6 out of 10 business owners plan to sell their business in the next decade.

As most retire, our local business landscape is about to go through a dramatic shift.

Baby boomers own almost half of all privately-held businesses in Washington State.

57,730
Businesses are owned by baby boomers
Employees: 571,420
Payroll: $20.6B
Sales: $112.5B
in all of Washington State

Industries
- Accommodation & food services
- Admin & waste management
- Arts & entertainment
- Construction
- Health care & social assistance
- Manufacturing
- Other industries
- Professional services
- Retail trade
- Transportation & warehousing
- Wholesale trade

Thanks to Community Foundation for South Puget Sound, Yakima Valley Community Foundation and Community Foundation for Southwest Washington for their generous co-investment in this research.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy.
They make up 99.5% of all firms and provide 51.5% of all jobs in Washington. In addition, they circulate 3x more money back into local communities than absentee-owned businesses and corporate chains.
Employee ownership deepens the impact of local businesses and keeps them locally-owned for the long term.

**Benefits to Businesses**
- Higher productivity and growth
- Lower employee turnover
- Improved longevity and lasting legacy

**Benefits to Workers**
- Better pay and benefits
- Assets and business ownership
- Voice in key decisions

**Benefits to Communities**
- Increased local spending
- Heightened civic engagement
- Community wealth building

Let us help you track the impact of baby boomer retirements in your region and turn crisis into opportunity.

Interested in learning how businesses can transition to employee ownership and communities can keep good jobs?

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