SMEs in Thailand

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1. Definition of SMEs

Thai SMEs are categorized by Number of employees and value of total fixed assets (Excluding land).

Туре	Sm	ıall	Medium		
		Fixed Asset		Fixed Asset	
	No. of Employee	Excluding Land	No. of Employee	Excluding Land	
		(THB Mil.)		(THB Mil.)	
Manufacturing	50 or less	50 or less	51-200	>50 to 200	
Services	50 or less	50 or less	51-200	>50 to 200	
Wholesale	25 or less	50 or less	26-50	>50 to 100	
Retail	15 or less	30 or less	16-30	>30 to 60	

2. Number of SMEs

In 2014, number of SMEs in Thailand were 2,736,744, or 99.73% of the total number of enterprises. The majority of the enterprise are small sized enterprises accounting for 99.26% of the country's total number of enterprises while the medium sized enterprises were accounted for 0.47%.

	2	2013	2	2014
Туре	Amount	Share to Total Enterprises	Amount	Share to Total Enterprises
SMEs	2,716,038	99.73	2,736,744	99.73
SE	2,703,393	99.27	2,723,932	99.26
ME	12,645	0.46	12,812	0.47
LE	6,966	0.01	7,062	0.26
Undefined	392	0.01	392	0.01
Total	2,723,396	100.00	2,744,198	100.00

Regarding to the classification of enterprises by sector, the highest number of SMEs was 1,159,715 enterprises consisting of wholesale, retail, and automobile repair sectors, equivalent to 99.58% of all enterprises in this sectors. Secondly, there were 1,036,598 SMEs in the service sector constituting 99.28% of all enterprises in this sectors. Thirdly, the number of SMEs in the manufacturing sector was 495,077 or 98.57% of all the country's SMEs in the manufacturing sector. Finally, in the agricultural sector, there were 32,081 SMEs or 99.26% of all the country's SMEs in the agricultural sector.

		wholesale, retail, & automobile repair	Services	Manufac- turing	Agri-culture	Un-defined	Total
SEs	2014	1,159,715	1,036,598	495,077	32,081	461	2,723,932
MEs	2014	2,924	5,220	4,497	171	-	12,812
SMEs	2014	1,162,639	1,041,818	499,574	32,252	461	2,736,744
Total	2014	1,164,605	1,044,166	502,255	32,319	853	2,744,198

3. Employment of SMEs

In 2014, the number of people employed by enterprises of all sizes totaled 13,078,147. Of this number, SMEs employed 10,501,166 people, or 80.30% of overall employment. For the employment classification by sector, the service sector had the highest number of employees totaling 4,701,144 or 80.53% of all the country's employment in the service sector.

Regarding employment by SMEs by size of business in 2014, it was found that employment by SMEs in the manufacturing sector was merely 23.09% of all employment while the service sector had the highest proportion of employment at 44.77% of all employment of SMEs. According to wholesale, retail trade and the repair of motor vehicles sectors, employment accounted for 31.57% of all employment of SMEs.

2014	SEs	MEs	LEs	SMEs	Total
Agriculture and Mining	105,274	6,983	3,688	112,257	115,945
Manufacturing	1,927,193	397,747	1,183,460	2,324,940	3,508,400
Electrics and Water	41,267	7,232	6,059	48,499	54,558
Wholesale and Retailing	3,235,553	79,932	245,889	3,315,485	3,561,374
Construction	685,683	40,528	49,550	726,211	775,761
Transportation and Warehouse	331,615	51,618	97,967	383,233	481,200
Hotel & Restaurants	915,792	87,902	185,745	1,003,694	1,189,439
Other Services	2,282,724	304,123	803,591	2,586,847	3,390,438
Undefined					1032
Total	9,525,101	976,065	2,575,949	10,501,166	13,078,147
Ratio to Total Enterprises	72.83	7.46	19.70	80.30	100.00
Ratio to Total SMEs	90.71	9.29			

4. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of SMEs

The GDP contribution of SMEs in 2014 was 5,212,004 million baht or 39.6% of the country's overall GDP, which small enterprises contribute to 27.8% of total GDP and medium enterprises contribute to 11.8% of total GDP respectively.

	SE	ME	SME	LE	Total
GDP Value (Trillion Baht)	3.65	1.56	5.21	5.74	13.15
Proportion to Overall GDP (%)	27.8	11.8	39.6	43.6	100.0
Growth Rate (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.4	0.9

Regarding to the GDP structure of SMEs in 2014, the service sector was the most important economic activity accounting for 41.3%. Second was the trade and maintenance sector at 27.9%, followed by the manufacturing sector at 23.5% respectively.

	Over	all	SMEs		
Economic Activity*	Proportion to overall GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	Proportion to overall GDP (%)	Growth Rate (%)	
Manufacturing	27.7	-0.4	23.5	-0.4	
Trade and Maintenance	13.9	0.7	27.9	0.7	
Service	38.8	2.4	41.3	0.8	
Other Sectors**	9.1	-1.1	7.3	-3.9	

Note: * Not including the agricultural sector

5. Government policy to support SMEs

The Thai government emphasizes on SMEs as a major economic development of the country. There are several government agencies responsible for SME promotion in terms of measures, projects and services provided to SMEs in various aspects for business operations. There are also benefits regarding to tax and investment in different areas. SME promotion schemes under the current government are as follow;

o Financial Policy

- Soft Loans & Credit: It aims to alleviate the problem of access to finance for SMEs, enhance liquidity to SMEs that can survive and conduct their business in a sluggish economy. Loans are given to SMEs at a low rate of 4 per cent per annum for seven years.
- Credit Guarantee Scheme: Thai Credit Guarantee Corporation (TCG) is a state-owned specialized financial institution and to provide support to SMEs through guarantee service for the SMEs that have potentials but lack collateral security in order to enable them to acquire the required amounts of loans from financial institutions.
- Venture Capital for SME-OTOP: Government banks provide another source capital for SMEs through joint investment with Start-up of high growth potential.

