Number of enterprise openings increased and that of enterprise closures decreased in 2018

According to Statistics Finland, there were 35,268 enterprise openings in 2018. There were 17 per cent more enterprise openings than in 2017. The number of enterprise closures made a downturn. In 2018, there were 20,064 enterprise closures.

Enterprise openings and closures by industry in 2018

According to Statistics Finland, there were 35,300 enterprise openings in 2018. There were 17 per cent more enterprise openings, or 5,000 enterprises than in 2017. Enterprise openings accounted for 8.9 per cent of the total stock of enterprises. The number of enterprise openings was highest in professional, scientific and technical activities at 5,800, or 16 per cent of all enterprise openings in 2018.
There were, in turn, 20,100 enterprise closures in 2018. The number of enterprise closures was lower than in previous years. Enterprise closures accounted for 5.1 per cent of the total stock of enterprises. Just like in recent years, the number of enterprise closures was highest in trade at 3,600, or 18 per cent of all enterprise closures in 2018.

Examined by legal form, 56 per cent of the enterprise openings in 2018, or 19,700 enterprises were in the corporate form of natural person and 38 per cent or 13,400 enterprises were in the form of limited companies. In all, 10,300 natural persons and 7,400 limited companies closed down. The respective percentages among all enterprise closures were 52 and 37 per cent.

Enterprise openings and closures are deduced from the Tax Administration's customer database so that they also include openings and closures as the result of incorporations and mergers. Changes in the Tax Administration's data systems or database maintenance can have an effect on the data of the statistics and comparability of time series.
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Source: Enterprise openings and closures 2018. Statistics Finland