

**In the first quarter of 2008, there were 8.8 million business establishments employing 113.2 million workers in the U.S. private sector.**

**👤 More than three quarters of these establishments employed fewer than 10 workers.**

**👤 Establishments with 20–49 workers, with 17.4 percent of all private-sector workers, maintained the largest share of private-sector employment.**



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