• Trade and Investment Policy

- Incentive for Invest in Special Economic Zone
- Tax Incentive for Selected SMEs from BOI
- Incentive for SMEs to export or invest in foreign countries

SMEs Development Policy

• Support policy for SMEs innovation

• Incubation center services

o Tax Policy

• Tax Incentive to encourage SMEs to register within tax system

The newest policy launched on 8 September, 2015 aimed to encourage and support start-up SMEs. There are 5 mainly measures as follow;

• Low Interest Rate Credit: Loans for liquidity and working capital for SMEs

• Portfolio Guarantee Scheme (PGS-5) for new entrepreneur by Thai Credit Guarantee Corporation (TCG)

• SMEs Private Equity Trust Fund The 2-billion-baht venture capital fund led by Government Savings Bank (GSB) to invest in SMEs with high growth potential.

• **Income Tax reduction** for Existing SMEs having profit more than 300,000 baht (Reduce to 10% for 2015-2016 tax year)

• Income Tax Exception for New Start-Up (for 5 consecutive years), and also for small SMEs having profit less than 300,000 baht.

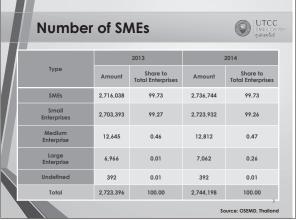
Source:

White Paper on Small and Medium Enterprises of Thailand in 2015, OSMED, Thailand

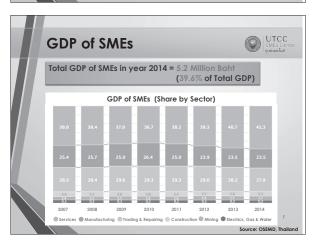
New Start-Up Policy, Ministry of Finance, Thailand

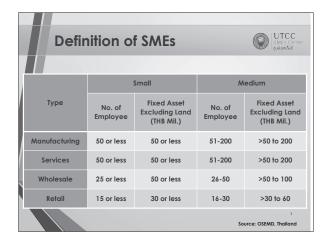
National Agenda: SMEs Policy, Bank of Thailand





SME Size and Job Creation William Continue of SME Center o									
		2013		2014					
Туре	Amount	Share to Total Enterprises	Amount	Share to Total Enterprises					
SMEs	10,235,239	20.08	10,501,166	80.30					
Small Enterprises	9,273,480	72.56	9,525,101	72.83					
Medium Enterprise	961,759	7.53	976,065	7.46					
Large Enterprise	2,544,412	19.91	2,575,949	19.70					
Undefined	1,032	0.01	1,032	0.01					
Total	12,780,692	100.00	13,078,147	100.00					
				Source: OSEMD, Thailand					





1	Number of SMEs by Sector UTCC SMEs Center Companied Comp								
	П	Wholesale and Retailing	Services	Manufacturing	Agriculture	Undefined	Total		
	2013	1,152,795	1,023,581	493,617	33,363	37	2,703,393		
SEs	2014	1,159,715	1,036,598	495,077	32,081	461	2,723,932		
MEs	2013	2,896	5,111	4,465	173	-	12,645		
MES	2014	2,924	5,220	4,497	171	-	12,812		
SMEs	2013	1,155,691	1,028,692	498,082	33,536	37	2,716,038		
SMES	2014	1,162,639	1,041,818	499,574	32,252	461	2,736,744		
LEs	2013	1,935	2,289	2,675	67	-	6,966		
LES	2014	1,966	2,348	2,681	67	-	7,062		
Undefined	2013					392	392		
Undefined	2014					392	392		
	2013	1,157,626	1,030,981	500,757	33,603	429	2,723,396		
Total	2014	1,164,605	1,044,166	502,255	32,319	853	2,744,198		
						Source: OSEM	D, Thailand		

Job Creation by Sector							
2014	SEs	MEs	LEs	SMEs	Total		
Agriculture and Mining	105,274	6,983	3,688	112,257	115,94		
Manufacturing	1,927,193	397,747	1,183,460	2,324,940	3,508,40		
Electrics and Water	41,267	7,232	6,059	48,499	54,55		
Construction	685,683	40,528	49,550	726,211	775,76		
Wholesale and Retailing	3,235,553	79,932	245,889	3,315,485	3,561,37		
Transportation and Warehouse	331,615	51,618	97,967	383,233	481,20		
Hotel & Restaurants	915,792	87,902	185,745	1,003,694	1,189,43		
Services	2,282,724	304,123	803,591	2,586,847	3,390,43		
Total	9,525,101	976,065	2,575,949	10,501,166	13,077,11		
				Source: OSEA	AD, Thailand		



