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NUMBER AND STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS ENTITIES, MARCH 2025

The comparison of the number of legal entities in the Register of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics with the number of active legal entities in other registers shows that the share of active legal entities was **71.6%**.

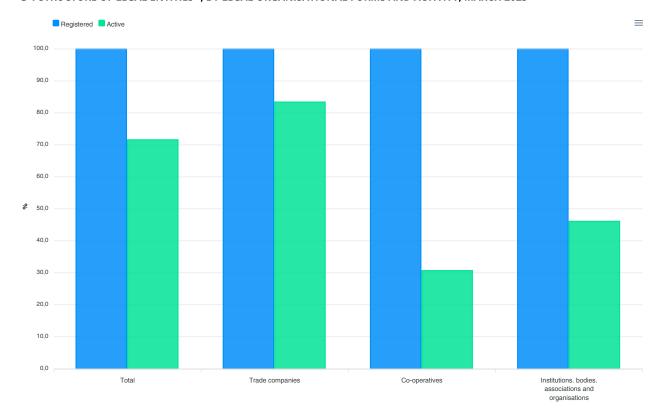
This discrepancy occurs due to differences in the methodology of the data entry method and of defining activities applied in individual registers.

The data on the number of entities in crafts and trades and free lances refer to the number of self-employed entrepreneurs, with or without employees, as well as to the number of persons engaged in a professional activity according to pension insurance records.

1 BUSINESS ENTITIES, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

	Number of registered legal entities	Number of active entities	Share of active legal entities, %
Total	252 799	180 999	71,6
Trade companies	173 795	144 911	83,4
Co-operatives	2 102	646	30,7
Institutions, bodies, associations and organisations	76 902	35 442	46,1
Entities in crafts and trades and free lances	-	104 112	-

G-1 STRUCTURE OF LEGAL ENTITIES¹⁾, BY LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS AND ACTIVITY, MARCH 2025



¹⁾ Including government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units.

2 STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS ENTITIES, BY ACTIVITY AND ACCORDING TO NKD 2025 SECTIONS, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025¹⁾

			Number of leg	Active legal entities			
		Registered	Structure of registered legal entities, %	Active	Structure of active legal entities, %	Profit	Non-profit
	Total	252 799	100,0	180 999	100,0	145 557	35 442
Α	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3 754	1,5	2 727	1,5	2 725	2
В	Mining and quarrying	231	0,1	188	0,1	188	-
C	Manufacturing	17 702	7,0	15 543	8,6	15 540	3
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1 647	0,7	989	0,5	989	-
Е	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	943	0,4	779	0,4	777	2
F	Construction	24 919	9,9	21 203	11,7	21 202	1
G	Wholesale and retail trade	28 740	11,4	23 126	12,8	22 935	191
Н	Transportation and storage	8 922	3,5	7 399	4,1	7 365	34
I	Accommodation and food service activities	16 010	6,3	12 868	7,1	12 819	49
J	Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities	1 923	0,8	1 632	0,9	1 606	26
K	Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities	8 614	3,4	7 619	4,2	7 617	2
L	Financial and insurance activities	1 429	0,6	924	0,5	897	27
М	Real estate activities	11 635	4,6	7 546	4,2	7 546	-
Ν	Professional, scientific and technical activities	26 772	10,6	23 445	13,0	23 284	161
О	Administrative and support service activities	10 076	4,0	8 294	4,6	8 289	5
Р	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2 862	1,1	965	0,5	15	950
Q	Education	4 138	1,6	3 752	2,1	1 155	2 597
R	Human health and social work activities	5 255	2,1	3 656	2,0	1 329	2 327
S	Arts, entertainment and recreation	23 699	9,4	12 260	6,8	2 018	10 242
Т	Other service activities	53 473	21,2	26 082	14,4	7 260	18 822
U	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1	0,0	1	0,0	1	-
٧	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	54	0,0	1	0,0	-	1

