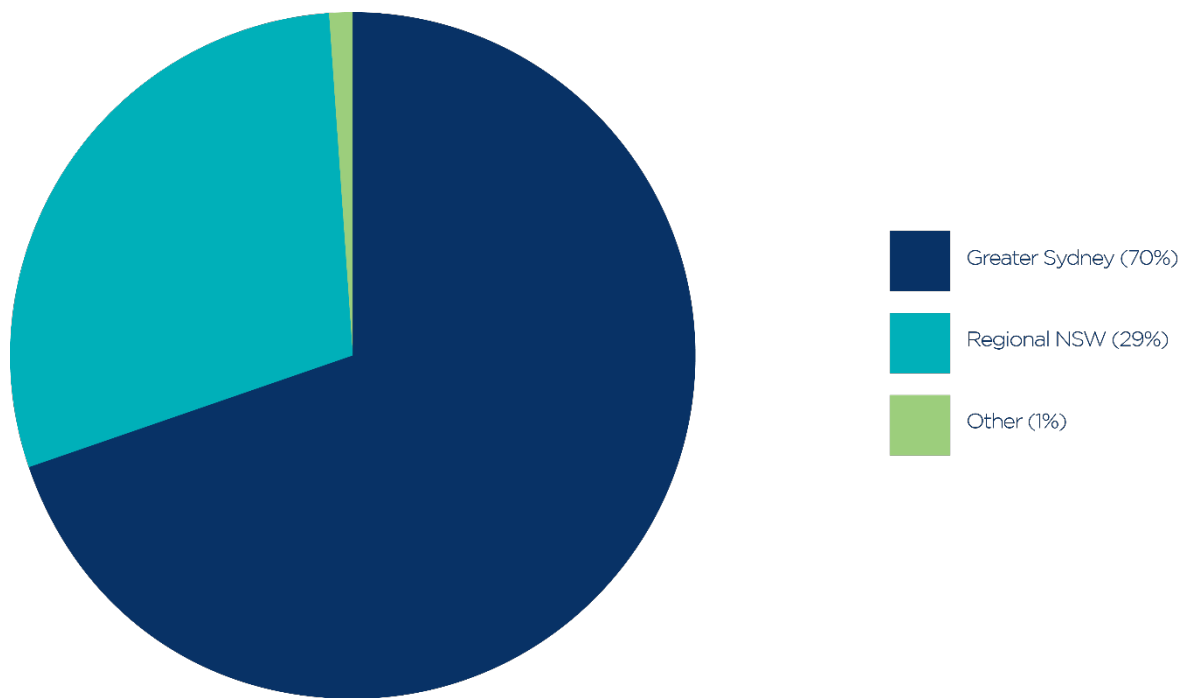
Australian Capital Territory

Other Territories

New South Wales

There were 797,956 small businesses in New South Wales on 30 June 2021. These accounted for 34% of all Australian small businesses (compared to 32% of the population that live in New South Wales).

Chart 1: Small business in New South Wales, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. “Other” is comprised of a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

In Greater Sydney, there were 560,468 small businesses on 30 June 2021, representing 70% of all small businesses in New South Wales. The Greater Sydney areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Sydney Inner City (70,468 small businesses). Of these, 49% were in Sydney (North) – Millers Point.
- Eastern Suburbs – North (21,468 small businesses). Of these, 20% were in Bondi Junction – Waverly.
- Bankstown (18,847 small businesses). Of these, 13% were in Condell Park.
- Baulkham Hills (18,508 small businesses). Of these, 29% were in Baulkham Hills (West) - Bella Vista.
- North Sydney – Mosman (17,978 small businesses). Of these, 35% were in North Sydney - Lavender Bay.

There were 231,442 small businesses in regional New South Wales, accounting for 29% of New South Wales small businesses on 30 June 2021. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Newcastle (13,996 small businesses). Of these, 18% were in Newcastle - Cooks Hill.
- Richmond Valley – Coastal (10,181 small businesses). Of these, 35% were in Ballina and Surrounds and 20% were in Byron Bay.
- Wollongong (10,046 small businesses). Of these, 25% were in Wollongong – East and 14% were in Balgownie - Fairy Meadow.
- Wagga Wagga (8,642 small businesses). Of these, 68% were in Wagga Wagga and Surrounds. An additional 9% were in Temora.
- Lake Macquarie – East (8,149 small businesses). Of these, 23% were in Charlestown – Dudley.

Table 1: Businesses in New South Wales by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Sydney	Number of businesses in regional NSW	Total number of businesses in NSW ¹
Non-employing	320,460	133,136	457,437
1-4 employees ²	192,685	73,418	267,701
5-19 employees	47,323	24,888	72,818
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>560,468</i>	<i>231,442</i>	<i>797,956</i>
20-99 employees	11,358	4,633	16,434
100-199 employees	1,107	277	1,636
200+ employees	578	116	1,622
Total	573,513	236,460	817,648

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals.

Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, non-employing businesses accounted for 57% of small businesses in New South Wales on 30 June 2021. This proportion was similar in Greater Sydney and in regional areas.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in New South Wales



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in New South Wales increased 4.1% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 21,484 (4.0%) in Greater Sydney. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Sydney Inner City (increased by 1,882 small businesses)
- Blacktown – North (increased by 1,097 small businesses)
- Bankstown (increased by 1,011 small businesses).

