

**Documentation of statistics for
General Enterprise Statistics 2023**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics is to give a coherent and consistent description of the Danish business structure at the enterprise level.

The General enterprise statistics, which were compiled for the first time for the year 1999, have replaced the Enterprise statistics produced for the years 1992-1999.

2 Statistical presentation

The General enterprise statistics covers real active enterprises in Denmark yearly. It contains economic and employment information concerning all sectors and industries. The General enterprise statistics is communicated in NYT from Statistics Denmark (in Danish) and via the StatBank.

2.1 Data description

The General enterprise statistics covers active enterprises in all the Danish registered activities including information about number of enterprises and their turnover and employment. These variables are the main purpose for the statistics, which gives the complete picture of the population of enterprises. In addition to that the General enterprise statistics, contained accounting information until the reference year 2013, such as wages, capital and reserves and fixed assets. Since these variables are completely overlapping with the Accounting statistics from the year 2014, users are referred to that statistics.

From 2022, active enterprises are delimited to the fact that the statistics must include only enterprises with a work effort of at least 1/2 full-time equivalent, as well as turnover, purchases of goods, imports, exports, added value and balance sheet totals of a certain size. If the enterprises own enterprises or are jointly settled with regard to VAT or have employees with enterprises that are active, the enterprises will also be considered to be active enterprises.

2.2 Classification system

The statistics is published on [activity classifications](#). In addition the statistics is published on enterprise size, Danish regions and legal forms.

2.3 Sector coverage

The statistics covers all sectors.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Enterprise: The enterprise level is the smallest combination of legal units that is an organizational unit, which are financially autonomous. One enterprise is linked to one legal unit or in a few cases several legal units. There are a small number of enterprises in the agricultural sector to which legal units are not linked.

Active companies: In the Central Business Register, which provides the basis for the Statistical Business Register, all enterprises, which are obliged to register according to tax legislation, are registered regardless of their level of activity. This implies that even the smallest activity results in a registration of an enterprise.

The intention is to analyse real commercial activity. Starting from the recommendation of Eurostat, the General enterprise statistics only include active enterprises - throughout the year or a part of the year.

Eurostat recommends to include only enterprises, where a workload corresponding to at least 0.5 man-year is carried out.

Enterprise age: Enterprise age in the reference year is calculated as relative to the enterprises latest entry as new in the Business Demography

2.5 Statistical unit

The General enterprise statistics is counted at the enterprise level (economic units).

2.6 Statistical population

The population is all active enterprises i Denmark.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

2019-2023

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for this statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Number of enterprises, DKK Mio.

2.11 Reference period

01-01-2023 - 31-12-2023

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

The General enterprise statistics is compiled annually.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The data is collected in accordance the the general law on Statistics Denmark §6.

2.14 Cost and burden

The statistics is based on administrative registers and other statistics. Therefore there is not direct burden in connection with this statistic.

2.15 Comment

Further information can be found on [Emneside](#) or by contacting Statistics Denmark.

3 Statistical processing

The Statistics are collected yearly, and are based on internal registers in Statistics Denmark. Primarily the Statistical Business Register and the Account statistics. The sources are compiled an aggregated to the level of publication. There is a minimal error detection and treatment done, since the statistics mainly is based on final data from other statistics and registers.

3.1 Source data

The following statistics, register and sources are used as input to the General enterprise statistic:

- Accounts statistics (Non-agricultural industries, accounts)
- VAT statistics (via The Statistical Business Register)
- The employment statistics (via The Statistical Business Register)
- The Statistical Business Register.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

The statistics is collected annually.

3.3 Data collection

The statistics collected by direct access to registers within Statistics Denmark.

3.4 Data validation

The statistics is build on validated data. In the production of the statistics figures of turnover and employment are compared to earlier published figures.

3.5 Data compilation

Data is collected from the internal statistical registers in Statistics Denmark, and summarized from micro level to the aggregations chosen for our Statbank, and with the cutoffs chosen for the statistics.

3.6 Adjustment

No correction are made other than already mentioned under the two sections; data validation

4 Relevance

The statistics is relevant for analysis of the Danish business development and structure.

Users of the statistic are: government agencies, corporate agencies, Eurostat, regions, counties as well as private enterprises and private persons.

4.1 User Needs

Central users are: government departments and agencies, business centres, Eurostat, Regions, municipalities, private enterprises and private persons.

The statistics provides the background for a number of different tailor made service tasks where the primary data are also combined with other statistical registers, among others IDA (Integrated Database for research of the Labour-market), RAS (Register based-labour force statistics) and the Register of Education and Training Statistics. The statistics is used for longitudinal analyses, analyses of single sectors and activities, and also form an important basis for the production of statistics on the information society.

4.2 User Satisfaction

Customer satisfaction are not compiled.

4.3 Data completeness rate

The General enterprise statistics only includes real active enterprises. This is in compliance with guidelines made by Eurostat.

