

New enterprises³²⁶

C 5

An international comparison of start-up rates – i.e. the number of start-up businesses as a percentage of the total number of companies – can only be performed at a European level.³²⁷ The Business Demography Statistics provided by Eurostat are used for this purpose (C 5-1). They constitute part of the European Union’s Structural Business Statistics (SBS). This official database is based on evaluations of the individual member countries’ business registers. The figures for Germany are provided by the Federal Statistical Office’s business demography statistics, which are derived from the German business register.³²⁸ In 2012, the start-up rate in Germany was around 8 percent, well below the rate in the Great Britain (11.8 percent), which had the highest figure of the countries considered here. Even in R&D-intensive industry (4.4 percent) and knowledge-intensive services (9.5 percent), Germany’s start-up rates were considerably below those of the leader Great Britain (6.4 percent and 14.3 percent respectively).

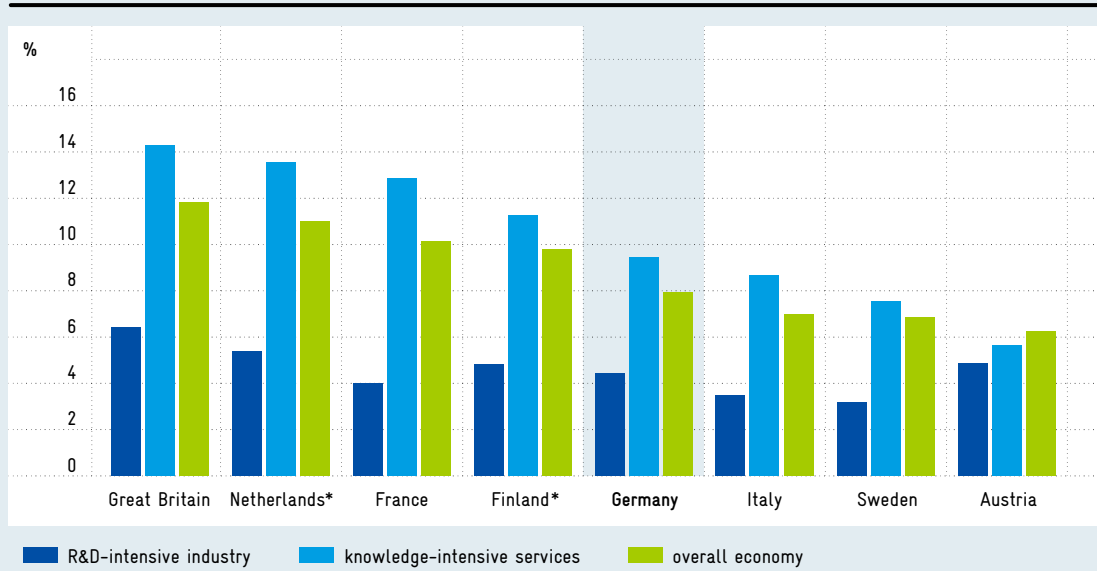
The figures on company dynamics in the knowledge economy shown in charts C 5-2 to C 5-4 draw on an evaluation of the Mannheim Enterprise Panel (MUP) conducted by the Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW). The MUP is a ZEW panel dataset of businesses located in Germany. It is compiled in cooperation with Creditreform, the largest credit information bureau in Germany. The definition of “company” used by the MUP is restricted exclusively to economically active companies; “start-ups” are only original, newly formed companies.³²⁹ The start-up rate shown in Figure C 5-2 is calculated on the basis of different data from those used in the Business Demography Statistics, which means that a direct comparison cannot be drawn here.³³⁰ According to the data provided by the MUP, the start-up rate in the knowledge economy was approximately 4.6 percent in 2013, and had thus declined by almost 2 percent points since 2009 (C 5-2). Within the knowledge economy, the sector IT/telecommunications had the highest start-up rate during the entire period under consideration. In 2013 it was 6.1 percent. The closure rate in the knowledge economy rose slightly in 2013 compared to the previous year – from 5 percent to 5.2 percent (C 5-3). Particularly low closure rates were observed in high-value technology and cutting-edge technology (3.7 and 3.5 percent respectively). The comparison at federal-state level reveals significant differences in start-up rates within Germany (C 5-4). Across all industries, the city states Berlin and Hamburg (7.2 and 5.8 percent) and the more rural state of Rhineland-Palatinate (5.7 percent) recorded the highest rates for the period from 2011 to 2013; the east German Länder lagged behind. However, the picture is more nuanced in R&D-intensive industries and knowledge-intensive services.

