

# **Roxanne Mankin Cason**

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**Chair, Women's Leadership Board  
John F. Kennedy School of Government  
Harvard University**

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**Arab International Women's Forum**

**March 8, 2007**

**London, England**

# The Women's Leadership Board A Global Force For Change

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**The Women's Leadership Board is a distinguished body of individuals and corporations convened by Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government to advance women and girls at Harvard and throughout the world.**

# What We Do

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**Anchored at America's oldest and leading University, The Women's Leadership Board:**

- **Initiates and supports research at Harvard related to women's issues;**
- **Brings to the Harvard community elected women officials and women heads of state to share their knowledge and experience with students, faculty, and the community;**
- **Collaborates with the Women and Public Policy Program to promote an understanding of gender perspectives on public policy;**
- **Advises the Dean of the Kennedy School of Government on initiatives that support the role of women as leaders in business, government, and at the Kennedy School itself;**
- **Mentors and supports the next generation of young women leaders; and**
- **Supports women leaders around the world, particularly those in positions of authority in government, with outreach opportunities for training and access to expertise.**

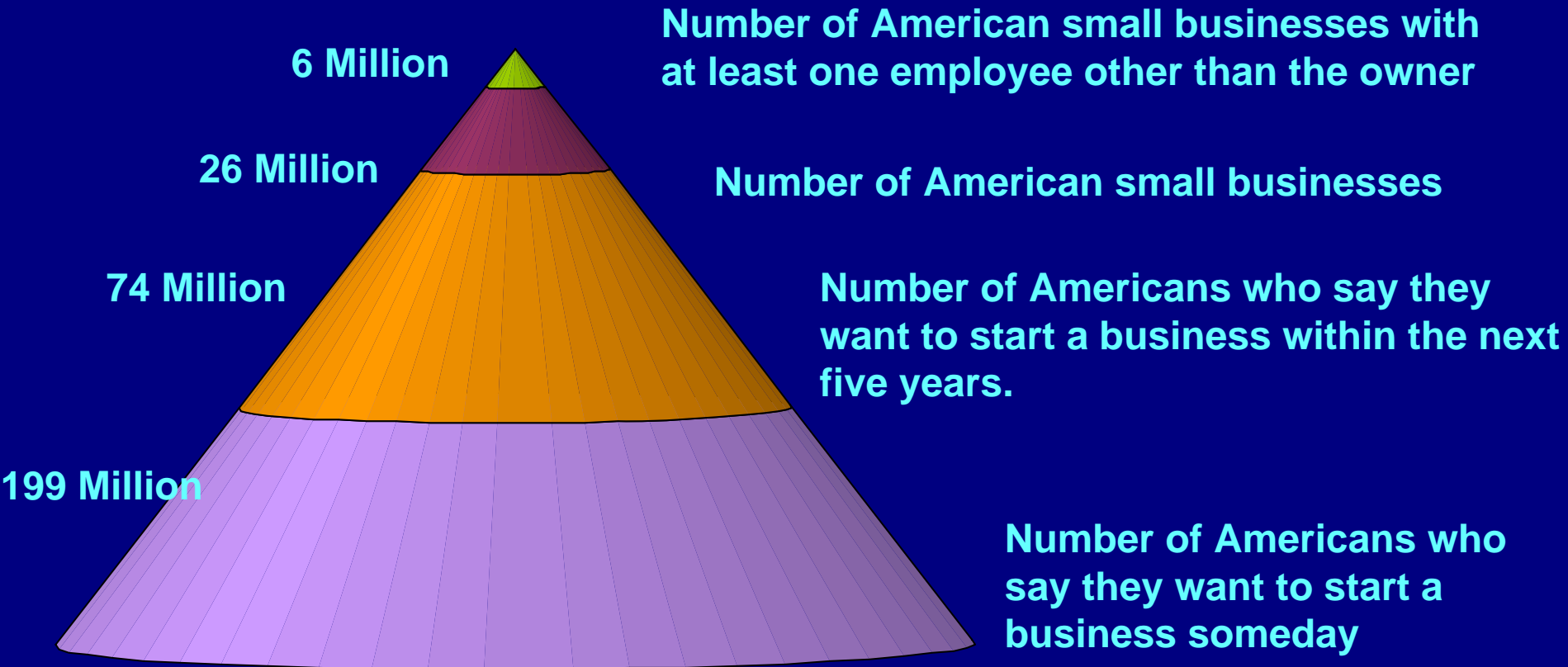
# Select Accomplishments

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- **Women in Public Policy Program**
- **The Board has funded for over ten years the initiatives and research of this pioneering policy program focused on addressing public policies that have an impact on women.**
- **Support for Women Leaders**
- **Incubated and launched the Council of World Women Leaders.**
- **Actively seeking ways to engage and support President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia, a 1971 graduate of the Kennedy School of Government, in her efforts to rebuild that nation: A recent delegation of Board members traveled to Liberia to assess areas in which the Board can have an impact.**
- **Zambia – the Maternal/Infant Health Initiative**
- **Training and supporting 30-45 advanced midwives to combat the staggering mortality and disability of pregnant mothers and infants in that country.**
- **Women and Power Executive Training**
- **Developed and inspired this unique program at the Kennedy School for advancing the position of women around the world.**

