In 2017, around one in seven (14% or 40,260) employed Métis were self-employed. 59% of self-employed Métis were men and 41% were women. Freedom or independence were the leading reasons for choosing self-employment (37%).

About a third (32%) of self-employed Métis had employees. Most (91%) self-employed Métis did not receive outside assistance for their business. Outside business assistance includes: financial assistance, procurement programs, information on business opportunities, help establishing business contracts, training/development programs.


- Construction: 16%
- Professional, scientific and technical services: 13%
- Services including repair, maintenance, and personal and laundry services: 14%
- Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting: 8%
- Health care and social assistance: 7%

Gender differences appeared in the number of self-employed in some industries, while men and women were equally represented in others.

- 92% of self-employed Métis in the construction sector were men.
- 75% of self-employed Métis in the healthcare and social assistance sector were women.
- 49% of self-employed Métis in professional, scientific and technical services were men, and 51% were women.

Most (91%) self-employed Métis did not receive outside assistance for their business.

Under half (43%) of self-employed Métis owned an incorporated business. Ranged from 56% of self-employed in Alberta to 22% in Manitoba.

Notes: Use with caution. Métis in this publication refers to individuals who self-identified as Métis in the 2017 Aboriginal Peoples Survey.