

# Labour Market Trends

incorporating **Employment GAZETTE**

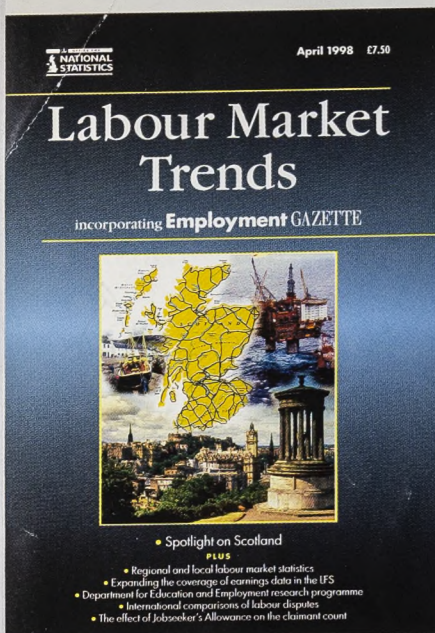


- Spotlight on Scotland

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- The effect of Jobseeker's Allowance on the claimant count

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# Labour Market Trends

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April 1998

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Image: Telegraph Colour Library/Geoff Francis

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# YOUR INSIGHT INTO THE LABOUR MARKET



## THE LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

### LFS FIRST RELEASE AND LFS QUARTERLY BULLETIN

LFS results are first published in printed form in an Office for National Statistics First Release. A wide range of analyses and tables are included (autumn 1997 issue, published January 1998).

Further LFS analyses are included in the 60-page publication LFS Quarterly Bulletin (autumn 1997 issue, published March 1998).

For forthcoming changes to these arrangements, see p.143

### LFS USER GUIDE

The LFS User Guide consists of seven volumes - 1) Background & Methodology, 2) LFS Questionnaire, 3) Details of LFS Variables, 4) LFS Standard & Eurostat Derived Variables, 5) LFS Classifications, 6) LFS Local Area Data and 7) 100 Most Used Variables 1984-91. **Volumes 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 cost £5 each. Volumes 3 and 4 cost £10 each. Complete LFS User Guide is £40.**

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### RESEARCH USE OF LFS

For research users, copies of all LFS databases are available from the Data Archive. **For information Tel 01206 872001**

## News and research

### ONS news

# Improved labour market statistics

**THIS MONTH** sees the launch of the new integrated labour market statistics First Release containing data from all labour market series (see *Labour Market Trends*, pp55-63, February 1998). Some of the terms that ONS uses will also change. To pick up on these improvements, next month's *Labour Market Trends* will have a new look. Some of the important changes are highlighted below.

#### New terminology

From the new First Release later this month, the count of those claiming Jobseeker's Allowance or National Insurance credits - will be known officially as the 'count of claimants of unemployment-related benefits', which will be abbreviated to 'claimant count' where the context is clear. The term 'workforce in employment' will no longer be used. Instead, that series will become known as 'workforce jobs'. This is the sum of: 'employee jobs' (formerly 'employees in employment'); 'self-employment jobs' (previously known as 'self-employment'); HM Forces; and government-supported trainees.

A forthcoming article 'The new presentation of labour market statistics: guidance for users about sources' by Richard Laux - scheduled for the May issue of *Labour Market Trends* - will give more detail about the data sources

that ONS uses to prepare the various series of labour market indicators.

#### New format First Release

The new format labour market statistics First Release will be published on 22 April. It will contain LFS figures for employment and ILO unemployment averaged over the period December 1997-February 1998. It will also give claimant count data for March 1998. Other labour market indicators which will be in the new First Release include: workforce jobs; average earnings; productivity and unit wage costs; sub-national and international summaries; vacancies; and labour disputes.

Subsequent First Releases will also contain LFS data averaged over the latest three-month period, so that the May release, for example will have data for the period January-March 1998. For more information about this, see the article 'Monthly publication of up-to-date quarterly data from the LFS' by Richard Laux (pp59-63, *Labour Market Trends*, February 1998).

#### Regional and local labour market statistics

The presentation of local and regional labour market statistics is also being improved. The first new regional labour market First Releases are also being published on 22 April. Within the constraints caused by their closer focus - such as LFS sample

sizes for small areas - they will as closely as possible mirror the information in the national First Release. For more information, see the article 'Regional and local labour market statistics' by Steve Hickman on pp153-6.

#### Labour Market Trends

The next *Labour Market Trends* will have a new look to reflect these changes and the greater integration of data from the LFS within the range of labour market indicators that ONS publishes. It will have a new style of cover to bring it closer to the look of other ONS publications, and the layout of the journal will be improved.

The Labour Market Update will be redesigned to focus on the key figures from the First Release, and will be brought forward to the start of the magazine to emphasise its role as a summary. The present LFS Help-line will be replaced with a similar section called 'Labour Market Spotlight' which will, like the Help-line, present accessible and user-friendly coverage of topics of interest, but which in principle will draw on the full range of data sources. Alongside this, the occasional series of regional 'Spotlights' will continue, with the next article (after this month's on Scotland) looking at the East Midlands due for publication in the August issue. These sections, and the other items such as the news pages,

research briefs and feature articles, will have a clean new look which we trust readers will find clearer and easier to use.

The contents of the Labour Market Data section has been reviewed in the light of the changes to the labour market data that ONS publishes. It will be reorganised and renumbered on a more logical basis ordered by topic, so that, for example, all tables relating to unemployment will be concentrated in a single section, not split as at present between the claimant count and ILO unemployment. A special page will give equivalent old and new table designations to help readers.

The last *LFS Quarterly Bulletin* was published on 18 March. It will be replaced by the *LFS Quarterly Supplement*, which will be a supplement of *Labour Market Trends* published simultaneously by The Stationery Office. Readers will be able to subscribe to either publication separately or to both as a package, although in the latter case the publications will still arrive separately. The first issue of this will be in May, with subsequent issues at three-monthly intervals.

Subscribers are asked to note that the next *Labour Market Trends* will not be published until Wednesday 13 May. Thereafter publication reverts to the first or second Thursday in the month, generally no later than the 10th.

# Government statistics Green Paper

THE GOVERNMENT has published a Green Paper on official statistics. The aim is to open up a debate on the best arrangements for enhancing the integrity of official statistics. There are two key aspects to integrity - assuring the quality of statistics and freedom from political interference.

The main issues for consultation are: options for improving the framework of accountability and governance; and the scope of official statistics to which these options should apply.

Four possible models for

accountability and governance are considered, although it would be possible to combine elements of each:

- strengthening existing arrangements, delegating more responsibility for both quality assurance and operational matters from ministers to statisticians;
- establishing a governing board, with a non-executive chair, responsible for certifying that it had maintained assured quality and freedom from political interference in statistical operations;
- establishing an independent Statistical Commission, responsible for providing an independent check

- on integrity; and
- establishing a centralised statistical office reporting directly to Parliament.

Other areas for consultation include the location of responsibilities - whether for example, all relevant activities should be organised within a single department (implicit in the last model above) or whether they should remain the responsibility of a large number of different departments and agencies; the maintenance of professional standards across all statistical work in government; and the impact of the Government's proposals

for devolution on the production of statistics covering the UK.

The consultation period extends until 31 May, after which the Government will make decisions as soon as possible. The Royal Statistical Society has been helping the Government's consultation process by hosting a series of public meetings at venues around the country during March.

- *Statistics; a Matter of Trust*. Cm3882. The Stationery Office. ISBN, £9.50. It is also available on the Internet at The Stationery Office website, <http://www.official-documents.co.uk>.

## Harmonised indices of consumer prices

AN ARTICLE in the March issue of *Economic Trends* explains the background to the publication of harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICPs). These have been published in Table 6.8 in the Labour Market Data section since the April 1997 issue of *Labour Market Trends*.

HICPs are constructed in each member state of the European Union for the purpose of international comparisons of consumer price inflation. They will also be used as part of the assessment of progress against the convergence criteria when eligibility of member states to join the European Economic and Monetary Union is decided. HICPs have been under development by Eurostat, the European Commission's statistical arm, in

conjunction with member states, for over four years. HICP figures for each member state have been published monthly by Eurostat since March 1997. ONS publishes the UK HICP figures separately, in advance of this, in its own First Release.

The article comprises four parts which explain the development and uses of HICP in the EU and the United Kingdom: the background to the construction of HICPs and their uses; the development of HICPs; details of the harmonisation measures; and differences between the UK HICP and the Retail Prices Index.

- 'Harmonised indices of consumer prices', by Jim O'Donoghue and Colin Wilkie, Office for National Statistics. *Economic Trends* no 532, March 1998. ISBN 0 11 620977 1, £22.50.

## Retail Prices Index Technical Manual

ONS HAS just published the *Retail Prices Index Technical Manual*. It provides an up-to-date and authoritative description of how the Retail Prices Index (RPI) is produced.

Until now, there had been no full explanation of RPI methodology since the Ministry of Labour and National Service published *Method of Construction and Calculation of the Index of Retail Prices* (first published 1956, fourth edition 1967). Some of the new methodology has been documented, but not in an accessible form. Many key details have never been published before.

Other topics discussed in the *Technical Manual* include: the definition, scope and coverage of the RPI; the aggregation of prices to produce indices and chaining of

indices; the calculation of weights used in aggregation; the choice of items to be priced; scrutiny and validation of prices; and RPIY and the Tax and Price Index.

The RPI has increasingly been used in contracts to index-link or uprate payments to allow for inflation. The *Technical Manual* will help people drafting contracts to incorporate all the points that are necessary when using the RPI in this way. It will also help them to decide whether any of the other measures of inflation produced by ONS might be more suited to their purposes.

- *Retail Prices Index Technical Manual*. Office for National Statistics. Published by the Stationery Office, price £49.50, ISBN 0 11 621002 8.

### ILO news

## International labour statistics

THE INTERNATIONAL Labour Office has published the 56th edition of its *Yearbook of Labour Statistics*, providing the principal labour statistics for more than 190 countries, areas or territories.

The *Yearbook* presents 31 separate tables covering nine different chapter subjects: the economically active population; employment; unemployment; hours

of work; wages; labour cost; consumer prices; occupational injuries; and strikes and lockouts. Where available, the data is broken down by sex in the tables on the economically active population, employment, unemployment, hours of work and wages.

Each chapter is introduced by explanatory notes, indicating the main characteristics of the different types of data and discussing the

comparability of data. Most of the tables cover the ten years from 1987 to 1996, although not all countries were able to provide the ILO with data covering the whole period; the data in the *Yearbook* are those available at 31 August 1997.

The figures are drawn mainly from information sent to the ILO by national statistical services or from official publications. Reporting agencies were asked to supply

information that conformed as closely as possible to international recommendations on labour statistics, although data have not been adjusted for this purpose.

- *Yearbook of Labour Statistics 1997*. International Labour Office, Millbank Tower, 21-24 Millbank, London SW1P 4QP. ISBN 92 2 010752 X.

### Other research

## Low pay and the minimum wage

THE PROSPECT of a national minimum wage has helped prompt a number of employers to enhance the pay rates of their lower-paid employees, according to a report published by Incomes Data Services (IDS), the independent employment research organisation. Although other factors – such as recruitment pressures and negotiations with trade unions – also contributed, IDS found that in

almost all cases employers had the minimum wage in mind.

The IDS's findings resulted from analysing more than 100 pay reviews in 1996 and 1997 that were weighted towards those at the bottom of pay structures and the reasons for the changes. The research also found that where the relative position of lower paid employees had been boosted, there were few signs of demands for restoration of differentials from those higher in the pay structure.

The report looks at pay rates and structures in a number of sectors where the minimum wage could have a significant effect such as the National Health Service, local government, retailing, catering, and the textile, clothing and footwear sector. It also draws on the New Earnings Survey to identify the lowest-paying occupations.

The report emphasises the extent to which the potential impact of a statutory minimum wage at the bottom of pay structures varies across

sectors and firms, and says that much depends on the number of people in the lower pay grades. Where this is high, such as retailing and catering, there is more likelihood of knock-on effects than in sectors or firms with relatively few staff in the bottom grades.

- *Pay Systems and Pay Structures and the Relationship to Low Pay*. Incomes Data Services, 77 Bastwick Street, London EC1V 3TT, tel. 0171 250 3434. £26.

## Graduate employment and training

A NEW SURVEY by Graduate Employment and Training suggests that employers feel that the skills they most value are the ones most developed by higher education. The report suggests that they most value graduates with 'soft' skills, such as self-reliance. However, they feel, graduates with these attributes are in the minority.

The objectives of the survey were to clarify some of the issues revealed by earlier research concerning graduate recruitment, the skills that employers are looking for in their graduate recruits and the extent to which higher education is succeeding in meeting those needs. Data was obtained via a questionnaire sent to 893 employers who recruited graduates. In all, 372 completed questionnaires were returned, representing a 42 per cent response

rate. A satisfactory response rate was achieved in all eight of the sectors identified for analysis.

Survey responses indicated that employers attached widely differing values to different skills. Communications skills were highly valued, as was the ability to learn new material. Technical and information technology (IT) skills were rated as less important. There was, however, an apparent inverse relationship between the perceived importance of skills and the extent to which graduates were seen as having those skills, with large perceived 'skills gaps' for communications but not for IT. Indeed, IT was the only skill for which employers believed they could recruit sufficient numbers of graduates. This general pattern varied across sectors, however. Companies in the information and telecommunications sector, for example, did report a skills gap in IT requirements.

Employers' skills needs were also analysed using the typology developed by the Association of Graduate Recruiters. This showed that the least demand was for hard 'specialist' skills such as technical knowledge and the greatest for the soft 'self-reliance' skills such as ability to learn and 'connected' skills such as communication and teamwork.

The survey also asked employers whether they targeted their graduate recruitment effort towards certain parts of the higher education system. About a quarter of employers said they always targeted particular universities when recruiting, with a third saying they never did; the remainder varied their methods according to their particular requirements at the time. There appeared to be little significant link between targeting universities and satisfaction with the quality of graduates recruited, however.

The survey asked about likely graduate starting salaries. The survey found that respondents would be paying an average starting salary of £15,100 in 1998. There were some quite wide variations across sectors, however, with those in legal and finance receiving an average of £16,200, compared with only £14,000 in public services. The top 5 per cent of graduates, however, would be paid over £20,000.

The survey presented a mixed picture on how employers viewed graduate quality. Some 33 per cent said that graduate quality had improved over the last five years, whereas 29 per cent thought that it had declined.

- *The GET Report: Graduate Employment and Training Towards the Millennium*. Hobsons Publishing, PO Box 2576, London W1A 3LR. £40.

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# LABOUR MARKET UPDATE



Prepared by the Government Statistical Service

The Office for National Statistics overview and update of trends in the labour market, drawn from the Labour Market Data section's detailed tables.

## LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW

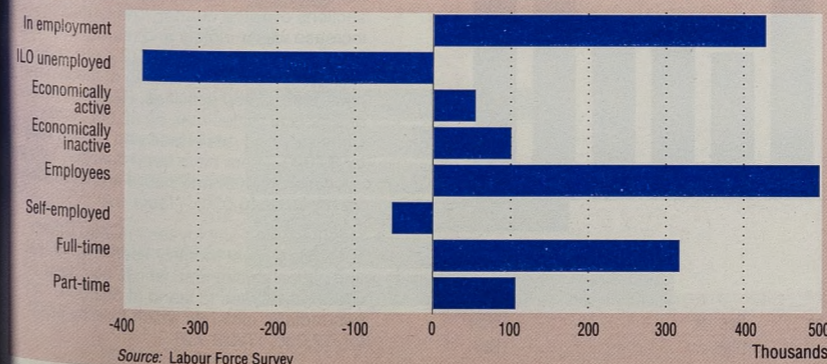
- ◆ There continues to be a healthy improvement in the labour market. There was rapid growth in employment throughout 1997 around 30-40,000 a month - and unemployment fell rapidly throughout 1997. More recent information indicates the claimant count falling at a lower rate in 1998. Over the last three months the claimant count averaged a fall of 19,000. Average earnings growth is steady.
- ◆ Unemployment levels continued to fall, as was indicated by both the autumn 1997 LFS and the February claimant count figures. Seasonally-adjusted unemployment in Great Britain on the ILO measure fell to a level of 1.85 million in autumn 1997, a fall of 150,000 over the quarter and 374,000 over the year. This level is the lowest since the series began in spring 1984. The number of claimants in the UK (seasonally adjusted) fell by 19,700 in February to stand at 1,384 million, resulting in an annual decrease of 36,000 to the lowest level since June 1980.
- ◆ The ILO unemployment rate in Great Britain (seasonally adjusted) was 6.6 per cent in autumn 1997, down 0.5 percentage points over the quarter and 1.3 percentage points over the year, resulting in the lowest rate since spring 1984. The UK claimant count rate was 4.9 per cent in February, 1.3 percentage points lower than a year ago and the lowest rate since June 1980.
- ◆ On the ILO measure, long-term unemployment (over one year) in Great Britain, at 616,000, is now 859,000 lower than at its peak in spring 1984 and 15,000 lower than at the start of the most recent upwards trend in spring 1991. The UK long-term claimant count fell by 44,700 over the quarter to 398,500 in January 1998.
- ◆ The latest LFS results confirmed rising employment levels in Great Britain. In the quarter to autumn 1997, the seasonally adjusted total in employment rose by 117,000 to 26.28 million. This represented an increase over the year of 428,000, and was the highest level since spring 1990. UK Workforce in Employment estimates (seasonally adjusted) showed an increase of 150,000 in the quarter ending December 1997 to a level of 26.77 million - the highest level since December 1990.
- ◆ Employment in manufacturing industries in Great Britain rose by 21,000 in January to stand at 4,006,000 - 5,000 higher than last year.
- ◆ Underlying average earnings for Great Britain increased by 4½ per cent in the year to January, unchanged from the revised December figure. The November figure was also revised down ½ percentage point
- ◆ The number of new vacancies notified to UK Jobcentres rose by 32,000 in February to 224,200 (seasonally adjusted) but was 19,200 lower than the same month last year. The stock of notified unfilled vacancies in the UK rose by 10,800 in February to 279,700 (seasonally adjusted), reflecting an increase of 8,100 on the same month last year. The seasonally-adjusted number of placings by the Employment Service was 116,000 in February, down 5,000 over the month and down 44,000 on the previous year.
- ◆ The provisional estimates for January show that there were 10,000 working days lost in 16 recorded stoppages of work due to labour disputes in the UK. This estimate is lower than the revised estimate for both December 1997 (12,000) and January 1997 (25,000). Of the 10,000 days lost in January 1998, 41 per cent were lost in manufacturing.

## ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Figure 7.1-7.3

- ◆ The economic activity rate for all people in Great Britain aged 16 and over from the autumn 1997 LFS (September to November) stood at 62.8 per cent (seasonally adjusted), a fall of 0.1 percentage points since autumn 1996.
- ◆ The autumn 1997 LFS recorded 84.7 per cent of men of working age as economically active (seasonally adjusted), compared with 72.0 per cent of women. The difference between the rates for men and women has decreased over the year to autumn 1997. The rate for men fell over both the quarter and the year (by 0.1 and 0.4 percentage points respectively), while the rate for women rose over the year (by 0.1 points) despite falling in the most recent quarter (by 0.1 points).
- ◆ The LFS shows that the net increase in the number in employment of 428,000 in the year to autumn 1997 was balanced by a decrease in the ILO unemployed of 374,000, an increase in the number of economically inactive of 100,000, and an increase in the total population aged 16 and over of 154,000 (all seasonally adjusted).
- ◆ In an analysis by age band, the autumn 1997 LFS shows that the economic activity rate (not seasonally adjusted) remained highest for men among those aged 25-34 (at 93.6 per cent) and for women among those aged 35-49 (at 77.6 per cent).

Figure 1 Changes in economic activity between autumn 1996 and autumn 1997; Great Britain; not seasonally adjusted



## HOURS OF WORK

Table 7.8

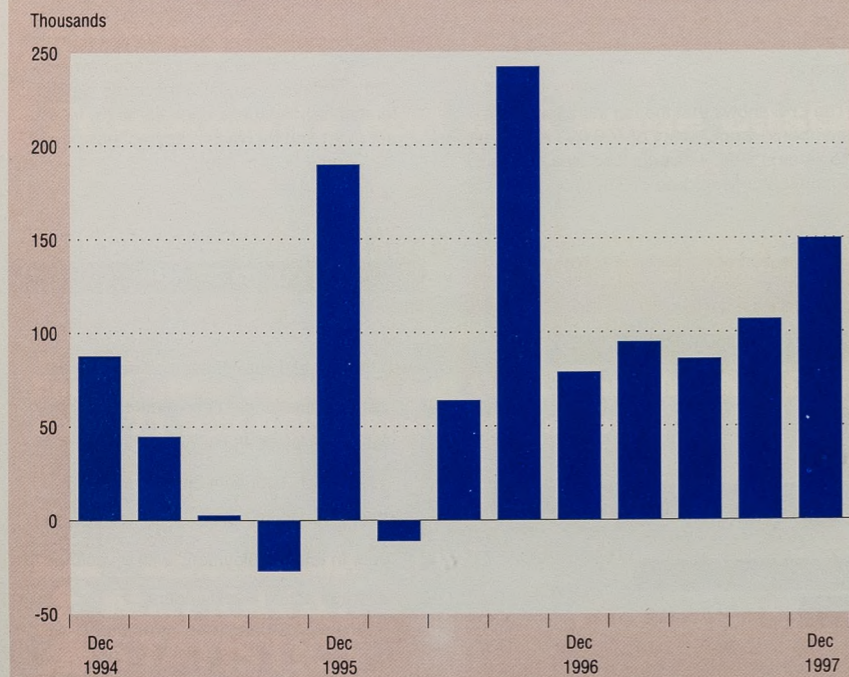
- ◆ The LFS estimate of the total number of actual hours worked per week (seasonally adjusted) was 876 million during autumn 1997, up 1.7 per cent on autumn 1996. This is due to a rise of 1.7 per cent over the year in total employment, with no change in average actual weekly hours.

ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

Tables 0.5, 6.1-6.5

- ◆ **Gross domestic product (GDP)** in the fourth quarter of 1997 was 0.6 per cent higher than the previous quarter and 2.9 per cent higher than a year earlier.
- ◆ **Excluding oil and gas, GDP** in the fourth quarter of 1997 was 0.7 per cent higher than the previous quarter and 3.0 per cent higher than a year earlier.
- ◆ **Retail sales volumes** in the three months to January were 1.6 per cent higher than in the previous three months and 5.7 per cent higher than a year earlier.
- ◆ **Manufacturing output** in the three months to January was 0.6 per cent lower compared with the previous three months but up 0.6 per cent on a year earlier.
- ◆ **Construction output** in the fourth quarter of 1997 was 1.0 per cent higher than the previous quarter and 2.0 per cent higher than a year earlier.
- ◆ **Manufacturing investment** in the fourth quarter of 1997 was 1.0 per cent higher than the previous quarter and 5.9 per cent higher than a year earlier.
- ◆ **Government consumption** in the fourth quarter of 1997 was up 0.2 per cent on the previous quarter but 0.8 per cent lower than a year earlier.
- ◆ **The balance of trade in goods** in the three months to December was in deficit by £4.2 billion compared with a deficit of £2.8 billion in the previous three months, and a deficit of £2.6 billion a year earlier.
- ◆ Excluding oil and erratics, **export volumes** in the three months to December were unchanged on the previous three months but 0.2 per cent lower than a year earlier.
- ◆ Excluding oil and erratics, **import volumes** in the three months to December were 2.4 per cent up on the previous three months and 2.8 per cent higher than a year earlier.
- ◆ The all-items **retail prices** index (RPI) rose by 0.5 per cent over the month to stand at 160.3 for February.
- ◆ In the 12 months to February the all-items RPI rose by 3.4 per cent, up from 3.3 per cent in January.
- ◆ The 12-month rate of change for the index for all items excluding mortgage interest payments (RPIX) stood at 2.6 per cent for February, up from 2.5 per cent in January. There were upward effects on the 12-month rate from prices for food, household goods, clothing and footwear and personal goods and services. Apart from food, these reflect partial recoveries from the very low sales in the previous month. There was, however, some pressure from motoring costs.
- ◆ Excluding mortgage interest payments (RPIX), the 12-month rate of price increases was 2.6 per cent for February, up from 2.5 per cent for January.
- ◆ The index for all items excluding mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes (also known as RPIY) showed an increase over the latest 12 months of 2.1 per cent, up from 1.9 for January.

Figure 2 Workforce in Employment; quarterly changes; United Kingdom; December 1994-December 1997; seasonally adjusted



EMPLOYMENT

Figure 2. Tables 0.1-0.4, 1.1-1.5, 1.11, 7.1-7.4

- ◆ The latest results from the Labour Force Survey for Great Britain, carried out in autumn 1997 (September to November), showed that total employment (seasonally adjusted) stood at 26,279,000, a rise of 117,000 since summer 1997 (June to August), and a rise of 428,000 since autumn 1996. Both male and female employment increased. The number of men in employment was up over the quarter by 80,000 and over the year by 277,000, reaching 14,535,000. The number of women in employment rose by 36,000 over the quarter, and 151,000 over the year, to 11,744,000.
- ◆ According to the LFS, the number of employees in Great Britain rose by 497,000 to 22,749,000 (seasonally adjusted) between autumn 1996 and autumn 1997, while the number of self-employed fell by 53,000 to 3,230,000. Over the quarter to autumn 1997, the number of employees rose by 152,000 and the number of self-employed fell by 15,000.
- ◆ The LFS also showed that the number of full-time employees rose over the quarter and year to autumn 1997 (by 131,000 and 393,000 respectively). The number of part-time employees also increased over both the quarter (by 20,000) and the year (by 102,000).
- ◆ In an analysis by occupation, the LFS shows that the number in employment in non-manual occupations in autumn 1997, at 15,652,000 (not seasonally adjusted), was 1.5 per cent higher than in autumn 1996. The number in manual occupations was 2.1 per cent higher at 10,503,000. The increases were larger for men than women in both non-manual employment (1.8 per cent for men, 1.1 per cent for women) and manual employment (2.3 per cent and 1.9 per cent respectively).
- ◆ There have been revisions to the Workforce in Employment estimates back to December 1996. These are due mainly to revised estimates received from larger centralised returns (e.g. public administration, education) and revised Northern Ireland data.
- ◆ The December 1997 quarterly rise of 150,000 in the Workforce in Employment (WiE) was entirely in employees (up 171,000 to 23,082,000). This is the seventh consecutive quarterly increase. There were quarterly falls for self-employment (15,000) and government-supported training scheme participants (7,000), while HM Forces rose by 1,000 from September. The quarterly increase in WiE contributed to a rise of 438,000 (1.7 per cent) over the year, and the total is now 1,449,000 higher than five years ago. (Table 1.1)
- ◆ There have been seasonally-adjusted increases for nine out of 12 service industry sections over the quarter. The largest increase was in hotels and restaurants which increased by 35,000 (2.7 per cent). The group combining renting of machinery, computer-related activities, R&D and other business activities rose by 32,000, while wholesale and retail trade and repairs rose by 30,000. There have been quarterly falls in education (9,000) and public administration and defence (6,000). (Table 1.2)
- ◆ Manufacturing employees in Great Britain show the largest monthly rises in electrical and optical equipment, which increased by 8,000 employees to stand at 502,000, and non-metallic minerals which rose by 6,000 to 712,000. (Table 1.2)

UNEMPLOYMENT

Figure 3. Tables 0.1-0.4, 2.1-2.24 (except 2.18), 7.1-7.6 (except 7.4)

- ◆ The LFS recorded that the seasonally-adjusted number of people **ILO unemployed** in Great Britain during autumn 1997 stood at 1,847,000, with quarterly and yearly falls of 150,000 and 374,000 people respectively.
- ◆ The seasonally-adjusted ILO unemployment rate fell over both the quarter and the year to autumn 1997, by 0.5 and 1.3 percentage points respectively, to 6.6 per cent.
- ◆ The LFS also shows that 1,145,000 men and 702,000 women (seasonally adjusted) were ILO unemployed in autumn 1997, down 90,000 for men and 60,000 for women since summer 1997, and down 287,000 and 87,000 respectively since autumn 1996.
- ◆ The LFS recorded 593,000 ILO unemployed young people (those aged 16 to 24) in autumn 1997 (not seasonally adjusted), 124,000 fewer than in autumn 1996. The youth ILO unemployment rate was 13.2 per cent.
- ◆ The LFS reported a fall in the number of long-term (over one year) ILO unemployed people in the 12 months to autumn 1997, both in total (by 227,000 to 616,000) and as a proportion of all ILO unemployed people (by 4.6 percentage points to 33.3 per cent).
- ◆ The UK seasonally-adjusted **claimant count** level fell by 13,700 in February 1998 to stand at 1,533,800. (Table 2.1)
- ◆ The claimant count level was 210,100 lower than in April 1990 when it reached its last trough, and 1,597,300 (54 per cent) lower than in December 1992 when it last reached a peak.
- ◆ The seasonally-adjusted claimant count rate fell by 0.1 percentage points in February to stand at 4.9 per cent of the workforce. This is the lowest rate since June 1980. (Table 2.1)
- ◆ The United Kingdom claimant count rate is 1.3 percentage points lower than 12 months ago and, over the year, has fallen in every region for both men and women. (Tables 2.1 and 2.3)
- ◆ Between January and February the total level of seasonally-adjusted claimant count fell in every region apart from Northern Ireland, where there was a slight increase. The largest regional percentage falls were in the South East, the South West, Merseyside and Eastern regions. (Table 2.3)
- ◆ Over the month the seasonally-adjusted claimant count rate fell in every region except the South East, London, Eastern, Yorkshire and the Humber, the North West and Northern Ireland, where it remained the same. (Table 2.3)
- ◆ The UK unadjusted claimant count level fell by 376,537 over the year to stand at 1,451,247, or 5.2 per cent of the workforce, down 1.3 percentage points over the year. (Table 2.1)
- ◆ On the ILO basis, seasonally-adjusted unemployment in Great Britain (autumn 1997) stood at 1.8 million (or 6.6 per cent), which is 448,000 higher than the Great Britain claimant count for the same period.

Figure 3 Claimant count flows; three month averages; United Kingdom; January 1989-January 1998

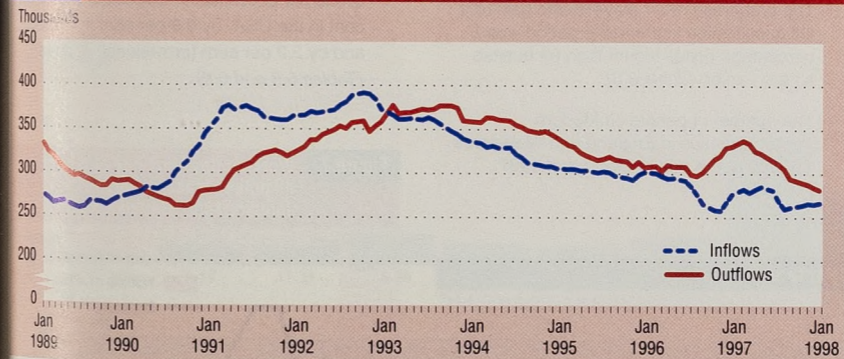
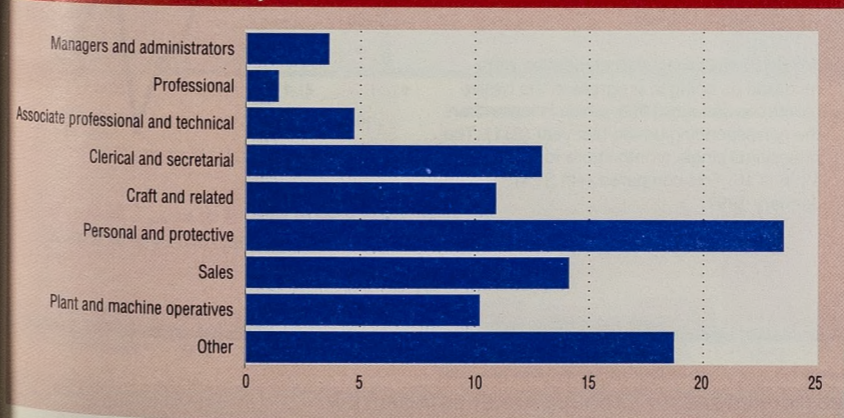


Figure 4 Unfilled Jobcentre vacancies by Standard Occupational Classification; Great Britain; January 1998



JOBCENTRE VACANCIES

Figure 4. Tables 3.1-3.3

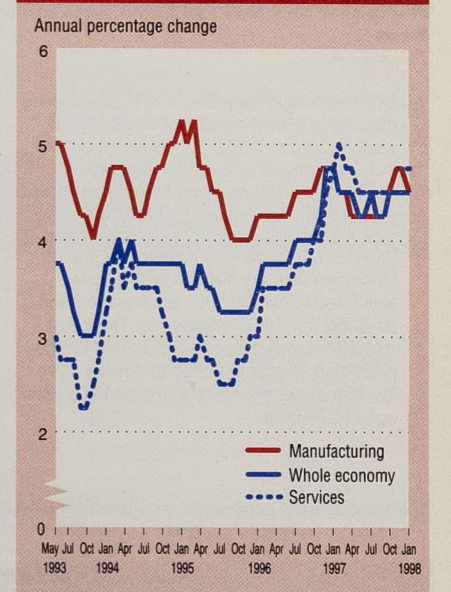
- ◆ The number of vacancies remaining unfilled at Jobcentres (UK seasonally adjusted) rose by 10,800 in February 1998 to stand at 279,700. (Table 3.1)
- ◆ The seasonally-adjusted number of new vacancies notified to Jobcentres rose by 32,000 to 224,200. (Table 3.1)
- ◆ On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the number of people placed into jobs by the Employment Service fell by 4,500 to 116,200 in February. (Table 3.1)

AVERAGE EARNINGS

Figure 5. Tables 5.1, 5.3

- ◆ The underlying rate of increase in average earnings for the whole economy in the year to January 1998 was provisionally estimated to be 4½ per cent, unchanged from the December figure, which was revised down by ¼ point. The November rate was finalised at 4½ per cent, following a downward revision of ¼ point. (Table 5.1)
- ◆ The actual increase in whole economy average earnings between January 1997 and January 1998 was 4.2 per cent. (Table 5.1)
- ◆ In the manufacturing industries, the underlying increase was 4½ per cent, a decrease of ¼ point from the December figure. (Table 5.1)
- ◆ The production industries increase was 4 per cent, a drop of ¼ point from the revised December figure. The November rate was finalised at 4 per cent, following a downward revision of ¼ point. (Table 5.1)
- ◆ In the service industries the increase was 4½ per cent in the 12 months to January, unchanged from the December rate. (Table 5.1)

Figure 5 Underlying average earnings index; Great Britain; May 1993-January 1998



PRODUCTIVITY AND UNIT WAGE COSTS

Figure 6. Tables 1.8, 5.8

- Manufacturing output was 0.6 per cent higher in the three months ending January 1998 compared with a year earlier. (Table 1.8)
- Manufacturing productivity in terms of output per head was 0.1 per cent higher in the three months ending January 1998 compared with a year earlier. (Table 1.8)
- Manufacturing unit wage costs rose by 4.6 per cent in the three months ending January 1998 compared with a year earlier. (Table 5.8)
- Whole economy output per head was 1.3 per cent higher in the fourth quarter of 1997 compared with a year earlier. (Table 1.8)
- Whole economy unit wage costs were 3.8 per cent higher in the fourth quarter of 1997 compared with a year earlier. (Table 5.8)

Figure 6 Manufacturing unit wage costs and output per person; United Kingdom; November 1994-January 1998



LABOUR DISPUTES

Figure 7. Tables 4.1-4.2

- It is provisionally estimated that 10,500 working days were lost as a result of stoppages of work in January 1998. This is less than half the corresponding figure for January 1997 (24,700) and slightly lower than the revised estimate for December 1997 (11,700).
- The number of working days lost in the 12 months to January 1998 is provisionally estimated to be 218,000 - equivalent to ten days lost per 1,000 employees. The latest estimate is less than one-fifth of that for the preceding 12-month period and more than five times lower than the same period a year ago (1,277,000).

