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Wholesale and retail trade businesses accounted for 20.1 per cent of the total registered units in 2015.

Business Demographics: 2010-2015

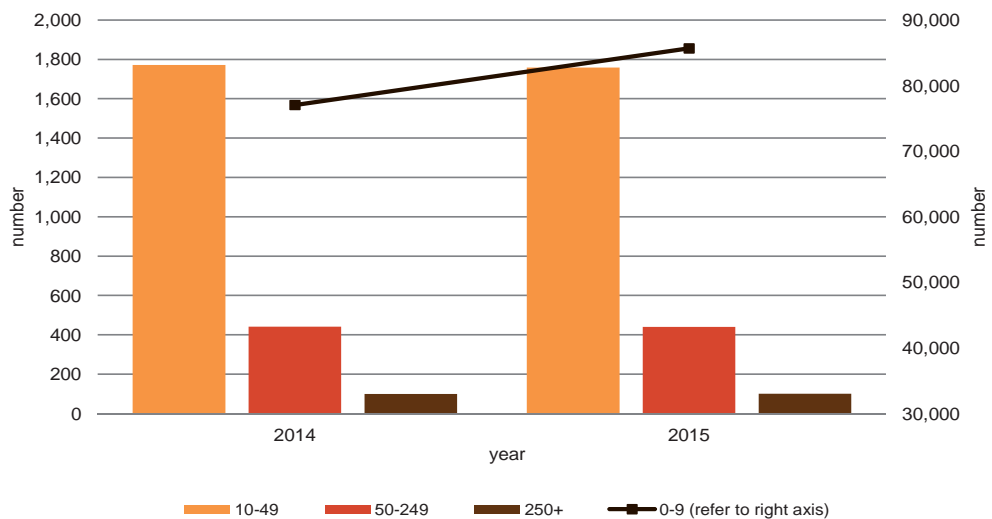
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In 2015, registered units amounted to 87,971, an increase of 10.9 per cent, or 8,615, over the number of registered units in 2014.

Furthermore, registered units in financial and insurance activities (Section K), professional, scientific and technical activities (Section M), administrative and support service activities (Section N), and construction (Section F) amounted to 15.6, 11.3, 7.8 and 7.7 per cent respectively of the total registered units in 2015 (Table 1).

By employment size class, 97.4 per cent of registered units employ less than 10 persons and are considered micro entities. This varies between 100.0 per cent in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (Section D), activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use (Section T), activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies (Section U) and 59.0 per cent in public administration and defence (Section O). On the other hand, only 100 registered units employ more than 250 persons and are classified as large undertakings (Table 4) ■

Chart 1. Number of registered units by employment size class



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Unit B4: Business Registers

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Table 1. Structure of business units by type of legal organisation: 2010-2015 ...

NACE Section	2010				2011				2012			
	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Other	Total	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Other	Total	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Other	Total
A	3,789	111	44	3,944	3,724	112	25	3,861	3,288	112	15	3,415
B	43	61	4	108	c	60	c	103	39	63	4	106
C	2,398	1,241	75	3,714	2,366	1,271	61	3,698	1,979	1,307	54	3,340
D	-	c	c	10	-	c	c	12	-	c	c	12
E	155	69	7	231	154	76	7	237	143	79	7	229
F	4,594	2,154	153	6,901	4,595	2,179	110	6,884	4,089	2,191	92	6,372
G	9,823	5,544	392	15,759	9,890	5,820	292	16,002	9,173	6,204	227	15,604
H	1,784	1,517	104	3,405	1,798	1,893	96	3,787	1,487	2,112	70	3,669
I	2,162	1,133	150	3,445	2,291	1,187	89	3,567	2,223	1,247	48	3,518
J	1,194	1,097	113	2,404	1,223	1,252	81	2,556	919	1,409	61	2,389
K	62	7,125	171	7,358	69	8,026	188	8,283	59	9,076	233	9,368
L	1,240	1,776	52	3,068	1,246	1,822	35	3,103	944	1,865	21	2,830
M	4,611	2,767	210	7,588	4,691	3,137	142	7,970	3,479	3,492	108	7,079
N	2,067	2,040	192	4,299	2,110	2,358	200	4,668	1,599	2,822	173	4,594
O	-	-	209	209	-	-	211	211	c	-	c	221
P	2,077	177	340	2,594	2,077	202	303	2,582	1,368	227	277	1,872
Q	1,397	98	152	1,647	1,398	104	148	1,650	1,247	120	141	1,508
R	1,780	650	348	2,778	1,877	787	344	3,008	1,310	895	266	2,471
S	2,900	164	576	3,640	3,107	180	560	3,847	2,671	192	393	3,256
T	c	-	-	c	c	-	-	c	c	-	-	c
U	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Total	42,082	27,738	3,296	73,116	42,664	30,482	2,897	76,043	36,021	33,429	2,414	71,864