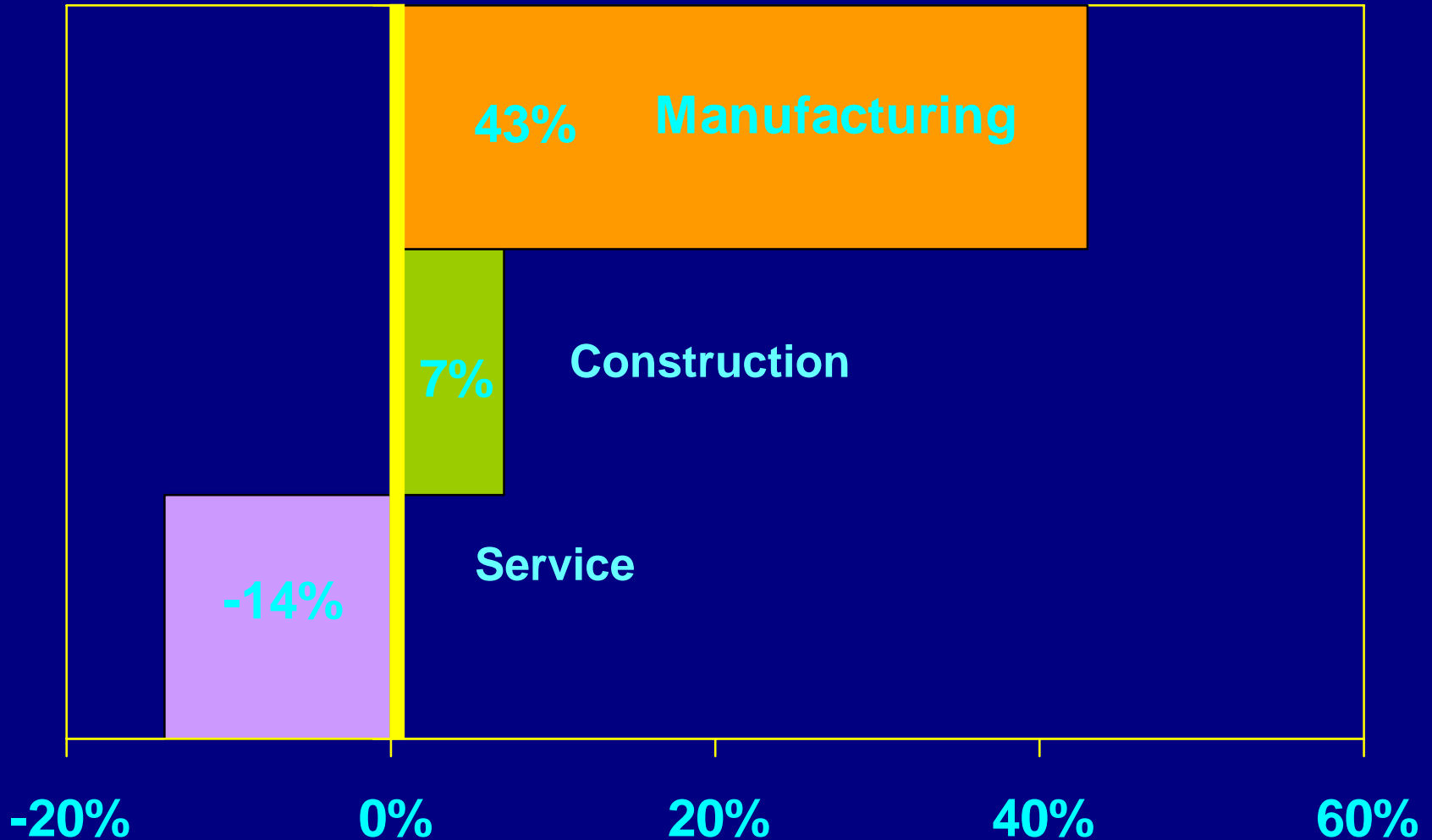
# Americans in Small Businesses

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# BEYOND DOT - COMS