TRAINING

Tables 7.7, 8.1-8.6

- Seasonally adjusted, 3.3 million (14.9 per cent) employees of working age received job-related training in the four weeks prior to their LFS interview during autumn 1997. This is a significant increase on summer 1997 and is the highest level of employee participation in training in the four weeks prior to interview reported by the LFS. (Table 7.7)
- The number participating in Training for Work (TFW) in England and Wales at the end of December 1997 was 16 per cent lower than it was 12 months earlier. (Table 8.1)
- The proportion of leavers from TFW between June 1996 and May 1997 who were in a job six months after leaving was 5 percentage points higher than the figures for leavers between June 1995 and May 1996. This proportion continues to show an upward trend. (Table 8.3)
- The proportion who gained a full qualification in the same period was 3 percentage points lower than for leavers a year earlier. (Table 8.4)
- The number of Youth Training (YT) participants in England and Wales at the end of December 1997 was 15 per cent lower than a year previously. (Table 8.1)
- The proportion of YT leavers between June 1996 and May 1997 who were in a job six months after leaving was 2 percentage points higher than the figures for leavers between June 1995 and May 1996. (Table 8.5)
- The proportion of YT leavers who gained a full qualification in the same period was 2 percentage points higher than for leavers a year earlier. (Table 8.6)
- The number of people on Modern Apprenticeships in England and Wales was 114,300 at the end of December 1997. (Table 8.1)

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

Tables 2.18, 5.9, 6.8-6.9

- Among our EU partners the internationally comparable ILO unemployment rate for the UK is lower than in Spain, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Sweden, Belgium and Germany. (Table 2.18)
- The UK ILO seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate is higher than in the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Luxembourg and Portugal. (Table 2.18)
- The seasonally-adjusted UK rate is below the EU average using the latest available data (6.7 per cent for the UK in January 1998 compared to 10.4 per cent for the EU as a whole).
- The manufacturing average earnings increase in Great Britain during January was higher than in 12 OECD countries. (Table 5.9)
- Harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICPs) are being calculated in each member state of the European Union for the purpose of international comparisons. (For more information see news item on p14) The RPI remains the best indicator of UK consumer price inflation.
- In EU countries there was an average fall in consumer prices of 1.3 per cent (provisional) over the 12 months to January, compared with a decrease of 1.5 per cent in the UK. Over the same period consumer prices dropped in France by 0.6 per cent and in Germany by 0.8 per cent. Outside the EU, consumer prices fell for December by 1.1 per cent in the USA, by 0.9 per cent in Canada, and by 2.2 per cent (provisional) in Japan. (Tables 6.8 and 6.9)

Figure 7 Working days lost due to labour disputes; January 1997-January 1998; United Kingdom



0171 533 6094

HELP-LINE



Prepared by the Government Statistical Service

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a sample survey, conducted by the Social Survey Division of ONS, of around 60,000 households each quarter which provides a wide range of information about the labour force using internationally standard definitions. This feature presents some analyses carried out in response to enquiries on the Office for National Statistics' Labour Market Enquiry Helpline (0171 533 6094). A recorded message giving the latest headline figures can be heard on 0171 533 6176.

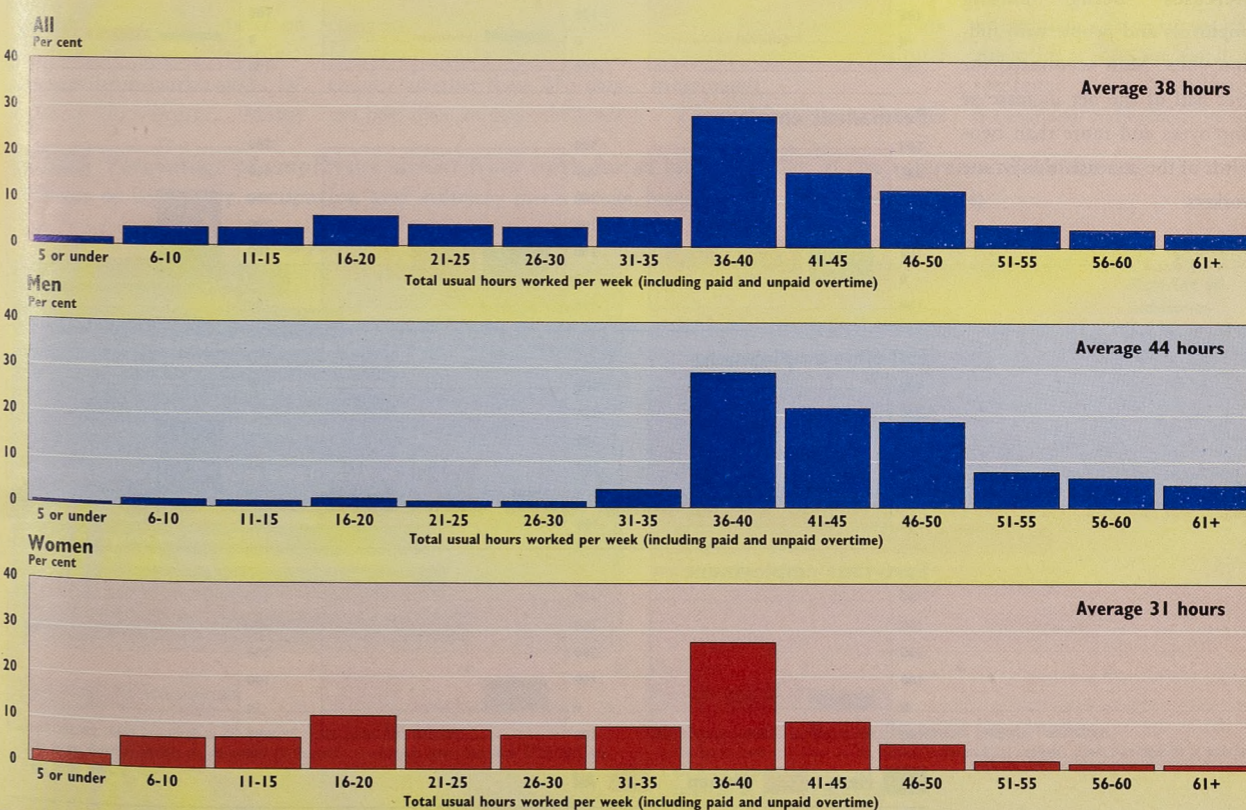
CONTENTS FOR APRIL 1998 - PRESENTING RESULTS FROM AUTUMN (SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER) 1997 LFS

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| 1 Total usual weekly hours worked | 6 Job-related training              |
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TOTAL USUAL WEEKLY HOURS WORKED

Information available from the LFS on the total usual number of hours worked by employees illustrates the diversity of patterns of working hours in Great Britain. In autumn 1997 there were 22.8 million employees, who usually worked an average of 38 hours per week. The distribution of total usual weekly hours worked (including paid and unpaid overtime) by employees in their main job is shown in Figure 1. Over a quarter of men and women usually worked between 36 and 40 hours a week. In autumn 1997, 43 per cent of women usually worked less than 31 hours per week, compared with 8 per cent of men.

Figure 1 Total usual weekly hours worked by employees in their main job (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)



If you have any comments or suggestions on the Labour Market Update please ring Cathy Baker at the Office for National Statistics, tel: 0171 533 6086

FOR DETAILED FIGURES SEE THE LABOUR MARKET DATA SECTION



## 2 CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT

Figure 2 shows the year on year changes in the number of people in employment, by type of employment, between autumn 1994 and autumn 1997 (not seasonally adjusted). The figures show that employment as a whole rose between autumn 1996 and autumn 1997, the increase in this period being greater than the increases over the one year periods to autumn 1996 and autumn 1995. Between autumn 1996 and autumn 1997 the greatest increases were in permanent employment and in full-time employment. The increases for men were greater than those for women in these two categories.

Employment troughed in winter 1992/3. Table 1 gives the seasonally-adjusted changes of those in employment between the trough and autumn 1997. It shows that total employment has risen by 1,345,000 since winter 1992/3 with the greatest increases being among employees and people with full-time jobs. Men accounted for over half of the net increase of employees and more than two-thirds of the increase in full-time workers.

**Table 1 Changes in employment: winter 1992/3 to autumn 1997**  
(Great Britain, seasonally adjusted)

	Total	Employees	Self-employed	Other	Full-time	Part-time
All	1,345	1,376	146	-177	712	629
Men	772	828	44	-98	496	275
Women	572	547	103	-78	216	354

**Figure 2 Changes in employment: autumn 1994 to autumn 1997**  
(Great Britain, not seasonally adjusted)



## 3 WOMEN IN EMPLOYMENT

In autumn 1997 there were 10.8 million women employees (not seasonally adjusted), accounting for 47 per cent of all employees. Enquirers are interested in the types

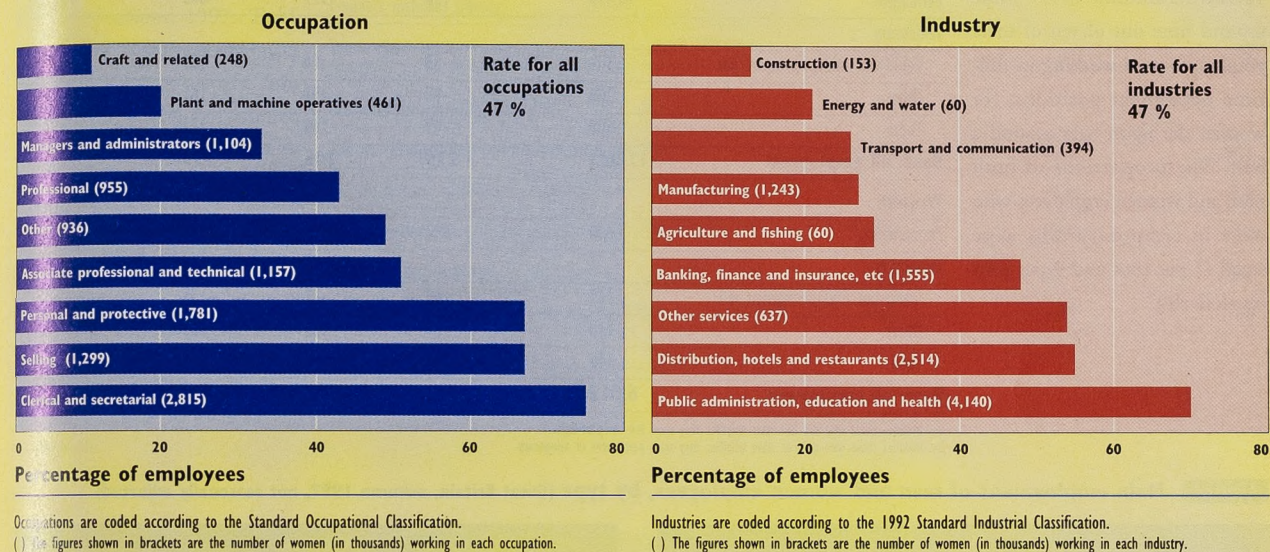
of jobs held by women relative to those held by men. Figure 3 shows the percentage of employees (both full-time and part-time) who are women, within each occupation

and industry group.

There was a clear distinction between industries such as agriculture, construction, transport and communication and the

manufacturing industries, where less than one-third of all employees were women, compared with most of the service industries where more than half were women.

**Figure 3 Percentage of employees that were women, by occupation and industry**  
(Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)



## SICKNESS ABSENCE

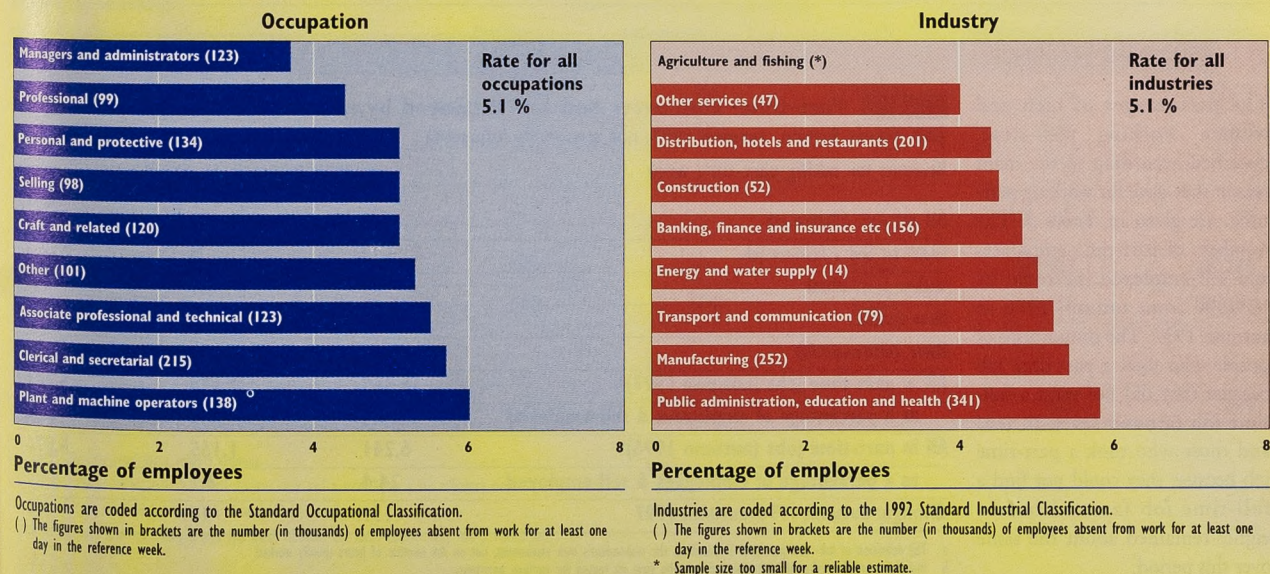
The LFS is a regular source of information about people's absences from work caused by sickness or injury. Many

companies telephone the Labour Market Enquiry Helpline to enquire whether these LFS data can help them to assess the levels

of sickness absence in their company against the national background.

Figure 4 shows the percentages of employees in autumn 1997 absent for at least one day in the reference week in different occupational and industry groups.

**Figure 4 Percentage of employees absent from work for at least one day in the reference week due to sickness or injury, by occupation and industry**  
(Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)



5 FLEXIBLE LABOUR MARKET

(a) MAIN EMPLOYMENT OF MEN AND WOMEN

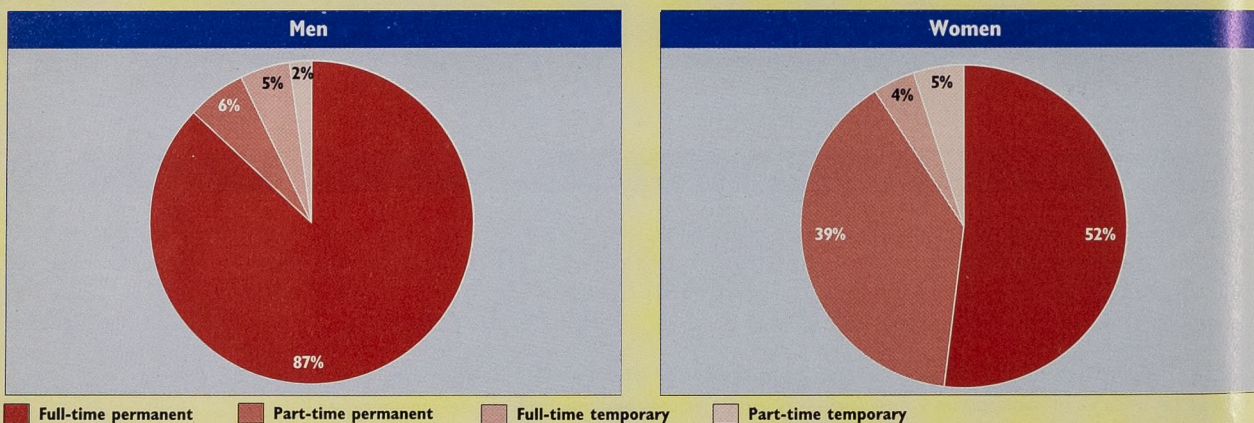
Table 2 and Figure 5 give breakdowns of the different types of employment for men and women in their main job. Figure 5 shows that in Great Britain in autumn 1997, while around nine out of ten of male employees were working in full-time permanent positions, for women the figure was around a half. The proportions of both men and women employees who were in temporary jobs were small (7 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

Table 2 Employees by type of main job and reason for taking it (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)

	Full-time	Part-time		Total	Thousands Base: All employees <sup>a</sup>
		Could not find full-time job	Other		
<b>Men</b>					
Permanent	10,418	156	527	683	11,101
Temporary					
Could not find permanent job	301	53	16	69	371
Other	283	10	152	162	445
Total	586	63	168	231	817
<b>Base: all employees<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>11,083</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>12,014</b>
<b>Women</b>					
Permanent	5,600	342	3,797	4,139	9,739
Temporary					
Could not find permanent job	167	66	79	145	312
Other	218	29	401	430	649
Total	385	95	480	575	961
<b>Base: all employees<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>6,013</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>4,308</b>	<b>4,748</b>	<b>10,761</b>

a Includes those who did not state whether they were full- or part-time.  
b Includes those who did not state whether they were permanent or temporary.

Figure 5 Main employment of men and women employees, by type (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)



(b) PART-TIME WORKERS

The percentages of men and women working part-time, classified according to the main reason they gave for working part-time, are given in Table 3. The numbers of part-time employees and self-employed increased by 119,000 from autumn 1996 to autumn 1997. The proportions of people who took a part-time job because they did not want a full-time job (around seven in ten) and those who took a part-time job because they could not find a full-time job (around one in eight) remained about the same over this period.

Table 3 Part-time<sup>a</sup> employees and self-employed by reasons for taking a part-time job (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)

Reasons for taking part-time work	All	Men	Per cent Women	Thousands
Did not want full-time job	72	39	79	
Could not find a full-time job	12	24	9	
Student or at school	14	33	10	
Ill or disabled	1	3	1	
<b>Base (thousands)</b>				
<b>All in part-time jobs (autumn 1997)<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>6,355</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>5,177</b>	
as a percentage of employees & self-employed	24.4	8.2	44.6	
<b>All in part-time jobs (autumn 1996)<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>6,241</b>	<b>1,165</b>	<b>5,076</b>	
as a percentage of employees & self-employed	24.4	8.2	44.3	
<b>Change: autumn 1996-autumn 1997</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>103</b>	

a The definition of full- and part-time is based on the respondent's own assessment, not on the number of hours usually worked.  
b Includes a small number of part-time workers who gave no reason for working part-time.

(c) TEMPORARY WORKERS

Employers take on temporary staff for a variety of reasons, such as for short term cover, gaining specialist skills or to cope with the peaks in demand for labour. The number of temporary employees increased by 33,000 between autumn 1996 and autumn 1997. Table 4 shows the reasons people gave for taking a temporary job. Around 33 per cent of women were in temporary employment because they did not want a permanent job, compared with 22 per cent of men. On the other hand, 45 per cent of the men in temporary employment took a temporary job because they could not find a permanent job, compared with 32 per cent of women.

Table 4 Temporary employees by reason for taking a temporary job (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)

Main reason for taking a temporary main job	All	Men	Per cent Women
Could not find permanent job	38	45	32
Did not want permanent job	28	22	33
Contract included training	6	7	6
Some other reason	27	26	28
<b>Base (thousands)</b>			
<b>All in temporary jobs (autumn 1997)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>1,778</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>961</b>
as a percentage of employees	7.8	6.8	8.9
<b>All in temporary jobs (autumn 1996)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>1,695</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>914</b>
as a percentage of employees	7.6	6.7	8.6
<b>Change: autumn 1996 - autumn 1997</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>46</b>

a Includes a small number of people who did not give a reason for having a temporary job.

(d) SECOND JOBS

Each quarter the LFS provides new information of interest to many regular users about the number of people who have more than one job. Such people are counted only once in the

LFS employment totals. The alternative source of employment statistics, the Workforce in Employment series, counts all jobs and so people with two jobs are counted twice. The numbers

of people with second jobs in autumn 1997, as shown by the LFS, are given in Table 5. In autumn 1997, 1.2 million people had more than one job (around five per cent of all people in

employment). Of those, around two-thirds were employees in both their main and second job and around one in 12 were self-employed in both jobs.

Table 5 Employment status of people with more than one job (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)

Employment status in main job	Employment status in second job			People with no second job <sup>b</sup>	Thousands All in employment
	Employee	Self-employed	All <sup>a</sup>		
Employee	782	259	1,042	21,735	22,777
Self-employed	81	107	188	3,071	3,259
On government employment and training programmes	12	*	12	178	191
Unpaid family workers	+	+	+	+	110
<b>All (autumn 1997)</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>1,242</b>	<b>24,983</b>	<b>26,336</b>
<b>All (autumn 1996)</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>24,558</b>	<b>25,912</b>
<b>Change:</b>					
<b>autumn 1996-autumn 1997</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>424</b>

\* Sample size too small for a reliable estimate.

+ Unpaid family workers were not asked whether they had a second job in the reference week.

a Includes those who did not state the status of their second job.

b Includes those who had changed jobs and those who did not state whether they had a second job.

**6 JOB-RELATED TRAINING**

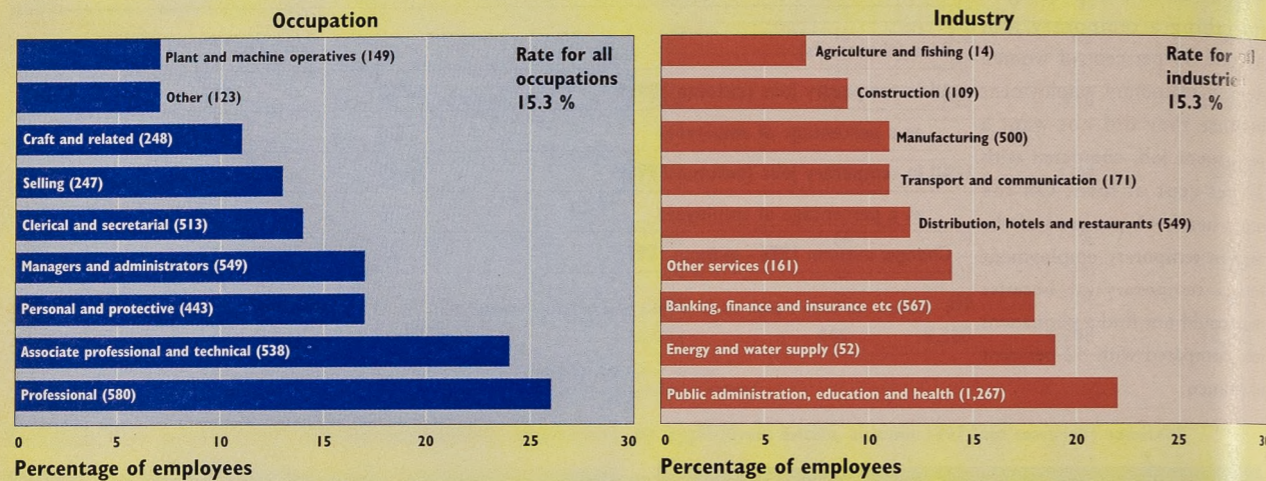
Learning throughout working life is becoming increasingly necessary because of the pace of change, and training is seen by a large number of employees as an essential investment for the future. Many requests for LFS data about training are received by the DfEE's workforce training

enquiry point (0114 259 3489), and are often about the amount of training received in different occupations or industries. In autumn 1997, 3.3 million employees of working age received job-related training in the four weeks prior to interview, 14.9 per

cent of all such employees (seasonally adjusted). This is a significant increase on summer 1997 (14.2 per cent). The percentage of employees receiving job-related training in each occupation and industry is shown in *Figure 6*.

LFS data on training in the past four weeks show that women were more likely to receive job-related training than men - 16.3 per cent of women employees compared with 14.4 per cent of men employees in autumn 1997 (not seasonally adjusted).

**Figure 6 Percentage of employees of working age receiving job-related training in the four weeks prior to interview, by occupation and industry (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)**



Occupations are coded according to the Standard Occupational Classification. ( ) The figures shown in brackets give the numbers (in thousands) receiving job-related training.

Industries are coded according to the 1992 Standard Industrial Classification. ( ) The figures shown in brackets are the numbers (in thousands) receiving job-related training.

**7 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

*Table 6* shows the economic activity in autumn 1997 of people who were aged between 16 and 19 on the previous 31 August. Of the 2.7 million people aged 16-19, 55 per cent were in full-

time education (FTE). Of the 1.5 million people in FTE, 42 per cent were in employment and around 8 per cent were ILO unemployed. Of the similar number of people not in

full-time education, the figures were 72 per cent and 15 per cent respectively. There were slightly more women than men in full-time education (770,000 compared with 727,000).

**LFS estimates of people in full-time education**

From spring 1997, LFS estimates of the total of people in education include people who were waiting to start, or restart, a course. Hence, comparisons of figures between spring 1997 and subsequent quarters are possible, but figures for spring 1997 onwards are not comparable with earlier periods.

**Table 6 Young people by academic age (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)**

Thousands	Academic age (in years)					
	All persons				Men	Women
	16	17	18	19	16-19	16-19
<b>In employment</b>						
All	340	425	402	367	781	753
Not in FTE	131	200	292	281	514	390
In FTE	209	224	110	86	267	362
<b>ILO unemployed</b>						
All	94	76	70	67	173	134
Not in FTE	44	43	51	54	118	74
In FTE	50	32	19	13	55	60
<b>Economically Inactive</b>						
All	260	221	217	206	452	452
Not in FTE	24	31	42	54	46	105
In FTE	236	190	175	152	406	348

Thousands	Academic age (in years)					
	All persons				Men	Women
	16	17	18	19	16-19	16-19
<b>Total</b>						
All	694	721	689	640	1,406	1,339
Not in FTE	200	275	385	389	679	569
In FTE	495	447	305	251	727	770
<b>Economic activity rate (%)</b>						
All	62.6	69.3	68.5	67.8	67.9	66.2
Not in FTE	88.0	88.8	89.1	86.0	93.2	81.6
In FTE	52.4	57.4	42.4	39.5	44.2	54.8
<b>ILO unemployment rate (%)</b>						
All	21.7	15.1	14.8	15.4	18.1	15.1
Not in FTE	25.1	17.8	14.8	16.1	18.7	15.9
In FTE	19.4	12.6	14.8	12.9	17.0	14.2

**8 ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE PEOPLE**

*Table 7* includes a breakdown of people who say they want a job but are not actively looking for one. Such people, including 'discouraged workers' (whose reason for not seeking is that they believe no jobs are available), are classified as

economically inactive according to ILO guidelines. There were 102,000 discouraged workers in autumn 1997, around five per cent of those who were not seeking but would like to work.

**Table 7 Economically inactive people by availability and whether seeking work (in past 4 weeks) (Great Britain, autumn 1997, not seasonally adjusted)**

(Thousands)	All	Men	Women
<b>Total economically inactive who would like to work</b>	<b>2,384</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>1,413</b>
<b>Seeking work but not available to start in 2 weeks</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>94</b>
Student	75	43	32
Other	101	39	62
<b>Not seeking work but would like work (available and not available)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>2,208</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>1,320</b>
<b>Available to start in next 2 weeks</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>506</b>
Believes no jobs are available (discouraged workers)	92	56	37
Long term sick/disabled	106	64	42
Looking after family/home	250	20	230
Student	114	63	51
Other	257	111	146

(Thousands)	All	Men	Women
<b>Not available in next 2 weeks</b>	<b>1,376</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>806</b>
Believes no jobs are available (discouraged workers)	10	*	*
Long term sick/disabled	634	379	255
Looking after family/home	448	52	397
Student	117	62	55
Other	167	72	94
<b>Not seeking work, does not want work</b>	<b>14,180</b>	<b>5,134</b>	<b>9,046</b>
Does not need/want job	231	66	165
Long term sick/disabled	1,637	869	768
Looking after family/home	1,775	97	1,679
Student	1,082	549	533
Other	9,455	3,554	5,902

Base:	All economically inactive <sup>b</sup> (autumn 1997)	6,105	10,460
All economically inactive <sup>b</sup> (autumn 1996)	16,461	5,995	10,466
Change: autumn 1996 - autumn 1997	104	110	-6

\* Sample size too small for a reliable estimate.  
a Includes a few people who did not state if they were available to start in the next two weeks.  
b Does not include people under 16 years of age.

**THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN LABOUR MARKET TRENDS (INC. EMPLOYMENT GAZETTE) BETWEEN MAY 1993 AND APRIL 1998 CONTAIN DATA FROM THE LFS:**

Membership of trade unions	May 1993	Membership of trade unions in 1994	February 1996
Part-time employment and attitudes to part-time work	May 1993	Women in the labour market	March 1996
Older workers - an overview of recent research	June 1993	Earnings data from the LFS and New Earnings Survey	April 1996
Characteristics of the ILO unemployed	June 1993	Longitudinal data from the LFS	April 1996
Economic activity of 16 to 17 year olds	July 1993	British labour force projections: 1996-2006	May 1996
The National Education and Training Targets	August 1993	Trade union memberships and regulations: an analysis of data from the 1995 LFS	May 1996
Using the LFS to estimate Britain's ethnic minority populations	September 1993	The new LFS local area database	May 1996
Estimating employment: a comparison of household and employer based surveys	October 1993	Ethnic minority participation in the labour market: trends from the LFS 1984-1995	June 1996
Measures of unemployment: the claimant count and the LFS compared	October 1993	The identification of full-time students in the Labour Force Survey	July 1996
Women in the labour market	November 1993	Annualised redundancy data: calculated from the LFS	July 1996
Sunday working in Britain	November 1993	Disability and the labour market	September 1996
Redundancies in Great Britain	January 1994	The Labour Force Survey in Northern Ireland	November 1996
Irish nationals in the British labour market	January 1994	Parental employment in the European Union	December 1996
Comparison of the 1991 LFS and Census of Population	March 1994	Labour market recoveries in the UK and other OECD countries	December 1996
British labour force projections 1994 to 2006	April 1994	Spotlight on the South West	January 1997
Ethnic groups and the labour market	May 1994	British labour force projections 1997-2006	February 1997
Trade union membership and density 1992-1993	June 1994	Women in the labour market: results from the spring 1996 LFS	March 1997
Economic activity in local areas	June 1994	Data on households and families from the LFS (illustrative data)	March 1997
Flexible workforce and patterns of working hours in the UK	July 1994	Redundancies in Great Britain: results from the LFS	April 1997
Characteristics of the ILO unemployed	July 1994	Spotlight on Yorkshire and the Humber	May 1997
Working parents: trends in 1980s	October 1994	Household and family data from the LFS (illustrative data)	June 1997
Women and training	November 1994	Trade union membership and recognition	June 1997
Mothers in the labour market	November 1994	Working fathers	July 1997
Trade union recognition	December 1994	Trends in labour market participation of ethnic groups: 1984-1996	August 1997
Income and earnings data from the LFS	December 1994	Spotlight on the West Midlands	September 1997
Part-time working in Great Britain	December 1994	Economic activity of working households	September 1997
Foreign workers in the UK	January 1995	Workless households, unemployment and economic inactivity	September 1997
Redundancies in Great Britain	January 1995	Temporary workers in Great Britain	September 1997
Apprentices and other long-term trainees	February 1995	Measuring labour market attachment using the LFS	October 1997
Progress towards a flexible labour market	February 1995	The National Targets for Education and Training	October 1997
Older workers	April 1995	LFS estimates of claimants of unemployment-related benefits	November 1997
British labour force projections 1995-2006	April 1995	Spotlight on Wales	December 1997
Trade union membership and recognition	May 1995	Comparison of sources of employment data	December 1997
An analysis of working time, 1979-1994	May 1995	Qualification data in the LFS	January 1998
Revisions to the Quarterly LFS: reweighting and seasonal adjustment review	May 1995	Annual averages from the LFS	January 1998
Ethnic groups and the labour market	June 1995	Benefits data from the LFS	February 1998
Labour Force Projections for countries and regions in the UK 1995-2006	August 1995	Self-employment in the 1990s	March 1998
Disability and the labour market	December 1995	Women in the labour market	March 1998
Measuring employment: comparison of official sources	January 1996	Spotlight on Scotland	April 1998
Redundancies in Great Britain	February 1996	Expanding the coverage of earnings in the LFS	April 1998

**10 INDEX OF TOPICS COVERED IN LFS HELP-LINE FEATURES: MAY 1993 TO APRIL 1998**

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- Database developments** introduction of databases for 1979, 1981 and 1983 (Feb '97)
- Disability** see health problems
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Note: 'Standard' articles appear in January, April, July and October each year, from January 1993 to present, unless otherwise stated. For topics covered between November 1992 and January 1993 see October 1997, pLFS56.

# Regional and local labour market statistics

The Office for National Statistics has recently announced its plans for improving labour market statistics. What changes does it propose for these figures at regional and local level?

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Image: Telegraph Colour Library/Zeta

**Key points**

- From April 1998, new regional First Releases will be published containing a wide range of labour market data for government office regions, Scotland and Wales.
- ONS plans to produce workplace-based unemployment rates for all local authority districts and unitary authorities, as well as for travel-to-work areas.
- ONS will undertake a programme of work to investigate methods of constructing reliable residence-based unemployment rates derived from the Labour Force Survey for the regions and for smaller geographies.
- ONS will continue to investigate how the production of small area unemployment rates can be improved.

**Introduction**

THIS ARTICLE looks at the range of regional and local labour market statistics currently published by ONS and describes the improvements ONS plans to make in the light of two recent public consultations. In particular, it focuses on unemployment statistics, which are of considerable interest at a local level. There is a high level of demand for local labour market statistics. They are used to support economic development and

resource allocation and as social and economic indicators. Users of this information include local authorities, businesses, academics, MPs and the general public. These customers share a common requirement for timely, clearly presented and reliable statistics for a range of geographic boundaries – including both current and historical administrative boundaries.

Changes to sub-national labour market statistics should be seen in the context of the recently-announced proposals for the presentation of national statistics and the revised presentation of regional labour market statistics in the monthly First Release (see *Labour Market Trends*, pp55-8, February 1998). These latter changes will be introduced from the April 1998 First Releases, published on 22 April.

### What ONS currently publishes

ONS collects labour market information from businesses, households and administrative sources such as the Benefits Agency and Jobcentres. In most cases this will include a geographical reference to the place of residence and/or the workplace of individuals. Depending on how specific the geographical reference is, the data collected can be summarised to produce statistics about a variety of areas. For example, where information is collected with a local authority identifier, it is possible to produce statistics for regions, counties and district authorities. But where – as in most cases – information is collected with a postcode, it is possible to generate statistics for wards and *ad hoc* aggregations of postcode areas as well as for regions, counties and districts. In practice, however, the number of areas for which it is possible to produce reliable statistics depends on the quality of the information collated and the number of respondents in the area for which statistics are required. For small geographical areas, the amount of information that can be published may also be constrained by considerations of confidentiality – ONS would not publish anything that revealed specific information about individuals.

ONS publishes sub-national statistics from a wide range of sources with widely varying frequencies. The decennial census of population provides the widest coverage of detailed geographic statistics with a limited set of labour market information available from close to 100 per cent of the population and with geographic references at postcode level. Similarly, information on the home address of claimants of unemployment-related benefits is collected from all claimants, so it is possible to produce reliable counts for a wide range of areas based on aggregations of postcode sectors. Other sources such as the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Annual Employment Survey (AES) provide more extensive sets of information, but the reliability of figures for sub-national areas is limited by the sample sizes. In some

instances it is possible to produce reliable estimates by looking at a longer time period, e.g. a year rather than a quarter. The ONS policy, however, is that data are not published for geographic areas for which the sample size is not large enough to provide a sufficiently reliable estimate. Details of the main sources of labour market statistics and the geographic areas for which data are currently published are given in the *technical note*.

### Consultation on sub-national statistics

In December 1996 ONS consulted users on which areas unemployment statistics are required for, and more specifically the measures of unemployment required for those areas.

### Travel-to-work areas

A key purpose of the review was to establish whether there was a demand for travel-to-work areas (TTWAs) and, if there was a demand, the basis on which the areas should be derived. TTWAs are approximations to self-contained labour markets (i.e. areas where people live and work). The current boundaries are based on residence and workplace patterns at the time of the 1981 Census of Population. Until 1996 – when ONS began publishing claimant count rates for unitaries – these were the smallest areas for which ONS published unemployment rates.

Over 250 responses to the consultation were received. Over 70 per cent of respondents said that they found TTWAs useful and most of these wanted to see the map updated to take account of 1991 census data. Those that did not want to see the map updated even though they found TTWAs useful were either happy with the existing definitions or felt it was better to wait and use the results of the 2001 census to update it. Fewer than 20 per cent of respondents felt that TTWAs were not useful, including some who felt that they were conceptually flawed.

In view of the level of support expressed, ONS decided to circulate a draft version of the 1991-based TTWA map to users for comment in July 1997. A large number of responses have been received on the draft map, and these are being evaluated with consultancy support from the University of Newcastle. A further article about the review of TTWAs and the outcome of the evaluation of responses received about the revised boundaries will appear in *Labour Market Trends* in May.

### Unemployment rates for small areas

The review also considered what geographical areas unemployment rates should be calculated and what should be the basis for calculating them.

Five options for calculating rates were put forward:

- claimants expressed as a percentage of the area's jobs plus claimants (claimants,

employees, self-employed, those on government training schemes and the armed forces);

- as above, but the denominator only comprises claimants and employees;
- ILO rate from the LFS (ILO unemployed as a percentage of the area's economically active resident population, i.e. those in employment or unemployed);
- claimants expressed as the proportion of the number of people of working age; and
- claimants as a proportion of the economically active resident population.

Responses on the basis for calculating unemployment rates for small areas showed no strong preferences. Users were aware of the limitations arising from sampling variability in survey data. Many commented that they would prefer to have ILO unemployment rates, but that they realised that there were problems with the reliability of these for small areas. A number of users also felt that workplace-based unemployment rates are not meaningful for areas that are not self-contained labour markets.

On geographic boundaries, there was a clear desire for unemployment rates down to ward level, as producing rates for them allows the flexibility to build consistent rates for any larger areas that are aggregations of wards.

### Future plans for publishing sub-national unemployment rates

#### Basis

At UK and regional levels ONS publishes two main unemployment rates. The first is the residence-based ILO unemployment rate, which is derived as the number of ILO unemployed as a proportion of all persons economically active. The second measure is workplace-based and is derived as the number of claimants of unemployment-related benefits as a proportion of the sum of claimants, employees working in the area; self-employed residents, number of armed forces personnel, and the number on government training schemes. For the UK and most of the regions (except the South East), the key difference between the rates is that one is based on the ILO definition of unemployment, and the other is based on the number of JSA claimants. Additionally, the ILO denominator covers employees, not employee jobs.

At local level not all people live and work in the same area. This means that there are two distinct ways of expressing the scale of unemployment for an area: as a proportion of the economically active population; and as a proportion of the area's workforce. The former considers for a given area what percentage of the economically active resident population are unemployed. The latter considers unemployment relative to a measure of the area's available jobs and claimants.

