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# NUMBER AND STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS ENTITIES, MARCH 2023

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 54.1%.

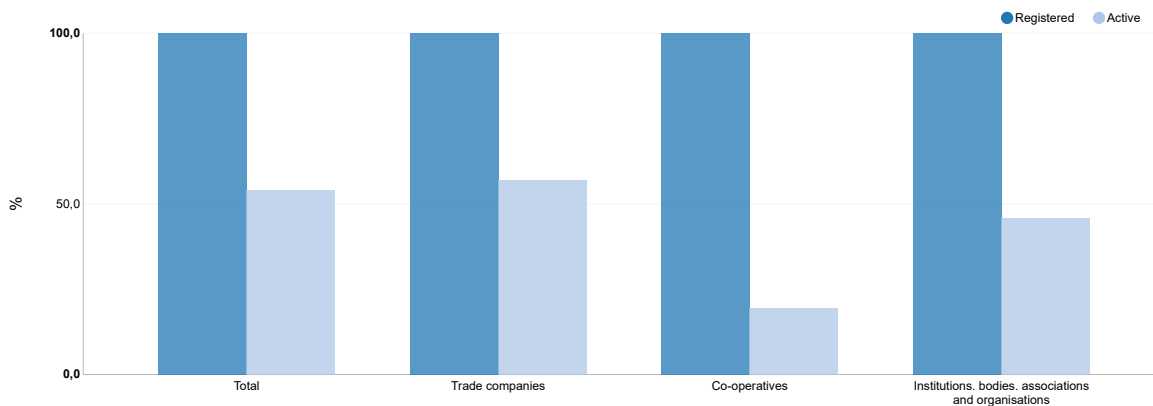
This discrepancy occurs due to differences in the methodology of data entry method and of defining activities applied in individual registers.

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 2023

	Number of registered legal entities	Number of active entities	Share of active legal entities, %
Total	328 128	177 582	54,1
Trade companies	249 654	142 404	57,0
Co-operatives	3 570	693	19,4
Institutions, bodies, associations and organisations	74 904	34 485	46,0
Entities in crafts and trades and free lances	-	92 133	-

### G-1 STRUCTURE OF LEGAL ENTITIES<sup>1)</sup>, BY LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS AND ACTIVITY, MARCH 2023



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

2 STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS ENTITIES, BY ACTIVITY AND ACCORDING TO NKD 2007 SECTIONS,  
SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

	Number of legal entities				Active legal entities		Crafts and trades and free lances
	Registered	Structure of registered legal entities, %	Active	Structure of active legal entities, %	Profit	Non-profit	
Total	328 128	100,0	177 582	100,0	143 097	34 485	92 133
A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	6 045	1,8	2 586	1,5	2 584	2	2 613
B Mining and quarrying	356	0,1	191	0,1	191	-	35
C Manufacturing	25 587	7,8	15 718	8,9	15 715	3	8 054
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1 881	0,6	941	0,5	941	-	16
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1 421	0,4	878	0,5	875	3	94
F Construction	34 330	10,5	20 140	11,3	20 139	1	10 665
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	57 042	17,4	27 170	15,3	26 971	199	8 070
H Transportation and storage	12 390	3,8	7 034	4,0	7 000	34	5 748
I Accommodation and food service activities	26 976	8,2	13 553	7,6	13 503	50	6 279
J Information and communication	12 566	3,8	8 550	4,8	8 522	28	3 457
K Financial and insurance activities	1 898	0,6	993	0,6	958	35	502
L Real estate activities	11 718	3,6	6 322	3,6	6 322	-	570
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	33 930	10,3	22 784	12,8	22 616	168	15 776
N Administrative and support service activities	13 234	4,0	7 749	4,4	7 746	3	3 483
O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	3 086	0,9	927	0,5	16	911	6 489
P Education	4 635	1,4	3 702	2,1	1 129	2 573	1 222
Q Human health and social work activities	5 456	1,7	3 510	2,0	1 126	2 384	4 979
R Arts, entertainment and recreation	23 681	7,2	11 824	6,7	1 947	9 877	3 121
S Other service activities	51 840	15,8	23 009	13,0	4 795	18 214	10 886
T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	2	0,0	1	0,0	1	-	39
U Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	54	0,0	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	35

