



Statistical Data on Women Entrepreneurs in Europe

Country Fiche

Cyprus

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Enterprise
and Industry



Panteia

Research to Progress

Research voor Beleid | EIM | NEA | IOO | Stratus | IPM

Summary

This country fiche is prepared in the context of the project Women entrepreneurs in Europe carried out for DG Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission. The project objective was to collect, analyse, and systematically present the most recent data on women entrepreneurs in the EU-28 and Albania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Iceland, Israel, Turkey, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, Norway and Serbia (Europe-37).

The key findings are presented in the report Women entrepreneurs in Europe. Each country fiche is based on national and international data sources, such as the Labour Force Survey. For comparison, data from international harmonised databases have been used where possible¹. In contrast to the main report of the study, no estimations or extrapolations are included.

In 2012, around 28% of all entrepreneurs in Cyprus were women compared to 31% in the EU-28. The vast majority of these women entrepreneurs (84%) were solo entrepreneurs.

Women entrepreneurs constituted about 9% of the women in the active labour force (entrepreneurship rate). This was slightly lower than the EU-28 average entrepreneurship rate (10%). The proportion of men entrepreneurs of men in the active labour force in Cyprus (20%) was higher than the EU-28 average.

Most women entrepreneurs in Cyprus work full-time. In 2012, about 38% of the women entrepreneurs worked part-time in their enterprise and this percentage was higher than the EU-28 average (30%).

In 2012, the highest proportions of women entrepreneurs of the total number of entrepreneurs in a sector were in the sector groups other service activities, and administrative and support service activities. The lowest proportions were in the sector groups of construction, and transportation and storage. Compared to the EU-28 the percentages were higher in the administrative and support service activities and lower in arts, entertainment and recreation, human health and social work activities, and real estate activities.

Women entrepreneurs in Cyprus were younger than men entrepreneurs. In 2003 and 2012, the proportion of women entrepreneurs in the age group 25-49 years was higher than men entrepreneurs, and the proportion in the group of 50-64 years was lower. The distribution for EU-28 was similar.

The average education level of women entrepreneurs was higher than that of men entrepreneurs. Compared to the total EU, women entrepreneurs in Cyprus had a higher education level.

In 2012, the average working week for women entrepreneurs in Cyprus was 33 hours (36 hours in the EU-28). Part-time women entrepreneurs worked on average 17 hours, which was less than the average for part-time women entrepreneurs in the EU-28 (18 hours).

¹ This can mean that for comparison, other definitions are used than normally used at national level.



In 2012, the mean net income of women entrepreneurs (€20,417) was higher than that of men entrepreneurs (€19,334) in Cyprus. Compared to women entrepreneurs in EU-28, the income of the women entrepreneurs in Cyprus was higher.

I Number and proportion of women entrepreneurs²

In 2012, Cyprus had 16,000 women entrepreneurs, including 3,000 who employed personnel³. These women entrepreneurs amounted to 28% of the total entrepreneurs and 16% of all employers, compared to the total EU proportions of 31% and 26%, respectively. The vast majority of women entrepreneurs (84%) were solo entrepreneurs⁴.

Since 2008, the number of women entrepreneurs in Cyprus has decreased by 5%, while the number of men entrepreneurs decreased by 21%. The EU average of women entrepreneurs increased by 2% and the EU-average for men decreased by 1%. The number of women employing personnel increased by 13% in Cyprus, while the number of men entrepreneurs with personnel decreased by 31%. The average increase in women entrepreneurs who were employers in Cyprus was higher than the EU-28 average for the same period.

table 0.1 The number of entrepreneurs, employers and solo entrepreneurs in Cyprus and EU-28 by gender, 2008 and 2012 (x1000)

	Entrepreneurs		Employers		Solo entrepreneurs	
	Total 2012	% change 2008-2012	Total 2012	% change 2008-2012	Total 2012	% change 2008-2012
EU28 Men	22,842	-1%	6,976	-9%	15,866	2%
EU28 Women	10,257	2%	2,397	-2%	7,859	3%
CY Men	41	-21%	13	-31%	28	-16%
CY Women	16	-5%	3	13%	13	-9%

Source: Panteia, based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

Entrepreneurship rate

The entrepreneurship rate is the percentage of entrepreneurs in the active labour force. In 2012, women entrepreneurs constituted about 9% of the women in the active labour force in Cyprus. This was lower than the EU-28 average (10%). The percentage of men entrepreneurs out of men in the active labour force in Cyprus (20%) was higher than the EU-28 average (19%).

