In the first quarter of 2007, there were 8.6 million business *establishments* employing 112.5 million workers in the U.S. private sector.

- Nearly 77 percent of these establishments employed fewer than 10 workers.
- Establishments employing 1,000 or more workers constituted more than 10 percent of all private-sector jobs in the first quarter of 2007, despite comprising less than 0.1 percent of all private-sector establishments.

*An establishment* is defined as an economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and engages in one or predominantly one activity. A firm may consist of several establishments under common ownership by a corporate parent.
FIGURE 2
Percent distribution of private-sector establishments and employment by size class

First quarter 2007 (establishments) and March 2007 (employment)