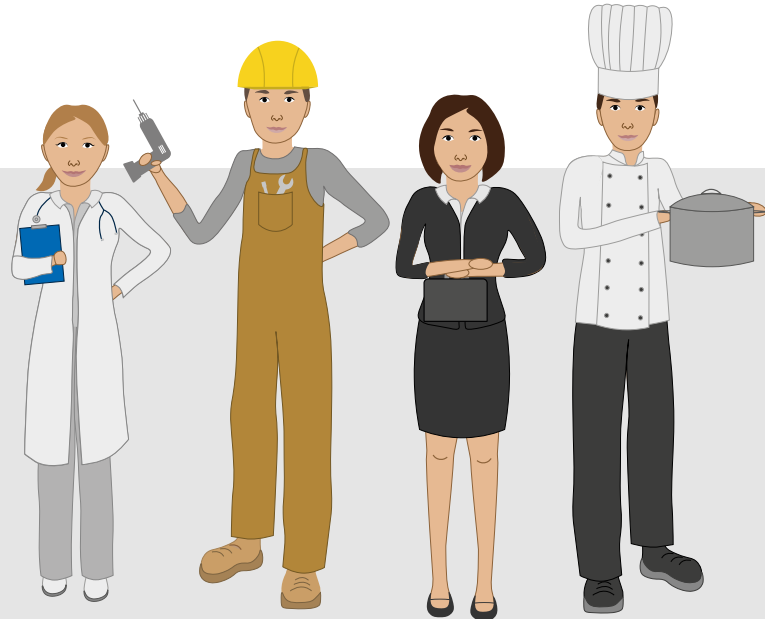
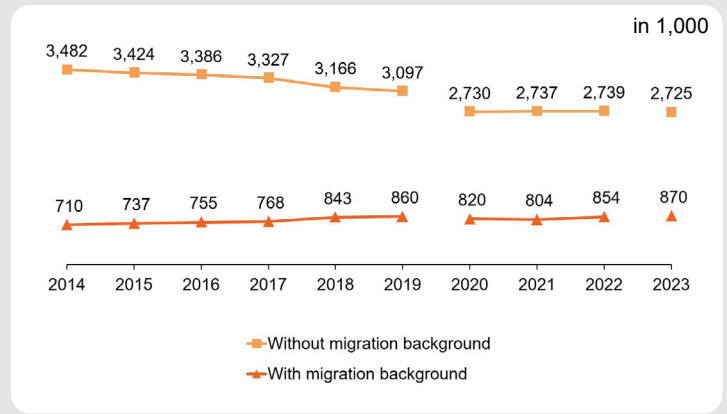


3.6 Million People in Germany Are Primarily Self-Employed



According to the most recent data, around 3.6 million people in Germany were self-employed as their main occupation in 2023. One third of them are women and two thirds are men. A quarter of the self-employed have a migration background. This share has increased over the past ten years (from around 17 % to 24 %), while the proportion of those without a migration background has declined accordingly (from around 83 % to 76 %).

Self-employed persons with and without a migration background

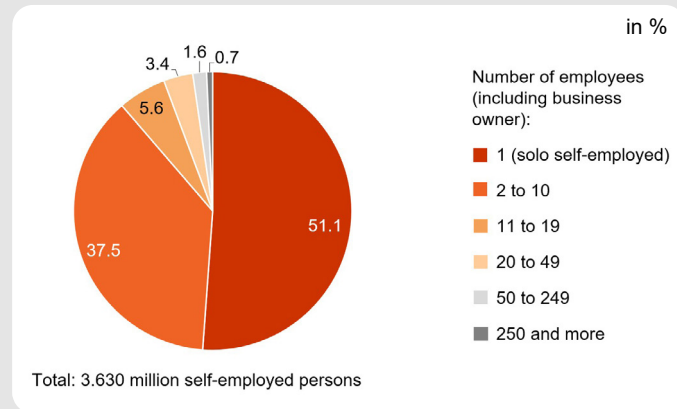


Source: Federal Statistical Office (Microcensus), various years; IfM Bonn calculations.

Predominantly solo self-employed individuals

Around 1.8 million self-employed people do not employ any staff and are therefore classified as solo self-employed. In about 38 % of all businesses, between 2 and 10 people (including the owner) are active. Only 0.7 % of the self-employed run businesses with more than 250 employees.

Self-employed by business size

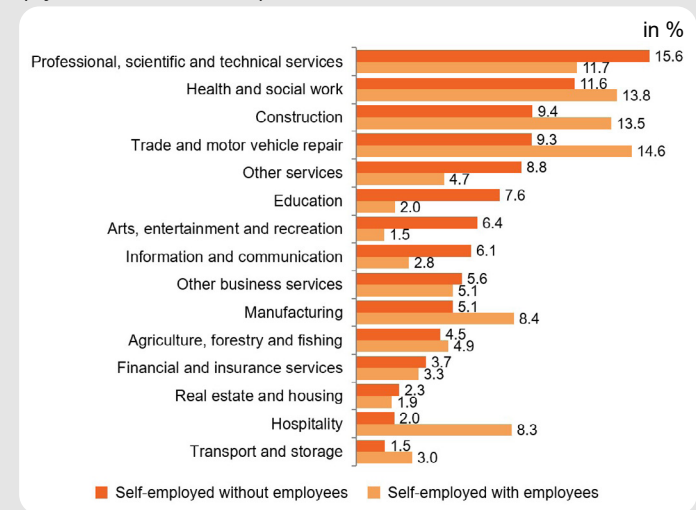


Source: Federal Statistical Office (Microcensus), 2023 IfM Bonn calculations.

Solo self-employed mainly in service occupations

Solo self-employed people are most frequently active in professional, scientific and technical services (around 16 %), but are rarely found in the transport and storage or hospitality sectors. Self-employed individuals with employees are particularly common in trade and motor vehicle repair (around 15 %), followed by health and social work (around 14 %) and construction (around 14 %).

Self-employed without and with employees in 2023 (by economic sector)



Source: Federal Statistical Office (Microcensus), 2023 IfM Bonn calculations.