The percentage of women employers of women in the active labour force was 1% compared to 2% in the EU-28 average. In the period 2003-2012, the percentage of women entrepreneurs of women in the active labour force remained almost unchanged. The percentage of employers in the active labour force remained at about 1%.

² Entrepreneurs are defined as persons aged 15 years and older who work in their own business, farm or professional practice to make a profit, and spend time on the operation of a business, or are in the process of setting up a business. These entrepreneurs consider the running of their enterprises to be their main activity. This definition is the same as the definition of a self-employed person in the Labour Force Survey (LSF) database of Eurostat.

³ Employers are persons who operate their own economic enterprise, or engage independently in a profession or trade. They employ one or more persons and/or family workers.

⁴ Solo entrepreneurs are persons who operate their own economic enterprise, or engage independently in a profession or trade. They do not hire employees nor are family workers or volunteers active in their enterprise. Solo entrepreneurs are also known as own account workers.



table 0.2 Percentage of entrepreneurs in the active labour force (entrepreneurship rate) by gender in Cyprus and EU-28, 2003, 2008 and-2012

	2003	2008	2012
EU28 Men	19%	19%	19%
EU28 Women	10%	10%	10%
CY Men	29%	25%	20%
CY Women	9%	10%	9%

Source: Panteia, based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

table 0.3 Percentage of employers in the active labour force by gender in Cyprus and EU-28, 2003, 2008 and-2012

	2003	2008	2012
EU28 Men	7%	6%	6%
EU28 Women	3%	2%	2%
CY Men	9%	9%	6%
CY Women	1%	1%	1%

Source: Panteia, based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

II Women entrepreneurs per sector

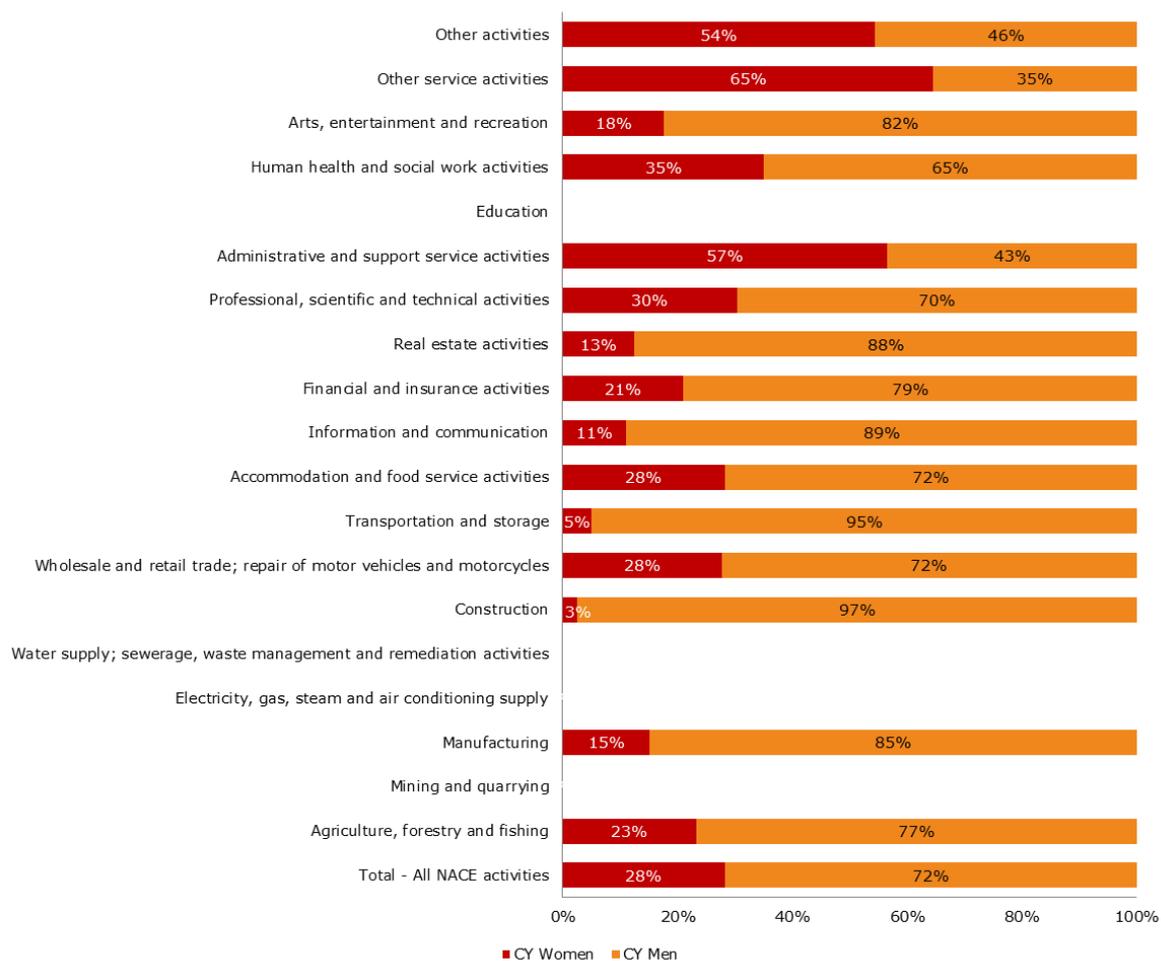
In 2012, the highest proportions of women entrepreneurs of the total number of entrepreneurs in a sector were in the sector groups other service activities, and administrative and support service activities. The lowest proportions were in the sector groups of construction, and transportation and storage.

