



BUSINESS DEMOGRAPHY BY 31st OF DECEMBER 2015

Introduction

Similar to statistics of human population, business demography describes the life cycle of the enterprises; their birth, survival and development until death. More specifically business demography supplies data on number of active enterprises, number of newborn enterprises, proportion of survived enterprises and data on changes in employment figures at specific moment in time.

Until 2008 the data for business demography of enterprises in EU were collected on European level voluntarily bounded by gentlemen's agreement. Bulgaria has taken part in the harmonized data collection for business demography since 2006 which includes the development of enterprises born in 2003 and in 2004. In 2010 for the first time the statistics are calculated using the new classification of economic activities NACE Rev. 2.

The creation of EP and Council Regulation (No. 295/2008 of 11 of March, 2008) concerning the structural business statistics was the legal foundation and the general framework for collecting, preparation, presentation and evaluation of harmonized statistical data for business demography in EU.

This press release presents information gathered by the study of business demographic events among the enterprises in Bulgaria for 2015 and follows their dynamics for the 5 year study period.



General review of the active enterprises and employment

The study includes enterprises classified in selected by Eurostat sectors¹ of the classification of economic activities NACE Rev. 2 with the exception of group 64.2 or activity of holding companies as they are defined in EU Regulation 295/2008 for Structural Business Statistics. In 2015 there were 339 175 active² enterprises which are 1.9% more than 2014.

Figure 1. Active enterprises by size



The active enterprises with zero employees (Figure 1) represent the largest proportion of the population of all active enterprises during the whole 2011 - 2015 period. In 2015 their number is 152 345 which are 44.9% of all active enterprises. There are 136 133 enterprises in the next '1 - 4 employees' group which is 40.1% of the total number for 2015. The enterprises in the '5 - 9 employees' group represent the smallest proportion of all. On average for the whole period, this proportion is 7.4%, while in the '10 or more employees' group on average for the five year period this proportion is 8.0% of the active enterprises.

¹

- B - Mining and quarrying
- C - Manufacturing
- D - Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- E - Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- F - Construction
- G - Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- H - Transportation and storage
- I - Accommodation and food service activities
- J - Information and communication
- K - Financial and insurance activities
- L - Real estate activities
- M - Professional, scientific and technical activities
- N - Administrative and support service activities

² Active enterprises are those enterprises performing economic activity with or without employers during the reference period on the country territory.



The number of persons employed in ‘10 or more employees’ group represents 69.5% of all employees for the 2011 - 2015 period while the proportion of the enterprises in this group is 8.0% of all active enterprises. And, reversely - 6.3% of the total number of employees in the country corresponds to the large number of active enterprises in the zero employees group which is 44.7% of the total number of enterprises (Figure 2).

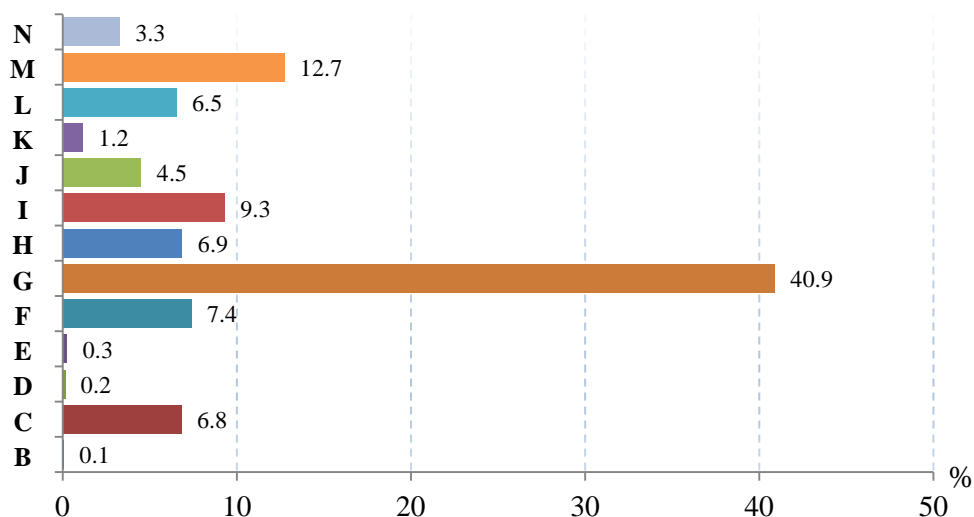
Figure 2. Employed persons in active enterprises by size



Newborn enterprises

11.9% of the total numbers of enterprises in the selected economic sectors are newborn in 2015. For the last five years the annual average percent for newborn enterprises was 11.9% of the number of active enterprises during this period.

