

Entrepreneurial energy means we're big on small business. Calgary boasts Canada's highest small business population per capita.

Calgary Small Businesses: Fact Sheet

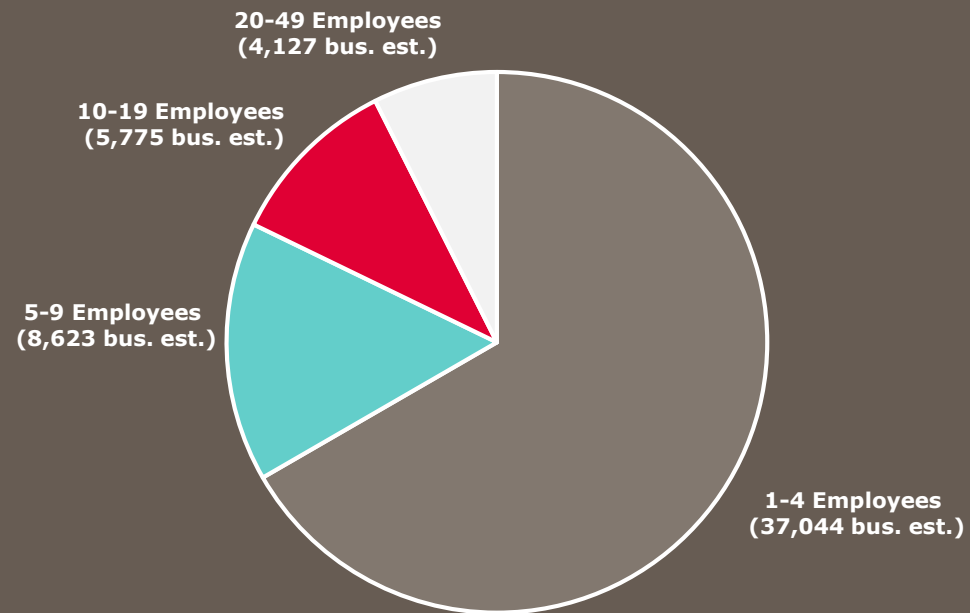
Calgary small businesses account for 95 per cent of all businesses – they are a driving force within the city’s business community. Small business owners have the advantage over larger corporations in that their size gives them the flexibility to adapt quickly in terms of aligning resources. They are able to be innovative with products and implement processes and efficiencies. These advantages, married with their general passion for their business and ability to enjoy the advantage of customer focus sets them apart from larger corporations.

Business Establishments

Of Calgary’s total business establishments (58,420) in 2014, small businesses (businesses with less than 50 employees) accounted for 95.1 per cent (or 55,569 small business establishments).

A breakdown of Calgary’s small businesses by employee size demonstrates that the smallest segment (1-4 employees) is, in fact, the largest, at 37,044 business establishments.

**Business Establishments by Employee Size
2014
Calgary Census Metropolitan Area**



Source: Statistics Canada. *Canadian Business Patterns.*

The dominant industries that made up Calgary's small business sector in 2014 were:

