

Oldest Businesses Around the World – Longevity, Industry, and Historical Insights

Staffelter Hof Winery is Germany's oldest business, established in 862 under the Carolingian dynasty. It has continued to serve customers through dramatic changes in Europe, such as the Holy Roman Empire, the Ottoman Empire, and both world wars. What characteristics enable a business to stand the test of time?

To help answer this question, BusinessFinancing.co.uk researched the oldest company still in business in almost every country and compiled the results into several CSV files. This dataset has been cleaned.

Having useful information in different files is a common problem. While it's better to keep different types of data separate for data storage, you'll want all the data in one place for analysis. You'll use joining and data manipulation to work with this data and better understand the world's oldest businesses.

The Data

`businesses` and `new_businesses`

Column	Description
<code>business</code>	Name of the business (varchar)
<code>year_founded</code>	Year the business was founded (int)
<code>category_code</code>	Code for the business category (varchar)
<code>country_code</code>	ISO 3166-1 three-letter country code (char)

`countries`

Column	Description
<code>country_code</code>	ISO 3166-1 three-letter country code (varchar)
<code>country</code>	Name of the country (varchar)
<code>continent</code>	Name of the continent the country exists in (varchar)

`categories`

Column	Description
<code>category_code</code>	Code for the business category (varchar)
<code>category</code>	Description of the business category (varchar)

Data Validation and Initial Exploration

index	...	↑↓	table_name	...	↑↓	column_name	...	↑↓	data_type	...
0	businesses		business						character varying	
1	businesses		year Founded						integer	
2	businesses		category_code						character varying	
3	businesses		country_code						character	
4	categories		category_code						character varying	
5	categories		category						character varying	
6	countries		country_code						character varying	
7	countries		country						character varying	
8	countries		continent						character varying	

Rows: 9

i...	...	↑↓	business	...	↑↓	year_founded	...	↑↓	category_code	...	↑↓	country_code	...
0	Hamoud Boualem					1878	CAT11		DZA				
1	Communauté Électrique du Bénin					1968	CAT10		BEN				
2	Botswana Meat Commission					1965	CAT1		BWA				
3	Air Burkina					1967	CAT2		BFA				
4	Brarudi					1955	CAT9		BDI				

Rows: 5

...	↑↓	business	...	↑↓	year...	...	↑↓	catego...	...	↑↓	coun...	...	↑↓	
0	Fiji Times				1869	CAT13		FJI						
1	J. Armando Bermúdez & Co.				1852	CAT9		DOM						

Rows: 2

...	↑↓	coun...	...	↑↓	country	...	↑↓	c.	↑↓				
0	AFG		Afghanistan			Asia								
1	AGO		Angola			Africa								
2	ALB		Albania			Europe								
3	AND		Andorra			Europe								
4	ARE		United Arab Emirates			Asia								

Rows: 5

...	↑↓	catego...	...	↑↓	category	...	↑↓							
0	CAT1		Agriculture											
1	CAT2		Aviation & Transport											
2	CAT3		Banking & Finance											
3	CAT4		Cafés, Restaurants & Bars											
4	CAT5		Conglomerate											

Rows: 5

Your query ran successfully but returned no results.

Your query ran successfully but returned no results.

... ↑↓	min_year_f...	... ↑↓	max_year_f...	... ↑↓
0	578		1999	

Rows: 1

Expand

Your query ran successfully but returned no results.

Your query ran successfully but returned no results.

Your query ran successfully but returned no results.

Data Coverage Gaps: Countries Without Identified Oldest Businesses

... ↑↓	contin...	... ↑↓	countries_without_businesses	... ↑↓
0	Oceania		11	
1	Asia		7	
2	North America		6	
3	Africa		3	
4	South America		3	
5	Europe		2	

Rows: 6

Expand

Longevity of Business Categories Across Continents

... ↑↓	contin...	... ↑↓	category	... ↑↓	earliest_founding_year	... ↑↓
0	Asia		Construction		578	
1	Europe		Cafés, Restaurants & Bars		803	
2	Europe		Distillers, Vintners, & Breweries		862	
3	Europe		Manufacturing & Production		864	
4	Asia		Cafés, Restaurants & Bars		1153	
5	Europe		Agriculture		1218	
6	Europe		Tourism & Hotels		1230	
7	Europe		Mining		1248	
8	Europe		Medical		1422	
9	Europe		Postal Service		1520	
10	North America		Manufacturing & Production		1534	

