

2009

July 2009

The Euro in the Nordic countries

The euro is gaining in popularity among Nordic businesses. Three out of ten of the smallest companies have used the euro as a transaction currency during the last year.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
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Do Young People Take Over?

Sweden's business owners are getting older and older. Even though many small business owners work longer than employees, retirements will sooner or later put pressure on Sweden's small businesses. Therefore, more young people need to discover that running a business can be a way to earn a living.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

June 2009

Few Women Running Businesses –Is It Really That Bad?

Sweden's entrepreneur population is among the least gender equal in the Western world, shows a report from Företagarna. Just over a quarter of Sweden's business owners are women. But cheap and simple measures may get women started in running businesses.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

Who Cares in the Parliament? Swedish MP Review 2008/2009

Företagarna ranks the Members of Parliament in Sweden according to their activity in business policy issues. Who has been the most hard-working in putting forward proposals and hold Government Ministers accountable in plenary debates on issues related to entrepreneurs?

For more information, please contact Ms. Therese Larsson, Analyst,
therese.larsson@foretagarna.se

Swedish Labour Market Rules

The order of priority in Sweden's labour market rules (the "last in, first out" principle) hit small businesses forced to downsize during the ongoing depression.

For more information, please contact Mr. Anders Fogelberg, Labour Market Expert,
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European Parliament Elections 2009: Big Differences Between Parties

Företagarna has studied the candidates running for the European Parliament. The results show big differences in opinion between the parties, but also, perhaps more surprisingly, within the parties.

For more information, please contact Mr. Olle Rosén, Analyst, olle.rosen@foretagarna.se

April 2009

Who Will Take Over When Business Owners Retire?

When the business owners born in the 1940s start retiring, over 6000 companies in Sweden are at risk. This report shows that more than every fourth business owner is planning to hand over their company to someone else within the next five years.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

March 2009

Open Eyes for Business Immigration

Canada and Australia have attracted hundreds of thousands of business immigrants throughout the years, in spite of often very high demands. In Sweden, the debate has almost entirely focused on immigrant labour.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

More and More Get Credits Called In

During the last three months, four percent of companies have had all or parts of their credits or loans called in. This is a doubling since December.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
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Too Few Young Women Run Their Own Business

Only three out of ten women who run a business in Sweden are younger than 40 years old, which gives Sweden a poor position compared to other EU countries.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

January 2009

Integration and Entrepreneurship

How come foreign-born business owners do not do as well in Sweden as in e.g. Great Britain and Canada? The most important answer seems to be that these entrepreneurs are more susceptible to the terms and conditions of running a company. Sweden has more complicated rules and regulations for starting or running a business.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

Where Are Companies Most (and Least) Equal Between Men and Women?

Sweden is often seen as one of the world's top societies in equality between men and women. In formal decision-making bodies such as the Parliament and the Government, Sweden has reached a high level of equality, but not when it comes to owning and running businesses.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

2008 Ranking List of Public Authorities

Sweden's public authorities are improving in their treatment of and service to small companies. All authorities except the Social Insurance Office have improved since Företagarna's latest ranking list in 2007. The Swedish Companies Registration Office gets the highest grade, closely followed by the National Tax Administration.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
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2008

December 2008

The Small Pay the Largest fraction

Small businesses pay more corporate tax than big companies. In relation to their turnover, small companies paid 7.4 % in corporate tax in 2007, compared to 5.2 % for medium-sized companies and only 1.5 % for the big companies.

For more information, please contact Ms. Annika Fritsch, Tax Expert,
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Long Payment Periods

One fifth of the small companies have experienced cash-flow problems as a result of prolonged payments from customers. Almost half of the companies, 45 %, state that payment terms have increased beyond the usual 30 days. The corresponding figure for the small industrial company group is 56 %.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

Swedish "Alliance" Government Half-term in Office

A majority of Swedish entrepreneurs, 61 %, approve of the centre-right coalition government. At the same time, only 20 % believe that the government's policy has made it easier to employ. This is shown in a new report from Företagarna.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

November 2008

The Small Business Survey, Autumn 2008

The market has experienced a heavy weakening during the autumn. This has made the small businesses very pessimistic for the future. The numbers in the Small Business Survey point to the largest decline since the Swedish bank crisis in the 1990s.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

More Small Businesses Want the Euro

The support for the euro increases among small business-owners shows a new poll by Företagarna /SKOP. Over 67 % of small businesses think that Sweden should introduce the euro. At an earlier poll, the support for the euro was 63 %.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

October 2008

Sweden's Entrepreneur Municipality of 2008

This year's champion in Sweden's Entrepreneur Municipality is Vara in the west of Sweden, thanks to top 10 ranking in three out of four categories - Turnover, Return and Creditworthiness.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

September 2008

How to Get Small Businesses to Employ

The Government has introduced a number of measures to stimulate the supply of the work force, e. g. the "work-tax-deduction". But less actions have focused on how to stimulate demand for employees. A 10 % cut in the social security fees would enable at least 75 000 new jobs in SMEs, according to a new survey by Företagarna.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

July 2008

The Euro Most Frequently Used in Skåne, Norrbotten and Gotland

Skåne, Norrbotten and Gotland are the Swedish counties in which the euro is most frequently used. Six out of ten companies in retail sales, hotel, restaurant and tourism businesses accept euro bills and coins, shows a new poll from Företagarna.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

MEP Review 2007/2008

Företagarna has reviewed the business friendly initiatives of Swedish members of the European Parliament for 2007/2008. This year's most business friendly MEP is Olle Schmidt (ALDE), who has shown that he really cares for entrepreneurs by initiatives in several important business issues.