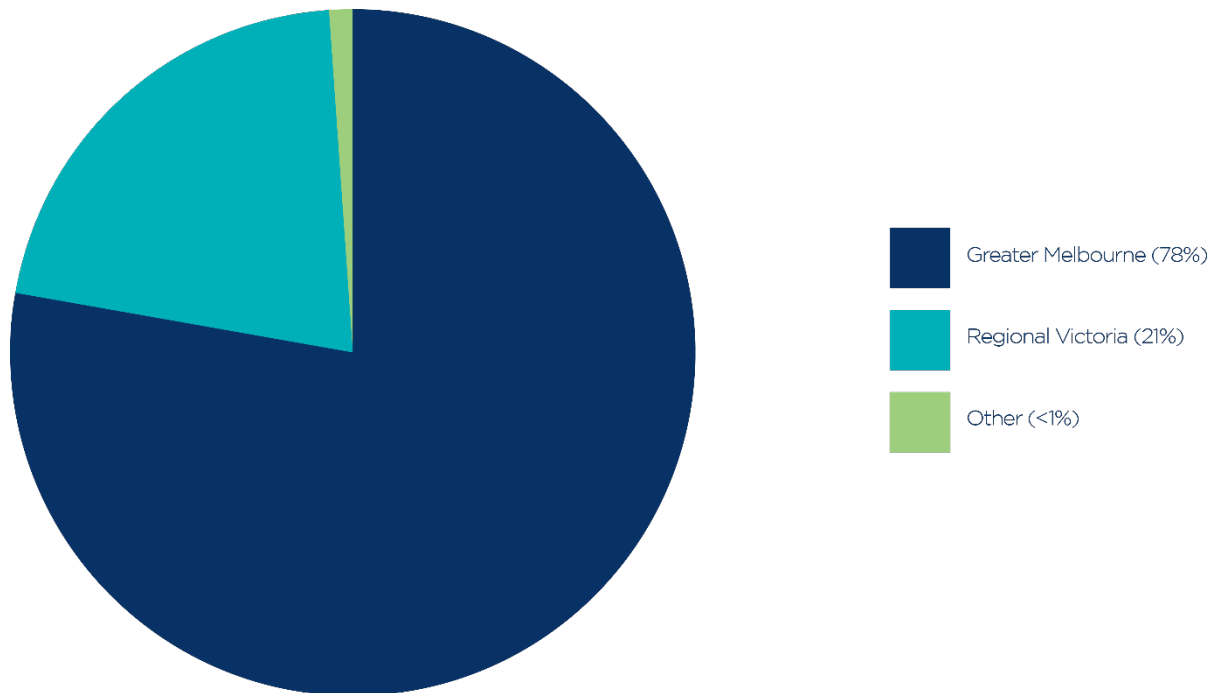
The number of small businesses in regional New South Wales increased by 9,936 (4.5%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Richmond Valley - Coastal (increased by 705 small businesses)
- Newcastle (increased by 684 small businesses)
- Wollongong (increased by 485 small businesses).

Victoria

There were 639,425 small businesses in Victoria on 30 June 2021, representing 27% of all Australian small businesses (compared to 25% of the population that lives in Victoria).

Chart 1: Small business in Victoria, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. “Other” is comprised of a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

In Greater Melbourne, there were 499,950 small businesses on 30 June 2021, representing 78% of all small businesses in Victoria. The Greater Melbourne areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Melbourne City (38,753 small businesses). Of these, 36% were in Melbourne CBD - West.
- Boroondara (24,691 small businesses). Of these, 45% were in Hawthorn East, Camberwell, Balwyn North and Balwyn.
- Wyndham (23,920 small businesses). Of these, 11% were in Tarneit - Central.
- Port Phillip (20,997 small businesses). Of these, 24% were in Albert Park.
- Monash (20,900 small businesses). Of these, 14% were in Oakleigh – Huntingdale and 14% were in Mount Waverley - South.

There were 137,008 small businesses in regional Victoria on 30 June 2021, accounting for 21% of all Victorian small businesses. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Geelong (15,351 small businesses). Of these, 20% were in Geelong and 10% were in Geelong West - Hamlyn Heights.
- Ballarat (8,649 small businesses). Of these, 29% were in Ballarat and 12% were in Ballarat North - Invermay.
- Gippsland - South West (7,071 small businesses). Of these, 30% were in Wonthaggi - Inverloch.
- Surf Coast - Bellarine Peninsula (7,020 small businesses). Of these, 32% were in Torquay.
- Wodonga – Alpine (6,818 small businesses). Of these, 20% were in Wodonga and 16% were in Bright - Mount Beauty.

Table 1: Businesses in Victoria by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Victoria	Number of businesses in regional Victoria	Total number of businesses in Victoria ¹
Non-employing	311,220	82,164	394,943
1-4 employees ²	146,661	40,838	188,101
5-19 employees	42,069	14,006	56,381
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>499,950</i>	<i>137,008</i>	<i>639,425</i>
20-99 employees	10,445	2,688	13,442
100-199 employees	940	185	1,304
200+ employees	534	95	1,224
Total	511,863	139,980	655,395

¹Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

²This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, 62% of small businesses were non-employing businesses in Greater Melbourne on 30 June 2021. This compared to 60% of small businesses in regional Victoria.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in Victoria



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in Victoria increased 4.0% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 19,380 (4.0%) in Greater Melbourne. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Wyndham (increased by 2,053 small businesses)
- Tullamarine - Broadmeadows (increased by 1,508 small businesses)
- Casey - South (increased by 1,419 small businesses).

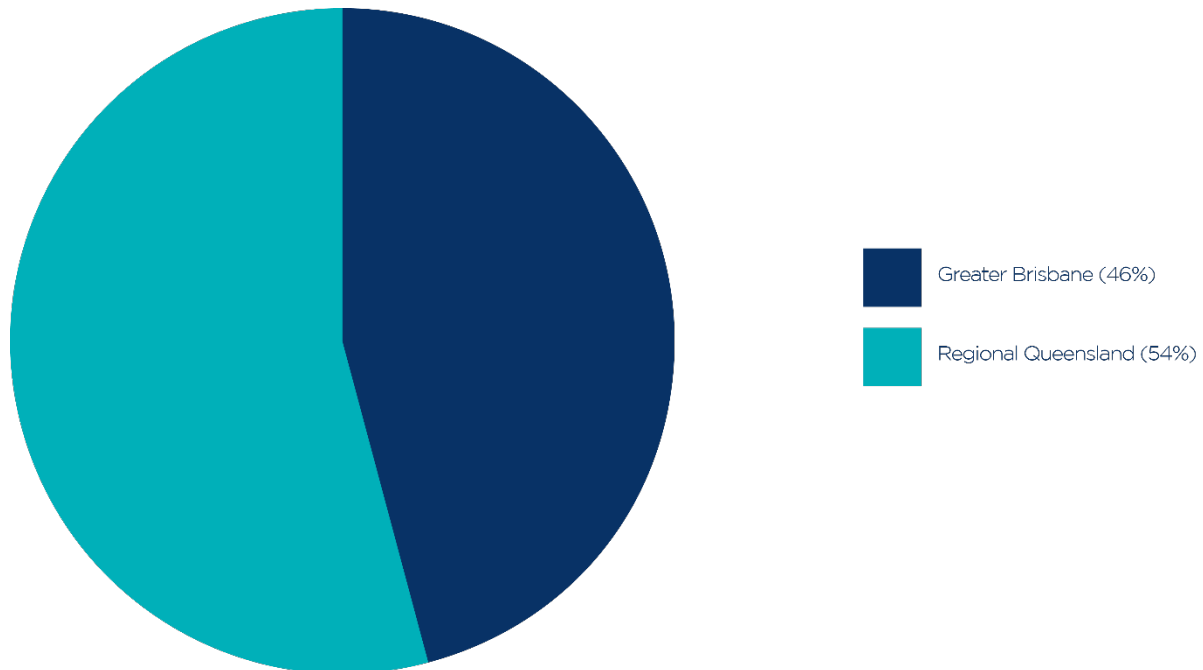
The number of small businesses in regional Victoria increased by 5,206 (3.9%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Geelong (increased by 661 small businesses)
- Surf Coast - Bellarine Peninsula (increased by 561 small businesses)
- Ballarat (increased by 446 small businesses).

