

C 4 NEW ENTERPRISES

New findings are used economically by transforming them into innovative products, processes and services, which are then marketed. Here, a particularly sustainable form of knowledge and technology transfer are new enterprises in research and knowledge-intensive sectors.

Graphs C 4–1 to C 4–3, which depict business dynamics in the knowledge economy, are based on figures by the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), derived from an evaluation of the Mannheim Enterprise Panel (MUP).³⁹¹ In 2010, the start-up rate (C 4–1) in the knowledge economy was 7.3 percent, which represents a slight decrease compared to the previous year. Thus the downward trend in start-up rates, which has lasted for over a decade, continues to prevail. The closure rate (C 4–2) in the knowledge economy was 6.1 percent in 2010, which also represents a decline compared with 2009. Different start-up and closure rates in the various sectors of the knowledge economy reflect sectoral differences in market entry and market exit barriers, as well as differences in (expected) sales opportunities. High-value technology and cutting-edge technology are characterised by low ratios, while values in the IT and telecommunications industry and in business consulting and advertising are relatively high.

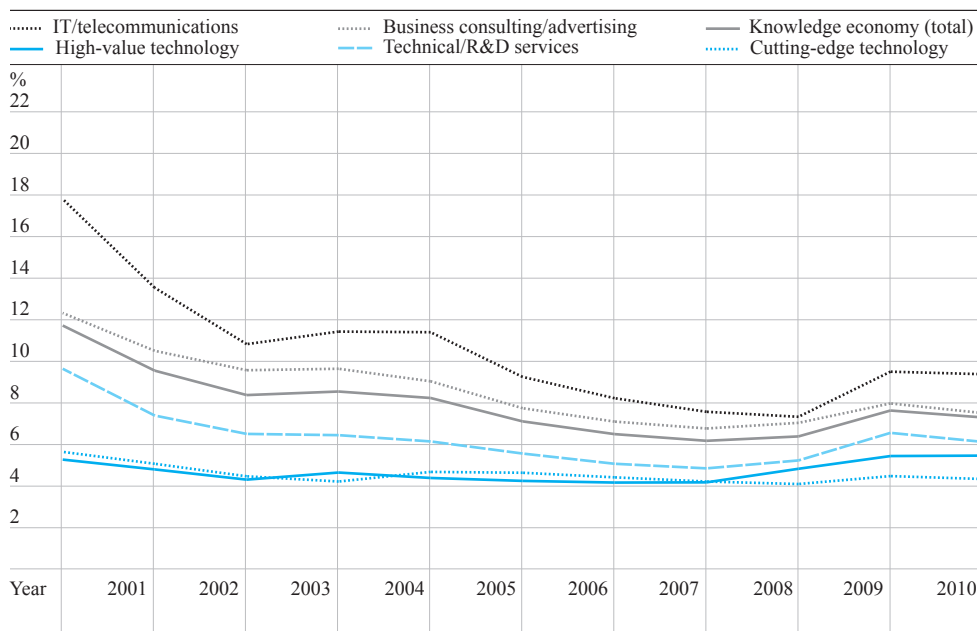
Company dynamics (C 4–3) indicate the direction and intensity of structural change in the business sector. In 2005/2006 and 2009/2010, company dynamics have increased in the knowledge economy. Yet, in most sectors values are significantly lower than those of 2000/2001.

Graphs C 4–4 and C 4–5 represent results from the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM).³⁹² The rate of nascent entrepreneurs (C 4–4) is a future-related indicator. It denotes the proportion of the population aged 18 to 64 years that is actively involved in starting up a business. In Germany, this rate had been steadily declining up until 2009. 2010 was the first year that saw an increase in nascent entrepreneurs rate as compared with the previous year, albeit this increase is not statistically significant. But also the opportunity entrepreneurship rate (C 4–5), which represents the proportion of nascent entrepreneurs that start up a business in order to exploit a business idea, has increased in Germany compared with 2009. Both rates, however, are relatively low when compared with the values of the United States, France and Great Britain.

Start-up rates in Germany's knowledge economy (figures in percent)

C 4-1

Start-up rate: number of start-up businesses, as a percentage of total number of companies.



