In 2002, there were over 59,000 minority firms in Pennsylvania generating nearly $11 billion in gross receipts.

These firms also employed nearly 78,000 workers.

Minority firms represented 7% of all ‘classifiable’ firms located in the state.

The number of minority firms in Pennsylvania increased by 19% between 1997 and 2002, compared to 4% for all ‘classifiable’ firms in the state.

Pennsylvania had the 13th largest minority population in the country, numbering 2 million or 16% of the state’s total population in 2002.

In Pennsylvania, only Asian Americans have reached parity in their number of firms when compared to their representation in the state’s population. No other minority group has reached parity in the number of firms and gross receipts.

If minority business activity in Pennsylvania matched the state’s minority population percentage in 2002, the number of minority firms in the state would have exceeded 138,000 and they would have generated over $60 billion in gross receipts and employed more than 376,400 workers.
• While smaller in number, Strategic Growth Initiative (SGI) minority-owned firms, which have annual gross receipts of $500,000 or more, generate a much larger percentage of the group’s revenues and paid employment than firms with receipts under $500,000.

• In 2002, minority-owned firms with receipts of $500,000 or more generated about 73% of all receipts grossed by all minority firms in Pennsylvania and employed 70% of all paid workers employed by minority firms in that state.

• Minority-owned firms in Pennsylvania were also more concentrated in the following industries: health care and social assistance; other services; retail trade; and professional, scientific, and technical services.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau’s 2007 Special Tabulation for all minority firms in 2002, 2002 Survey of Business Owners, Company Summary, September 2006; Statistics for All Minority firms by receipts size represent MBDA estimates. Hispanics may be of any race, because business owners were allowed to identify with more than one race category. Other Services includes firms not provided for elsewhere in the classification system which are engaged in activities such as equipment and machinery repairing, promoting religious activities, grant-making, advocacy, providing dry-cleaning and laundry services, personal care services and dating services. S = Estimates are suppressed when publication standards are not met. Total percentages for minority firms by industry may exceed 100% because some firms may be classified in more than one industry. For more information on MBDA methodology, please review The State of Minority Business Enterprises at www.mbdabizfacts. For information on Census’ data methodology and standard errors, please visit www.census.gov/csd/sbo/index.html. Prepared by MBDA’s Office of Business Development, October 2007.