Figure 3. Structure of enterprises born in 2015 by economic sectors (NACE Rev. 2)

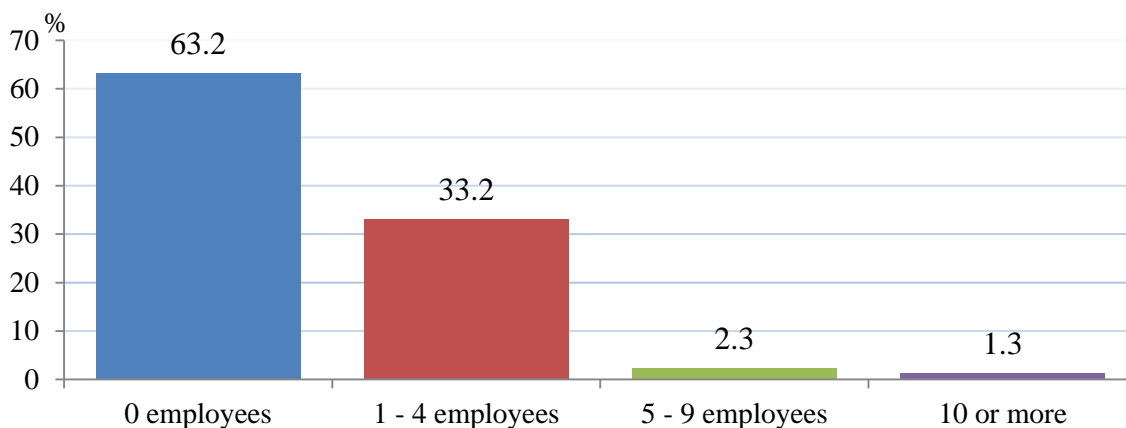




For the 2011 - 2015 period the highest share of newborn enterprises is in sector G - ‘Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles’ with an average of 44.2% for the five-year period. At the same time the smallest share of newborn enterprises is in sector B - ‘Mining and quarrying’ with less than 0.1% on average for the whole period. This tendency remains intact in 2015 as well (Figure 3). As a whole the structure of the newborn enterprises by economic sectors remains stable for the five-year period.

For the period 2011 - 2015, the number of newborn enterprises that did not hire employees is the highest (Figure 4). In the zero employees group in 2015 there are 25 516 newborn enterprises followed by the ‘1 - 4 employees’ group with 13 381 enterprises. In the same year the newborn enterprises with 10 or more employees are only 515.

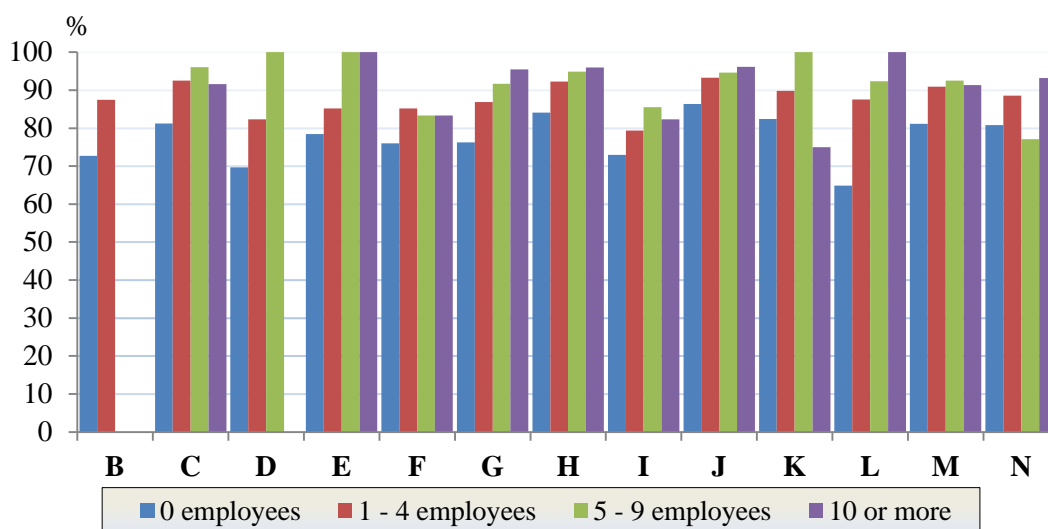
Figure 4. Structure of enterprises born in 2015 by number of employees



Survived enterprises

80.8% of the enterprises born in 2014 survive one year later, as in the group of ‘5 - 9 employees’ this share is 90.2% (Fig. 5).

