

Gazelle rate

Gazelles represent the young enterprises among the population of high-growth enterprises. Their role in job creation is of particular interest to policy makers.

Definitions

Gazelles form a subset of the group of high-growth enterprises; they are high-growth enterprises born five years or less before the end of the three-year observation period.

Gazelles are enterprises that have been employers for a period of up to five years, with average annualised growth in employees (or in turnover) greater than 20% a year over a three-year period and with ten or more employees at the beginning of the observation period.

Young medium-growth enterprises, as measured by employment, are enterprises that have been employers for a period of up to five years, with average annualised growth in employees between 10% and 20% per year over a three-year period and with ten or more employees at the beginning of the observation period.

The *share of gazelles* and the *share of young medium-growth enterprises* measure respectively the number of gazelles and the number of young medium-growth enterprises as a percentage of the population of enterprises with ten or more employees.

Comparability

Data for Canada refer to employer enterprises with less than 250 employees.

Manufacturing data for Canada exclude Mining and Utilities.

Data are classified according to ISIC Revision 4 for all countries except Canada, Israel and the United States for which data are in ISIC Revision 3.

Highlights

In a majority of countries, less than 1% (or even less than 0.5%) of the firms with ten or more employees are gazelles when the growth measure is based on employment; the share is slightly higher for gazelles as measured by turnover growth. Only in a few East European economies gazelles represent a share up to 4%, depending on the growth criteria. To be noted, the shares have been stable over the past three years of data collection.

Source/Online database

OECD Structural and Demographic Business Statistics (SDBS) Database, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/sdbs-data-en>.

For further reading

Ahmad, N. and D. Rude Petersen (2007), High-Growth Enterprises and Gazelles –Preliminary and Summary Sensitivity Analysis, OECD-FORA, Paris.

Ahmad, N. and E. Gonnard, (2007), “High-growth Enterprises and Gazelles”, paper prepared for the International Consortium on Entrepreneurship (ICE), Copenhagen, ens-Denmark, <http://ice.foranet.dk/upload/highgrowth.pdf>.

Eurostat/OECD (2007), *Eurostat-OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics*, OECD Publishing.

OECD (2007), The OECD Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme: Workshop on the Measurement of High-growth Enterprises, 19 November 2007, Paris, www.oecd.org/document/31/0,3746,en_2825_499554_39151327_1_1_1_1,00.html.

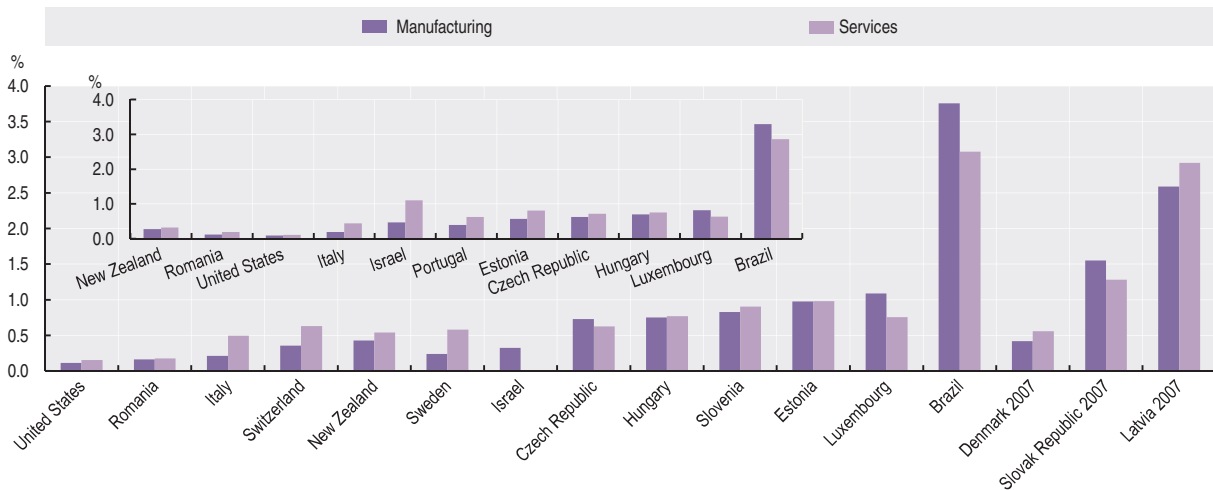
OECD (2010), *Structural and Demographic Business Statistics*, OECD Publishing. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264072886-en>.

Information on data for Israel:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932315602>.

A corrigendum has been issued for this page. See http://www.oecd.org/about/publishing/Corrigendum_EAG.pdf

Figure 6.4 Share of gazelles, 2008 or latest available year (2009 in insert)

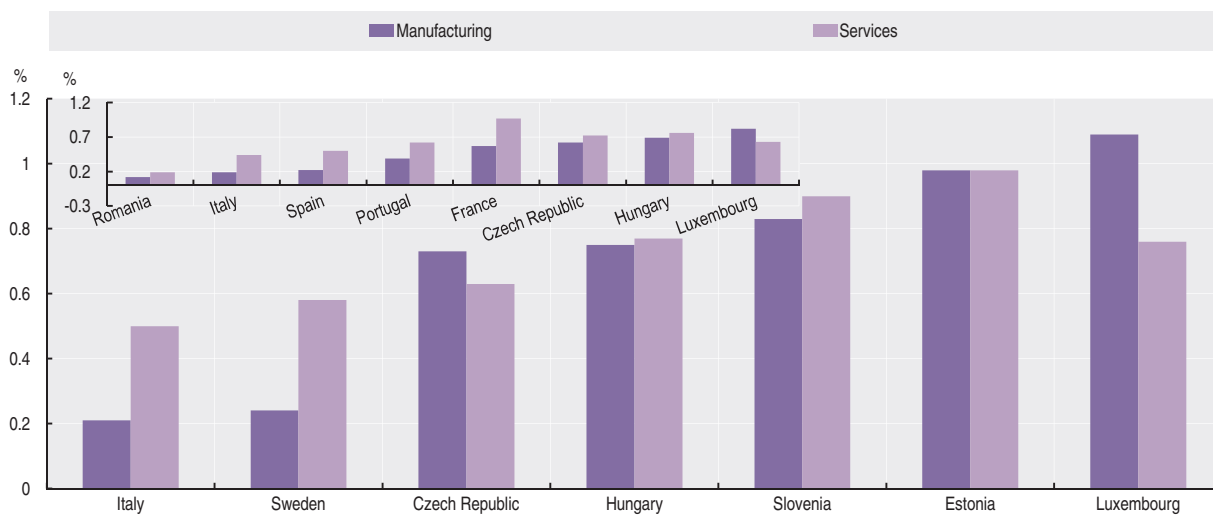
Measured by employment growth



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932597600>

Figure 6.5 Share of young medium-growth enterprises, 2008 or latest available year (2009 in insert)

Measured by employment growth



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932597619>

Figure 6.6 Share of gazelles, 2008 or latest available year (2009 in insert)

Measured by turnover growth



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932597638>



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