Compared to the EU-28 the percentages were higher in the administrative and support service activities and lower in arts, entertainment and recreation, human health and social work activities, and real estate activities.

The proportion of women entrepreneurs of the total number of entrepreneurs by sector are presented for Cyprus and the EU-28 in Figures 0.1 and 0.2, respectively.



figure 0.1 Percentage of women entrepreneurs of total number of entrepreneurs by sector in Cyprus, 2012

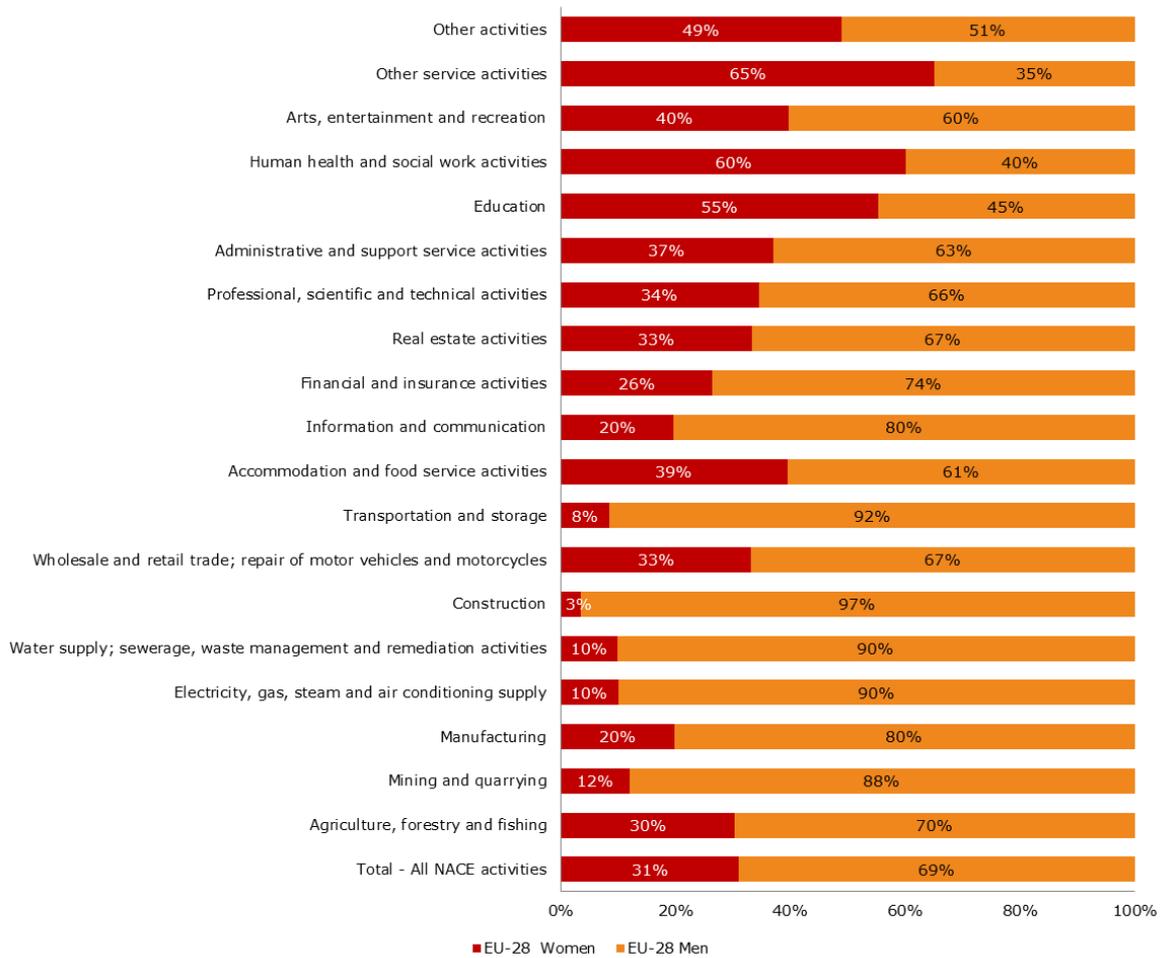


Source: Panteia, based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat and Statistical Service Cyprus