C 5-1

Data
Download

Start-up rates in 2012 by international comparison (figures in percent)

Start-up rate: number of start-ups as a percentage of all companies.



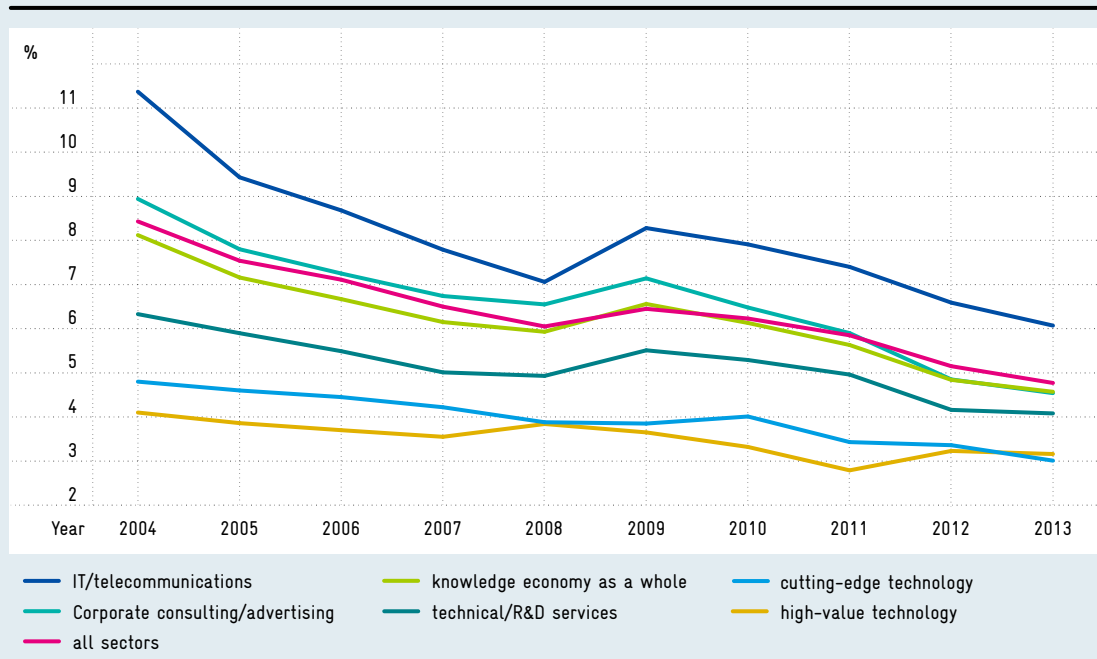
* Data for Finland and the Netherlands refer to 2011, no data available for 2012.
Source: Business Demography Statistics (Eurostat). Calculations by ZEW in Müller et al. (2015)

C 5-2

Data
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Start-up rates in Germany's knowledge economy, 2004 to 2013 (figures in percent)

