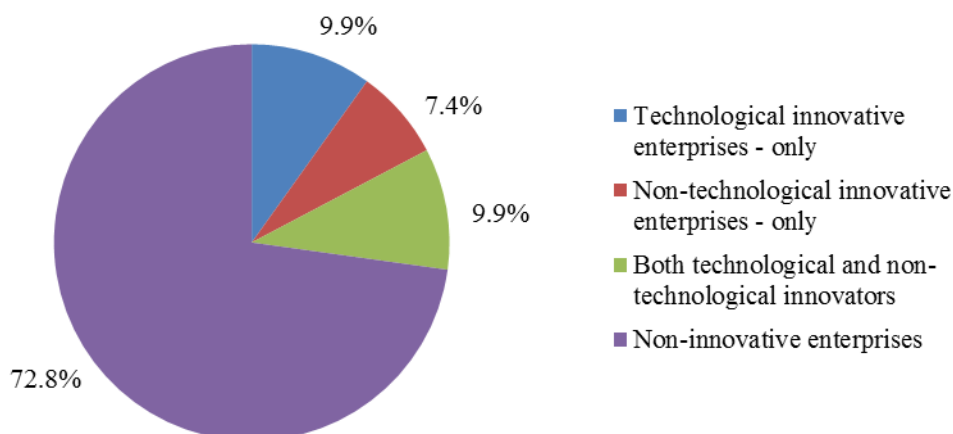




INNOVATION ACTIVITY DURING THE PERIOD 2014 - 2016

During the period 2014 - 2016 27.2% of the enterprises carried out an innovation activity. Of all enterprises 19.8% realized technological innovation (product innovation, process innovation, ongoing or abandoned innovation activity), while 17.3% implemented non-technological innovation (organizational and marketing innovation).

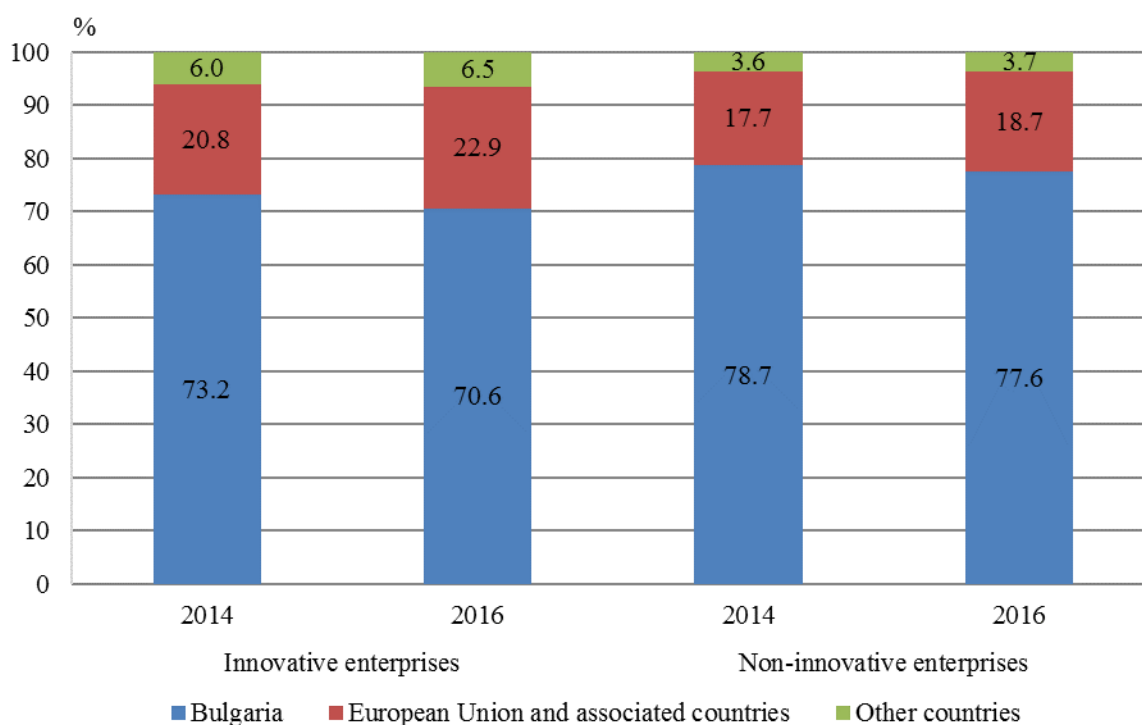
Figure 1. Structure of innovation activity during the period 2014 - 2016



During the reference period 19.8% of all enterprises indicated as their main market European Union and associated countries. Compared to the previous innovation survey (2012 - 2014) the increase was 1.3 percentage points. Among innovative companies this share was 22.9%, while in the non-innovative - 18.7% (Figure 2).



