

Enterprises in Portugal

2015

GVA of non-financial sector increased by 5.8%, in nominal terms, in 2015

In 2015, there were 1 181 406 enterprises in Portugal, which registered a growth of 3.6% in the number of persons employed. The number of individual enterprises grew by 3.2% and the number of companies by 2.5%.

In the non-financial sector, Turnover, Gross Value Added (GVA) and Gross Operating Surplus (GOS) registered nominal increases of 2.7%, 5.8% and 6.9% respectively.

There were 4 569 non-financial high growth companies (1 144 more than in 2014). Exporting companies (6.2% of total non-financial companies) accounted for 33.2% of the total GVA.

With this press release Statistics Portugal disseminates the publication "[Enterprises in Portugal 2015](#)", in which were presented the final results of the main statistical findings regarding the structure and evolution of the Portuguese business sector in 2015, obtained from the Integrated Business Account System (IBAS).

1. HOW MANY ENTERPRISES IN PORTUGAL IN 2015? WHAT RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED?

The year 2015 was globally marked by the positive evolution of the main economic and financial indicators of the business sector.

There were 1 181 406 enterprises in Portugal, of which almost 68% were individual enterprises and around 32% were companies. Comparing with the previous year, the number of individual enterprises grew by 3.2%, and the number of companies increased by 2.5%. The number of persons employed grew by 3.6%. Turnover increased by 1.2% in nominal terms.

>> **Figure 1 – Main economic indicators of Enterprises in Portugal, 2015**



2. RESULTS OF NON-FINANCIAL SECTOR

In the non-financial sector, the number of enterprises grew by 3.1%. Turnover, Gross Value Added (GVA) and Gross Operating Surplus (GOS) recorded nominal increases of 2.7%, 5.8% and 6.9% respectively. There were 1 013 large non-financial enterprises (4.1% more than in 2014), which accounted for 40.1% of the turnover and 41.5% of the GOS.

Accommodation and food services accounted for the biggest growth in GVA (14.0%) and GOS (27.7%).

The number of non-financial companies increased by 2.4%, totaling 372 201 units. The total GVA of non-financial companies stood at EUR 74.5 billion in 2015.

>> Figure 2 – Main economic indicators of non-financial enterprises in Portugal, 2015

	Enterprises		Persons employed		Turnover		GVA		Personnel costs		Gross operating surplus	
	2015	Annual change rate 14-15	2015	Annual change rate 14-15	2015	Annual change rate 14-15	2015	Annual change rate 14-15	2015	Annual change rate 14-15	2015	Annual change rate 14-15
	No	%	No	%	10 ⁶ Eur	%						
Total non-financial enterprises	1 163 082	3.1	3 578 913	3.8	331 602	2.7	80 548	5.8	46 890	4.7	33 910	6.9
<i>Legal form</i>												
Individual enterprises	790 881	3.4	876 886	3.0	14 375	1.2	6 044	3.8	1 180	0.0	5 033	4.4
Companies	372 201	2.4	2 702 027	4.0	317 227	2.7	74 504	6.0	45 710	4.8	28 877	7.3
<i>Size</i>												
SME	1 162 069	3.1	2 860 037	3.3	198 698	3.7	50 749	5.8	31 394	3.8	19 851	8.4
Large	1 013	4.1	718 876	5.6	132 903	1.2	29 798	5.8	15 496	6.5	14 060	4.7
<i>Activity sector</i>												
Agriculture and fishing	133 427	3.6	192 467	4.0	6 293	6.2	1 563	11.6	868	7.3	1 136	8.8
Manufacturing	67 795	0.7	679 337	2.9	83 019	1.8	19 633	10.0	11 354	4.4	8 262	18.7
Energy and water	2 471	12.7	39 470	2.3	24 393	-1.7	5 566	-5.6	987	5.1	4 521	-7.9
Construction and real estate	110 060	2.5	348 317	2.1	22 749	2.7	6 993	4.1	4 520	1.6	2 190	10.3
Trade	222 034	0.1	735 834	2.3	123 745	3.5	15 652	5.9	10 017	3.9	5 478	10.0
Transportation and storage	21 638	-1.1	154 438	2.4	17 731	-0.7	6 365	4.5	3 680	6.0	2 696	2.2
Accommodation and food services	91 826	9.2	293 478	7.4	10 118	10.1	3 913	14.0	2 577	8.1	1 314	27.7
Information and communication	15 600	5.2	90 993	6.4	11 395	0.5	5 048	2.8	2 617	8.1	2 374	-3.0
Other services	498 231	3.8	1 044 579	4.9	32 160	5.0	15 815	5.2	10 270	4.8	5 938	3.4

Fonte: INE, SCIE

From the active companies in 2015, 34 577 were born in that year, corresponding to a birth rate of 9.3%. These companies generated a turnover of EUR 2 384.5 million. Around 91% of the companies born one year before remained in the market. The death rate of non-financial companies was 6.6%, with Construction and Real Estate activities recording the highest rate (8.1%).

