STATISTICS DENMARK

Documentation of statistics for General Enterprise Statistics 2025

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1 Indledning

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 Indhold

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 Indholdsbeskrivelse

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 the reference year 2019, active enterprises, and thereby economically active enterprises, are identified based on an activity threshold. An enterprise will be considered active if it has a work effort above ½ full-time equivalent or turnover, purchases of goods, imports, exports, added value, assets and payroll turnover above a certain threshold. For each industry, the activity threshold is based on the turnover for enterprises with fewer than three full-time employees. Enterprises that own enterprises, or that are jointly registered for VAT or employees with enterprises that are active, are also considered active.

2.2 Grupperinger og klassifikationer

The statistics is published on Danish Industrial Classification DB25, applicable from the reference year onwards. In addition the statistics is published on enterprise size, Danish regions, Danish municipality groups and legal forms.

2.3 Sektordækning

The statistics covers all sectors.

2.4 Begreber og definitioner

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.

Full time equivalents: Full time equivalents (FTEs) are calculated as the total number of hours worked across all jobs, converted into full-time employment units (1 FTE = 1924 hours per year).

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 Enheder

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

2.6 Population

The population is all active enterprises i Denmark.

2.7 Geografisk dækning

Denmark.

2.8 Tidsperiode

2019-2025

2.9 Basisperiode

Not relevant for this statistics.

2.10 Måleenhed

Number of enterprises, DKK Mio.

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2.11 Referencetid

01-01-2025 - 31-12-2025

2.12 Udgivelseshyppighed

The General enterprise statistics is compiled annually.

2.13 Indsamlingshjemmel og EU-regulering

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

2.14 Indberetningsbyrde

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

2.15 Øvrige oplysninger

Further information can be found on the subject page or by contacting Statistics Denmark.

3 Statistisk behandling

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 Kilder

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.
- Annual report information from the Danish Business Authority

3.2 Indsamlingshyppighed

The statistics is collected annually.

3.3 Indsamlingsmetode

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

3.4 Datavalidering

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 Databehandling

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 Korrektion

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

4 Relevans

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 Brugerbehov

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 Brugertilfredshed

Customer satisfaction are not compiled.

4.3 Fuldstændighed af data

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

5 Præcision og pålidelighed

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 Samlet præcision

Overall, the precision of the statistics is assessed to be high. This is because the data sources used to produce the statistics are assessed to have a high precision.

5.2 Stikprøveusikkerhed

Not relevant for this statistics.

5.3 Anden usikkerhed

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. See section Accuracy and reliability in documentation of statistics for Accounts Statistics by Industry.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on the organisation and management of quality set out in the Code of Practice for European Statistics and the accompanying implementation model, the Quality Assurance Framework. Read more about these on the page Quality in official statistics.

Quality management is supported by common principles, guidelines and managerial responsibility for quality in statistical products and processes. The aim is to ensure a systematic and consistent approach to quality across the entire statistical production.

5.5 Quality assurance

Quality assurance at Statistics Denmark is integrated into the statistical production processes and is carried out in accordance with the principles of the Code of Practice for European Statistics. Read more on the page Quality in official statistics.

Quality assurance includes the continuous use of standardised procedures, documentation in line with international standards and internal controls related to data collection, data processing and dissemination. Experience gained from production is continuously used to identify needs for adjustments and improvements.

5.6 Kvalitetsvurdering

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 Praksis for revisioner

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

6 Aktualitet og punktlighed

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 Udgivelsestid for foreløbige og endelige tal

From the end of the reference year to the publication of the statistics, the target release time is about 18 months. The relatively 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 Publikationspunktlighed

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

7 Sammenlignelighed

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 International sammenlignelighed

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

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7.2 Sammenlignelighed over tid

The General enterprise statistics was republished for the reference years 2019-2022 in 2024. It is based on the new activity threshold, which includes economically active enterprises, and more economic units have been formed for the largest enterprises. The reference years 2019-2025 is based on the new activity threshold. It is therefore not directly comparable to the previous time series covering 2000-2021.

From the reference year 2019, active enterprises, and thereby economically active enterprises, are identified based on an activity threshold. An enterprise will be considered active if it has a work effort above ½ full-time equivalent or turnover, purchases of goods, imports, exports, added value, assets and payroll turnover above a certain threshold. For each industry, the activity threshold is based on the turnover for enterprises with fewer than three full-time employees. Enterprises that own enterprises, or that are jointly registered for VAT or employees with enterprises that are active, are also considered active.

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 Sammenhæng med anden statistik

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 Sammenhæng – intern konsistens

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 Tilgængelighed

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 08:00 a.m. on the date announced in the release calendar. No one outside Statistics Denmark has access to the statistics prior to publication.

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8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: Release Calendar.

8.4 NYT/Pressemeddelelse

Theme site for the statistic.

8.5 Publikationer

The statistic is not published in any separate publications.

8.6 Statistikbanken

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subject Enterprises and groups 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
- LABY38b: General enterprise statistics by municipality groups, industry (DB07 10-grouping) and age of the enterprises
- FGF100: Preliminary general enterprise statistics by industry (DB25 10- and 20-grouping), unit, enterprise size (full time equivalents) and time

8.7 Adgang til mikrodata

Researchers and other analysts from authorized research institutions can access the statistics' anonymized micro-data through Denmark's Data Portal.

8.8 Anden tilgængelighed

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 Diskretioneringspolitik

Data Confidentiality Policy for Statistics Denmark is applied.

See the section regarding Business Statistics.

8.10 Diskretionering og databehandling

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 Reference til metodedokumenter

No other documents available.

8.12 Quality documentation

Documentation on quality management and quality assurance at Statistics Denmark is available in the form of common guidelines and manuals describing the principles and procedures for statistical production. These include descriptions of quality principles documentation requirements and standards for metadata. Relevant aspects are described in the other quality sections of this statistical documentation.

9 Administrative oplysninger

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Business Dynamics, Business Statistics. The contact person is Julie Nøjgaard Fogtdal, tel.: + 45 2362 9780 and e-mail: JNF@dst.dk.