For more information, please contact Mr. Olle Rosén, Analyst, olle.rosen@foretagarna.se

Swedish MP Review 2007/2008

Företagarna ranks the Members of Parliament in Sweden according to their activity in business policy issues. Who has been the most hard-working in putting forward proposals and hold members of the cabinet accountable in plenary debates on issues related to entrepreneurs?

For more information, please contact Ms. Therese Larsson, Analyst,
therese.larsson@foretagarna.se

The Euro in the Nordic Countries

Do Swedish and Danish small business owners underestimate the effects of the euro? In this report we compare the euro country Finland to non-euro countries Sweden and Denmark. How do small businesses in these countries look at the membership and non-membership, respectively, in the monetary union? Do they see opportunities, obstacles or are they indifferent? Interesting differences between countries and over time emerge.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

Decline in Government Approval

Less than half of the Swedish companies, 40 percent, approve of the government's commercial policy, shows a poll from Företagarna.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
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May 2008

Unsound Competition

Small companies play an essential role for creating economic growth in Sweden. The government's explicit ambition is to create more and growing business. To achieve this, the impediments that new and small companies meet need to be taken care of. Competition from the public sector constitutes such an impediment for the growth and activity of companies.

For more information, please contact Ms. Ulrica Dyrke, Legal Expert,
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More Than One Out of Ten Swedish Companies Use the Euro

More than one tenth of Swedish companies use the euro, shows a report by Företagarna/SIFO. The most frequent users are found in the county of Norrbotten, where almost one third of small companies have paid or gotten paid in euro. –An introduction of the euro in Sweden would considerably facilitate for the small businesses, says Ms. Anna-Stina Nordmark Nilsson, CEO of Företagarna.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

April 2008

The Small Business Survey, Spring 2008

The Small Business Survey of the spring of 2008 shows that the market decline that started last fall has deepened, but it is not a collapse.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

Small Business Owners Prepare for Apprentice Effort

There is a great will among Swedish small business owners to accept apprentices. More than half, 55 percent, are prepared to receive an apprentice.

For more information, please contact Ms. Christina Linderholm, Acting Head of Analysis & Opinion Unit, also responsible for Vocational Education and Training,
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March 2008

Small Businesses and Public Procurement

The small companies' participation in public procurement is in the focus of the debate. This report gives a picture of small business involvement in public procurements.

For more information, please contact Ms. Ulrica Dyrke, Legal Expert,
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Small Business Owners' Confidence in Government Commercial Policy Drops

A poll by Företagarna shows that the Swedish small business owners' confidence in the government's commercial policy has dropped from 68 percent in the fall of 2006 to 54 percent.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

Red Tape Reduction in Environmental Work

As a follow-up to the recently presented report "Small Businesses Do Their Share - Environmental Work in Small Companies", Företagarna examines how small companies perceive the Swedish environmental legislation.

For more information, please contact Mr. Olle Rosén, Analyst, olle.rosen@foretagarna.se

February 2008

Where Is Business Equal Between Women and Men?

Sweden is considered a world champion in equality between the sexes in many respects. In formal decision making bodies, such as the parliament and the government, Sweden has reached a high level of equality, but not when it comes to running businesses.

For more information, please contact Mr. Niclas Berg, Statistician,
niclas.berg@foretagarna.se

January 2008

Who Loses By Profits?

A number of proposals have been put forward on how legislation could be changed in order to stimulate growth in social companies. In this report, Företagarna raises the questions that ought to be answered before the government initiates legislation that may distort competition between ordinary companies and those categorized as social companies.

For more information, please contact Mr. Lars Jagrén, Chief Economist,
lars.jagren@foretagarna.se

Small Businesses Do Their Share -Environmental Work in Small Companies

Despite more focus on environment issues, knowledge on how the biggest group of companies, small businesses, work with these issues is insufficient. Here, Företagarna scatters some of this unawareness and also give advice on how good ambitions can be realized.

For more information, please contact Mr. Olle Rosén, Analyst, olle.rosen@foretagarna.se

The Public Procurement Appeals by Small Businesses

A panel poll made by Företagarna in November 2007 shows that many companies renounce appealing public procurement decisions, even when they think that the procurement was not carried out rightly. This is partly because the companies fear risking future business with the procurer if they appeal.

For more information, please contact Ms. Ulrica Dyrke, Legal Expert,
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2007 Ranking List of Public Authorities

Företagarna has made a comprehensive assessment for the first time, and grades the services of Sweden's public authorities. The Swedish Companies Registration Office gets the highest grade and the Employment Agency gets the lowest.

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