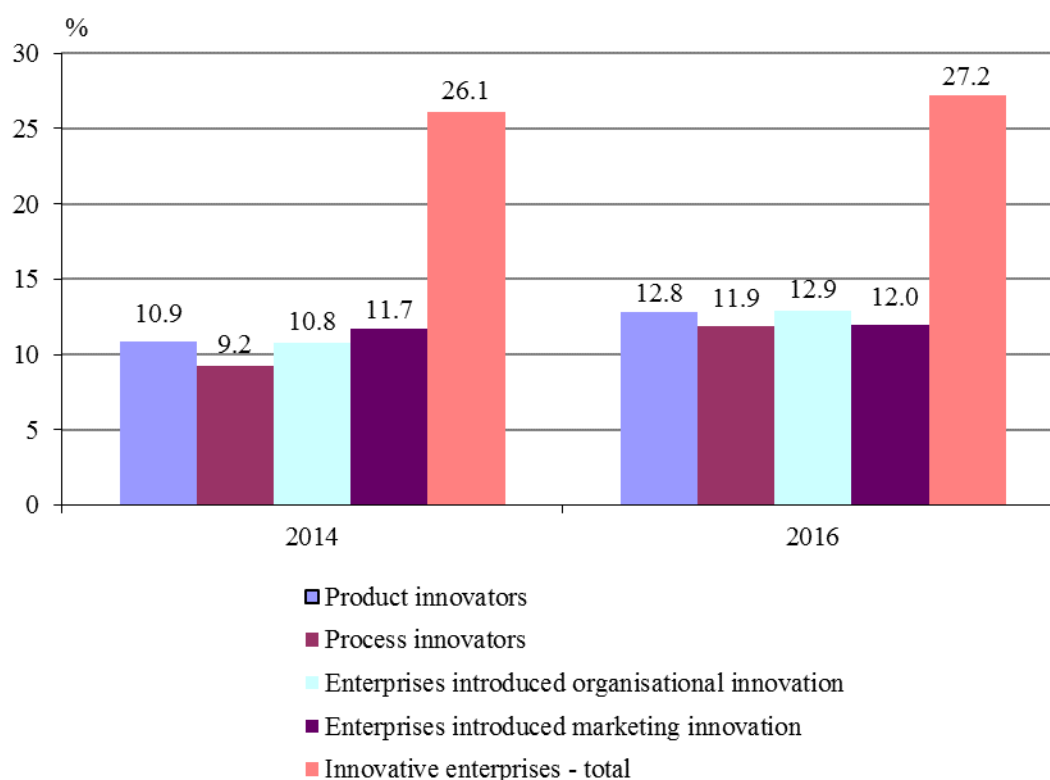
Figure 2. Structure of key geographic markets of enterprises



During the period 2014 - 2016 the innovation activity increased by 1.1 percentage points compared to the previous survey. An increase was observed in all type of innovations - product, process, organizational and marketing - respectively by 1.9, 2.7, 2.1 and 0.3 percentage points (Figure 3).



Figure 3. Innovative enterprises as a percentage of all enterprises



During the period 2014 - 2016 12.8% of the enterprises introduced to the market new or significantly improved goods or services (product innovation) and their turnover formed 24.4% of the total turnover in 2016. 65.2% of enterprises with product innovations realized an innovative product that was new to their market and 81.6% realized goods or services that were new only for their enterprise.

6.0% of turnover in industry and services in 2016 was due to new to the firm or new to the market products. 2.7% of the turnover of enterprises in 2016 resulted from new not only for the enterprise but also for the market product innovations, while 3.3% of turnover was a result of new products only for the enterprise.

During the observed period 11.9% of enterprises introduced new or significantly improved processes (process innovation) in their enterprise. 8.1% of enterprises implemented new or significantly improved methods of producing goods or services, 6.4% of businesses introduced new or significantly improved supporting activities and 3.4% - new or significantly improved logistics, delivery or distribution methods for inputs, goods or services.



12.9% of enterprises implemented new organisational methods in business practices, workplace organisation or external relations that have not been previously used (organizational innovation). Implementation of new business practices for organising procedures (9.5%) and introduction of new methods of organising work responsibilities and decision making (8.9%) were the types of organizational innovations which were reported most often.

During the reference period 12.0% of enterprises implemented new marketing concepts or strategies (marketing innovation). The largest share of enterprises implemented new media or techniques for product promotion with a share of 8.4%, followed by those using new methods of pricing goods or services - 5.9%.

Innovation activity during the period 2014 - 2016 was higher for enterprises engaged in industry (31.6%) than those providing services (22.1%). The largest share of innovators was in the group of large enterprises (250 and more employees) - 81.9%. Turnover of innovative enterprises constituted 59.8% of the turnover of all enterprises. The share of employees in innovative enterprises accounted at 59.0% of employees in all enterprises (Table 1).

