

2025 SME COUNTRY FACT SHEET

BELGIUM

- In 2024, SMEs in Belgium continued their recovery in terms of employment, experiencing an increase of 0.3%, but saw a slight drop in inflation-adjusted value added (-0.3%). The biggest growth rate in employment belongs to micro enterprises (0.5%), while the sole size class that witnessed growth in real value added is medium-sized firms (2.5%). On the other hand, large enterprises fell in both indicators (-0.8% in employment, -3.6% in real value added).
- In 2025, unlike for large enterprises it is expected that SMEs in Belgium will recover: SME employment will increase by 0.7%, while real value added will grow by 2.0%. The most promising NACE sections are Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply (D) and Real estate activities (L), as their growth rates in both indicators will exceed 4.8%.
- In 2024, the Energy – Renewables ecosystem dropped significantly in productivity: its employment grew by 1.2%, the biggest ratio among all 14 industrial ecosystems, but suffering the largest loss in value added (-10.5%), which is inflation-adjusted.
- Regarding 2025, the Retail ecosystem is expected to decline in SME employment terms (-0.6%) and will increase in real value added by 0.4%. The Retail forecast is the worst compared to the remaining 13 industrial ecosystems for both indicators. In contrast, despite the poor performance in 2024, the Energy – Renewables ecosystem is projected to recover in real value added with a positive growth rate of 4.5%.

SME development 2023-2024



SMEs in the 'non-financial business sector'. Estimates produced by JRC..

Enterprises by number of employees

	ENTERPRISES		PERSONS EMPLOYED		VALUE ADDED	
	NUMBER	SHARE	NUMBER	SHARE	€ BILLION	SHARE
Micro (0-9 persons employed)	718 441	95.9%	1 041 680	33.2%	70.3	23.5%
Small (10-49 persons employed)	24 928	3.3%	517 192	16.5%	48.8	16.3%
Medium (50-249 persons employed)	4 445	0.6%	463 651	14.8%	54.1	18.1%
Total SMEs (0-249 persons employed)	747 814	99.9%	2 022 523	64.4%	173.2	57.9%
Large enterprises (250+ persons employed)	1 056	0.1%	1 116 185	35.6%	126.1	42.1%

The data for 2024 are estimates produced by JRC, based on 2008-2023 figures from national and Eurostat databases.