Note: missing bars means no data available



figure 0.2 Percentage of women entrepreneurs of total number of entrepreneurs by sector in EU-28, 2012



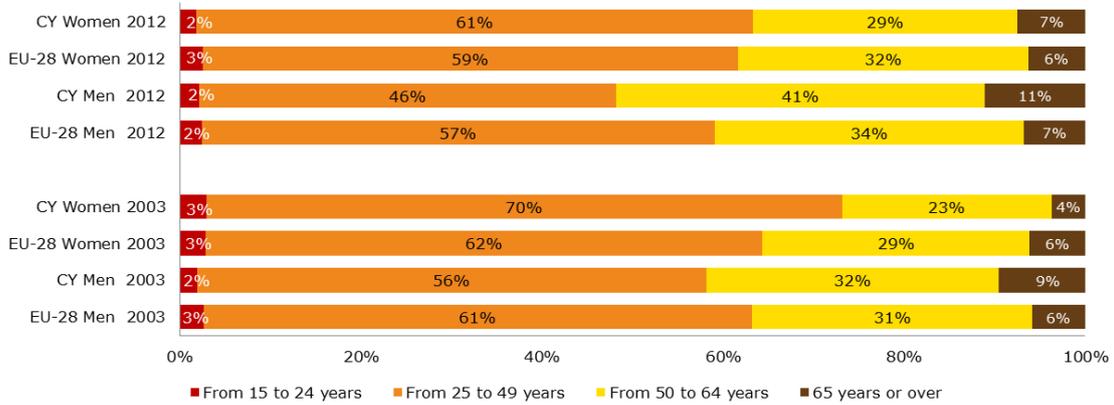
Source: Panteia, based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat



III Age of women entrepreneurs

In Cyprus women entrepreneurs are younger than men entrepreneurs. In 2003 and 2012, the proportion in the age group 25-49 years was higher, whereas the proportion in the group of 50-64 years was lower. The distribution for the EU-28 was similar.

figure 0.3 Percentage entrepreneurs by gender and age in Cyprus and EU-28, 2003 and 2012