Queensland

There were 448,822 small businesses were in Queensland at 30 June 2021, representing 19% of all Australian small businesses (compared to 20% of Australia’s population that are Queenslanders).

Chart 1: Small business in Queensland, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown above, 54% of Queensland’s small businesses were in regional areas on 30 June 2021. This aligns with the population distribution as half of Queensland’s population (51%) is in regional Queensland.

In Greater Brisbane, there were 206,237 small businesses on 30 June 2021, representing 46% of all small businesses in Queensland. The Greater Brisbane areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Brisbane Inner (19,788 small businesses). Of these, 46% were in Brisbane City.
- Brisbane Inner – North (11,803 small businesses). Of these, 25% were in Newstead - Bowen Hills.
- Mt Gravatt (8,235 small businesses). Of these, 27% were in Eight Mile Plains.
- Brisbane Inner – West (7,957 small businesses). Of these, 36% were in Paddington - Milton.
- Holland Park – Yeronga (7,671 small businesses). Of these, 23% were in Coorparoo.

There were 240,435 small businesses in regional Queensland on 30 June 2021. These accounted for 54% of Queensland's small businesses. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Ormeau – Oxenford (13,741 small businesses). Of these, 15% were in Hope Island and 15% were in Helensvale.
- Toowoomba (12,900 small businesses). Of these, 17% were in Toowoomba - Central.
- Townsville (11,544 small businesses). Of these, 12% were in Townsville City - North Ward.
- Broadbeach – Burleigh (9,992 small businesses). Of these, 26% were in Burleigh Heads.
- Mackay (9,540 small businesses). Of these, 12% were in Mackay and 10% were in Sarina.

Table 1: Businesses in Queensland by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Brisbane	Number of businesses in regional Queensland	Total number of businesses in Queensland ¹
Non-employing	123,590	145,926	270,810
1-4 employees ²	62,553	70,518	133,566
5-19 employees	20,184	23,991	44,446
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>206,327</i>	<i>240,435</i>	<i>448,822</i>
20-99 employees	4,770	5,301	10,272
100-199 employees	404	359	848
200+ employees	198	173	727
Total	211,703	246,262	460,669

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, 60% of small businesses were non-employing businesses in Queensland on 30 June 2021. This was similar in Greater Brisbane and regional Queensland.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in Queensland



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in Queensland increased 4.0% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 7,409 (3.7%) in Greater Brisbane. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Brisbane Inner - North (increased by 464 small businesses)
- Springfield - Redbank (increased by 406 small businesses)
- Brisbane Inner (increased by 391 small businesses).

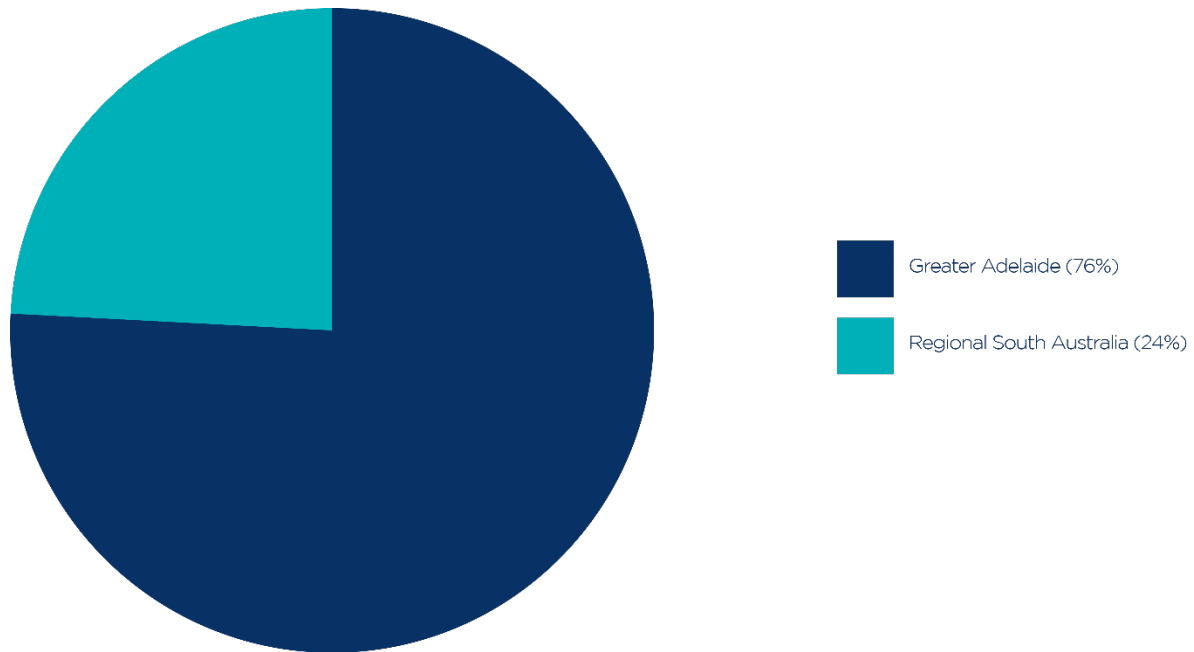
The number of small businesses in regional Queensland increased by 9,610 (4.2%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Ormeau - Oxenford (increased by 1,246 small businesses)
- Broadbeach - Burleigh (increased by 586 small businesses)
- Caloundra (increased by 494 small businesses).

South Australia

There were 148,708 small businesses in South Australia on 30 June 2021, representing 6% of all Australian small businesses (compared to 7% of the population that live in South Australia).

Chart 1: Small business in South Australia, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

Over three quarters (76%) of South Australian small businesses were in Greater Adelaide on 30 June 2021. This is similar to South Australia’s population distribution, as 78% of South Australians live in the Greater Adelaide area.

The Greater Adelaide areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Adelaide City (11,081 small businesses). Of these, 86% were in Adelaide and 14% were in North Adelaide.
- Onkaparinga (9,122 small businesses). Of these, 11% were in McLaren Vale.
- Charles Sturt (9,013 small businesses). Of these, 20% were in Hindmarsh - Brompton.
- Salisbury (7,583 small businesses). Of these, 15% were in Mawson Lakes - Globe Derby Park and 13% were in Salisbury.
- Adelaide Hills (6,948 small businesses). Of these, 26% were in Aldgate - Stirling.