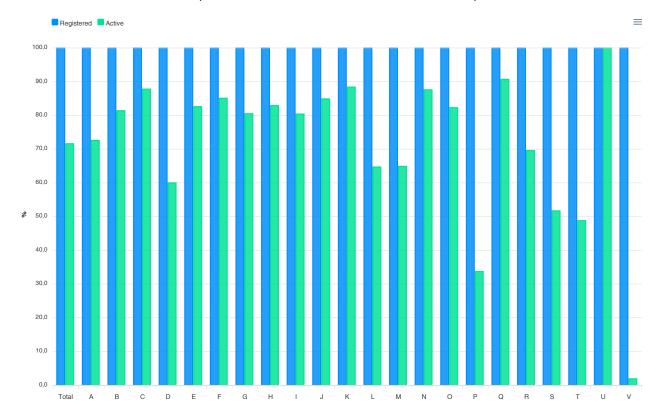
1) As of 2025, the "Crafts and trades and free lances" data are not displayed due to data incomparability.

The data on the structure of business entities by economic activities show that more than a half of registered and active entities belonged to the following four activity sections: Wholesale and retail trade, with 11.4% of registered and 12.8% of active entities, Manufacturing, with 7.0% of registered and 8.6% of active entities, Professional, scientific and technical activities, with 10.6% of registered and 13.0% of active entities, and Other service activities, with 21.2% of registered and 14.4% of active entities.

The share of profit entities in the total active business entities was 80.4% and their structure by economic activities shows that 65.9% of them belonged to five activity sections, shown in the following order of share size: Wholesale and retail trade (15.8%), Professional, scientific and technical activities (16.0%), Manufacturing (10.7%), Construction (14.6%) and Accommodation and food service activities (8.8%).

The share of non-profit active entities was 19.6%. Half of them were classified into the activity section Other service activities. The remaining half was distributed between Arts, entertainment and recreation (28.9%), Education (7.3%), Human health and social work activities (6.6%), and Public administration and defence; compulsory social security (2.7%).

G-2 STRUCTURE OF LEGAL ENTITIES¹⁾, BY ACTIVITY AND ACCORDING TO NKD 2025 SECTIONS, MARCH 2025



1) Including government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units.

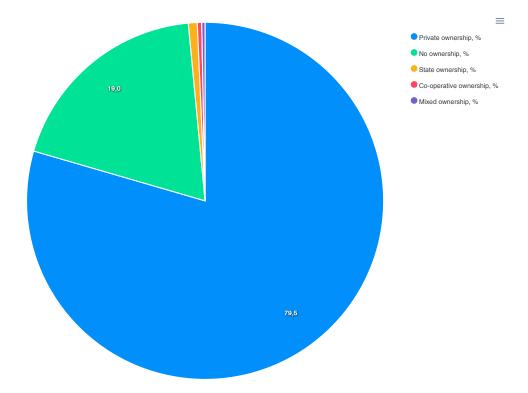
NKD 2025 activity sections

- 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
- H Transportation and storage
- I Accommodation and food service activities
- J Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities
- K Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities
- L Financial and insurance activities
- M Real estate activities
- N Professional, scientific and technical activities
- O Administrative and support service activities
- P Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
- Q Education
- R Human health and social work activities
- S Arts, entertainment and recreation
- T Other service activities
- U Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use
- V Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies

3 STRUCTURE OF ACTIVE LEGAL ENTITIES, BY OWNERSHIP TYPES AND NKD 2025 SECTIONS, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