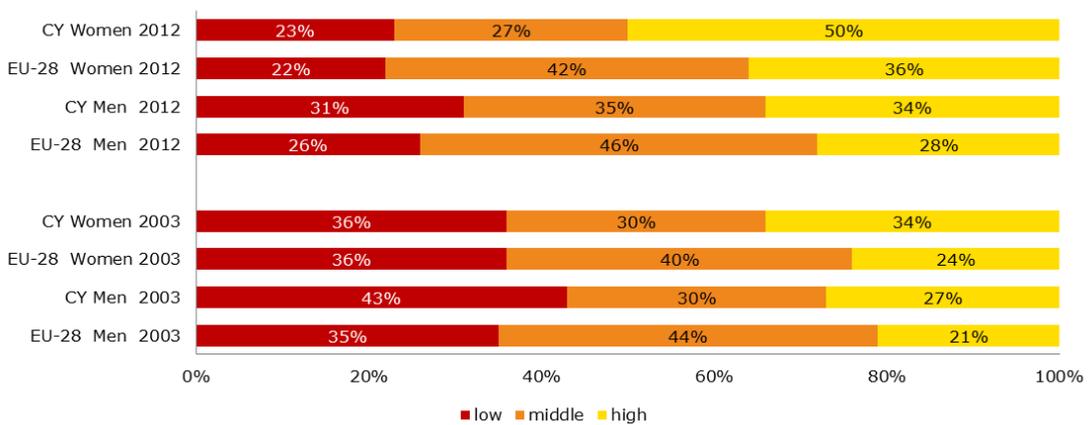


Source: Panteia based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

IV Women entrepreneurs and education level

In Cyprus, the average education level of women entrepreneurs was higher than that of men entrepreneurs. In 2012, the proportion of women entrepreneurs with a high education level was higher than that of men entrepreneurs and the proportions in the middle and low education levels were lower. Compared to the total EU women entrepreneurs in Cyprus are more highly educated. In the last 10 years the education level of women entrepreneurs has improved considerably in the EU-28.

figure 0.4 Percentage of entrepreneurs by gender and education in Cyprus and EU-28, 2003 and 2012



Source: Panteia based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

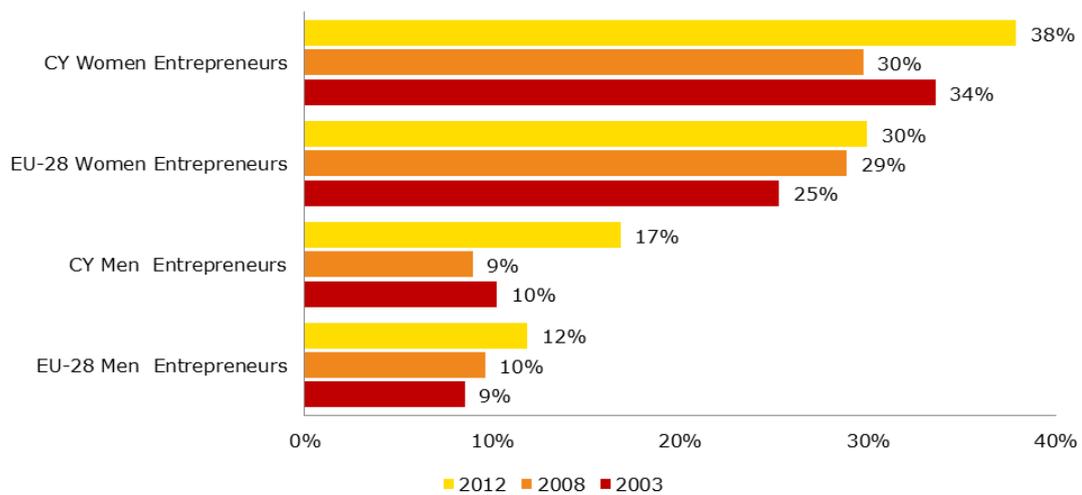
Note: Low refers to ISCED levels 0-2, middle to ISCED 3-4 and high to ISCED levels 5-6



