Datasource:

Establishment Census

Period:

January, 2023 to December, 2023

A comparison of 2020 and 2023 Establishment Censuses shows that there was a growth of 15.9 percent in terms of the number of all establishments and 16.0 percent in term of private business-oriented establishments since 2020. The results have shown that the noticeable change overtime in terms of the number of establishments was in the urban areas (+44.6 percent) vis-à-vis the rural areas (-3.4 percent); specifically, the business-oriented establishments have increased by 44.7 percent in urban areas and decreased by 3.7 percent in rural areas.

In 2023, the total number of establishments was 269,326, including 261,549 enterprises (head offices or single unit establishments). Wholesale and retail trade accounted for 53.5 percent of the establishments, followed by accommodation and food services by 23.0 percent.

The three districts of the City of Kigali have the highest concentration of establishments: 9.3 percent for Gasabo, 8.4 percent for Nyarugenge and 6.3 percent for Kicukiro. In addition, apart from the City of Kigali; Musanze (4.9 percent), Rubavu (4.8 percent), Bugesera (4.2), Rwamagana (3.6 percent), Nyagatare (3.5 percent), Rusizi (3.3 percent), Kamonyi (3.3 percent), Gicumbi (3.2 percent), and Muhanga (3.1 percent) are the ones with the highest number of establishments. Almost all establishments (95.9 percent) are private and 92.0 percent are owned by one person (sole proprietorship) and a great number of enterprises employ less than 4 workers (92.2 percent being of micro-enterprises).

The Establishment Census results showed a total of 927,739 workers across all establishments, with females accounting for 43.6 percent.

The four main economic activities accounting for 66.3 percent of total employment are wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (26.2 percent), education (17.4 percent), accommodation and food service activities (12.9 percent), and manufacturing (9.8 percent).

Economic activities with more than 75 percent of male workers out of the total number of employees are classified as male dominated. These include Mining and quarrying (75.3 percent), and construction (85.6 percent).

Reference documents (PDF & Excel)

- Establishment Census 2023.pdf (pdf, 3.18 MB)
  LAST UPDATED: 14 Jan 2025
- EC 2023 Tables_Report_Final 0n 9 july 2024_ (1).xlsx (xlsx, 181.33 KB)
  LAST UPDATED: 21 Oct 2024

Related publications

Establishment Census - Gender Thematic Report 2023

Establishment Census (2020)

Establishment Census (2017)

Establishment Census (2014)

Establishment Census (2011)

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