Because these two measures use potentially very different denominators, they should be seen as complementary. Taken together they provide a more rounded picture than either rate on its own. Accordingly, ONS intends to produce an indicator for each of these rates. Taking account of responses to the consultation exercise ONS plans to publish the following rates:

- a *residence-based* measure derived from the LFS and measuring ILO unemployment as a percentage of the resident economically active population; and
- a *workplace-based* measure derived from the count of claimants of unemployment-related benefits and the annual employer-based surveys and measuring claimants of unemployment benefits as a percentage of the area's employee jobs, claimants, self-employed, the armed forces and people on government-supported training schemes.

The LFS rate is a fairly 'clean' measure since the numerator and denominator come from the same source and refer to the same group of people. The weakness in this rate is that there will be fairly large sampling variability at local level.

The workplace-based claimant rate is a much less coherent measure, but still a very valuable indicator. Chiefly, it suffers from a denominator which comes from different sources and is partly people- and partly jobs-based, and a numerator that is not a complete measure of unemployment. Furthermore, part of the denominator is workplace-based, part is residence-based. However, it is a fairly stable measure and is particularly useful as a short-term indicator of movement. This measure also benefits from its comprehensive coverage of claimants and that it can be meaningfully disaggregated down to small areas.

Other options were considered (claimants as a percentage of the working-age population, or economically active population) but it was felt that their benefits did not outweigh those of the ILO rate, and, more fundamentally, they would not be comparable with the national and regional figures.

ONS also considered publishing a narrow version of the workplace rate (workforce comprising claimants and employees only). However, this approach gained very little support from users of local labour market statistics and would lack comparability with national rates. Further, it does not include the whole workforce.

In summary, ONS has considered the following factors important when deciding the basis for producing the unemployment rates:

- users' views;
- the need for a residence and workplace-based rate;
- the usefulness of the claimant count at local level;

- the desirability to produce ILO estimates;
- to produce rates that are as far as possible comparable with the national figures; and
- that unemployment rates should be produced for as many areas as possible subject to reliability.

### Geographic areas

The sample sizes of the various surveys generating the statistics used to calculate the proposed local unemployment rates limit the number of areas for which reliable rates can be calculated. Under present arrangements the following are published:

- *residence-based* measure: counties and the 40 largest districts in the UK on a quarterly basis, or about 110 on an annual basis; and
- *workplace-based* measure: published monthly for counties, TTWAs and unitary authorities.

ONS has a programme of work to publish unemployment rates on both bases for local authorities. The longer-term vision aim is to produce a more flexible system whereby users can produce rates for a wider range of areas such as parliamentary constituency areas. A step in this direction will be the availability of current ward claimant count levels via Nomis®, which is scheduled for autumn this year. ONS will also continue to publish unemployment rates based on frozen area boundaries at local authority level and for broader areas. This will allow comparison over time.

### Timing of changes

In terms of timing, ONS aims to extend its coverage of workforce-based rates to all local authorities early in the summer, when the employment estimates benchmarked to the 1996 AES estimates become available. As noted, accurate counts of numbers of claimants of unemployment-related benefits are available for all local authority areas. Estimates of the workforce at local authority level are subject to sampling and non-sampling error in respect of employees (derived from the AES) and self-employed (derived from the LFS). This represents a departure from previous ONS policy, which was not to publish rates for areas that are not significantly self-contained labour markets. For the reasons discussed earlier, ONS believes that it is helpful to have rates on both bases at local authority level.

At present, there are substantial practical problems with producing local authority-level residence-based rates from LFS data, due to sampling variability. For most local authorities the denominator (economically active residents) can be reliably estimated, although this will be subject to sampling variability. However the numerator (ILO unemployment) can currently be reliably produced for only about 40 authorities (110 if annual averages are used).

### Further development of unemployment and other labour market statistics

A programme of work to construct LFS-based estimates for small areas and increase the number of areas that they are available for has been set in progress. ONS is examining a range of approaches, including the possibility of using LFS estimates in combination with the claimant count and other statistics. This work is being given high priority by ONS, with the aim of constructing first estimates at local authority and NUTS 3<sup>1</sup> level later in the year. In the longer term, ONS seeks to refine this approach and extend it to other geographic areas. New modelling techniques are being developed as part of this work.

However, ONS does not currently produce LFS estimates for areas such as TTWAs and parliamentary constituencies. If there is clear user demand, ONS will produce LFS estimates for these boundaries, but this is a resource-intensive task. It should also be borne in mind that for TTWAs if LFS estimates were available, it would currently only be possible to produce unemployment estimates for the dozen or so largest areas (this is because TTWAs tend to be very large in urban areas). To produce unemployment estimates for all TTWAs and parliamentary constituencies would then take a further two to three months to complete.

### Access to sub-national labour market statistics

ONS is revising the regional First Releases to bring them into line as far as possible with the new national integrated First Release. The new regional First Release will contain a range of labour market information about the region as a whole, as well as data for smaller areas.

This will include indicators such as economic activity and employment rates at local authority level, which should give users a fuller picture of their local labour market. LFS data for key variables will now be published monthly for the latest three-month period.

ONS plans to make this regional First Release available on the Internet, as well as by Statfax, the National Statistics Databank and on subscription from ONS. A wide range of small area geographic information is available via the ONS online database Nomis®. LFS data (including the annual database) are available from Quantime. Regional and local information is also published in *Labour Market Trends*.

Comments on the ONS proposals are welcome. Please write to Steve Hickman, Room B3/03, ONS, 1 Drummond Gate, London SW1V 2QQ. ■

### Footnote

1 NUTS 3 areas are used as a basis for allocating Objective 2 of the European Structural Fund and are currently under review by the European Commission.

## Technical note

### Main sources of sub-national labour market data

#### Labour Force Survey

The LFS is used to collect a wide range of labour market statistics from a representative sample of approximately 60,000 households across the UK on a quarterly basis. The sample design ensures a representative sample for each local authority on a quarterly basis.

An estimate of 10,000 (the smallest released) has an approximate 95 per cent confidence interval of +/- 4,000, i.e. 95 times out of 100 the estimate will fall between 6,000 and 14,000.

Data are published on a regular basis (*Regional Trends*) and on an *ad hoc* basis (*Labour Market Trends*), as well as being available electronically from Quantime (see p142) and Nomis® (see p 166).

#### Annual Local Area Database

Annual local authority figures are also produced from the LFS by considering groups from the sample for each of the four quarters. The LFS sample design allows these groups to be chosen such that there is no overlap. Because of the increased sample size (96,000 households), the annual estimates are more reliable than the quarterly figures and estimates are published down to 6,000. Results from the annual database (LADB) are currently available from Quantime and will be available from Nomis® in the near future.

#### Annual Employment Survey

The AES is a rich source of information about the numbers of people employed by detailed industrial category throughout Great Britain. Breakdowns by sex and full-time/part-time status are also available.

The AES is a survey of 130,000 businesses covering some 1 million workplaces. It replaced the biennial Census of Employment which was conducted between the 1960s and 1993. All businesses with 25 or more employees that have more than one workplace are fully covered each year, as are single-site businesses with more than 50 employees. All other businesses are surveyed either every four years or 25 years, depending on size. In selecting sampled units there is no geographic stratification.

The AES covers around one third of the worksites in Great Britain. The results are therefore subject to sampling error. The estimate of the total number of employees in Great Britain in 1996 is accurate to within +/- 0.8 per cent, in other words, +/- 175,000 on the total estimate of 22 million. Results for regions and smaller

areas are generally subject to a greater degree of error.

#### Claimant count

The claimant count consists of all those people who are claiming unemployment-related benefits at Employment Service local offices and who have declared that they are unemployed, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which their claim is made. All people claiming unemployment-related benefits are included in the claimant count, apart from students claiming benefit during a vacation who intend to return to full-time education. Data are published in our publications, and are available electronically from Nomis®.

#### New Earnings Survey

The key source of information on earnings at a local level is the New Earnings Survey (NES). The NES is carried out annually in April. A wide range of earnings analyses are published, including averages, distributions and hourly earnings.

The NES is based on a one per cent sample of employees who are members of Pay-As-You-Earn schemes. The total sample size for the April 1997 NES was over 150,000. Data are published in ONS publications, and will be available electronically from Nomis® in the near future.

#### Jobcentre vacancies

ONS publishes vacancy statistics based on data collected by the Employment Service at its Jobcentres as part of its administrative function. This includes the number of vacancies notified to the Jobcentre and the numbers of vacancies filled.

However, it should be borne in mind that only about one third of all job vacancies are notified to Jobcentres, and the proportion will vary over time, from area to area and between occupation groups and industries. In London, for instance, with its abundance of recruitment agencies and relatively small manufacturing base, it is likely that this figure is much lower. Data are published in ONS publications, and are available electronically from Nomis®.

#### Data available

##### Employment

Estimates of employment from the LFS and the AES measure different things. The LFS measures the number of people in employment and the AES measures the number of jobs.

Quarterly estimates of employment from the LFS are published for all but around eight of the smallest local authority districts

(LADs), and for aggregations of LADs including NUTS 3 areas.

Annual estimates from the LFS LADB are published for all local authority districts or unitary authorities except the City of London. LFS estimates are also available for Training and Enterprise Council (TEC) areas, or local enterprise company (LEC) areas areas in Scotland.

AES estimates are available at ward level, both on a current and 'frozen 1991' basis, and for postcode sectors. Aggregations of these geographies, including parliamentary constituencies and TTWAs, are therefore also available.

#### Unemployment

The key measure of unemployment at national and regional level is the Labour Force Survey's measure based on the ILO definition. However, at local level, LFS sampling variability presents severe problems and for many areas that it is necessary to use claimant count-based measures.

The quarterly LFS estimates of ILO unemployment are available at regional level and county level, and for the 50 or so largest local authorities. Estimates for unitary authorities are not available from the quarterly LFS.

Unemployment estimates from the annual LADB are published for over 100 local authority districts and unitary authorities. LFS estimates are also available for TEC/LEC areas, subject to reliability constraint.

The claimant count is available monthly at ward level on a 'frozen 1991' basis (i.e. the wards that were in existence at the time of the 1991 census), for postcode sectors and aggregations of these geographies.

#### Earnings

Estimates of average earnings and other earnings measures (including distributions of earnings and analyses by type of pay) from the NES are published for regions, counties, unitary authorities, local authority districts, TTWAs, parliamentary constituencies and TEC/LECs. The publication of these are subject to reliability constraints.

Due to sampling variability, results are not published where the sample size for the group of interest is below ten, or the standard error of average gross weekly earnings is 5 per cent or more of the average. The number of areas for which results are published therefore depends on the earnings variable of interest.

#### Vacancies

Jobcentre vacancy data are available for Jobcentre areas, and aggregations of these, including county approximations.



## Expanding the coverage of earnings data in the LFS

A recent change to the LFS questionnaire is now providing ONS with greater information on people's earnings, leading to more reliable estimates. This special report looks at the effects of the change.

By James Jenkins,  
Socio-Economic Division,  
Office for National Statistics.



Photo: Telegraph Colour Library

### Introduction

BETWEEN DECEMBER 1992, when income questions were first asked in the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and February 1997, income questions were asked only at respondents' fifth interviews

(wave 5, see *Box 1*) because of the risk that they might increase non-response if asked at earlier interviews. However, following successful question testing, it was decided that the disadvantage of a possible small increase in non-response would be out-

weighed by the benefits of having a larger sample size – benefits such as improved reliability of earnings estimates, being able to measure year-on-year changes in income, and opportunities for longitudinal analyses (from linking results of wave 5 respondents who have previously answered income questions in wave 1). It was too costly to ask income questions in all waves, but instead from spring (March to May) 1997, data have been collected from respondents in waves 1 and 5 of the survey.

The next section of this article looks at the characteristics of the wave 1 and wave 5 samples in terms of the sample size, outliers and the distribution of weights. This is followed by a section which compares results (including standard errors) for wave 1 and wave 5 respondents, and also looks at response rates.

### Characteristics of the wave 1 and wave 5 samples

#### Sample size

Sample size is important in surveys such as the LFS because the larger the sample, the more reliable are the estimates arising from it. Earnings questions in the LFS are only asked of employees and people on

### Key points

- Since spring 1997, questions about earnings have been asked at people's first LFS interviews. Previously, since winter 1992/3, earnings data were only collected at people's fifth (and final) interviews.
- Tests on the spring 1997 figures suggest that there is no significant difference between the estimates of earnings based on respondents asked at first LFS interviews (wave 1) and those based on fifth interviews (wave 5).
- For men working full-time, estimates of average weekly and hourly earnings based on wave 1 respondents appear to be slightly lower (1-2 per cent) than corresponding figures for wave 5 respondents, based on results for spring, summer and

autumn. For women, there is no evident difference between wave 1 and wave 5 estimates.

- Earnings estimates using combined wave 1 and 5 data give broadly the same results as when using wave 5 data only, save for the effect of wave 1 full-time males.
- The combined-wave data are more reliable than the data for individual waves. The standard errors (which measure the precision of the data) of earnings estimates show an improvement, typically of 25-30 per cent, when using combined waves over standard errors for wave 5 estimates.
- Earnings estimates for groups of 30,000 people or more in the combined dataset are considered sufficiently reliable for publication.

### Box 1 Wave structure of the Labour Force Survey

LFS interviews cover about 150,000 people living at a representative sample of some 60,000 private addresses throughout the United Kingdom every quarter, with questions covering students living away from home in halls of residence; a sample of people living in National Health Service accommodation is also interviewed. The design of the quarterly LFS involves an element of overlap between quarters. Each quarter's sample is made up of five waves, each consisting of about 12,000 households. Every sampled address in a wave is interviewed in five successive quarters, such that in any one quarter, one wave will be receiving their first interview, one wave their second and so on, with one wave receiving their fifth and final interview. Thus there is an 80 per cent sample overlap between quarters. Interviews in wave 1 are conducted mostly face-to-face, while interviews in waves 2 to 5 are mostly done by telephone.

government training schemes (this analysis covers employees only). The sample sizes for employees in waves 1 and 5 are similar. Full details are given in the *technical note*.

#### Outliers

The presence of extremely high or low values (known as outliers) in a sample can lead to misleading estimates being derived. Published LFS earnings analyses exclude all cases with hourly pay rates greater than £100. This is not because the records are inaccurate, but rather that their presence can have a distorting effect on the results and their inclusion would introduce an artificial and unhelpful variability in the earnings series. The full set of income data is available on the LFS database.

Typically, there are only two or three records each quarter with hourly pay greater than £100. In the three quarters since spring 1997, there has been a total of four outliers in each of waves 1 and 5. It

has been suggested that fewer outliers would be expected from wave 1 respondents because face-to-face interviews would be expected to give higher quality data (because of the greater likelihood of respondents using documentary evidence). However, the evidence does not support this hypothesis – indeed, it lends weight to the assertion that outlying values are likely to reflect true earnings, rather than be the result of respondent error or an interviewing-mode effect.

#### Weights

To convert information gained from an LFS sample to give estimates for the population, it is necessary to gross the data. To do this, each person is given a weight which can be thought of as the number of people that case represents. The weights for wave 1 and wave 5 earnings data would be expected to have similar distributions in terms of the mean, minimum and maximum

weights. This is indeed the case, and more details are given in the *technical note*.

### Comparison of results for wave 1 and wave 5

Before combining data for the two waves to make the most of the increased sample size, it is necessary to be sure that the earnings profiles of the people in each wave are similar. Statistical tests were performed on spring data to see if there was a difference between the averages from waves 1 and 5 for all 189 of the data series shown in Tables 32-38 of the *LFS Quarterly Bulletin*. Differences were apparent for five of these 189 series. This is unsurprising given the accuracy of the test. The same tests performed on summer and autumn data produced a similarly small number of differences.

All this leads ONS to the conclusion that the earnings figures from wave 1 respondents are so similar to those from wave 5 that the two groups can be combined into a single sample of about twice the size of the individual waves.

### Combined wave 1 and wave 5 income data – results

Table 1 shows that for mean weekly and hourly earnings, the combined-wave data is very similar to that based on wave 5. It does appear, however, that the wave 1 means for full-time men are lower than the wave 5 means, particularly for hourly earnings, although the differences are small in the context of sampling variability

### Box 2 Sampling variability and the LFS

Surveys are prone to errors arising from a number of sources and processes. Frequently a distinction is drawn between *non-sampling* and *sampling* errors. Sampling errors in the LFS arise from the fact that the sample chosen is only one of a very large number of samples which might have been chosen from the population. It follows from this that one quarter's estimate, say, of the average hourly pay for all employees, is only one of a number of estimates which might have been made. The issue that is of interest to most users of survey data is the precision of an estimate – that is to say the extent or range of the estimates which would (probably) have arisen from the different samples which might have been drawn.

In order to indicate the degree of precision of LFS estimates, standard errors (a measure of sampling variability), relative standard errors (the standard error as a percentage of the estimate) and 95 per cent confidence intervals (the estimate  $\pm 1.96$  standard error) for the estimates are calculated. 95 per cent confidence intervals indicate the range either side of estimates which are 95 per cent certain to include the true values of the quantities estimated.

Greater precision is associated with a relatively narrow confidence interval. It is also the case that the smaller the group whose size is being estimated, or from which an estimate is derived, the (proportionately) less precise the estimate is. For example, an estimate of earnings of women working in the North West will be less precise than an estimate of earnings of all people in Great Britain.

(see Box 2). The table also shows that the relative standard errors of the combined-wave estimates are about 30 per cent lower than those for waves 1 and 5 separately.

The key point of using combined-wave income data is that its precision, as measured by standard errors, is better than when using wave 5 data alone, because of the increased sample sizes. This is particularly valuable when interest is focused on the earnings of sub-groups of the population of employees. Table 2 shows this by presenting mean earnings for the different occupation groups.

Confidence intervals around quartiles (see the *technical note*) are also smaller as shown in Table 3. From these results it can be seen that combined wave 1 and 5 earnings data are more precise than wave 5 data, across the distribution of earnings.

#### Is this a discontinuity?

Some users might be concerned that, despite the obvious advantages (for

cross-sectional analysis) of the larger sample size resulting from the introduction of income questions in wave 1 of the LFS, the usefulness of the LFS earnings data might have been adversely affected because of the introduction of a discontinuity (in the time series). In fact the levels are very similar for most sub-groups, and the main effect of the increase in sample size is the increase in precision. It is misleading to label this a discontinuity, but it is clearly of interest to users of the data, so ONS will ensure that in published tables and documentation, references are made to the increased sample size from spring 1997 onwards (and to this article). Table 4 shows some of the main earnings series from winter 1992/3 to autumn 1997, the figures from spring 1997 being based on combined wave data. Figure 1 shows gross weekly earnings of full-time employees from winter 1992/3 to autumn 1997.

Table 1 Comparison of LFS earnings data by wave; Great Britain; 1997

	Mean earnings, £ per week/hour			Standard errors					
	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring		Summer		Autumn	
				Actual (£)	Relative (%) <sup>a</sup>	Actual (£)	Relative (%) <sup>a</sup>	Actual (£)	Relative (%) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Weekly earnings (full-time employees)</b>									
All – wave 1	338	336	337	3	0.9	3	0.9	3	0.9
– wave 5	338	338	342	3	0.9	3	0.9	3	0.9
– combined	338	338	339	2	0.6	2	0.6	2	0.6
<b>Men – wave 1</b>									
– wave 5	375	372	371	4	1.1	4	1.1	4	1.1
– combined	376	376	378	4	1.1	4	1.1	4	1.1
<b>Women – wave 1</b>									
– wave 5	270	270	275	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	1.1
– combined	270	270	274	3	1.1	3	1.1	3	1.1
<b>Hourly earnings (all employees)</b>									
All – wave 1	7.42	7.42	7.49	0.06	0.8	0.06	0.8	0.06	0.8
– wave 5	7.51	7.55	7.58	0.05	0.7	0.05	0.7	0.05	0.7
– combined	7.48	7.49	7.53	0.04	0.5	0.04	0.5	0.04	0.5
<b>Men – wave 1</b>									
– wave 5	8.44	8.41	8.48	0.09	1.1	0.09	1.1	0.09	1.1
– combined	8.58	8.64	8.64	0.09	1.0	0.09	1.0	0.08	0.9
<b>Women – wave 1</b>									
– wave 5	6.30	6.31	6.39	0.07	1.1	0.06	1.0	0.06	0.9
– combined	6.33	6.33	6.39	0.06	0.9	0.06	0.9	0.06	0.9
– combined	6.33	6.32	6.41	0.05	0.8	0.04	0.6	0.04	0.6

Source: Labour Force Survey

<sup>a</sup> Standard error expressed as a percentage of estimate.

Figure 1 Mean gross weekly earnings for full-time employees; Great Britain; winter 1992/3-autumn 1997

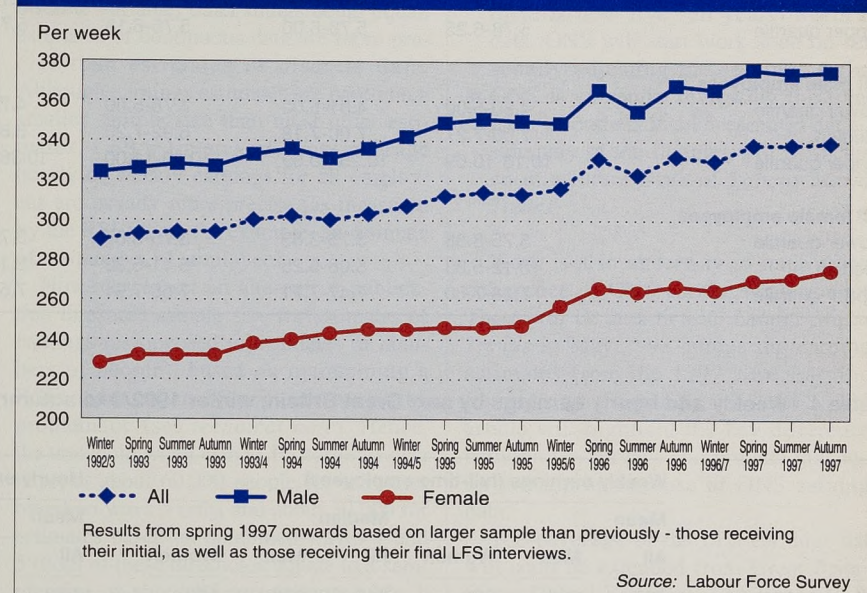


Table 2 Mean weekly earnings and standard errors for full-time employees by occupation; Great Britain; spring 1997

	Wave 5				Combined waves 1 and 5				Improvement in relative standard error (%) <sup>b</sup>
	Mean (£)	Sample	Standard error (£)	Relative standard error (%) <sup>a</sup>	Mean (£)	Sample	Standard error (£)	Relative standard error (%) <sup>a</sup>	
All full-time employees	338	6,511	3	0.9	338	12,887	2	0.6	33
Manual	258	2,326	3	1.2	256	4,718	2	0.8	33
Non-manual	387	4,139	4	1.0	387	8,081	3	0.8	25
Managers and administrators	483	1,241	9	1.9	481	2,441	6	1.2	33
Professional occupations	473	820	8	1.7	463	1,586	5	1.1	36
Associate professional & technical	374	674	7	1.9	387	1,355	6	1.6	17
Clerical occupations	236	1,113	3	1.3	238	2,136	2	0.8	34
Craft and related	292	773	5	1.7	295	1,537	3	1.0	41
Personal and protective services	247	539	6	2.4	245	1,072	4	1.6	33
Selling	283	325	11	3.9	278	606	8	2.9	26
Plant and machine operators	267	724	4	1.5	267	1,512	3	1.1	25
Other occupations	225	302	5	2.2	216	642	4	1.9	17

Source: Labour Force Survey

<sup>a</sup> Standard error expressed as a percentage of estimate.

<sup>b</sup> Percentage decrease in relative standard error from including wave 1 earnings data.

Table 3 Ninety-five per cent confidence intervals for quartiles of gross weekly and hourly earnings; Great Britain; 1997

	Spring		Summer		Autumn	
	Wave 5	Combined	Wave 5	Combined	Wave 5	Combined
<b>Weekly earnings (£)</b>						
<b>All full-time employees</b>						
Lower quartile	200-208	200-205	200-205	200-203	201-209	201-208
Median	280-288	286-290	287-296	288-290	288-300	288-298
Upper quartile	404-415	404-415	412-423	410-420	413-423	413-420
<b>Hourly earnings (£)</b>						
<b>All employees</b>						
Lower quartile	4.17-4.30	4.16-4.25	4.13-4.25	4.14-4.23	4.22-4.33	4.21-4.30
Median	6.05-6.24	6.02-6.15	6.05-6.24	6.04-6.17	6.14-6.28	6.13-6.25
Upper quartile	9.02-9.36	9.11-9.32	9.17-9.52	9.13-9.37	9.13-9.42	9.11-9.36
<b>All full-time employees</b>						
Lower quartile	4.81-5.00	4.82-4.94	4.80-4.95	4.80-4.93	4.92-5.03	4.87-5.00
Median	6.76-6.98	6.76-6.92	6.77-7.00	6.74-6.92	6.84-7.05	6.86-7.00
Upper quartile	9.75-10.14	9.83-10.11	10.03-10.42	9.95-10.25	9.89-10.29	9.89-10.17
<b>All part-time employees</b>						
Lower quartile	3.22-3.33	3.21-3.32	3.23-3.33	3.24-3.33	3.30-3.42	3.30-3.40
Median	4.08-4.29	4.07-4.20	4.08-4.28	4.11-4.24	4.13-4.29	4.17-4.29
Upper quartile	5.78-6.25	5.78-6.00	5.75-6.18	5.79-6.11	5.89-6.25	5.89-6.20
<b>All male employees</b>						
Lower quartile	4.80-5.00	4.81-5.00	4.76-5.00	4.78-4.99	4.88-5.05	4.87-5.00
Median	7.00-7.27	7.00-7.18	6.92-7.20	6.87-7.09	7.00-7.26	7.02-7.20
Upper quartile	10.16-10.69	10.25-10.59	10.49-11.00	10.36-10.65	10.32-10.87	10.32-10.70
<b>All female employees</b>						
Lower quartile	3.75-3.88	3.75-3.83	3.75-3.87	3.75-3.85	3.80-3.91	3.80-3.88
Median	5.12-5.33	5.08-5.25	5.11-5.33	5.14-5.29	5.20-5.45	5.20-5.38
Upper quartile	7.38-7.80	7.47-7.71	7.55-7.91	7.58-7.84	7.57-8.00	7.61-7.91

Source: Labour Force Survey

Table 4 Weekly and hourly earnings by sex; Great Britain; winter 1992/3 to autumn 1997

	Weekly earnings (full-time employees)						Hourly earnings (all employees)					
	Mean			Median			Mean			Median		
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
Winter 1992/3	290	324	228	245	278	198	6.63	7.73	5.53	5.40	6.36	4.55
Spring 1993	293	326	232	250	279	204	6.73	7.72	5.66	5.60	6.53	4.70
Summer 1993	294	328	232	250	283	201	6.69	7.67	5.62	5.51	6.43	4.66
Autumn 1993	294	327	232	254	288	202	6.68	7.66	5.62	5.52	6.45	4.63
Winter 1993/4	300	333	238	254	288	208	6.90	7.89	5.83	5.60	6.46	4.76
Spring 1994	302	336	240	262	295	208	6.82	7.81	5.74	5.62	6.60	4.81
Summer 1994	300	331	243	260	290	210	6.83	7.69	5.87	5.65	6.53	4.80
Autumn 1994	303	336	245	260	290	212	6.84	7.75	5.83	5.66	6.56	4.85
Winter 1994/5	307	342	245	262	294	215	7.05	8.02	5.99	5.75	6.60	5.00
Spring 1995	312	349	246	268	300	212	7.11	8.13	5.99	5.80	6.73	5.00
Summer 1995	314	351	246	269	303	215	7.09	8.13	5.94	5.78	6.77	4.87
Autumn 1995	313	350	247	271	300	217	7.12	8.15	5.98	5.78	6.73	4.95
Winter 1995/6	316	349	257	277	300	223	7.19	8.18	6.13	5.92	6.91	5.00
Spring 1996	331	366	266	277	311	222	7.39	8.46	6.23	5.86	7.00	5.00
Summer 1996	323	355	264	277	307	230	7.27	8.16	6.29	5.95	6.86	5.08
Autumn 1996	332	368	267	286	320	231	7.36	8.45	6.20	6.05	7.09	5.16
Winter 1996/7	330	366	265	280	312	231	7.38	8.41	6.26	6.04	6.98	5.11
Spring 1997 <sup>a</sup>	338	376	270	288	323	231	7.48	8.52	6.33	6.08	7.08	5.16
Summer 1997 <sup>a</sup>	338	374	271	288	320	237	7.49	8.53	6.32	6.08	6.98	5.22
Autumn 1997 <sup>a</sup>	339	375	275	290	323	239	7.53	8.54	6.41	6.20	7.11	5.29

Source: Labour Force Survey

a Results from spring 1997 onwards based on larger sample than previously - those receiving their initial, as well as those receiving their final LFS interview.

Table 5 Attrition between LFS waves 1 and 2; Great Britain; spring 1996-autumn 1997

	Response rates (per cent)		Attrition between waves 1 and 2 (percentage points)
	Wave 1	Wave 2	
Spring 1996	82	78	
Summer 1996	82	78	4
Autumn 1996	80	78	4
Winter 1996/7	79	76	4
Spring 1997	81	75	4
Summer 1997	80	77	4
Autumn 1997	81	77	3

Source: Labour Force Survey

Table 6 Response rates to LFS income questions; Great Britain; spring-autumn 1997

	Per cent		
	Wave 1	Wave 5	Overall
Spring 1997	87.3	95.0	90.9
Summer 1997	88.3	95.0	91.5
Autumn 1997	87.2	95.2	91.0

Source: Labour Force Survey

#### Response rates

From earlier testing, it had been anticipated that asking income questions in wave 1 might result in the loss of about one percent of households from the survey (after wave 1). Table 5 shows that there is no evidence of any extra effect on response rates from asking the income questions in wave 1. The final column of the table is the response rate of wave 1 in the previous quarter minus the response rate of wave 2 in the current quarter, and thus indicates the number of respondents leaving the survey in wave 2 having taken part in wave 1.

The response rates to the income questions in the LFS in spring, summer and autumn 1997 are shown in Table 6.

#### Publication thresholds

The estimates of numbers of persons in different groups (e.g. ILO unemployed) obtained from the LFS are suppressed in publication if their standard errors are more than approximately 20 per cent of the size of the estimates, i.e. a relative standard error (RSE) of 20 per cent. For general analyses this equates to estimates of less than 10,000 people. This figure of 10,000, which is based on about 30 LFS respondents, is termed the 'publication threshold'.

Earnings data are based on only a part of the full LFS and so are subject to a different publication threshold. Earnings is, however, a continuous rather than a

discrete variable; other things being equal, estimates of continuous data are more precise than estimates of discrete data. Although earnings estimates are based on a smaller sample size than most other estimates, LFS estimates of gross average hourly or weekly earnings for all employees are usually more precise (as measured by the RSE) than, for example, an estimate of the number of employees.

However, to set an alternative publication threshold sample size for estimates of earnings (as opposed to estimates of numbers of people), based on maintaining a RSE of less than 20 per cent would be problematic (see *technical note*). Hence, the threshold when using LFS earnings data is set at about 60,000 people for estimates based on wave 5 only, and about 30,000 for estimates based on combined waves 1 and 5 (both of these thresholds equate to a sample size of about 25 respondents). Much output from earnings analyses is in the form of means or proportions, so users need to be aware of the size of the population on which such estimates are based.

#### Next steps

ONS is engaged upon a continuing programme of work intended to improve a number of different aspects of LFS and other earnings data - specifically the quality, coherence, coverage and accessibility of the data.

#### Further information:

For more information, contact James Jenkins, Room B2/09, Office for National Statistics, 1 Drummond Gate, London SW1V 2QQ, telephone 0171 533 5262.

In order to improve the quality of LFS earnings data, ONS plan the following steps:

- When spring 1998 data from the LFS becomes available, ONS will have results for wave 5 respondents who had previously been wave 1 respondents in spring 1997. Linking the two databases will enable ONS to look at changes in reported earnings, albeit for a small sample. This should provide a further insight into the quality of the earnings data.
- ONS is considering whether it would be possible to record whether or not people use a payslip in answering the questions on earnings, and if this is successful, will report the implications for data quality.
- ONS will continue to examine the quality of earnings data given by proxy respondents.
- Income data from the LFS have been available since winter 1992/3, so that there is now five full years' worth of data. ONS will start work soon on seasonally adjusting the earnings series.
- ONS is currently reviewing the treatment of outliers in LFS earnings data. A summary of the findings will be included in a future issue of *Labour Market Trends*.

Work is also underway to improve the coherence of ONS earnings information. There will be an article in *Labour Market Trends* in May 1998 comparing earnings estimates from the 1997 New Earnings Survey and the spring 1997 LFS. This article will highlight the key differences between the surveys and provide guidance on the appropriate use of ONS earnings data.

The coverage of the LFS earnings data will soon be extended from Great Britain to the United Kingdom. Earnings data for Northern Ireland have recently started to be grossed, and are now available from winter 1996/7 onwards. Data for previous quarters will be made available soon. The new *LFS Quarterly Supplement* (see p. 143) will include earnings data on a UK basis.

Finally, ONS is keen to improve the accessibility of the data - it may be possible, subject to confidentiality constraints, to include an earnings variable on the annual local area database for 1997/98, which is likely to be produced at the end of 1998. ■



## Technical note

### Sample size and response rates

Although the sample size of full-time workers in wave 1 is larger than in wave 5, there are more people who do not answer the income questions in wave 1. These people are not assigned an income weight and are not included in the sample. So, overall, the sample size available for analysis of wave 1 weekly earnings is slightly smaller than that for wave 5. In spring 1997 the number of full-time employees with valid income weights in wave 1 and wave 5 were 6,437 and 6,566 respectively. There was a similar pattern in the summer and autumn quarters. The sample sizes for hourly earnings data were larger than for weekly earnings as part-time employees are also included in the sample (weekly earnings of part-time employees is not a particularly useful concept), but once again the sample size for wave 1 was smaller than for wave 5.

One of the reasons why the response rate to the income questions is lower at wave 1 than wave 5 is that interviewers are instructed not to push reluctant respondents too hard, as this may jeopardise their participation in subsequent waves. Also, there is a much greater cost for face-to-face interviewers calling back on households to obtain income information (for example if the original proxy respondent was unwilling or unable to give the information). Hence, the number of non-contacts for income questions at wave 1 is much higher.

### Grossing and weights

Earnings data are grossed separately to the rest of the LFS. The aim of the earnings grossing process is twofold: to weight the cases in the database in such a way that the weight of a sub-group corresponds to that sub-group's size in the population; and to gross the sample to give estimates of the number of people in certain groups. The grossing process is restricted to employees' earnings (in Great Britain only); other income data are not yet grossed.

As with the main grossing, a multi-stage approach is adopted where, for each stage, the distributions of a subset of the variables are matched to those of the full LFS sample. These variables are, for each employee: sex, age-band, region of residence, occupation, industry, and whether full- or part-time.

The weights for wave 1 and wave 5 earnings data have quite similar distributions, although the mean weights for wave 1 are higher because of the smaller sample sizes. The minimum weights for wave 1, wave 5 and combined waves are all similar but the maximum weights for the combined waves are considerably smaller than those for wave 1 and wave 5 separately. This means that the ratio of maximum weight to minimum weight is much less for the combined waves than the separate waves. This implies (relatively) less volatility of numbers in the cells in the grossing matrix, which is desirable. The relatively high maximum weight in wave 1 of autumn 1997 is exaggerated by the low maximum weights in spring and summer. In previous quarters,

Table 7 LFS income weights

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Ratio of minimum to maximum
Spring wave 5	2,488.6	495.5	9,741.9	19.7
Spring wave 1	2,533.3	323.4	9,321.5	28.8
Spring waves 1 and 5	1,255.3	348.5	5,000.7	14.3
Summer wave 5	2,522.1	372.5	10,406.0	27.9
Summer wave 1	2,587.7	414.2	10,388.9	25.1
Summer waves 1 and 5	1,277.3	372.5	6,222.5	16.7
Autumn wave 5	2,504.9	365.3	11,388.1	31.2
Autumn wave 1	2,625.3	411.6	17,255.4	41.9
Autumn waves 1 and 5	1,281.8	299.5	6,464.7	21.6

Source: Labour Force Survey

the maximum income weight has typically been between 13,000 and 14,000. Table 7 shows the income weights.

### Percentiles

These are defined as follows:

- median – level of earnings at which 50 per cent of employees get less and 50 per cent get more;
- lowest decile – level of earnings at which 10 per cent of employees get less and 90 per cent get more (90 per cent and 10 per cent respectively for the highest decile); and
- lowest quartile – level of earnings at which 25 per cent of employees get less and 75 per cent get more (75 per cent and 25 per cent respectively for highest quartile).

### Publication thresholds for discrete variables

The standard error of the LFS estimate of the size of a population group (a discrete variable) is approximately equal to:

$$\text{total population} \times \text{design factor} \times \sqrt{p(1-p)/n}$$

where  $p$  is the proportion of those questioned who belong to the group and  $n$  is the number questioned in the sample. The design factor measures how the clustering and other aspects of the sample design affect this estimate. Most design factors on the LFS are greater than one, but these are treated as one in calculating thresholds.