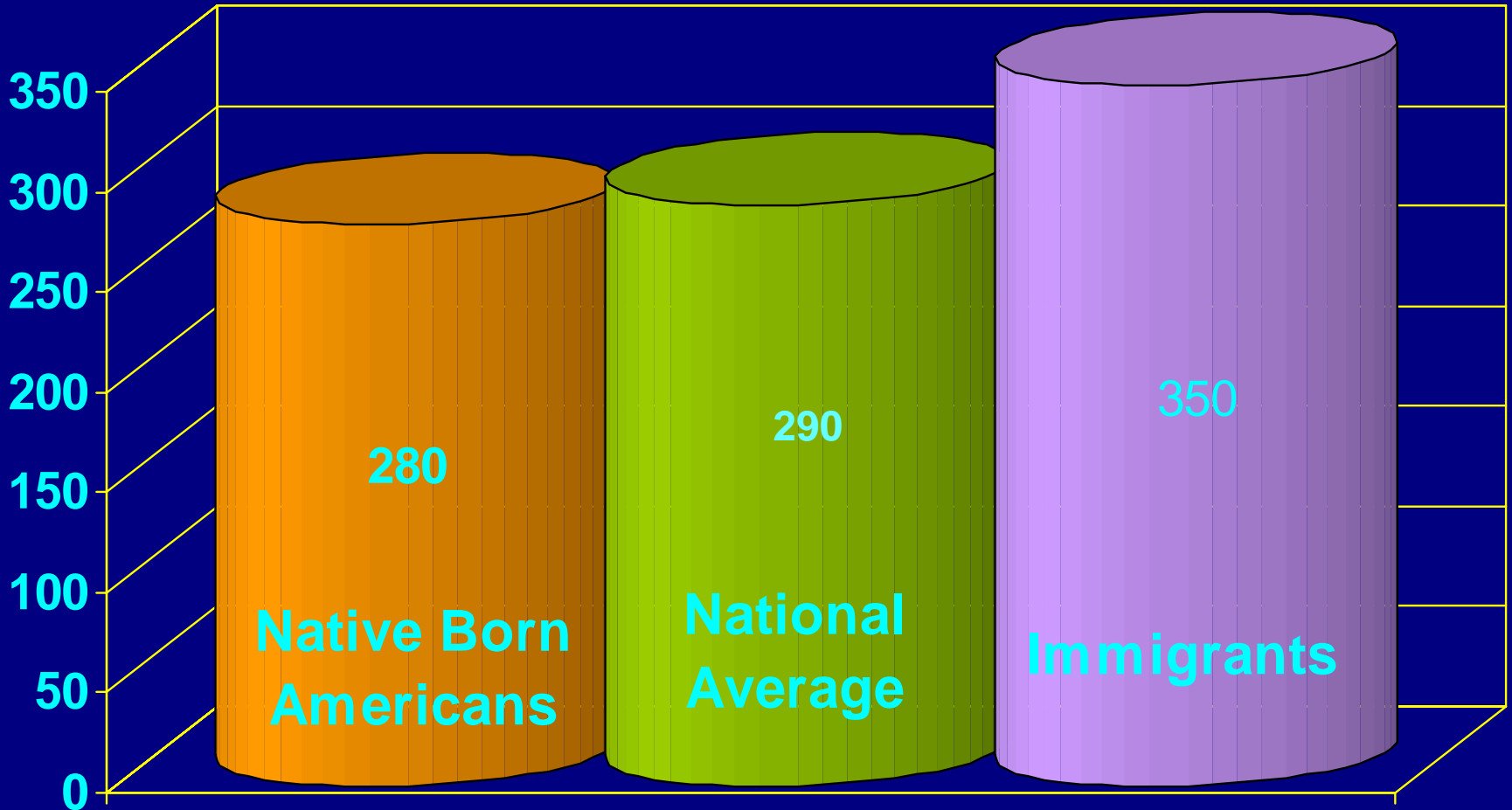
Change in the number of new small businesses  
created between 1996 and 2005, by sector



