

**Documentation of statistics for
High Growth Enterprises 2012**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics "Gazelles in Denmark" is to illustrate the development in the number of gazelles and jobs created in the growth period.

The growth indicator is the number of employees. The number of employees is converted into full-time equivalents (FTEs). The number of FTEs is used as a measure of the total amount of work performed by the gazelles employees during the year in question.

The statistics covers only specific legal forms and the private sector excluding agriculture sectors.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics counts the number of gazelles in Denmark, as well as jobs created in the growth period. In addition, www.statistikbanken.dk contains a table where turnover at the beginning and end of the growth period is available.

2.1 Data description

Gazelles are enterprises that are up till 5 years old, that have had an average annual growth of at least 20 per cent. over a three year period, and who had five or more employees in the beginning of the growth period. The population of gazelles in the period 2009-2012 is based on the population of all new enterprises in 2007 and 2008, that had five or more employees in 2009.

The indicator of growth is full time employees.

2.2 Classification system

National figures are published on Danish industry codes while figures are delivered to Eurostat on NACE rev.2

2.3 Sector coverage

The statistics covers enterprises who are part of the private competitive market, excluding primary industries(agriculture, forestry and fishing).

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Gazelle: A gazelle is a high-growth enterprise that is up to 5 years old with average annual growth greater than 20 pct. per annum over a three year period.

In part, the definition of gazelles follows the definition by the OECD and Eurostat (cf. Eurostat OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics, 2007 edition) of gazelles. In the manual gazelles are defined as all new enterprises up to five years old, that have 10 or more employees at the beginning of the growth period, and which have an average annual growth of 20 per cent per year, over a three-year period. The Danish statistics, however, differs in regard to the cut-off of 10 or more employees. Due to the experience that the higher cut-off is less suitable in a Danish context, the cut-off has been lowered to 5 or more employees in the start of the growth period. The cut-off is used so as to avoid the inclusion of small enterprises that may experience high relative, but small absolute growth.

The indicator of growth is the number of full-time equivalents (FTEs). The number of FTEs is used as a measure of the total amount of work performed by the gazelles employees during the year in question.

2.5 Statistical unit

The statistics is published at enterprise level.

2.6 Statistical population

The population Gazelles constitute the number of new enterprises in t-5 or t-4 with at least 5 full-time employees in t-3 and with at least 20 pct. annually growth from t-3 to t., where t=the reference year of the population.

2.7 Reference area

The statistics cover all of Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

The growth period is 2009-2012 (current publication).

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for this statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

The unit of measure is number of enterprises.

2.11 Reference period

01-01-2012 - 31-12-2012.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

The statistics is published annual.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The statistics is exclusively based on existing administrative data - no information is gathered from external respondents.

Data is currently transmitted to Eurostat on a voluntary basis described in Annex IX, Regulation No 295/2008.

2.14 Cost and burden

The statistics is based on register. No cost and burdens.

2.15 Comment

If additional information is needed please contact Statistics Denmark.

3 Statistical processing

The statistics are based on the Business demography statistics and the information regarding surviving firms up to 5 years old. The information of survival is used to the delimitation of the population to be measured. The enterprise's development in number of full-time employment is measured from start of the growing period to the end.

3.1 Source data

The statistics is based on the: [Business Demography](#).

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data are collected annually.

3.3 Data collection

The statistics is based on register data.

3.4 Data validation

The statistics is based on validated data. The statistics is validated against earlier reference years on industry and regional level.

3.5 Data compilation

This statistics is based on validated register data. The data treatment include a NACE delimitation and the calculation of growth.

3.6 Adjustment

No data correction is made.

4 Relevance

Number of gazelles in Denmark is used in analysis of the development of young high-growth enterprises (gazelles). Moreover, it illustrates the creation of new jobs amongst these enterprises in the growth period.

4.1 User Needs

The statistics is used by ministries and governmental agencies, regional and county authorities as well as private sector institutions and enterprises. The statistics is also used for service tailor made statistics, where data are combined with different sources of data.

4.2 User Satisfaction

No user satisfaction is collected. The statistics are used mainly to service applications where for larger tasks, customer satisfaction is collected.

4.3 Data completeness rate

The statistics partly complies with the guidelines from: [Eurostat – OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics](#).

5 Accuracy and reliability

The statistics is based on already validated statistics and registers. Moreover, the statistics is subjected to a certain manual validation of for example large units, measured in employment and/or turnover.

5.1 Overall accuracy

As the statistics is based on already validated register data of high quality; the overall accuracy is considered high.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for this statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

the statistics is subjected to a certain manual validation of for example large units, measured in employment and/or turnover.

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 uncertainty associated with the Business Demographic statistics is associated with the references between the entities which mainly comes from the Danish Tax Authorities Business System (WEB), and lack of knowledge of the transfer of activity from one company to another, including the separation of activity. Failure to do so can result in economic and employment data are not correctly linked to the individual units. The problem is being tackled by subjecting, especially the largest firms, to a manual control and error recovery. For businesses with employees, the knowledge on where the employees have been employed during the year. A large shift of employees can mean the transfer of activity to another unit.

More information is available in the Business demography quality statement.

There are currently no calculations on uncertainty .

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

Only final figures are published.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics is published once a year. The publications usually have been available about 18 months after the end of the reference year.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The statistics is published annually. Next publication will be in September 2015.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics has not previously been delayed.

7 Comparability

For the period 2004-2007, the statistics are published on industry activity code NACE rev 1.1. Hereafter it is published on NACE rev. 2.

The statistics is based on data from the Business demography, which measures the number of enterprise births in Denmark.

The statistics can be compared with the statistics of Gazelles published by Eurostat.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

The statistics can be compared with the statistics of Gazelles published annually by Eurostat, however, with few exceptions described below.

The definition of new high-growth companies partly follow the OECD and Eurostat definition, see "Eurostat OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics, 2007 Edition", which defines new high-growth companies (Gazelles) as all new enterprises that are up to five years old, that has 10 or more employees at the start of the growing period and have an average annual growth of more than 72.8 per cent. (20 per cent. Per year) over a three year period.

The Danish statistics differ, however, on the point that the cut-off limit of 10 or more employees at the beginning of growth period is changed to 5 or more employees. This is done as it is estimated that a size-limit of 10 does not apply to a Danish Business structure. The limit of at least five employees are set to avoid small companies with high percentage growth, but with little absolute growth, are categorized as growth entrepreneur.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics was published for the first time November 17th, 2008. It should be noted that the population of gazelles varies from reference year to reference year. This is the case, as the start population consist of new enterprises, which in principle should not have existed earlier. The statistics are therefore not suited for longitudinal analyses.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

Business demography data are also published by Eurostat, including gazelles.

7.4 Coherence - internal

The statistics are mainly based on one source. The internal consistency is high.

8 Accessibility and clarity

The data is published in NYT and is available in the StatBank.

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

[NYT](#).

8.5 Publications

[New high growth enterprises](#).

The statistics is published in News from statistics Denmark (Danish only).

8.6 On-line database

[StatBank](#)

8.7 Micro-data access

Data is available on individual level. Researchers may be granted access to anonymised micro-data. Furthermore, specialized data sets and tables may be produced upon request.

8.8 Other

To order tailor-made specialized statistics please write this e-mail: firma_stat@dst.dk

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Statistics Denmark confidentiality policy](#). Section 4 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 for this group can not be published.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

[Manual](#)

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 are in the division of Business Development Statistics. The person responsible is Anne Katrine Bach Jensen, tel. +45 39 17 19 31, e-mail: akd@dst.dk

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