Rows: 56

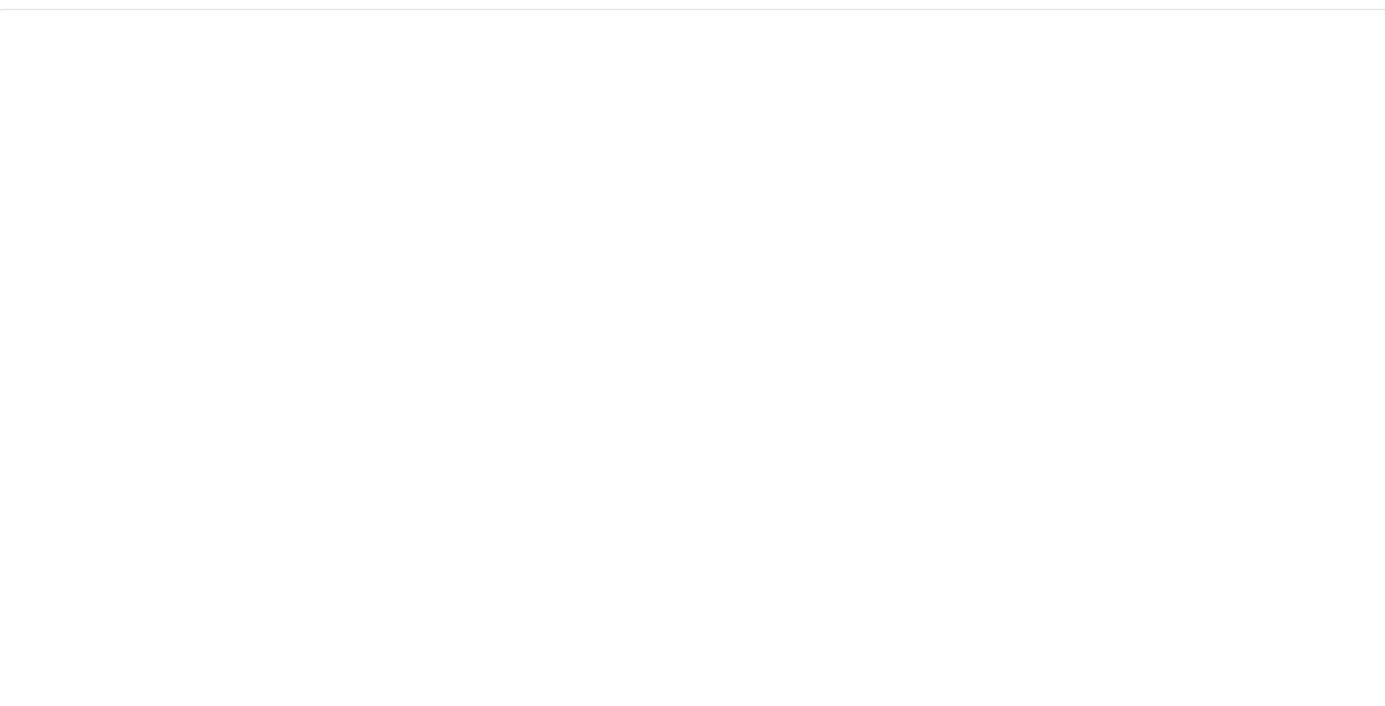
Expand

Global Distribution of Businesses Founded Before the Year 1000

...	↑↓	c.	...	↑↓	num_of_busi...	...	↑↓	
0		Europe			5			
1		Asia			1			

Rows: 2

Expand

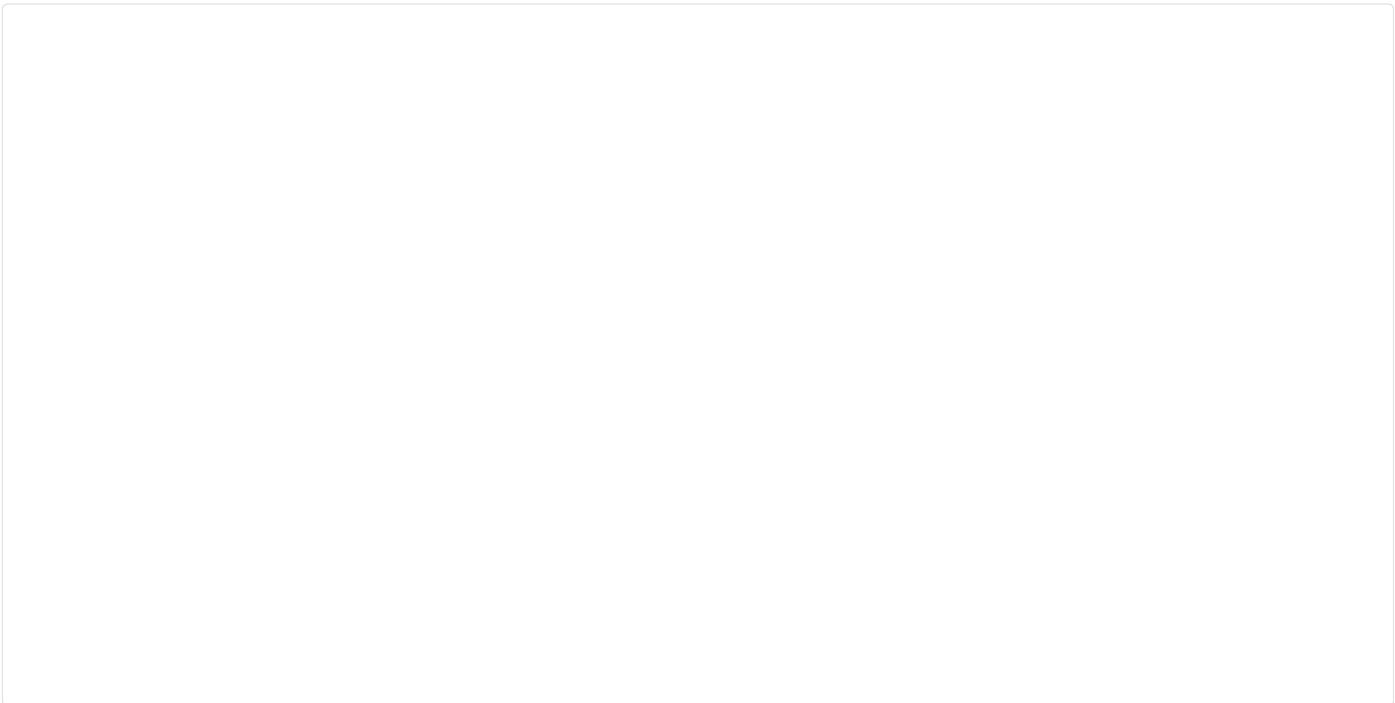


Comparing the Average Age of Businesses Across Continents

...	↑↓	contin...	...	↑↓	avg_busine...	...	↑↓	
0		Europe			516.43			
1		South America			274.78			
2		North America			198.47			
3		Asia			187.12			
4		Oceania			139			
5		Africa			100.8			

Rows: 6

Expand



Geographic Reach of Business Categories Across Countries

...	↑↓	catego...	...	↑↓	category	...	↑↓	num_of_co...	...	↑↓	
0	CAT3				Banking & Finance			37			
1	CAT9				Distillers, Vintners, & Breweries			22			
2	CAT2				Aviation & Transport			19			
3	CAT16				Postal Service			16			
4	CAT12				Manufacturing & Production			15			
5	CAT13				Media			7			
6	CAT1				Agriculture			6			
7	CAT11				Food & Beverages			6			
8	CAT4				Cafés, Restaurants & Bars			6			
9	CAT17				Retail			4			
10	CAT10				Energy			4			

Rows: 19 ↗ Expand