There were 35,055 small businesses in regional South Australia on 30 June 2021. These accounted for 24% of South Australia’s small businesses. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Limestone Coast (7,353 small businesses). Of these, 17% were in Mount Gambier – West and 14% were in Tatiara.
- Murray and Mallee (6,401 small businesses). Of these, 14% were in Murray Bridge and 11% were in The Coorong.
- Eyre Peninsula and South West (4,807 small businesses). Of these, 32% were in Port Lincoln.
- Fleurieu - Kangaroo Island (4,497 small businesses). Of these, 21% were in Victor Harbor and 21% were in Strathalbyn Surrounds.
- Barossa (3,524 small businesses). Of these, 26% were in Light.

Table 1: Businesses in South Australia by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Adelaide	Number of businesses in regional South Australia	Total number of businesses in South Australia ¹
Non-employing	73,008	21,711	95,149
1-4 employees ²	26,749	9,367	36,238
5-19 employees	10,283	3,977	14,321
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>110,040</i>	<i>35,055</i>	<i>145,708</i>
20-99 employees	2,463	623	3,188
100-199 employees	211	38	294
200+ employees	106	11	214
Total	112,822	35,725	149,404

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

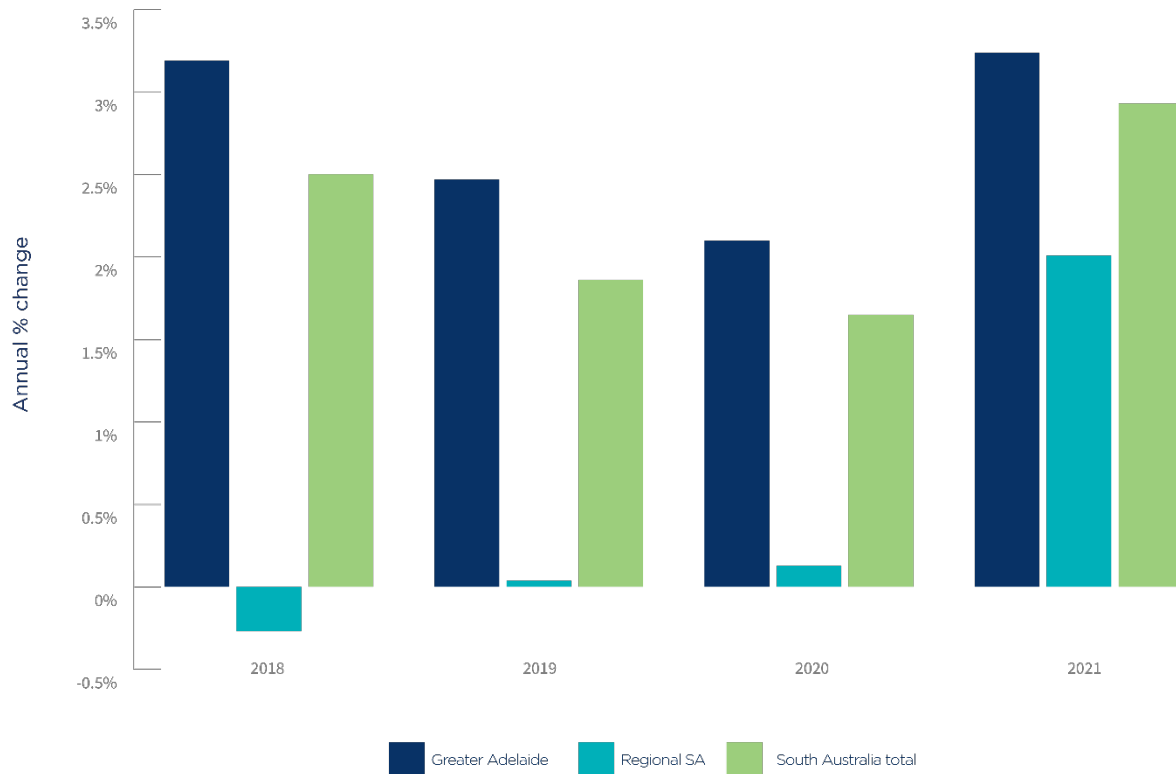
² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, 66% of small businesses in Greater Adelaide were non-employing businesses on 30 June 2021. This compared to 62% in regional South Australia.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in South Australia



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in South Australia increased 2.9% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 3,454 (3.2%) in Greater Adelaide. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Charles Sturt (increased by 462 small businesses)
- Port Adelaide - East (increased by 378 small businesses)
- Salisbury (increased by 318 small businesses).

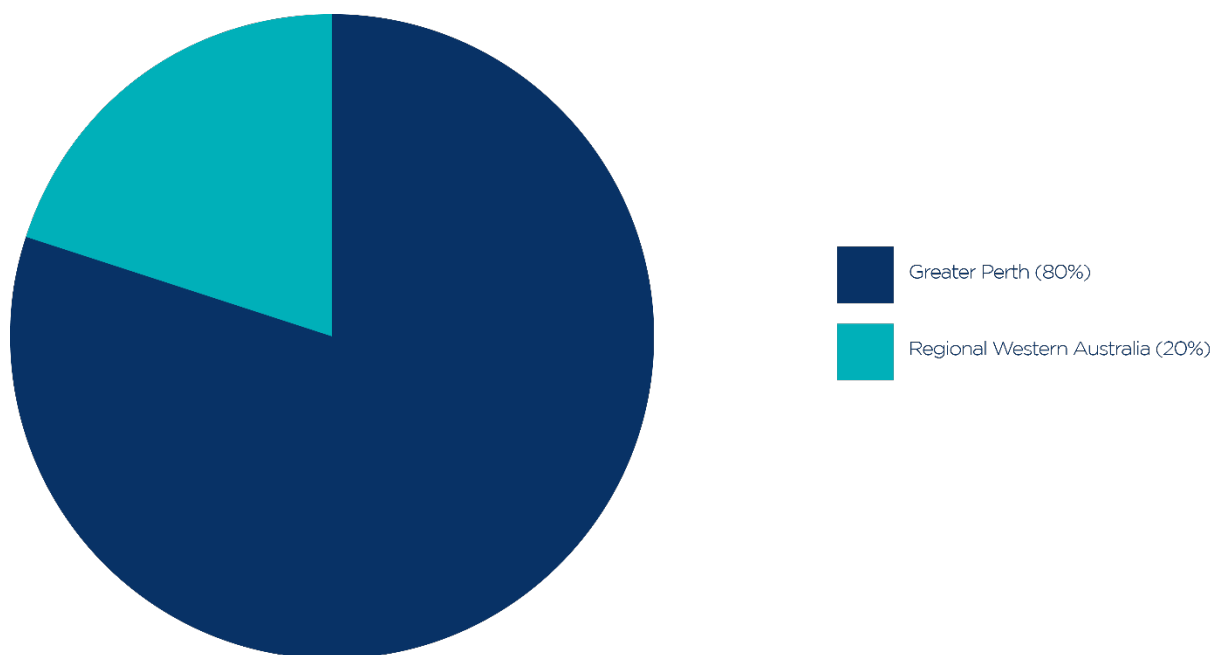
The number of small businesses in regional South Australia increased by 691 (2.0%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Limestone Coast (increased by 229 small businesses)
- Fleurieu - Kangaroo Island (increased by 164 small businesses)
- Barossa (increased by 114 small businesses).

