

Small Business is Big in Canada



Did you know that small and medium-sized businesses contribute 54% of Canada's gross domestic product? The Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) is the bank for Canadian entrepreneurs. Celebrate entrepreneurship during *BDC Small Business Week™* and help fuel our country's entrepreneurial spirit!

More than 1.2 million businesses in Canada...

98%

of businesses have less than 100 employees

1/3

are lead/co-lead by women

88%

of private sector jobs are in an SME (10M people)

8,413

new businesses per year on average between 2014 and 2018

Micro business
1-4 employees

Small business
5-99 employees

Medium business
100-499 employees

Large business
500+ employees

...and 746,300 entrepreneurs

Where small and medium-sized businesses are found

16%
British Columbia and the Territories

20%
Prairies

37%
Ontario

21%
Quebec

6%
Atlantic

25 – 44 year olds → have the greatest tendency to form new businesses

Men → are 2.3 times more likely to start businesses than women

Women → now account for 27% of all entrepreneurs in Canada

Top 3 industries with the most SMEs

1 Professional, scientific and technical services
→ Sector employs 1.05M people



2 Construction
→ Sector employs 1.06M people



3 Retail trade
→ Sector employs 1.95M people



For 43 years, the Business Development Bank of Canada has organized *BDC Small Business Week™*, bringing thousands of entrepreneurs together to learn, network and celebrate the people building companies across the country.

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Sources: Statistics Canada; Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada Small Business Branch; BDC.