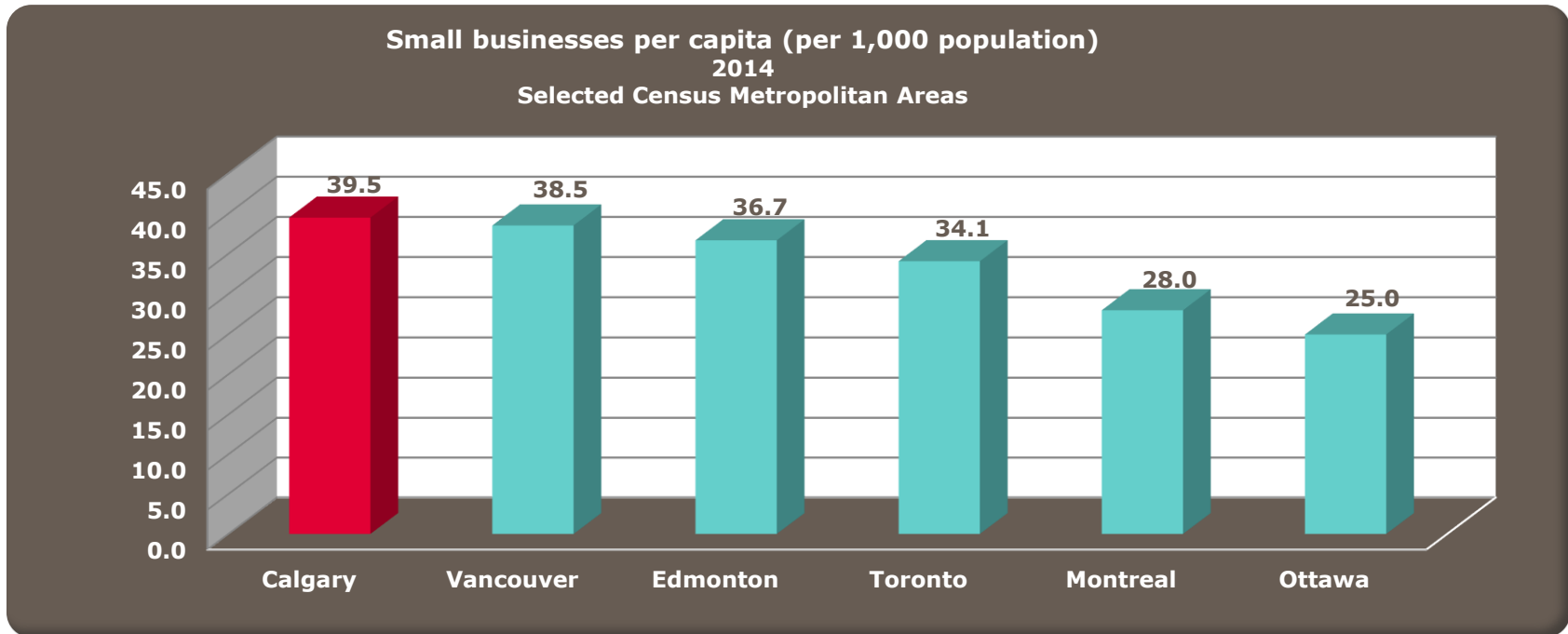
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services – 12,373 businesses (24.3 per cent of total share)
- Construction – 6,692 businesses (13.1 per cent of total share)
- Retail Trade – 4,545 businesses (8.9 per cent of total share).

Small businesses by industry and employee size*						
2014						
Calgary Census Metropolitan Area						
Industry	1-4 Employees	5-9 Employees	10-19 Employees	20-49 Employees	Total	% Distribution
Total	32,787	8,381	5,681	4,098	50,947	
% of Total	64.4%	16.5%	11.2%	8.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	257	57	27	9	350	0.7%
Mining, Quarrying and Oil and Gas Extraction	799	176	147	155	1,277	2.5%
Utilities	46	13	11	14	84	0.2%
Construction	4,565	1,076	603	448	6,692	13.1%
Manufacturing	623	302	277	288	1,490	2.9%
Wholesale Trade	1,093	555	480	330	2,458	4.8%
Retail Trade	1,722	1,353	912	558	4,545	8.9%
Transportation and Warehousing	1,550	237	140	129	2,056	4.0%
Information and Cultural Industries	236	71	62	48	417	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	1,093	260	203	157	1,713	3.4%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1,848	266	158	123	2,395	4.7%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	10,608	870	534	361	12,373	24.3%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	441	98	70	87	696	1.4%
Administrative and Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,484	529	296	229	2,538	5.0%
Educational Services	369	96	83	65	613	1.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	2,364	717	485	228	3,794	7.4%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	214	75	56	57	402	0.8%
Accommodation and Food Services	695	745	680	595	2,715	5.3%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,763	881	447	205	4,296	8.4%
Public Administration	17	4	10	12	43	0.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Business Patterns