Western Australia

There were 223,736 small businesses in Western Australia on 30 June 2021, representing 10% of all Australian small businesses, and in proportion with the 11% of Australians living in the west.

Chart 1: Small businesses in Western Australia, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As with the population, most Western Australian small businesses are in Greater Perth. In this region, there were 177,959 small businesses on 30 June 2021, representing 80% of Western Australia's small businesses. Similarly, 80% of Western Australians live in Perth and its surrounds.

The Greater Perth areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Perth City: 24,413 small businesses. Of these, 38% were in Perth (West) - Northbridge.
- Stirling: 20,041 small businesses. Of these, 11% were in Osborne Park Industrial and 11% were in Stirling - Osborne Park.
- Wanneroo: 13,232 small businesses. Of these, 20% were in Madeley - Darch.
- Joondalup: 11,948 small businesses. Of these, 11% were in Joondalup - Edgewater and 10% were in Duncraig.
- Swan: 10,562 small businesses. Of these, 17% were in Malaga.

There were 45,050 small businesses in regional Western Australia on 30 June 2021. These accounted for 20% of Western Australia's small businesses. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Albany (6,725 small businesses). Of these, 24% were in Albany and 14% were in Kojonup.
- Bunbury (6,569 small businesses). Of these, 24% were in Bunbury South and 12% were Harvey.

- Wheat Belt – North (6,427 small businesses). Of these, 17% were in Gingin - Dandaragan.
- Augusta - Margaret River – Busselton (5,926 small businesses). Of these, 67% were in Busselton and its Surrounds.
- Mid West (4,533 small businesses). Of these, 31% were in Geraldton.

Table 1: Businesses in Western Australia by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Perth	Number of businesses in regional Western Australia	Total number of businesses in Western Australia ¹
Non-employing	113,280	26,962	140,630
1-4 employees ²	47,597	12,843	60,661
5-19 employees	17,082	5,245	22,445
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>177,959</i>	<i>45,050</i>	<i>223,736</i>
20-99 employees	4,309	1,137	5,584
100-199 employees	342	50	457
200+ employees	184	23	443
Total	182,795	46,262	230,220

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, 64% of small businesses in Greater Perth were non-employing businesses on 30 June 2021. This compared to 60% in regional Western Australia.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in Western Australia



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in Western Australia increased 3.4% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 6,283 (3.7%) in Greater Perth. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Wanneroo (increased by 656 small businesses)
- Perth City (increased by 594 small businesses)
- Stirling (increased by 550 small businesses).

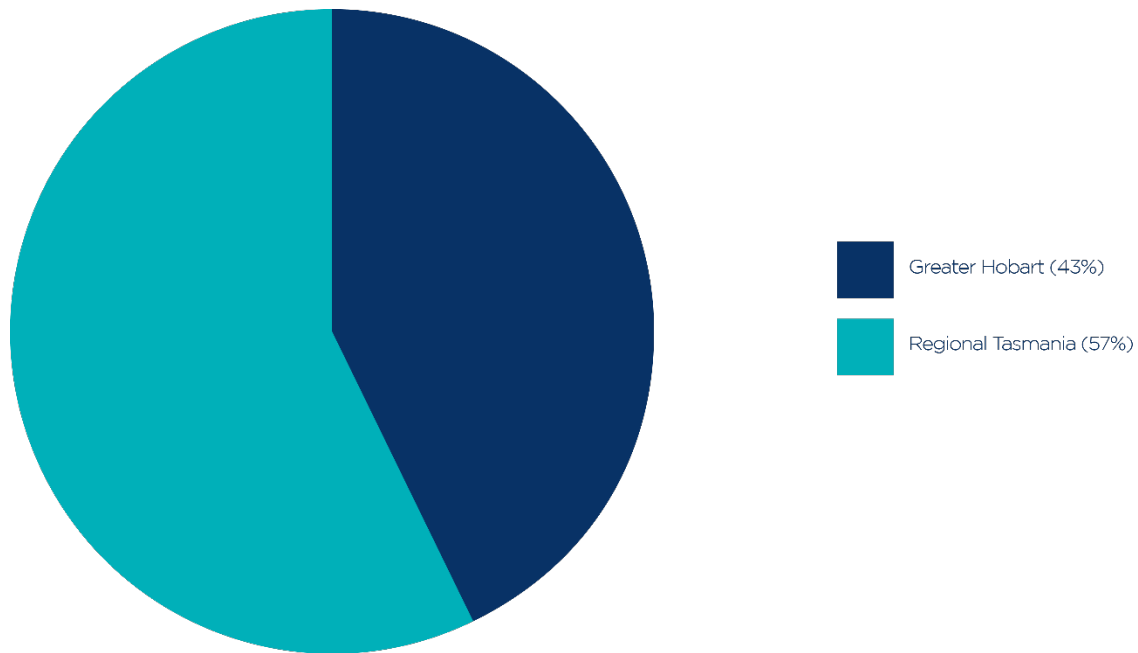
The number of small businesses in regional Western Australia increased by 1,054 (2.4%) over the year to 30 June 2021, after a fall of 0.2% in the year to 30 June 2020. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Augusta - Margaret River - Busselton (increased by 223 small businesses)
- Albany (increased by 162 small businesses)
- Mid West (increased by 97 small businesses).

Tasmania

There were 39,515 small businesses were located in Tasmania at 30 June 2021, representing 2% of all Australian small businesses. By comparison, 2% of Australians live in Tasmania.

Chart 1: Small businesses in Tasmania, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown above, 57% of Tasmania’s small businesses were in regional areas on 30 June 2021. This aligns with the population distribution as 56% of the Tasmanian population is in regional Tasmania.

In Greater Hobart, there were 17,062 small businesses on 30 June 2021, representing 43% of all small businesses in Tasmania. The Greater Hobart areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Hobart (3,004 small businesses)
- Sandy Bay (1,250 small businesses)
- Cambridge (891 small businesses)
- Kingston – Huntingfield (859 small businesses)
- Kingston Beach - Blackmans Bay (689 small businesses).

There were 22,346 small businesses in regional Tasmania on 30 June 2021. These accounted for 57% of Tasmania’s small businesses. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Launceston (1871 small businesses)
- Devonport (913 small businesses)
- Scottsdale – Bridport (847 small businesses)
- Deloraine (650 small businesses)
- Huonville – Franklin (618 small businesses).