Figure 5. Share of enterprises born in 2014 and survived to 2015 by number of employees and economic sectors (NACE Rev. 2)

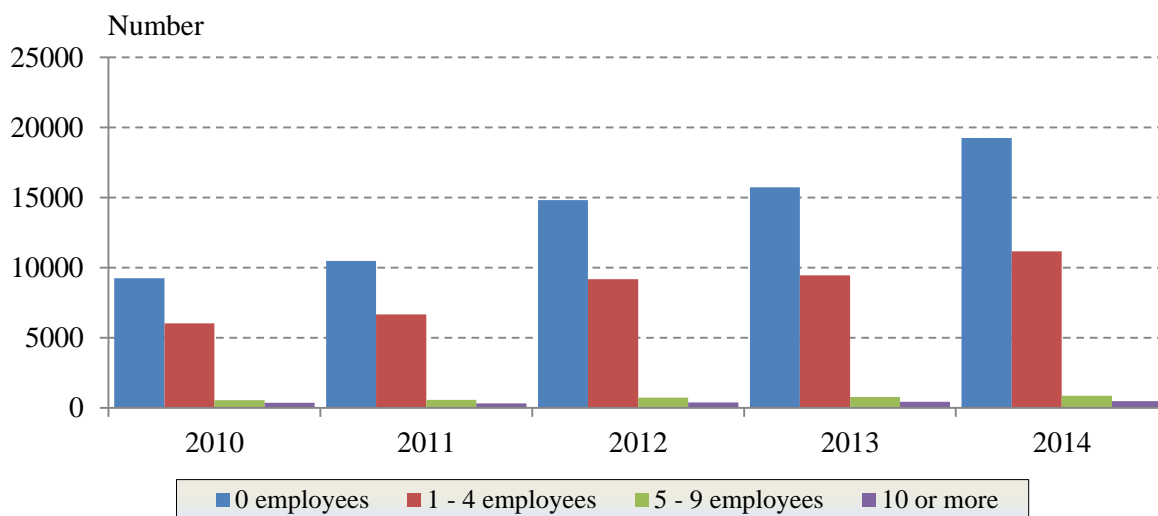




In 2014 the newborn enterprises are 39 333 and 31 779 of them successfully survived to 2015. The highest share of survived enterprises is in sector J - 'Information and communication' - 88.8%. The lowest share is in sector L - 'Real estate activities' - 67.2%.

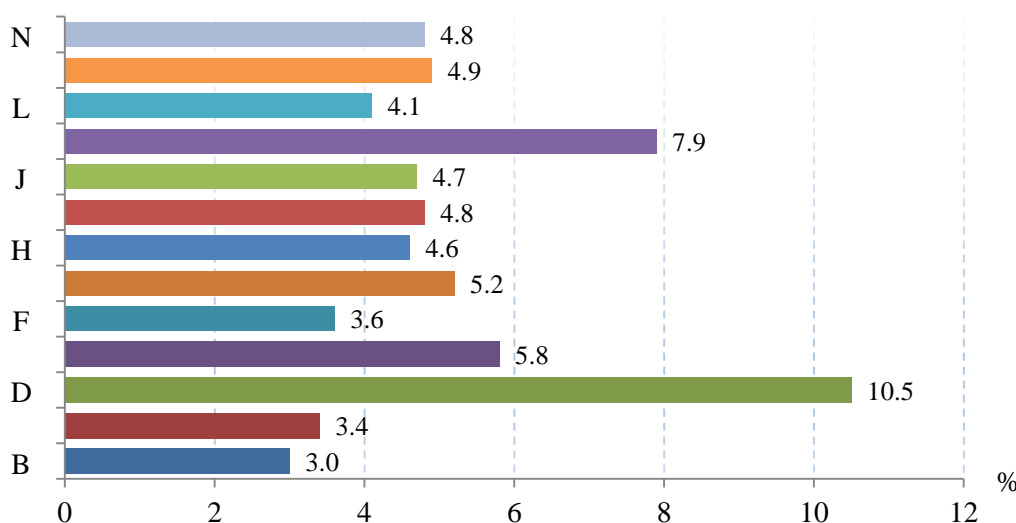
Since 2010, when moving away from year of birth, there is a trend of increasing the number of survived enterprises for the four employees' groups (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Enterprises born during period 2010 - 2014 and survived to 2015