### Threshold for estimates from the full LFS

For an estimate of the standard error of a sub-group of the population comprising 10,000 people, where the population aged 16 and over is 44 million, the 'probability of being selected' is the equivalent of the relative frequency of people from this sub-group in the population. That is to say,

$$p = 10,000/44 \text{ million} = 0.0002,$$

which in other words means that 0.02 per cent of the population have the characteristics of this sub-group. About 114,000 people of working age are sampled each quarter on the LFS, so the standard error of the estimate is

$$44 \text{ million} \times \sqrt{(0.0002 \times 0.9998)/114,000},$$

which is just less than 2,000, and thus just less than 20 per cent of the original estimate of 10,000. This figure (20 per cent in this example) is often termed the relative standard error (RSE) or coefficient of variation (CV).

Although the standard error of a sub-group

will increase as the size of the sub-group increases, the RSE will decrease – in other words, estimates of larger sub-groups are relatively more precise than those of smaller sub-groups.

### Threshold for earnings estimates from wave 5

With wave 5 earnings data, the sample size is about 9,000 and the population, being all employees in Great Britain, is about 22 million. An estimate of about 60,000 individuals will have a relative standard error of 20 per cent.

### Threshold for earnings estimates based on combined waves 1 and 5

For combined wave data, assuming a sample size of 18,000, an estimate of about 30,000 people will have a relative standard error of 20 per cent.

### Publication thresholds for estimates based on continuous variables

Continuous variables such as earnings tend to produce more precise estimates than discrete variables. However, to set an alternative publication threshold sample size for estimates of earnings, based on maintaining a RSE of less than 20 per cent, would be problematic. There are two key reasons for this.

One is that estimates of earnings are not directly related to the size of the sample (unlike estimates of numbers of people), so using a RSE as a measure of precision is not necessarily appropriate. For example, an estimate of mean hourly earnings of £1 (for a particular sub-group) with a standard error of £0.20 would be suppressed because it has a RSE of 20 per cent, whereas an estimate of £10 (for a different sub-group with the same sample size) with the same standard error would have a much smaller RSE, yet in actual terms both have equal precision.

The second reason is that standard errors of earnings estimates are dependent on the degree of variation within the sample. Thus, an estimate of earnings of a sub-group whose earnings are similar will have a relatively small standard error, whereas a group with more variable earnings will produce an estimate with a larger standard error, though both estimates may be the same and based on similar sample sizes. Estimates derived from discrete variables are affected by variability in a different way since, essentially, there are just two outcomes – whether a respondent is in a specified group or not.

This article summarises relevant projects in the 1998-99 labour market research programme of the Department for Education and Employment. For completeness, research by the DfEE relating to schools is also listed.

## Department for Education and Employment research programme

Each year the Department undertakes a programme of research to assist in achieving its aim and objectives. Research projects reflect DfEE policy and evaluation requirements, with some proposals emerging during research seminars which are held with members of the external research community each year. Projects likely to be undertaken in 1998-99 are listed below. Additional projects may be commissioned during the year.

### Research to help the Department to ensure that all young people reach 16 with the highest standards of basic skills and a secure foundation for lifelong learning, work and citizenship

#### Ref 107/98 Initial evaluation of early excellence centres

This first stage research will examine how the first pilot centres are addressing key issues picked out in the Department's Memorandum of Understanding with the centres.

Probable start date September 1998

#### Ref 110/98 Exploratory study of the impact of adult/child ratios on standards

This study is a small scale exploration of the relationship between progress and attainment in classes in which additional adults are introduced. It will help to clarify the focus and methodology for further work.

Probable start date April 1998

#### Ref 153/98 An evaluation of the Football Club Initiative

The Football Club Initiative supports out-of-school-hours study centres at or near the grounds of top professional football clubs. The evaluation will focus on the effectiveness of the Initiative in encouraging sustained commitment to learning, especially among children at Key Stages 2 and 3 in inner city areas who may be at risk of becoming disaffected.

Probable start date May 1998

#### Ref 112/98 Evaluating 'new' work experience

The research will contribute to the policy framework to promote extended opportunities for young people to benefit from activities outside of the classroom as set out in the White Paper *Excellence in*

*Schools*. The White Paper states that work-related learning can help in preparing young people for working life and motivating young people while at school, particularly those in danger of becoming disaffected. Work experience is a key part of this agenda. The DfEE needs to know how effective provision is and the impact it has.

Probable start date April 1998

#### Ref 113/98 Effective practice in the inclusion of children with special educational needs in mainstream schools

This research will look in depth at how local education authorities have been successful in overcoming the perceived barriers to inclusion, and how some special and mainstream schools have forged effective links.

Probable start date July 1998

#### Ref 105/98 The impact of careers education and guidance on school effectiveness

This research project will look at the impact of careers education and guidance in schools which adopt the 'community guidance' model. It will examine if this benefits school effectiveness, considering both 'hard' and 'soft' outcomes.

Probable start date September 1998

#### Ref 114/98 Evaluating work-related learning at key stage 4

In October 1997 the Government announced a £3.5m Work-Related Learning Package, which will give schools the opportunity to widen the scope for 14 to 16-year-olds to undertake work-related learning. It consists of 35 demonstration projects, most of which began in September 1997, and the 1998-99 Standards Fund for work-related learning, which will start in April 1998. The latter supports innovative projects intended to promote high-quality work-related learning for 14 to 16-year-olds.

Research is needed to contribute to the policy framework to raise standards in schools by assessing the effectiveness of the work-related learning programme.  
*Probable start date* September 1998

**Ref 108/98 Evaluation of the literacy and numeracy strategies**

The purpose of this research is to gain an overview of the overall strategy and to provide formative information for the implementation of a strategy.  
*Probable start date* August 1988

**Ref 109/98 Impact of school transfer on progress and attainment**

This exploratory study would track a sample of pupils through school transfer in order to identify the factors which contribute to drops in progress following transfer; it will also explore possible strategies for improvement.  
*Probable start date* August 1998

**Research to encourage people to continue throughout their lives to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding and improve their employability in a changing labour market**

**Ref 115/98 Progression from basic to key skills**

This research aims to investigate the progression from basic (literacy and numeracy) to key skills. It will investigate the conceptual models of the two skill categories and examples of programmes which enable learners to make the transitions between the two skill categories. The study will provide information on exactly what impediments exist to clear and coherent progression between basic and key skills.  
*Probable start date* May 1998

**Ref 122/98 Evaluation of ESF Objective 2 programmes in England**

This work will evaluate the effectiveness of support from the European Union's Structural Funds investment in Objective 2 areas in England. Research will look back over the 1994-96 programme and assess early progress on the 1997-99 programme. Eight separate studies will take place in the English Objective 2 areas, beginning between April and June 1998.  
*Probable start date* May 1998

**Ref 126/98 Employability: what is it, and how does it affect labour market success?**

The research will build on a current project. DfEE will seek further to understand employability, and to investigate how labour market success is affected by the factors that contribute to employability.  
*Probable start date* July 1998

**Ref 116/98 Trends in the learning activity of individuals**

This project will involve following up

respondents to the 1997 National Adult Learning Survey in order to see how their learning activities have changed over the course of a year.  
*Probable start date* April 1998

**Ref 152/98 Evaluation of early Individual Learning Account development activity**

It will take some time to develop the national system of ILAs envisioned in the Green Paper *The Learning Age*, but early activity is already taking place in local areas. This needs to be evaluated, lessons learned and good practice be disseminated and fed into the design work on the national system.  
*Probable start date* October 1998

**Ref 117/98 Analysis of WERS data on employer training**

This project is a piece of secondary analysis of the Workplace Employee Relations Survey, which is run by the Department of Trade and Industry. The analysis will focus on employers' training activities, and how these link up with, for example, unionisation and the performance of organisations.  
*Probable start date* January 1999

**Ref 123/98 Skill needs of small firms in Britain 1998**

This research will look at the skills and training issues faced by small firms. It will provide information on small firms' training volumes, skill needs, commitment to training and involvement in DfEE initiatives. The results will help set a framework for training and skills strategies in the future.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 124/98 Skill needs in Britain 1999 (SNIB99)**

This research will look at the skills and training issues faced by medium/large firms. It will provide information to monitor training volumes, skill needs, commitment to training and involvement in DfEE initiatives. The results will help set a framework for training and skills strategies in the future.  
*Probable start date* January 1999

**Ref 128/98 Evaluation of the University for Industry development projects**

Outline plans for the University for Industry were given in the recent Green Paper *The Learning Age*. DfEE will soon be inviting bids for projects to support its development, and wishes to evaluate the projects supported.  
*Probable start date* May 1998

**Ref 130/98 Long-term labour market changes and implications for skill requirements**

The project will provide information to the new government's Skills Task Force and feed into the development of the National Skills Agenda. It will contribute to lifelong

learning objectives, in particular, stimulating providers of education and training to be more responsive to the needs of individuals and employers, and persuading employers to invest more widely in updating the skills of their workforce.  
*Probable start date* May 1998

**Ref 118/98 Research on the labour market relevance of TEC activities**

The aim of this project is to assess the extent to which TEC activities meet local labour market needs. The project will include an assessment of the processes through which needs are identified, how TEC activities address these needs, and will feed back good practice and recommendations for improvement.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 120/98 Research on the role of informal learning in the workplace**

There is evidence that a lot of important informal learning occurs (especially in small and medium enterprises) about which little is known. Information is needed on trends in use of informal learning, access to it, its effectiveness in enhancing skills (and achievement of qualifications), organisational cultures which promote or hinder, and how far informal learning can/should be supported.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 121/98 Research on the training and development of flexible workers**

Hard evidence is needed on the training and development experiences of flexible workers. The work will need to identify who and where such workers are located and gather information from an individual and employer perspective on their training and development compared with 'conventional' workers.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 125/98 Continuing Vocational Training Survey 2 (CVTS2) pre-test**

A second CVTS is planned, which will look at a number of issues related to employer-provided training, such as costs, participation, and organisation of training. This research will be a developmental project to inform decisions to be taken before main fieldwork.  
*Probable start date* July 1998

**Ref 129/98 Informal learning and widening participation**

This project aims to improve understanding of informal learning, including 'learning through doing', to develop measures in this area and to implement them; to identify ways to widen participation, focusing on the socially excluded and disadvantaged; to explore the relationship between learning and employability; and to identify how different aspects, such as community learning including citizenship and family learning, operate, and the benefits provided.  
*Probable start date* May 1998.

**Research to help people without a job into work**

**Ref 131/98 Education and Employment Economics Group (EEEG)**

This project aims to stimulate a debate amongst academia and government on key and interesting economic and policy issues in education and employment. It usually incorporates a number of seminars in the winter and spring, culminating in a conference in the summer.  
*Probable start date* September 1998

**Ref 132/98 An assessment of the effect of ESF Objective 3 in getting people into work**

This survey will investigate the effectiveness of European Structural Fund-supported activities in helping young, unemployed people, the long-term unemployed and others at a disadvantage in the labour market to get back into work. The data will be collected using a self-completion questionnaire sent to beneficiaries six months after leaving an ESF project.  
*Probable start date* September 1998

**Ref 134/98 Jobseekers' participation in study under 'Workskill' JSA concessions**

This project will collect information on jobseekers' patterns of study and outcomes after study. This will inform on the effect of the 'Workskill' JSA concessions, which are available in pilot areas to jobseekers who are unemployed for six months or more.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 135/98 Added value of Level 1 Basic Skills for Employability (TfW Higher Level Basic Skills pilot)**

DfEE is conducting a pilot within TfW which allows payments to be made for achievement of basic employability skills at Level 1 (normally payments can only be made for Foundation Level). So that findings can be fed into planning provision for 1999-2000, follow-up in some cases will need to be carried out at an earlier stage. This will be done by face-to-face interviews of pilot participants for 1997-98.  
*Probable start date* July 1998

**Research to promote equality of opportunity in education and training and at work, including tackling social exclusion, deprivation and under-achievement**

**Ref 144/98 Evaluation of effectiveness of 'Cities in Schools' provision**

This evaluation will examine the extent to which this type of provision is effective in providing academic study, work experience and group work for pupils educated otherwise than at school.  
*Probable start date* April 1998

**Ref 145/98 Evaluation of pilot Education Action Zones**

An overview evaluation will be conducted

of the pilot to draw together the individual evaluations conducted in the areas that successfully bid for this initiative.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 146/98 The effective use of learning support assistants and their training needs**

This research will look at both existing and good practice in the use and training of learning support assistants, and at their training needs and career structure. This will serve to inform policy development in this area.  
*Probable start date* July 1998

**Ref 147/98 Special educational needs parent partnership: good practice in schools and LEAs**

This research will look in depth at good practice in SEN parent partnership in schools, local education authorities and voluntary organisations, and attempt to identify the factors which appear to underlie it.  
*Status* Started

**Ref 139/98 Prospective students: who decides to enter higher education, and why?**

A survey of potential entrants to higher education to assess the relative importance of funding and other issues when deciding whether or not to apply for a university place. The survey will compare the types of factors taken into account by a number of different sub-groups of potential applicants.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 154/98 The early career paths of recent graduates and diplomates**

DfEE has been invited to part-fund a Higher Education Careers Services Unit longitudinal study of early career paths of graduates. It agreed an extension to cover sub-degree qualifiers, to reflect the increasing importance of this group. The survey addresses a number of issues of key importance to the DfEE for which there is no other suitable data source available.  
*Status* Started

**Ref 142/98 Take-up and impact of careers education and guidance post-16.**

This research project will look at the take-up and impact of post-16 careers

**Information for potential contractors**

Research and evaluation projects funded by the Department are normally undertaken by independent research organisations, academics and consultancies, following a process of competitive tendering. If you wish to express an interest in undertaking any of the listed research projects, please request an expression of interest form (one per project) by phone or e-mail. Please note that an expression of interest does not guarantee an invitation to tender.

The Department maintains a database of organisations with experience relevant to undertaking its research and is keen to extend the number of potential contractors. If your organisation wishes to be added to the database please request a registration form by phone or e-mail.

Phone: 0114 2593232

e-mail: amanda.garratty@dfee.gov.uk

education and guidance (CEG) on young people. It will examine variations between different post-16 option groups looking at who uses/does not use CEG, and short- to medium-term outcomes.  
*Probable start date* October 1998

**Ref 138/98 Review of research on social exclusion**

This project will involve a review and synthesis of existing research on social exclusion, drawing out policy conclusions for DfEE and providing data to inform the development of new initiatives to tackle exclusion. It is anticipated that the project will also involve exploration of existing longitudinal datasets (e.g. BHPS, NCDS, BCS70) to add to the knowledge and understanding of the prevalence and persistence of social exclusion in Britain.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 136/98 Social and health benefits of learning**

This project is intended to test the hypothesis that older people who are involved in learning both assist younger members of the community to take up learning and experience benefits in terms of their own improved health.  
*Probable start date* June 1998

**Ref 141/98 Employment of people with disabilities: assessing the extent of participation follow-up work**

This new project will form part of the programme of research currently underway to monitor the impact of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Using baseline data provided by the survey 'Employment of People with Disabilities: Assessing the Extent of Participation' the project will provide more extensive analysis on specific groups or topics identified by the survey.  
*Probable start date* July 1998

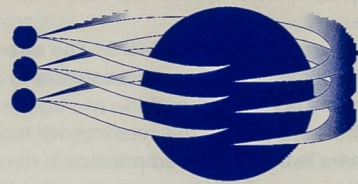
**Ref 143/98 Affordability of childcare**

The purpose of this project is to survey parents about their willingness to pay for childcare at varying levels of cost, taking account of quality. This is intended to feed into development of the National Childcare Strategy.  
*Probable start date* May 1998

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In light of the rapid expansion in the number of graduates entering the labour market, recent research has examined the impact on both the labour market and the graduates. A key question was whether graduates' skills are under-utilised in their work.

By **Andrea Nove**,  
**Dawn Snape** and **Mark Chetwynd**, Social and  
Community Planning  
Research.

## Advancing by degrees

### Key findings

- Most employers - 60 per cent - reported an increase in the proportion of graduates at their establishments over the previous five years, and 51 per cent predicted an increase at their establishment over the next five years.
- Some 75 per cent of managers felt that universities were meeting the needs of their departments in terms of the skills possessed by graduates.
- Some 63 per cent of graduates of new universities cited career-related reasons for doing a degree compared with 46 per cent of graduates from old universities.
- Only 41 per cent of graduates reported having obtained work experience as part of their degree course.
- Graduates working in smaller firms were among the least likely to report under-utilisation of their skills.
- Just over half of the graduates' first jobs were in the managerial, professional or associate professional/technical sectors.

### Introduction and method

**THIS STUDY** was carried out in the context of the recent rapid expansion in the number of graduates entering the labour market, in order to examine the impact on the labour market and on the graduates themselves. A particular concern of the research was to investigate whether the skills possessed by graduates are under-utilised in the work that they do.

The study - carried out between February and May 1997 - comprised a qualitative and a quantitative stage.

The qualitative stage involved 12 pairs of in-depth interviews. Each pair of interviews was conducted within a different organisation, one interview being with a recent graduate employee and the other with the graduate's line manager or a personnel manager concerned with graduate recruitment. Two pairs of interviews were carried out in each of six selected industries.

The quantitative stage involved telephone interviews with personnel and line managers in just over 700 firms, followed by postal questionnaires to an achieved sample of just over 800 recent graduates in the same firms. The firms were chosen to reflect five broad industrial categories and were dispersed across all of the English regions.

The study covered only establishments with 25 or more employees, and which employed graduates who graduated in or after 1991. The findings are not, therefore, representative of employers or of graduate employees as a whole.

### Graduate employment

There is no generally accepted definition of what constitutes a 'graduate job', so various proxy measures were used in this study. On the basis of one of these proxy measures (whether the degree was viewed as a necessity to get the job), it appears that graduates were as likely to be in 'non-graduate' jobs as 'graduate' jobs. Most

employers (60 per cent) reported an increase in the proportion of graduates at their establishments over the previous five years.

There were several reasons for the increase in graduates doing 'non-graduate' jobs, in addition to the simple increase in availability of graduates. Some employers were more concerned with the personal qualities of the applicants than their qualifications, and tended to take on graduates because they happen to have the required qualities, regardless of their qualifications. Other employers had experienced changes in the type of work they did or their organisational structure, and required graduates to help them deal effectively with these changes.

Even if a degree was not needed to secure a job, it sometimes had a positive effect on the graduate's ability to do the job well: 40 per cent of graduates who did not think their degree helped them to get their job nonetheless thought it made a positive contribution to their performance.

### Nature and value of graduate skills

In terms of defining 'graduate skills', the views of managers and graduates were similar. These tended to relate to graduates' development of intellectual, personal and vocational skills during their degree courses. Some managers also emphasised that the value of graduates lay as much in their potential as in the skills that they already possessed.

The majority of managers were satisfied that the graduates whom they recruited had the required skills and abilities.

Graduates themselves tended to feel that they have a good grasp of certain specific 'graduate skills', and that their degree courses had made a significant contribution to the acquisition of these skills.

### Recruitment methods

Print media and internal advertising were the most commonly used methods of publicising graduate vacancies. Only a fairly

small proportion (11 per cent) of employers reported making use of the university milkround to recruit their selected graduate employee; these were mostly organisations with formal graduate intake programmes.

Employers with formal graduate programmes, and those in the business and finance sector, tended to receive more applications from graduates than did other employers, while those in the engineering sector received the fewest. Interestingly, managers from both of these sectors were most likely to have said that they were specifically seeking graduates to do the selected graduate's job (64 per cent in each case). This implies a more restricted choice of graduate recruits in the engineering sector, consistent with findings from elsewhere.

The majority of managers (75 per cent) felt that universities were meeting the needs of their departments in terms of the skills possessed by graduates. Those who were more critical most frequently cited a lack of practical ability in graduates.

Apart from recruitment for technically-orientated posts, employers were not usually looking for graduates from particular subject areas. They tended to want people with upper second- or first-class degrees. In some cases, the reputation and ranking of the university attended was also used for vetting candidates.

#### Use of graduate skills

The most common qualities or skills that managers said they were looking for when recruiting the selected graduate were: practical ability or relevant experience (44 per cent) and interpersonal skills (28 per cent). Some managers described seeking graduates with a range of carefully defined core skills and competencies. Graduates felt that team working, logical thinking and ability to work with minimum supervision were the most important skills used in their current jobs (i.e. core transferable skills) and least important were management ability and application of knowledge gained through their degree (which coincides with employers' views).

About 40 per cent of managers felt that the selected graduate possessed skills that were not being used in the job, the most frequently cited of which were: knowledge of the subject matter of the degree (24 per cent) and previous work or technical experience (18 per cent). Largely, managers attributed skill under-utilisation to lack of relevance to the job, though 7 per cent of managers felt that under-utilisation was transitory and that more use would be made of currently under-utilised skills later in their careers. Managers also emphasised that skill utilisation involves a developmental process during which university learning must be complemented by practical skills acquired in the workplace, particularly in the early stages of a career.

The notion that skill utilisation involves a developmental process was supported by findings that graduates in their first jobs tended to report skills under-utilisation more frequently than graduates who had moved on to subsequent jobs.

Most graduates felt that they could make some use of their graduate skills whether or not they were in a job for which a degree was initially required. Those doing 'graduate jobs' were more likely to feel that their graduate

skills were being fully used (45 per cent) than were those in non-graduate jobs (27 per cent), but only 15 per cent of those in non-graduate jobs felt that none of their graduate skills were being used. Those working in smaller firms were among the least likely to report under-utilisation of their skills.

#### Graduates' early career trajectories

Although there was a range of reasons why graduates said they did a degree, the most important reason tended to be career-related factors, such as the requirement for a degree in their chosen career path (27 per cent) or the necessity of having a degree in order to get a 'good job' (24 per cent). This was particularly true for graduates of new universities - 63 per cent of graduates of new universities cited career-related reasons compared with 46 per cent of graduates from old universities.

Although managers claimed that they particularly sought practical work-related skills in new graduate recruits, only 41 per cent of graduates reported having obtained work experience as part of their degree course. Vocational and science degree courses were most likely to provide this type of experience, though more than one-third of arts and humanities graduates also reported having had work experience as a component of their degree. Those graduating more recently were more likely to have done a course involving work experience. This suggests either that work experience is increasingly incorporated into degree courses, or that recent graduates who managed to find work were more likely to have had work experience as part of their degree. Graduates also described the importance of the work experience component as a factor helping them to choose between courses offered at different universities.

Just over half of those graduates who said they wanted work directly after graduation found it easy to get a suitable job. More recent graduates generally appeared to have more difficulties in finding suitable work. Graduates with vocational degrees found it easier to find a suitable job than either arts and humanities or science graduates.

Just over half of the graduates' first jobs fell into the managerial, professional or associate professional/technical categories and, as their careers developed, increasing numbers moved into these occupational categories. As these might be defined as occupations suitable for graduates, this is an indication that most graduates move into 'graduate jobs', even in sectors that are not usually thought of as being large employers of graduates.

#### Implications of the expansion of higher education

Approximately half (51 per cent) of the managers in the survey predicted an increase in the proportion of graduates at their establishment over the next five years while only 1 per cent thought the proportion of graduates would decrease. Managers most commonly expected the increase to result from graduates taking up jobs currently done by non-graduates (44 per cent). General expansion (31 per cent) and changes in the type of work or work practices (22 per cent)

were also cited as reasons for the expected increase.

Employers felt they needed more information to be able to discern more effectively between graduates from different institutions and degree courses. They also emphasised the importance of graduates gaining practical work experience as part of their degree courses and felt the current system of work placements should be expanded. Graduates had similar ideas, including wanting more practical work experience as part of their degrees and more input from employers in the development and delivery of their course curriculum.

#### Industry sector profiles of graduate recruitment and skills utilisation

There appeared to be quite different factors driving the increased use of graduates reported in each sector. Potentially of greatest importance to graduate skill utilisation is the extent to which managers attributed the increased employment of graduates at their establishments to what would appear to be a simple substitution of graduates doing jobs that used to be done by non-graduates. If not underpinned by simultaneous changes in the nature of the work or working practices, this could imply under-utilisation of graduate skills. Managers in the engineering sector were least likely to report simple substitution as the main reason for the increase in graduate numbers (5 per cent did), while managers in the distribution/consumer services sector were most likely to do so (53 per cent).

In relation to occupational status, graduates in the engineering and business/finance sectors were most frequently employed in 'traditional' graduate occupations (98 per cent and 93 per cent respectively). Graduates were most frequently employed in traditionally non-graduate occupations in the production/construction sector (32 per cent), followed by the distribution/consumer services sector (27 per cent) and the 'other services' sector (21 per cent).

Graduates in the business/finance and engineering sectors were most likely to feel that their overall package of graduate skills was being put to at least 'some use' in their current jobs (95 per cent and 94 per cent respectively). By contrast, comparatively high proportions of graduates in the production/construction and distribution/consumer services sectors said that little or no use was being made of their skills in their current job (28 per cent and 15 per cent respectively). Still, in each sector more than 70 per cent of graduates felt that at least some use was being made of their skills.

A similar story emerged from managers. Those in the production/construction and distribution/consumer services sectors most frequently reported under-utilisation of the skills of the selected graduate in their current job (51 per cent and 53 per cent respectively). Under-utilisation of skills was least often reported by managers in the engineering and business/finance sectors (30 per cent and 35 per cent respectively).

Copies of the full report - priced £4.95 - are available from DfEE Publications, PO Box 5050, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6ZQ, telephone 0845 6022260. ISBN 0 85522 657 9.

Self-employment is one route back into work for the unemployed. Recent research has examined the ways unemployed people can be helped into self-employment.

By Karen Kellard and Sue Middleton, Centre for Research in Social Policy.

## Helping unemployed people into self-employment

### Key findings

- Of the unemployed, those moving into self-employment from unemployment were more likely to have been previously self-employed than others.
- The sorts of self-employment that unemployed people enter differ from those entered by previously employed people.
- Key factors are identified which impact on: whether self-employment is a successful route out of unemployment; the relationship between register effects and long-term labour market effects; and on the main obstacles to greater take-up and success with self-employment.

### THE CENTRE for Research in Social Policy was commissioned to assess the value of self-employment for unemployed people.

The researchers were asked to address three broad questions:

- for which sub-groups of the unemployed is self-employment a successful route out of unemployment;
- what is the relationship between register effects and long-term labour market effects; and
- what are the obstacles to greater take-up and success with self-employment as a route out of unemployment.

### Self-employment in the 1990s

Self-employment has risen from 7 per cent to 13 per cent in 1993. There are many possible reasons for the rise, such as labour market changes, changes in employer practices and encouragement for entrepreneurial activities. This period has also seen the emergence of the 'new self-employed' including homeworkers, sub-contractors and selling agents, who are more akin to traditional employees.

### The characteristics of self-employed people

Most self-employed people are men, who form about three-quarters of the self-employed population. However, female self-employment is rising, largely as a result of the increase in female participation in the labour force as a whole. The JSA baseline analysis shows that men were much more likely to move from unemployment into self-employment than women. Most of those who moved into self-employment in the JSA baseline sample were in their late 20s to early 40s, which is broadly similar to other research findings. It is known that self-employed people as a whole are more likely to be married or cohabiting than are employees. Over half of JSA baseline respondents who moved into self-employment were married or cohabiting,

compared with about a third in the sample as a whole. JSA respondents who moved into self-employment were most likely to be managerial or technical workers, or skilled manual workers, rather than professionals or partly/unskilled manual workers. They were also more likely to own their own house.

### Labour market background of self-employed people

Previous research has shown the importance of employment history, as well as qualifications and training, in identifying those people most likely to become self-employed. The JSA baseline data show that those moving into self-employment were most likely to have been previously self-employed than others, confirming other evidence that previous self-employment is the most likely predictor of self-employment. The relationship between self-employment and educational attainment is complex. Although educational qualifications are generally higher among self-employed people, significant proportions have no qualifications. In the JSA sample, those who moved into self-employment were most likely to have both academic and vocational qualifications, suggesting the importance of having practical as well as academic skills.

Those who move into self-employment after unemployment may not initially include self-employment as an option in their job-search strategy, possibly because of low awareness or a perception that it is 'risky'.

### The work and incomes of self-employed people

There is some evidence that the type of self-employment entered by unemployed people differs from that of previously employed people, with unemployed people more likely to work in manual or labour-intensive self-employment, often with a low capital investment. Although income data for self-employed people is difficult to collect and interpret, it seems that incomes of self-

employed people are widely dispersed, and concentrated at the upper and lower end of the income distribution. Many 'new self-employed' such as homeworkers and contract workers have a relatively low income. Households headed by a self-employed person make up a growing proportion of households in the lowest income decile.

Self-employed people report working longer hours than employees, and there is a lower rate of part-time working in self-employment.

#### Help for self-employed people

##### Benefits

Family Credit has been shown to be of particular importance to self-employed people, as a means of providing a guaranteed income, particularly during times of difficulty. Disability Working Allowance may also be of importance to disabled people in self-employment, who make up approximately a quarter of all recipients.

##### Programmes

The business survival rate of Enterprise Allowance Scheme participants is estimated at between a half and two-thirds of those who completed the scheme, with the most vulnerable period occurring when financial support ended. The self-employment option within Training for Work has had relatively few trainees, but the success rate is thought to be very high. However, the option may attract only those who are more likely to succeed in self-employment anyway (for example, those with a high level of qualifications). One of the most valued aspects of the schemes was the provision of business advice and support. There were very few respondents in the JSA sample who had participated in any sort of programme prior to moving into self-employment.

##### Informal help

The involvement of an unpaid worker in a self-employed business is known to be of importance especially during the early stages. Women in particular often play a largely invisible role in their partner's business.

#### Movements to and from self-employment and sustainability

The Family and Working Lives Survey includes information about transitions to and from self-employment throughout respondents' working lives. The highest transition rates to self-employment tended to be among people in their thirties. A significant number of moves to self-employment were preceded by a spell of unemployment. However, those whose previous activity was employment sustained self-employment for the longest (on average five years and four months, compared with just over a year for those previously unemployed). More than half of self-employed people gave positive reasons for entering self-employment, mostly for reasons such as flexibility and self-fulfilment. The

majority of those leaving self-employment went into employment, with the rest moving into inactivity or unemployment. Those who moved to self-employment after being unemployed were more likely to become employees at the end of their spell of self-employment than return to unemployment. This suggests that, even through the self-employment spell ended, the experience led to favourable chances of entering employment. It is difficult to establish what factors make self-employment sustainable, although there is evidence to suggest that business survival rates of programme participants were higher for males and those over 30 as well as those who were shorter-term unemployed and had some capital to invest in the business. Some research also suggests that entrants to self-employment from employment have a lower failure rate than entrants from unemployment, although other research suggests that there is no significant relationship between previous unemployment and self-employment survival.

#### Policy implications

Despite the self-employed population being characterised as mostly male, females are increasingly moving into self-employment, often part-time in order to combine domestic responsibilities with working. Consideration might be given to providing more help to assist women into self-employment. Disabled people might also benefit from assistance with self-employment. Young people have a high failure rate in self-employment. Policies to enable them to sustain self-employment may require intensive resources.

Much of the 'new self-employment' is insecure and poorly paid, which may mean a continued reliance on benefits. In encouraging movements to self-employment attention needs to be paid to the quality of self-employment, to ensure that it becomes a viable sustainable option particularly for those entering from unemployment.

A combination of factors is likely to lead people to self-employment. Those with previous self-employment experience are most likely to return to self-employment. Although the unemployment rate is known to affect the self-employment rate, the relationship is complex. Further examination of existing and new longitudinal data is required.

Schemes and programmes to encourage self-employment need to consider: deadweight; displacement; the rationale for self-employment; and the target groups for programmes. Deadweight for previous schemes such as the Enterprise Allowance Scheme is estimated to be as much as 50 per cent, with a similar estimate for the displacement of existing labour market activities. Both are very difficult to measure accurately.

Research has identified entrants to self-employment as:

- those with a long history of self-employment;

- those who have consciously changed to self-employment; and
- those who could be termed the 'accidental' self-employed.

Each of these groups will need different levels and types of support. However, it must be accepted that some people will always fare better as employees and programmes need to be effectively targeted to reflect this.

This report also suggest possible further areas for research, which include:

- the role of the benefit system in facilitating and sustaining self-employment;
- studying self-employment trends and provision in other (European) countries; and
- further examination of the characteristics and behaviour of the 'new self-employed'.

There is a need for a more consistent approach to the definition of self-employment as well as more adequate sources of longitudinal data to examine the transitions between self-employment and other activities.

#### Conclusion: the key research questions

The following issues are identified as having particular importance when seeking to respond to the key research questions.

*For which sub-groups of unemployed people is self-employment a successful route out of unemployment?*

- previous self-employment;
- age;
- gender;
- training and qualifications;
- family circumstances; and
- access to resources.

*What is the relationship between register effects and long-term labour market effects?*

- origins;
- durations and sustainability;
- destinations;
- deadweight; and
- displacement.

*What are the main obstacles to greater take-up and success with self-employment as a route out of unemployment?*

- the benefits system;
- programmes and support for self-employed people; and
- types of self-employment.

*Helping unemployed people into self-employment.* ISBN 0 85522 717 6, £4.95. Available from Prolog, PO Box 5050, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6ZQ (tel. 0845 6022260).

How can public policy assist the chances of those who seek to leave unemployment by becoming self-employed? The evidence from 17 OECD countries has been assessed.

By Hilary Metcalf,  
Policy Studies Institute.

## Self-employment for the unemployed: the role of public policy

#### Key findings

- Programmes to assist self-employment should be open to all unemployed people
- The main elements which appear to lead to a successful, cost-effective programme are identified.
- Support to prevent business failure is an important policy approach to reduce unemployment.
- The main problem areas for the self-employed in the benefits system are identified.

**THIS STUDY** has reviewed the evidence on the effects of labour market, social security and other policies on the transition from unemployment to self-employment. It has assessed evidence on the operation of the benefits system in the UK and on self-employment programmes from 17 OECD countries. The main findings are summarised below.

There is a dearth of robust evidence on the effect of policy on the transition to self-employment. Nevertheless, there is evidence that self-employment provides an effective route out of unemployment (whether into continuing self-employment or as a step back to employment as an employee) and that government policies can affect the proportion of the unemployed becoming self-employed. Research indicates that self-employment programmes reduce aggregate unemployment and assist some people to enter and remain in self-employment (without full counteracting deadweight and displacement). This suggests that provision should ensure universal access across the country. However, the percentage of the unemployed taking this route is only ever likely to be small (around 3 to 5 per cent) and it is only ever likely to be suitable for certain groups of people.

It is clear who the main participant groups are for programmes which are not specially targeted:

- men;
- the better qualified;
- the medium-term unemployed (around six to 18 months unemployed);
- older members of the labour force; and
- Whites.

These groups are disproportionately represented on programmes and are the same groups who most often enter self-employment generally. This suggests that deadweight may be high. Reaching other groups may reduce deadweight but may increase the failure rate.

Research does not show for whom assistance is most effective nor what type of assistance is most effective. However, it is

helpful in identifying how major aspects of programmes affect outcomes. The main conclusions are:

- programmes should be open to all unemployed people and not select on the basis of probable viability in self-employment; while (if accurate) selection based on viability leads to a high success rate in self-employment, it also increases deadweight, reducing cost-effectiveness and reducing the effect on unemployment;
- without further evidence on cost-effectiveness, the decision whether to target programmes at disadvantaged groups will need to remain a political decision;
- deadweight and displacement may be reduced by encouraging entry into certain types of business, particularly those requiring more capital; this may be achieved through the payment system, through requiring the achievement of a minimum self-employed income or limiting assistance to businesses which do not compete with existing businesses; however, these approaches will result in programme participation being skewed towards those more advantaged in the labour market (especially better educated men);
- there are dangers in measuring the success of programmes in terms of entry to self-employment and survival, as this encourages 'picking winners' resulting in high levels of deadweight; this has implications for output-related funding, if used;
- the main elements which appear to lead to a successful, cost-effective programme are:
  - self-screening (through compulsory participation in training, advice and/or counselling and through the development of a business plan);
  - the provision of training, advice and counselling;
  - continuing assistance once established in self-employment;

- delivery of assistance by the private sector;
- and
- support to prevent business failure is also an important policy approach to reduce unemployment.

Out-of-work benefits, in-work benefits and financial support to establish a business were also examined. The system of benefits is mainly designed around people who are unemployed or work as employees, and the system does not wholly take into account the different circumstances of those entering self-employment, namely the need to build

up business, the low initial income, the degree of uncertainty of income and the degree of fluctuation. The main problems arise from:

- hours of work cut-offs (under 16 hours for out-of-work benefits and 16 hours or more for in-work benefits);
- separate systems and hence application for in- and out-of-work benefits and for housing benefit, resulting in extensive form administration and differing proof of income requirements;
- the difficulties of proof of income for newly self-employed; and
- in cases where income has been over-

estimated or unexpectedly falls, the setting of in-work benefits for six months at a time.

Co-ordination across these benefits would be particularly helpful, as would the provision of a universally available self-employment programme providing income support.

*Self-employment for the unemployed: the role of public policy.* ISBN 0 85522 718 4, £4.95. Available from Prolog, PO Box 5050, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 6ZQ (0845 6022260).

**AN ARTICLE in the December 1995 edition of Labour Market Trends introduced a new experimental series of total hours worked. This is the latest quarterly update.**

This provisional series is consistent with national accounts definitions. It estimates total actual hours worked, whether paid or

unpaid, and excludes hours paid but not worked (e.g. holidays). The series combines information on average hours worked collected in the Labour Force Survey with data on employee numbers from the Workforce in Employment series. Full details were given in the *technical note* on pp475-76, *Labour Market Trends*, December 1995.

In the fourth quarter of 1997,

total hours worked per week were 876 million (seasonally adjusted); an increase of 13.0 million (1.5 per cent) over the quarter and 20.5 million (2.4 per cent) over the year. The quarterly increase is the result of increases in both employment and average hours. There were increases over the quarter for employees (1.9 per cent) and the self-employed (0.3 per cent), with participants in

government training schemes, unpaid family workers and armed forces seeing a fall (-4.4 per cent). By industry, there were quarterly increases in all sectors. In particular, the change in total hours in the retail and wholesale sector has contributed significantly to the all industry increase in total hours. Please note there have been revisions to seasonal factors at September 1997.

## HOURS WORKED - 4th QUARTER 1997

Table 1 Total hours worked per week

		Employees in employment						Self-employed			HMF WRGT UPFW <sup>a</sup>	Total
		Male		Female		All	Male	Female	All			
		All	Part-time	All	Part-time							
<b>Unadjusted for seasonal variation</b>												
1992	Jun	417	14	269	70	686	107	25	132	24	842	
	Sep	405	14	260	67	665	107	25	132	24	821	
	Dec	421	15	274	73	695	106	24	130	24	849	
1993	Mar	394	14	262	69	656	96	21	117	23	796	
	Jun	412	14	271	71	683	104	24	128	22	833	
	Sep	399	15	259	68	658	106	23	129	22	808	
	Dec	416	15	275	74	691	108	23	131	21	844	
1994	Mar	393	15	264	71	657	100	22	123	21	800	
	Jun	414	15	275	73	689	109	24	134	20	843	
	Sep	404	16	260	68	664	111	23	134	20	819	
	Dec	424	16	281	75	704	114	24	139	20	864	
1995	Mar	401	15	268	71	669	104	22	126	19	814	
	Jun	423	16	278	74	701	113	24	137	18	857	
	Sep	407	16	263	68	670	111	23	134	18	822	
	Dec	431	17	284	76	715	113	24	137	18	869	
1996	Mar	402	16	269	73	671	100	22	122	17	810	
	Jun	424	17	284	76	708	108	24	132	17	857	
	Sep	412	19	276	74	687	111	24	135	16	838	
	Dec	436	19	296	82	732	113	25	137	17	886	
1997	Mar	407	18	276	76	683	100	22	123	16	822	
	Jun	429	19	287	79	716	108	25	133	16	865	
	Sep	421	20	280	78	701	106	25	131	16	849	
	Dec	454	21	305	86	760	109	25	135	16	910	
<b>Adjusted for seasonal variation</b>												
1992	Jun	410	14	264	69	674	106	24	130	24	828	
	Sep	412	14	268	70	680	105	25	130	24	834	
	Dec	408	14	265	70	674	103	23	126	24	824	
1993	Mar	407	14	267	70	673	103	23	125	23	822	
	Jun	404	14	266	70	671	103	23	126	22	819	
	Sep	405	15	268	71	673	104	23	127	22	821	
	Dec	404	15	267	71	670	104	23	127	21	819	
1994	Mar	406	15	268	72	675	107	24	131	21	826	
	Jun	407	15	270	72	677	108	24	132	21	829	
	Sep	411	15	268	71	679	109	23	133	20	832	
	Dec	411	16	272	72	683	111	24	135	20	838	
1995	Mar	414	16	273	72	687	111	23	134	19	840	
	Jun	416	16	273	73	689	112	24	135	19	843	
	Sep	413	16	272	71	685	109	23	132	18	835	
	Dec	417	17	274	73	691	109	23	133	18	841	
1996	Mar	416	17	275	74	691	107	23	131	17	839	
	Jun	418	17	279	75	697	107	23	130	17	844	
	Sep	418	18	284	78	702	109	24	133	16	852	
	Dec	421	19	285	78	707	109	24	133	16	855	
1997	Mar	421	19	283	77	704	108	24	131	16	851	
	Jun	423	19	283	78	707	107	24	131	16	853	
	Sep	429	20	288	81	718	104	25	129	16	863	
	Dec	438	20	293	82	731	105	25	130	15	876	

a. HMF - Her Majesty's Forces; WRGT - work-related government training; UPFW - unpaid family workers.

Table 2 Total hours worked per week, employees and self-employed, by region and by sex and industry group

Standard Statistical Region				SIC 92					Additivity adjustment	Millions
				Agriculture hunting, forestry and fishing	Production industries	Construction	Other services	Public admin. defence, education, health and social work L-N		
Unadjusted for seasonal variation				A/B	C-E	F	G-K/O-P	L-N		
	Male	Female	All							
<b>South East</b>										
1997 Mar	170.2	101.6	271.8	3.1	35.2	19.2	164.1	50.5	-0.3	
Jun	179.8	106.9	286.7	3.7	37.6	20.9	173.8	50.9	-0.3	
Sep	178.1	104.7	282.8	4.1	37.6	20.4	172.0	48.6	0.1	
Dec	190.4	113.2	303.6	3.5	40.2	22.3	181.5	55.9	0.3	
<b>East Anglia</b>										
1997 Mar	19.1	9.9	29.0	1.2	5.9	2.5	14.0	5.4	0.1	
Jun	20.0	10.6	30.6	1.3	6.0	2.5	14.6	6.0	0.1	
Sep	20.1	10.6	30.7	1.5	6.4	2.3	15.2	5.3	0.0	
Dec	21.6	11.4	33.0	1.6	6.8	2.6	15.7	6.3	0.0	
<b>South West</b>										
1997 Mar	42.3	22.8	65.1	3.2	12.7	5.1	31.1	13.0	0.0	
Jun	45.0	24.0	69.0	3.4	13.9	5.6	32.8	13.1	0.2	
Sep	45.6	24.4	70.0	4.0	13.7	6.0	33.3	12.8	0.2	
Dec	48.1	26.1	74.3	3.8	14.1	6.4	35.5	14.4	0.2	
<b>West Midlands</b>										
1997 Mar	47.5	26.3	73.9	2.0	21.0	4.8	32.2	13.6	0.0	
Jun	50.5	27.5	78.0	2.2	22.2	5.4	33.9	14.2	0.0	
Sep	48.7	27.0	75.7	1.9	21.4	5.6	34.0	12.8	0.0	
Dec	53.0	29.4	82.3	1.9	23.5	6.0	36.2	14.7	0.0	
<b>East Midlands</b>										
1997 Mar	36.2	20.5	56.7	1.7	16.0	4.1	24.4	11.0	-0.1	
Jun	37.8	21.1	58.9	1.7	16.7	4.6	25.2	10.8	-0.1	
Sep	37.0	20.5	57.5	2.2	16.2	4.8	24.8	9.8	-0.1	
Dec	39.3	22.4	61.8	2.0	18.1	5.1	25.6	11.5	-0.1	
<b>Yorkshire &amp; Humberside</b>										
1997 Mar	40.6	23.6	64.3	1.4	15.5	4.9	29.4	13.3	-0.1	
Jun	43.0	24.6	67.6	1.6	17.0	5.1	30.6	13.5	-0.1	
Sep	41.9	23.4	65.3	2.0	16.2	5.2	30.1	12.1	-0.2	
Dec	44.8	26.1	70.8	1.6	17.6	5.3	32.1	14.5	-0.1	
<b>North West</b>										
1997 Mar	51.6	31.7	83.4	1.4	17.4	6.1	39.7	18.6	0.0	
Jun	54.4	33.0	87.4	1.4	18.9	6.6	41.6	18.9	0.0	
Sep	52.6	32.6	85.2	1.4	17.9	6.7	42.0	17.2	0.0	
Dec	56.6	34.9	91.5	1.3	19.2	7.0	44.8	19.1	0.0	
<b>North</b>										
1997 Mar	22.9	13.7	36.7	1.0	9.5	2.8	15.0	8.5	-0.1	
Jun	24.4	14.3	38.7	1.3	9.8	3.4	15.7	8.6	-0.1	
Sep	23.6	14.0	37.6	1.4	9.3	3.2	15.8	8.2	-0.1	
Dec	24.7	14.9	39.6	1.2	10.0	3.7	16.1	8.7	-0.1	
<b>Wales</b>										
1997 Mar	22.0	13.1	35.1	2.0	7.9	2.7	13.8	8.7	0.0	
Jun	23.3	13.2	36.5	2.4	8.4	2.8	14.1	8.8	0.0	
Sep	23.2	13.2	36.3	2.2	8.3	3.1	14.5	8.3	0.0	
Dec	24.4	14.6	39.0	2.5	8.9	3.2	15.0	9.5	0.0	
<b>Scotland</b>										
1997 Mar	41.5	26.6	68.1	2.4	12.9	5.1	31.3	16.3	0.1	
Jun	44.5	28.2	72.8	2.9	14.3	5.7	32.6	17.1	0.1	
Sep	43.4	26.9	70.3	2.7	13.3	5.8	33.1	15.0	0.3	
Dec	46.1	28.8	74.9	2.9	14.2	6.3	34.4	16.9	0.2	
<b>Great Britain</b>										
1997 Mar	494.0	289.9	783.9	19.4	153.9	57.2	394.9	158.8	-0.2	
Jun	522.6	303.5	826.2	21.9	164.9	62.7	414.9	161.7	0.0	
Sep	514.2	297.2	811.5	23.4	160.3	62.8	414.9	150.1	0.0	
Dec	549.0	321.8	870.8	22.2	172.5	67.8	436.9	171.6	-0.1	
<b>Northern Ireland</b>										
1997 Mar	13.6	8.2	21.9	2.1	4.0	1.6	7.5	6.5	0.2	
Jun	14.5	8.4	22.9	2.3	4.2	1.7	8.0	6.7	0.0	
Sep	13.4	7.5	20.8	2.1	4.1	1.5	7.5	5.5	0.0	
Dec	14.7	8.8	23.6	2.0	4.4	1.6	8.4	7.0	0.1	

a The sum of total hours by industry may not be equal to the regional total. The additivity adjustment shows the difference. For an explanation see the technical note on pp475-6, Labour Market Trends, December 1995.

b Estimates of number of self-employed in Northern Ireland are taken from the Labour Force Survey, and not those which contribute to Table 1.1 of the 'Labour Market Data' section in this publication.

Table 3 Total hours worked per week, employees and self-employed, by industry

United Kingdom SIC 92	Section Subsection Group Class	December 1997						September 1997			December 1996			Millions
		Male		Female		All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All		
		Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time		Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time		
		Unadjusted for seasonal variation												
All sections (excluding Q)	A-P	517.1	25.7	229.7	88.1	860.6	533.9	312.9	846.8	506.3	23.6	225.0	84.3	839.3
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	A/B	19.5	1.3	2.5	0.8	24.2	20.3	3.3	23.6	20.1	1.1	2.7	0.7	24.5
Mining and quarrying, manufacturing, electricity, gas and water supply	C-E	129.8	1.4	33.9	3.9	168.9	129.7	38.3	168.0	127.5	1.4	34.2	4.1	167.2
Construction	F	61.7	0.6	2.9	0.5	65.7	60.3	3.4	63.7	59.9	0.7	3.0	0.5	64.1
Wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants transport, financial, real estate and other services, employed persons in private households	G-K/O-P	247.8	17.8	115.9	51.6	433.0	260.9	163.7	424.6	238.5	16.4	110.8	48.5	414.3
Public administration, defence, education, health and social work	L-N	58.4	4.6	74.4	31.3	168.7	62.7	104.2	166.9	60.2	4.1	74.3	30.6	169.2
Unadjusted for seasonal variation														
All sections (excluding Q)	A-P	536.9	26.8	238.0	92.7	894.4	527.6	304.7	832.3	524.0	24.5	232.2	88.4	869.1
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	A/B	19.6	1.4	2.5	0.8	24.3	21.9	3.6	25.5	20.2	1.1	2.5	0.7	24.4
Mining and quarrying	C	3.3	*	0.2	*	3.6	3.0	0.3	3.3	3.1	*	0.3	*	3.4
Manufacturing	D	127.9	1.4	34.3	4.0	167.7	119.4	36.3	155.8	125.7	1.4	34.6	4.2	165.9
Manufacture of:														
food products, beverages and tobacco	DA	12.3	0.2	4.4	0.9	17.9	11.6	5.0	16.6	12.0	0.2	4.2	0.9	17.3
textiles and textile products	DB	5.9	*	6.4	0.6	13.0	5.7	6.7	12.4	5.8	*	6.5	0.7	13.2
leather and leather products	DC	0.8	*	0.5	*	1.4	0.7	0.5	1.2	0.8	*	0.4	*	1.3
wood and wood products	DD	3.4	*	0.3	*	3.9	3.4	0.4	3.9	3.5	*	0.3	*	4.0
pulp, paper and paper products, publishing and printing	DE	12.3	0.2	5.0	0.6	18.2	11.7	5.4	17.1	12.0	0.3	5.2	0.7	18.2
coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel	DF	1.2	*	*	*	1.3	1.1	0.2	1.3	1.1	*	0.2	*	1.3
chemicals, chemical products and man-made fibres	DG	6.7	*	2.3	0.2	9.2	6.8	2.2	8.9	6.9	*	2.2	0.2	9.3
rubber and plastic products	DH	7.6	*	1.7	0.2	9.5	7.1	1.8	8.9	7.7	*	1.6	0.2	9.6
other non-metallic mineral products	DI	5.1	*	0.9	*	6.1	4.6	0.9	5.5	5.3	*	1.0	*	6.4
basic metals	DJ	21.9	0.2	2.2	0.3	24.6	20.4	2.4	22.8	21.3	*	2.4	0.3	24.2
machinery and equipment NEC	DK	14.5	*	2.1	0.2	16.8	13.2	2.2	15.4	14.4	*	2.1	0.2	16.7
electrical and optical equipment	DL	15.0	*	5.1	0.4	20.6	14.1	5.3	19.4	14.6	*	5.2	0.4	20.4
transport equipment	DM	14.7	*	1.5	*	16.3	13.2	1.5	14.7	14.0	*	1.4	*	15.5
Manufacturing NEC	DN	6.6	0.2	1.8	0.2	8.7	5.8	1.9	7.7	6.2	0.2	1.9	0.3	8.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	E	4.7	*	0.9	*	5.6	4.4	1.0	5.4	4.5	*	0.8	*	5.4
Construction	F	65.1	0.6	3.1	0.5	69.4	60.9	3.4	64.3	63.0	0.7	3.1	0.5	67.3
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods	G	84.2	5.8	34.5	21.1	145.6	84.6	51.0	135.6	78.5	5.4	31.2	19.0	134.1
Hotels and restaurants	H	17.0	3.2	13.9	8.2	42.2	19.9	22.0	41.9	16.2	2.8	13.4	7.7	40.2
Transport, storage and communication	I	47.2	1.8	9.2	1.6	59.7	47.4	10.8	58.3	46.8	1.6	9.2	1.4	59.0
Financial intermediation	J	19.2	0.3	14.9	2.6	37.0	18.3	16.7	34.9	17.6	0.2	14.0	2.2	34.0
Real estate, renting and business activities	K	66.5	5.1	32.9	14.6	119.1	66.3	44.6	110.9	65.1	4.6	32.0	14.4	116.1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	L	23.9	0.5	15.7	3.4	43.5	22.8	18.2	41.0	24.7	0.5	16.2	3.3	44.6
Education	M	18.6	2.0	24.8	10.6	56.2	15.4	23.7	39.1	19.3	1.8	23.8	10.0	54.9
Health and social work	N	19.3	2.3	38.0	19.3	79.0	20.9	54.5	75.4	19.6	2.1	38.1	19.2	78.9
Other community, social and personal service activities; employed persons in private households	O-P	20.4	2.4	13.1	5.8	41.7	22.4	18.4	40.8	20.0	2.4	13.0	5.5	40.8

\* Estimates of less than 150,000 hours are not published.  
Note: NEC - Not elsewhere classified.

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## Spotlight on Scotland

This article on Scotland is the fifth in the 'Spotlight' series examining the labour market from a regional perspective.

By **Ann Blake** and **Louise Bowman**,  
Labour Market Division, Office for National Statistics.

### Key Points

- Over the last two to three years employment in Scotland has been relatively stable. ILO unemployment has fallen slightly over the same period. The impact of the recession on the labour market was less pronounced in Scotland than in Great Britain as a whole.

### Population

- The population in Scotland was at a similar level in 1996 to 1986, despite fluctuations during the period in between.
- The economic activity rate for those of working age in Scotland during 1996-97 was 77 per cent, compared with 78 per cent for Great Britain.
- The labour force in Scotland is projected to fall slightly between 1996 and 2006, compared with an expected 5 per cent increase for the United Kingdom.

### Employment

- Employment in Scotland increased by around 9 per cent between spring 1987 and spring 1997, compared with just under 7 per cent for Great Britain.

### Vacancies

- Since 1987 notified vacancies in Scotland have followed a less cyclical pattern than vacancies in the United Kingdom.

### Unemployment

- The ILO unemployment rate in Scotland was 8.7 per cent in summer 1997, compared with 7.3 per cent for Great Britain
- Within Scotland, Aberdeen City had the lowest claimant count rate in October 1997, at 2 per cent, and Eilean Siar had the highest rate at 9.4 per cent.

### Earnings

- Average gross weekly full-time earnings were lower for all major and sub-major occupational groups in Scotland than for Great Britain in April 1997.

### Qualifications and training

- The proportion of economically active people in Scotland whose highest educational qualification was at least equivalent to SCE Standard Grade at grade 3 (GCSE grade C) was higher than for Wales or any region in England.

### Previous articles

The South West .....	pp15-23, January 1997
Yorkshire and the Humber .....	pp187-96, May 1997
The West Midlands .....	pp323-32, September 1997
Wales .....	pp499-509, December 1997



## INTRODUCTION

SCOTLAND ACCOUNTS for almost one-third of the land area in the UK, but less than 9 per cent of the UK population live there. Consequently it has a lower population density overall than any other UK region, at 66 persons per square kilometre. In all, 11 of the 32 unitary authorities in Scotland have a population density of under 50 persons per square kilometre.

Glasgow City has the highest population density of all the unitary authorities (UAs) in Scotland, at over 3,500 persons per square kilometre. Highland has the lowest population density, at only 8. The most densely populated areas in Scotland form a band across the middle of the country known as the 'central belt'. The only exception to this is Aberdeen City.

The concentration of the oil industry in Aberdeen means that average earnings in this unitary authority are higher than for many other sub-regional areas in Great Britain, and stands out as being much higher than elsewhere in Scotland.

The ILO unemployment rate in Scotland has not followed the same cyclical pattern as it has in Great Britain as a whole. ILO unemployment in Scotland fell considerably between spring 1987 and spring 1991, and after small increases during 1992 it has followed a downward path.

Table 1 Resident population

	Thousands							Percentage change		
								1986-1996	1991-1996	1995-1996
	1986	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1996	1996	1996
United Kingdom	56,852	57,808	58,006	58,191	58,395	58,606	58,801	3.4	1.7	0.3
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>5,123</b>	<b>5,107</b>	<b>5,111</b>	<b>5,120</b>	<b>5,132</b>	<b>5,137</b>	<b>5,128</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Aberdeen City	218	215	217	218	219	219	217	-0.1	1.1	-0.8
Aberdeenshire	203	216	221	224	226	227	227	12.1	5.1	0.4
Angus	106	109	110	111	112	112	111	4.6	1.9	-0.9
Argyll and Bute	93	94	92	91	92	91	91	-2.2	-3.0	-0.5
Clackmannanshire	48	48	48	49	49	49	49	1.8	0.8	0.0
Dumfries and Galloway	145	148	148	148	148	148	148	1.5	-0.1	-0.2
Dumfries City	161	156	155	154	151	151	150	-6.4	-3.8	-0.5
East Ayrshire	125	124	124	124	124	123	122	-2.1	-1.6	-0.6
East Dunbartonshire	111	111	110	110	111	111	111	-0.4	0.1	-0.3
East Lothian	82	85	85	86	87	88	88	7.8	3.8	0.6
East Renfrewshire	82	86	86	87	87	88	88	7.7	2.3	-0.1
Edinburgh, City of	441	439	440	442	444	448	449	1.9	2.1	0.3
Eilean Siar (Western Isles)	31	29	29	29	29	29	29	-6.8	-1.8	-0.6
Falkirk	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	-0.1	-0.1	0.2
Fife	347	349	350	351	352	352	349	0.8	0.0	-0.7
Glasgow City	670	632	628	625	623	618	616	-8.0	-2.4	-0.3
Highland	199	204	206	207	208	208	209	4.9	2.3	0.2
Inverclyde	97	92	91	90	89	89	87	-9.9	-4.9	-1.8
Midlothian	81	80	80	80	80	80	80	-0.8	-0.2	0.2
Moray	84	84	85	86	87	87	87	2.9	2.8	-0.7
North Ayrshire	138	139	139	139	139	140	140	1.1	0.3	0.0
North Lanarkshire	334	329	328	327	327	327	326	-2.5	-0.9	-0.2
Orkney Islands	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	3.7	1.2	0.4
Perth and Kinross	124	128	129	130	132	133	133	6.9	3.9	-0.2
Renfrewshire	180	177	177	177	177	178	179	-0.7	1.0	0.1
Scottish Borders	102	104	105	105	106	106	106	4.3	1.9	-0.1
Shetland Islands	22	23	23	23	23	23	23	2.8	2.1	-0.3
South Ayrshire	113	114	114	114	114	115	115	1.3	1.0	0.1
South Lanarkshire	304	304	305	306	308	307	307	1.1	1.0	0.0
Stirling	81	81	81	82	82	82	83	1.6	1.6	0.6
West Dunbartonshire	100	98	97	97	97	96	96	-4.6	-1.9	-0.6
West Lothian	140	146	146	147	148	150	151	7.7	3.1	0.8

Source: Mid-year population estimates, ONS

Table 2 Resident population: by age and sex, 1996

	Scotland			United Kingdom		
				Men	Women	All
	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All
Percentage aged:						
0-14	19.8	17.8	18.7	20.2	18.5	19.3
15-19	6.5	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.7	6.0
20-29	15.4	14.0	14.7	14.9	13.7	14.3
30-39	16.2	15.3	15.7	16.1	15.0	15.5
40-49	13.8	13.2	13.5	13.8	13.2	13.5
50-59	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.1	10.8	11.0
60 and over	17.3	22.9	20.2	17.8	23.0	20.4
All ages (=100 per cent) (thousands)	2,486	2,642	5,128	28,856	29,946	58,801

Source: Mid-year population estimates, ONS

Table 3 Economic activity, 1996-97

	In employment (percentages)			ILO unemployment rate	Total economically active (=100 per cent) (thousands)	Economic activity rate for all 16 and over <sup>b</sup> (percentages)	Economic activity rate for all of working age <sup>b</sup> (percentages)
	Employees (as a percentage of all in employment <sup>a</sup> )	Self-employed (as a percentage of all in employment <sup>a</sup> )	All in employment (as a percentage of the economically active)				
United Kingdom	86.0	12.7	92.2	7.8	28,019	62.7	78.5
<b>Scotland<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>91.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>2,492</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>77.1</b>
Aberdeen City	90.0	6.5	95.1	*	119	69.5	82.4
Aberdeenshire	81.2	13.5	96.0	*	117	67.4	80.2
Angus	84.9	12.6	93.2	*	63	72.4	86.3
Argyll and Bute	70.8	23.0	88.1	*	47	64.0	80.4
Clackmannanshire	89.3	*	89.6	*	19	51.3	64.7
Dumfries and Galloway	82.7	10.8	93.8	*	71	60.8	79.0
Dumfries City	92.9	*	90.7	9.3	67	56.3	72.2
East Ayrshire	83.6	*	85.8	*	59	59.1	75.2
East Dunbartonshire	88.9	*	95.5	*	56	64.5	81.1
East Lothian	85.0	*	94.5	*	44	63.8	80.3
East Renfrewshire	88.1	*	93.7	*	45	65.7	83.0
Edinburgh, City	86.4	8.5	93.4	6.6	222	59.4	74.5
Eilean Siar (Western Isles)	81.3	*	86.8	*	17	70.0	83.8
Falkirk	84.7	*	94.0	*	70	62.1	77.6
Fife	87.9	8.5	90.7	9.1	162	60.5	77.9
Glasgow City	88.6	7.6	84.8	15.0	247	51.4	65.3
Highland	81.1	13.2	90.7	9.1	110	66.5	80.9
Inverclyde	91.2	*	90.0	*	43	62.8	80.2
Midlothian	89.2	*	94.2	*	42	70.6	84.8
Moray	87.2	*	93.4	*	46	68.3	86.4
North Ayrshire	89.1	*	90.9	*	63	58.3	73.5
North Lanarkshire	91.6	7.1	87.6	12.4	152	61.0	74.7
Orkney Islands	79.2	*	93.2	*	11	69.5	87.8
Perth and Kinross	81.7	15.9	94.7	*	70	70.8	86.6
Renfrewshire	91.8	*	88.7	11.3	90	64.7	78.5
Scottish Borders	78.1	13.2	96.2	*	50	58.9	80.6
Shetland Islands	73.1	*	98.1	*	11	70.6	84.8
South Ayrshire	86.2	*	89.7	*	54	61.1	79.2
South Lanarkshire	88.7	9.6	91.7	8.2	160	64.8	78.4
Stirling	86.7	*	95.0	*	39	59.7	77.2
West Dunbartonshire	94.3	*	86.4	*	42	55.9	71.5
West Lothian	92.6	*	94.1	*	83	72.6	82.2

Source: Labour Force Survey, ONS

\* Sample size too small for a reliable estimate.

a Including unpaid family workers, those on government training programmes and those who did not state whether they were employees or self-employed.

b Working age: 16-59 for women; 16-64 for men.

Table 4 The projected labour force: by age and sex<sup>a</sup>

	Thousands and percentages								
	Scotland			United Kingdom			United Kingdom		
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
Percentage aged:									
16-24	24.0	16.4	15.7	23.0	16.1	15.7	25.5	16.7	15.7
25-34	23.3	26.9	20.4	24.9	27.8	21.3	21.1	25.8	19.3
35-44	21.7	24.4	27.5	21.5	24.0	26.9	21.9	24.9	28.3
45-59	25.8	27.4	31.1	24.9	26.4	30.1	27.0	28.5	32.2
60-64	3.9	3.7	4.1	4.5	4.2	4.6	3.0	3.0	3.6
65 and over	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.0	0.9
Labour force of working age <sup>b</sup> (thousands)	2,371	2,463	2,442	1,403	1,375	1,328	968	1,087	1,114
Labour force aged 16 and over (=100 per cent) (thousands)	2,434	2,527	2,514	1,420	1,394	1,347	1,014	1,132	1,167
	United Kingdom								
	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women	All	Men	Women
Percentage aged:									
16-24	22.9	16.0	15.0	21.6	15.7	14.8	24.8	16.6	15.3
25-34	23.1	26.9	21.2	24.0	27.4	21.9	21.9	26.2	20.4
35-44	23.3	23.6	27.3	22.9	23.3	26.8	23.9	24.1	27.9
45-59	25.3	28.3	30.7	25.0	27.7	30.2	25.6	29.1	31.4
60-64	3.9	3.5	4.3	4.9	4.1	4.7	2.6	2.8	3.8
65 and over	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.1
Labour force of working age <sup>b</sup> (thousands)	26,861	27,747	29,154	15,791	15,713	16,109	11,070	12,034	13,045
Labour force aged 16 and over (=100 per cent) (thousands)	27,566	28,544	30,092	16,055	15,986	16,376	11,511	12,546	13,715

Source: Labour Force Survey and labour force projections, ONS

a The projections for 2006 are 1994-based. These will be updated to take account of actual events since 1994 when the next set of sub-national population projections have been prepared.

b 16-59 for women and 16-64 for men.

## DEMOGRAPHY

THE RESIDENT population in Scotland was around 5.13 million in mid-1996, just less than 9 per cent of the total UK population. Since 1986 the Scottish population has increased by 0.1 per cent, but this small increase hides larger fluctuations that have occurred in the intervening years. There was a reduction of 0.6 per cent between 1986 and 1988 followed by an increase of 0.8 per cent between 1988 and 1995 to reach a peak of 5.14 million in 1995. This preceded a further fall to the 1996 level. These fluctuations lie in contrast to consistent increases witnessed in the UK as a whole, where the resident population has grown by 3.4 per cent overall in the same period.

## Resident population

There has been a wide variation between population changes in the unitary authorities in Scotland. The population of Aberdeenshire increased by 12.1 per cent between 1986 and 1996, whereas the population of Inverclyde fell by nearly 10 per cent over the same period (Table 1).

The age distribution of the population in Scotland is similar to that of the UK. Scotland has a slightly smaller proportion of people below 15 and over 60 years than the UK as a whole, offset by a greater proportion between the ages of 15 and 39 (Table 2).

Overall, there are more women than men living in Scotland (a 52:48 ratio). In the UK as a whole this situation is similar, with women making up nearly 51 per cent of the population.

## The labour force

The economic activity rates for all aged 16 and over in Scotland are slightly lower than for the UK as a whole. Economic activity rates vary widely across Scotland. The highest is in the unitary authority of Angus, at 72.4 per cent of the population aged 16 and over. The lowest is in Clackmannanshire, at 51.3 per cent of those aged 16 and over (Table 3).

The labour force in Scotland increased by 3.8 per cent between 1986 and 1996. This is similar to the 3.5 per cent increase in the UK as a whole over the same period. It is projected, however, that between 1996 and 2006, the labour force of Scotland will have reduced by 0.5 per cent. This is in contrast to the UK, where the labour force is predicted to grow further, and more rapidly, increasing by 5.4 per cent in the next ten years. These projected changes in the labour force reflect population changes rather than changes in activity rates.

There was a change in the age structure of the labour force in Scotland between 1986 and 1996, with the proportion aged 16 to 24 falling from 24 per cent to 16.4 per cent and those aged 60 and over also falling slightly. These reductions were offset by increases in the 25 to 59 age groups. This is similar to the pattern for the UK as a whole. Further changes to the age structure of the labour force in Scotland and the UK are expected. By the year 2006, it is projected that the labour force in Scotland will be older than at present with those age 16 to 35 making up only 36.1 per cent of the labour force, compared with 43.3 per cent in 1996. A similar change is also expected in the UK (Table 4).



**EMPLOYMENT**

ALMOST 2.3 million people aged 16 and over were in employment in Scotland at summer 1997, according to the Labour Force Survey. Of these, just over 2 million were employees, with the remainder either self-employed, on a work-related government training scheme or an unpaid family worker.

Estimates of employees in employment from employer surveys indicate that there has been a shift from manufacturing industries to the service sector in Scotland over the past decade, similar to that seen in Great Britain.

**Trends**

Between spring 1996 and spring 1997 the number of people in employment in Scotland increased by 1.2 per cent, compared with 1.7 per cent for Great Britain. However, over the past decade employment in Scotland has risen by 9 per cent, compared with just under 7 per cent for Great Britain. (Table 5)

Employment in Scotland has not followed a similar pattern to that in Great Britain over the past decade. Employment in Great Britain peaked around spring 1990; however employment in Scotland was at its highest in spring 1992. Employment in Scotland has oscillated between 2.2 and 2.3 million since 1989, whereas employment in Great Britain has followed a more cyclical pattern with a downward path between 1990 and 1993 and an upward trend since then.

**Full and part-time employment**

Around a quarter of all those aged over 16 in employment in Scotland, and in Great Britain as a whole, are employed part-time (Figure 1). Around 8 per cent of men in employment are employed part-time, compared with just over 42 per cent of women. The corresponding figures for Great Britain are 9 per cent and 45 per cent.

The number of full-time workers in Scotland barely changed over the year to summer 1997, whereas in Great Britain the number of full-time workers increased by around 2.5 per cent over the same period. Between summer 1995 and summer 1996 the number of full-time workers increased by almost 1 per cent in Scotland and Great Britain.

The number of part-time employees in Scotland and in Great Britain increased by almost 3 per cent in the year to summer 1997. In Scotland this increase followed a 2 per cent fall, whereas in Great Britain it followed a 4 per cent rise.

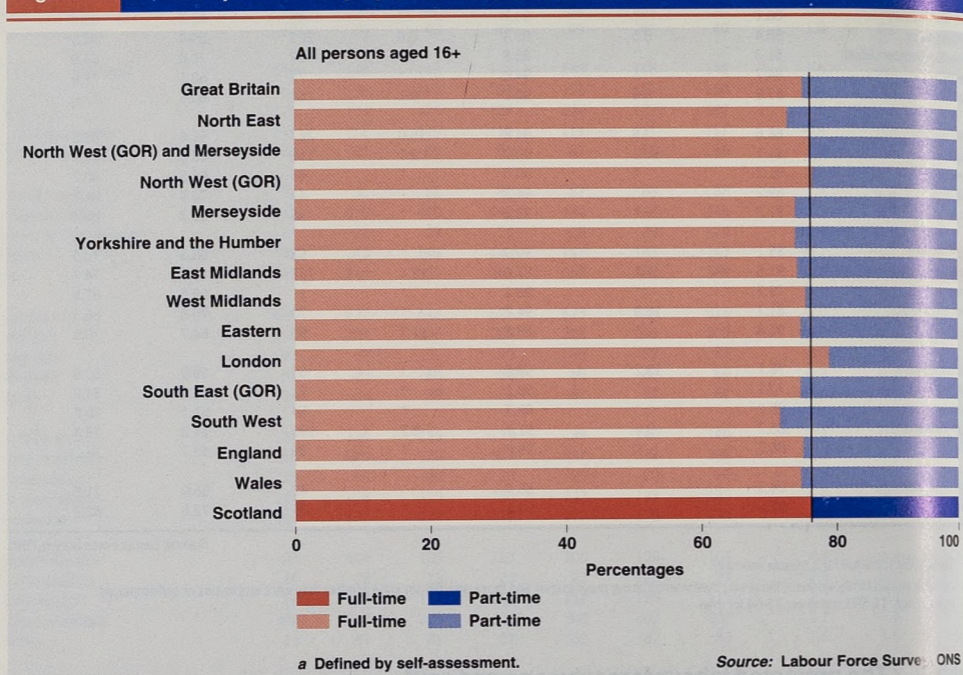
**Table 5 Employment, spring quarters**

	Thousands					Percentage change				
	1987	1990 <sup>a</sup>	1993 <sup>b</sup>	1996	1997	1987-1997	1990-1997	1990-1993	1993-1997	1996-1997
<b>All in employment aged 16 and over</b>										
Scotland	2,089	2,280	2,229	2,252	2,278	9.0	-0.1	-2.2	2.2	1.2
Great Britain	24,368	26,324	24,907	25,578	26,009	6.7	-1.2	-5.4	4.4	1.7
<b>Employees</b>										
Scotland	1,848	2,021	1,959	1,994	2,014	9.0	-0.3	-3.1	2.8	1.0
Great Britain	20,892	22,388	21,313	22,020	22,447	7.4	0.3	-4.8	5.3	1.9
<b>Self-employed</b>										
Scotland	181	208	218	225	231	27.6	11.1	4.8	6.0	2.7
Great Britain	2,969	3,482	3,108	3,205	3,247	9.4	-6.7	-10.7	4.5	1.3

Source: Labour Force Survey, ONS

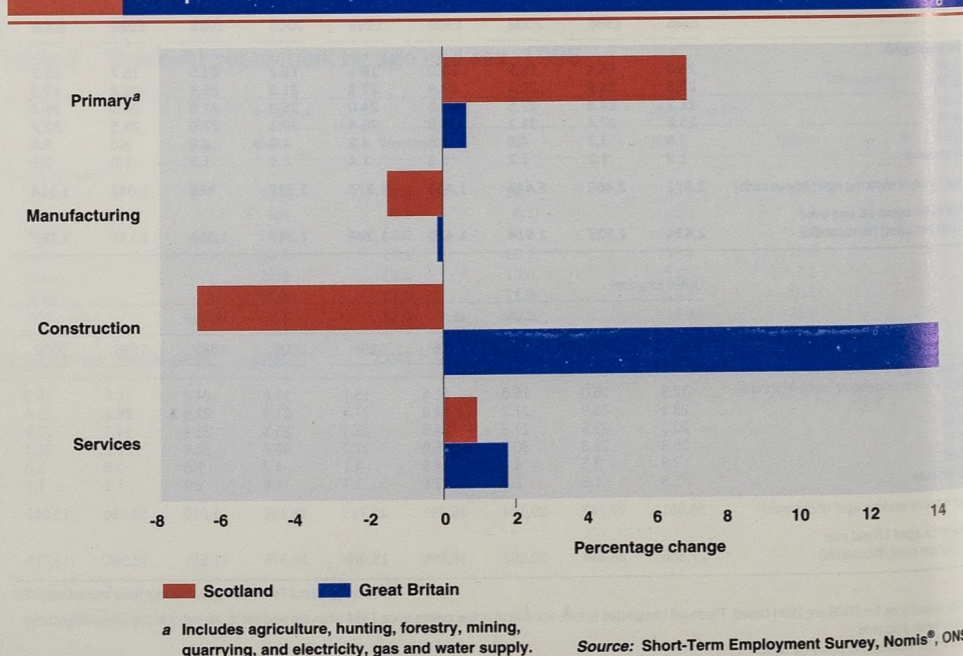
a Chosen to represent an employment peak in Great Britain.  
 b Chosen to represent an employment trough in Great Britain.

**Figure 1 Full- and part-time employment, summer 1997**



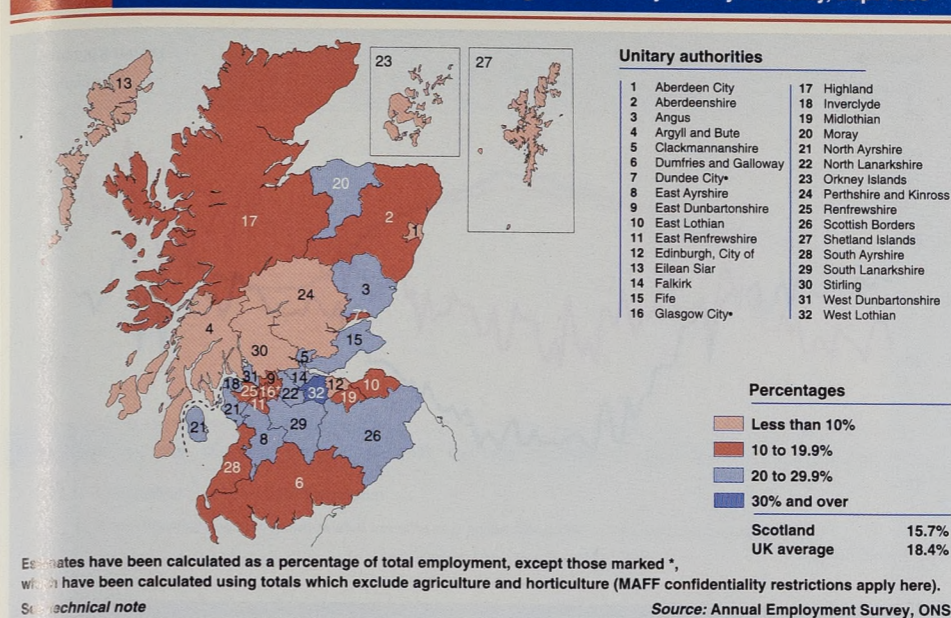
Source: Labour Force Survey, ONS

**Figure 2 Annual change in employees in employment by major industry group, September 1996 to September 1997**

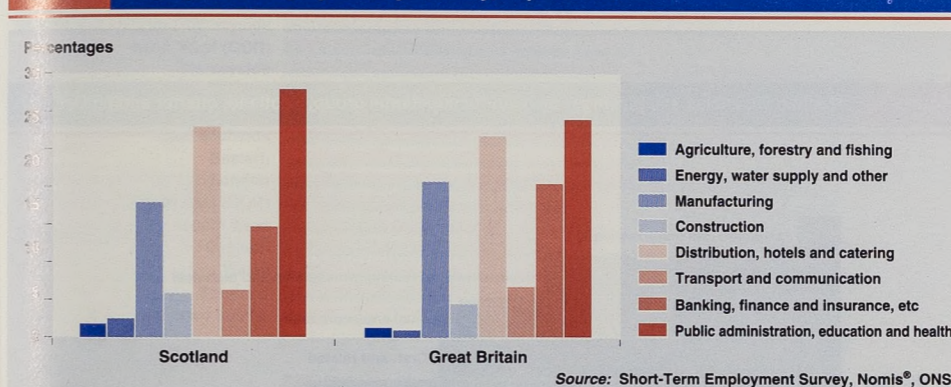


a Includes agriculture, hunting, forestry, mining, quarrying, and electricity, gas and water supply.  
 Source: Short-Term Employment Survey, Nomis®, ONS

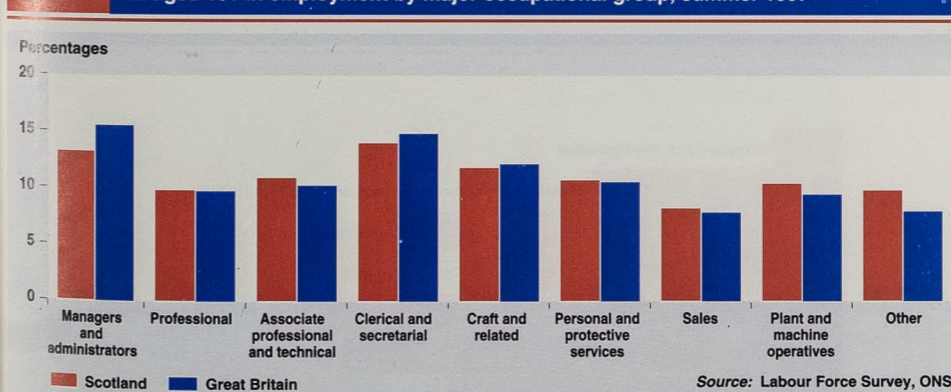
**Figure 3 Percentage of employees in manufacturing industries by unitary authority, Sept 1996**



**Figure 4 Employees in employment by industry, September 1997**



**Figure 5 All aged 16+ in employment by major occupational group, summer 1997**



**EMPLOYMENT Continued**

**Industry analysis**

Estimates from employer surveys indicate that between September 1996 and September 1997 there was an increase of almost 7 per cent in the number of employees in employment employed in primary industries in Scotland. This compares with an increase of less than 1 per cent in Great Britain (Figure 2). There were falls in the number of employees in employment in the manufacturing and construction sectors in the year to September 1997 with around a 1 per cent increase in employment in the service sector.

Over the past decade employees in employment in manufacturing in Scotland have fallen by over 18 per cent, compared with 16 per cent in Great Britain. Employees in employment in the service sector have increased by 17 per cent, compared with 15 per cent for Great Britain.

The pattern of employment in manufacturing jobs in Scotland is clear. The lowest proportions of employees in manufacturing industry are in the north and west of Scotland, including the island UAs. The highest proportions are in the central belt and borders, excluding the city UAs.

At September 1997 Scotland had higher proportions of jobs in the agriculture, forestry and fishing, and energy and water supply industries than Great Britain, and a lower proportion in manufacturing.

In the services sector, Scotland had higher proportions of jobs in the distribution, hotels and catering and public administration, education and health sectors, with a lower proportion in banking, finance and insurance (Figure 4).

**Analysis by occupation**

The differences between the percentages of employees by major occupational group in Scotland and Great Britain are quite small (Figure 5). Any real differences that exist are likely to reflect the different proportions of employees by industry between Scotland and Great Britain.



## VACANCIES

THE NUMBERS of vacancies (notified, placings and stock of unfilled vacancies) at Employment Service Jobcentres in the United Kingdom gives a rough indication of the health of the economy. It is estimated that Jobcentre vacancies account for about one-third of the total number of vacancies.

### Seasonally adjusted trends

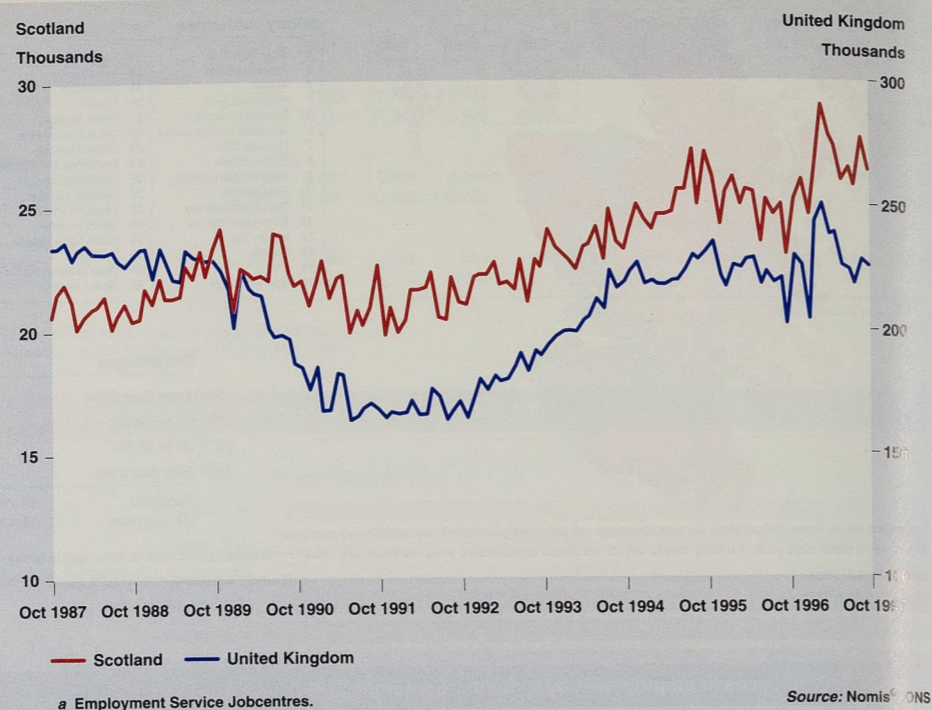
The number of vacancies notified to Jobcentres in Scotland has followed a somewhat different pattern to the number of vacancies notified to Jobcentres throughout the UK (Figure 6). Over the period October 1987 to October 1997, vacancies in Scotland have followed a generally upward trend, apart from slight dip between October 1990 and October 1993. For the United Kingdom as a whole the dip started earlier and went on for longer, and vacancies notified in October 1997 were at a similar level to that in October 1987.

### Analysis by occupation

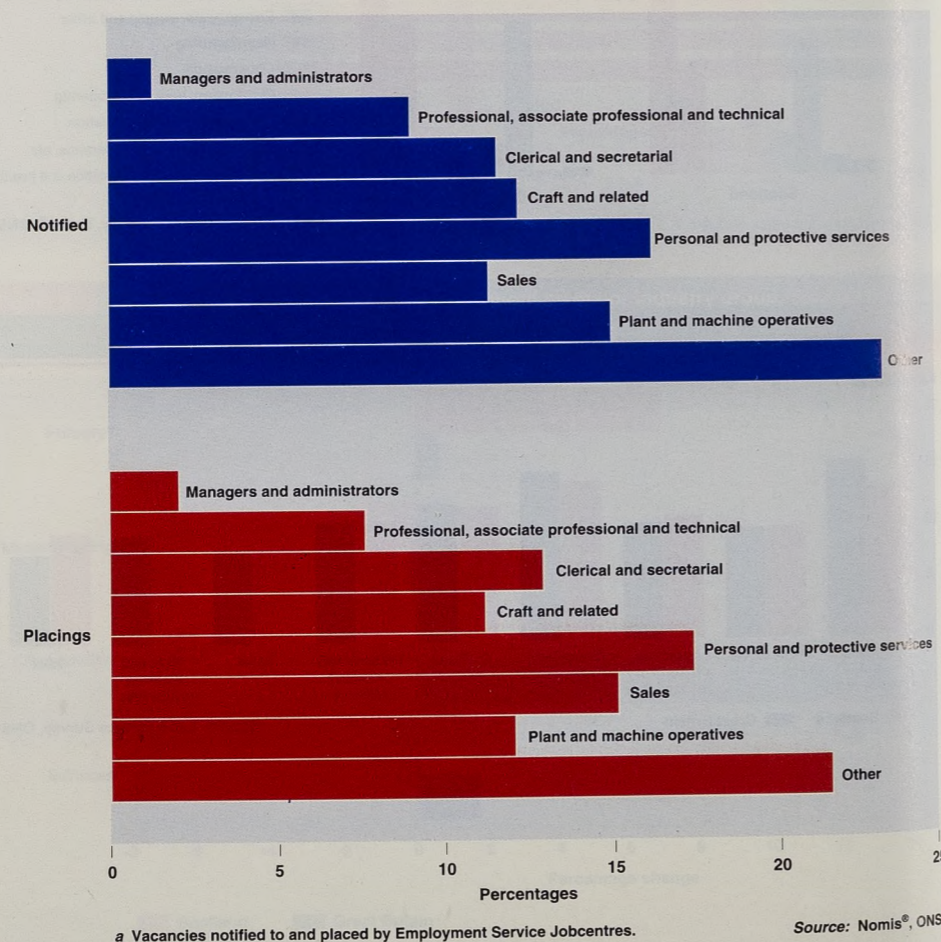
The occupation group with the highest percentage of vacancies notified to Jobcentres in Scotland during the three months ended October 1997 was personal and protective services, at just over 16 per cent (when the 'other occupations' group is excluded). This was also the case in Great Britain.

In Scotland the proportions of vacancies notified and placings that are in professional and associate professional and technical occupations are higher than in Great Britain.

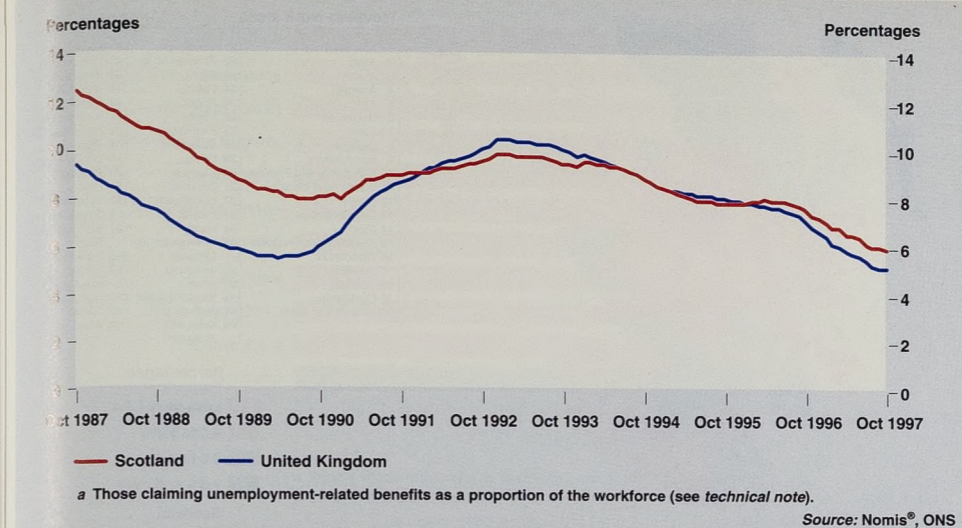
**Figure 6** Vacancies notified to Jobcentres<sup>a</sup>, seasonally adjusted



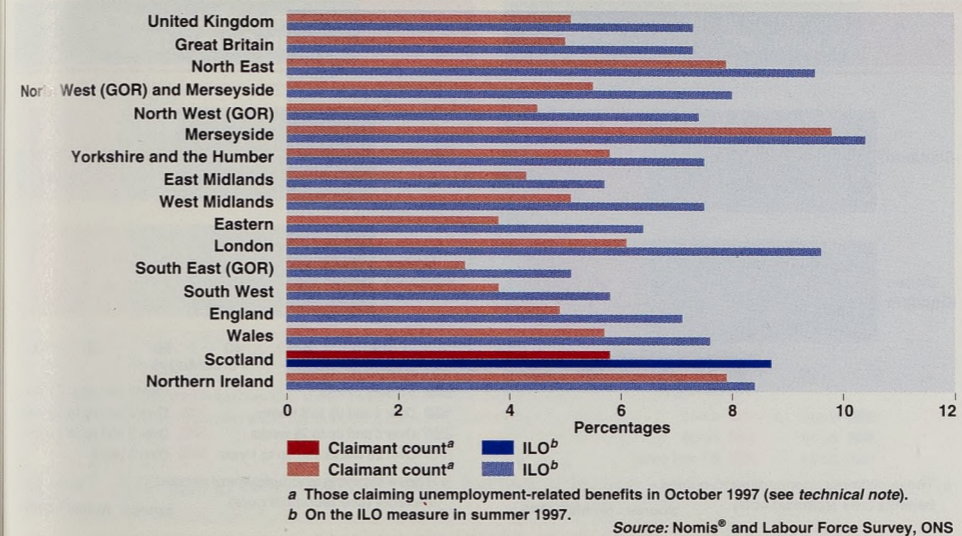
**Figure 7** Notified vacancies and placings<sup>a</sup> by major occupational group, Scotland, quarter ending Oct 1997



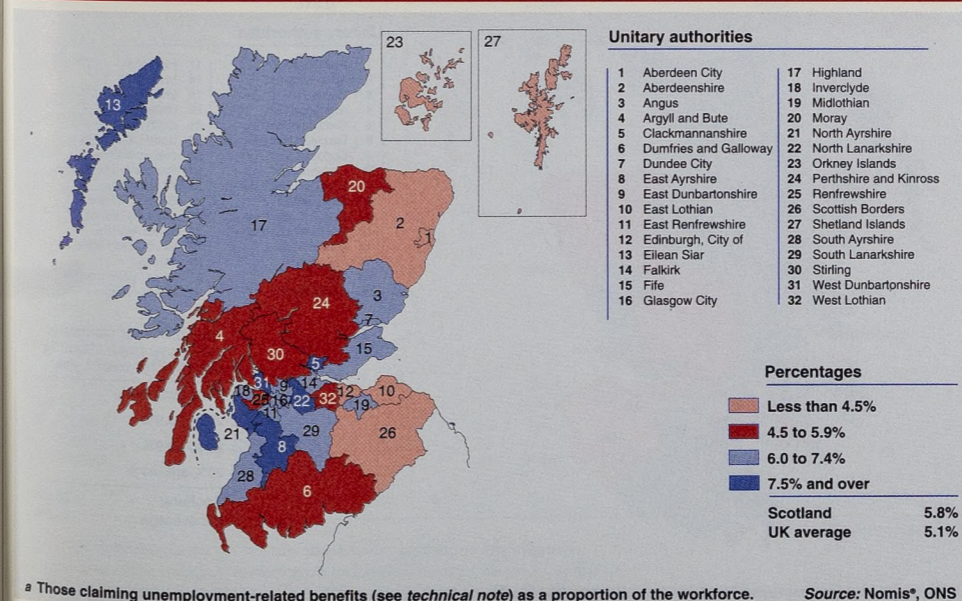
**Figure 8** Claimant count rates,<sup>a</sup> October 1987 to October 1997, seasonally adjusted



**Figure 9** Unemployment rates



**Figure 10** Claimant count rates<sup>a</sup> by unitary authority, October 1997



## UNEMPLOYMENT

THE ILO unemployment rate in Scotland, based on the data from the summer 1997 Labour Force Survey, was 8.7 per cent, compared with 7.3 per cent for Great Britain.

The seasonally-adjusted claimant count rate for Scotland at October 1997 was 6 per cent, compared with 5.2 per cent for the UK as a whole.

The number of people claiming unemployment-related benefits in Scotland was 52 per cent lower in October 1997 than it had been ten years earlier. This compares with 45 per cent for the UK.

### Trends

The seasonally-adjusted claimant count rate for Scotland has followed a similar trend to that for the UK, with a low point in mid-1990 and a high point in December 1992. However, the high and low points were not as pronounced. In October 1997 the claimant count was lower than at any point in the previous ten years for both Scotland and the UK.

The claimant count rate in Scotland was higher than that for the UK prior to 1992, but this was reversed throughout 1992 when both rates peaked. The rates then converged throughout much of 1993, and since early 1994 the rate in Scotland has generally been higher once again.

ILO unemployment followed a similar trend to the claimant count in Scotland between spring 1992 and spring 1995; however, this has not been the case since then. This was also the case in for the UK.

### Unemployment rates

The ILO unemployment rate for Scotland was higher than that for England, Wales or Northern Ireland at summer 1997. The claimant count rate was higher than that for England, Wales and the UK as a whole, but lower than for Northern Ireland in October 1997 (Figure 9).

The ILO unemployment rate for Scotland in spring 1997, at 8.5 per cent, was 6.3 percentage points lower than the rate ten years earlier. This represents a fall of around 42 per cent, compared with a fall of about 32 per cent for Great Britain.

For both the ILO definition and the claimant count, the rates for men were higher than for women. However, the difference between the rates for the sexes was higher for the claimant count than on the ILO definition, as is the case for Great Britain.



## UNEMPLOYMENT Continued

### Sub-regional analysis

Claimant count rates are highest in the central belt and highlands of Scotland. On a unitary authority basis the claimant count rate was highest in Eilean Siar (formerly the Western Isles) at 9.4 per cent, with West Dunbartonshire having the highest rate on the mainland at 9.2 per cent. The lowest was in Aberdeen City at 2 per cent in October 1997. On a travel-to-work area basis, the claimant count rate was highest in Cumnock and Sanquhar at 11.4 per cent and lowest in Aberdeen at 2 per cent.

### Analysis by age

In general, the age structure of claimants in Scotland was very similar to that in the UK as a whole at October 1997. The highest proportion of claimants for both Scotland and the UK were in the 20 to 29 age group. The highest proportions of ILO unemployed were also in this age group for both Scotland and Great Britain according to the summer 1997 Labour Force Survey (Figure 12).

The main difference between the claimant count and the ILO unemployment rate by age, both in Scotland and Great Britain, is that there are higher rates in the under 20 and over 60 age bands based on the ILO definition.

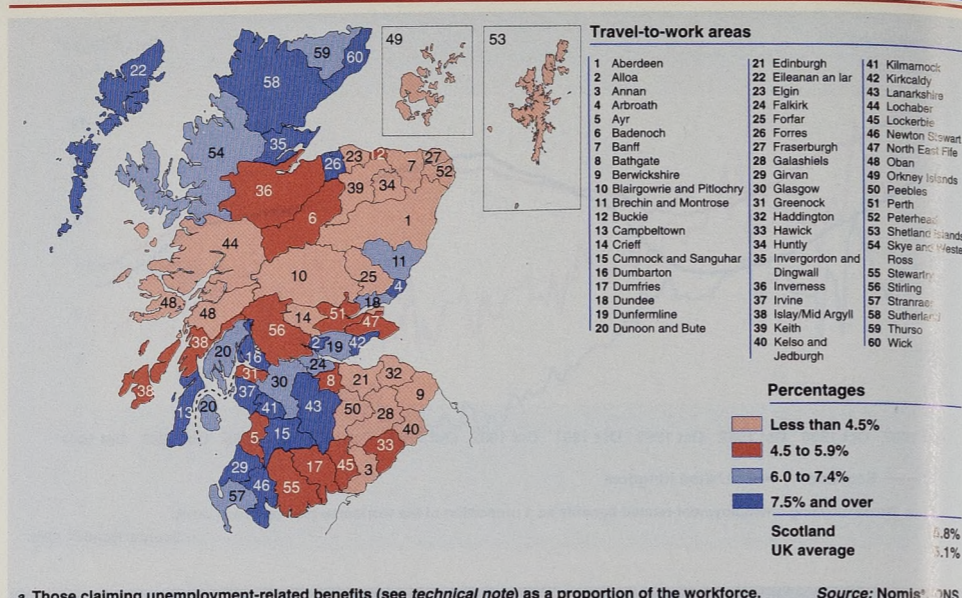
### Analysis by duration

In October 1997 Scotland had a lower proportion of long-term claimants than the UK as a whole, with only 27 per cent claiming for over a year, compared with 31 per cent in the UK.

In general, the eastern side of Scotland has lower concentrations of long-term claimants, based on those that had been claiming unemployment-related benefits for over a year at October 1997, than the west (Figure 14).

For all durations, both in Scotland and Great Britain, there were a lower number of claimants in October 1997 than there were in October 1987. The largest difference between 1987 and 1997 for Scotland was in the three- to five-year duration band; in the UK it was in the two- to three-year duration band.

Claimant count rates<sup>a</sup> by travel-to-work area, October 1997



<sup>a</sup> Those claiming unemployment-related benefits (see technical note) as a proportion of the workforce. Source: Nomis<sup>®</sup>, ONS

Figure 12 Proportion of claimants<sup>a</sup> by age, October 1997

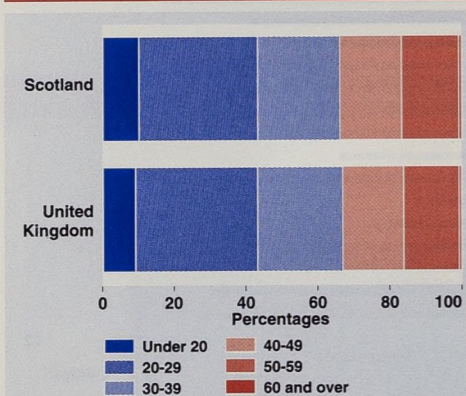


Figure 13 Proportion of claimants<sup>a</sup> by duration, October 1997

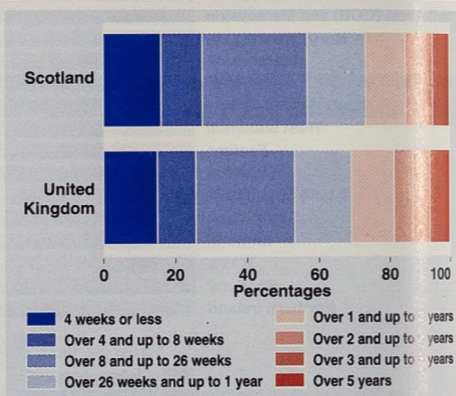


Figure 14 Concentrations of long-term claimants<sup>a</sup> by unitary authority, October 1997

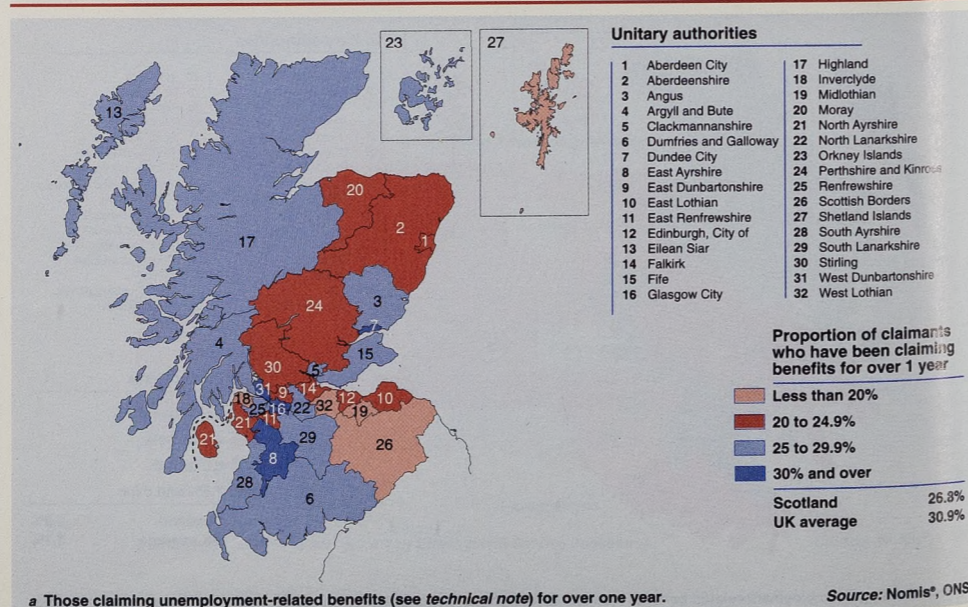


Figure 15 Redundancy rates,<sup>a</sup> summer 1997



Table 6 Average gross weekly full-time earnings<sup>a</sup> by sex and occupation, April 1997

	Scotland		Great Britain	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Managers and administrators	541.8	364.3	594.1	414.9
Professional	531.2	425.2	542.7	442.6
Associate professional and technical	432.8	346.4	491.1	366.8
Clerical and secretarial	274.2	228.7	282.6	248.5
Craft and related	333.6	203.3	345.1	207.5
Personal and protective	317.0	203.8	327.0	211.2
Sales	304.3	191.9	327.9	225.0
Plant and machine operatives	310.9	211.4	317.4	217.3
Other	254.9	171.7	268.3	182.8
All manual occupations	303.3	193.9	314.3	201.1
All non-manual occupations	449.8	293.9	483.5	317.8
All occupations	378.0	272.4	408.7	297.2

Source: New Earnings Survey, ONS

<sup>a</sup> Estimate not available, sample less than 10 or standard error more than 5 per cent of the mean.  
<sup>b</sup> Of full-time employees on adult rates whose pay for the survey pay-period was not affected by absence.

Table 7 Average gross weekly full-time earnings<sup>a</sup> by sex, April 1997

	Men	Women	All
Great Britain	408.7	297.2	367.6
Scotland	378.0	272.4	336.8
Aberdeen City	465.3	288.5	404.8
Aberdeenshire	375.3	*	330.9
Angus	*	*	320.0
Argyll and Bute	*	*	305.2
Dumfries and Galloway	331.5	*	300.2
Dundee City	359.2	283.1	327.4
East Ayrshire	*	*	307.6
Edinburgh, City of	405.4	300.9	362.8
Falkirk	376.1	*	335.6
Fife	369.9	251.1	325.2
Glasgow City	382.9	281.0	341.5
Highland	329.9	*	296.2
Inverclyde	*	*	323.4
Moray	*	*	285.0
North Ayrshire	363.3	*	317.8
North Lanarkshire	*	262.3	336.7
Renfrewshire	372.4	273.0	336.1
Scottish Borders	*	*	303.5
South Ayrshire	388.0	*	346.2
South Lanarkshire	368.8	255.0	319.1
West Lothian	373.5	*	335.5

Source: New Earnings Survey, ONS

<sup>a</sup> Estimate not available, sample less than 10 or standard error more than 5 per cent of the mean.  
<sup>b</sup> Of full-time employees on adult rates whose pay for the survey pay-period was not affected by absence.

Note: No estimates available for Clackmannanshire, East Dunbartonshire, East Lothian, East Renfrewshire, Eilean Siar (Western Isles), Midlothian, Orkney Islands, Perth and Kinross, Shetland Islands, Stirling or West Dunbartonshire.



## REDUNDANCIES

THE RECENT trend in redundancies in Scotland has not been very different from that of Great Britain. However, the high point of redundancies in Scotland, at 34,000, came in autumn 1992, whereas the high point for Great Britain as a whole occurred in spring 1991.

Redundancy rates in Scotland have tended to be similar to those in Great Britain, although between winter 1995 and winter 1996 they were generally slightly higher. However, due to the erratic nature of redundancy data at sub-national level, comparisons at this level should be treated with caution.

## EARNINGS

THE 1997 New Earnings Survey shows that average gross weekly earnings for full-time employees in Scotland were £337. This was £31 less than the average for Great Britain of £368.

The New Earnings Survey provides data on the amounts below and above which 10 per cent of full-time adult employees' earnings fell. This shows that 10 per cent of full-time adult employees in Scotland earned less than £167 per week, compared with £175 per week in Great Britain. At the other end of the scale, 10 per cent of full-time adult employees in Scotland earned more than £543 per week, compared with £590 in Great Britain.

### Analysis by sex

In April 1997 average full-time weekly earnings for men in Scotland were £378, £31 less than the average for Great Britain at £409. Full-time weekly earnings for women were £272, £25 less than the average for Great Britain at £297.

The average full-time weekly earnings for men and women in Scotland were higher than in the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber, East Midlands and West Midlands regions, and Wales.

In Scotland 10 per cent of women working full-time earned below £147 per week on average, compared with £155 for Great Britain. In Scotland 10 per cent of men working full-time earned less than £192 per week on average, compared with £199 for Great Britain.

### Analysis by occupation

The difference between average full-time weekly earnings in Scotland and Great Britain for people in manual occupations, at £11 for men and £7 for women, was much smaller than for people in non-manual occupations, £34 for men and £24 for women.

Workers of both sexes in Scotland in all major occupational groups earn less than the Great Britain average for that group. Men and women in managerial and administrative occupations both earned slightly over £50 per week less than the Great Britain average for those groups. Differences for other occupations are generally smaller, except for men in teaching professions, skilled construction trades, skilled engineering trades, and other occupations in agriculture forestry and fishing and both sexes in sales occupations.

### Sub-regional analysis

Information about earnings by UA in Scotland is limited. Average gross weekly full-time earnings for all full-time workers are available for only two-thirds of all UAs in Scotland.

Of the UAs for which data are published, Aberdeen City has the highest average gross weekly earnings for full-time employees, at £405. Full-time workers in Edinburgh City UA have gross weekly earnings £42 lower than this, at £363.

Only full-time workers in Surrey, Berkshire, Swindon and London have a higher gross weekly average wage than those in Aberdeen.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

SUMMER 1997 Labour Force Survey results show that the breakdown of the economically active population of working age by highest qualification in Scotland is different from that for Great Britain.

Data from the summer 1997 LFS also show that 287,000 people of working age in Scotland received job-related training during the four weeks prior to their interview, representing 10 per cent of the population of working age. This compares with 12 per cent for Great Britain.

### Qualifications

The proportion of the economically active working-age population that have higher education qualifications was 26 per cent in Scotland in summer 1997, compared with 24 per cent for Great Britain as a whole. Of the regions in England and Wales, only London has a higher proportion of economically active people of working age with higher education qualifications.

In Scotland 75 per cent of economically active people of working age held an SCE Standard Grade (GCSE) equivalent or higher qualification in summer 1997. This was higher than for any English region or Wales.

### Training

The number of people receiving job-related training has a highly seasonal pattern. Between spring 1992 and spring 1997 the number of people of working age in Scotland receiving job-related training has risen by around 8 per cent. This is similar to the figure for Great Britain.

The proportion of men of working age receiving job related training has tended to be higher than the proportion of women in Scotland, although there was a short period between spring and winter 1996 where this was reversed. In Great Britain since autumn 1993 the proportions of women receiving job-related training have generally been higher than the proportions of men.

**Table 8 Economically active of working age: by highest qualification, summer 1997**

	Thousands and percentages	
	Scotland	Great Britain
Higher education	25.9	23.6
GCE A-level or equivalent	19.5	14.7
Recognised trade apprenticeship	13.1	10.2
GCSE grades A* to C or equivalent <sup>a</sup>	16.5	22.9
Qualifications at level 1 and below	5.3	6.4
Other	7.1	8.4
None	12.6	13.9
Total (= 100 per cent) (thousands)	2,441	27,341

Source: Labour Force Survey, ONS

a SCE Standard Grade in Scotland.

**Table 9 Persons of working age receiving job-related training, <sup>a</sup> summer 1997**

	Percentages	
	Scotland	Great Britain
Total persons of working age:	9.1	10.6
men	9.6	10.5
women	8.6	10.8
Employees and self-employed:	10.2	11.8
in managerial and professional occupations	14.6	16.5
in service industries	11.1	13.2

Source: Labour Force Survey, ONS

a In the four weeks before their interview.

### Further information

- For more information on the Nomis<sup>®</sup> database, see p166.
- For information on the annual New Earnings Survey, phone 01928 792077/8.
- LFS data is also available from Quantime, see p142.
- *Regional Trends* is an annual publication examining the regions of the UK, covering a wide range of statistics. For enquiries, phone 0171 533 5796.
- Further information and statistics for Scotland are available from both the Scottish Office and the Scottish Employment Information Unit.
- If you have any comments on this regional profile, please contact Ann Blake at the Office for National Statistics on 0171 533 6130.

## TECHNICAL NOTE

### Boundaries

The former two-tier system of local government in Scotland was replaced with the formation of unitary authorities on 1 April 1996. There are now 32 unitary authorities in Scotland.

### Terminology

The series known as 'workforce in employment' is shortly to be renamed 'workforce jobs'. The 'employees in employment' series that is a component of WIE will become known as 'employee jobs'.

### LFS data for unitary authorities

A further source of LFS data is the annual local area database. This makes it possible to carry out cross-sectional analyses of local area data from the survey using 14 key variables for each of the 184,000 people on the database at the GB level. It was first released in May 1996, covering the period March 1994-February 1995. An updated version was released at the beginning of 1997, covering March 1995-February 1996. The latest version, covering March 1996-February 1997 was released earlier this year.

LFS quarterly data is not available for unitary authorities. However, the local area database does contain unitary authority information for the period spring 1996 to winter 1996/7 (March 1996-February 1997), covering the unitary authorities created up to April 1997. For further details, phone Steve Hickman on 0171 533 6133. This source has been used to produce Table 3 of this article.

### Employment

The LFS is considered to be the better source for estimates of overall employment, while the Workforce in Employment (i.e. the Annual Employment Survey and the Short-term Employment Survey) is the better source for employment by industry. Details of the two data sources are given in the 'Notes on summary tables' in the Labour Market Data section, pS3.

### Vacancies

Vacancy statistics during 1996 were affected by the introduction of a new vacancy circulation

computer system, LMS. In effect, the introduction of this system meant that staff in Jobcentres were distracted by having to learn to use new software and therefore had less time to place people into jobs. This consequently led to a temporary rise in the level of unfilled vacancies (i.e. the stock). The Employment Service is continuing to investigate the longer-term effects of the introduction of this system.

### Unemployment

ONS produces two measures of unemployment. The first is derived from the quarterly LFS, and is defined on a consistent and internationally recognised basis set out by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). ONS also publishes the monthly claimant count, which is based on the administrative system and includes all people claiming unemployment-related benefits at Employment Service offices on the day of the monthly count.

The claimant count rate uses workforce estimates as its denominator, which are based mainly on the employer-based (and hence workplace-based) estimates of employees in employment, whereas the LFS provides residence-based unemployment rates. Further details of the two sources are given in the 'Notes on summary tables' in the Labour Market Data section, page S3.

Jobseeker's Allowance was introduced in October 1996, and between then and April 1997 this had an effect on the claimant count.

### Earnings

When comparing figures from the New Earnings Survey, a region could have a lower level of average earnings than another if it has a higher proportion of employees in industries or occupations with relatively lower earnings. This is because average earnings from the Survey do not take into account different mixes of occupations, and therefore cannot be used to claim that pay for like work is lower. Earnings comparisons take no account of differing price levels between regions and therefore do not indicate differences in the standard of living.

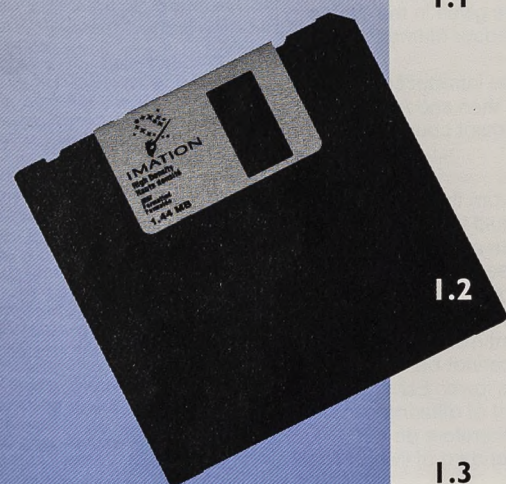
# Employment statistics from Employer Surveys

## Historical Supplement <sup>No. 5</sup>

Long run data for the different categories of the workforce are now available for the period June 1959 to June 1997. They are consistent with data in the November 1997 edition of *Labour Market Trends*

*Data available are:* (references refer to pink pages of *Labour Market Trends*):

- 1.1** Employees in Employment (male / female / full-time / part-time / all), Self-employed, HM Forces, WRGTS, Workforce in employment, Workforce (male / female / all); unadjusted / seasonally adjusted - Great Britain / United Kingdom;  
June 1959 - June 1977 (annually)  
June 1978 - December 1996 (quarterly)
- 1.2** Employees in Employment only:  
A-Q, Section/Sub-section, Divisions in some cases (total only); unadjusted / seasonally adjusted - Great Britain;  
June 1978 - December 1996 (quarterly)
- 1.3** Employees in Employment only:  
C - E, Section / Sub-section, Groups in some cases (male / female / all); unadjusted - Great Britain;  
September 1984 - March 1997 (monthly)
- 1.4** Employees in Employment only:  
A - Q, Section / Sub-section, groups / classes in some cases (male / female, full-time / part-time / all).  
unadjusted - Great Britain;  
June 1978 - December 1996 (quarterly)
- 1.5** Employees in Employment, Self-employed, WRGTS, Civilian workforce in employment; Employees in Employment A - Q (male / female / all) section - by region;  
unadjusted / seasonally adjusted (A - Q only);  
September 1981 - December 1996 (quarterly)
- 1.6** Self-employed only:  
A - Q section, (male / female / all);  
unadjusted - Great Britain;  
June 1978 - December 1996 (quarterly)



The tables are available on 3.5" disk at a cost of £15.00 plus VAT per Supplement from the Employment Information Section:

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## International comparisons of labour disputes in 1996

The UK strike rate has remained below the EU average for 10 years, but has risen above the OECD average for the first time since 1989. This article analyses and compares the number of working days lost through labour disputes in OECD countries over the ten year period from 1987 to 1996.

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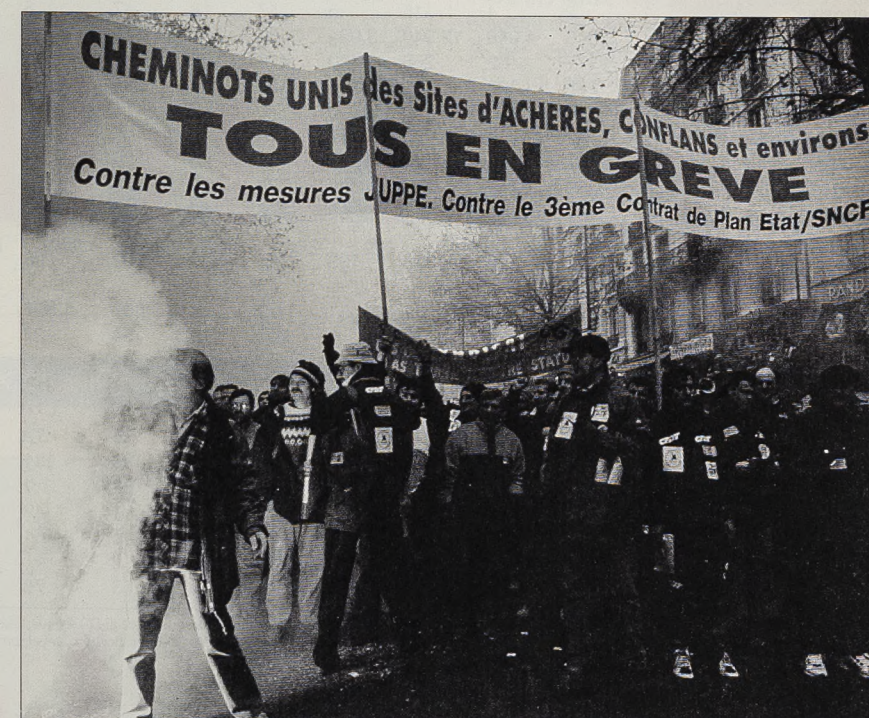


Photo: Laurence Kourcia/Rapho/Network

**Introduction**  
THIS ARTICLE continues a regular series of international labour dispute features that have appeared in *Labour Market Trends* (and formerly *Employment Gazette*) presenting data on labour disputes in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) between 1987 and

1996. Because of the problems of collection and co-ordination, data for international comparisons are always a little behind that available for the UK alone. More up-to-date figures for the UK are presented in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 of the Labour Market Data section of this journal and show that strike activity in the UK declined significantly in 1997 after a

sharp rise in working days lost in 1996. A detailed analysis of labour disputes in the UK in 1997 will be presented in an article in the June issue of *Labour Market Trends*.

The statistics presented in this article are useful for showing relative levels of working days lost through disputes in each country and how these levels have changed over time. However, an exact comparison between countries is not possible because there are important differences in the methods used for compiling statistics on labour disputes in the individual countries (these differences in coverage are discussed in the second half of the article).

Readers should also note that, although these articles appear annually and cover ten year periods, there are often revisions to previous years' data in the current article. Generally, these revisions will only affect recent years and will arise because either the data on working days lost or employment have been revised by the individual countries during the year. However, in some cases the revisions can be quite large and users should take particular care when making comparisons between articles.

### Overall comparisons

Table 1 shows the number of working days lost through labour disputes per 1,000

### Key findings

- In 1996 the UK had the sixteenth lowest strike rate (defined as the number of working days lost due to labour disputes per thousand employees) in the OECD.
- Twelve of the 23 OECD countries where data are available saw a fall in their strike rates between 1995 and 1996.
- The UK strike rate has been below the EU average since 1986 but rose above the OECD average in 1996 for the first time since 1989.
- The average UK strike rate for the five years 1992 to 1996 was 77 per cent lower than the previous five year period (1987-1991). The equivalent fall across the OECD was 56 per cent.
- Over the ten year period 1987 to 1996 the OECD strike rate for the production and construction industries was more than double the rate in the service sector. In the UK production and construction industries the rate was approximately 40 per cent higher than the service sector rate over the same period.
- The UK strike rate for the production and construction industries for the five years from 1992 to 1996 was 88 per cent lower than the rate for the previous five year period. This compares with a fall of 45 per cent in the OECD and 55 per cent in the EU. The equivalent falls in the service sector were 72 per cent in the UK and the OECD as a whole and 78 per cent in the EU.

Table 1 Labour disputes: working days not worked per 1,000 employees<sup>a</sup> in all industries and services; 1987-1996

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	Average <sup>b</sup>		
											1987-1991	1992-1996	1987-1996
United Kingdom	164	166	182	83	34	24	30	13	19	58	126	29	78
[UK ranking]	[14]	[14]	[17]	[14]	[12]	[8]	[13]	[7]	[5]	[16]	[14]	[6]	[12]
Austria	2	3	1	3	19	8	4	0	0	0	6	2	4
Belgium	..	66	44	34	22	65	18	24	33	49	(41)	38	(39)
Denmark	59	41	23	42	30	27	50	33	85	32	39	46	42
Finland	64	88	98	446	230	41	10	309	495	11	186	171	179
France	99	107	177	65	46	36	48	39	303	58	98	97	97
Germany <sup>c</sup>	1	2	4	15	5	47	18	7	8	3	5	17	12
Greece	9,938	3,545	4,946	12,040	3,024	1,460	809	330	218	364	6,697	625	3,553
Ireland	324	177	62	266	100	218	68	27	133	111	186	111	146
Italy	319	226	300	342	195	180	235	236	65	140	276	172	225
Luxembourg	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	2	0	13	7
Netherlands	11	2	4	37	17	15	8	8	115	1	15	30	23
Portugal	40	67	127	44	37	58	25	30	20	17	62	30	46
Spain	632	1,399	417	283	486	701	248	728	163	171	630	400	514
Sweden	4	199	101	191	5	7	54	15	177	17	101	54	78
EU average	305	257	229	316	128	125	81	102	98	59	246	93	187
Iceland	883	929	747	2	31	3	1	867	1,897	0	521	557	639
Norway	7	45	9	79	1	207	19	54	27	278	28	119	74
Switzerland	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	..	0	(1)	(1)
Turkey	268	264	415	480	536	151	74	31	601	31	392	177	278
Australia	221	266	184	210	250	148	100	76	79	131	226	107	165
Canada	340	423	312	427	216	183	130	136	131	276	344	172	257
Japan	6	4	5	3	2	5	2	2	1	1	4	2	3
New Zealand	287	313	163	279	87	99	20	31	42	55	228	49	137
USA	44	42	153	55	43	37	36	45	51	42	68	42	55
OECD average	159	144	170	175	92	77	53	63	78	54	148	65	105

Sources: Working days not worked; International Labour Office (ILO) Geneva; Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC) Luxembourg; Employees in Employment; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Paris, except UK, Office for National Statistics (ONS).

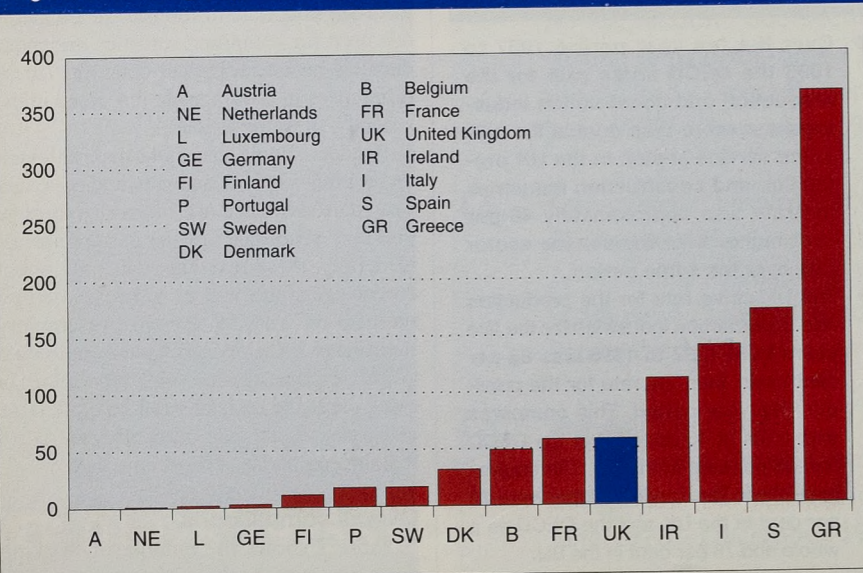
a Employees in Employment; some figures have been estimated.  
 b Annual averages for those years within each period for which data are available, weighted for employment.  
 c From 1993 data cover the entire Federal Republic of Germany; earlier data represented West Germany only.  
 ( ) Brackets indicate averages based on incomplete data.  
 .. Not available.

employees over the ten year period 1987 to 1996 for each of the OECD countries where data are available. This shows that the UK's strike rate ranked sixteenth out of 23 in 1996, a fall of 11 places since 1995. Over the OECD as a whole, 12 countries saw a fall in the rate over the year, nine

saw a rise and two showed no change. The UK rate moved above the OECD average in 1996 for the first time since 1989.

Figure 1 shows the strike rates in 1996 for each of the EU countries, with the UK having the fifth highest rate, and Figure 2 displays the UK rate against the EU

Figure 1 Working days not worked per 1,000 employees (strike rate): EU, 1996



average for each year from 1987 to 1996. The UK rate has been below the EU average since 1986. Within the EU, the countries with consistently high rates over the latest ten year period have been Greece and Spain, while Austria, Germany and Luxembourg have generally shown a very low rate. After sharp rises in 1995, strike activity in France, the Netherlands and Sweden fell in 1996. Activity in Italy rose again in 1996 after a lull in 1995.

In most countries, there has been considerable variation in the rates from year to year and some years have been dominated by a small number of very large strikes. Examples of these are the general strikes in Greece in 1987 and 1990 and the public sector strike in France in 1995. In the UK, 60 per cent of the working days lost in 1996 were as a result of one stoppage in the transport, storage and communication group. In order to lessen the weight of a single year's data, comparisons can be made over a number of years.

Figure 3 shows average strike rates in the UK, the EU and the OECD over rolling five-year periods from 1987. This shows the overall decline in strike activity over the decade with the UK rate consistently below both the EU and OECD averages. The average rates for the periods 1987 to

Figure 2 UK and EU strike rates; 1987-1996

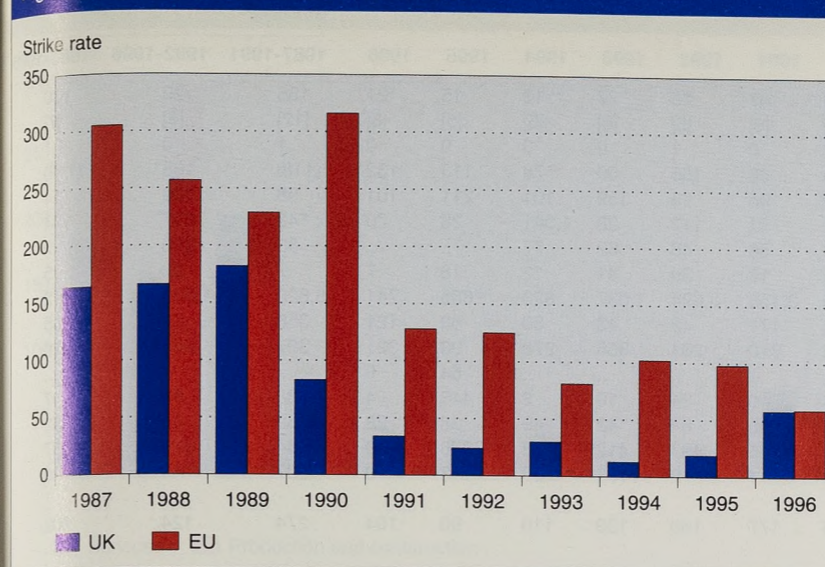
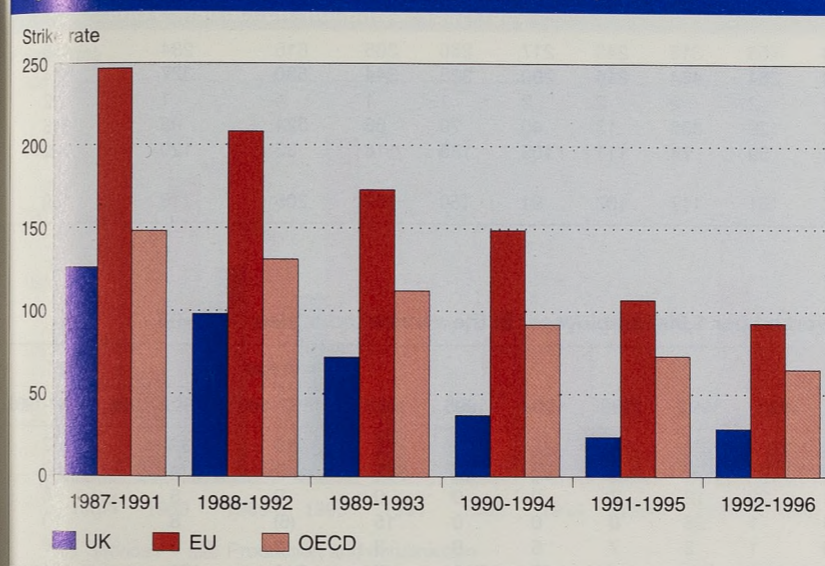


Figure 3 Five year strike rates in the UK, EU and OECD; 1987-1996



1991 and 1992 to 1996 are also shown in Table 1. Over this period, the average rate in both the OECD and the EU more than halved and the only countries to see an increase in their rate were Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Luxembourg and Iceland. Of these, only Iceland has seen particularly high rates and is marked by very high figures for 1987 to 1989 and 1994 to 1995. Between 1992 and 1996 the average rate in the UK was 29 working days lost per 1,000 employees, a fall of 77 per cent over the previous five-year period. Only Greece and New Zealand saw sharper falls over the same period.

#### Comparisons by industry

One particular characteristic of labour disputes is the variation in the incidence of strikes between industries: some, such as manufacturing and transport, have consistently high strike rates while others, such

as agriculture, have very low ones. The industrial composition of employment can vary quite significantly between countries, which can sometimes explain why one country has a particularly high or low ranking compared with another. Because of the different industrial classifications and groupings used by the separate countries when compiling statistics on labour disputes, it is only possible to compare strike rates by industry at a broad level.

Table 2 shows working days lost per 1,000 employees for the production and construction industries<sup>1</sup> for each OECD country where data are available for 1987 to 1996. Table 3 shows the equivalent for the service industries.<sup>2</sup> In 1996 the UK had the eighth lowest strike rate in the production and construction industries, a fall of three places over the year, and the seventeenth lowest in the service sector, a fall of eight places. Generally speaking, the countries that saw falls in their rates for the

production and construction industries between 1995 and 1996 also saw falls in the service sector. It is also the case that the rankings of individual countries are broadly similar over the two industry groups since a country with a high incidence of strikes will generally have a high rate for both the production and service sectors.

Over the ten-year period from 1987 to 1996 the strike rate in the production and construction industries in the EU averaged 55 per cent higher than the service industry rate. In the OECD as a whole over the same period, the production and construction rate was more than double the rate in the service sector. In the UK, the production sector rate was approximately 40 per cent higher than the service sector rate. Of the 21 OECD countries where data are available, 19 had a higher average rate in the production and construction industries between 1987 and 1996 than the service industries. In 1996 specifically, only the UK, Sweden and New Zealand experienced a higher rate in the service sector than the production sector.

Figure 4 shows the UK strike rates in the two industry groups for each year from 1987 to 1996 and Figure 5 shows the equivalent figures for the OECD. In both cases this shows a general decline in both the production and construction and the service sector rates over the decade. In the production and construction sector the UK rate has been substantially below the OECD average since 1989. It is interesting to note, however, that in the UK over the 1990s the rates for the production and service sectors have been very similar, whereas in the OECD as a whole the production and construction rate remains significantly higher than the rate for the service sector.

Tables 2 and 3 also show average rates by industry for the five-year periods 1987 to 1991 and 1992 to 1996. Between these periods, the OECD rates saw a 45 per cent drop in the production sector and a 72 per cent fall in the service industries. The equivalent figures for the EU were falls of 55 per cent and 78 per cent respectively. Over the same period, the UK saw a fall of 88 per cent in the rate for the production and construction industries which was the sharpest fall in the OECD. The service sector rate in the UK fell by 72 per cent and only Greece and New Zealand saw sharper falls over the period. Only six OECD countries saw a rise in their production and construction industry strike rate over the period (Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States). Similarly, only six countries saw a rise in their service sector rate (Belgium, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway and Turkey).

#### Coverage and comparability

Because of the differences in definitions and coverage, international comparisons of

Table 2 Labour disputes: working days not worked per 1,000 employees<sup>a</sup> in the production and construction industries; 1987-96

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	Average <sup>b</sup>		
											1987-1991	1992-1996	1987-1996
United Kingdom	133	297	149	189	47	25	27	13	15	21	165	20	100
[UK ranking]	[11]	[14]	[13]	[13]	[8]	[5]	[6]	[5]	[5]	[8]	[12]	[3]	[7]
Austria	1	1	0	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Belgium	..	187	118	99	68	155	60	78	113	132	(118)	108	(112)
Denmark	114	120	59	102	95	79	159	101	211	101	98	130	114
Finland	145	224	166	101	71	112	28	1,041	28	20	143	237	184
France	67	134	114	46	56	46	62	77	..	..	83	(61)	(75)
Germany <sup>c</sup>	3	4	6	11	10	30	41	12	18	7	7	22	15
Greece	6,657	4,947	2,931	11,245	3,156	3,694	1,537	823	665	741	5,820	1,539	3,812
Ireland	515	262	102	735	171	43	30	63	121	358	61	205	205
Italy	441	263	288	630	310	281	356	278	93	321	387	267	329
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	9	3	8	127	40	24	10	8	443	4	38	97	67
Portugal	44	48	99	60	46	64	42	49	38	28	59	44	52
Spain	849	1,079	711	360	765	497	412	323	286	320	744	371	667
Sweden	11	949	40	8	14	0	183	29	13	0	207	44	135
EU average	298	324	207	375	177	166	139	110	90	104	274	124	202
Iceland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	3	5	6	112	0	47	11	26	1	1,096	24	247	31
Switzerland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(956)	297	(66)
Turkey	..	582	971	1,096	1,186	124	156	54	1,093	60	..	..	..
Australia	601	732	415	594	756	313	243	217	260	385	616	284	456
Canada	569	631	548	1,378	264	464	244	260	323	344	680	327	514
Japan	6	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	4	1	2
New Zealand	435	933	233	846	129	338	13	40	70	56	524	98	316
USA	108	96	138	25	59	74	111	109	188	116	83	120	102
OECD average	201	227	188	257	151	117	107	91	150	102	205	113	159

See footnotes to Table 1.

Table 3 Labour disputes: working days not worked per 1,000 employees<sup>a</sup> in the service industries; 1987-96

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	Average <sup>b</sup>		
											1987-1991	1992-1996	1987-1996
United Kingdom	181	116	199	44	30	24	32	13	20	70	113	32	72
[UK ranking]	[13]	[16]	[17]	[10]	[8]	[9]	[14]	[10]	[9]	[17]	[15]	[10]	[12]
Austria	2	5	2	1	33	12	7	0	0	0	9	3	6
Belgium	..	10	10	4	1	26	0	0	0	15	(6)	8	(7)
Denmark	16	4	7	9	1	2	7	5	9	3	8	5	6
Finland	22	19	65	641	315	12	3	12	718	8	216	150	184
France	78	85	203	63	30	23	41	25	..	..	90	(30)	(66)
Germany <sup>c</sup>	0	0	3	17	1	61	3	4	1	1	4	14	10
Greece	12,556	2,776	6,362	12,862	3,024	270	487	116	32	219	7,451	221	3,515
Ireland	242	142	44	27	67	315	82	26	169	110	104	138	122
Italy	239	177	315	174	101	112	149	208	44	33	200	110	155
Luxembourg	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	13	1	3	2	8	12	7	9	12	0	6	8	7
Portugal	36	90	143	36	33	57	15	18	8	9	66	22	42
Spain	481	699	184	214	193	404	121	62	74	99	341	150	240
Sweden	1	2	143	275	2	10	9	10	241	24	85	58	72
EU average	320	155	242	289	90	72	48	38	42	38	216	48	130
Iceland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Norway	9	63	11	69	2	264	22	64	37	31	31	82	57
Switzerland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Turkey	..	38	8	16	69	5	9	7	149	11	(33)	36	(35)
Australia	81	95	104	80	96	99	55	33	26	61	91	54	72
Canada	256	372	220	96	202	97	103	100	69	247	225	124	172
Japan	5	4	6	4	2	6	2	2	2	1	4	3	3
New Zealand	247	76	149	90	74	26	24	29	32	58	128	34	80
USA	21	21	152	67	38	25	12	24	6	19	61	17	38
OECD average	138	82	161	141	61	46	29	29	24	33	116	32	73

See footnotes to Table 1.

Figure 4 United Kingdom strike rate in the service sector and production and construction industries; 1987-1996

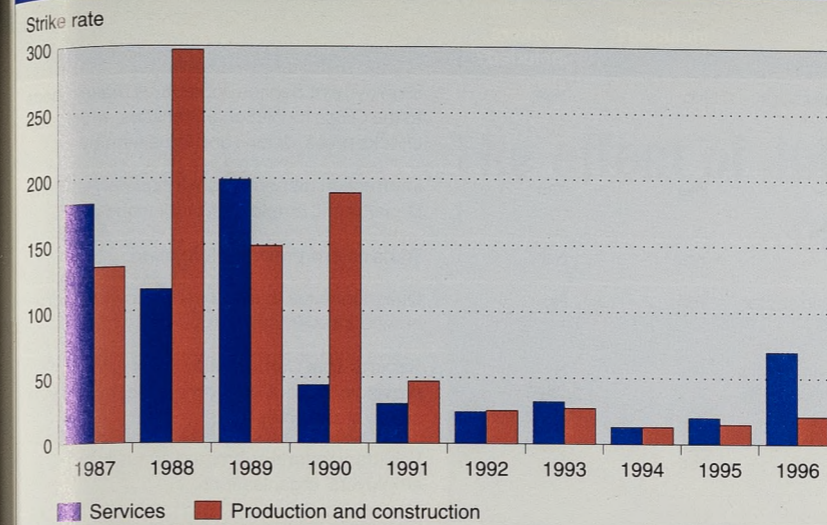
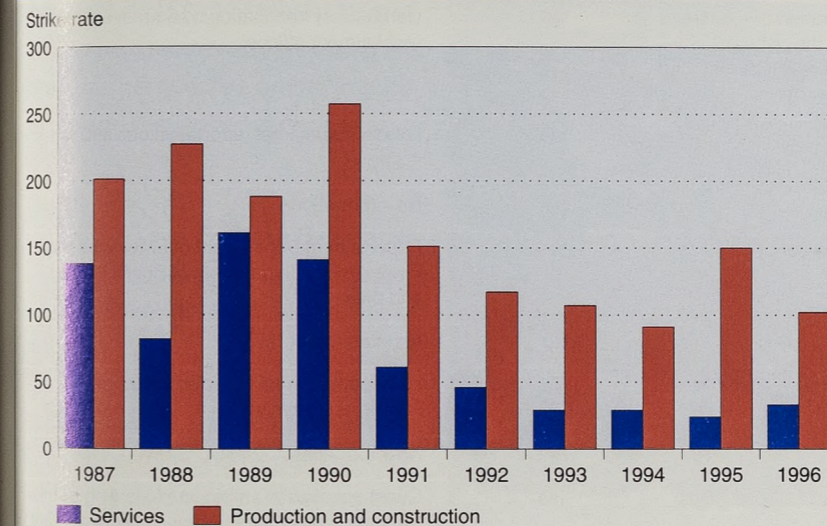


Figure 5 OECD average strike rate in the service sector and production and construction industries; 1987-1996



labour dispute statistics need to be made with care; in particular, small differences in the rates in Tables 1-3 may be significant when coverage is taken into account. Most countries rely on voluntary notification of disputes to a national or local government department, backed up by media reports. None of the 24 OECD countries mentioned in this article aims to record the full effects of stoppages of work. For example, most countries do not measure working time lost at establishments whose employees are not involved in a dispute, but are unable to work because of shortages of materials supplied by establishments that are on strike. Similarly, other forms of labour disputes, such as go-slows, work-to-rules and overtime bans are not generally reported.

There are significant differences

between countries in the criteria used to determine whether a particular stoppage will be entered in the official records. Most countries exclude small stoppages from the statistics, the threshold being defined in terms of the number of workers involved, the length of the dispute, the number of days lost, or a combination of all or some of these. These are summarised in Table 4. The United Kingdom, for example, excludes disputes involving fewer than ten workers or lasting less than one day, unless the aggregate number of days lost exceeds 100. Germany adopts the same criteria but has other exclusions that make direct comparisons with the UK difficult. Thresholds in a number of other countries are similar but any differences in thresholds affect the number of working days lost that are recorded.

There are two countries where the threshold used is particularly high: the United States and Denmark. In 1981 the US revised its coverage of industrial stoppages statistics to include only those disputes involving more than 1,000 workers, whereas previously the threshold had been six workers. It is estimated that this change reduced the recorded number of working days lost by between 30 and 40 per cent. In Denmark the threshold used is 100 working days lost. Hence, the strike rates for the United States and Denmark are clearly not directly comparable with those for the UK, Germany and other countries with similar thresholds.

There are a number of other important differences that may be significant when making international comparisons. Some countries exclude the effects of disputes in certain industrial sectors. For example, Portugal omits public sector strikes and general strikes and Japan excludes days lost in unofficial disputes. Political stoppages are not included in the figures for the United Kingdom, Turkey and the United States. In the UK this is insignificant; the last identified political strike in the UK was in 1986 (resulting from a visit by an MP to the coal industry) and the total number of working days lost amounted to less than 1,000.

The inclusion or omission of those workers indirectly involved in a stoppage (those who are unable to work because others at their workplace are on strike) varies between countries. Half the countries listed in Table 4 – including the UK, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand and the USA – attempt to include them. Among the countries that exclude them are Germany, Canada, Italy and Japan. This leads these countries to record a lower number of working days lost than countries that include indirectly affected workers in their statistics. Consequently, although Germany, for example, has a similar threshold for inclusion of disputes to that used in the UK, comparisons between the two countries' records should be made with care. It is worth noting, however, that evidence from the UK suggests that the number of working days lost by workers indirectly affected by strikes is small: from the total number of working days lost in 1996, less than 3 per cent were lost by workers indirectly involved in strike action. ■

#### Notes

1 Production and construction industries include mining and quarrying, energy and water supply, manufacturing and construction.

2 Service industries include sales, hotels and catering, transport, storage and communication, finance, business services, public administration, education, health and social services.



Table 4 Technical note: labour disputes; comparisons of coverage and methodology

	Minimum criteria for inclusion in statistics	Are political stoppages included?	Are indirectly affected workers included?	Sources and notes
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Ten workers involved and of one day duration unless 100 workdays not worked.	No	Yes	Employment Service Jobcentres make reports to the Office for National Statistics, which also checks press, unions and large employers.
<b>Australia</b>	Ten workdays not worked.	Yes	Yes	Information gathered from Industrial Relations Department, employers, unions and press.
<b>Austria</b>	No restrictions on size.	Yes	No	Trade unions provide information.
<b>Belgium</b>	No restrictions on size. Excluding public sector stoppages.	Yes	No	Questionnaires to employers following police or media coverage.
<b>Canada</b>	Half a day duration plus 10 workdays not worked.	Yes	No	Reports from Canada Manpower Centres, provincial Labour Departments, conciliation services and press.
<b>Denmark</b>	100 workdays not worked.	Yes	Yes	Voluntary reports submitted annually by employers' organisations.
<b>Finland</b>	One hour duration.	Yes	Yes	Principally, returns from employers (+90%); some reports from employees and press.
<b>France</b>	One workday not worked. Excluding agriculture and public administration.	Yes	Yes	Labour inspectors' reports.
<b>Germany</b>	Ten workers involved and one day duration or 100 workdays not worked. Excluding the civil service. From 1993 data cover the entire FRG; earlier data represented West Germany only.	Yes	No	Compulsory notification by employers to local employment offices.
<b>Greece</b>	One hour duration. Excluding public administration.	Yes	Yes	Labour inspectors' reports, unions and press.
<b>Iceland</b>	No information.	Not known	No	No information.
<b>Ireland</b>	Ten workdays not worked or one day duration.	Yes	Yes	Reports from Department of Enterprise and Employment, Department of Social Welfare and press.
<b>Italy</b>	No restrictions on size.	Yes	No	No information.
<b>Japan</b>	Half a day duration. Excluding unofficial disputes.	Yes	No	Legal requirement to report to Labour Relations Commission.
<b>Luxembourg</b>	No information.	Not known	Not known	No information.
<b>Netherlands</b>	No restrictions on size.	Yes	Yes	Questionnaires to employers following a strike. National Dutch Press Bureau collects relevant news items on a contractual basis for CBS.
<b>New Zealand</b>	Ten workdays not worked. Prior to 1988 excluding public sector stoppages.	Yes	Yes	Information initially from press reports, employee and employer organisations, labour inspectors, and subsequently from employer report forms.
<b>Norway</b>	One day duration.	Yes	No	Employers' reports to Department of Labour, and press.
<b>Portugal</b>	Strikes only. No restriction on size. Excluding general strikes at the national level; excluding public administration.	Yes	No	Legal obligation on trade unions to notify Ministry of Labour and Social Security.
<b>Spain</b>	Strikes only prior to 1990. One hour duration. Prior to 1989, excluding the civil service.	Yes	No	Legal obligation on party instigating strike to notify competent labour authority.
<b>Sweden</b>	Eight hours not worked.	Yes	No	Information gathered following press reports.
<b>Switzerland</b>	One day duration.	Yes	Yes	Federal Office for Industry, Crafts, Occupations and Employment requests returns from employers and unions following press reports.
<b>Turkey</b>	No restrictions on size. Excluding energy services and most public services; excluding general strikes.	No	Yes	Legal obligation on the part of trade unions to notify Regional Directorates of Labour.
<b>USA</b>	One day or one shift duration and one thousand workers involved.	No	Yes	Reports from press, employers, unions and agencies.

Source: ILO sources and methods: Labour Statistics, Vol 7. Strikes and lockouts (Geneva, 1990)

## The effect of Jobseeker's Allowance on the claimant count

In October 1996 the Jobseeker's Allowance policy came into force. This article analyses the impact that JSA has had on the claimant count series to date, and explains the extent to which this can be allowed for in the seasonally-adjusted consistent claimant count series that is maintained by ONS. The effect of JSA in Northern Ireland is also examined, providing an additional perspective on the impact of JSA on the United Kingdom as a whole.

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Photo: Neil Libbert/Network

### Key findings

- The introduction of JSA had a significant effect on the claimant count series, leading to sharp falls for both men and women, all regions, all age groups and all duration groups between October 1996 and April 1997. The sharpest falls were among claimants who had been claiming for more than six months.
- The increased rate of decline in the claimant count following the introduction of JSA was caused by a sharp rise in the number of leavers from the count rather than a fall in the number of joiners.
- Between November 1996 and January 1997, the count is estimated to have been understated by around 5,000 due to temporary

delays in claim processing. In addition, a maximum of 10,000 claimants may have been missed from the count in November 1996 as a result of being temporarily removed from the computer system. This problem was resolved by summer 1997.

- The number of postal signers for JSA fell by almost three-quarters between February 1996 and February 1997.
- The JSA inflow and outflow series are estimated to have been increased by approximately 3 per cent each month since November 1996 due to an increase in the number of claimants re-signing for JSA shortly after ending their claim.
- It is estimated that JSA removed 100-200,000 claimants from the count compared with what was expected at

that point in the labour market cycle. However, only 15-20,000 of this fall is identified as arising directly from a change in benefit rules and, as such, is eligible to be taken into account in estimating a revised seasonally-adjusted, consistent claimant count series.

- ONS will refine this estimate and, taking it into account, will aim to produce a revised, consistent, seasonally-adjusted claimant count series by autumn 1998. In presenting this series, ONS will indicate clearly that, as in the past, it is consistent specifically in respect of the direct impact of changes in benefit rules and not in respect of the impact of changes in the way existing rules are applied.

## Introduction

THE CLAIMANT count series, published by ONS, is a by-product of the systems used to pay unemployment-related benefits and, as such, is affected by changes in benefit rules and procedures. On 7 October 1996 a new policy for administering unemployment-related benefits was introduced. This policy, known as Jobseeker's Allowance or JSA, was wide-ranging and led to many changes in the rules governing entitlement to benefit. The most significant changes were as follows:

- the period of entitlement to contributions-based benefit was reduced from 12 months to six months;
- a range of measures to encourage more successful job search was introduced including the Jobseeker's Agreement and enhanced advisory interventions by the Employment Service;
- checks to ensure that claimants were fulfilling the eligibility criteria were increased.

Coinciding with the introduction of JSA, significant changes were made to both the organisations and the computer systems that manage the payment of unemployment-related benefits. All of these changes have a potential impact on the claimant count series and this article describes the main effects that have been seen in the series to date.

## Overall impact of JSA on the count

### Effect by sex

Figure 1 shows monthly changes in the claimant count over the two year period from October 1995 broken down by sex. The count had been falling in the period up to the introduction of JSA, with average monthly falls of 19,000 in the six months to September 1996. However, immediately following the introduction of JSA, the size of the monthly falls increased dramatically to an average of 62,000 in the six months to April 1997. November 1996 in particular saw a very large fall of 95,000 which is the largest fall ever recorded. The size of the falls increased for both men and women.

### Effect on the flows series

Figure 2 shows seasonally-adjusted flows into and out of the claimant count over the same two year period. During periods of falling unemployment it is usual to see both inflows and outflows falling as the stock of unemployed falls and this was the pattern that had been seen up until September 1996. However, from September 1996, the flows series began to diverge with outflows rising sharply and inflows falling initially and then rising again at the end of 1996. The initial fall in inflows during autumn 1996 may have been due to potential claimants being deterred by publicity about the new JSA policy or it could have been a result of improved labour market conditions at that time. However, the high level of outflows

continued into spring 1997 and suggests that the increased rate of fall in the claimant count following the introduction of JSA was driven by existing claimants leaving the count rather than new ones failing to join.

### Effect by region

Figure 3 shows claimant unemployment rates for each Government Office Region for April 1996, October 1996, April 1997 and October 1997. This shows that, although all regions saw a fall in their rates between April and October 1996, the fall in the following six months was generally around twice as sharp. The regions seeing the biggest falls were also those with the highest rates. Northern Ireland in particular saw its rate fall from 10.7 per cent in October 1996 to 8.4 per cent in April 1997.

### Effect on the age and duration breakdown

Figure 4 shows the claimant count stock broken down by age of claimant from October 1995 to October 1997 and Figure 5 shows a breakdown by duration of claim. These data are not seasonally adjusted and some seasonal patterns can be seen in the data, particularly in the under 25 age group and the under 13-week duration group. Clerical claims are also excluded from these analyses since data on the age and duration of clerical claimants are only collected quarterly.