			Ownership types									
			State ow	nership	Private ov	vnership	Co-operative	ownership	Mixed ow	nership	No own	ership
		Total	Number of legal entities	Share in total, %								
	Total	180 999	1 442	0,8	143 949	79,5	647	0,4	588	0,3	34 373	19,0
Α	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2 727	9	0,3	2 426	89,0	270	9,9	20	0,7	2	0,1
В	Mining and quarrying	188	3	1,6	177	94,1	2	1,1	6	3,2	-	-
C	Manufacturing	15 543	51	0,3	15 240	98,1	109	0,7	141	0,9	2	0,0
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	989	32	3,2	948	95,9	3	0,3	6	0,6	-	-
E	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	779	289	37,1	480	61,6	1	0,1	7	0,9	2	0,3
F	Construction	21 203	64	0,3	21 055	99,3	50	0,2	33	0,2	1	0,0
G	Wholesale and retail trade	23 126	29	0,1	22 792	98,6	69	0,3	93	0,4	143	0,6
Н	Transportation and storage	7 399	61	0,8	7 272	98,3	9	0,1	28	0,4	29	0,4
ı	Accommodation and food service activities	12 868	45	0,3	12 684	98,6	36	0,3	59	0,5	44	0,3
J	Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities	1 632	30	1,8	1 551	95,0	2	0,1	28	1,7	21	1,3
K	Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities	7 619	10	0,1	7 592	99,6	5	0,1	9	0,1	3	0,0
L	Financial and insurance activities	924	18	1,9	865	93,6	6	0,6	10	1,1	25	2,7
М	Real estate activities	7 546	37	0,5	7 483	99,2	6	0,1	20	0,3	-	-
N	Professional, scientific and technical activities	23 445	173	0,7	23 061	98,4	26	0,1	85	0,4	100	0,4
0	Administrative and support service activities	8 294	82	1,0	8 182	98,6	15	0,2	12	0,1	3	0,0
Р	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	965	38	3,9	2	0,2	1	0,1	1	0,1	923	95,6
Q	Education	3 752	241	6,4	1 352	36,0	-	-	3	0,1	2 156	57,5
R	Human health and social work activities	3 656	74	2,0	1 615	44,2	14	0,4	3	0,1	1 950	53,3
S	Arts, entertainment and recreation	12 260	120	1,0	1 978	16,1	10	0,1	5	0,0	10 147	82,8
Т	Other service activities	26 082	36	0,1	7 193	27,6	13	0,0	19	0,1	18 821	72,2
U	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services- producing activities of households for own use	1	-	-	1	100,0	-	-	-	-	-	-
٧	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100,0

G-3 STRUCTURE OF ACTIVE LEGAL ENTITIES, BY OWNERSHIP TYPES, MARCH 2025



The structure of active legal entities by ownership types shows that private ownership predominated with **79.5%** of entities, while **0.8%** of entities were owned by the state, **0.3%** of them were in mixed ownership and **0.4%** of entities were in co-operative ownership. The ownership of **19.0%** of legal entities was not monitored.

The ownership structure by activities shows that privately owned entities were predominant in service activities, e.g. Wholesale and retail trade had a share of 98.6%, Real estate activities of 99.2% and Transportation and storage of 98.3%. Approximately the same share of private ownership existed in the productive activities such as Construction (99.3%), Manufacturing (98.1%) and Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities (99.6%).

4 NUMBER OF ACTIVE LEGAL ENTITIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2025 SECTIONS AND BY NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

			Number of persons in employment							
		Total	0	1 – 9	10 – 49	50 – 249	250 – 499	500 and more		
	Total	180 999	65 749	95 941	14 898	3 773	357	281		
Α	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2 727	880	1 517	278	40	5	7		
В	Mining and quarrying	188	35	94	48	9	-	2		
C	Manufacturing	15 543	2 911	9 236	2 512	712	110	62		
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	989	575	344	51	12	3	4		
Е	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	779	115	281	251	117	12	3		
F	Construction	21 203	5 511	13 188	2 182	301	15	6		
G	Wholesale and retail trade	23 126	5 783	14 839	2 112	311	36	45		
Н	Transportation and storage	7 399	2 063	4 533	629	139	19	16		
1	Accommodation and food service activities	12 868	3 713	7 595	1 383	151	12	14		
J	Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities	1 632	449	1 042	117	18	4	2		
K	Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities	7 619	2 076	4 834	577	111	13	8		
L	Financial and insurance activities	924	209	590	69	31	7	18		
М	Real estate activities	7 546	4 524	2 831	176	11	3	1		
Ν	Professional, scientific and technical activities	23 445	5 974	16 143	1 185	132	6	5		
О	Administrative and support service activities	8 294	3 349	4 297	497	120	18	13		
Р	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	965	22	311	416	165	29	22		
Q	Education	3 752	474	1 189	985	1 079	19	6		
R	Human health and social work activities	3 656	1 111	1 601	653	219	33	39		
S	Arts, entertainment and recreation	12 260	8 729	3 113	343	58	11	6		
Т	Other service activities	26 082	17 245	8 363	433	37	2	2		
U	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
٧	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1	-	-	1	-	-	-		