1. Innovation activity during the period 2014 - 2016 by sectors and size classes

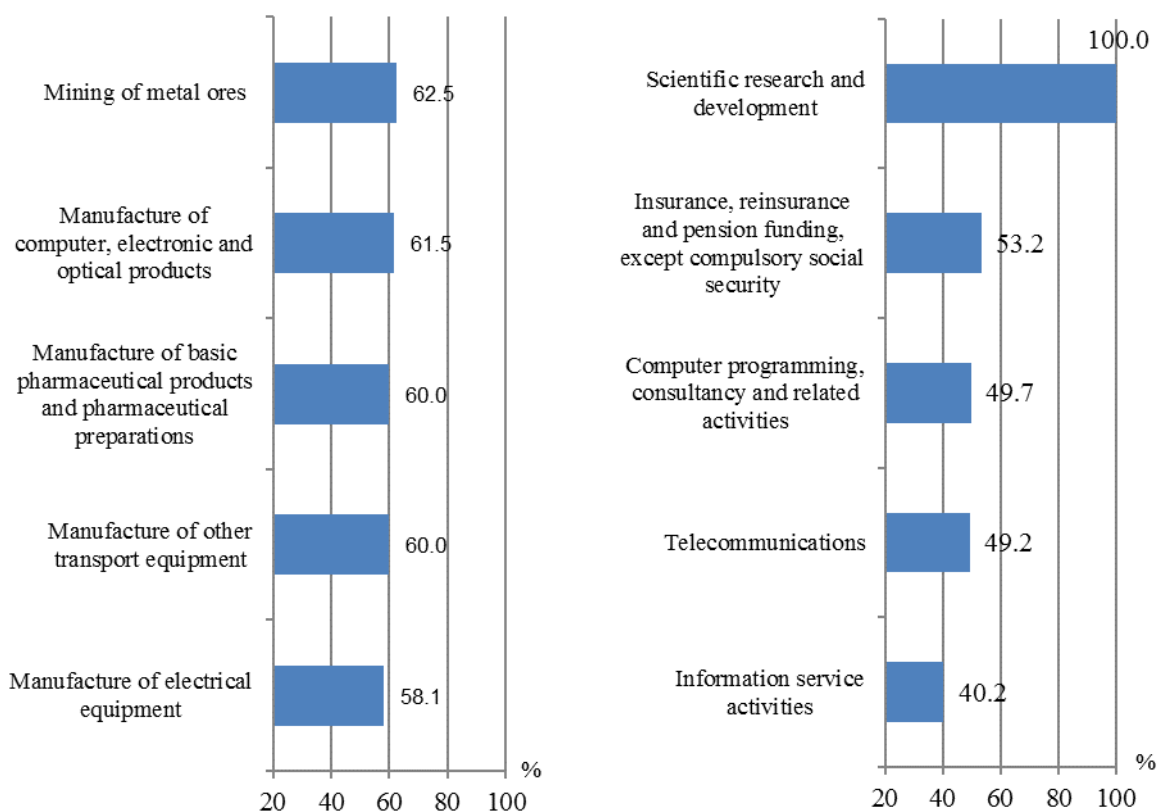
	Innovative enterprises	Turnover of innovative enterprises	Employees in innovative enterprises
			(Per cent)
Total	27.2	59.8	59.0
Industry	31.6	73.4	62.2
Services	22.1	47.2	54.1
10 - 49 employees	20.5	22.9	23.3
50 - 249 employees	44.3	50.1	48.6
250 or more employees	81.9	90.0	87.2

29.6% of all enterprises in 2016 had more than one quarter of employees with tertiary education. In innovative companies this share was 41.8%, while in enterprises without innovation activities - 25.1%.

The economic activity that had the highest percentage of innovating companies in the Industry was 'Mining of metal ores' (62.5%). In the Service sector on the first place was 'Scientific research and development (R&D)' in which all enterprises were innovative as R&D is a kind of innovation.



Figure 4. Economic activities with the highest innovation activity share in the industry and services during the period 2014 - 2016



Of the enterprises with technological innovation 20.9% were involved in innovation co-operation with other enterprises, scientific organizations and other partners as for large enterprises (with 250 or more employees) this share was 35.8%.

Public funding to support their innovation activity received 35.2% of all technological innovators in the period 2014 - 2016.



Methodological notes

The statistical survey on innovation activity is conducted every even year and the observation period covered by the survey is the three-year period.

Units of observation are all enterprises of non-financial and financial sector with 10 or more employees engaged primarily in the following economic activities (NACE rev.2): Mining and quarrying; Manufacturing; Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities; Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; Transportation and storage; Information and communication; Financial and insurance activities; Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis; Scientific research and development; Advertising and market research.

An innovation is the implementation of a new or significantly improved product (good or service) or process, a new marketing method, or a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization or external relations. Innovations are based on the results of new technological developments, new combinations of existing technology or the utilization of other knowledge acquired by an enterprise.

Innovations may be developed by the innovating enterprise or by another enterprise. However, purely selling innovations wholly produced and developed by other enterprises is not included as an innovation activity. Innovations should be new to the enterprise concerned. For product innovations they do not necessarily have to be new to the market and for process innovations the enterprise does not necessarily have to be the first one to have introduced the process.