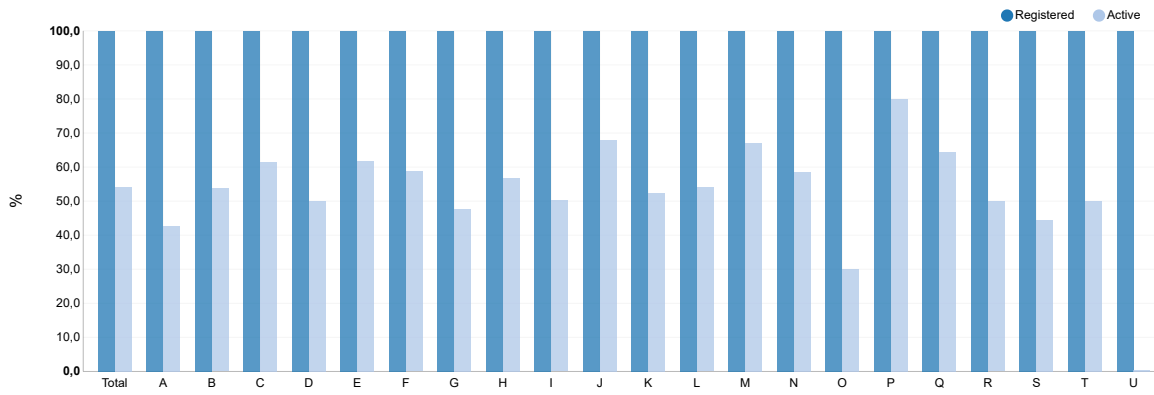
The data on the structure of business entities by economic activities show that more than a half of both registered and active entities belong to the following four activity sections: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles with 17.4% of registered and 15.3% of active entities, Manufacturing with 7.8% of registered and 8.9% of active entities, Professional, scientific and technical activities with 10.3% of registered and 12.8% of active entities, and Other service activities with 15.8% of registered and 13.0% of active entities.

The share of profit entities in the total active business entities was 80.6% and their structure by economic activities shows that 69.1% of them belonged to five activity sections, shown in the following order of frequency: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (18.8%), Professional, scientific and technical activities (15.8%), Manufacturing (11.0%), Construction (14.1%) and Accommodation and food service activities (9.4%).

The share of non-profit active entities was 19.4%. Half of them were classified into the activity section Other service activities. The remaining half was distributed between Arts, entertainment and recreation (28.6%), Education (7.5%), Human health and social work activities (6.9%) and Public administration and defence; compulsory social security (2.6%).

The structure of entities in crafts and trades and free lances by economic activities was much more balanced than the structure of legal entities. Professional, scientific and technical activities was the most present activity section. Besides this activity section, five other activities covered one half of the total number of entities.

G-2 STRUCTURE OF LEGAL ENTITIES<sup>1)</sup>, BY ACTIVITY AND ACCORDING TO NKD 2007 SECTIONS, MARCH 2023



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

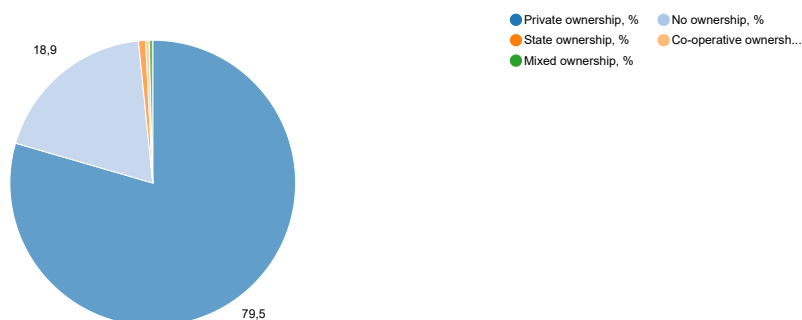
**NKD 2007 activity sections**

- 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; 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