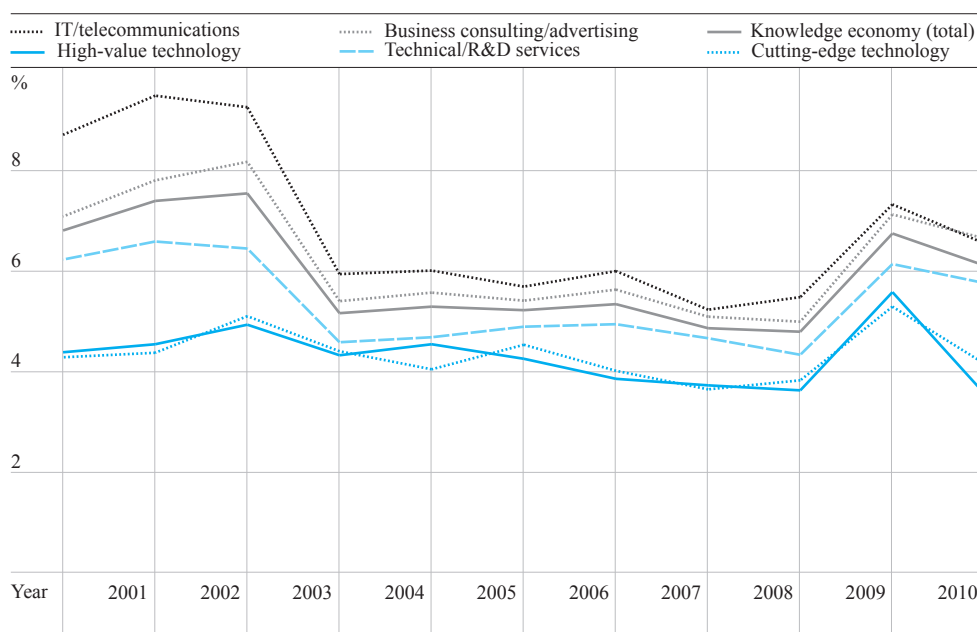
All figures are provisional.

Source: Mannheim Enterprise Panel (MUP). Calculations by ZEW.

Closure rates in Germany's knowledge economy (figures in percent)

C 4-2

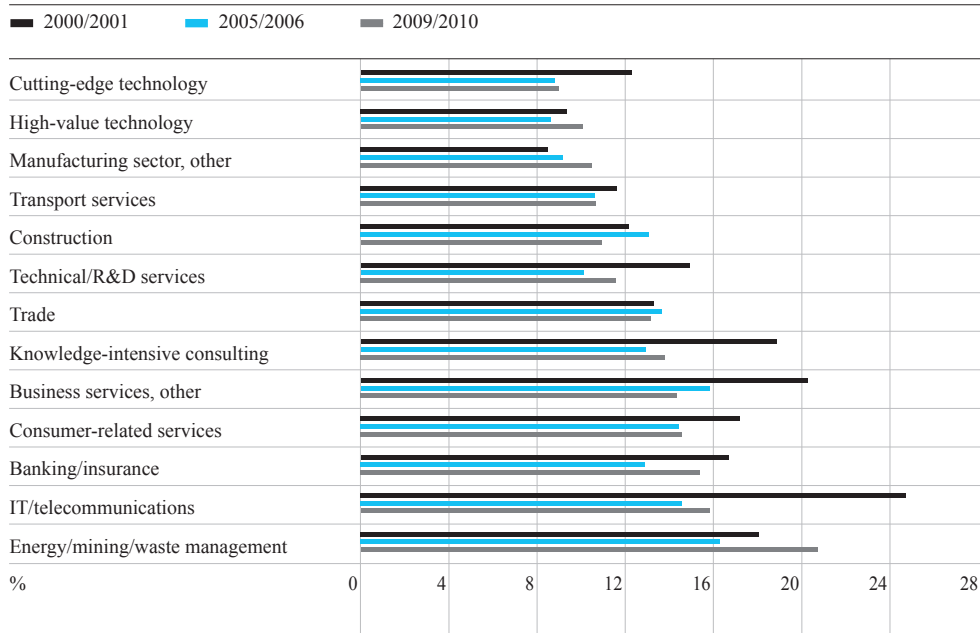
Closure rate: number of companies shut down during the course of a year, as a percentage of total number of companies.



All figures are provisional.

Source: Mannheim Enterprise Panel (MUP). Calculations by ZEW.