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... Table 1. Structure of business units by type of legal organisation: 2010-2015

NACE Section	2013				2014				2015			
	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Other	Total	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Other	Total	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Other	Total
A	3,181	116	15	3,312	3,095	119	14	3,228	3,084	120	15	3,219
B	42	69	3	114	45	76	5	126	46	76	5	127
C	1,882	1,350	50	3,282	1,837	1,421	51	3,309	2,009	1,488	52	3,549
D	-	c	c	16	-	18	4	22	3	26	4	33
E	140	84	7	231	136	87	7	230	136	98	9	243
F	4,101	2,244	100	6,445	4,134	2,283	102	6,519	4,336	2,334	112	6,782
G	9,056	6,720	228	16,004	9,031	7,275	227	16,533	9,321	8,059	260	17,640
H	1,449	2,105	74	3,628	1,449	2,060	71	3,580	1,580	2,042	68	3,690
I	2,318	1,305	38	3,661	2,424	1,403	28	3,855	2,600	1,516	34	4,150
J	886	1,607	63	2,556	928	1,825	63	2,816	1,216	2,037	69	3,322
K	58	10,470	292	10,820	71	11,894	358	12,323	97	13,217	414	13,728
L	952	1,902	23	2,877	1,048	1,979	22	3,049	1,422	2,088	25	3,535
M	3,422	4,015	116	7,553	3,602	4,606	126	8,334	4,499	5,264	142	9,905
N	1,538	3,369	202	5,109	1,525	3,893	243	5,661	2,006	4,557	269	6,832
O	c	-	c	241	c	c	c	173	c	c	c	173
P	1,261	251	278	1,790	1,279	290	269	1,838	1,532	321	275	2,128
Q	1,220	129	143	1,492	1,218	147	138	1,503	1,253	165	139	1,557
R	1,187	966	260	2,413	1,200	1,025	250	2,475	1,644	1,077	262	2,983
S	2,568	201	384	3,153	2,635	207	928	3,770	3,147	262	929	4,338
T	c	-	-	c	c	-	-	c	29	-	-	29
U	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	8
Total	35,266	36,924	2,519	74,709	35,663	40,614	3,079	79,356	39,965	44,755	3,251	87,971

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Table 2. Births of business units: 2010-2015

NACE Section	Births					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
A	78	73	45	51	64	111
B	c	c	10	12	17	c
C	164	135	147	153	179	355
D	-	c	c	4	c	13
E	11	14	c	12	13	18
F	340	275	345	406	406	539
G	1,012	1,005	1,220	1,276	1,425	1,830
H	441	449	355	200	153	286
I	301	342	300	374	435	493
J	299	282	301	332	387	622
K	977	1,191	1,415	1,792	1,953	1,875
L	147	139	168	173	273	577
M	754	728	722	959	1,186	1,867
N	628	609	761	870	887	1,419
O	-	c	20	31	24	4
P	150	86	75	71	99	301
Q	65	32	47	21	46	70
R	374	304	294	193	255	620
S	514	488	263	222	825	691
T	c	-	-	-	c	25
U	-	-	-	-	-	c
Grand total	6,262	6,158	6,499	7,152	8,636	11,721

