



**Biennial Update  
2008  
STATES**

**California**

**Businesses Owned by Women**

The Center for Women's Business Research presents the 2008 update of information on privately-held businesses owned by women in the State of California.

This biennial update on the number, employment and revenues for businesses owned by women debuts the Center for Women's Business Research's new projection formula developed in collaboration with the nationally-recognized Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University. The new, more sophisticated, economic-based formula takes into account the dramatic shifts in population and industries the United States has experienced in the past few years.

As of 2008, the Center estimates that businesses which are jointly owned or **50 percent** owned by women in the State of California:

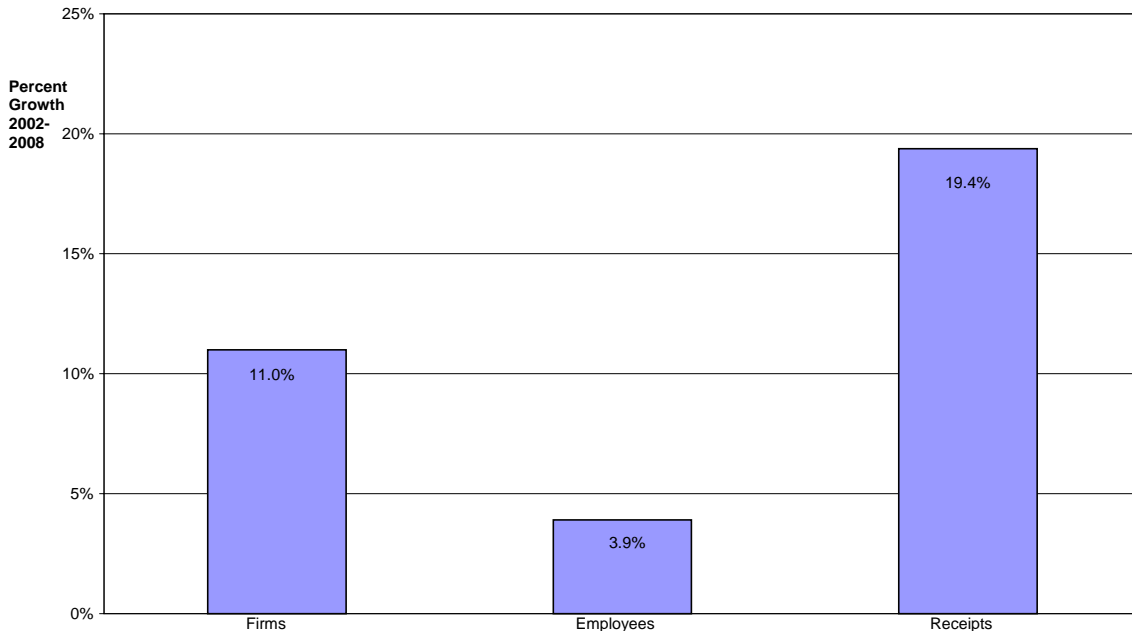
- Total 1,351,087
- Employ 1,914,563 people
- Generate \$318.2 billion in annual revenues

To qualify for many public and private contracts, women must be the majority owner of a business. In other words, she must own at least 51 percent of that business. As of 2008, the Center estimates that businesses which are **majority owned** by women in the State of California:

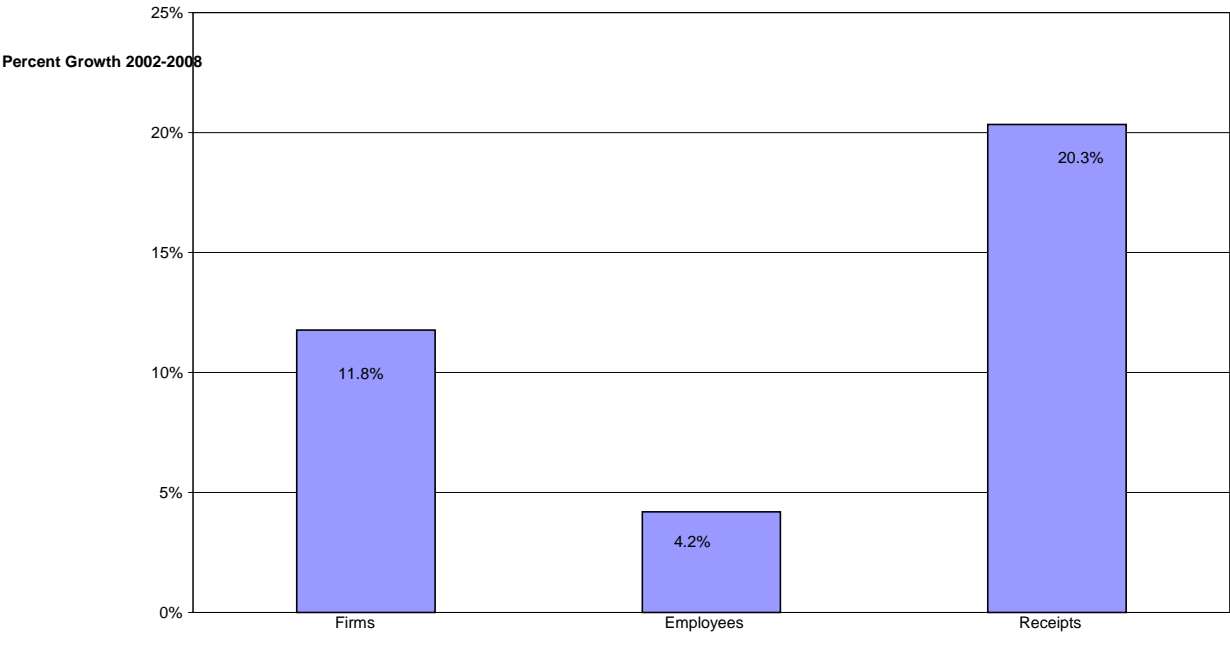
- Total 972,925
- Employ 980,611 people
- Generate \$165.7 billion in annual revenues

The following charts display **growth** in number of firms, employment and revenues for the State of California since 2002 for businesses at least 50 percent owned by women and majority-owned by women:

### Growth of 50% or Greater Women-Owned Firms California



### Growth of 51% or Greater Women-Owned Firms California



California ranks 1st among all states in overall average size and 3rd in overall average growth. Size rank is based on an average of firms, employment and revenues in 2008. Growth rank is based on an average of growth in firms, employment and revenues from 2002 to 2008.

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