V Part-time entrepreneurship

In 2012, about 38% of the women entrepreneurs worked part-time in their enterprise, which was higher than the EU-28 average (30%). In Cyprus, about 17% of all men entrepreneurs worked part-time. This percentage was higher than the EU-28 average (12%). The differences were similar for 2003 and 2008. Just as with the EU-average and with the percentage for men entrepreneurs, the percentage of women entrepreneurs increased between 2003 and 2012.

figure 0.5 Percentage of part-time entrepreneurs by gender in Cyprus and EU-28, 2003, 2008 and 2012



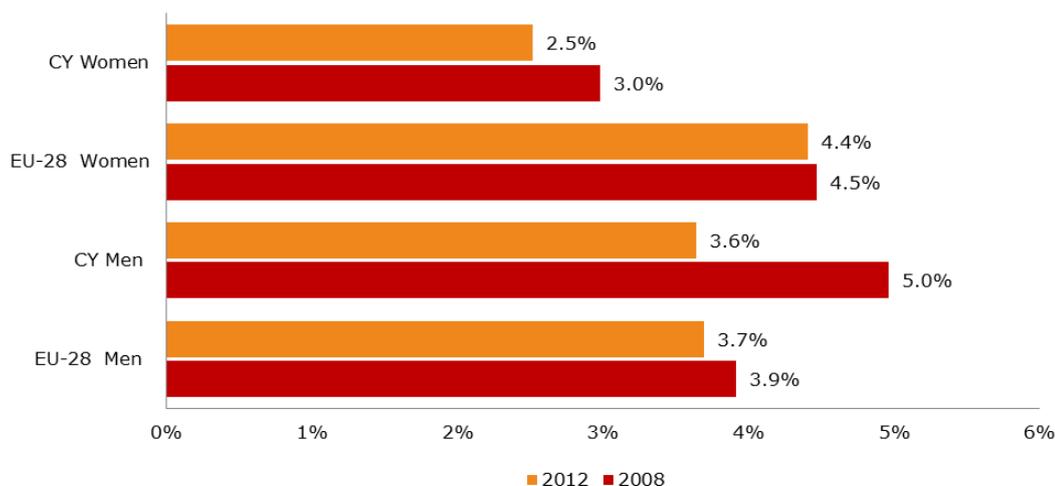
Source: Panteia based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

There are various reasons for entrepreneurs choosing to work part-time in their enterprises such as having another job, household activities, increasing age or study.

In 2012, 2.5% of the total number of women entrepreneurs had a job in addition to being entrepreneur while this was the case for 3.6% of the men entrepreneurs. These entrepreneurs considered being an entrepreneur as their main job. See figure 0.6. Compared to 2008, these percentages decreased. The average percentages for women and men entrepreneurs in the EU changed slightly.



figure 0.6 Percentage of total number of entrepreneurs with a second job in addition to their enterprise Cyprus and EU-28, 2008 and 2012