Observation of the structure of active legal entities according to the number of persons in paid employment shows that the highest share (53.0%) belonged to entities employing 1 – 9 persons, followed by 36.3% of entities without persons in employment, 8.2% of entities employing 10 – 49 persons and 2.1% of entities employing 50 – 249 persons, while entities employing more than 250 persons had a share of only 0.4%.

5 TRADE COMPANIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2025 SECTIONS AND BY LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS AND ACTIVITY, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

		Legal organisational forms								
		Total		Joint stock co	mpanies	Limited liability	companies			
		Registered	Active	Registered	Active	Registered	Active			
	Total	173 795	144 911	753	604	127 792	108 131			
Α	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3 130	2 455	20	15	2 403	1 955			
В	Mining and quarrying	229	186	6	6	207	168			
C	Manufacturing	17 472	15 431	205	150	13 460	12 047			
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1 641	987	7	5	1 457	879			
Е	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	936	776	5	3	782	692			
F	Construction	24 772	21 152	79	55	16 342	13 857			
G	Wholesale and retail trade	28 376	22 866	82	62	22 933	18 890			
Н	Transportation and storage	8 859	7 356	34	28	5 322	4 650			
1	Accommodation and food service activities	15 902	12 783	85	77	9 617	7 992			
J	Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities	1 855	1 604	17	15	1 507	1 328			
K	Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities	8 602	7 612	12	11	7 108	6 481			
L	Financial and insurance activities	1 082	890	73	68	919	755			
М	Real estate activities	11 071	7 541	31	27	9 896	6 800			
Ν	Professional, scientific and technical activities	26 533	23 258	70	61	21 039	18 732			
0	Administrative and support service activities	10 007	8 274	8	5	7 251	6 154			
Р	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	20	14	-	-	12	10			
Q	Education	1 286	1 155	1	1	879	805			
R	Human health and social work activities	1 525	1 315	-	-	1 239	1 091			
S	Arts, entertainment and recreation	2 398	2 008	7	7	1 477	1 251			
Т	Other service activities	8 098	7 247	11	8	3 941	3 593			
U	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1	1	-	-	1	1			
V	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-			

5 TRADE COMPANIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2025 SECTIONS AND BY LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS AND ACTIVITY, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

(continued)

		Legal organisational forms								
		Simple limited liability companies		Public trade co	mpanies	Main subsidia foreign tr companie individual tr	ade s or	Other legal forms		
		Registered	Active	Registered	Active	Registered	Active	Registered	Active	
	Total	44 188	35 379	202	167	682	518	178	112	
Α	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	700	479	-	-	4	3	3	3	
В	Mining and quarrying	15	11	-	-	1	1	-	-	
C	Manufacturing	3 741	3 186	2	1	60	46	4	1	
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	170	100	-	-	5	2	2	1	
Е	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	144	78	-	-	4	2	1	1	
F	Construction	8 166	7 107	7	6	175	127	3	-	
G	Wholesale and retail trade	5 216	3 800	1	1	137	107	7	6	
Н	Transportation and storage	3 475	2 658	3	2	24	17	1	1	
I	Accommodation and food service activities	6 172	4 693	1	-	23	20	4	1	
J	Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities	322	253	4	4	5	4	-	-	
K	Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities	1 451	1 092	-	-	30	27	1	1	
L	Financial and insurance activities	44	24	-	-	13	13	33	30	
М	Real estate activities	1 082	669	3	2	51	38	8	5	
N	Professional, scientific and technical activities	5 118	4 227	174	145	118	88	14	5	
О	Administrative and support service activities	2 700	2 081	4	3	26	20	18	11	
Р	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1	1	-	-	-	-	7	3	
Q	Education	403	346	-	-	2	2	1	1	
R	Human health and social work activities	284	223	1	1	1	-	-	-	
S	Arts, entertainment and recreation	899	736	1	1	1	-	13	13	
Т	Other service activities	4 085	3 615	1	1	2	1	58	29	
U	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services- producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
٧	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Limited liability companies were markedly predominant in the structure of trade companies by legal organisational forms, with a share of 73.5% of registered and 74.6% of active ones. Simple limited liability companies held the second place by their number, with a share of 25.4% of registered and 24.4% of active companies. Other legal forms of trade companies constituted the remaining share of 1.0%.