*Data for small business establishments by industry omits those which are deemed unclassified by Statistics Canada (4,622 business establishments omitted for the Calgary CMA)

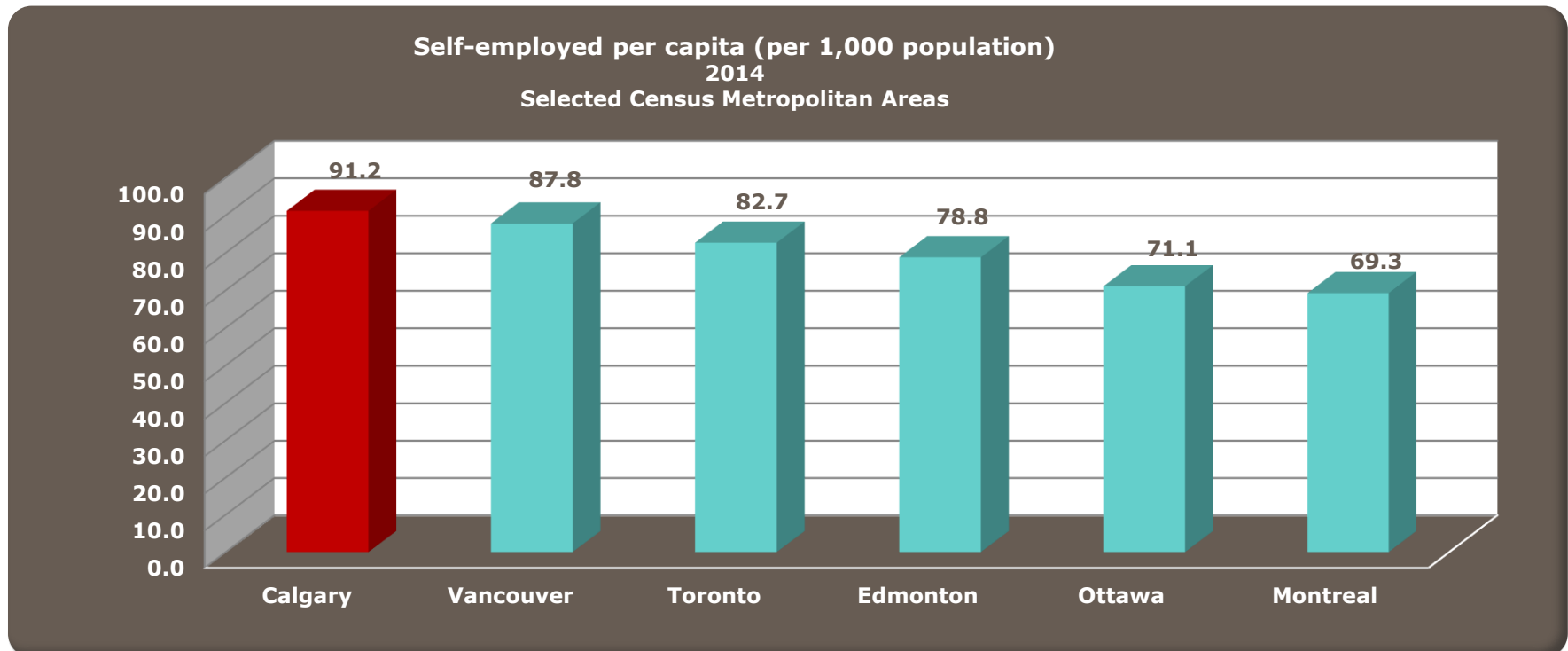
Relative to its population, Calgary had the highest number of small businesses per capita of the major cities in Canada in 2014 at a rate of 39.5 per 1,000 population.