Source: Kauffman Foundation

# BIZ WITHOUT BORDERS

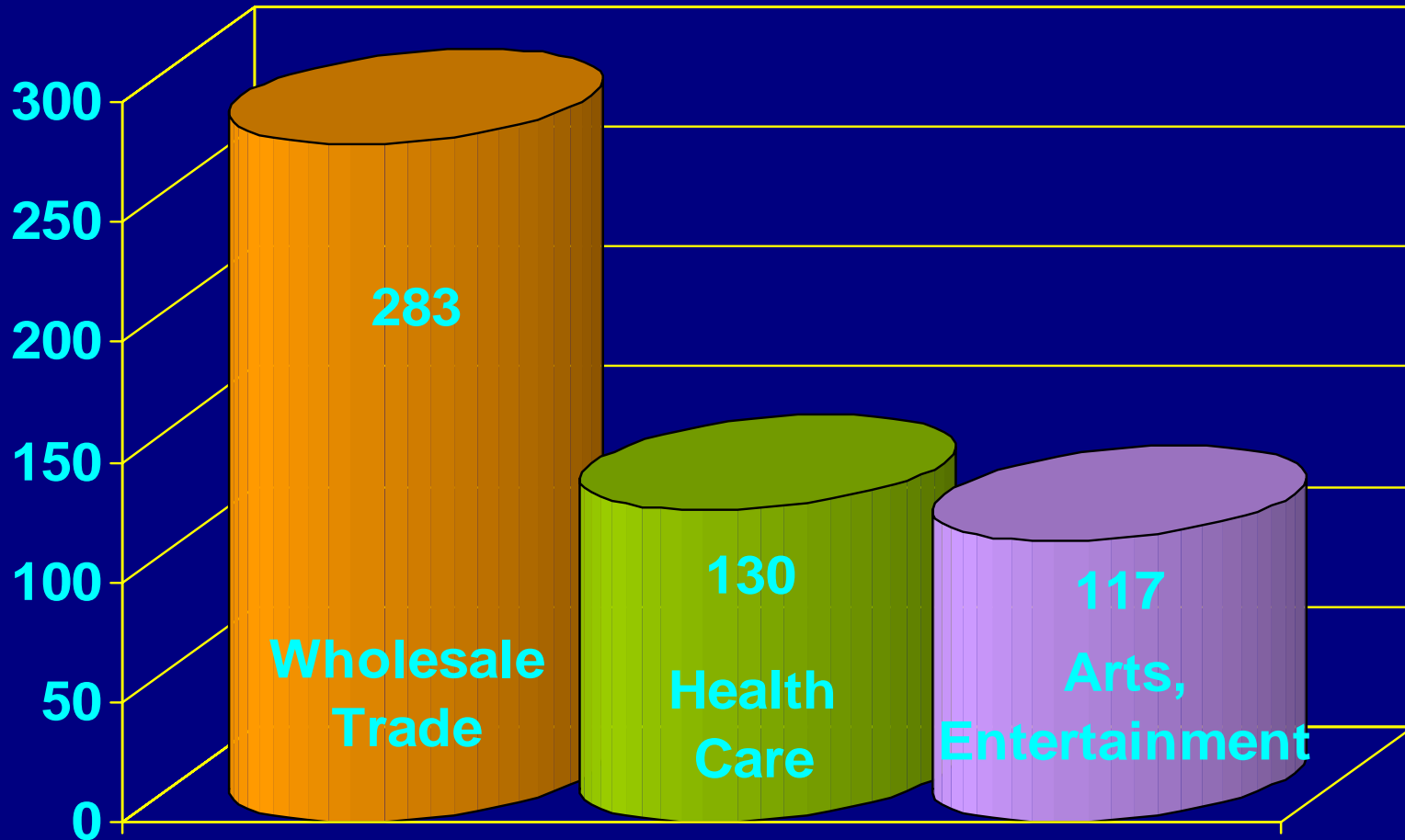
Number of startups per 100,000 people



# SURGING SECTORS

Growth in