6 REGISTERED NON-PROFIT LEGAL ENTITIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2025 SECTIONS AND BY ACTIVITY AND LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

				Groups of legal org	anisational forms
		Total registered legal entities	Share of active legal entities, %	Associations, institutions, economic co-operations, judiciary, foundations, fundraising campaigns, political parties and other organisations	State government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units
	Total	76 902	46,1	74 505	2 397
Α	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4	50,0	4	-
В	Mining and quarrying	-	-	-	-
C	Manufacturing	7	42,9	7	-
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	-	-	-	-
Е	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	3	66,7	3	-
F	Construction	1	100,0	1	-
G	Wholesale and retail trade	200	95,5	200	-
Н	Transportation and storage	34	100,0	34	-
1	Accommodation and food service activities	50	98,0	50	-
J	Publishing, broadcasting and content production and distribution activities	63	41,3	63	-
K	Telecommunication, computer programming, consulting, computing infrastructure and other information service activities	5	40,0	5	-
L	Financial and insurance activities	256	10,5	256	-
М	Real estate activities	-	-	-	-
Ν	Professional, scientific and technical activities	185	87,0	185	-
О	Administrative and support service activities	7	71,4	7	-
Р	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2 841	33,4	444	2 397
Q	Education	2 852	91,1	2 852	-
R	Human health and social work activities	3 708	62,8	3 708	-
S	Arts, entertainment and recreation	21 279	48,1	21 279	-
Т	Other service activities	45 353	41,5	45 353	-
U	Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	
٧	Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	54	1,9	54	-

The structure of registered non-profit legal entities by legal organisational forms shows that associations, institutions, co-operations and similar organisations had a share of 96.9%, while state government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units had a share of 3.1%.

Concerning the activity of the mentioned legal entities, there were **46.1%** of active ones. Their structure by activities shows that they were entities belonging to four activity sections: Other service activities, with 59.0% of registered and 41.5% of active ones, Public administration and defence; compulsory social security, with 3.7% of registered and 33.4% of active ones, Human health and social work activities, with 4.8% of registered and 62.8% of active entities, and Education, with only 3.7% of registered ones but with the largest share of active entities (91.1%).

7 STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS ENTITIES, BY COUNTIES, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2025

	Total	Trade com	panies	Co-opera	atives	Registered institutions, bodies,	Entities in crafts and
	registered legal entities	Registered	Active	Registered	Active	associations and organisations	trades and free lances
Republic of Croatia	252 799	173 795	144 911	2 102	646	76 902	104 112
Zagreb	17 014	12 593	11 050	90	22	4 331	6 108
Krapina-Zagorje	5 020	3 116	2 712	54	13	1 850	2 805
Sisak-Moslavina	5 705	3 049	2 592	103	22	2 553	2 522
Karlovac	5 052	2 908	2 510	70	22	2 074	2 026
Varaždin	7 933	5 272	4 616	55	16	2 606	3 310
Koprivnica-Križevci	4 067	2 243	1 966	43	24	1 781	1 821
Bjelovar-Bilogora	4 602	2 656	2 415	64	36	1 882	1 387
Primorje-Gorski Kotar	19 814	14 121	11 696	96	27	5 597	10 748
Lika-Senj	2 239	1 202	1 000	37	10	1 000	911
Virovitica-Podravina	2 717	1 344	1 191	30	12	1 343	1 280
Požega-Slavonia	2 370	1 144	1 018	30	7	1 196	1 264
Slavonski Brod-Posavina	5 119	2 905	2 527	58	14	2 156	2 614
Zadar	10 245	7 220	5 902	148	43	2 877	5 394
Osijek-Baranja	12 746	6 893	6 014	188	69	5 665	5 387
Šibenik-Knin	5 586	3 308	2 635	101	31	2 177	3 159
Vukovar-Srijem	5 783	2 744	2 384	150	56	2 889	2 694
Split-Dalmatia	26 711	18 781	15 499	304	109	7 626	14 553
Istria	18 416	14 340	11 297	71	10	4 005	9 291
Dubrovnik-Neretva	7 738	4 871	4 092	60	33	2 807	4 341
Međimurje	5 805	4 042	3 539	25	7	1 738	1 557
City of Zagreb	78 117	59 043	48 256	325	63	18 749	20 940