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Table 3. Deaths of business units: 2010-2015

NACE Section	Deaths					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
A	148	500	153	148	120	118
B	c	7	4	c	c	c
C	163	508	208	147	116	137
D	-	c	-	c	c	c
E	8	17	11	13	5	10
F	300	860	335	329	274	364
G	710	1,587	874	887	726	807
H	112	477	237	200	175	179
I	220	347	240	255	201	330
J	121	461	164	130	122	153
K	263	328	346	450	468	550
L	135	445	131	103	91	107
M	347	1,628	488	410	297	403
N	208	838	350	336	242	347
O	c	9	9	91	4	c
P	123	788	148	56	12	8
Q	30	194	38	33	14	19
R	96	836	252	193	114	118
S	254	851	326	212	123	181
T	-	c	-	-	-	-
U	-	-	-	c	c	-
Grand total	3,244	10,686	4,314	4,001	3,111	3,844

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Table 4. Structure of business units by employment size: 2010-2015...

NACE Section	2010					2011				
	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total
A	3,929	c	c	-	3,944	3,843	13	c	c	3,861
B	100	8	-	-	108	93	10	-	-	103
C	3,428	215	58	13	3,714	3,415	212	57	14	3,698
D	c	-	-	c	10	c	-	-	c	12
E	222	7	c	c	231	225	c	c	c	237
F	6,767	114	16	4	6,901	6,747	114	20	3	6,884
G	15,253	448	c	c	15,759	15,491	446	c	c	16,002
H	3,301	84	14	6	3,405	3,681	82	18	6	3,787
I	3,220	157	61	7	3,445	3,333	165	63	6	3,567
J	2,319	63	17	5	2,404	2,465	67	20	4	2,556
K	7,267	69	17	5	7,358	8,190	68	20	5	8,283
L	3,054	11	3	-	3,068	3,086	c	c	-	3,103
M	7,423	c	c	c	7,588	7,801	152	14	3	7,970
N	4,165	93	28	13	4,299	4,525	96	35	12	4,668
O	165	13	19	12	209	103	54	46	8	211
P	2,496	60	34	4	2,594	2,484	60	32	6	2,582
Q	1,585	38	15	9	1,647	1,584	35	19	12	1,650
R	2,720	44	c	c	2,778	2,945	48	c	c	3,008
S	3,608	28	c	c	3,640	3,820	24	c	c	3,847
T	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c
U	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c
Total	71,045	1,611	375	85	73,116	73,856	1,671	431	85	76,043

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... Table 4. Structure of business units by employment size: 2010-2015

NACE Section	2012					2013				
	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total
A	3,398	11	c	c	3,415	3,296	11	c	c	3,312
B	100	6	-	-	106	c	c	-	-	114
C	3,067	205	55	13	3,340	3,003	214	52	13	3,282
D	c	-	-	c	12	c	-	-	c	16
E	215	12	c	c	229	218	11	c	c	231
F	6,236	113	20	3	6,372	6,302	122	18	3	6,445
G	15,097	441	c	c	15,604	15,455	481	c	c	16,004
H	3,549	98	16	6	3,669	3,503	103	16	6	3,628
I	3,287	158	67	6	3,518	3,398	194	62	7	3,661
J	2,293	71	20	5	2,389	2,451	77	24	4	2,556
K	9,276	67	20	5	9,368	10,722	72	21	5	10,820
L	2,813	14	3	-	2,830	2,861	c	c	-	2,877
M	6,906	156	c	c	7,079	7,373	160	c	c	7,553
N	4,450	98	34	12	4,594	4,956	106	34	13	5,109
O	107	59	46	9	221	118	70	44	9	241
P	1,774	56	35	7	1,872	1,680	69	35	6	1,790
Q	1,442	35	21	10	1,508	1,413	45	22	12	1,492
R	2,408	44	c	c	2,471	2,333	60	c	c	2,413
S	3,228	24	c	c	3,256	3,123	27	c	c	3,153
T	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c
U	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c
Total	69,668	1,668	443	85	71,864	72,340	1,843	440	86	74,709

