# Mendocino Business Survey 

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## Business Organization

## Type of Business Organization



Type of Business Organization

| Type of Organization | Percent | Number of <br> Responses |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Sole Proprietor | $51 \%$ | 183 |
| Schedule C corporation | $12 \%$ | 43 |
| Schedule S Corporation | $12 \%$ | 43 |
| Limitied Liability Corporation (LLC) | $11 \%$ | 40 |
| Limited Partnership (LP) | $6 \%$ | 20 |
| $50 I c 3$ | $3 \%$ | 10 |
| Other non-profit | $2 \%$ | 6 |
| Franchise | $1 \%$ | 2 |
| Don't know | $1 \%$ | 4 |
| Other | $3 \%$ | 10 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 361 |

## Business Size as Measured by Employment

Number of Employees


Number of Employees

| Number of Employees | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 0 Employees | $26 \%$ | 93 |
| I-IO Employees | $56 \%$ | 205 |
| II-20 Employees | $8 \%$ | 29 |
| 2 I-50 Employees | $6 \%$ | 20 |
| 5I-100 Employees | $3 \%$ | 1 I |
| IOI-I50 Employees | $0 \%$ | I |
| I5I-200 Employees | $0 \%$ | 0 |
| 20I-250 Employees | $0 \%$ | 0 |
| $25 I+$ Employees | $1 \%$ | 4 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 363 |



Age of Businesses

| Number of Years in Business | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Less than IO Years | $25 \%$ | 90 |
| $10-19$ Years | $25 \%$ | 91 |
| $20-29$ Years | $16 \%$ | 56 |
| $30-39$ Years | $15 \%$ | 54 |
| $40-49$ Years | $6 \%$ | 20 |
| $50-59$ Years | $3 \%$ | 12 |
| $60-69$ Years | $3 \%$ | 9 |
| $70+$ Years | $7 \%$ | 25 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 357 |

## Primary Business Activity

In which of the following business sectors would you categorize your business?

Primary Business Sector


Primary Business Sector

| Sector | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Retail Trade | $31 \%$ | 114 |
| Accommodation and Food Services | $8 \%$ | 28 |
| Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services | $5 \%$ | 20 |
| Construction | $5 \%$ | 18 |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery, and Hunting | $5 \%$ | 17 |
| Finance and Insurance | $4 \%$ | 16 |
| Real Estate and Rental and Leasing | $4 \%$ | 14 |
| Manufacturing | $3 \%$ | 11 |
| Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | $2 \%$ | 9 |
| Health Care and Social Assistance | $2 \%$ | 8 |
| Transportation and Warehousing | $2 \%$ | 7 |
| Wholesale trade | $2 \%$ | 6 |
| Information | $1 \%$ | 3 |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises | $1 \%$ | 2 |
| Educational Services | $1 \%$ | 2 |
| Mining, Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction | $0 \%$ | 1 |
| Utilities | $0 \%$ | 1 |
| Public Administration | $0 \%$ | 1 |
| Other Services | $7 \%$ | 27 |
| Other | $15 \%$ | 54 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 359 |

## Family Owned Businesses



Number of Family Owned Businesses

| Description | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Family Owned | $62 \%$ | 221 |
| Not Family Owned | $38 \%$ | 138 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 359 |

## Home Based Businesses

Number of Home Based Businesses

## Home Based vs Non-Home Based



Number of Home Based Businesses

| Business Type | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Home Based Business | $15 \%$ | 55 |
| Non Home Based Business | $85 \%$ | 306 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 361 |

## Franchises



Number of Franchises

| Business Type | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Franchise | $5 \%$ | 18 |
| Not a Franchise | $95 \%$ | 339 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 357 |

## Portion of Year Business Operates

Portion of Year Business Operates

| Months Open | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Year Round | $96 \%$ | 344 |
| 7-II Months | $3 \%$ | 9 |
| 3-6 Months | $1 \%$ | 4 |
| Less than 3 months | $0 \%$ | I |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 358 |

