

Foreword

Financing SMEs and Entrepreneurs 2019: An OECD Scoreboard provides information about SMEs and entrepreneurs' access to finance over the period 2007-17. Based on data collected for the country profiles and information from demand-side surveys, this report includes indicators on debt, equity and asset-based finance, as well as on financing framework conditions, complemented by information on recent public and private initiatives to support SME access to finance.

Taken together, these indicators form a comprehensive framework for policy makers and other stakeholders to evaluate the financing needs of SMEs and entrepreneurs and to determine whether they are being met. This report also constitutes a valuable tool to support the design and evaluation of policy measures, and to monitor the implications of financial reforms on access to finance and financing conditions for SMEs more generally.

The 2019 report represents the eighth edition of this annual publication. It presents data for 46 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, the People's Republic of China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Chapter one of this publication describes and analyses recent trends in SME and entrepreneurship finance, drawing on data provided by national experts from participating countries, as well as from external sources. It also provides an overview of major policy developments across scoreboard countries. Chapter 2 focuses on how to enable SMEs to leverage intangible assets, such as patents and other forms of intellectual property, to access finance, and includes an overview of policy initiatives in this area around the world. Chapter 3 contains the national profiles on SME and entrepreneurship finance trends, as well as information on relevant policies, for all 46 participating countries. The print edition of this publication includes a snapshot view with key facts and figures, while the expanded profiles can be accessed online.

This publication was prepared by the SME and Entrepreneurship Division of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE/SMEE), under the guidance of the OECD Working Party on SMEs and Entrepreneurship (WPSMEE) and the WPSMEE's Informal Steering Group on SME and Entrepreneurship Financing.

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Table of contents

Preface	3
Foreword	4
Acknowledgements	5
Reader's Guide	15
Indicators	15
Data collection	16
Cross-country comparability	16
Methodological advances and recommendations for data improvements	17
Acronyms and abbreviations	18
Executive Summary	22
1. Recent Trends in SME and Entrepreneurship Finance	25
1.1. Business environment and macroeconomic context	26
Trade and business investment	26
Financial conditions	26
Lending to SMEs	27
New SME loans	27
Outstanding stock of SME loans	28
SME loan shares	33
Short-term versus long-term lending	35
Credit conditions for SMEs	37
Interest rates	37
Collateral requirements	40
Rejection rates	41
SME loan applications	41
Additional evidence on credit conditions from survey data	42
Asset-based finance	45
Leasing and hire purchases	46
Factoring	47
Self-financing	49
Equity sources of financing	50
Venture capital	50
Private debt	51
Listings on stock exchanges	52
Online alternative finance	54
Business angel investments	57
Payment delays, bankruptcies and non-performing loans	58
Payment delays	58

Bankruptcies.....	59
Non-performing loans (NPLs)	61
Government policy responses in 2017-18.....	62
Credit guarantee schemes are either in strong expansion or being reformed to better fit the needs of beneficiaries.....	64
Governments increasingly implement policies to tackle payment delays.....	66
Regulatory approaches and targeted policies are in place to support Fintech developments.....	67
New public venture capital funds are being established and others expanded.....	68
Recommendations for data improvements.....	70
References.....	75
2. Fostering the use of Intangibles to strengthen SME access to finance	81
Introduction and rationale.....	82
What are intangible assets and why do they matter	82
The potential market failure to secure debt financing.....	84
Challenges in funding intangibles.....	85
Valuation.....	85
Difficulties in obtaining effective security over intangible assets.....	87
Redeployment issues and absence of liquid secondary markets	88
Transaction costs	88
Current practices of public support to intangible-backed financing	89
Europe	89
China	90
Japan.....	90
Korea.....	91
Malaysia	91
Singapore.....	92
United States	92
Common features and variations of policy interventions.....	92
Policy implications and lessons learned	93
Reaching scale will require lowering transaction costs and the adoption of a long-term approach.....	93
Guarantees (and insurance) appear to be crucial elements of the policy mix	93
The private sector needs to be engaged.....	94
A strong evidence base needs to be established and shared.....	94
The market would benefit from more standardised valuations methods.....	95
Patents are a solid starting point, but other types of intangibles should also be considered for collateralisation	95
Potential future research	95
References.....	97
Part I. Country snapshots.....	99
3. Australia	100
4. Austria	102
5. Belgium.....	104
6. Brazil.....	106
7. Canada.....	108
8. Chile.....	110

