

Fact Sheet: Calgary Small Business

CALGARY CENSUS METROPOLITAN AREA (CMA)
2019 EDITION

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Highlights

Calgary small businesses account for 95 per cent of all businesses – they are a driving force within the city's business community. Small businesses provide jobs for local residents and are important for the vitality of inner cities. 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

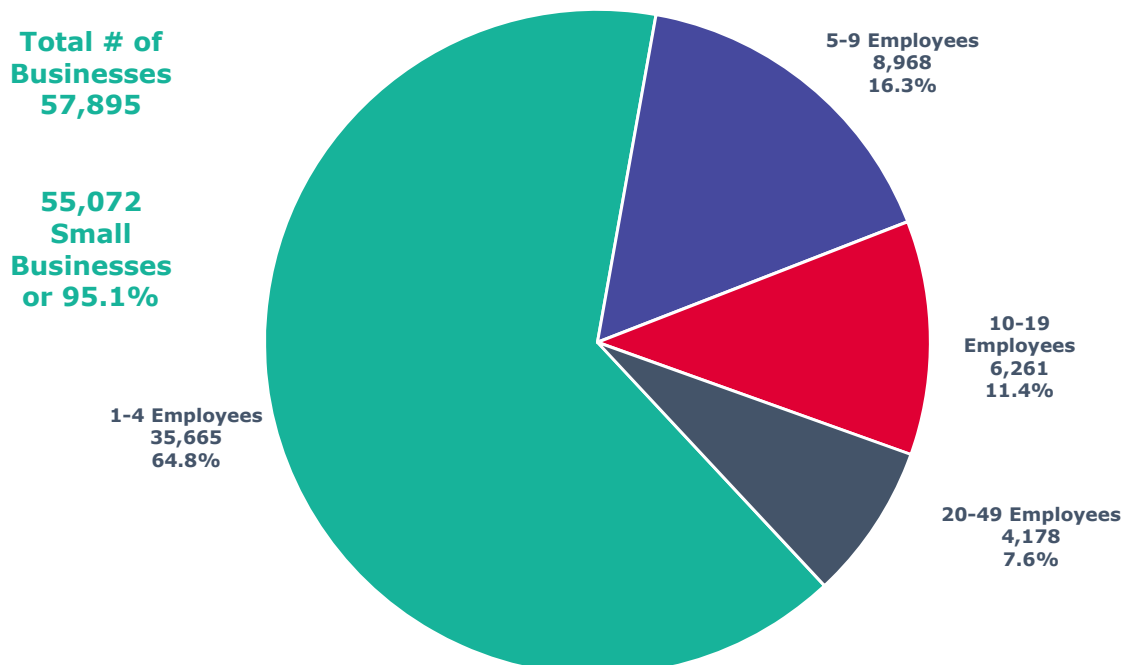
enjoy the advantage of customer focus, sets them apart from larger corporations.

Business Counts

Of Calgary's total businesses (57,895) in 2018, small business (businesses with less than 50 employees) accounted for 95.1 per cent (or 55,072).

A breakdown of Calgary's small businesses by employee size demonstrates that the smallest segment (1 to 4 employees) is the largest at 35,665 businesses or 64.8 per cent.

Calgary CMA Small Business by Number of Employees



Source: Statistics Canada, December 2018

Small Business by Industry and Employee Size

The dominant industries that made up Calgary's small business sector in 2018 were:

- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services - 11,417 businesses (20.7 per cent of total share)
- Construction - 6,468 businesses (11.7 per cent of total share)
- Health Care and Social Assistance - 4,761 businesses (8.65 per cent of total share)



Highly educated, globally connected workforce.

Calgary has the highest proportion of STEM degree completions of major cities in Canada.

Calgary is a global city and one of the most ethnically diverse cities in Canada. 33.7 per cent of Calgary's population is visible minority and 29.4 per cent are immigrants.