The data on the territorial distribution of business entities at the county level show that slightly less than one third of the total number of registered business entities (legal entities) were situated in the City of Zagreb. The City of Zagreb, however, had a significantly lower share of entities in crafts and trades and free lances, amounting to 20.1%. The County of Split-Dalmatia followed, with a share of 10.6% of legal entities and 14.0% of natural persons.

Three counties had a share larger than 5.0% of registered legal entities: the County of Primorje-Gorski Kotar (7.8%), the County of Istria (7.3%) and the County of Zagreb (6.7%). The number of natural persons came in the same order.

The territorial structure of active trade companies was different in relation to the structure of the registered ones. Hence, the City of Zagreb had a share of 34.0% of registered and 33.3% of active entities, while the second largest county, the County of Split-Dalmatia, had a share of 10.7% of active and 10.8% of registered entities.

8 CREATING, DELETING AND HARMONISING OF REGISTERED LEGAL ENTITIES, 2024 AND 2025

		2025			
	I – III	IV – VI	VII – IX	X – XII	I – III
Creations	4 085	4 054	3 518	3 956	4 038
Trade companies	3 731	3 741	3 210	3 641	3 641
Other	354	313	308	315	397
Deletions	1 545	52 127	994	3 665	2 591
Enterprises ¹⁾	6	1 036	7	12	18
Trade companies	1 343	50 859	971	3 625	2 542
Other	196	232	16	28	31
Harmonisations according to the Companies Act	5	1	5	5	5

¹⁾ Enterprises and co-operatives.

Data on changes in registered entities are divided into three groups: creations, deletions and harmonisations. They show that, in the mentioned period, the number of creations increased, the number of deletions decreased, while the number of harmonisations remained the same.

The share of trade companies in the number of newly created entities was 90.2% in the observed period.

NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

I Introduction

On the basis of the Act on the National Classification of Activities (NN, No. 98/94), the Decision on the National Classification of Activities – NKD 2025 (NN, No. 47/24) and the Ordinance on the Classification of Business Entities According to the National Classification of Activities – NKD 2025 (NN, No. 81/24), the Croatian Bureau of Statistics keeps the Register of Business Entities (hereinafter referred to as: the Register). The Register, pursuant to the provisions of the aforementioned Ordinance, includes legal entities, state government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units and parts thereof (hereinafter referred to as: business entities). The Register does not presently include natural persons engaged in activities according to regulations, foreign associations headquartered in the Republic of Croatia and business entities not headquartered in the Republic of Croatia.

The NKD 2025 is based on the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community – NACE Rev. 2.1, which is obligatory in EU Member States.

II Methods and sources of data collection

Upon registration, each business entity is assigned a seven-digit registration number, while its constituent parts are assigned an additional ordinal number.

All business entities and parts thereof entered into the Register are also assigned an activity code according to the NKD 2025.

Registered business entities are classified according to their prevailing activities in such a way that a numerical denotation of a class of the main activity is defined according to the NKD 2025. When, on the basis of a formal decision on registration with a competent authority or by law, a business entity is established to be engaged in more than one activity, the first classification according to the NKD 2025 is made upon the proposal of the business entity. Every subsequent classification of the business entity resulting in a change of the main activity is made in the following cases:

- 1) Upon the request of the business entity
- 2) Upon official duty, based on a change in the decision on registration with a competent authority or a change in the law.