Most Dominant Business Categories Within Each Continent

...	↑↓	contin...	...	↑↓	category	...	↑↓	num_of_busi...	...	↑↓	...	↑↓
0	Africa				Banking & Finance			17		1		
1	Africa				Aviation & Transport			10		2		
2	Africa				Postal Service			9		3		
3	Africa				Media			4		4		
4	Africa				Distillers, Vintners, & Breweries			3		5		
5	Africa				Agriculture			3		5		
6	Africa				Manufacturing & Production			1		6		
7	Africa				Food & Beverages			1		6		
8	Africa				Mining			1		6		
9	Africa				Energy			1		6		
10	Asia				Aviation & Transport			7		1		

Rows: 56

Expand

Oldest Operating Businesses by Continent (Tie-Aware Historical Analysis)

...	↑↓	contin...	...	↑↓	business	...	↑↓	category	...	↑↓	old...	...	↑↓
0	Africa				Mauritius Post			Postal Service			1772		
1	Asia				Kongō Gumi			Construction			578		
2	Europe				St. Peter Stifts Kulinarium			Cafés, Restaurants & Bars			803		
3	North America				La Casa de Moneda de México			Manufacturing & Production			1534		
4	Oceania				Australia Post			Postal Service			1809		
5	South America				Casa Nacional de Moneda			Banking & Finance			1565		

Rows: 6

Expand