

In 2019, registered business units amounted to 123,649, an increase of 5.8 per cent over 2018.

Registered Business Units: 2019

Cut-off date:
10 April 2020

This news release shows the demographic patterns of registered business units in Malta and their evolution over time.

In 2019, registered units within the statistical business register amounted to 123,649, an increase of 5.8 per cent, or 6,779 registered units, over 2018 (Table 2).

The majority of the business units (97.3 per cent) employed between 0 to 9 persons (micro). The population of small (10-49) and medium (50-249) businesses accounted for 2,597 (2.1 per cent) and 546 (0.4 per cent) units respectively. The large businesses employing 250 and more amounted to 134. The number of registered units which employ between 10 and 49 persons, increased by 266 units, an increase of 11.4 per cent. The number of registered units which employ between 0 and 9 persons, increased by 6,479 units, an increase of 5.7 per cent (Chart 1, Table 4).

Registered units in wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (Section G), financial and insurance activities (Section K), professional, scientific and technical activities (Section M) and administrative and support service activities (Section N) amounted to 16.2, 14.9, 12.7 and 8.3 per cent respectively of the total registered units in 2019 (Table 2) ■

Chart 1. Registered business units: 2019

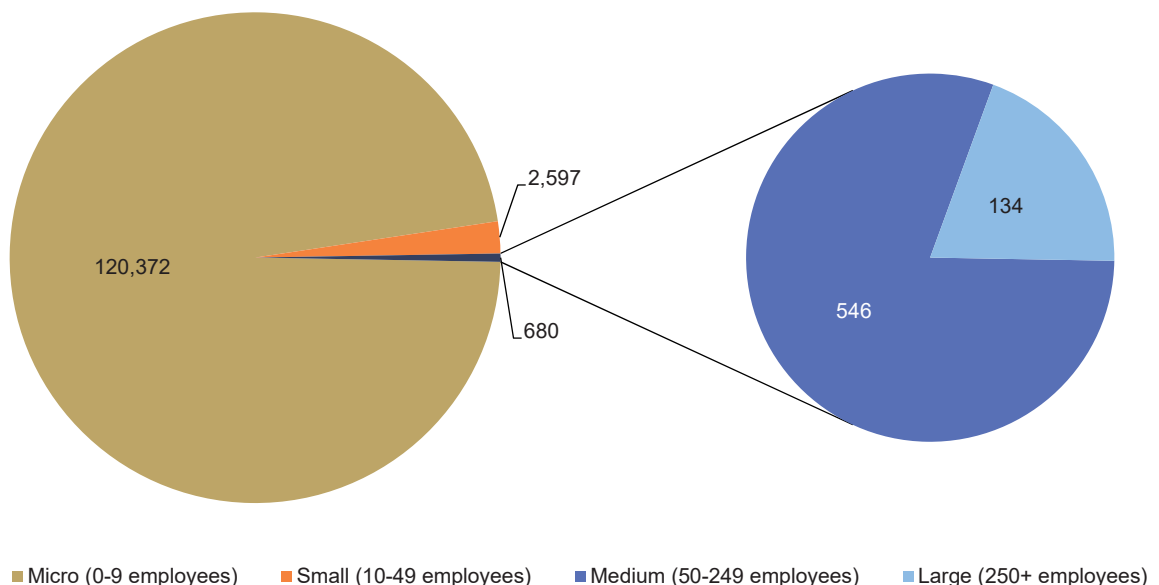
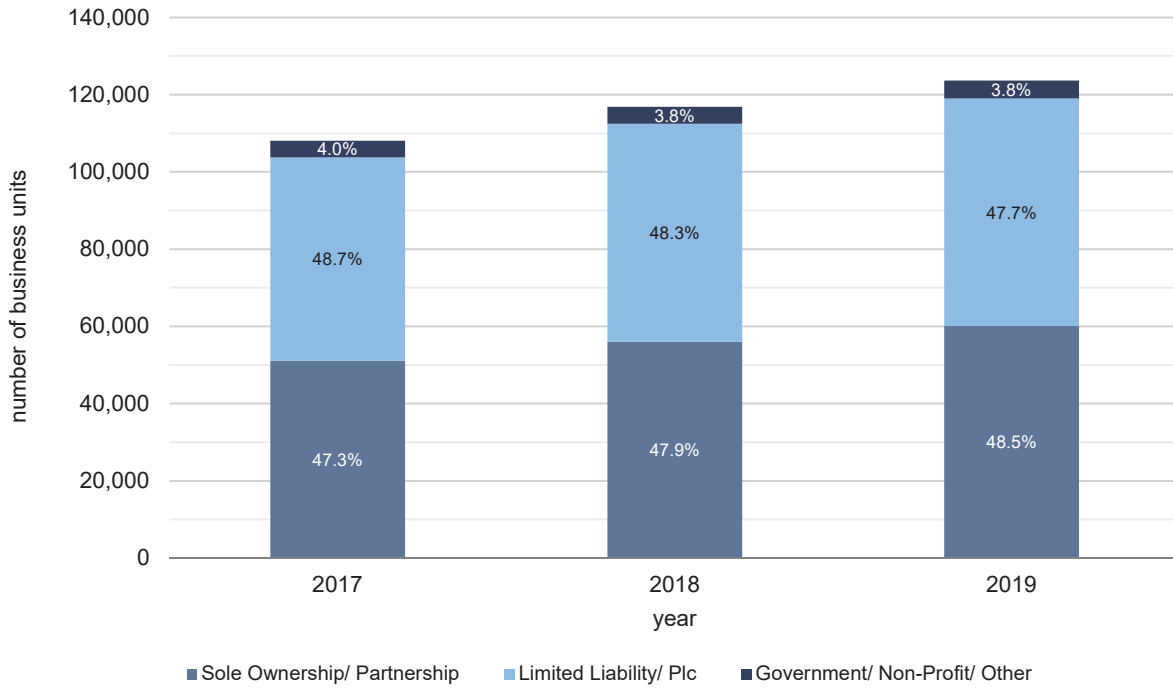


