## The rise in self-employment among **women** in Canada

In 2022, nearly 1 million women in Canada were self-employed, accounting for 37% of the total self-employed population. This is up from 26% in 1976.





In 1976, 34% of self-employed women were unpaid family workers,1 working mostly in agriculture. This proportion declined to 1% by 2022.

Self-employed women are less likely than self-employed men to...

WOMEN



19%

Have employees



32%

MEN

Have an incorporated business<sup>2</sup>

34%



54%





Retail and wholesale trade managers

6.5%



Early childhood educators and assistants

4.6%



Real estate agents and salespersons

4.5%



Light duty cleaners

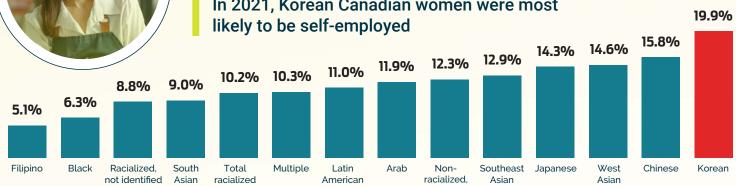
4,4%



Hairstylists and barbers

4.3%

## In 2021, Korean Canadian women were most likely to be self-employed



non-Indigenous



<sup>1.</sup> Unpaid family workers are people who work without pay on a farm or in a business or professional practice owned and operated by another family member who lives in the same dwelling.

2. An incorporated business refers to a business, farm or professional practice that has been formed into a legal corporation, thus constituting a legal entity under either federal or provincial laws, while an unincorporated business, farm or professional practice is not a separate legal entity.

Source: Uppal, S., 2023, "Self-employment among women in Canada," *Insights on Canadian Society*, Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 75-006-X.

population

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elsewhere

Canada