

**Documentation of statistics for  
General Enterprise Statistics 2020**

## 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 real 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.

The real active enterprises are defined by counting enterprises as active if they produce a work effort of at least 0.5 full time equivalents, in line with recommendations from EU.

The recommendation is implemented in a way, where the General Enterprise Statistics only contains enterprises who has wages for employees (based on the eIndkomstRegistret) adding up to at least 0.5 full time equivalents and/or has a calculated earning of a significant amount. Earnings are calculated from turnover. The turnover amounting to a given earning varies across sectors, and therefore it is not possible to determine a certain turnover threshold. In sectors within wholesale the threshold is typically between DKK 150.000 and 200.000. In the public sector, where the turnover is not relevant as an expression for activity, employment information is the only source that is utilized, while enterprises in finance and insurance are treated manually to determine their real activity. For enterprises that are founded in the reference year, the turnover threshold is set to half of the threshold for other enterprises. This is done because newly founded enterprises typically does not have the same turnovers when starting up, compared to the effort of work done.

### 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.

## **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**

2000-2020

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for this statistics.

## **2.10 Unit of measure**

Number of enterprises, DKK Mio.

## **2.11 Reference period**

01-01-2020 - 31-12-2020

## **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.

From the reference year 2016 the statistics is published with preliminary data 10 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, which were compiled for the first time for the year 1999, have replaced the Enterprise statistics produced for the years 1992-1999. Both statistics gather information at the enterprise level. However, while the Enterprise statistics only included enterprises covered by activities in which the enterprises are liable to pay value added tax and which are engaged in the private sector, the General enterprise statistics covers all activities and sectors. Furthermore, the General enterprise statistics only includes enterprises which are real active, while the previous statistics covered all enterprises.

The statistics was transferred from sector nomenclature DB03 to DB07 in December 2009.

From the reference year 2009 the General enterprise statistics started using eIndkomst as the primary data source for the calculation of full-time employees. This resulted in a discontinuity in the number of full-time employees from 2008 to 2009. From the publishing of reference year 2016 and forward, the discontinuity is pushed to the years 2007 and 2008.

Starting with reference year 2009 also the input source Purchases and Sales by Firms where changed. [More information about the Purchases and Sales by Firms](#). Small changes due to quality

improvements was made and implemented from the reference year 2009.

From the reference year 2013 changes in sector classification due to ESA2010 revisions affects this statistic. This means that units is reclassified between the public and private sector. Private schools and boarding schools is moved from public to private sector.

From the reference year 2015 the statistics use full-time employees with 2 decimal places, which have previously been rounded to whole numbers. From the publication of reference year 2016 and forward, the reference year 2014 has full-time employees with 2 decimal places. The accounting statistics, which are one of the primary sources of the statistics, have always used full-time employees with 2 decimal places hence the change is only of importance to those industries not covered by the accounting statistics. The difference between the two methods is in the reference year 2015 approx. 3,500 full-time employees. Previously, the economic variables in the public sector industries have been set to missing; however from the reference year 2015 only the public enterprises defined by sector code have been set to missing which means that the private enterprises in the public sector industries are now no longer missing. From the publication of reference year 2016 and forward, this practice has been adopted for the reference year 2014.

From the reference year 2016 the years 2012-2015 has been revised. This is due to a revision of the Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector for the corresponding time period [Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector](#). Alterations mainly occur for the variable turnover within specific industries covered by the Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector. For the reference year 2015 the General enterprise statistics sees a change in the overall turnover by a proximately 0,5 per cent. The reference year 2014 has in the same instance been revised using the practice that have been in place from the reference year 2015. For the reference years 2012 and 2013 the enterprises included in the industries covered by Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector has been revised, so that the General enterprise statistics and the Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector are alike for these industries. This is consistent with the practice used from the reference year 2015. Furthermore, from the reference year 2016, the reference year 2008 has been revised using eIndkomst as the primary data source for the calculation of full-time employees. Thus, the discontinuity in full-time employees that existed between 2008 and 2009 has been pushed back a year and is now placed between the years 2007 and 2008.

Starting with the reference year 2017 the source Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector, will include information from the annual accounts obtained though digital annual reports (XBRL data).

The General enterprise statistics 2017 was republished in Maj 2020. This was due to quality-enhanced data processing, which resulted in an otherwise uncommon revision of Accounts Statistics for Non-Agricultural Private Sector. Republishing the General enterprise statistics ensures that the two are consistent, as the Non-Agricultural Private Sector is one of the main sources to the General enterprise statistics. The revision only carries minor alterations to the General enterprise statistics.

### **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.

### **8.2 Release calendar access**

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

### **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.

### **8.4 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:

- [GF1](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 10- and 19-grouping), unit and time
- [GF2](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 127-grouping), unit and time
- [GF3](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 19-grouping), unit, enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time
- [GF5](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 10-grouping), form of organisations, unit and time
- [GF6](#): General enterprise statistics by region, industry (DB07 10-grouping), unit and time
- [GF7](#): General enterprise statistics by industry (DB07 customised-grouping), unit and time
  
- [GF8](#): General enterprise statistics by region, unit, enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time
  
- [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 the statistics is in the division of Business Dynamics, Business Statistics. The person responsible is Asbjørn Hviid Mikkelsen , tel. +45 39 17 37 32, e-mail: ahm@dst.dk

### **9.1 Contact organisation**

Statistics Denmark

### **9.2 Contact organisation unit**

Business Dynamics, Business Statistics

### **9.3 Contact name**

Asbjørn Hviid Mikkelsen

### **9.4 Contact person function**

Responsible for the statistics

### **9.5 Contact mail address**

Sejrøgade 11, 2100 Copenhagen

### **9.6 Contact email address**

ahm@dst.dk

### **9.7 Contact phone number**

+45 39 17 37 32

### **9.8 Contact fax number**

N/A