Census 2016, Statistics Canada

Footnote

¹For the purposes of this publication, a small business is one that has between 1 and 49 employees.

Small Business by Industry and Employee Size

Calgary CMA

Industry	1-4 Employees	5-9 Employees	10-19 Employees	20-49 Employees	Total	% Distribution
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	199	49	14	9	271	0.5%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	574	142	120	128	964	1.8%
Utilities	43	18	10	16	87	0.2%
Construction	4,492	972	597	407	6,468	11.7%
Manufacturing	574	313	257	252	1,396	2.5%
Wholesale trade	1,013	548	457	311	2,329	4.2%
Retail trade	1,768	1,351	1,050	476	4,645	8.43%
Transportation and warehousing	1,726	216	169	133	2,244	4.1%
Information and cultural industries	293	170	51	59	573	1.0%
Finance and insurance	1,109	326	295	185	1,915	3.5%
Real estate and rental and leasing	1,754	265	143	130	2,292	4.2%
Professional, scientific and technical services	9,640	904	536	337	11,417	20.7%
Management of companies and enterprises	152	63	64	65	344	0.6%
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	1,537	478	279	221	2,515	4.6%
Educational services	385	118	97	80	680	1.2%
Health care and social assistance	3,035	805	593	328	4,761	8.65%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	259	107	73	81	520	0.9%
Accommodation and food services	707	836	874	682	3,099	5.6%
Other services (except public administration)	2,575	976	425	200	4,176	7.6%
Public administration	17	6	11	9	43	0.1%
Unclassified	3,813	305	146	69	4,333	7.9%
Total	35,665	8,968	6,261	4,178	55,072	100.0%

Note: Small Businesses by Industry omits those which are deemed unclassified by Statistics Canada. Unclassified businesses are included in the Small Business Total.

Source: Canadian Business Counts, Statistics Canada, December 2018

Small Business Per Capita

Relative to its population, Calgary had the second highest number of small businesses per capita of major cities in Canada in 2018 at a rate of 37.1 per 1,000 population.

Self-Employment

In 2018, there were 141,100 self-employed Calgarians, an increase of 3.4 per cent from the 136,500 self-employed in 2017. On a per capita basis, Calgary had the second highest number of self-employment of major cities in Canada at 94.9 per 1,000 population.

During the past 10 years (2009-2018), Calgary experienced self-employment growth of 18.2 per

cent. Calgary's self-employment growth during this period was the third highest of major Canadian cities.

In 2018, the largest group of Calgary entrepreneurs was the 45 to 54 age group at 38,200 or 27.1 per cent, followed by the 35 to 44 age bracket at 31,900 or 22.6 per cent.

