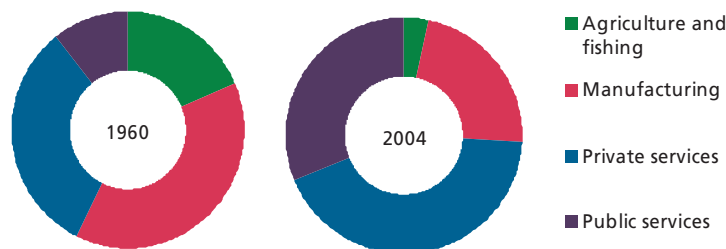


# From a manufacturing to a service society

The character of Danish society has changed in recent decades. In terms of employment, Denmark has turned from an agrarian and manufacturing society to primarily a service society.

## EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY



Today, much fewer Danes than previously are employed in traditional industries such as agriculture, fishing, manufacturing and construction. In 1960, 58 per cent of the total labour force were employed in these industries, while this was true of 25 per cent in 2004. Today, more people work with private services instead, for example banking, insurance, ICT, cleaning and design. This stresses the fundamental change undergone by society in recent decades – from an agrarian and manufacturing society to a service society.

## ENTERPRISES IN DENMARK

	Unit	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Enterprises, total</b>	1 000	<b>279</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>276</b>
Agriculture, fishing, etc.	per cent	20	20	19	18	17
Manufacturing		7	7	7	7	7
Electricity, gas & water supply		1	2	2	2	1
Construction		9	10	10	10	10
Trade, hotels & restaurants		23	23	22	22	22
Transport, post & telecom.		6	6	6	5	5
Finance & business activities		21	21	22	23	23
Public & personal services		13	13	14	14	13
<b>Employees</b>	1 000	<b>2 173</b>	<b>2 208</b>	<b>2 211</b>	<b>2 188</b>	<b>2 168</b>
<b>Turnover</b>	DKK bn.	<b>2 063</b>	<b>2 246</b>	<b>2 360</b>	<b>2 384</b>	<b>2 385</b>
Exports		439	551	546	550	575

During the same period, the number of public employees has also increased considerably. While 11 per cent of all employees were found in the public sector in 1960, this figure had increased to 30 per cent in 2004. An important explanation is that when more women entered the labour market in the 1960s and 1970s, the public sector took over much of the work previously done by women at home, e.g. taking care of children and the elderly.

Denmark has 276,000 active enterprises today, which corresponds to one company per every ten Danes on the labour market. The Danish economy is characterised by a very large number of small enterprises and only a few large enterprises. About 90 per cent of Danish enterprises have fewer than 10 employees, while 2 per cent of them have more than 50 employees. Enterprises with 50 employees or more employ almost 70 per cent of the labour force.



### PRIVATE SERVICES

Include a number of different service industries in the private sector, such as wholesale and retail trade, transport, restaurants, banks, ICT and consultancy services.

### ••• DID YOU KNOW THAT

Men are more likely than women to start their own company. Men start 70 per cent of all new companies. Most people start their own company at the age of 30 to 40 years. •••