To assist in New York City’s recovery from the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Congress appropriated $3.5 billion in Community Development Block Grant funding of which Congress earmarked at least $500 million to be used to compensate small businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individuals for their economic losses. One year after the attacks, these funds, administered in part by New York State’s Empire State Development Corporation (Empire State), have provided $266 million to about 9,000 small businesses, many with fewer than 10 employees (see fig. below). Such assistance has included grants to compensate businesses for part of their economic losses—for both physical and economic injuries—and payments to attract and retain small businesses in efforts to revitalize the affected areas. Hundreds of millions of dollars remain available through these and other programs to assist an estimated 18,000 affected businesses. Empire State has employed mailings, visits, walk-in centers, and mass media to inform businesses of assistance programs.

Other efforts by the Small Business Administration, New York City and State, banks, and nonprofit organizations have provided critical assistance to address the immediate and additional unmet needs of small businesses.

### Percentage of Small Business Recovery Grant Recipients, as of September 11, 2002, by Number of Employees

- 74.6% Fewer than 10 employees
- 20% 10 to 49 employees
- 2.8% 50 to 99 employees
- 1.7% 100 to 199 employees
- 0.9% 200 or more employees

Source: GAO analysis of Empire State database.