



**Summary Note for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills  
(BIS)**

***Mid-Sized Businesses in Finland – General Statistics 2009***

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# Mid-sized Businesses in Finland

## General Background on Data and Statistics

- This note summarises statistics about the Mid-sized Business (MSB) sector in Finland. Mid-sized Businesses (MSB) are defined as those with a turnover of between €25m and €500m.
- The statistics presented in this report were obtained from Statistics Finland. The main source of the statistics were the files held by the Finnish National Board of Taxation, which contain information about enterprise, openings and closures, location, economic activity, turnover, and wages and salaries. Additional information is obtained via direct enquiries with new enterprises, multi- and single-establishment enterprises with more than 20 employees.
- The statistics presented here refer to enterprises, which include natural persons (self-employed), legal persons (e.g. limited companies, co-operative societies, savings banks or economic associations), public financial institutions, unincorporated central government enterprises, housing corporations and farms.
- Only for-profit enterprises are included in the statistics. Hence, the statistics do not cover public sector and other not-for-profit sectors or organisations.
- In 2009, only enterprises subject to trade tax, operating for more than six month in a calendar year, and employing more than half a person or reporting a turnover in excess of €9,821 were included in the statistics.
- The employment statistics include both employees and entrepreneurs, and are reported as full-time equivalents. Employment statistics for enterprises with less than 20 employees are estimated from wage and salary information.
- Statistics for 2001 (and since 1993) are classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification TOL1995, those for 2001-2007 according to the Standard Industrial Classification TOL 2002, and those from 2007 onwards according to the Standard Industrial Classification TOL 2008. This limits the comparability of data over time.
- The expressions 'business' and 'enterprise' are used interchangeably in this note.

## Size and Sector Distribution of MSB in 2009 (with some limited comparison over time)

- In 2009, there were 320,682 for-profit enterprises (as defined above) operating in Finland. Fewer than half a percent (0.4%, or 1.278) of these enterprises reported a turnover of between €25m and €500m.<sup>1</sup>
- Mid-sized enterprises accounted for 26 per cent of total employment and 32 per cent of total turnover.
- Between 2001 and 2006, the share of MSB among all enterprises in Finland increased slowly, but steadily from 0.51 per cent to 0.54 per cent, before dropping back to 0.46 per cent in 2007 and 0.40 per cent in 2009.
- MSB's employment share decreased steadily from 29 per cent in 2001 to 26 per cent in 2009. MSB's turnover share began to decrease from 2003, when it had stood at approximately 37 per cent, before stabilising in 2008 at 32 per cent.
- Thirty-two per cent of MSB were in manufacturing (employment share: 34 per cent) and a further 30 per cent operated in wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (employment share: 19 per cent) (Table T2, worksheet 2009).
- Conversely, two per cent of manufacturing enterprises were MSB, although they accounted for 36 percent of all manufacturing employment. MSB were most strongly represented in the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply sector to which they contributed 11 per cent of all enterprises, 57 per cent of employment and 61 per cent of turnover (Table T1, worksheet 2009).
- Compared to the overall average. MSB are **numerically** heavily concentrated in six sectors (cp. T3 in worksheet "2009"):
  - Mining and quarrying (quotient of the share of MSB-to-All Businesses<sup>2</sup>: 2.6)
  - Manufacturing (4.6)
  - Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (28.0)
  - Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (1.3)
  - Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (2.1)
  - Information and Communication (2.5).
- In terms of **employment**, MSB are over-represented<sup>3</sup> in
  - Mining and quarrying (1.5)
  - Manufacturing (1.4)
  - Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (2.2)
  - Information and communication (1.5)
  - Administrative and support service activities (1.5)
- Turnover information by industrial sector and size category is very patchy as case numbers decline and the confidentiality of enterprises needs to be

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, all statistics can be found in the accompanying excel spreadsheet FIN MIDSIZED 2001-2009.xls. The specific statistics reported here can be found in that spreadsheet under the worksheet "2009" (Table T1).

<sup>2</sup> The quotient was estimated by dividing the relevant value for MSB by that for all businesses.

<sup>3</sup> Sectors with quotients below 1.2 are excluded to allow for the increased margin of error as a result of missing data.

protected. For this reason, only three sectors are known to be over-presented among MSB In terms of **turnover**, namely:

- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (1.9)
- Information and communication (1.4) and
- Administrative and support service activities (1.5).
- The quotients for 2007 were similar to those for 2009. This said, the over-presentation of manufacturing employment among MSBs had decreased from a factor of 5 to a factor of 4.6, while the overrepresentation of the electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply industry had increased from a factor of 22 to a factor of 28.
- Quotients in those two sectors in 2006 were similar to those of 2007.

## APPENDIX

**Table A.1 NACE concentration of enterprises by turnover category (in€, 2009)**

Less than €25m	€25m – less than €500m	€500m+
	Mining and quarrying (2.6, 1.5, n/a)	
	Manufacturing (4.6, 1.4, 1.0)	Manufacturing (4.3, 1.8, 1.5)
	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (28.0, 2.2, 1.9)	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (19.4, 1.4, 0.8)
	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (1.3, 0.9, n/a)	
	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (2.1, 1.1, 1.0)	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (3.3, 1.4, 1.1)
		Transport and storage (0.6, 1.9, 0.5)
	Information and communication (2.5, 1.5, 1.4)	Information and communication (1.6, 1.2, 0.7)
	Administrative and support service activities (0.9, 1.5, 1.5)	Arts, entertainment and recreation (1.6, 1.2, n/a)

Note: Figures in brackets are quotients of 'turnover category MSB-to-All MSB' for the number of enterprises, aggregate employment and aggregate turnover, in that order. Only cases with at least one quotients greater than 1.1 are reported.