### 3 STRUCTURE OF ACTIVE LEGAL ENTITIES, BY OWNERSHIP TYPES AND NKD 2007 SECTIONS, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

	Total	Ownership types									
		State ownership		Private ownership		Co-operative ownership		Mixed ownership		No ownership	
		Number of legal entities	Share in total, %	Number of legal entities	Share in total, %	Number of legal entities	Share in total, %	Number of legal entities	Share in total, %	Number of legal entities	Share in total, %
Total	177 582	1 417	0,8	141 196	79,5	693	0,4	683	0,4	33 593	18,9
A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2 586	11	0,4	2 301	89,0	248	9,6	24	0,9	2	0,1
B Mining and quarrying	191	4	2,1	177	92,7	2	1,0	8	4,2	-	-
C Manufacturing	15 718	59	0,4	15 362	97,7	128	0,8	167	1,1	2	0,0
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	941	34	3,6	897	95,3	1	0,1	9	1,0	-	-
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	878	316	36,0	553	63,0	1	0,1	6	0,7	2	0,2
F Construction	20 140	69	0,3	19 958	99,1	66	0,3	46	0,2	1	0,0
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	27 170	36	0,1	26 776	98,5	82	0,3	122	0,4	154	0,6
H Transportation and storage	7 034	60	0,9	6 900	98,1	12	0,2	32	0,5	30	0,4
I Accommodation and food service activities	13 553	42	0,3	13 358	98,6	42	0,3	64	0,5	47	0,3
J Information and communication	8 550	40	0,5	8 442	98,7	6	0,1	39	0,5	23	0,3
K Financial and insurance activities	993	18	1,8	925	93,2	7	0,7	10	1,0	33	3,3
L Real estate activities	6 322	37	0,6	6 263	99,1	2	0,0	20	0,3	-	-
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	22 784	188	0,8	22 360	98,1	33	0,1	96	0,4	107	0,5
N Administrative and support service activities	7 749	77	1,0	7 638	98,6	18	0,2	14	0,2	2	0,0
O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	927	39	4,2	2	0,2	1	0,1	1	0,1	884	95,4
P Education	3 702	197	5,3	1 296	35,0	-	-	4	0,1	2 205	59,6
Q Human health and social work activities	3 510	56	1,6	1 344	38,3	19	0,5	3	0,1	2 088	59,5
R Arts, entertainment and recreation	11 824	100	0,8	1 905	16,1	15	0,1	5	0,0	9 799	82,9
S Other service activities	23 009	34	0,1	4 738	20,6	10	0,0	13	0,1	18 214	79,2
T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1	-	-	1	100,0	-	-	-	-	-	-
U Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

G-3 STRUCTURE OF ACTIVE LEGAL ENTITIES, BY OWNERSHIP TYPES, MARCH 2023



The structure of active legal entities by ownership types shows that the private ownership predominated with 79.5% of entities, while 0.8% of entities were owned by the state, 0.4% of them were in mixed ownership and 0.4% of entities were in co-operative ownership. The ownership of 18.9% 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; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles had a share of 98.5%, Real estate activities of 99.1% and Transportation and storage of 98.1%. Approximately the same share of private ownership existed in the productive activities such as Construction (99.1%), Manufacturing (97.7%) and Information and communication (98.7%).

