

README for the Reproducibility Package for Entrepreneurship Database

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Overview

The Entrepreneurship Database is a global cross-country dataset on the entry and exit of formal private enterprises. The 8th Edition of the Entrepreneurship Database contains annual data on the number of limited liability companies covering 188 economies and spanning the period 2006-2024.

The aim of this reproducibility package is to calculate the business density rates for each country and year, which are published on the Entrepreneurship Database website (<https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/entrepreneurship>). These business density rates are based on the data collected from business registries on the flow and stock of limited liability companies (LLCs), which include the number of new, and closed, LLCs during each calendar year and total LLCs at the end of each calendar year. The business density rates that we publish are defined as:

- New business density, defined as the number of newly registered companies with limited liability per 1,000 working-age adults (ages 15–64) per calendar year.
- Closed business density, defined as the number of closed companies with limited liability per 1,000 working-age adults (ages 15–64) per calendar year.
- Total business density, defined as the total number of registered firms with limited liability per 1,000 working-age people (ages 15-64) at the end of each calendar year.

Data on the number of LLCs per country and year were obtained from business registries. Data on the population of working-age adults (ages 15-64) were compiled from the World Bank's World Development Indicators (WDI) (<https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators>).

Data Availability Statement

Dataset Name	File Name(s)	Link/Access Instructions	Access Date	Data Access
Entrepreneurship Database	Firm Statistics - New Firms	https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/entrepreneurship	September 2025	Open
Entrepreneurship Database	Firm Statistics - Total Number of Firms	https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/entrepreneurship	September 2025	Open

Entrepreneurship Database	Firm Statistics - Closed Firms	https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/entrepreneurship	September 2025	Open
World Development Indicators (WDI)	Population ages 15-64, total	https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators	September 2025	Open

Instructions for Replicators

To reproduce the business density rates on the Entrepreneurship Database website, the replicator should open the folder named “Reproducibility Package”, then:

- 1- Open the master do file named “main.do”
- 2- Replace our directory with their own directory in Line 11
- 3- Run the code

All Business Density Rates can be replicated as they appear on the Entrepreneurship Database website.

List of Exhibits

Entrepreneurship Database – Firm Numbers

(<https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/entrepreneurship>)

Software Requirements

Stata

Excel

Code Description & Folder Structure

All the material needed for reproducing the density rates are included in the folder "Reproducibility Package" which contains three subfolders: Data, Programs, and Results.

Data Folder

The data folder contains an excel file named “EntrepreneurshipDatabase_2025.xlsx” which contains data on the number of new, closed, and total LLCs for each country and year from 2006-2024, gathered from the business registries. We have added to this excel sheet data on the population of working adults aged 15-64 gathered from the WDI. This excel sheet was then converted in stata to a dta file named “EntrepreneurshipDatabase_2025.dta”.

This data on the number of firms is available on the Entrepreneurship Database website under the Firm number tabs (more details in the data availability statement below).

Programs Folder

This folder contains the do files that produce the business density rates available on the Entrepreneurship Database website under the Firm number tabs. To run the files, just replace the code on line 11 in the main.do file with the appropriate directory.

Results Folder

Running the do files in the programs folder will generate the Density Rates.dta file which contains the new, closed, and total business density rates. These rates were calculated by dividing the LLC numbers by the population of working adults and multiplying the resultant by 1000.

The density rates obtained in this Density Rates.dta file are the ones presented in the Entrepreneurship Database website (<https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/entrepreneurship>).