Chart 2. Registered business units by type of legal organisation: 2017-2019



In 2019, 48.5 per cent of the registered units were sole owners or partnerships, 47.7 per cent were limited liability or public limited companies, while 3.8 per cent were governmental, non-profit or other types of legal organisations (Chart 2, Table 2).

New registrations in 2019 amounted to 11,326 units whilst deregistrations amounted to 5,719 units (Chart 3, Table 3).

Chart 3. Newly registered and deregistered business units: 2017-2019

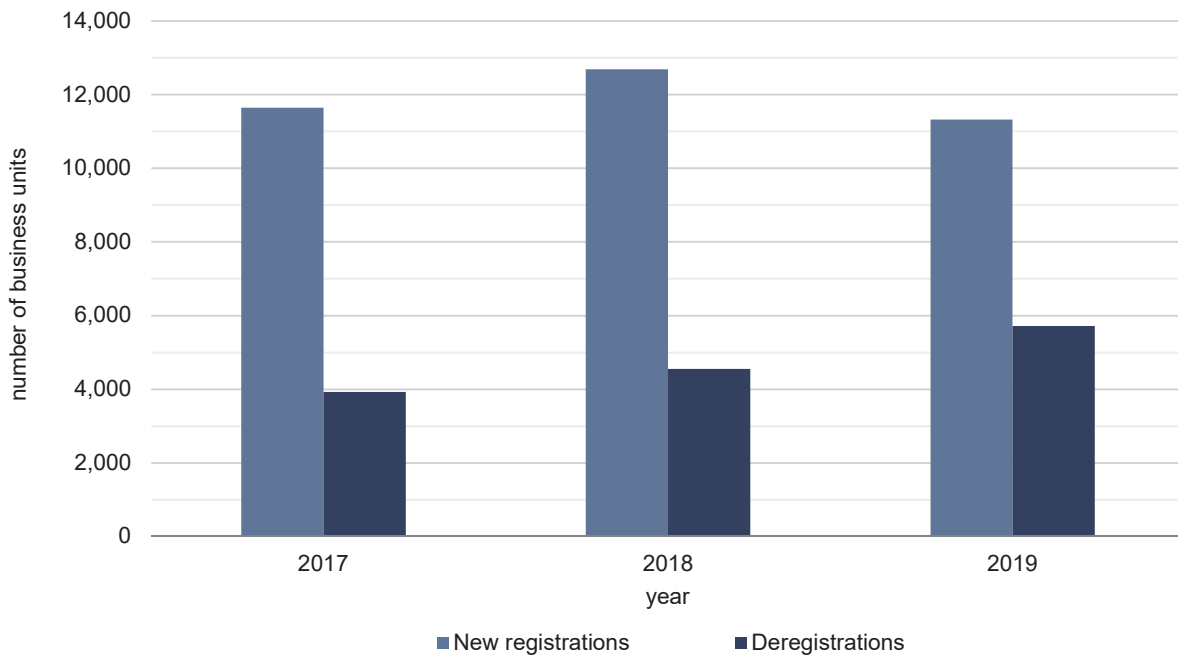


Table 1. NACE Rev. 2 Classification

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

Table 2. Structure of registered units by type of legal organisation: 2017-2019

NACE Section ¹	2017				2018				2019			
	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Government/ Non-profit/ Other	Total	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Government/ Non-profit/ Other	Total	Sole Ownership/ Partnership	Limited Liability/ Plc	Government/ Non-profit/ Other	Total
A	3,213	129	15	3,357	3,206	132	15	3,353	3,189	140	15	3,344
B	55	74	6	135	62	75	5	142	60	79	5	144
C	2,470	1,567	61	4,098	2,645	1,601	63	4,309	2,790	1,648	63	4,501
D	-	c	c	26	-	c	c	26	c	26	c	32
E	142	102	9	253	143	105	12	260	142	111	12	265
F	5,266	2,501	129	7,896	5,625	2,620	121	8,366	6,059	2,799	122	8,980
G	10,459	8,545	332	19,336	10,607	8,811	360	19,778	10,738	8,941	385	20,064
H	2,009	2,520	57	4,586	2,597	2,633	61	5,291	3,192	2,717	68	5,977
I	3,242	1,722	45	5,009	3,632	1,850	50	5,532	3,972	1,945	51	5,968
J	1,770	2,599	77	4,446	2,020	3,081	79	5,180	2,242	3,348	81	5,671
K	160	15,804	418	16,382	158	17,159	436	17,753	177	17,850	419	18,446