number of woman-owned startups, by industry, 1997-2004

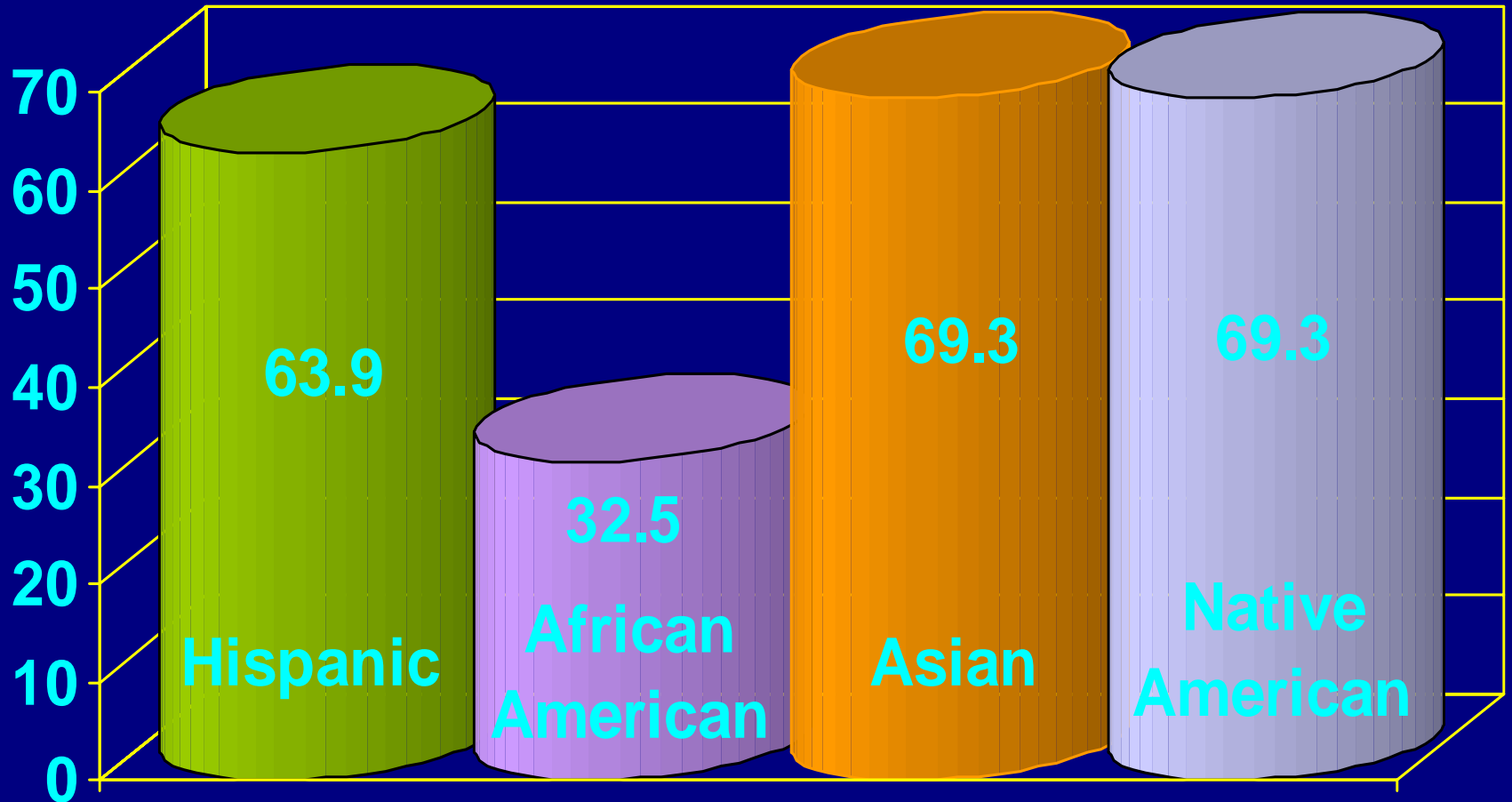
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# Melting Pot