4 NUMBER OF ACTIVE LEGAL ENTITIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2007 SECTIONS AND BY NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

	Total	Number of persons in employment					
		0	1 – 9	10 – 49	50 – 249	250 – 499	500 and more
Total	177 582	67 442	91 841	14 107	3 593	325	274
A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2 586	736	1 539	254	46	4	7
B Mining and quarrying	191	33	105	40	11	-	2
C Manufacturing	15 718	3 376	9 086	2 404	698	90	64
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	941	586	285	52	12	2	4
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	878	153	325	275	109	14	2
F Construction	20 140	5 950	11 911	1 980	275	17	7
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	27 170	7 041	17 575	2 158	307	42	47
H Transportation and storage	7 034	1 944	4 372	564	120	21	13
I Accommodation and food service activities	13 553	4 195	8 057	1 167	114	7	13
J Information and communication	8 550	2 868	4 918	641	102	14	7
K Financial and insurance activities	993	232	626	79	29	8	19
L Real estate activities	6 322	4 154	2 033	123	10	1	1
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	22 784	6 406	15 146	1 106	117	5	4
N Administrative and support service activities	7 749	3 218	3 949	456	101	13	12
O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	927	28	222	451	177	28	21
P Education	3 702	478	1 194	968	1 037	19	6
Q Human health and social work activities	3 510	1 097	1 400	714	232	29	38
R Arts, entertainment and recreation	11 824	8 501	2 926	322	59	9	7
S Other service activities	23 009	16 445	6 172	353	37	2	-
T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
U Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Observation of the structure of active legal entities according to the number of persons in paid employment shows that the highest share of 51.7% belonged to entities employing 1 – 9 persons, followed by 38.0% of entities without persons in employment, 7.9% of entities employing 10 – 49 persons and 2.0% 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 2007 SECTIONS AND BY LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS AND ACTIVITY,  
SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

	Legal organisational forms					
	Total		Joint stock companies		Limited liability companies	
	Registered	Active	Registered	Active	Registered	Active
Total	249 654	142 404	1 183	688	177 948	104 437
A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4 803	2 336	37	19	3 525	1 849
B Mining and quarrying	348	189	14	8	303	170
C Manufacturing	25 170	15 587	352	185	18 984	11 982
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1 873	940	9	6	1 588	826
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1 408	874	7	3	1 111	744
F Construction	33 509	20 074	124	67	22 957	13 289
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	56 467	26 889	163	75	43 855	21 249
H Transportation and storage	12 293	6 988	60	35	6 976	4 374
I Accommodation and food service activities	26 780	13 461	121	83	14 099	7 874
J Information and communication	12 478	8 516	37	26	9 731	6 975
K Financial and insurance activities	1 496	950	87	73	1 277	806
L Real estate activities	11 709	6 320	35	27	10 282	5 643
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	33 622	22 583	110	68	26 006	17 917
N Administrative and support service activities	13 135	7 728	10	6	9 102	5 679
O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	33	15	-	-	20	10
P Education	1 696	1 129	2	1	1 124	768
Q Human health and social work activities	1 559	1 107	-	-	1 203	905
R Arts, entertainment and recreation	3 220	1 932	11	5	1 946	1 172
S Other service activities	8 053	4 785	4	1	3 858	2 204
T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	2	1	-	-	1	1
U Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	-	-	-	-	-	-

5 TRADE COMPANIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2007 SECTIONS AND BY LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS AND ACTIVITY,  
SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

(continued)