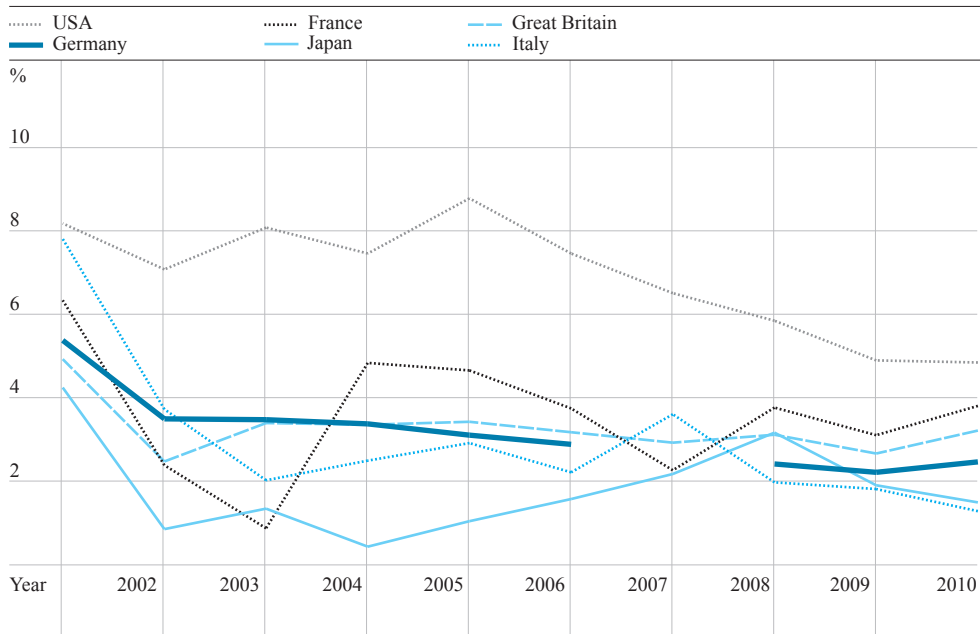
4-3 Company dynamics in Germany according to sector groups
 (figures in percent)



Company dynamics: number of start-up businesses, plus number of company closures, as a percentage of total number of companies at mid-year.

All figures are provisional.
 Source: Mannheim Enterprise Panel (MUP). Calculations by ZEW.

4-4 Nascent entrepreneurs
 (figures in percent)



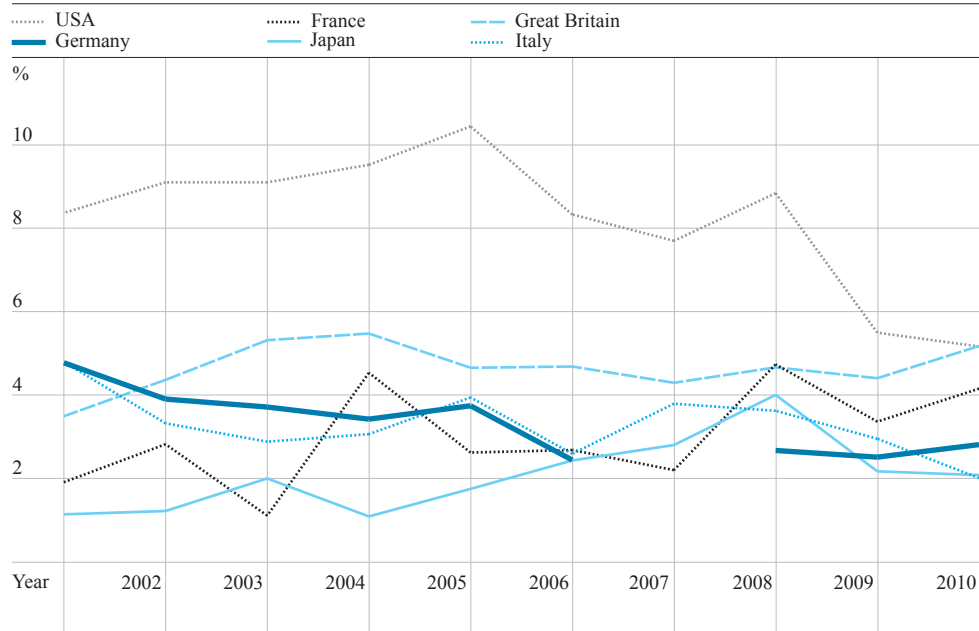
Rate of nascent entrepreneurs: number of persons aged 18 to 64 who are actively involved in starting up a new business – which may include e.g. the following activities: acquiring equipment and locations, organising an entrepreneurial team, drawing up a business plan, providing capital – and who intend to be the owner of or a shareholder/partner in a company, and who have not paid any wages or salaries during a period of three months prior to the survey, as a percentage of all persons aged 18 to 64, in the relevant country.

Germany did not participate in GEM in 2007.
 Source: Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), Adult Population Surveys 2000–2010.

Opportunity Entrepreneurs (figures in percent)

C 4-5

Opportunity entrepreneurship: number of persons aged 18 to 64 who are nascent entrepreneurs (cf. C 4-4) and who intend to go into business in order to exploit a business idea, as a percentage of all persons aged 18 to 64, in the relevant country.



Germany did not participate in GEM in 2007.

Source: Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), Adult Population Surveys 2000–2010.