9. Colombia	113
10. Czech Republic	116
11. Denmark.....	119
12. Estonia	121
13. Finland.....	123
14. France	125
15. Georgia	127
16. Greece.....	129
17. Hungary.....	132
18. Indonesia	134
19. Ireland	136
20. Israel	138
21. Italy	140
22. Japan.....	143
23. Kazakhstan.....	145
24. Korea	147
25. Latvia.....	149
26. Lithuania	151
27. Luxembourg.....	153
28. Malaysia	155
29. Mexico.....	158
30. New Zealand	160
31. Norway	162
32. People’s Republic of China.....	164
33. Peru.....	167
34. Poland	169
35. Portugal.....	171
36. Russian Federation.....	174
37. Serbia.....	176
38. Slovak Republic	178
39. Slovenia.....	180
40. South Africa	181
41. Spain	183
42. Sweden.....	185

43. Switzerland.....	187
44. Thailand	189
45. The Netherlands	190
46. Turkey	192
47. United Kingdom	194
48. United States	197
Annex A. The EIB Group's support to SMEs and midcaps	201
The EIB Group's support to SMEs and midcaps	201
The EIB Group's offer	202
Increasing Policy Priorities	203
Annex B. Effective approaches for implementing the G20/OECD High-level Principles on SME financing	205
Annex C. Methodology for producing the national Scoreboards.....	209
Scoreboard indicators and their definitions	209
Core indicators	209
Data sources and preferred definitions	210
Inflation-adjusted data	213
SME target population	213
Timeframe for data collection	214
Data sources	214
Deviations from preferred definitions of indicators	214
SME loans	214
SME loans requested, authorised and used	214
Government loan guarantees and guaranteed loans	215
SME credit conditions	215
Equity financing	216
Asset-based finance	216
Non-performing loans	217
Payment delays and bankruptcies	217
Differences in definitions of an SME	217
Impact of diversity in definitions	226
Recommendations for data improvements	226
Standardised template	226
Core indicators	227
Medium and long-term objectives	228
Notes	228
Annex D. Standardised table for SME finance data collection	231

Tables

Table 1. Core indicators in financing SMEs and entrepreneurs, 2019	15
Table 1.1. Country cluster classification	32
Table 1.2. Trends in SME loan shares and credit market scenarios, 2016-17	35
Table 1.3. SME markets on stock exchanges, 2017	53