	Legal organisational forms							
	Simple limited liability companies		Public trade companies		Main subsidiaries of foreign trade companies or individual traders		Other legal forms	
	Registered	Active	Registered	Active	Registered	Active	Registered	Active
Total	68 749	36 488	366	176	1 139	495	269	120
A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1 232	463	1	-	4	2	4	3
B Mining and quarrying	28	10	-	-	3	1	-	-
C Manufacturing	5 689	3 371	3	1	133	46	9	2
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	269	106	-	-	6	2	1	-
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	278	124	-	-	11	3	1	-
F Construction	10 070	6 583	45	8	303	126	10	1
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	12 160	5 448	11	1	260	110	18	6
H Transportation and storage	5 205	2 556	6	3	45	19	1	1
I Accommodation and food service activities	12 522	5 487	2	-	32	15	4	2
J Information and communication	2 653	1 484	6	4	48	26	3	1
K Financial and insurance activities	80	28	-	-	17	11	35	32
L Real estate activities	1 330	619	6	1	46	25	10	5
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	7 021	4 347	275	151	185	93	25	7
N Administrative and support service activities	3 962	2 016	4	3	36	12	21	12
O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2	1	-	-	-	-	11	4
P Education	564	357	1	-	4	2	1	1
Q Human health and social work activities	354	201	1	1	1	-	-	-
R Arts, entertainment and recreation	1 247	739	1	1	1	1	14	14
S Other service activities	4 082	2 548	4	2	4	1	101	29
T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
U 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 71.3% of registered and 73.3% of active ones. Simple limited liability companies held the second place by their number, with a share of 27.5% of registered and 25.6% of active companies. Other legal forms of trade companies constituted the remaining share of 1.2%.

6 REGISTERED NON-PROFIT LEGAL ENTITIES, ACCORDING TO NKD 2007 SECTIONS AND BY ACTIVITY AND LEGAL ORGANISATIONAL FORMS, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

	Total registered legal entities	Share of active legal entities, %	Groups of legal organisational forms	
			Associations, institutions, economic co-operations, foundations, fundraising campaigns, political parties and other organisations	State government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units
Total	74 904	46,0	72 465	2 439
A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4	50,0	4	-
B Mining and quarrying	-	-	-	-
C Manufacturing	7	42,9	7	-
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	1	0,0	1	-
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	5	60,0	5	-
F Construction	1	100,0	1	-
G Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	224	88,8	224	-
H Transportation and storage	35	97,1	35	-
I Accommodation and food service activities	56	89,3	56	-
J Information and communication	66	42,4	66	-
K Financial and insurance activities	235	14,9	235	-
L Real estate activities	-	-	-	-
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	200	84,0	200	-
N Administrative and support service activities	8	37,5	8	-
O Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	3 052	29,8	613	2 439
P Education	2 936	87,6	2 936	-
Q Human health and social work activities	3 852	61,9	3 852	-
R Arts, entertainment and recreation	20 427	48,4	20 427	-
S Other service activities	43 741	41,6	43 741	-
T Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services-producing activities of households for own use	-	-	-	-
U Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	54	0,0	54	-

The structure of registered non-profit legal entities by legal forms shows that associations, institutions, co-operations and similar organisations had a share of 96.7%, while state government bodies and bodies of local and regional self-government units had a share of 3.3%.

Concerning the activity of the mentioned legal entities, there were 46.0% of active ones. Their structure by activities shows that they were entities belonging to four activity sections: Other service activities with 58.4% of registered and 41.6% of active ones, Public administration and defence; compulsory social security with 4.1% of registered and 29.8% of active ones, Human health and social work activities with 5.1% of registered and 61.9% of active entities and Education with only 3.9% of registered ones, but with the largest share of active entities (87.6%).