## Number of Weekly Operating Hours

Number of Weekly Operating Hours


Number of Weekly Operating Hours

| Number of Hours Business Operates | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| 24 hours a day 7 days per week | $8 \%$ | 29 |
| 40 hours or more | $76 \%$ | 273 |
| Less than 40 Hours a week | $12 \%$ | 44 |
| Occassional or Irregular hours | $4 \%$ | 14 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 360 |

## Primary Customer Base

Primary Customer Type


Primary Customer Type

| Type of Customers | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Local Residents | $60 \%$ | 253 |
| Seasonal/short-term | $18 \%$ | 75 |
| Internet | $4 \%$ | 15 |
| Business to Business | $10 \%$ | 43 |
| Other | $9 \%$ | 36 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 422 |

Note. $\underline{n}=359$.

## Source of Capital Used

## Sources of Capital Used within the Past Five Years



## Sources of Capital Used within the Past Five Years

| Type of Capital | Percent of Total <br> Capital Used | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Personal/family savings of the owner | $28 \%$ | 138 |
| Personal/family home equity loan | $5 \%$ | 23 |
| Personal/business credit cards | $16 \%$ | 81 |
| Business loan from federal, state, or local government | $2 \%$ | 10 |
| Government guaranteed business loan from a bank or other financial institution | $2 \%$ | 11 |
| Non-government guaranteed business loan from bank/financial institution | $6 \%$ | 29 |
| Loan/investment from family or friends | $6 \%$ | 31 |
| Investment by venutre capitalists | $0 \%$ | 2 |
| Grants | $2 \%$ | 10 |
| Don't Know | $6 \%$ | 29 |
| None | $14 \%$ | 69 |
| Other | $13 \%$ | 66 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 499 |

Note. $\underline{n}=357$.

## Business Resource Utilization

## Business Resource Utilization



Business Resource Utilization

Percent of Respondents Reported

| Organization | Using Organization | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Local Chamber of Commerce | $26 \%$ | 90 |
| Small Business Development Center | $7 \%$ | 25 |
| Mendocino County Workforce Investment Board | $3 \%$ | 10 |
| U.S. Small Business Administration | $3 \%$ | 1 l |
| Business or industry associations | $8 \%$ | 26 |
| Business of industry associations | $1 \%$ | 4 |
| Business Incubators | $1 \%$ | 4 |
| Entrepreneurial networks | $3 \%$ | 10 |
| Mendocino Works One-Stop | $0 \%$ | 1 |
| SCORE | $1 \%$ | 5 |
| Economic Development and Finance Corporation of | $3 \%$ | 11 |
| Mendocino County* | $63 \%$ | 213 |
| None | 6 |  |

Note. $\underline{n}=340$.
*Original survey listed Mendocino County Economic Development Council.

## Employment Growth over Last Year

Compared to a year ago, has the number if people currently employed by your business increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Employment Changes Over the Last Year


Employment Changes Over the Last Year

| Change in Employment Size | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Employment Increased | $22 \%$ | 79 |
| Employment Decreased | $9 \%$ | 33 |
| Employment Stayed the Same | $68 \%$ | 243 |
| Don't Know | $0 \%$ | I |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 356 |

## Future Employment Expectations

A year from now during the same time period, how many people do you expect to employ?

Employment Changes Over Next Year


Employment Changes Over Next Year

| Future Employment Expectations | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| More than Currently | $23 \%$ | 83 |
| The same as currently | $59 \%$ | 211 |
| Fewer than currently | $4 \%$ | 14 |
| Don't know | $14 \%$ | 50 |
| Totals | $100 \%$ | 358 |

## Challenges for Business Operations

## Top 10 Challenges for Doing Business

| Top 10 Challenges for Businesses | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Employee recruitment or retention | $50 \%$ | 171 |
| Business taxes | $31 \%$ | 108 |
| Worker's compensation costs | $29 \%$ | 101 |
| High Housing costs | $28 \%$ | 96 |
| Business regulations | $27 \%$ | 94 |
| Health care costs | $25 \%$ | 87 |
| Transportation/cargo/shipping | $18 \%$ | 63 |
| Water | $17 \%$ | 60 |
| Energy costs | $17 \%$ | 59 |
| Broadband access | $15 \%$ | 53 |

Note. $\underline{n}=345$.

