

12. Gazelles 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.

Definition

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.

Measured in terms of employment (or turnover), gazelles are enterprises which 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.

The *share of gazelles* is expressed 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.

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 European ex-transition 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

OECD (2010), *Structural and Demographic Business Statistics*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264072886-en>

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

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, Denmark. <http://ice.foranet.dk/upload/highgrowth.pdf>

The OECD Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme: Workshop on the Measurement of High-growth Enterprises, 19 November 2007, Paris.

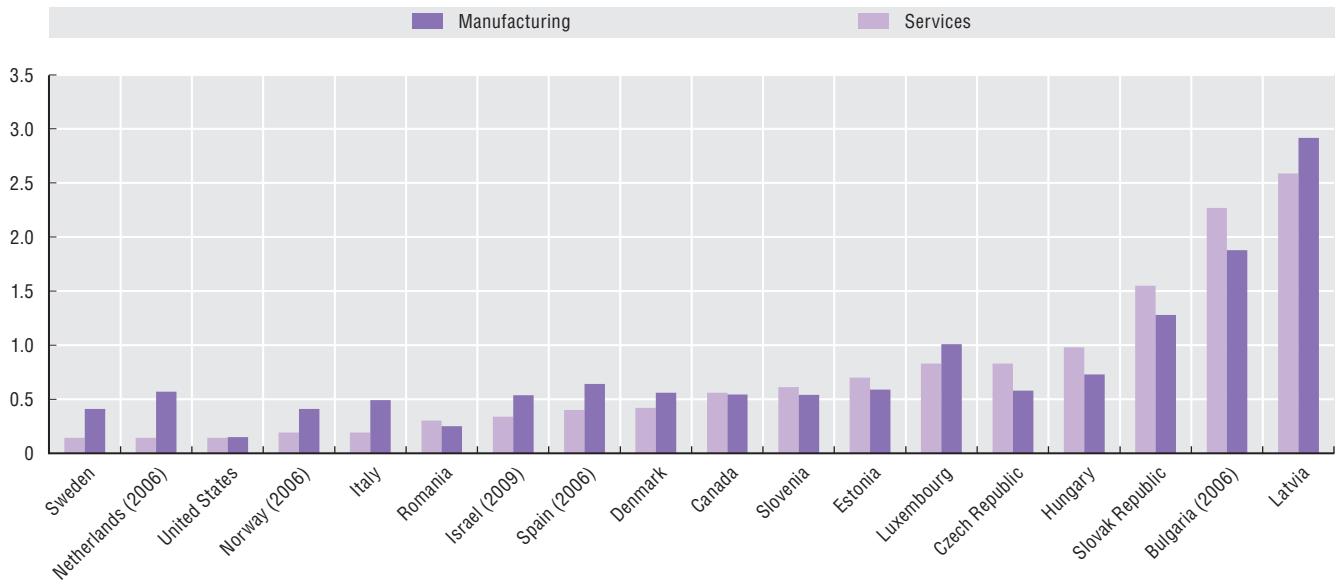
[www.oecd.org/document/31/](http://www.oecd.org/document/31/0,3746,en_2825_499554_39151327_1_1_1_1,00.html)

[0,3746,en_2825_499554_39151327_1_1_1_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/31/0,3746,en_2825_499554_39151327_1_1_1_1,00.html)

Information on data for Israel:

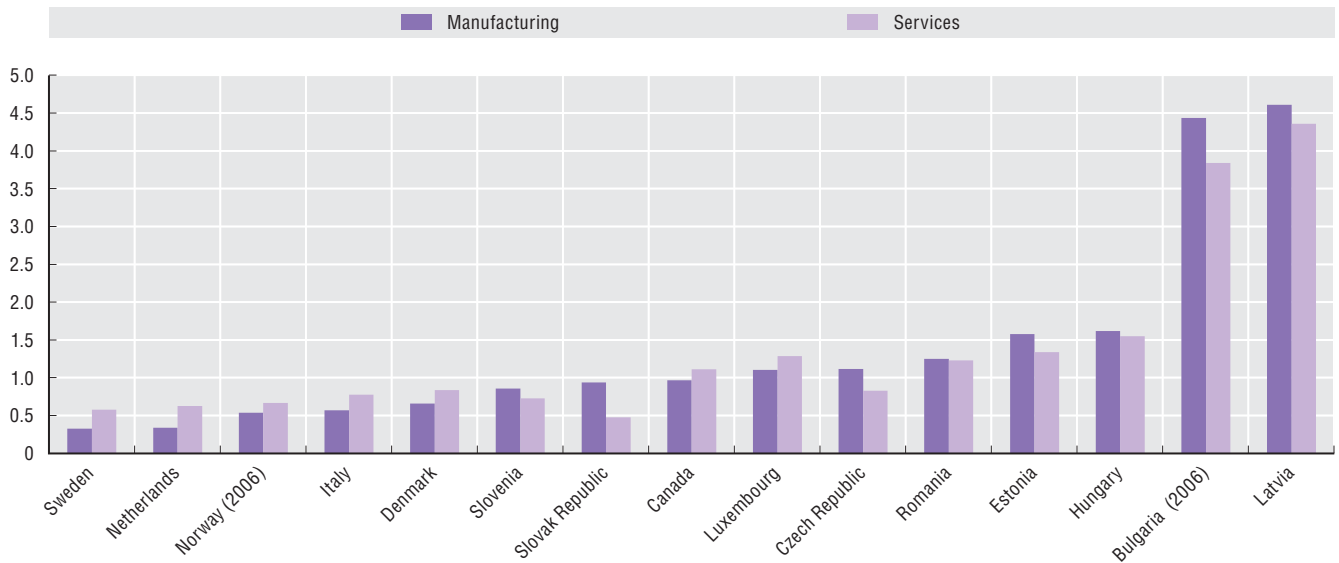
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932315602>

Figure 12.1. Share of gazelles (employment definition) in 2007

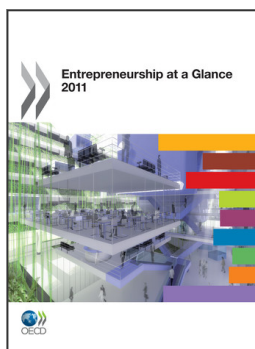


StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932384838>

Figure 12.2. Share of gazelles (turnover definition) in 2007



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932384857>



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