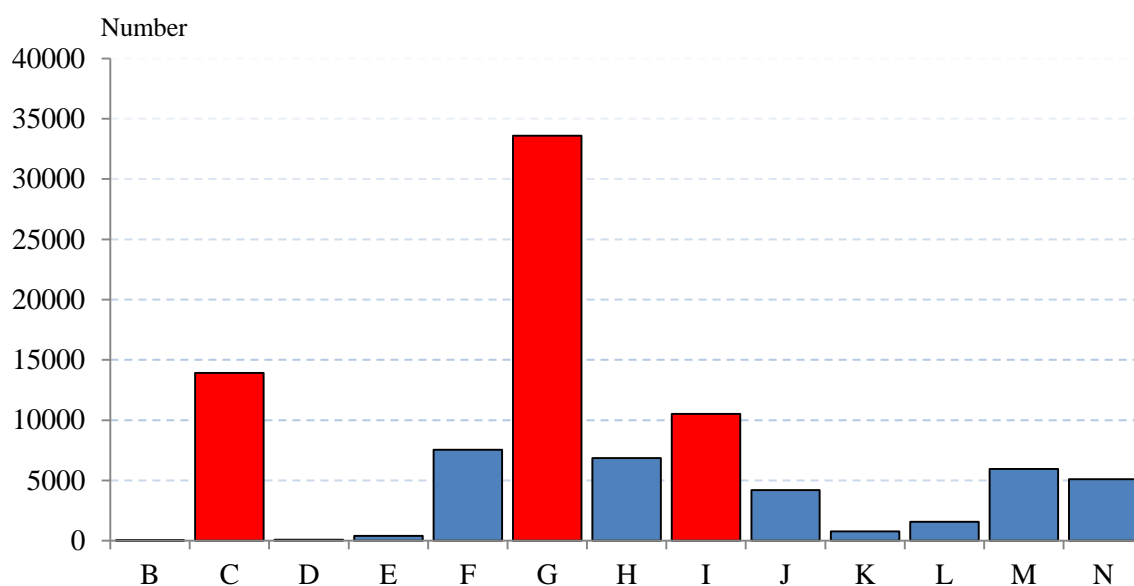
In 2015 the share of enterprises born in 2010 and still active five years later is 4.8%. The most viable are enterprises in sector D - 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply', where the share of enterprises successfully survived the five-year period is 10.5%. At the other extreme are enterprises in sector B - 'Mining and quarrying', where the value of this indicator is 3.0% (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Share of enterprises born in 2010 and survived to 2015 in the active enterprises by economic sectors (NACE Rev. 2)



The total number of persons employed in enterprises born in 2014 and still surviving in 2015 for the thirteen sectors of NACE Rev. 2 concerned is 90 572. 64.1% of the employed people are concentrated in the following three sectors: G - 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles'- 37.1%; C - 'Manufacturing' - 15.4% and I - 'Accommodation and food service activities' - 11.6% (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Employed persons in enterprises born in 2014 and survived to 2015 by economic sectors (NACE Rev. 2)



In 2015 the biggest share of persons employed (36.5%) worked in '1 - 4 employees' group. The rest of employed persons are distributed as follows: 27.0% in zero employees group; 26.6% in enterprises with '10 and more employees' and 10.0% in '5 - 9 employees' group.

Dead enterprises

Data on dead enterprises in 2014 are preliminary due to the specific³ methodology and definition. In 2014 the number of dead enterprises is 34 518 or 10.4% of the total number of active enterprises during the year. As result of their death more than 2.9% of the employees lost their jobs during the year.