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Business Patterns

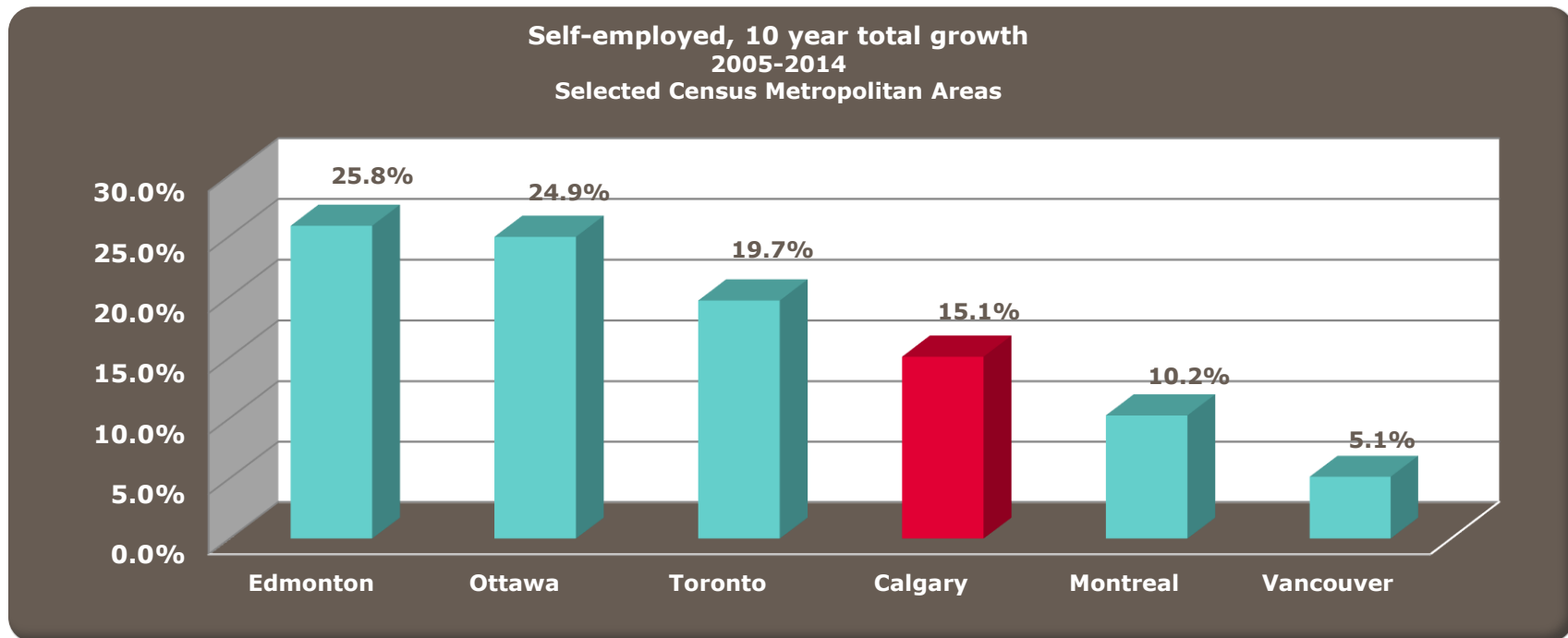
Self-Employment

In 2014, there were 128,300 self-employed Calgarians. On a per capita basis, Calgary had the highest number of self-employed people in Canada at 91.2 per 1,000 population.



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

During the past 10 years (2005-2014), Calgary experienced the fourth highest total growth in self-employment in Canada, at a rate of 15.1 per cent.



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

In 2014, the largest group of Calgary entrepreneurs were in the 45-54 age group (28.2 per cent share), followed by the 35-44 age bracket (24.2 % share).

