

Survey Toplines

Small business owners oppose government agency cuts, worry about tariffs

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Methodology

This national survey of 336 small business decisionmakers was conducted April 8-9, 2025, using an online panel from SurveyMonkey. The margin of error is +/-5% at a 95% confidence level.

1. Do you own or manage a small business?

Yes, own	84%
Yes, manage	16%

2. How many people does your company employ, including yourself? Please include full-time and part-time employees, but do not include independent contractors

Self-employed	39%
Small business, 2-10 employees	34%
Small business, 10-24 employees	13%
Small business, 25-49 employees	6%
Small business, 50-74 employees	3%
Small business, 75-100 employees	5%

3. Do you identify with any of the following racial or ethnic groups?

Asian, Asian American, East Asian, South Asian, and/or Southeast Asian	13%
Black, African or African American	12%
Hispanic, Latino/a or Spanish Origin.....	11%
Middle Eastern or North African	4%
Native American or Alaskan Native.....	7%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1%
White or Caucasian.....	62%
Prefer not to answer.....	2%
Other.....	1%

4. The administration has begun deporting immigrants and has pledged to conduct mass deportations. According to the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, immigrants account for 18 percent of small employer firms, 23% of self-employed firms and 17% of the small business workforce. How concerned are you about mass deportation policies negatively affecting your business and/or your suppliers' businesses and the U.S. economy, where 5 is very concerned and 1 is not concerned at all.

	1	2	3	4	5
Your business / supplier businesses	27%	13%	20%	17%	22%
The U.S. economy	15%	7%	16%	14%	47%

5. What impact do you believe tariffs are having and will have on the U.S. economy?

Strong positive impact	19%
Somewhat positive impact	12%
Neutral impact	13%
Somewhat negative impact	13%
Strong negative impact	38%
I don't know	6%
<i>Total positive impact.....</i>	<i>31%</i>
<i>Total negative impact</i>	<i>51%</i>

6. Congress is considering cuts to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which provides support and capital for small farmers and other rural small businesses. Would you support or oppose cuts to the USDA?

Strongly support	13%
Somewhat support	13%
Neither support nor oppose.....	20%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	35%
I don't know	4%
<i>Total support.....</i>	<i>26%</i>
<i>Total oppose</i>	<i>51%</i>

7. Congress is considering cuts to programs like Medicaid which provides healthcare coverage for low-income individuals, including more than 7 million small business owners and employees. Would you support or oppose cuts to Medicaid?

Strongly support	10%
Somewhat support	13%
Neither support nor oppose.....	17%
Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	44%
I don't know	2%
<i>Total support.....</i>	<i>23%</i>
<i>Total oppose</i>	<i>57%</i>

8. Gender

Male	41%
Female	59%