Table 1: Businesses in Tasmania by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Hobart	Number of businesses in regional Tasmania	Total number of businesses in Tasmania ¹
Non-employing	10,274	13,356	23,700
1-4 employees ²	4,770	6,264	11,064
5-19 employees	2,018	2,726	4,751
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>17,062</i>	<i>22,346</i>	<i>39,515</i>
20-99 employees	440	586	1,057
100-199 employees	27	33	74
200+ employees	12	20	72
Total	17,542	22,982	40,718

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, 60% of small businesses in Tasmania were non-employing businesses on 30 June 2021. This was similar in Greater Hobart and regional Tasmania.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in Tasmania



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in Tasmania increased 3.8% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 753 (4.6%) in Greater Hobart. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Hobart - North East (increased by 241 small businesses)
- Hobart - North West (increased by 198 small businesses)
- Hobart Inner (increased by 168 small businesses).

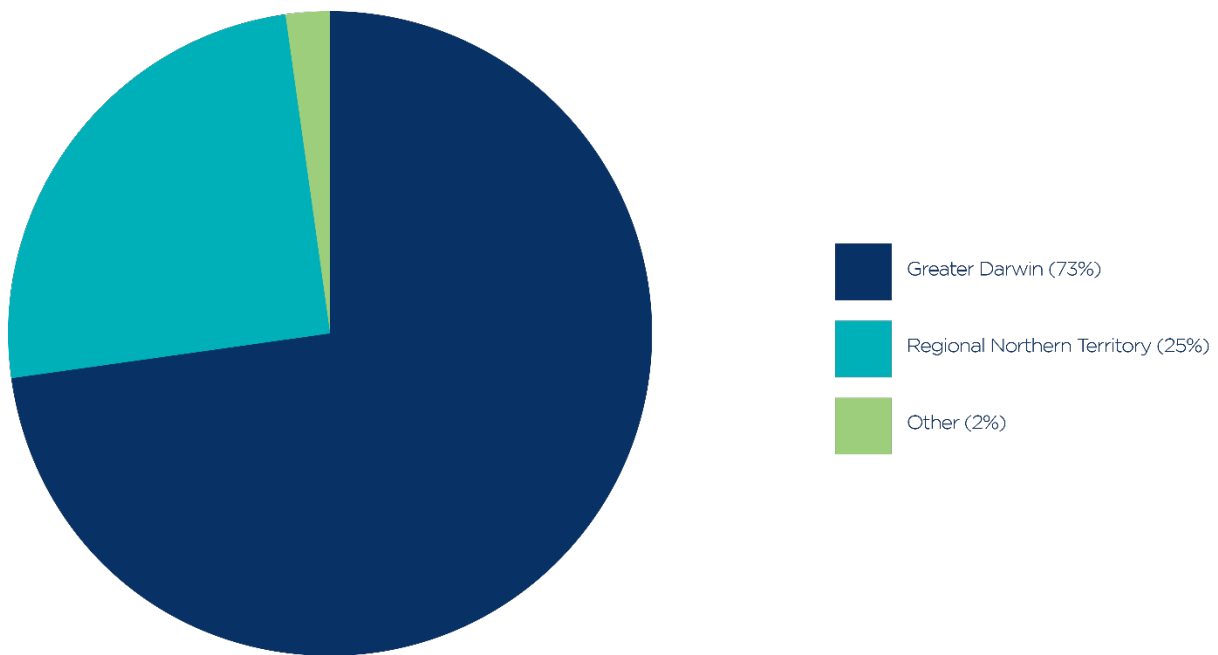
The number of small businesses in regional Tasmania increased by 688 (3.2%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Launceston (increased by 220 small businesses)
- West Coast (increased by 96 small businesses)
- Burnie - Ulverstone (increased by 87 small businesses).

Northern Territory

There were 14,382 small businesses in the Northern Territory at 30 June 2021, representing 1% of all Australian small businesses. This is consistent with the 1% of Australians that live in the Northern Territory.

Chart 1: Small businesses in Northern Territory, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. “Other” is comprised of a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

Although only 60% of the Territory’s population lives in the greater Darwin area, 10,535 small businesses (73% of all Northern Territory small businesses) were located in Greater Darwin on 30 June 2021. The Greater Darwin areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Darwin City (1,232 small businesses)
- Woolner - Bayview - Winnellie (980 small businesses)
- Humpty Doo (692 small businesses)
- Weddell (421 small businesses)
- Palmerston – North (400 small businesses).

There were 3,525 small businesses in regional Northern Territory on 30 June 2021. These accounted for 25% of the Northern Territory’s small businesses. The regional areas with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Charles (847 small businesses)
- Katherine (785 small businesses)

- Alligator (273 small businesses)
- East Side (225 small businesses)
- Mount Johns (206 small businesses).

Table 1: Businesses in Northern Territory by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Number of businesses in Greater Darwin	Number of businesses in regional Northern Territory	Total number of businesses in Northern Territory ¹
Non-employing	6,334	2,012	8,512
1-4 employees ²	2,913	920	3,905
5-19 employees	1,288	593	1,965
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>10,535</i>	<i>3,525</i>	<i>14,382</i>
20-99 employees	331	148	513
100-199 employees	19	7	30
200+ employees	5	6	22
Total	10,891	3,684	14,947

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the table above, 60% of small businesses in Greater Darwin were non-employing businesses on 30 June 2021. This compared to 57% in regional Northern Territory.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in the Northern Territory



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in the Northern Territory increased 3.2% over the year to 30 June 2021. They increased by 309 (3.0%) in Greater Darwin. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Darwin City (increased by 258 small businesses)
- Palmerston (increased by 120 small businesses).