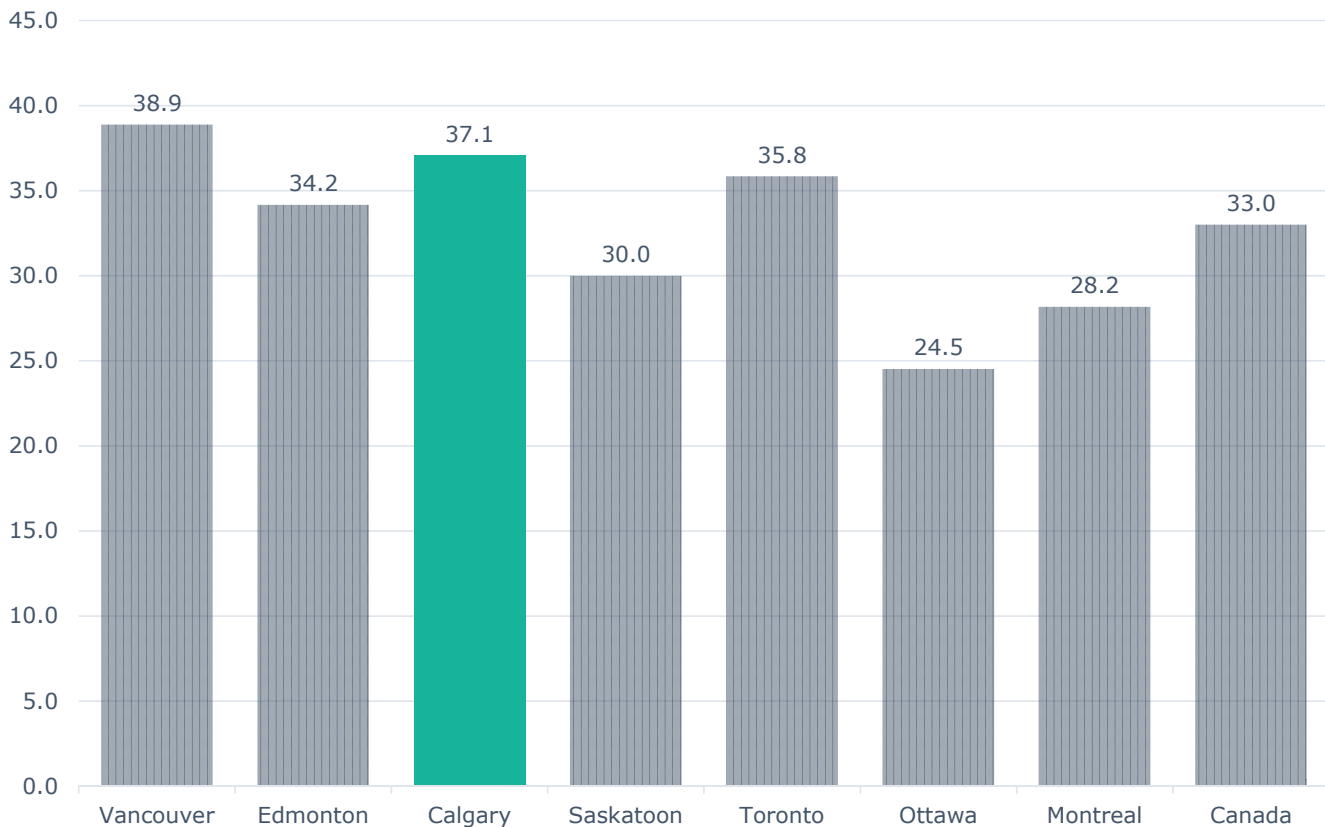


Exceptional quality of life.

Calgary has ranked among the Top 5 most liveable cities in the world every year since 2009 because of our economy, safety, infrastructure, social programs and a healthy lifestyle.