5 Accuracy and reliability

Generally the statistics is considered to be of high quality, since the central variable on number of enterprises are based on the administrative registrations. The possible uncertainties of the statistics are associated with the quality of the sources of the statistic. Especially Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The reliability of the statistics is considered to be high.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for this statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The uncertainty, which is associated with the The general enterprise statistics, is connected to the uncertainty of the source statistics. In particular the Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

The quality of the statistic is associated with the quality of the sources of the statistic.

In few cases there can be errors in the sector classification of the unit. These have limited impact on an aggregated level.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

From the reference year 2016 both preliminary and final figures are published. Final and preliminary figures are published in separate tables.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics is published 18 months after the end of the reference year. The statistics is published without delays regarding scheduled release times. From the reference year 2016 the statistics is published with preliminary data 10 months after the end of the reference year.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

From the end of the reference year to publication a maximum time of about 18 months is aimed at. The comparatively long publication time is due to primarily the fact that the primary statistics which are included in the General enterprise statistics have to be published before the production of the statistics can be started. The real period, from all the basic registers are available, to the publication is about 3 months.

The statistics is published with preliminary data 11 months after the end of the reference year.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are published without delay in relation to the pre-announced release date in the release calendar.

7 Comparability

The General enterprise statistics covering only private enterprises excluding agriculture can be compared to the national published Account statistics for enterprises. The statistics is also published annually by Eurostat under the name "Business Statistics".

7.1 Comparability - geographical

Covering private enterprises excluding agriculture, the General enterprise statistics can be compared to the Business Statistics published by Eurostat.

7.2 Comparability over time

The General enterprise statistics was republished for the reference years 2019-2022. It is based on the new activity threshold, which includes economically active enterprises, and more economic units have been formed for the largest enterprises. It is therefore not directly comparable to the previous time series covering 2000-2021.

From the reference year 2019 active enterprises and hereby economically active enterprises is delimited so that statistic only includes enterprises with at least 1/2 of a full time equivalent or either turnover, purchase of goods, imports, exports, value added and balance sheet totals above a certain threshold. If the enterprises own enterprises or are jointly settled with regard to VAT or have employees with enterprises that are actually active, the enterprises will also be considered to be active enterprises.

From the reference year 2019 some of the largest enterprises in the Accounts statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector are accounted for as economic units. An economic unit is defined as the smallest possible combination of legal units (CVR-Number) under the same ownership, which is assessed to function as a single unit. For the economic units containing multiple legal units, internal transfers between the legal units are eliminated, and their financial statements are consolidated to one. Hereby the economic units will have a slightly lower turnover compared to the legal units, but it will also be closer to the real turnover. If an economic unit consists of legal units in different sector, i.e. one in manufacturing and one in wholesale trade, then the economic unit will be placed in manufacturing. Prior to 2022 there were only few economic units.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

For activity performed in the private sector excluding agriculture, it is possible to compare the statistics with the Danish Accountant statistics for enterprises.

7.4 Coherence - internal

The statistics are based on multiple sources with different types of units. Therefore, the statistics are processed so that type of unit will be the same across sources.

8 Accessibility and clarity

Current publication: News from Statistics Denmark (only Danish), The Danish StatBank, Statistical Yearbook and The statistical decade (only Danish)

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.4 News release

[Theme site for the statistic.](#)

8.5 Publications

To read more about the General enterprise statistics:

- [The Statistical Yearbook 2015 - Business Sectors in general](#)
- [General enterprise statistics](#)

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subjects in the following tables:

- [GF11](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 10-, 19-, and 127-grouping), unit and time
- [GF12](#): General enterprise statistics by municipality, industry (DB07 10-, 19-, 127 grouping and detailed), enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time
- [GF13](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 19-grouping), unit, enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time
- [GF14](#): General enterprise statistics by region, unit, enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time
- [GF15](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 10-grouping), form of organisations, unit and time
- [LABY38a](#): General enterprise statistics by municipality groups, industry (DB07 10-grouping) and age of the enterprises
- [FGF1](#): Preliminary general enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 19-grouping), unit and time
- [FGF3](#): Preliminary general enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 10-grouping), unit, enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time
- [FGF6](#): Preliminary general enterprise statistics by region, industry (DB07 10-grouping), unit and time

8.7 Micro-data access

Researchers and other analysts from authorized research institutions can access the statistics' anonymized micro-data through Statistics Denmark [Forskerordning](#).

8.8 Other

It is possible to order tailor made statistics based on the General enterprise statistics.

Orders can be placed by writing to the person responsible for the General enterprise statistics .

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data confidentiality policy at Statistics Denmark](#) .

The section regarding Business Statistics.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

In connection to publication and delivery of customized statistics, a so-called confidentiality test of data is made. The confidentiality test is made on the basis of two criteria:

1. The number criteria: If one data cell contains less than 3 observations (enterprises) employment and financial information can not be published
2. The dominance criteria: If one or two observations (enterprises) contained in one data cell, alone or together constitute a certain percentage of the total turnover of the cell, the turnover and other financial information as well as full-time employees for this group can not be published.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

No other documents available.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Business Dynamics. The contact person is Emil Tappe Bang-Mortensen, tel.: + 45 2467 8525, and e-mail: EBM@dst.dk.