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... Table 4. Structure of business units by employment size: 2010-2015

NACE Section	2014					2015				
	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total
A	3,215	9	c	c	3,228	3,205	10	c	c	3,219
B	120	c	c	-	126	121	c	c	-	127
C	3,022	219	55	13	3,309	3,264	218	54	13	3,549
D	22	-	-	-	22	33	-	-	-	33
E	219	9	c	c	230	233	8	c	c	243
F	6,384	113	c	c	6,519	6,647	113	c	c	6,782
G	15,993	468	c	c	16,533	17,103	466	c	c	17,640
H	3,456	100	18	6	3,580	3,568	98	17	7	3,690
I	3,591	194	61	9	3,855	3,894	187	60	9	4,150
J	2,718	66	27	5	2,816	3,220	68	29	5	3,322
K	12,222	77	19	5	12,323	13,623	80	20	5	13,728
L	3,032	c	c	-	3,049	3,518	c	c	-	3,535
M	8,151	162	18	3	8,334	9,723	161	18	3	9,905
N	5,504	108	32	17	5,661	6,674	107	34	17	6,832
O	102	25	32	14	173	102	25	32	14	173
P	1,723	68	41	6	1,838	2,015	66	41	6	2,128
Q	1,427	45	19	12	1,503	1,482	44	19	12	1,557
R	2,389	63	c	c	2,475	2,902	60	c	c	2,983
S	3,742	25	c	c	3,770	4,309	26	c	c	4,338
T	c	-	-	-	c	29	-	-	-	29
U	c	-	-	-	c	8	-	-	-	8
Total	77,044	1,772	441	99	79,356	85,673	1,758	440	100	87,971

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Methodological Notes

1. The source of this news release is the Business Register (BR) that is administered by the National Statistics Office. The BR provides one of the most detailed local business profiles in Malta. It is classified by economic activity according to the NACE (*Nomenclature Statistique des Activités Économiques dans la Communauté Européenne*). The scope and nature of the national business register is the basis on which sample surveys with regards to business are conducted. Furthermore, the business register is a tool that can be used as a source of statistics in its own right. The scope of this release is to show the demographic patterns of business units in Malta and their evolution over time.
2. Births and Deaths record the demographic change in the number of units, that is, registrations and/or deregistrations, and do not precisely record commencement or cessation of an activity by a unit. Demographic events such as takeovers, mergers, split-offs are not catered for and may affect the data presented. The recorded births and deaths from 2011 are being affected by Legal Notice 524 of 2010 and Legal Notice 67 of 2015 (see Notes 6 and 7).
3. For the purpose of this news release all legal units, irrespective of any threshold, are deemed to be equal to an enterprise and are recorded. Other types of enterprise legal structures may include corporations, cooperatives and joint ventures.
4. Updates in the Business Register are ongoing and all figures reported are subject to revision.
5. Business units that have ceased operating as indicated in Table 3, are included in the registered business units in Tables 1 and 4 respectively if they have operated for at least one day in the year that they ceased operation.
6. On 1 January 2011, the Value Added Tax (Exemption from Registration) Regulations, 2010, came into force, as notified in Legal Notice 524 of 2010. The Regulations state that the VAT Commissioner shall not register any taxable person established in Malta whose turnover does not exceed €7,000 in a calendar year. Therefore business demographics from 2011 onwards may not be strictly comparable to the business demographics of previous years and should be treated with caution.
7. On 1 January 2015, the Value Added Tax (Registration of Certain Taxable Persons) Regulations, 2015 came into force, as notified in Legal Notice 67 of 2015. The Regulations state that taxable persons providing taxable or exempt with credit supplies of goods or services who are not registered or who had been de-registered by virtue of the Value Added Tax (Exemption from Registration) Regulations, 2010, shall register or re-activate their registration as the case may be, under article 10 or article 11 of the Value Added Tax Act according to their preference or eligibility. Therefore business demographics from 2015 onwards may not be strictly comparable to the business demographics of previous years and should be treated with caution.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=24>
Classifications: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2>

