2026 SME COUNTRY FACT SHEET

ROMANIA

- In 2025, SMEs in Romania experienced employment decrease (-0.7%), following a decrease (-1.3%) already experienced in 2024. The employment decrease occurred in almost all class sizes, including even in large enterprises, but employment in micro enterprises stagnated. Real value added showed more positive development, with a growth of 4.5%. This growth was mostly driven by micro and medium enterprises, while small and large enterprises shrank in real value added.
- In terms of the number of SMEs by sectors, Distributive trades were significantly over-represented in Romania (27.5% of all Romanian SMEs being in this sector) as compared to the EU average (where 18.1% of SMEs operate in this sector). Similarly, Transportation and storage sector was also over-represented in Romania (10.7% as compared to 4.6% of EU SMEs being in this sector). On the other hand, under-representation in this respect occurred in Professional, scientific & technical activities sector (11.4% in Romania as compared to 16.7% in the EU) and in the Human health and social work activities (3.4% as compared to 8.0% in the EU).
- In 2026, SMEs are expected to perform positively. Employment is forecasted to grow by 1.4%, and SME real value added by 0.6%. Mining and quarrying (B), Manufacturing (C), and Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycle (G), are the sectors that are forecasted to decline on both employment and real value added. All other sections are expected to grow on either employment or real value added.
- In 2025, the Health and the Proximity, Social Economy and Civil Security national industrial ecosystems are the only ones growing both in terms of employment (+5.5% and 4.4%, respectively), and real value added (5.8% and 1.6%, respectively). In particular Health ecosystem outperformed also the EU average in terms of real value added (with 39% growth in 2025 as compared to 2021, while EU peers in average grew its real value added by 3% during the same period). The Romanian Textiles ecosystem declined as compared to 2021 (with SME employment down by 24% and real value added by 78%).
- Concerning 2026, most national industrial ecosystems are expected to perform better than in 2025, with particularly the Health and the Proximity, Social Economy and Civil Security (and to some extent Digital) ecosystems expected to be in the lead, both in terms of SME employment and SME inflation-adjusted value added.

SME development (2024-2025)

NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES	NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED	REAL VALUE ADDED
+0.9%	-0.7%	+4.5%

SMEs in the 'total business economy'. Estimates produced by JRC.

Enterprises by size classes (2025)

	ENTERPRISES		PERSONS EMPLOYED		VALUE ADDED	
	NUMBER	SHARE	NUMBER	SHARE	€ BILLION	SHARE
Micro (0-9 persons employed)	987 671	94.8%	1 528 120	32.6%	41.6	23.9%
Small (10-49 persons employed)	44 894	4.3%	891 858	19.0%	28.4	16.3%
Medium (50-249 persons employed)	7 659	0.7%	791 894	16.9%	29.4	16.9%
Total SMEs (0-249 persons employed)	1 040 224	99.8%	3 211 872	68.6%	99.4	57.1%
Large enterprises (250+ persons employed)	1 669	0.2%	1 472 247	31.4%	74.7	42.9%

The data for 2025 are estimates produced by JRC, based on 2008-2024 figures from national and Eurostat databases.

The SME Performance Review monitors SME-related developments across the EU. For more information, please see: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-strategy/performance-review_en
Please note that 2026 estimates were done prior to the economic tensions arising from the Middle East crises, bringing uncertainty that is still difficult to assess in terms of its impact on SMEs.