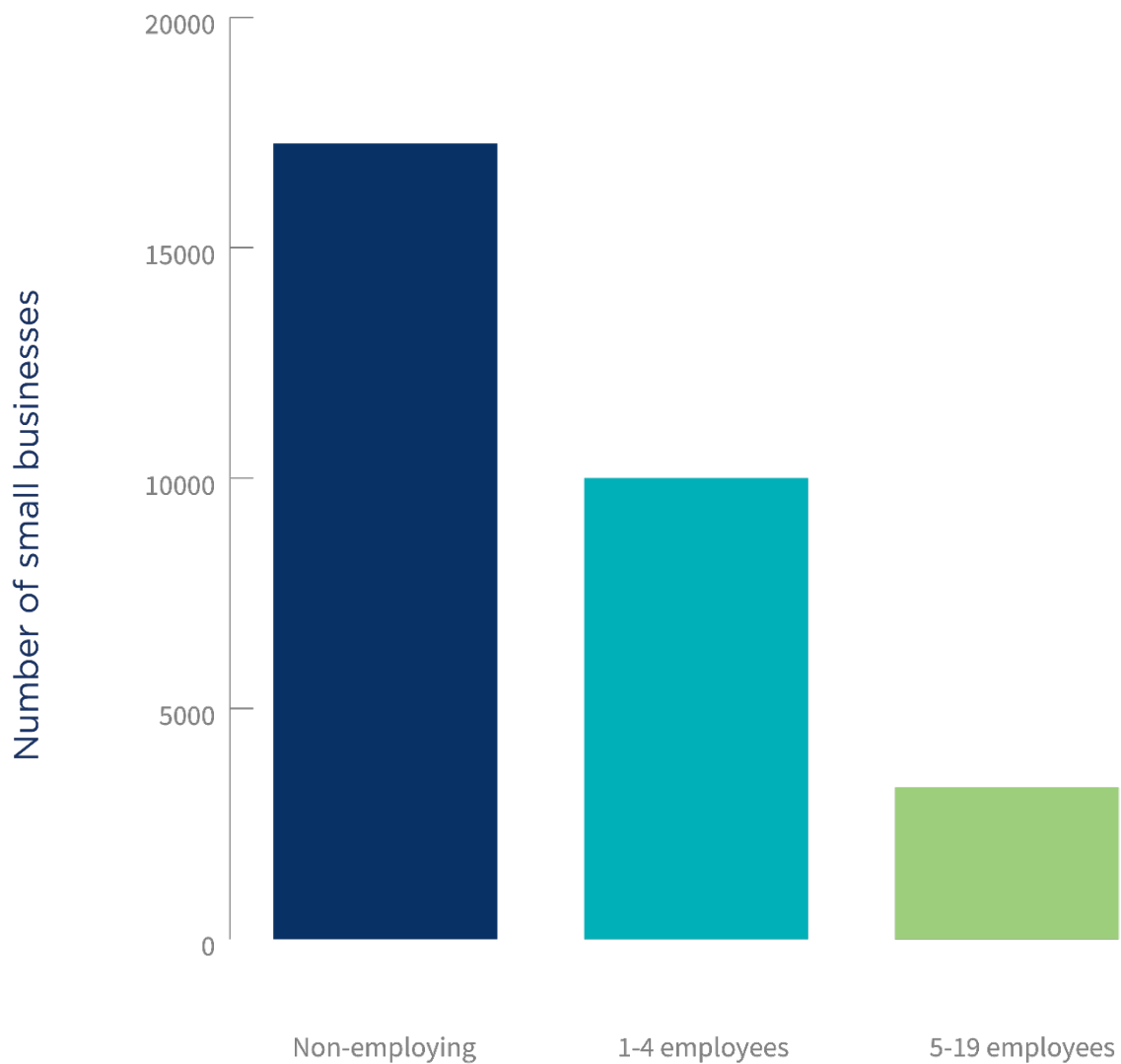
The number of small businesses in regional Northern Territory increased by 132 (3.9%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Alice Springs (increased by 73 small businesses)
- Katherine (increased by 35 small businesses)
- Daly - Tiwi - West Arnhem (increased by 33 small businesses).

Australian Capital Territory

There were 30,548 small businesses in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) at 30 June 2021, representing 1% of all Australian small businesses. This is in line with the proportion of the Australian population that lives in the ACT (2%).

Chart 1: Small businesses in the Australian Capital Territory, 30 June 2021



Excludes businesses not registered for GST.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

As shown in the graph above, most (57%) of small businesses in the Australian Capital Territory were non-employing businesses.

The areas in the Australian Capital Territory with the highest number of small businesses were:

- Fyshwick (1,421 small businesses)
- Civic (1,270 small businesses)
- Kingston (832 small businesses)
- Deakin (780 small businesses)
- Kambah (701 small businesses).

Table 1: Businesses in Australian Capital Territory by size, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Total number of businesses in Australian Capital Territory ¹
Non-employing	17,260
1-4 employees ²	10,000
5-19 employees	3,288
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>30,548</i>
20-99 employees	838
100-199 employees	70
200+ employees	43
Total	31,499

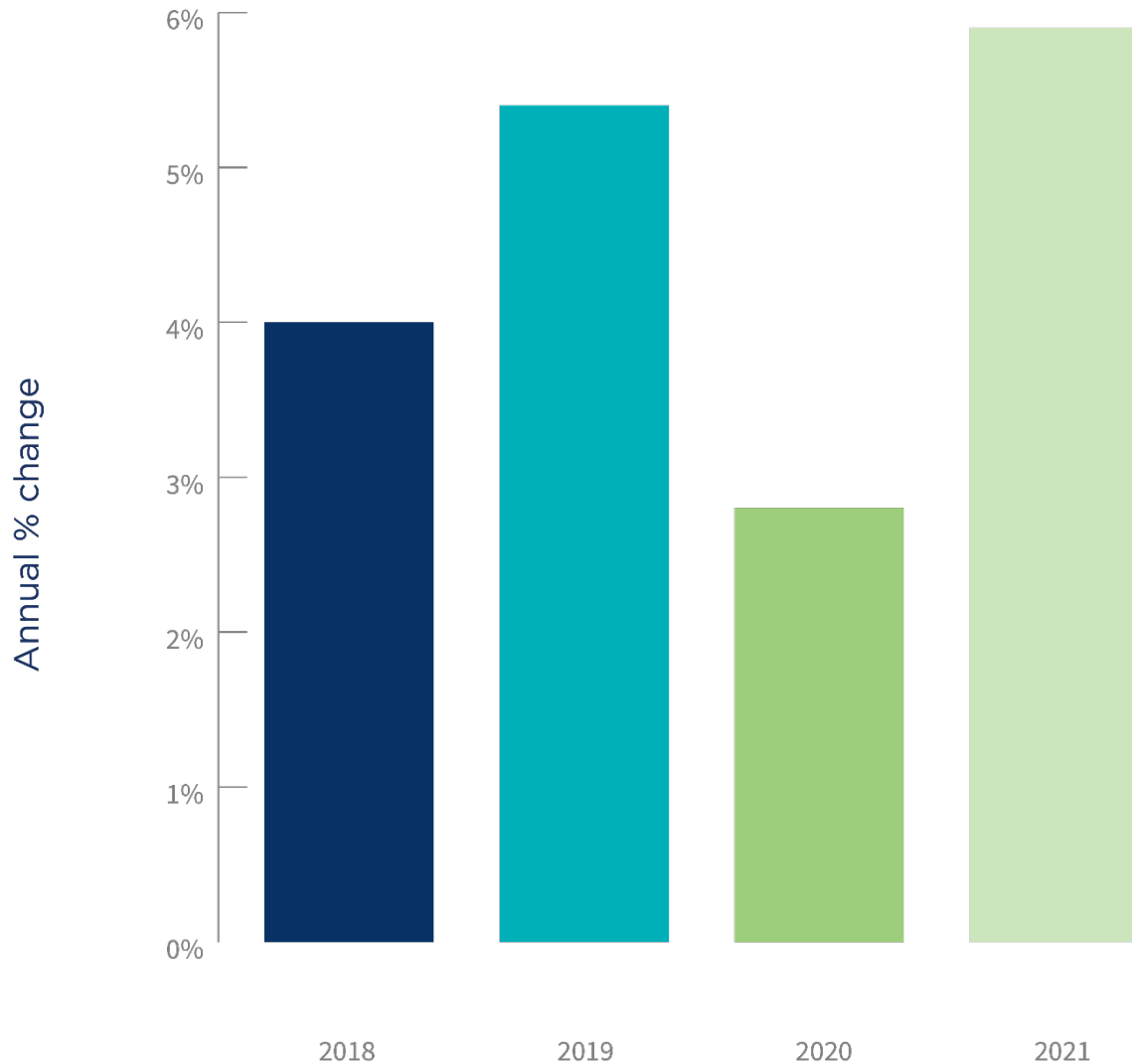
¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in the Australian Capital Territory