L	2,465	2,529	46	5,040	2,981	2,757	43	5,781	3,239	2,951	44	6,234
M	6,476	6,309	167	12,952	7,408	6,872	175	14,455	8,276	7,201	186	15,663
N	3,009	5,798	337	9,144	3,378	6,134	368	9,880	3,599	6,319	390	10,308
O	-	-	175	175	-	-	176	176	-	-	178	178
P	2,091	402	168	2,661	2,304	436	173	2,913	2,444	465	183	3,092
Q	1,463	209	157	1,829	1,534	230	158	1,922	1,600	248	162	2,010
R	2,638	1,276	582	4,496	3,106	1,446	588	5,140	3,427	1,563	634	5,624
S	4,164	494	1,555	6,213	4,518	495	1,537	6,550	4,865	577	1,639	7,081
T	c	-	-	c	c	-	-	c	c	c	-	c
U	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Total	51,143	52,610	4,340	108,093	55,980	56,467	4,423	116,870	60,073	58,935	4,641	123,649

^c confidential

¹ Refer to Table 1

The time series data from year 2014 onwards is available in the MS Excel sheet published with this news release.

Table 3. Newly registered and deregistered business units: 2017-2019

NACE Section ¹	New Registrations			Deregistrations		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
A	123	113	151	125	157	142
B	7	10	10	c	7	6
C	335	350	354	136	162	198
D	4	c	c	c	c	c
E	12	16	9	10	c	7
F	663	775	886	296	280	301
G	1,307	1,236	1,097	742	824	912
H	347	830	862	153	181	303
I	679	718	711	231	283	374
J	680	887	682	144	190	263
K	2,030	2,128	1,399	749	702	961
L	732	875	742	154	283	309
M	1,825	1,906	1,666	417	491	734
N	1,214	1,116	974	391	541	646
O	c	c	27	-	-	6
P	234	287	218	22	40	35
Q	109	124	114	30	27	15
R	634	769	635	137	147	199
S	694	536	770	179	223	304
T	11	10	10	5	7	c
U	c	-	c	c	-	-
Grand total	11,645	12,688	11,326	3,925	4,551	5,719

^c confidential

¹ Refer to Table 1

The time series data from year 2014 onwards is available in the MS Excel sheet published with this news release.