There were 4 569 high-growth companies. For the second consecutive year, this figure has recovered over the period 2008-2015 (1 144 more than in 2014), but still below the level of 2008. In terms of GVA, these companies accounted for 17.5% of the total (6.2 pp more than in 2014).

In 2015 there were 22 976 non-financial exporting companies. Although they represented only 6.2% of the total non-financial companies (+1.6 pp compared to 2008), these companies had a significant contribution to the main economic indicators, accounting for 33.2% of the total GVA generated in 2015 (+8.3 pp than in 2008), showing a more positive evolution than the non-exporting companies.

Methodological note:

The publication "Enterprises in Portugal 2015", disseminated by Statistics Portugal, updates the main statistical indicators of enterprises, characterizing the structure and evolution of the Portuguese non-financial business sector for 2015, obtained from the Integrated Business Account System (SCIE), resulting from a business statistics integration process, based on administrative data, with a focus on the Simplified Business Information (IES). This information is complemented, on the one hand, with data of sole proprietors and independent workers (designated by individual enterprises) received via an established protocol between Statistics Portugal and several bodies of the Ministry of Finance and, on the other hand, with information from the Business Register.

It should be noted that the implementation of the European System of Accounts, ESA 2010, replacing ESA 1995, has determined changes in the classification of the institutional sector of the entities, and it is necessary to distinguish the Holding Societies from the Head-offices. In National Accounts, the former are excluded from the institutional sector of non-financial companies, while the latter are part of it. These changes had impact on IBAS, which, consistency with the National Accounts demanded a revision of the business statistics series for the period 2008-2015. This review included, on the one hand, the reclassification of business units between section K of the NACE Rev.2 - Financial and insurance activities and section M - Professional, scientific and technical activities, mainly focusing in Section M.

The scope of economic activity includes all enterprises from sections A to S of NACE-Rev.2, with the exception of Financial and Insurance Activities (section K) and Public Administration and Defense; Compulsory Social Security (section O).

The sectors were aggregated in 9 larger groups: Agriculture and Fishing (section A of NACE-Rev.2), Manufacturing (sections B to C), Energy and Water (sections D to E), Construction and Real Estate (sections F to L), Distributive Trade (section G), Transportation and Storage (section H), Accommodation and Food Services (section I), Information and Communication (section J) and Other Services (sections M to S).

The classification of large enterprises was based on the recommendation of the Commission of May 6th, 2003. As such, enterprises were considered to be **large** when observing one of the following criteria:

- 250 or more persons employed or;
- Turnover above EUR 50 million and total assets above EUR 43 million

The remaining companies were considered **SME**, of which:

- A **medium** enterprise is one that employs less than 250 people and whose turnover does not exceed EUR 50 million or total assets does not exceed EUR 43 million, and not classified as micro or small enterprise.
- A **small** enterprise is one that employs less than 50 people and whose turnover or total assets does not exceed EUR 10 million, and not classified as micro enterprise.
- A **micro** enterprise is one that employs less than 10 people and whose turnover or total assets does not exceed EUR 2 million.

It was considered as **exporting** companies those that comply with the following criteria:

- Companies where at least 50% of the turnover originates from exports of goods and/or services or;
- Companies where at least 10% of the turnover originates from exports of goods and/or services and the total value of exports exceeds EUR 150 thousand

High growth enterprises correspond to enterprises with an average annual growth, over a three years period, higher than 10% measured by number of employees.

Acronyms:

- %: percentage
- ESA 2010: European System of Accounts
- EU: European Union
- GVA: Gross value added
- GOS: Gross operating surplus
- IBAS: Integrated Business Account System
- NACE Rev.2: European Classification of Economic Activities, Revision 2
- pp: Percentage points
- SME: Micro, small and medium enterprises

Information to users:

This and other information related with this study can be found on the official statistics' website: www.ine.pt.