Excludes businesses not registered for GST. Total includes a small number of businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in the Australian Capital Territory increased by 1,696 (5.9%) over the year to 30 June 2021. The areas with the largest increase in the number of small businesses were:

- Gungahlin (increased by 473 small businesses)
- North Canberra (increased by 317 small businesses)
- Belconnen (increased by 282 small businesses).

Other Territories

Other Territories incorporates Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Jervis Bay and Norfolk Island.

Table 1: Small businesses in Other Territories, 30 June 2021

Number of employees	Total number of businesses in Other Territories ¹
Non-employing	1,608
1-4 employees ²	128
5-19 employees	12
<i>Small businesses (0-19 employees)</i>	<i>1,748</i>
20-99 employees	5
100-199 employees	0
200+ employees	0
Total	1,754

¹ Includes businesses where information is only available at the state/territory level.

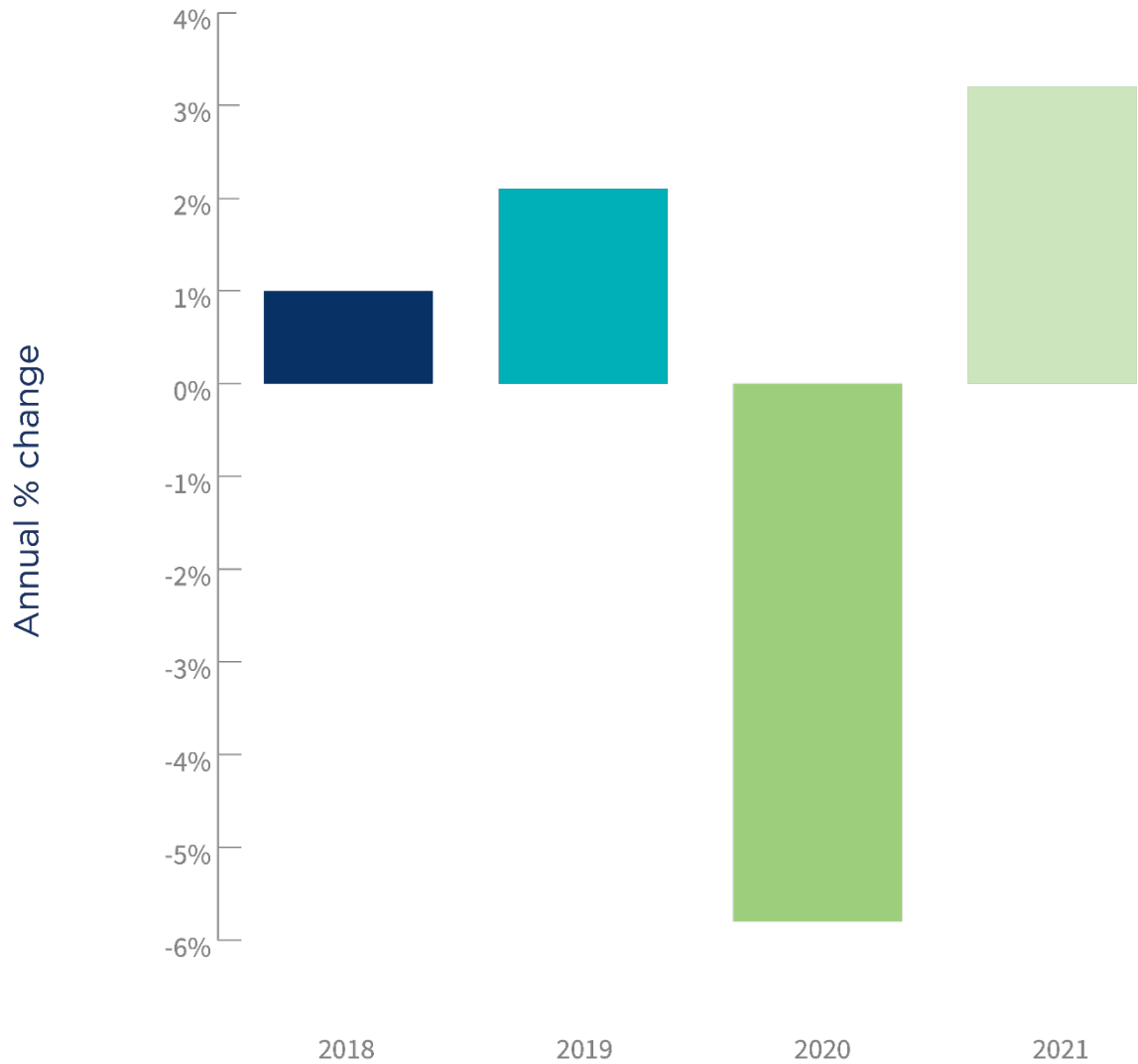
² This includes a small number of businesses which have income tax withholding roles for purposes other than withholding amounts from wages and salaries (and as such have zero employment).

This data excludes businesses not registered for GST. The Australian Bureau of Statistics adjust cells to avoid the release of confidential information, so cells may not add up to totals. Exercise care when analysing small numbers. For further information see *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits methodology*.

Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

There were 1,748 small businesses in Other Territories on 30 June 2021. Of these, 92% were non-employing businesses.

Chart 2: Annual change in the number of small businesses in Other Territories



Source: Based on *Australian Bureau of Statistics*, customised data.

The number of small businesses in Other Territories increased by 54 (3.2%) over the year to 30 June 2021. This followed a 5.8% fall in the year to 30 June 2020.