Growth in number of woman-owned startups, by ethnicity, 1997-2004



# Contact Information

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- **Fortune Small Business Magazine**  
<http://magazine-directory.com/Fortune-Small-Business.htm>
- **National Foundation for Women Business Owners**  
<http://www.nawbo.org/cms/index.php?pid=61>
- **Center for Women's Business Research**  
<http://www.cfwbr.org/>
- **Count Me In**  
<http://www.countmein.org/>
- **Make Mine a Million Dollar Business**  
[www.Makemineamillion.org](http://www.Makemineamillion.org)
- **Women's Business Enterprise National Council**  
<http://www.wbenc.org>

# Women's Business Organizations (National)

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- **American Association of University Women ( [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) )**
- **American Business Women's Association ( [www.abwahq.org](http://www.abwahq.org) )**
- **Asian Women in Business ( [www.awib.org](http://www.awib.org) )**
- **Association of Women in International Trade ( [www.wiit.org](http://www.wiit.org) )**
- **Association of Women's Business Centers (AWBC)  
([www.womensbusinesscenters.org](http://www.womensbusinesscenters.org))**
- **Athena Foundation ( [www.athenafoundation.org](http://www.athenafoundation.org) )**
- **Business and Professional Women/USA ( [www.bpwusa.org](http://www.bpwusa.org) )**
- **Center for Women's Leadership ( [www3.babson.edu/cwl](http://www3.babson.edu/cwl) )**
- **Committee of 200 ( [www.c200.org](http://www.c200.org) )**
- **Commonwealth Institute ( [www.commonwealthinstitute.org](http://www.commonwealthinstitute.org) )**
- **Digital Women ( [www.digital-women.com](http://www.digital-women.com) )**
- **eWomenNetwork ( [www.ewomennetwork.com](http://www.ewomennetwork.com) )**
- **Graduate Women in Business ( [www.gwib.org](http://www.gwib.org) )**
- **National Association of Women Business Owners ( [www.nawbo.org](http://www.nawbo.org) )**
- **Women Impacting Public Policy, Inc. ( [www.wipp.org](http://www.wipp.org) )**
- **Women Presidents' Organization ( [www.womenpresidentsorg.com](http://www.womenpresidentsorg.com) )**
- **Women's Business Enterprise National Council ( [www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org) )**
- **Women's Exchange, Inc. ( [www.womens-exchange.com](http://www.womens-exchange.com) )**
- **Worldwit.org ( [www.worldwit.org](http://www.worldwit.org) )**