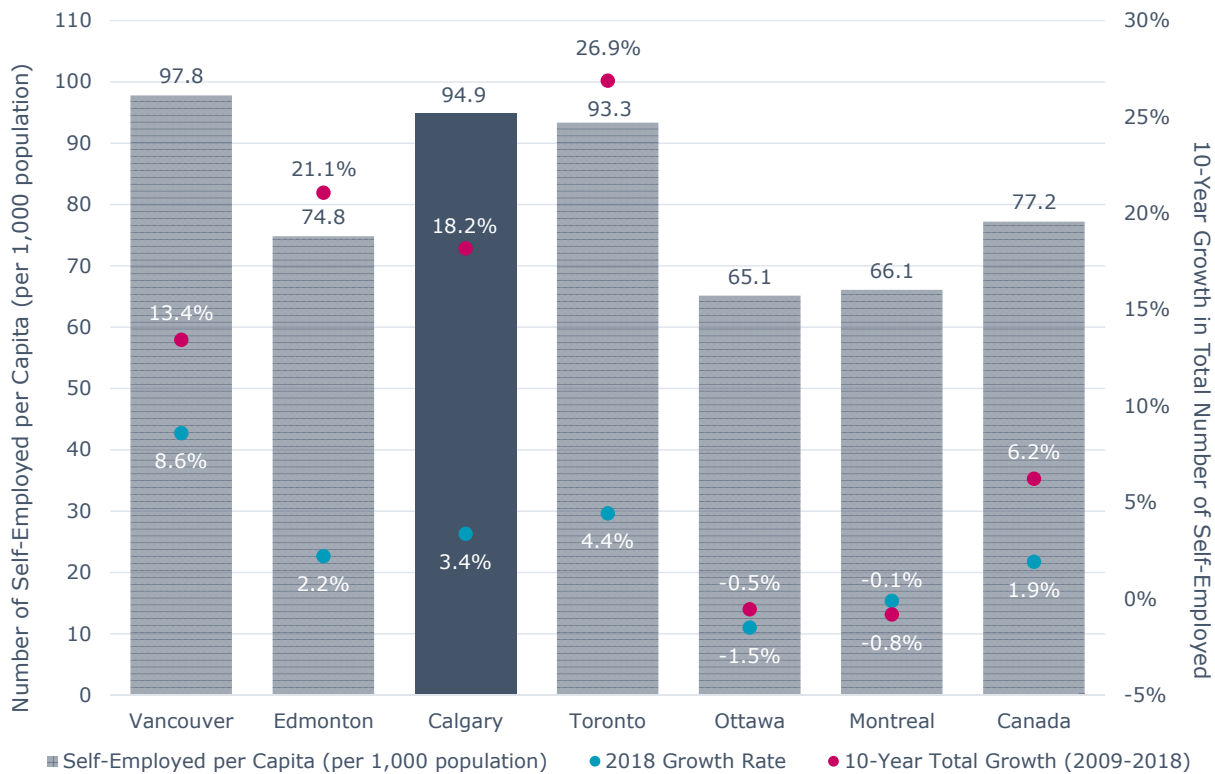
The Economist Intelligence Unit, 2009-2018

Small Business per Capita Across Canada



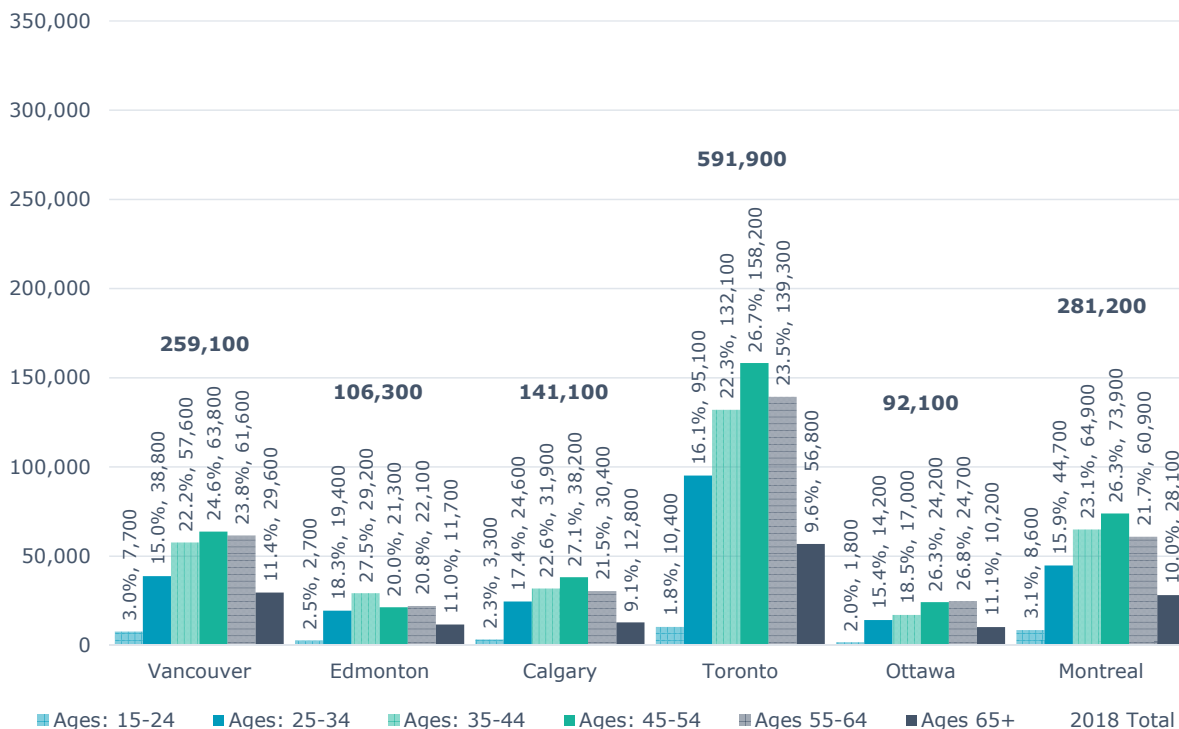
Source: Statistics Canada, CMA Population, July 1, 2018 and Canadian Business Counts, December 2018 1 to 49 Employees (Per 1,000 Population)

Self-Employed per Capita and 10-Year Growth



Source: Statistics Canada, 2019, per 1,000 Population

Number of Self-Employed by Age Group



Source: Statistics Canada, 2019

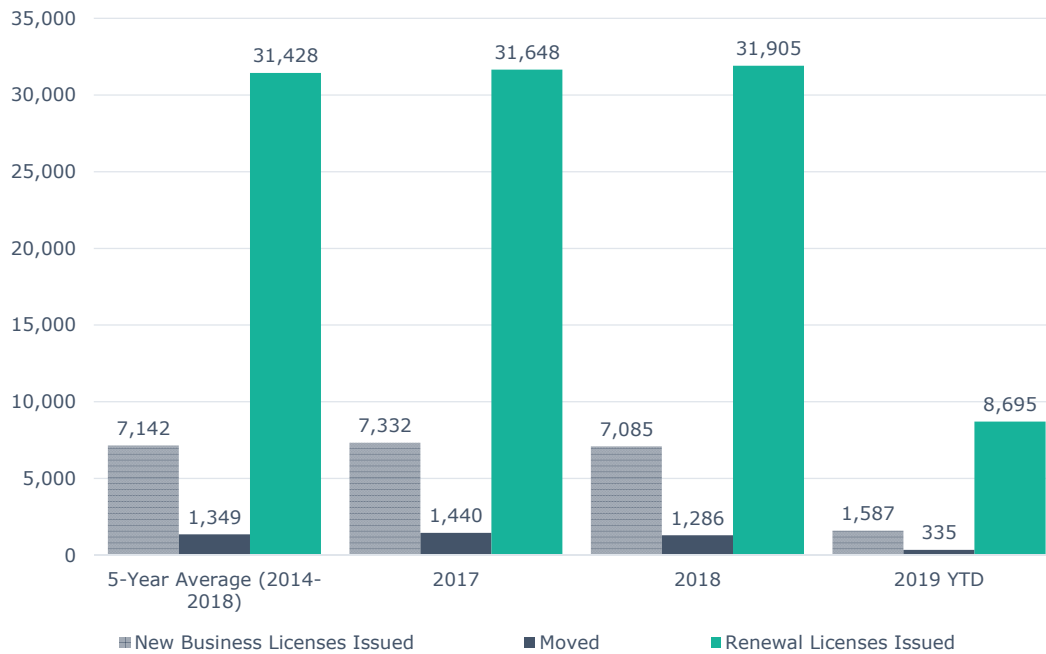
Business Licenses, Openings & Closures

Any time a business makes changes, moves, changes owners or ownership structure, the City of Calgary ends one licence and issues a new one. In 2018, there were 31,905 business license renewals and 7,085 new business licenses issued.

These results are in line with the 5-year average (2014-2018) of 31,428 business license renewals and 7,142 new business licenses issued. In 2018, there were 2,209 business closures in Calgary, slightly below the 5-year average of 2,325. There were 3,114 new business openings in 2018.

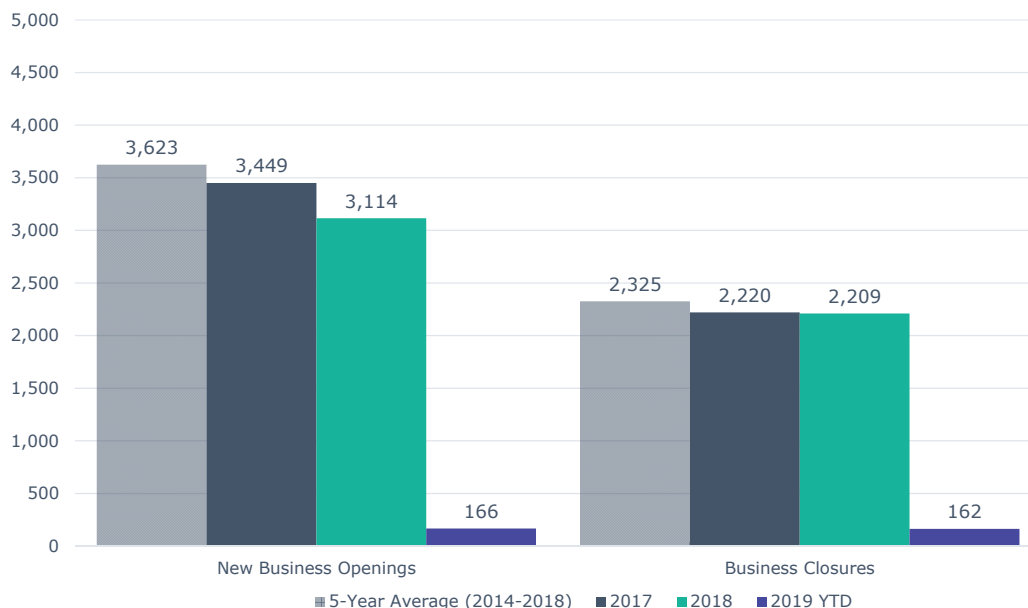
Note: Results do not include businesses licenses issued by higher levels of government or associations.

City of Calgary Business Licenses



Source: The City of Calgary Planning and Development, March 2019

City of Calgary Business Openings and Closures



Note: Exclusive of moves/relocations.

Source: The City of Calgary Corporate Economics, March 2019

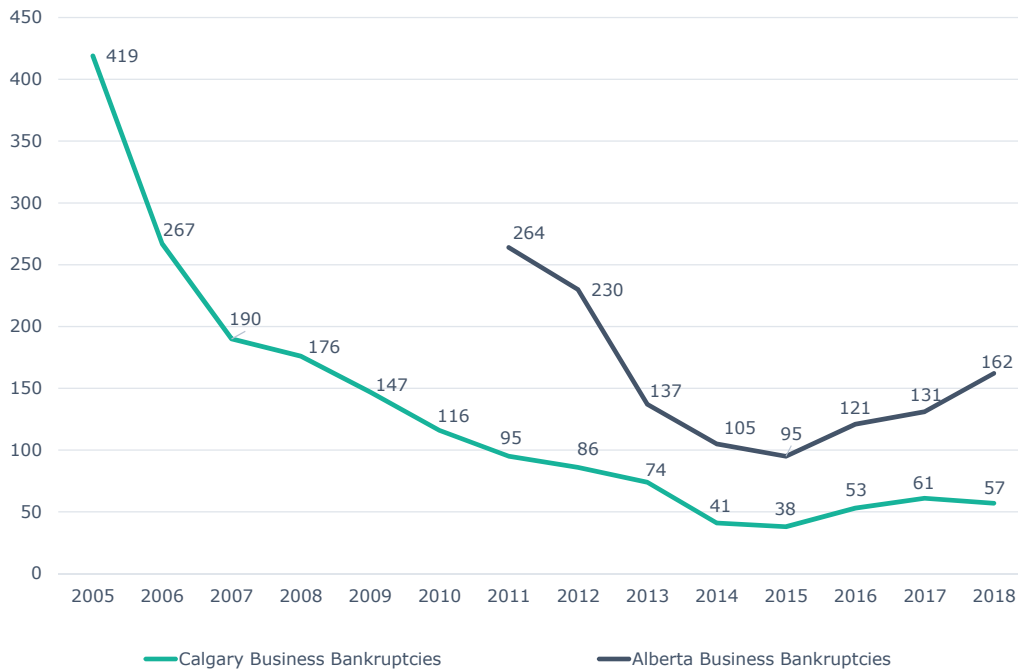
Bankruptcies

Calgary has experienced a steady decline in business bankruptcies historically, from a high of 419 in 2005 to 57 in 2018.

Of Alberta's 162 business bankruptcies in 2018, 35.2 per cent were from the Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA).

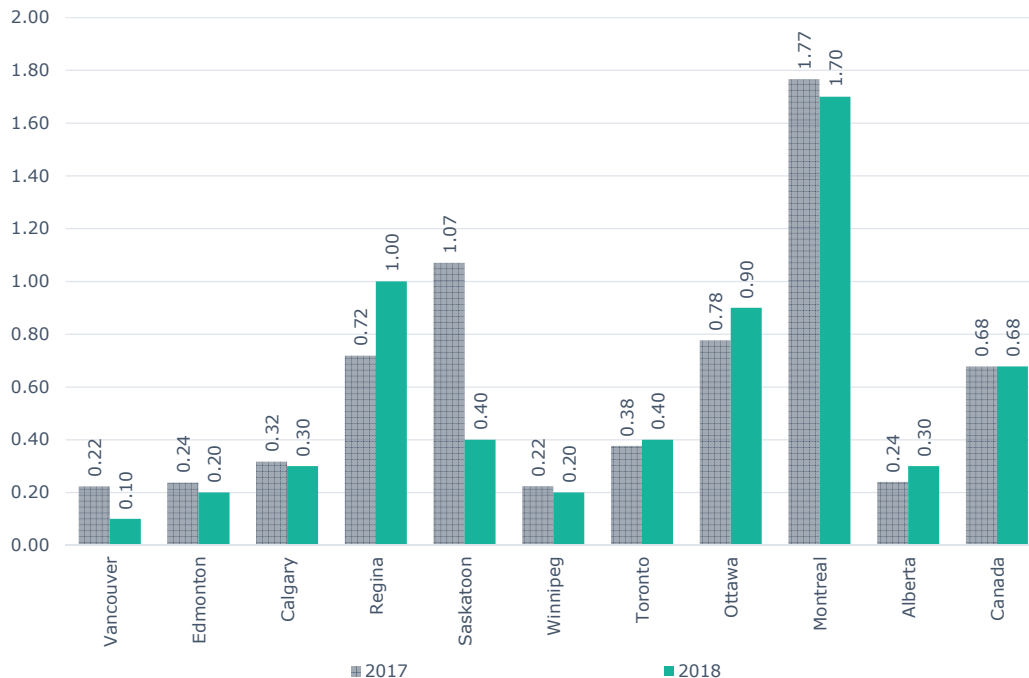
As 95.1 per cent of Calgary businesses are small business, it is assumed that the majority of business bankruptcies involve small businesses. Calgary business bankruptcy rates are low compared to the Canadian average and other major Canadian cities.

Calgary and Alberta Business Bankruptcies



Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada, February 2019

Business Bankruptcy Rates Across Canada



Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy Canada, 2019, (Per 1,000 Businesses)