

Women-Owned Businesses – Great Lakes Region

Number of women-owned businesses	1.2 million
Total number of businesses	4.3 million
women-owned businesses as a percent of all businesses	28.6%
Annual payroll of women-owned businesses with paid employees	\$35.9 billion
Average number of employees of women-owned businesses with paid employees	9
Sales and receipts of woman owned businesses (\$1,000)	\$184.7 billion

Regional Trend in Women's Business Ownership

The Great Lakes Region (IL-IN-MI-MN-OH-WI) is home to more than 1.2 million women-owned businesses.

The region is on par with the national average for the share of businesses that are women-owned – 28.6% regionally versus 28.7% nationwide. Within the region, percentages varied by state from a high of 30.5% of businesses in Illinois to a low of 25.9% in Wisconsin (see table).

The percentage of businesses owned by women increased little from 2002 to 2007. There were 1,215,738 businesses (28.6%) in 2007, compared to 1,079,531 women-owned businesses (28.5%) in 2002 – an increase of 0.1%. At the same time, nationwide, the percentage of businesses that were women-owned increased by 0.5%.

In 2007, women-owned businesses in the region generated over \$184.7 billion in sales and receipts, up slightly from \$183.9 billion (inflation-adjusted dollars) in 2002.

**Region V of the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Source: Data compiled from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners, released July 2010.*

Women-Owned Firms by Industry

In 2007, women-owned businesses in the region were concentrated in the areas of Health Care & Social Services (18.1%), which includes child care, social work and rehabilitation services; Other Services (16.7%) which includes services such as administering religious activities, grant-making, advocacy and non-profits, laundry, pet care, and personal care; Retail Trade (13.1%). About half of all women-owned businesses in the region were in these three sectors.

Regionally, the most common industries among male-owned businesses were Construction (18.8%); and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (14.2%). Women-owned businesses were more than three times as likely as male-owned businesses to be in the area of Health Care & Social Services. Regionally, women and male-owned businesses are nearly on par for the percent of businesses found in the Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services sector (12.5% for women versus 14.2% for men).

Employees of Women-Owned Firms

In 2007, women-owned firms with paid employees employed 1.3 million workers, with annual payrolls totaling \$35.9 billion.

Regionally, the average women-owned business with paid employees, employed 9 people; however, 88.4% of women-owned businesses did not have paid employees (other than the business owner), on par with 88.3% nationally.

Percent of Business that are Women-Owned

Illinois	Indiana	Michigan	Minnesota	Ohio	Wisconsin	United States
30.5%	26.8%	30.4%	26.8%	27.7%	25.9%	28.7%

