

20 oldest Nashville businesses

ranked by year founded in Nashville

| Name Address Phone | Number of employees | Year founded in Nashville | Previous names | Owner Top local official | Type of business |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1. Nashville Gas Co. 665 Mainstream Drive 37228 734-0734 | 400 | 1849 | Nashville Gas & Heating Co. | Piedmont Natural Gas Co., J. William Denny, president | natural gas utility |
| 2. Warren Brothers Sash & Door Co. 700 Massman Drive 37210 885-0355 | 40 | 1853 | Warren Bros. Co. Warren & Moore | Pacific Mutual Door Co. Allen Jones, general manager | wholesale millworks |
| 3. United Methodist Publishing House 201 Eighth Ave. S. 37203 749-6000 | 750 | 1854 | Southern Methodist Publishing House, Methodist Publishing House | United Methodist Church Neal M. Alexander, president and publisher | publisher and distributor for the United Methodist Church |
| 4. Levy's (tie) 900 Hillsboro Road 37215 383-2800 | 33 | 1855 | R.Z. Levy & Co., R.Z. Levy & Sons | A.J. Levy Jr., David W. Levy, owners; David Levy, president | men's apparel retailer |
| 4. Southwestern/Great American Inc. (tie) 2451 Atrium Way 37214 391-2500 | 685 | 1855 | The Southwestern Publishing House, The Southwestern Co. | Southwestern/Great American Inc. Ralph W. Mosley, CEO | book publishing fund raising and direct mail retailer |
| 6. Robert Orr/Sysco Food Services Co. One Hermitage Plaza 37209 350-7100 | 1,100 | 1859 | Robert Orr Co. | Sysco Corp. Nick Tarase, chairman and CEO | wholesale food distributor |
| 7. Ambrose Printing Co. (tie) 210 Cumberland Bend, 37228 256-1151 | 125 | 1865 | none | John L. Ambrose Jr., owner and president | commercial printer |
| 7. Hossey & Hossey Safe & Lock Co. , 222 Woodland St. 37213 256-7981 | 4 | 1865 | none | Preston Hill, owner | safe and lock company |
| 7. Marshall & Bruce Printing Co. , 689 Davidson St. 37213 256-3661 | 65 | 1865 | none | Robert Smith, owner and president | commercial printer |
| 10. Gale, Smith & Co. Inc. 2404 Elliston Place 37203 (615) 661-7500 | 40 | 1868 | W.D. Gale & Co., Gale, Thomas & Co. | Shareholders John Witherspoon Jr., CEO | insurance and bonds |
| 11. Regal Maxwell House 2025 MetroCenter Blvd. 37228 259-4343 | 200 | 1869 | none | Gene Anderson, general manager | hotel and convention center |
| 12. Norvell & Wallace Inc. 701 Hamilton Ave. 37203 256-1635 | 41 | 1876 | none | William E. Norvell and J. Kevin Hughart, co-chairmen | lumber and building materials supplier |
| 13. Joy Floral Co. 2412 West End Ave. 37203 329-3875 | 16 | 1877 | none | Doug and Marilyn Wheaton, owners | retail florist |
| 14. A.M. Loveman Lumber & Box Co. 1200 49th Ave. N. 37209 297-1397 | 9 | 1878 | Lieberman, Loveman & O'Brien Co. | Mrs. A.M. Loveman Andrew Loveman, president | pallet, box and furniture kit manufacturer |
| 15. Braid Electric Co. (tie) 299 Cowan St. 37213 242-6511 | 125 | 1879 | none | Ben S. Gambill Jr. and Thomas K. Gambill; Ben S. Gambill Jr., president | independent electric distributor |
| 15. Hatch Show Print Co. (tie) 316 Broadway 37201 256-2805 | 6 | 1879 | C.R. & H. H. Hatch Show Printers | The Country Music Foundation Jim Sherraden, manager | antique letterpress show-poster print shop |
| 17. Dury's 720 Sixth Ave. S. 37203 255-3456 | 30 | 1882 | George C. Dury Co. | Photo Technologies Inc. John Carnes, president | retail, commercial and industrial photo supplies |
| 18. First American Corp. First American Center 37237 748-2000 | 4,200 | 1883 | American National Bank | Shareholders Dennis C. Bottorff, president and CEO | bank holding company |
| 19. Nashville Tent & Awning 1301 Herman St. 37208 329-3701 | 80 | 1884 | Carter Hough Tent & Awning, Southern Tent | Husband-Arnold Family Eddie Mac Husband, president | commercial/ residential awnings, tent manufacturing, rentals |
| 20. Nashville Machine Co. 530 Woodycrest Ave. 37210 244-2030 | 150 | 1887 | Nashville Machine & Supply Co. | Shareholders Donald C. Orr, president | machine shop, mechanical contractor, elevator installers |

Source: Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce and company representatives.

Companies in the list must be under original ownership or their names must include the original name.

Compiled by Michael Sheffield