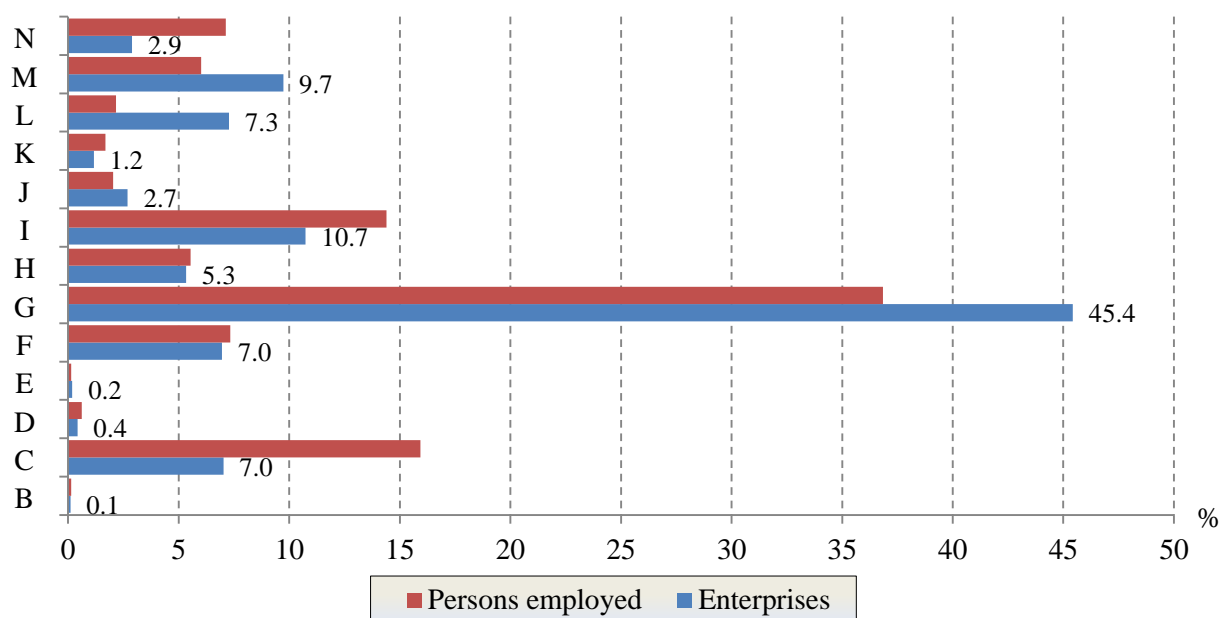
In 2014, 45.4% of dead enterprises, were classified in sector G - 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles'.

The most viable were the enterprises in the following sectors: B - 'Mining and quarrying', E - 'Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities', D - 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply', where dead enterprises are less than 1.0% (Fig. 9).

³ An enterprise can be considered as dead when two consequent years is inactive or it is under the threshold of one employee.



Figure 9. Structure of the dead enterprises in 2014 and of employed persons by economic sectors (NACE Rev. 2)





Methodological notes

Study objective

The study targets statistical units of the type 'enterprise' defined by Council Regulation No. 696/93 of March 15, 1993. The enterprise is described as '*... an enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units that is an organizational unit producing goods or services, which benefits from a certain degree of autonomy in decision-making, especially for the allocation of its current resources ...*'

Study goal

The main goal of the study is focused on business demography and the evaluation of the number of active enterprises and the number of employees. This study provides very important information on the enterprises' length of life by type and size, number and type of dead enterprises, rate of growth of the enterprises, and annual survival coefficients. These data complement the structural business statistics and form the foundation for weighting and computing other statistics for the enterprises.

Criteria for inclusion in the study

Business demography data are based on data from the Business register maintained by the Bulgarian NSI. The Register includes all active enterprises on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria. There were no limitations for inclusion in the study, including no limitations for the number of employees or turnover. The demographic data in the study are based solely on enterprises which were registered and active at least in one year of the study period.

Classifications used in the study

- Classification of Economic Activities (NACE Rev. 2)

- B Mining and quarrying
- C Manufacturing
- D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- F Construction
- G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- H Transportation and storage
- I Accommodation and food service activities
- J Information and communication
- K Financial and insurance activities, excluding activities of holding companies (NACE Rev. 2 - 64.2)
- L Real estate activities
- M Professional, scientific and technical activities
- N Administrative and support service activities

- Employee size class

- 1 - 0
- 2 - 1 to 4
- 3 - 5 to 9
- 4 - 10 or more



Terms used

Employees - in the context of SBS employees are those who work for an employer on the basis of a contract of employment and receive compensation in the form of salary, fee or remuneration in kind.

Persons employed - in the context of SBS persons employed in an enterprise covers all employees and self-employed.

Enterprise births - the population of enterprise births covering all newly active economic entities during the reference period, regardless of whether they are employer or not.

Employer enterprise births - the population of employer enterprise births consist of enterprises with at least one employee. This population consists of newly created enterprises that have at least one employee in the year of birth of the enterprise, or that existed last year, but was below the threshold of one employee.

Surviving enterprises - survivors are those enterprises that are active both before and after a specific demographic event. The enterprise can be changed in some way, for example in terms of economic activity, size class, ownership or place in which operates, but it continues to be active.

Enterprise dead - the population of the dead enterprises cover all economic operators during the study period, regardless of whether they are employer or not.

Employer enterprise dead - the population of ceased employer enterprises consist of enterprises with at least one employee. This population consists of ceased enterprises that have at least one employee in the year of closure and those which run below the threshold of one employee for at least two consecutive years.