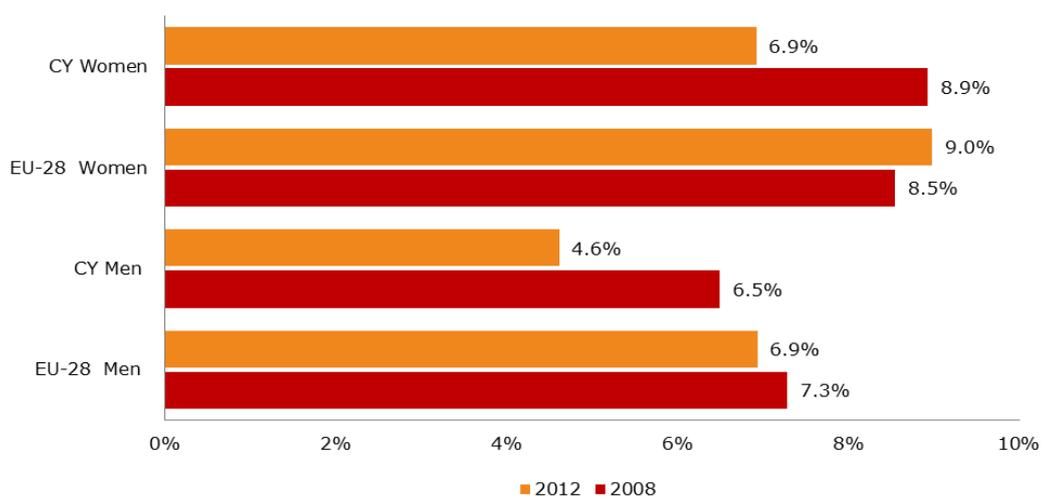


Source: Panteia based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

To gain insight into the extent to which employees in a country are entrepreneurs as a second activity, figure 0.7 presents the number of employees who are entrepreneurs as a second activity as a ratio of those persons who are entrepreneurs as main activity. Where the ratio is 100%, the number of employees who are entrepreneurs as their second activity is equal to the number of persons who are entrepreneur as main activity. In case the ratio is 0%, there are no employees who run an enterprise next to their employee-ship.

In 2012 this ratio was 6.9% for women entrepreneurs and 4.6% for men entrepreneurs. Compared to the EU-28 the ratios for women and men were lower. Compared to 2008, the ratio for both women and men entrepreneurs decreased. The average EU ratio for women and men entrepreneurs only changed slightly.

figure 0.7 Entrepreneurs with their enterprise as a second job (employee as main activity) related to entrepreneurs with their enterprise as main activity in Cyprus and EU-28, 2008 and 2012



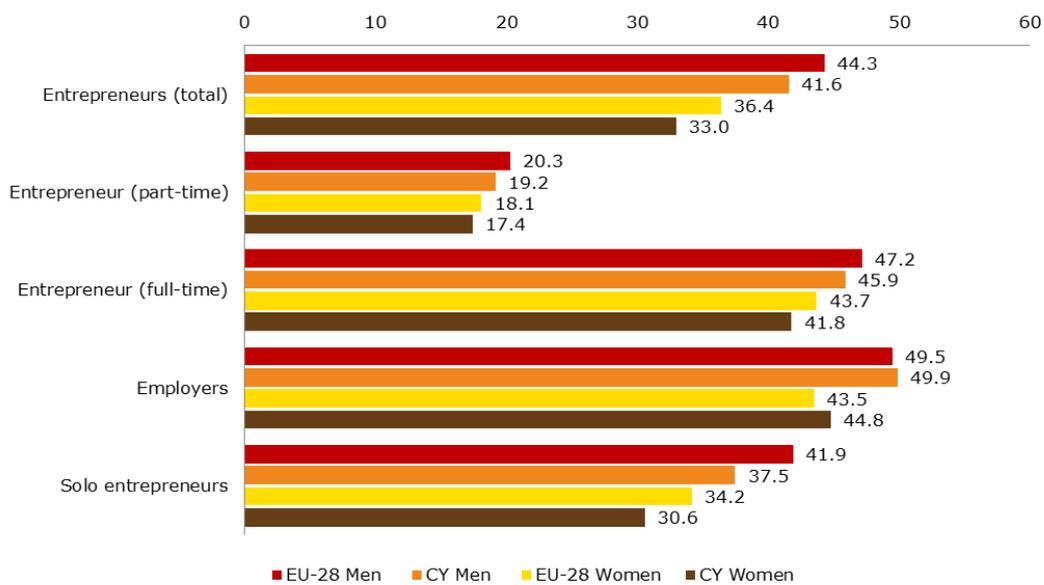
Source: Panteia based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat



VI Weekly working hours

In 2012, women entrepreneurs in Cyprus worked on average fewer hours per week than men entrepreneurs, 33 hours 42 hours, respectively. Full-time women entrepreneurs also worked fewer hours than men entrepreneurs (42 and 46 hours, respectively). Part-time women entrepreneurs worked on average 17 hours a week in Cyprus, which is less than the average for women entrepreneurs in the total EU-28 (18 hours). On average women part-time entrepreneurs work fewer hours than men part-time entrepreneurs in Cyprus (17 hours and 19 hours, respectively). Employers have longer working weeks than did solo entrepreneurs.

figure 0.8 Average number of hours worked per week by entrepreneurs by gender in Cyprus and EU-28, 2012