# Women's Business Organizations (International)

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- **Women's Business Organizations: International**
- **AIDDA--Associazione Imprenditrici e Donne Dirigenti d'Azienda ( [www.aidda.org](http://www.aidda.org) )**
- **Alliance of Business Women ( [www.abwi.org/web/about](http://www.abwi.org/web/about) )**
- **Association for Women in Development ( [www.awid.org](http://www.awid.org) )**
- **Canadian Women's Business Network ( [www.cdnbizwomen.com](http://www.cdnbizwomen.com) )**
- **Deutches Grunderinnen Forum ( [www.dgfev.de](http://www.dgfev.de) )**
- **FCEM--Les Femmes Chefs d'Enterprises Mondiales ( [www.fcem.org](http://www.fcem.org) )**
- **Global Women's Business Network ( [www.globewomen.com](http://www.globewomen.com) )**
- **International Labour Organization--Women's Entrepreneurship Development ( [www.ilo.org/dyn/empent/empent.portal?p\\_lang=EN&p\\_prog=S&p\\_subprog=WE](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/empent/empent.portal?p_lang=EN&p_prog=S&p_subprog=WE) )**
- **Organization of Women in International Trade ( [www.owit.org](http://www.owit.org) )**
- **Prowess: Promoting Women's Enterprise Support ( [www.prowess.org.uk](http://www.prowess.org.uk) )**
- **The International Alliance for Women ( [www.tiaw.com/](http://www.tiaw.com/) )**
- **UNIFEM--United Nations Development Fund for Women ( [www.unifem.org](http://www.unifem.org) )**
- **VDU--Verband Deutscher Unternehmerinnen ( [www.vdu.de](http://www.vdu.de) )**

# Harvard University

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- **Established in 1636**
- **Comprised of an undergraduate college, Harvard College, and ten graduate schools in the fields of Arts & Science, Business, Design, Divinity, Education, Government, Law, Dental, Medicine, and Public Health**
- **Student population: >6,500 undergraduates; >12,200 graduate and professional students**
- **Faculty: ~2,500 non-medical faculty members; ~9,000 medical faculty members**
- **Library collection: >15 million volumes, the largest university collection in the world**
- **Seven U.S. Presidents: John Adams, John Quincy Adams, John F. Kennedy, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, Rutherford Hayes, and George W. Bush**
- **Nobel laureates: 43 current and former faculty members**

# Kennedy School of Government

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- **“Committed to making the world a better place”**
- **Prepare leaders for the government, non-profit, private sector**
- **The most international School at Harvard University**
- **A faculty comprised of academics and practitioners, including former senior government officials from around the world**
- **Graduate degree programs & executive education programs**
  - **Master’s of Public Policy: 2yrs (~26/yr old)**
  - **Master’s of Public Administration: 1yr (~38/yr old)**
- **Over ten Kennedy School graduates are current world leaders – or considered “highly likely” to assume a position as head of state in the near future, including President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia**
- **The Kennedy School Forum is one of the world’s premier platforms for world leaders to debate the most pressing issues throughout the globe. Recent speakers have included Pervez Musharraf, President of Pakistan; George H.W. Bush, Former President of the United States; Bishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; Robert S. McNamara, former U.S. Secretary of Defense; Shimon Peres, Vice Premier, State of Israel; and Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Senator from New York, among many others.**

## **For Additional Information**

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