Difficulty of Challenges for Businesses

| Indicator | Significant <br> Difficulty | Somewhat of a Difficulty | Not a Difficulty | Don't Know/ No Opinion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Finding employees with the right skills ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 39\% | 28\% | 20\% | 12\% |
| Cost of Insurance ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 36\% | 24\% | 24\% | 16\% |
| Finding enough employees ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 26\% | 26\% | 32\% | 15\% |
| Cost of Business ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 25\% | 41\% | 20\% | 11\% |
| Real estate prices ${ }^{\text {e }}$ | 23\% | 29\% | 31\% | 16\% |
| On-line competition ${ }^{\text {f }}$ | 20\% | 20\% | 46\% | 13\% |
| Cost of Energy ${ }^{\text {g }}$ | 15\% | 34\% | 41\% | 8\% |
| Employee wages ${ }^{\text {h }}$ | 14\% | 29\% | 38\% | 18\% |
| Supplies/Materials ${ }^{\text {i }}$ | 14\% | 34\% | 43\% | 8\% |
| Sign Codes ${ }^{\text {j }}$ | 14\% | 23\% | 44\% | 18\% |
| Note. $\underline{n}^{a}=346 . \underline{n}^{b}=340 . \underline{n}^{c}=342 . \underline{n}^{d}=343$. | $\underline{n}^{f}=339 . \underline{n}^{g}=$ | 9. $\underline{n}^{h}=340 . \underline{n}^{i}=33$ |  |  |

Difficulty of Challenges for Businesses


## Finding Employees with the Right Skills

Finding Employees with the Right Skills


## Cost of Insurance

## Cost of Insurance



## Finding Enough Employees

Finding Enough Employees


Cost of Business

Cost of Business


## Real Estate Prices

Real Estate Prices


## Challenges for Business Expansion

Top 10 Challenges for Business Expansion

| Process | Significant Difficulty | Somewhat of a Difficulty | Not a Difficulty | Don't Know/ <br> No Opinion |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Planning/Zoning Process ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 16\% | 19\% | 36\% | 28\% |
| Other Local Permit Processes ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 15\% | 17\% | 35\% | 32\% |
| Communication Among Departments Within County ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 13\% | 21\% | 36\% | 30\% |
| Coordination with the County \& your Business ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 9\% | 16\% | 43\% | 31\% |
| Scheduling Building Inspections ${ }^{\text {e }}$ | 8\% | 10\% | 44\% | 36\% |
| Obtaining a Business License ${ }^{f}$ | 3\% | II\% | 64\% | 21\% |
| Note. $\underline{\underline{n}}^{d}=345 . \underline{\underline{n}}^{\text {b }}=342 . \underline{\underline{n}}^{c}=343 . \underline{\underline{n}}^{d}=343 . \underline{\underline{n}}^{e}=339 . \underline{\underline{n}}^{f}=343$. |  |  |  |  |

Figure (): Top 10 Challenges for Business Expansion


## Obtaining a Business License

Obtaining a Business License


## Scheduling Building Inspections



Coordination with the County

Coordination with the County


## Communication Among County Departments

Communication Among County Departments


## Other Local Permit Processes

Other Local Permit Processes


## Planning and Zoning Processes

Planning/Zoning Processes


Government Improvements

Top Ten Areas of Opportunity for Government Improvement

| Top 10 Areas of Opportunity | Percent | Number |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Help create more affordable housing | $32 \%$ | 107 |
| Improve K-I2 Public Education | $27 \%$ | 89 |
| Streamline permit approval process | $23 \%$ | 77 |
| Lower energy costs | $23 \%$ | 75 |
| Invest in broadband development | $20 \%$ | 66 |
| Strengthen higher education funding or access | $19 \%$ | 62 |
| Fund more street maintenance/pothole repair | $17 \%$ | 56 |
| Invest in transportation improvements | $16 \%$ | 53 |
| Improve public safety | $14 \%$ | 46 |
| Note. $\underline{n}=332$. |  |  |

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[^0]:    *Note: Original Survey stated Mendocino County Economic Development Council