The activity of the constituent parts of a business entity is established on the basis of a decision on registration with a competent authority or law on creation or the underlying purpose of creation, irrespective of the activity of the business entity they are a part of.

Entry, registration, change and withdrawal of business entities are updated daily in the Register. Legal bases for updating the Register are the following:

- 1) Registers kept by:
- trade courts
- ministries
- state administration offices
- other registration bodies

2) Laws, decisions and other legal documents published in "Narodne novine".

Registered business entities are structured according to the legal basis, as follows:

- trade companies, enterprises, co-operatives and institutions registered in the Register upon decisions of registration bodies (trade courts),
- state government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units registered according to the law
- associations, foundations, political parties and others registered on the basis of decisions of registry bodies according to specific laws.

Difficulties in updating of a significant proportion of units in the Register are a consequence of long-term transition periods during which register bodies harmonise business entities according to a new legislation. This also postpones the procedure of deletions of business entities that have not submitted a request for harmonisation in line with new regulations. Consequently, the Register data have constantly been changed in line with data on business entities subsequently collected from publicly available databases.

A lack in the coverage of the Register is related to business entities engaged in activities of crafts and free lances, foreign associations headquartered in the Republic of Croatia and business entities not headquartered in the Republic of Croatia. In addition, it must be pointed out that there are methodological discrepancies between the Register as an administrative database and the Statistical Business Register (hereinafter referred to as: eSPRi).

The data of the Register of Business Entities are linked to administrative databases through an identification number, a registration number and a personal identification number.

III Meaning of individual terms

Business entities are legal entities and natural persons that perform activities according to the law, public government bodies (government administration bodies, other government bodies, local and regional self-government units, legal entities and other public authorities, legal entities established by the Republic of Croatia or local and regional self-government units, legal entities performing public service, legal entities financed mostly or completely from the state or local and regional self-government units' budgets, that is, from public funds (levies, duties, etc.), on the basis of a special act, as well as trade companies in which the Republic of Croatia or the local and regional self-government units hold individual or joint majority ownership).

Registered legal entities (business entities) are units that are entered into the Register. These are: trade companies, institutions, co-operatives, associations, political parties, public government bodies and other non-harmonised units that had legal personality according to the legislation previously in force.

Active legal entities (business entities) are registered legal entities entered into the Register, for which the activity status has been determined according to the eSPRi data.

Natural persons are units that carry out activities in line with the legislation and refer to crafts and trades and free lances.

Main activity is an activity established according to the largest share in the total value added in the case of business entities that make profit through production, trade or rendering of services on the market or by the largest share in the number of persons in employment according to the payroll and gross paid-off salaries in the case of business entities that do not make profit through production, trade and rendering of services on the market.

Identification number is a permanent identification mark of each business entity. It is used in all activities of official statistics. It is determined in the process of assigning a control number according to module 11, while any part of a business entity is at the same time assigned a four-digit ordinal number along with the identification number.

Registration number is the number under which a business entity is entered in a court or another specific register.

Personal identification number (OIB) is a permanent identification designation of an OIB holder, used by OIB users in official records, in everyday activities and in data exchange. OIB is unique, non-revealing, unchangeable and non-iterative.

Legal organisational form is a characteristic of units in the Register that divides them as joint-stock companies, limited liability companies, simple limited liability companies, co-operatives, institutions, associations, state government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units and other legal organisational forms. A legal organisational form of the Register units has been determined by a decision of a competent registration body or by a regulation on creation that is a basis for their entry into the Register.

Type of ownership is a characteristic of units entered into the Register that indicates the ownership structure of the unit and refers to the ownership of assets, that is, to start-up deposit of a business entity.

Number of persons in employment is a feature used for indicating the size and structure of legal entities. It is derived from Fina's annual financial reports. In order to update this feature, as indicated in the tables, the data have been harmonised with the regular monthly statistical survey that covers employment.

Abbreviations

EU European Union Fina Financial Agency

NKD 2025 National Classification of Activities, 2025 version

NN Narodne novine, official gazette of the Republic of Croatia

Symbols

no occurrence

0,0 value not zero but less than 0.05 of the unit of measure used

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