Table 4. Structure of registered units by employment size: 2017-2019

NACE Section ¹	2017					2018					2019				
	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total	0-9	10-49	50-249	250+	Total
A	3,345	8	c	c	3,357	3,341	7	c	c	3,353	3,331	8	c	c	3,344
B	129	6	-	-	135	136	6	-	-	142	138	6	-	-	144
C	3,798	228	59	13	4,098	4,008	229	57	15	4,309	4,179	248	58	16	4,501
D	23	c	c	-	26	23	c	c	-	26	29	c	c	-	32
E	240	c	c	c	253	250	c	c	c	260	252	c	c	c	265
F	7,756	113	22	5	7,896	8,221	119	20	6	8,366	8,808	142	24	6	8,980
G	18,700	544	89	3	19,336	19,152	530	93	3	19,778	19,376	589	96	3	20,064
H	4,439	123	16	8	4,586	5,150	115	18	8	5,291	5,819	131	17	10	5,977
I	4,652	294	55	8	5,009	5,171	299	52	10	5,532	5,572	337	48	11	5,968
J	4,301	117	22	6	4,446	5,022	126	25	7	5,180	5,498	136	31	6	5,671
K	16,252	102	22	6	16,382	17,609	115	22	7	17,753	18,282	135	22	7	18,446
L	5,007	29	4	-	5,040	5,743	32	6	-	5,781	6,195	33	6	-	6,234
M	12,677	238	33	3	12,951	14,164	252	36	3	14,455	15,317	298	45	3	15,663
N	8,920	151	51	22	9,144	9,649	155	51	25	9,880	10,059	170	55	24	10,308
O	98	25	35	18	176	96	32	30	18	176	98	32	30	18	178
P	2,551	70	32	8	2,661	2,798	73	34	8	2,913	2,978	72	35	7	3,092
Q	1,727	65	25	12	1,829	1,803	79	28	12	1,922	1,887	80	31	12	2,010
R	4,361	97	31	7	4,496	4,987	115	29	9	5,140	5,456	124	36	8	5,624
S	6,173	34	c	c	6,213	6,507	37	c	c	6,550	7,031	43	c	c	7,081
T	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c
U	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c	c	-	-	-	c
Total	105,208	2,257	506	122	108,093	113,893	2,331	512	134	116,870	120,372	2,597	546	134	123,649

^c confidential

* Refer to Table 1

The time series data from year 2014 onwards is available in the MS Excel sheet published with this news release.

Methodological Notes

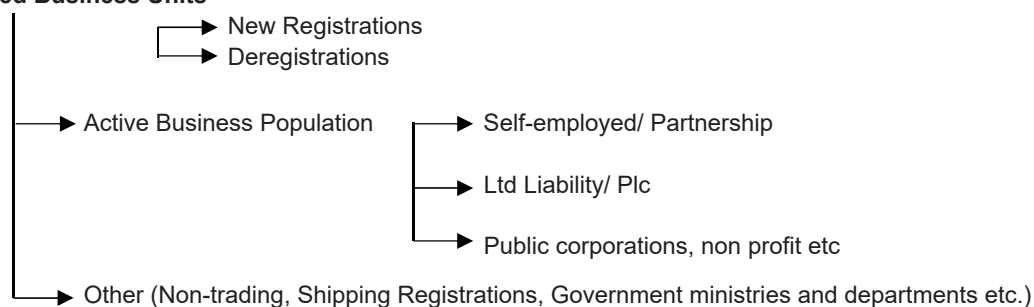
1. The statistical business register is the source of the data in this news release. The statistical business register provides one of the most detailed local business profiles in Malta.
2. Business registrations are based on administrative data. Registrations and/or deregistrations do not precisely 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. On 1 January 2011, the Value Added Tax (Exemption from Registration) Regulations, which states that the VAT Commissioner shall not register any taxable person established in Malta whose turnover does not exceed €7,000 in a calendar year, came into force, as notified in Legal Notice 524 of 2010. On 1 January 2015, this regulation was reversed as notified in Legal Notice 67 of 2015. Therefore business demographics deregistrations for 2011 and new registrations from 2015 onwards may not be strictly comparable to previous years and should be treated with caution.
3. The data is classified by economic activity according to the NACE (Nomenclature Statistique des Activités Économiques dans la Communauté Européenne) classification of economic activities in the European Union.
4. The time series data from year 2014 onwards is available in the MS Excel sheet published with this news release.
5. Other types of legal structures may include public corporations, cooperatives and joint ventures. Public corporations are all the government-controlled units that are often established by government as market producers principally engaged in the production of goods, non-financial and financial services, and as such they are classified in non-financial and financial sectors.
6. Micro enterprises include non-trading units.
7. Updates in the Business Register are ongoing and all figures reported are subject to revision.
8. Business units that have ceased operating as indicated in Table 3, are included in the registered business units in Tables 2 and 4 if they have operated for at least one day in the year that they ceased operation.
9. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
 Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
 Metadata: <https://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=24>
 Classifications: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2>
10. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
11. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at:
https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx

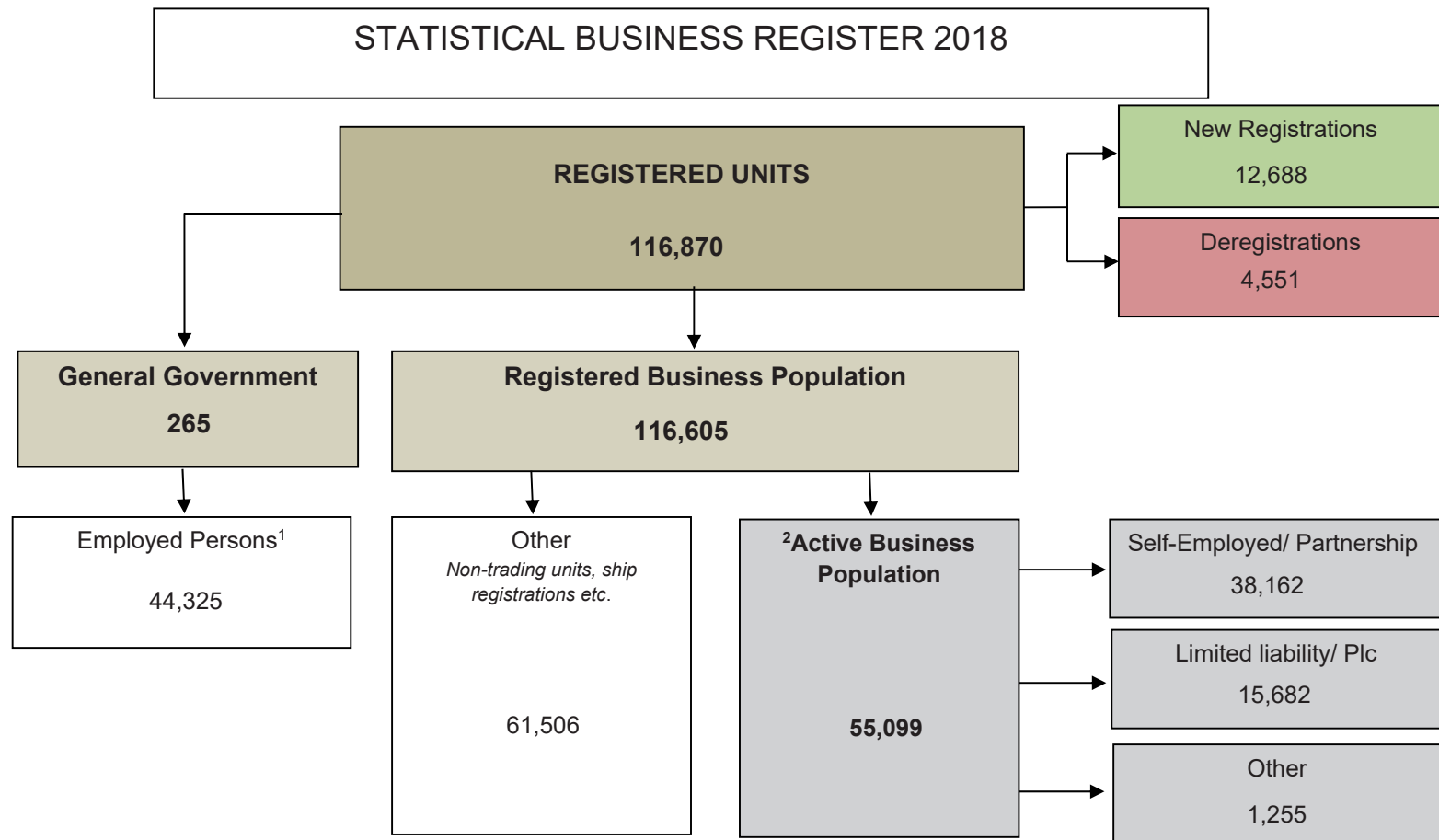
Definitions

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 or more

Total Registered Business Units





¹**Employed persons** (Head Count) is defined as the total number of persons both self-employed and employees.

²**Active Business Population** includes public corporations and non-profit enterprises (provisional).

Employment Size Class	Business Units	Employed persons ¹
0-9	52,269	70,565
10-49	2,268	44,734
50-249	469	46,315
250+	93	47,949