Table 1.4. Government policy instruments to foster SME access to finance	63
Table 1.1. Types of intangible assets.....	82
Table 3.1. Scoreboard for Australia	101
Table 4.1. Scoreboard for Austria	103
Table 5.1. Scoreboard for Belgium	105
Table 6.1. Scoreboard for Brazil	107
Table 7.1. Scoreboard for Canada.....	109
Table 8.1. Scoreboard for Chile	112
Table 9.1. Scoreboard for Colombia	114
Table 10.1. Scoreboard for the Czech Republic.....	118
Table 11.1. Scoreboard of Denmark.....	120
Table 12.1. Scoreboard for Estonia	122
Table 13.1. Scoreboard for Finland.....	124
Table 14.1. Scoreboard for France	126
Table 15.1. Scoreboard for Georgia	128
Table 16.1. Scoreboard for Greece.....	131
Table 17.1. Scoreboard for Hungary	133
Table 18.1. Scoreboard for Indonesia, 2007-18	135
Table 19.1. Scoreboard for Ireland.....	137
Table 20.1. Scoreboard for Israel	139
Table 21.1. Scoreboard for Italy, 2007-17.....	142
Table 22.1. Scoreboard for Japan, 2007-17.....	144
Table 23.1. Scoreboard for Kazakhstan	146
Table 24.1. Scoreboard for Korea	148
Table 25.1. Scoreboard for Latvia.....	150
Table 26.1. Scoreboard for Lithuania.....	152
Table 27.1. Scoreboard for Luxembourg	154
Table 28.1. Scoreboard for Malaysia	157
Table 29.1. Scoreboard for Mexico	159
Table 30.1. Scoreboard for New Zealand.....	161
Table 31.1. Scoreboard for Norway	163
Table 32.1. Scoreboard for the People’s Republic of China	166
Table 33.1. Scoreboard for Peru.....	168
Table 34.1. Scoreboard for Poland	170
Table 35.1. Scoreboard for Portugal.....	173
Table 36.1. Scoreboard for the Russian Federation.....	175
Table 37.1. Scoreboard for Serbia.....	177
Table 38.1. Scoreboard for the Slovak Republic.....	179
Table 39.1. Scoreboard for Slovenia	180
Table 40.1. Scoreboard for South Africa.....	182
Table 41.1. Scoreboard for Spain.....	184
Table 42.1. Scoreboard for Sweden	186
Table 43.1. Scoreboard for Switzerland.....	188
Table 44.1. Scoreboard for Thailand.....	189
Table 45.1. Scoreboard for the Netherlands.....	191
Table 46.1. Scoreboard for Turkey.....	193
Table 47.1. Scoreboard for the United Kingdom	196
Table 48.1. Scoreboard for the United States.....	199

Figures

Figure 1.1. Growth in new SME lending	27
Figure 1.2. Growth in outstanding SME business loans.....	29
Figure 1.3. Growth patterns in the stock of outstanding SME loans.....	30
Figure 1.4. SME loan shares.....	34
Figure 1.5. SME long-term lending.....	36
Figure 1.6. SME interest rates, 2017	38
Figure 1.7. Change in SME interest rates.....	38
Figure 1.8. Interest rate spreads between loans to large firms and to SMEs.....	39
Figure 1.9. SME collateral requirements.....	40
Figure 1.10. SME rejection rates.....	41
Figure 1.11. SME loan applications	42
Figure 1.12. ECB Survey on SME access to finance	43
Figure 1.13. Lending attitudes in Japan.....	45
Figure 1.14. Leasing and hire purchases	46
Figure 1.15. Factoring volumes.....	48
Figure 1.16. Profitability ratios for European SMEs, 2012-16	50
Figure 1.17. Venture capital investments	51
Figure 1.18. Private debt fundraising in different regions of the world	52
Figure 1.19. The online alternative finance market for businesses by region	55
Figure 1.20. Breakdown of the online alternative finance market for businesses by type	56
Figure 1.21. The growth in the online alternative finance market for businesses	57
Figure 1.22. Payment delays	59
Figure 1.23. SME bankruptcies.....	60
Figure 1.24. SME non-performing loans.....	62
Figure 1.25. Share of government loan guarantees	64
Figure 1.26. Composition of the SME population in the United Kingdom.....	71
Figure 1.1. Illustration of the potential to bring debt finance to bear at an earlier stage of business maturity	84

Boxes

Box 1.1. Trends in outstanding SME loan growth – key findings from a cluster analysis	31
Box 1.2. The evaluation of credit guarantee schemes: Evidence from the European Association of Guarantee Institutions (AECM)	65
Box 1.3. Effective Approaches for Implementing the G20/OECD High-Level Principles on SME Financing.....	69
Box 1.4. The UK approach to SME attitudinal and needs based segmentation	70
Box 1.5. Recommendations for improving the reporting of core indicators	72
Box 1.1. Valuation methods for intangible assets	85

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