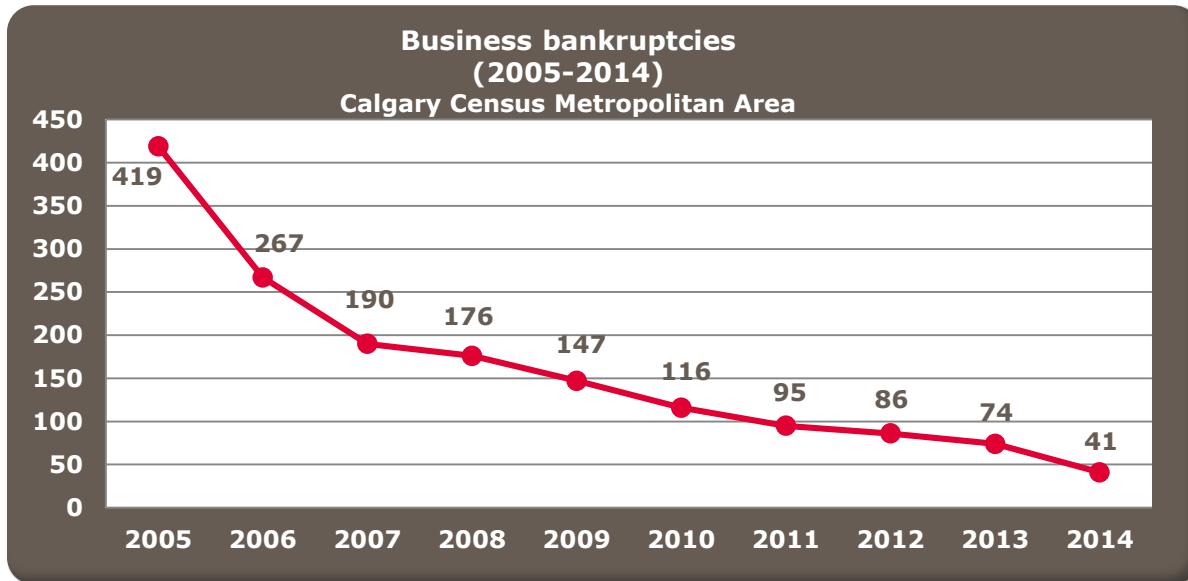
Number and distribution of self-employed by age cohort 2014												
Selected Census Metropolitan Areas												
Age Cohort	Montreal		Ottawa		Toronto		Calgary		Edmonton		Vancouver	
	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share	Number	Share
Total	279,000	100.0%	93,700	100.0%	500,900	100.0%	128,300	100.0%	104,700	100.0%	217,000	100.0%
15-24	7,100	2.5%	3,800	4.1%	10,500	2.1%	2,800	2.2%	2,400	2.3%	5,800	2.7%
25-34	40,100	14.4%	12,500	13.3%	71,000	14.2%	19,000	14.8%	18,400	17.6%	31,300	14.4%
35-44	64,000	22.9%	21,400	22.8%	106,300	21.2%	31,100	24.2%	26,200	25.0%	51,300	23.6%
45-54	74,700	26.8%	27,200	29.0%	138,400	27.6%	36,200	28.2%	25,100	24.0%	67,100	30.9%
55-64	64,300	23.0%	19,700	21.0%	124,100	24.8%	28,100	21.9%	22,500	21.5%	39,100	18.0%
65+	28,800	10.3%	9,100	9.7%	50,600	10.1%	11,100	8.7%	10,100	9.6%	22,400	10.3%

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey (Numbers may not add due to rounding)

Bankruptcies

Calgary has experienced a steady decline in business bankruptcies over the past decade (2005-2014) to 41 in 2014 from 419 in 2005. Of Alberta's 105 business bankruptcies in 2014, 39% were from the Calgary CMA.

Since 95.0 per cent of Calgary CMA's business establishments are small businesses, it is assumed that the majority of business bankruptcies involve small businesses.



Source: Industry Canada. Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada