Our study does not take into account private companies, companies that have not published a complete set of English financial statements, and those that are not subsidiaries of other *ENR* top 30 contractors. *ENR*'s 2016 Top 250 global contractors list, published in August 2016, was used as a reference. Our rankings are based on revenues converted into US\$ 2014 constant exchange rates, against *ENR*'s list based on actual revenues from engineering and construction activities. Annual reports investigated either have a 30 September 2016, 31 December 2016, or 31 March 2017 year-end, depending on the fiscal year of the company under review.

Key figures

We summarize the performance of the top 30 contractors as follows.

| Top 30 key figures | FY16 | FY15 | FY14 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Revenue (US\$m) | 775,301 | 752,533 | 725,914 |
| International revenue as a percentage of total revenue – unweighted average | 46.0% | 46.0% | 46.0% |
| Percentage revenue growth – weighted average | 3.0% | 3.7% | 2.5% |
| Net profit (US\$m) | 20,420 | 20,111 | 18,808 |
| Net profit as a percentage of sales – weighted average | 2.6% | 2.7% | 2.6% |
| Net profit as a percentage of sales – unweighted average | 2.2% | 2.6% | 2.4% |
| Percentage net profit growth – weighted average | 1.50% | 6.90% | 9.20% |
| Order book (US\$m) | 1,624,931 | 1,498,873 | 1,478,865 |
| Percentage order book change | 8.4% | 1.4% | 8.2% |
| Order book as a percentage of annual sales for total top 30 | 209.6% | 199.2% | 203.7% |
| Gearing ratio – unweighted average | 0.32 | 0.48 | 0.54 |
| Gearing ratio – weighted average | 0.35 | 0.50 | 0.62 |
| Net debt to EBITDA – unweighted average | 1.3 | 2.9 | 1.6 |
| Net debt to EBITDA – weighted average | 1.6 | 2.3 | 2.6 |
| Asset turnover ratio | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Return on total assets (net income/total assets) | 2.0% | 2.1% | 2.1% |
| Return on equity (net income/equity) | 10.6% | 6.9% | 8.6% |
| Return on working capital (operating income/working capital) – unweighted average | 46.0% | 47.0% | 72.0% |
| SG&A cost as a percentage of revenue – unweighted average | 11.1% | 9.8% | 13.0% |
| Revenue per employee (US\$m) – unweighted average | 0.68 | 0.65 | 0.65 |
| Revenue per employee (US\$m) – weighted average | 0.39 | 0.38 | 0.37 |

Source: EY