## 7 STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS ENTITIES, BY COUNTIES, SITUATION AS ON 31 MARCH 2023

County of	Total registered legal entities	Trade companies		Co-operatives		Registered institutions, bodies, associations and organisations	Entities in crafts and trades and free lances
		Registered	Active	Registered	Active		
Republic of Croatia	328 128	249 654	142 404	3 570	693	74 904	92 133
Zagreb	21 031	16 720	10 138	143	23	4 168	5 331
Krapina-Zagorje	5 919	4 013	2 540	75	13	1 831	2 545
Sisak-Moslavina	7 215	4 425	2 503	168	23	2 622	2 285
Karlovac	6 237	4 077	2 409	130	25	2 030	1 888
Varaždin	9 631	6 978	4 369	98	19	2 555	2 909
Koprivnica-Križevci	5 398	3 476	2 028	198	31	1 724	1 646
Bjelovar-Bilogora	6 157	4 102	2 392	209	40	1 846	1 313
Primorje-Gorski kotar	27 456	21 828	11 804	154	28	5 474	9 620
Lika-Senj	2 737	1 677	990	76	7	984	849
Virovitica-Podravina	3 492	2 055	1 217	118	16	1 319	1 146
Požega-Slavonia	2 823	1 608	1 017	53	7	1 162	1 141
Slavonski Brod-Posavina	6 145	3 965	2 272	92	19	2 088	2 285
Zadar	12 144	9 163	5 451	218	41	2 763	4 772
Osijek-Baranja	16 111	10 318	6 018	278	71	5 515	4 787
Šibenik-Knin	7 072	4 754	2 544	205	36	2 113	2 784
Vukovar-Sirmium	7 121	4 100	2 369	214	56	2 807	2 395
Split-Dalmatia	34 096	26 254	15 277	437	111	7 405	12 605
Istria	24 524	20 500	11 191	111	15	3 913	8 028
Dubrovnik-Neretva	9 418	6 597	4 089	101	30	2 720	3 980
Međimurje	7 515	5 840	3 577	49	8	1 626	1 400
City of Zagreb	105 886	87 204	48 209	443	74	18 239	18 424

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 20.0%. The County of Split-Dalmatia followed, with a share of 10.4% of legal entities and 13.7% of natural persons.

Three counties had a share larger than 5.0% of registered legal entities: the County of Primorje-Gorski kotar (8.4%), the County of Istria (7.5%) and the County of Zagreb (6.4%). 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 34.9% of registered and 33.8% of active entities, while the second largest county, the County of Split-Dalmatia, had a share of 10.7% of active and 10.5% of registered entities.

## 8 CREATING, DELETING AND HARMONISING OF REGISTERED LEGAL ENTITIES, 2022 AND 2023

	2022				2023
	I – III	IV – VI	VII – IX	X – XII	I – III
Creations	4 266	4 484	3 915	4 189	4 248
Trade companies	3 811	4 121	3 584	3 824	3 900
Other	455	363	331	365	348
Deletions	144	602	152	113	110
Enterprises	-	4 <sup>1)</sup>	-	2	-
Trade companies	88	113	61	80	69
Other	56	485	91	31	41
Harmonisations according to the Companies Act	2	3	6	3	3

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 deletions decreased, while the number of creations increased.

The share of trade companies in the number of newly created entities was 91.8% in the observed period.

## NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

### I Introduction

Based on the Act on the National Classification of Activities (NN, No. 98/94), the Decision on the National Classification of Activities – NKD 2007 (NN, Nos 58/07 and 72/07) and the Ordinance on the Classification of Business Entities According to the National Classification of Activities – NKD 2007 (NN, Nos 55/16 and 35/18), the Croatian Bureau of Statistics keeps the Register of Business Entities (hereinafter referred to as: Register). The Register, pursuant to 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 2007 is based on the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community – NACE Rev. 2, which is obligatory in EU Member States.

## II Methods and sources of data collection

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

Moreover, each business entity and parts thereof are assigned an activity code according to the NKD 2007.

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 2007. 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 2007 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, 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 basis 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 are 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 who have not submitted a request for harmonisation in line with new regulations. Consequently, the Register data have constantly been changing in line with data on business entities subsequently collected from publicly available data bases.

**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 data base and the Statistical Business Register (hereinafter referred to as: eSPRI).

The data of the Register of Business Entities are linked to administrative data bases 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, bodies of 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 (taxes, provisions 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 registered in the Register. These are: trade companies, institutions, co-operatives, associations, political parties, public government bodies and other non-harmonised units that held a legal subjectivity status according to previously valid laws.

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

**Registration number** is a 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 has been determined by a decision of a competent registration body or by act 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 refer to the ownership of assets, that is, to startup deposit of a business entity.

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

## Abbreviations

EU	European Union
Fina	Financial Agency
NKD 2007	National Classification of Activities, 2007 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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