Source: Panteia based on Labour Force Survey Eurostat

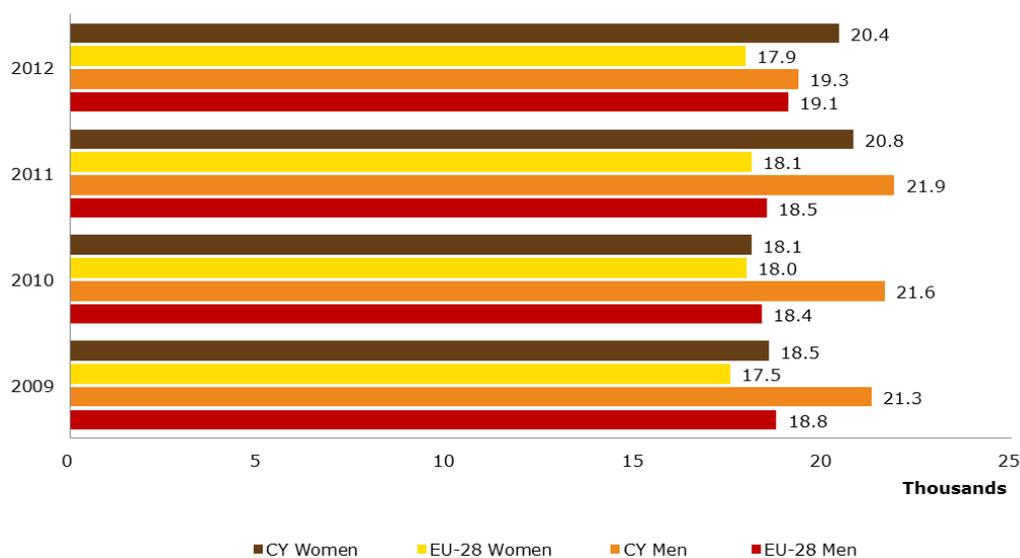
VII Characteristics of women-led enterprises and net income

No data were available on the age, size and profitability of the enterprises.

In 2012, the mean net income of women entrepreneurs (€20,417) was higher than that of men entrepreneurs (€19,334) in Cyprus. Compared to women entrepreneurs in EU-28, the income of Cypriot women entrepreneurs was higher. In the EU-28, the mean net income of women entrepreneurs was lower than that of men entrepreneurs. The standard of living is higher in Cyprus compared to the EU-28.



Figure 0.9 Mean net income entrepreneurs per year by gender in Cyprus and EU-28, 2009-2012*



* including compensations of family workers

Source: Panteia, based on EU-Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC Eurostat)

VIII Performance sectors with a relatively high proportion of women entrepreneurs

About 71% of all women entrepreneurs were active in the sectors trade, accommodation and food services, education, administrative services, human health and social services, arts and entertainment, and in other service activities. In these sectors the average annual growth in value added in volumes was minus 0.2% between 2009 and 2012, which was below the average (2.1%) for the period 2004-2012. The proportion of the net operating surplus (as a proxy of gross profits) in value added was above average (43% versus 37%).



table 0.4 Performance of sectors with above average proportion of women entrepreneurs in Cyprus, 2004 - 2012

Industry	Proportion of women entrepreneurs per sector	Proportion of women entrepreneurs	Annual growth value added (volumes)		Proportion of net operating surplus in value added
	2012	2012	2004-2012	2009-2012	2012
Trade	19%	28%	2.5%	-2.3%	42%
Accommodation & food services	7%	28%	0.9%	1.5%	50%
Education	11%		2.7%	2.3%	18%
Administrative services	8%	57%	0.8%	-0.5%	16%
Human health and social services	4%	35%	2.5%	1.6%	27%
Arts entertainment. recreation	2%	18%	3.5%	5.0%	67%
Other services	19%	65%	1.8%	0.1%	70%
Sub total	71%	39%	2.1%	-0.2%	43%
Other sectors	29%	19%	1.9%	-1.1%	31%
All sectors	100%	28%	2.0%	-0.6%	37%

Source: Panteia, based on Labour Force Survey and National Accounts Eurostat

Note:

The main sources used are Eurostat and Statistical Service Cyprus.
For more details see Appendix to the main report

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