Definitions

The following are the definitions of the employment size class breakdowns shown in Table 4:

Size class	Persons employed
Micro	0-9
Small	10-49
Medium	50-249
Large	250+

NACE Rev. 2 Classification

Section	Description
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B	Mining and quarrying
C	Manufacturing
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
E	Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
H	Transportation and storage
I	Accommodation and food service activities
J	Information and communication
K	Financial and insurance activities
L	Real estate activities
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities
N	Administrative and support service activities
O	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
P	Education
Q	Human health and social work activities
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation
S	Other service activities
T	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use
U	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies

NACE Rev. 2 Classification

Section	Division	Description
A	01	Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities
	02	Forestry and logging
	03	Fishing and aquaculture
B	05	Mining of coal and lignite
	06	Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas
	07	Mining of metal ores
	08	Other mining and quarrying
	09	Mining support service activities
C	10	Manufacture of food products
	11	Manufacture of beverages
	12	Manufacture of tobacco products
	13	Manufacture of textiles
	14	Manufacture of wearing apparel
	15	Manufacture of leather and related products
	16	Manufacture of wood and products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials
	17	Manufacture of paper and paper products
	18	Printing and reproduction of recorded media
	19	Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products
	20	Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products
	21	Manufacture of basic pharmaceuticals products and pharmaceutical preparations
	22	Manufacture of rubber and plastic products
	23	Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products
	24	Manufacture of basic metals
	25	Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment
	26	Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products
	27	Manufacture of electrical equipment
	28	Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c
	29	Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers
	30	Manufacture of other transport equipment
	31	Manufacture of furniture
	32	Other manufacturing
33	Repair and installation of machinery and equipment	
D	35	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
E	36	Water collection, treatment and supply
	37	Sewerage
	38	Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery
	39	Remediation activities and other waste management services
F	41	Construction of buildings
	42	Civil engineering
	43	Specialised construction activities
G	45	Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
	46	Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
	47	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
H	49	Land transport and transport via pipelines
	50	Water transport
	51	Air transport
	52	Warehousing and support activities for transportation
	53	Postal and courier activities

NACE Rev. 2 Classification

Section	Division	Description
I	55	Accommodation
	56	Food and beverage service activities
J	58	Publishing activities
	59	Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities
	60	Broadcasting and programming activities
	61	Telecommunications
	62	Computer programming, consultancy and related activities
	63	Information service activities
K	64	Financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding
	65	Insurance, reinsurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security
	66	Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities
L	68	Real estate activities
M	69	Legal and accounting activities
	70	Activities of head offices; management consultancy activities
	71	Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis
	72	Scientific research and development
	73	Advertising and market research
	74	Other professional, scientific and technical activities
	75	Veterinary activities
N	77	Rental and leasing activities
	78	Employment activities
	79	Travel agency, tour operator reservation service and related activities
	80	Security and investigation activities
	81	Services to buildings and landscape activities
	82	Office administrative, office support and other business support activities
O	84	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
P	85	Education
Q	86	Human health activities
	87	Residential care activities
	88	Social work activities without accommodation
R	90	Creative, arts and entertainment activities
	91	Libraries, archives, museums and other cultural activities
	92	Gambling and betting activities
	93	Sports activities and amusement and recreation activities
S	94	Activities of membership organisations
	95	Repair of computers and personal and household goods
	96	Other personal service activities
T	97	Activities of households as employers of domestic personnel
	98	Undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of private households for own use
U	99	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies