

#### Latino Businesses in Nebraska: A Preliminary Look

Lissette Aliaga Linares, Ph.D.

Research Associate

Office of Latino/Latin American Studies
University of Nebraska at Omaha

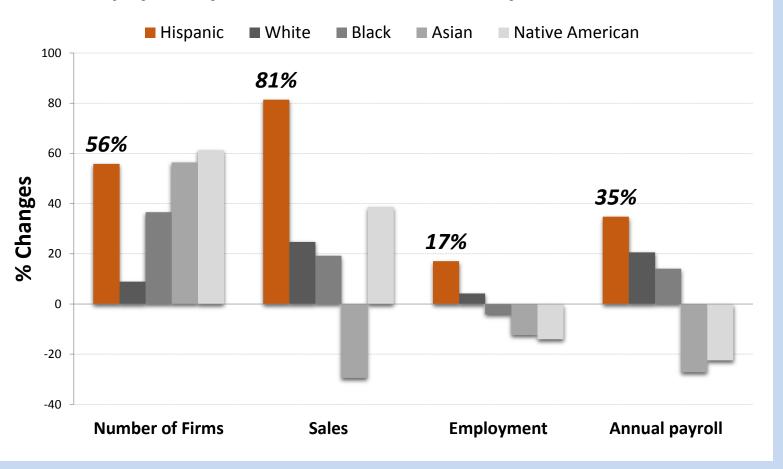






## Small but mighty

Percent changes for the number of firms, annual sales, employment and annual payroll by owner's race and ethnicity, Nebraska 2002-2007



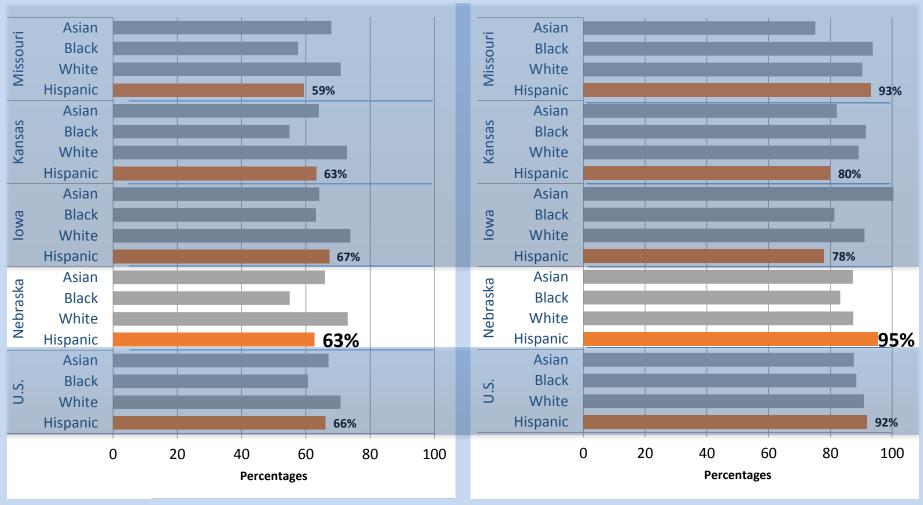
Source: Own Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau Survey of Business Owners 2002 and 2007- Summary Tables A1

#### Latino-owned establishments 2002-2006

N = 359

#### Survival rates compared

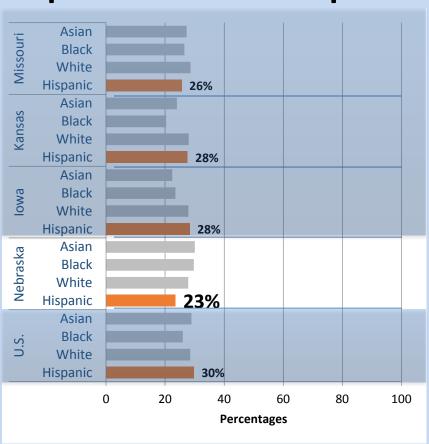
#### Job retention rates compared



Source: Own Calculations based on Special Tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau Survey of Business Owners 2002 and 1986-2006 Business Information Tracking Series - Summary Table 4

## Strong job creation through few expansions

#### **Expansion rates compared**



- 32% of the jobs created in Latino firms during 2002-2006 were due to expansions
- Latino-owned business added 10 employees per expansion when the general average in the state was 6.

Source: Own Calculations based on Special Tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau Survey of Business Owners 2002 and 1986-2006 Business Information Tracking Series - Summary Table 4

# Some Characteristics of Latino-owned Firms in 2007

- Half opened between 2002-2007
- Low access to financial services
- Only 15% are employer firms. Two thirds of employer firms have between 1 to 9 employees
  - More likely to hire employees in non-standard work arrangements
- 54% home-based, 17% family-owned
- Concentrated in four industries:
  - Health Care and Social Assistance (22%)
  - Other services (14%)
  - Construction (13%)
  - Waste Management (10%)
- Cater to English and Spanish speaking communities
- Low use of technology



## Some Characteristics of Latinobusiness Owners in 2007



- 35% had some level of education beyond high school
- 20% had some previous experience as self-employees
- 60% founded their businesses
   56% provide services/ produce
   goods in their business
- 45% had business as primary source of income
- 35% were foreign born

## Better Earnings from Self-employment

Comparison of Personal Income Earnings by Class of Worker for Hispanic Civilian Employed Population 25-64, Nebraska 2000 and 2008-2012

Class of worker	<b>2000</b> (in 2012 dollars)	2008-2012* (in 2012 dollars)	Percent Change
Self-employed	\$28,071	\$35,876	28%
Wage worker in Private Sector	\$30,948	\$28,533	-8%

Source: Own Calculations based on Census 2000 5% PUMS and American Community Survey 2008-2012 PUMS.

<sup>\*</sup> Difference is statistically significant at 95% level.

### Some Policy Recommendations

- More research!
- Strengthen partnerships between organizations working with business owners and community-based organizations serving the Latino community
- Increase bilingual and bicultural staff in relevant governmental offices
- Create channels to more stable migratory status for business owners and immigrant population overall

## Latino participation in self-employment is becoming more prominent in metro areas