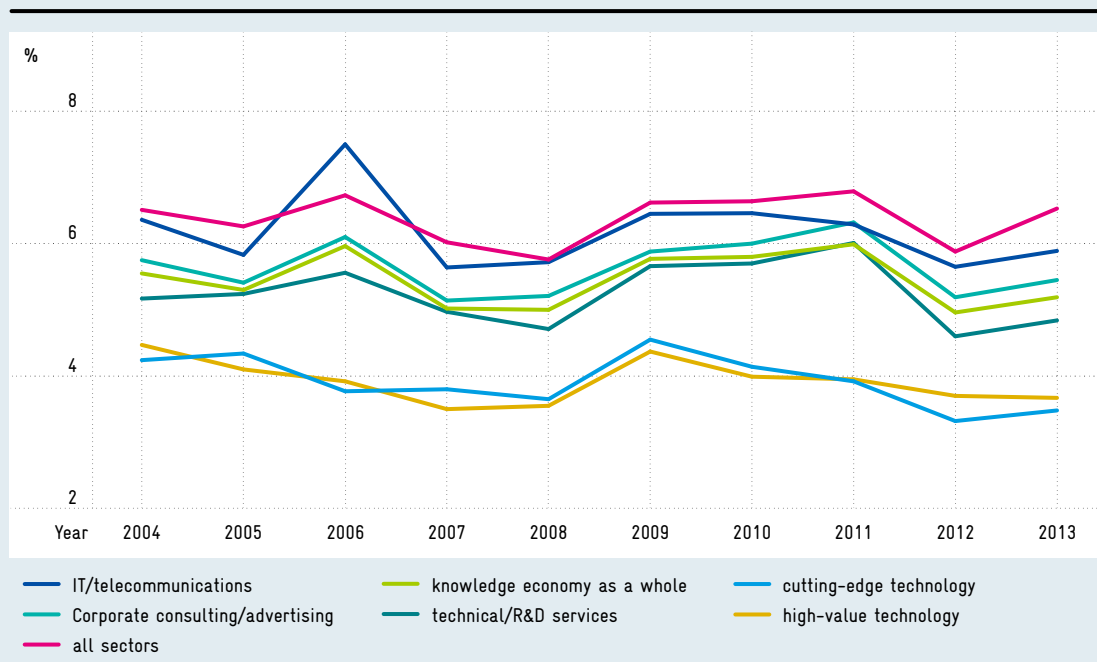
Start-up rate: number of start-ups as a percentage of all companies.



All figures are provisional.
Source: Mannheim Enterprise Panel (ZEW). Calculations by ZEW in Müller et al. (2015)

Closure rates in Germany's knowledge economy, 2004 to 2013 (figures in percent)

Closure rate: Number of companies that close down during a year as a percentage of all companies.



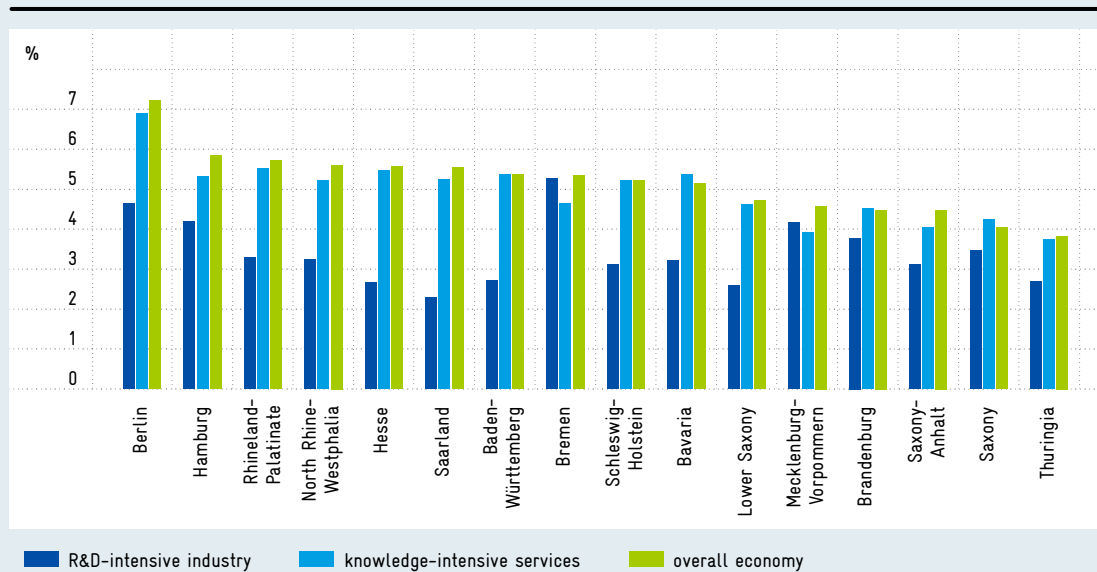
All figures are provisional.
Source: Mannheim Enterprise Panel (ZEW). Calculations by ZEW in Müller et al. (2015)

C 5-3

Data
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Start-up rates by Länder, 2011 to 2012 (figures in percent)

Start-up rate: number of start-ups as a percentage of all companies.



All figures are provisional.
Source: Mannheim Enterprise Panel (ZEW). Calculations by ZEW in Müller et al. (2015)

C 5-4

Data
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