

Summary

For the third consecutive year, Slovenian commercial companies had to prepare their book-keeping and annual reports in accordance with the Act Amending the Companies Act and the revised Slovenian Accounting Standards. In addition, the companies had to comply with other amendments to this law that took effect in 2004.

These include the amended Article 52 of the Companies Act, according to which companies were classified into small, medium-sized and large. Further, two out of three classification criteria were raised: the level of net revenues from sales and the value of assets was each raised by approximately 70%, while the criterion concerning the number of employees remained unchanged. These amendments affected the structure of the total number of companies, so that the proportion of small companies increased while the proportion of medium-sized and small companies dropped. The classification into small, medium-sized and large companies is important with regard to the preparation and publication of annual reports and the statutory financial accounts audits.

For statistical purposes, commercial companies were required to submit data from their annual accounts for 2004 to the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services (AJPES) by 31 March 2005. The reporting had to comply with the Companies Act and the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2004. Data were submitted on standardised forms laid down by AJPES in the methodological instructions for submitting annual reports and other data of commercial companies and private entrepreneurs.

A total of 42,068 economic subjects – legal entities – employing 468,053 workers submitted data from their annual reports for 2004. That figure comprised 37,910 corporations, 3,829 partnerships and 329 co-operative societies. Their performance was positive and they recorded a positive difference between net profit and net loss amounting to SIT 391,397 m, which was 81.6% more than in 2002 and 24.3% more than in 2003.

This Working Paper analyses the performance in 2004 of:

- commercial companies as a whole;
- companies classified by activities;
- companies classified according to the number of employees;
- large, medium-sized and small companies;
- exporters;
- companies classified by kind of ownership;
- companies classified by origin of capital; and
- co-operative societies.

Key words: commercial companies, Companies Act, Slovenian Accounting Standards, data from profit and loss statements, data from balance sheets, company performance indicators.