

# THE IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ON THE EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF HUNGARIAN SMEs

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**Abstract:** *Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) play a significant role in the Hungarian economy as more than two-thirds of the total employee number are employed by SMEs, and their productivity represents more than half of the national economy. The main purpose of this study is to determine the impact of Covid-19 on small- and medium-sized enterprises in Hungary. In other words, how has the life of small and medium-sized enterprises been changed by the coronavirus in Hungary? During the research 383 managers filled out the online questionnaire. It was confirmed that the coronavirus had a significant effect on the Hungarian enterprises and caused several changes in employment. The major impact of the coronavirus was on the workforce number and employment method.*

**Key words:** *coronavirus; employee; small- and medium-sized enterprises; economic crisis; working conditions*

**JEL Classification:** *I15; J21; J53; M20*

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