Figure 4 shows that all age groups saw similar proportionate falls between October 1996 and April 1997. However, Figure 5 illustrates the disproportionate falls by duration of claimant: claimants with a duration under 13 weeks fell by just

Figure 1 Monthly changes in the claimant count; United Kingdom; October 1995-October 1997, seasonally adjusted

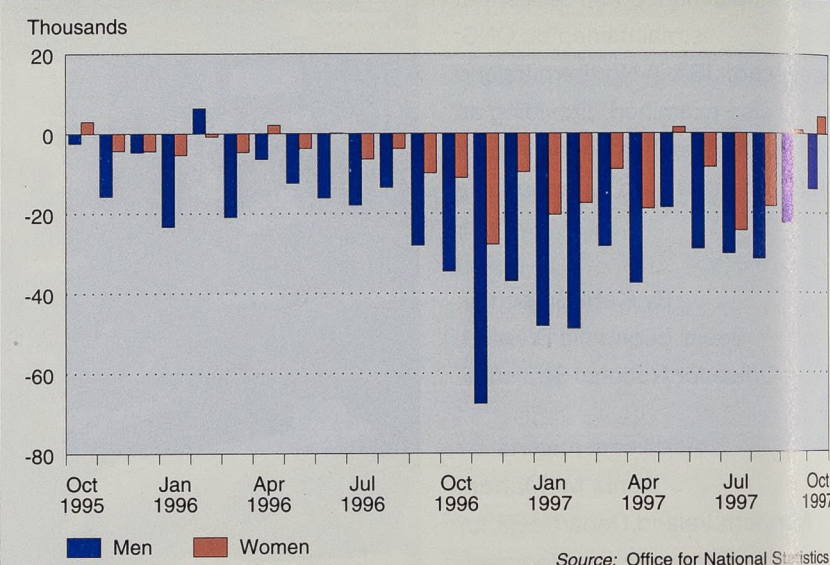


Figure 2 Flows to and from the claimant count; United Kingdom; October 1995-October 1997, seasonally adjusted

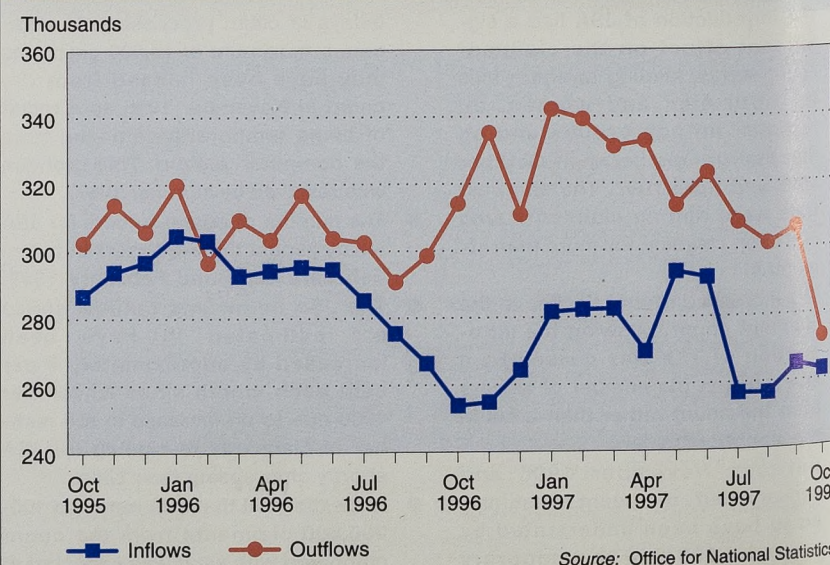


Figure 3 Claimant unemployment rates for Government Office Regions; April 1996-October 1997, seasonally adjusted

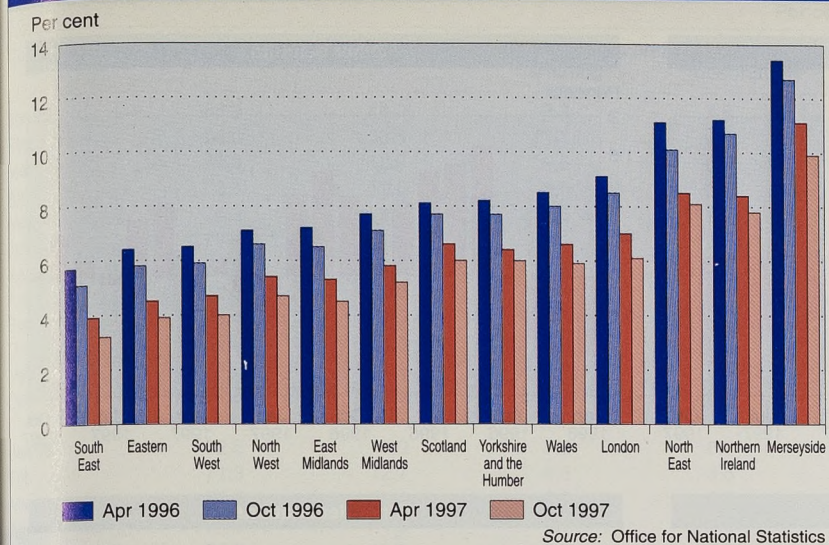


Figure 4 Stock of computerised claims by age of claimant; United Kingdom; October 1995-October 1997, not seasonally adjusted

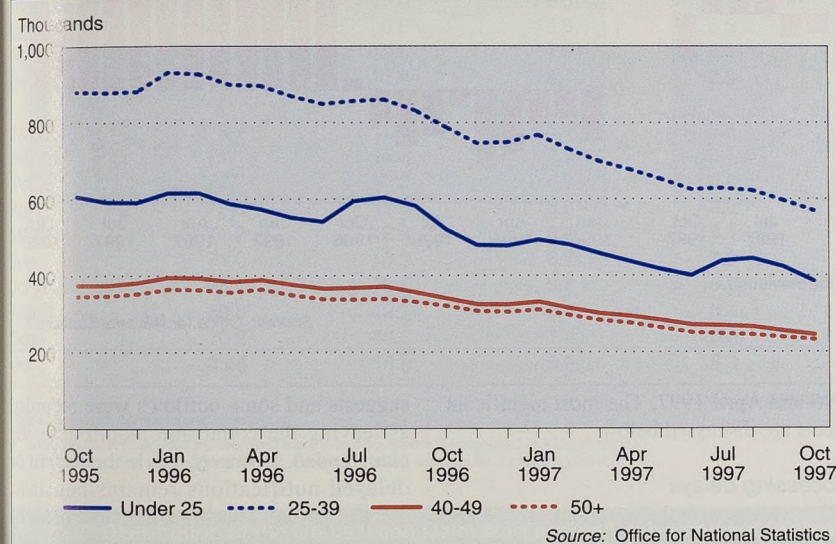
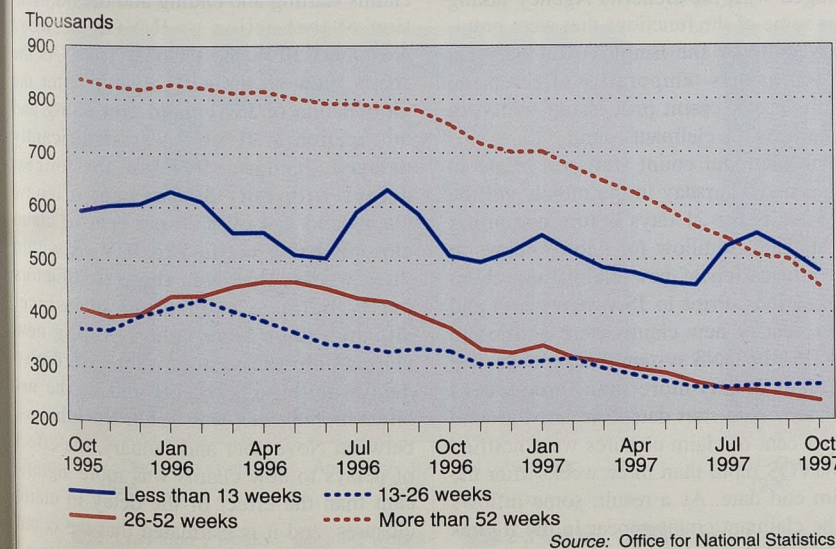


Figure 5 Stock of computerised claims by duration of claim; United Kingdom; October 1995-October 1997, not seasonally adjusted



6.5 per cent between October 1996 and April 1997, a similar proportion to the same time in the previous year. By contrast, the stock of claimants who had been claiming for 13-26 weeks fell by 14.1 per cent over the same period, those who had been claiming for 26-52 weeks fell by 20.9 per cent and those who had been claiming for more than one year fell by 17.2 per cent. Moreover, claimants with a duration of more than six months have continued to fall sharply up to October 1997 whereas the number of claimants claiming for less than six months has remained fairly flat since May 1997 (apart from the seasonal movement).

### Effect on the destination of claimants leaving the count

Since January 1995, data has been available on the destination of claimants when they leave the claimant count. With the introduction of JSA, a slightly different set of destination categories has been in use which can make direct comparison between the pre and post-JSA periods difficult. However, at a broad level, the data should be comparable. These data are not seasonally adjusted and so year-on-year comparisons are the most appropriate. Also, approximately one quarter of all leavers from the count have an unknown destination and so figures are presented as a proportion of those with a known destination.

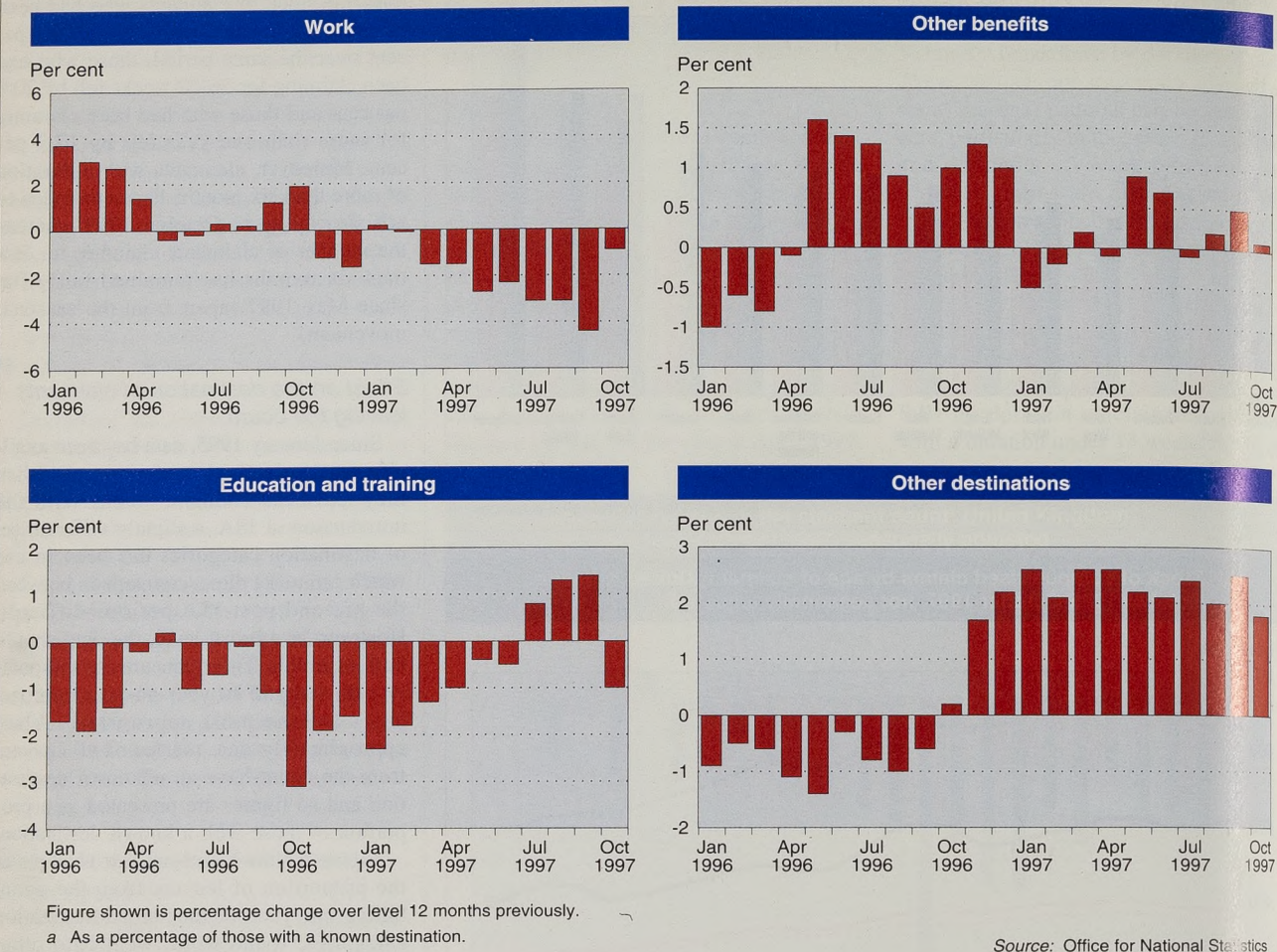
Figure 6 shows year-on-year changes in the proportion of leavers from the count falling into each of four broad destination categories: found work, went onto other benefits, went into education or training, or other known reason. Table 1 also shows a time-series of the proportion of leavers in each destination category.

Up until April 1996 a higher proportion of claimants were leaving the count to go into work than at the same time in the previous year. For the next ten months the proportions were similar to those seen a year previously but since March 1997 a lower proportion of claimants have been leaving the count to go to work. However, the timing of these changes in distribution do not seem to indicate a JSA effect (note that the actual number of claimants leaving the count to go to work between October 1996 and April 1997 was 53,000 higher than the equivalent period in the previous year but the proportions remained similar).

The proportion of claimants leaving JSA to go onto other benefits was noticeably higher between May and December 1996 than it had been a year previously. This may have been caused by some deterrent effect related to publicity about JSA in the months before its introduction and in the few months after it.

Up until July 1997, the proportion of leavers going to education and training had been lower than a year previously, largely due to a reduction in places on government-sponsored training schemes and a

Figure 6 Annual changes in the proportion<sup>a</sup> of leavers from the claimant count going to work, other benefits, education and training, and other destinations; United Kingdom; January 1996-October 1997; not seasonally adjusted



reduction in the stock of long-term unemployed who are eligible for these schemes.

The most noticeable JSA effect in the destination categories is in the catch-all 'other destination' group. This has largely been caused by a surprising and unexplained rise in claimants recorded as 'gone abroad'. It may be that prior to JSA these claimants were coded elsewhere. However, the procedures for dealing with claimants who are absent for short periods have been tightened under JSA and it may be that those taking short holidays are now having their claim terminated and then re-opened whereas before JSA it may have remained open. The later section of this article on resigning provides further evidence that this may be the case.

#### Effects on the count caused by operational and computer changes

A number of operational changes were brought in with the introduction of JSA as well as a new computer system. These types of changes have the potential to have an impact on the count and are important to bear in mind when considering the causes of the very large falls in the claimant count that were seen between October

1996 and April 1997. The most significant effects are discussed below.

#### Processing delays

Coinciding with the introduction of JSA, a new computer system (JSAPS) was introduced to manage the payment of benefit to JSA claimants. The operational arrangements for payment of JSA were also changed with the Benefits Agency taking over some of the functions that were previously done by the Employment Service. These changes temporarily affected the timeliness of claim processing which in turn affects the claimant count.

The claimant count statistics relate to the second Thursday in the month and the ONS waits for 21 days before compiling the statistics to allow for known delays in the notification of new claims and claim terminations. Prior to JSA, between 6 and 7 per cent of new claims were notified to JUVOS (the ONS system that produces the claimant count) more than three weeks after the claim start date. Similarly, around 17 per cent of claim closures were notified to JUVOS more than three weeks after the claim end date. As a result, some inflows to the claimant count appear in the figures one month later than the claim start date

suggests and some outflows were recorded as leaving the count one month after the claim ended. However, while the pattern of delayed notifications remains constant, there is virtually no impact on estimates of change from the claimant count (i.e. the count remains slightly overstated by the same amount each month).

Figure 7 illustrates the gap between claims starting and ending and the notification of that action to JUVOS between November 1996 and October 1997. As the charts show, in the early months after the introduction of JSA, claim processing and notification to JUVOS was significantly delayed. January 1997 saw the longest delays with only 80 per cent of new claims and just over 70 per cent of claim closures being notified to JUVOS within three weeks. However, these two factors partly balance each other out since, although there were delays getting new claims onto the system, there were also delays getting claims off and so the net effect on the stock was small. Nonetheless, between November and January, the effect of delays to new claims was more significant than the effect of the delay in claim closures, and it is estimated that the count will have been understated by around

Table 1 Leavers from the claimant count with a known destination, by destination; United Kingdom; 1995-1997

Count month	Per cent			
	Found work	Other benefit	Education and training <sup>a</sup>	Other known destination <sup>b</sup>
Jan 95	68.9	14.0	9.3	7.8
Feb	68.3	13.3	11.4	7.1
Mar	71.0	12.9	9.6	6.6
Apr	73.1	12.0	6.8	8.1
May	74.3	9.8	6.5	9.4
Jun	73.4	11.1	8.1	7.4
Jul	70.9	12.3	8.4	8.4
Aug	72.3	12.0	7.4	8.4
Sep	73.4	9.5	10.7	6.4
Oct	64.8	8.9	20.0	6.3
Nov	72.8	11.2	9.7	6.3
Dec	71.3	11.9	10.1	6.8
Jan 96	72.5	13.0	7.6	6.9
Feb	71.3	12.7	9.5	6.6
Mar	73.7	12.1	8.2	6.0
Apr	74.6	11.9	6.7	6.9
May	74.0	11.4	6.7	7.9
Jun	73.2	12.5	7.1	7.1
Jul	71.1	13.6	7.6	7.6
Aug	72.4	12.9	7.3	7.4
Sep	74.6	10.0	9.6	5.8
Oct	66.7	9.9	16.9	6.5
Nov	71.6	12.5	7.8	8.1
Dec	69.7	12.9	8.4	8.9
Jan 97	72.7	12.5	5.4	9.4
Feb	71.1	12.5	7.7	8.7
Mar	72.2	12.3	6.9	8.6
Apr	73.0	11.8	5.6	9.5
May	71.2	12.3	6.4	10.1
Jun	71.0	13.2	6.7	9.2
Jul	68.1	13.5	8.4	10.0
Aug	69.3	12.7	8.6	9.4
Sep	70.2	10.5	11.1	8.3
Oct	65.8	10.0	15.8	8.3

Note: Unadjusted, computerised claims only.

a Includes full-time education, approved training and government-sponsored training schemes.  
b Includes claim withdrawn, gone abroad, deceased, retired, in prison, and attending court.

Source: JUVOS cohort

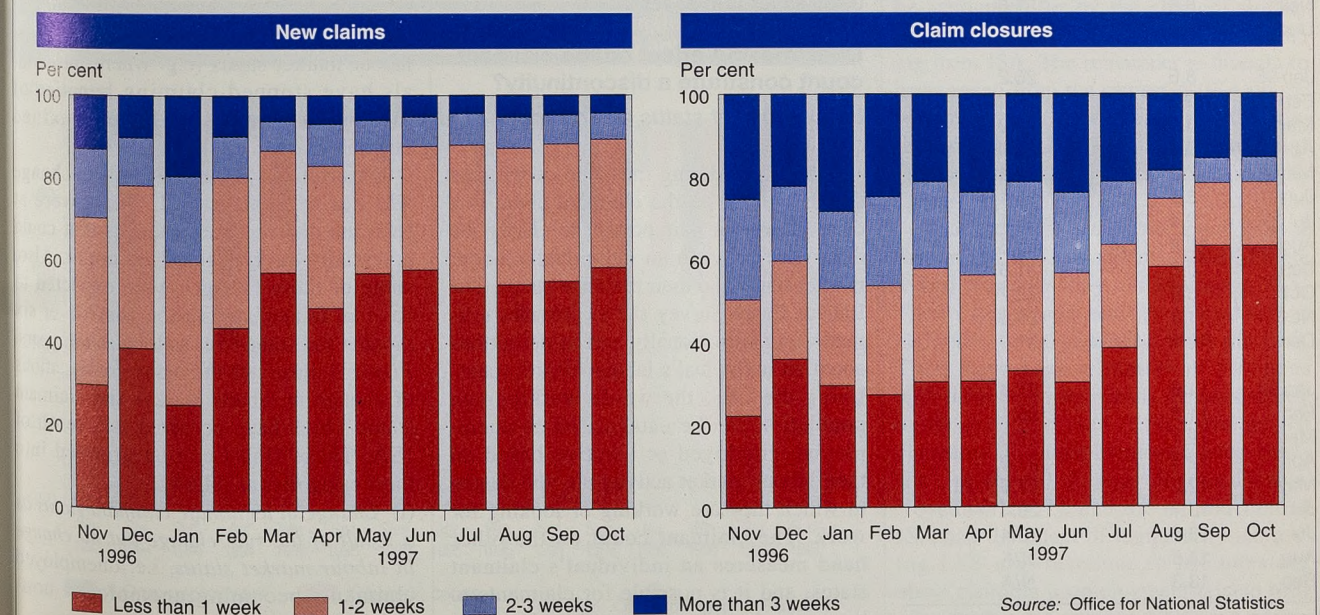
5,000 in each of those months (compared to pre-JSA conditions) as a direct result of delayed processing. Processing times and notification to JUVOS have now reverted to pre-JSA levels and ONS believes that figures from early 1997 were unaffected by these delays.

#### Claims transferring to a clerical state

More than 99 per cent of claims for JSA are administered through the computer payment system. However, occasionally, either a lack of information about the claimant or a system fault requires the claim to be managed clerically until the issue can be resolved.

Prior to JSA, the stock of clerical claims was around 11,000 and approximately 2-3,000 claims were transferred from the computer system to a clerical state each month, usually just for a short period. Immediately after the introduction of JSA, the number of claims that were being transferred to clerical increased sharply. This was particularly the case in November 1996 when 21,000 claims were transferred to clerical because of faults in the new computer system. Theoretically, these claims should still be included in the claimant count figures if the claim is live on the second Thursday of the month. However, although every Jobcentre completes a clerical return each month showing the number of clerical claims that they hold, claims that are temporarily transferred to clerical and are waiting to be rebuilt onto the system are often stored separately from other clerical claims. Therefore, it is possible that some of these claimants were missed from the count during the period that they were not on the payment system. ONS estimates that a maximum of 10,000 claims may have been

Figure 7 Distribution of the lag between claim start and end dates and notification to JUVOS; United Kingdom; November 1996-October 1997, not seasonally adjusted



missed from the count in November 1996 with less claims potentially being excluded as the number of claims being transferred from the system reduced. This problem is estimated to have been resolved by summer 1997.

#### New patterns of claimant behaviour under JSA

JSA has affected claimant behaviour and patterns of signing in a number of different ways. The areas where these effects are quantifiable are discussed below.

#### Postal signers

In some cases it is possible for claimants to receive JSA without attending a Jobcentre each fortnight. Instead, claimants are required to sign on by post. Prior to JSA, the eligibility criteria for postal signing was that the claimant lived at least six miles from a Jobcentre. With JSA this criterion was restricted to those claimants where travelling time to a Jobcentre exceeds one hour in each direction. This change has led to a dramatic reduction in the number of postal signers from 118,000 in February 1996 to 31,000 in February 1997. No figures are available to determine what proportion of those claimants who were no longer eligible to postal sign continued to sign on at Jobcentres and what proportion left the count.

#### Re-signing

Table 2 shows the proportion of claimants that re-sign for JSA within four

Table 2 Leavers from the claimant count who re-sign for JSA within four weeks and 13 weeks; United Kingdom; 1995-1997

	Percent	
Off-flow month	Re-sign within four weeks	Re-sign within 13 weeks
Oct 95	7.6	22.8
Nov	8.6	27.6
Dec	10.6	30.2
Jan 96	8.6	26.2
Feb	9.2	25.2
Mar	8.6	24.2
Apr	8.4	22.0
May	7.5	23.4
Jun	8.8	25.1
Jul	9.4	25.4
Aug	10.4	26.3
Sep	8.8	21.6
Oct	8.6	22.7
Nov	11.3	28.6
Dec	12.9	31.9
Jan 97	11.8	27.3
Feb	11.3	26.1
Mar	12.1	27.0
Apr	12.4	27.0
May	12.2	27.6
Jun	13.1	29.4
Jul	13.5	29.4
Aug	14.5	N/A
Sep	13.3	N/A

Source: JUVOS cohort

and 13 weeks of ending a claim. Comparing figures year-on-year shows that since November 1996 approximately 3 per cent more leavers are re-signing for JSA within four weeks of ending their claim than at the same time in the previous year. As was mentioned earlier in this article, the increase in re-signing could be due to a tightening of the rules regarding short absences from the count, particularly when claimants are unwell or on holiday. As a result of the new procedures, it seems that more claims are being closed and then re-opened quickly. This new pattern of behaviour will have added approximately 3 per cent, or 10,000, to both the inflow and outflow series each month since November 1996.

#### Seasonality

There is some evidence from recent data that the seasonal pattern of claimants may have changed under JSA. Historically, around 80,000 claimants aged 18-24 joined the claimant count in July and then left again in October. It has been assumed that these young people were full-time students. In July 1997, approximately 20,000 fewer claimants aged 18-24 joined the count than is usual for the month and, hence, around 20,000 fewer left again in October. Because the seasonal adjustment process uses past patterns of data to assess movements in the current data, the seasonally-adjusted fall for July was exaggerated by around 20,000 and the fall for October was reduced by the same amount. The changes seen in 1997 could indicate a new pattern of seasonal signing for students under JSA. However, it is equally possible that they were caused by the particular labour market conditions prevailing at that time. Unfortunately, at least one more year of data is needed before being able to establish whether a permanent change in seasonality has occurred. Further details are given in the final section of how the estimation of seasonality in the claimant count series is to be reviewed.

#### Does the JSA effect on the claimant count constitute a discontinuity?

##### Labour market status and claimant status

When considering the issue of whether the JSA effect on the claimant count is a discontinuity, it is important to clarify the difference between an individual's labour market status and their claimant status. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) provides estimates on internationally agreed definitions about an individual's labour market status. Using the LFS, the whole working-age population can be categorised as unemployed, employed or inactive based on their labour market activity, i.e. the degree to which they are working or looking for work. The claimant count on the other hand measures an individual's claimant status, and it is possible for claimants to be unemployed, employed or inactive

according to the labour market definitions. Similarly, non-claimants can be unemployed, employed or inactive.

#### What has been the policy for dealing with changes?

The policy for dealing with discontinuities in the claimant count has been to revise the back-series if a change in compilation methods or rules led to a significant impact on the level of the count. The aim was to ensure that past data was consistent with the current rules. Three distinct types of change were considered to be discontinuities:

**Type A** – when a change in the rules for claiming unemployment-related benefits affected the claimant status of individuals in the count without changing their labour market status;

**Type B** – an administrative change that necessitated a change to the method of compiling the statistics;

**Type C** – a purely statistical change to improve the accuracy of the count.

Nine such changes have affected the claimant count over the past 20 years and have led to the series being revised (see 'The monthly claimant unemployment count: change and consistency', *Labour Market Trends*, November 1995, pp397-400 for details).

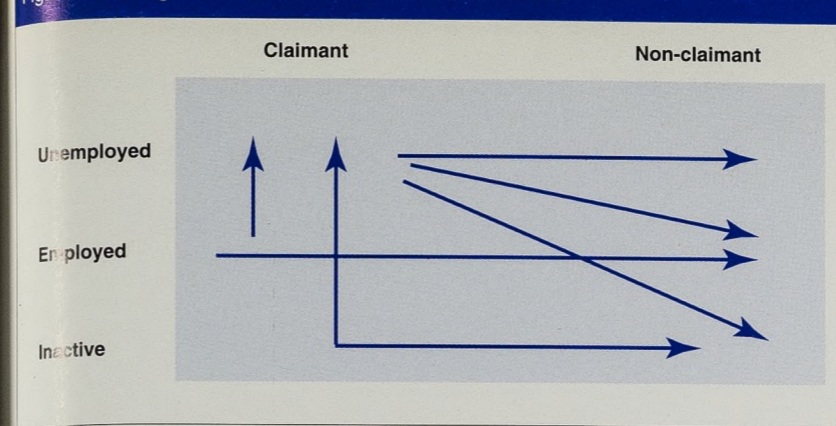
#### Different aspects of the impact of JSA on the claimant count

JSA has had a very significant effect on the claimant count series and the change has also coincided with an upturn in the labour market. These two effects together have led to unprecedented falls in the claimant series. However, based on the previous policy for introducing changes to the seasonally-adjusted, consistent historical series, the only effects which should be allowed for are those, arising from changes in the rules for claiming unemployment-related benefit, that have led to individuals changing their claimant status but not their labour market status (e.g. where individuals have stopped claiming because of the policy change but have remained unemployed).

Unfortunately, the JSA policy change was not straightforward. There were at least ten different rule changes that could potentially have affected the count. Also, some of these changes were expected to have an immediate impact, some over six months and some over as long as ten years. Figure 8 illustrates the many combinations of change in labour market and claimant status which have occurred as a result of JSA. These flows can be grouped into three categories as follows:

(i) *Change in legitimate claimant status as a result of the rule change but no change in labour market status*, i.e. unemployed claimants becoming unemployed non-claimants;

Figure 8 Changes in labour market and claimant status



(ii) *Change in labour market status*, i.e. unemployed claimants becoming employed or inactive non-claimants; or employed and inactive claimants becoming unemployed claimants through increased job search and availability;

(iii) *Change in claimant status resulting from better enforcement of existing rules*, i.e. illegitimate (employed or inactive) claimants ending their claim.

Based on previous practices, the only effects which should be allowed for in the seasonally-adjusted consistent series are those in category (i). Category (ii) changes have been caused by a new active labour market policy and will also be reflected in the LFS results. The category (iii) changes are a little more complex since the individuals concerned (who have not changed their labour market status) have ceased claiming because of stricter enforcement of existing rules, rather than because of a rule change specifically. New office procedures for enforcing existing rules are regularly introduced and are not considered to be discontinuities, and have never been allowed for in estimating the seasonally-

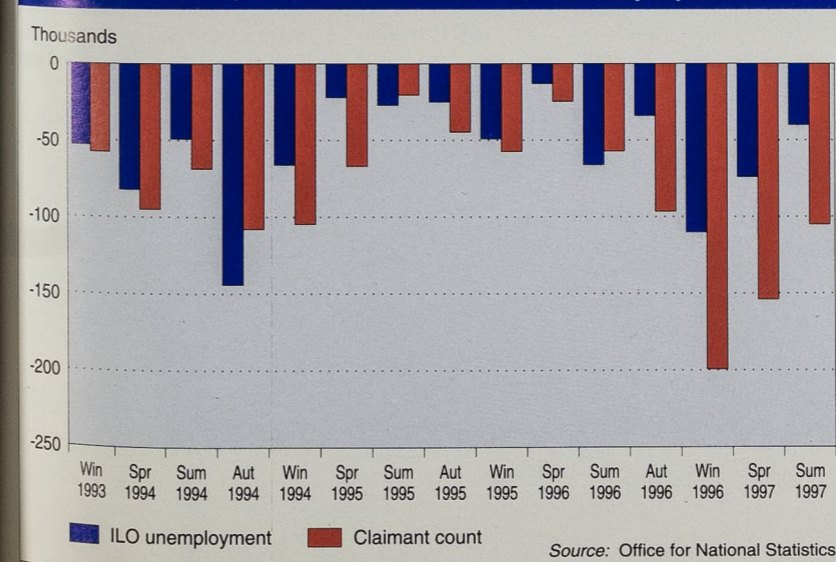
adjusted, consistent claimant count series.

The most significant JSA rule change which would fall into category (i) was the reduction in the period of entitlement to contributory benefit from 12 months to six. Prior to the introduction of JSA, this change was forecast to remove around 30,000 claimants from the count over a six month period. Using information from the JUVOS cohort on the change in the number of claimants crossing over the six month duration threshold, the best estimate now available is a reduction of 15-20,000 claimants spread evenly between November 1996 and April 1997. There were a number of other small rule changes which would count as category (i) changes and hence discontinuities. However, these were only expected to affect the count by a few hundred. Therefore, it would appear most of the JSA effect on the claimant count has come from changes in categories (ii) and (iii).

#### Comparisons with LFS data

Figure 9 compares seasonally-adjusted falls in the claimant count with falls in the ILO unemployment series from the LFS.

Figure 9 Quarterly falls in the claimant count and the ILO unemployment series; Great Britain; winter 1993/4-summer 1997, seasonally adjusted



Source: Office for National Statistics

This illustrates that in the year to summer 1996 quarterly falls in the two series were very similar. However, since the introduction of JSA, the claimant count falls have been significantly larger, generally around twice the size of the falls in ILO unemployment. For example, between summer 1996 and spring 1997 (using the data for Great Britain averaged over LFS quarters – see Table 7.5 in the 'Labour Market Data' section) the claimant count fell by 439,000 (from 2.04 million to 1.60 million) compared with a fall of 218,000 (from 2.25 million to 2.04 million) in ILO unemployment.

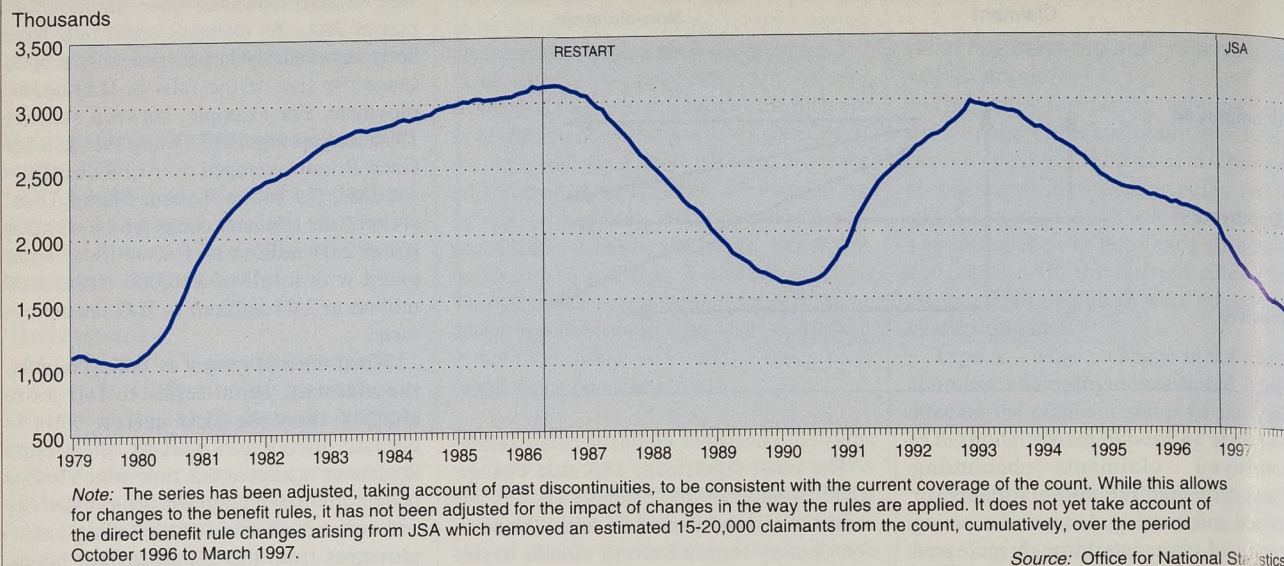
When unemployment is falling rapidly, the claimant count tends to fall more sharply than the ILO series. This is because discouraged workers often rejoin the labour market at this time which brings people into unemployment from inactivity and counteracts some of the falling unemployment from the labour market boom. Nevertheless, when unemployment was falling sharply in 1994, the claimant count falls were only around 10 per cent higher than the ILO unemployment falls over the year.

It should be noted, however, that JSA will also have had some effect on data from the LFS since labour market behaviour has been affected. Evidence to date suggests that JSA may have led to an increase in labour market activity and that there may have been a slight upward effect on ILO unemployment as inactive claimants increased their activity and became unemployed. Depending on the extent of this effect, a difference between the falls in the claimant count and ILO unemployment ranging upwards from 10 per cent might be expected.

After allowing for this effect, there would still remain a difference of 100-200,000 between the claimant count and ILO unemployment falls. A relatively small part of this, around 15-20,000, can be accounted for by the change, already described, in the benefit rule changes arising from JSA. The remainder is thought to have arisen from the impact of JSA on the way these rules were applied and the consequent removal of significant numbers of employed and inactive claimants from the claimant count.

In addition to questions about labour market activity, respondents to the LFS are asked whether they are claiming JSA. These questions enable estimates of claimants to be generated from the LFS. There have been a number of problems with these estimates which are consistently under-recorded (see 'LFS estimates of claimants of unemployment-related benefits', pp455-60, *Labour Market Trends*, November 1997), and the introduction of JSA had the effect of temporarily increasing LFS non-response to the question about claiming unemployment-related benefits during the autumn 1996 and winter

Figure 10 Claimant count series; United Kingdom; 1979-1997, seasonally adjusted



1996/7 quarters. However, these data are still useful for looking at the labour market status of JSA claimants and trying to assess how this has changed over time. For the year to spring 1997, these figures show a sharp drop in inactive claimants with the figure falling by almost 50 per cent over the year; falls of 22 per cent in both employed and unemployed claimants are also shown. These figures add further evidence to the theory that the application of JSA had a significant impact in removing employed and inactive claimants from the claimant count.

Similar circumstances to these have occurred in the past. In particular, when the Restart programme was introduced in 1986 the claimant count series began to fall very sharply. The impact may have been to remove as many as 200-300,000 claimants from the count (see *Labour Market Trends*, November 1995, p399). Restart was a change in the way that existing benefit rules were administered rather than a rule change and is thought to have had similar effects to JSA in that it both increased labour market activity and removed inactive and employed claimants from the count. As with the

majority of the JSA effect, the Restart effect did not fall into the category of the direct impact of benefit rule changes, for which changes to the seasonally-adjusted, consistent claimant count series are made.

#### Revising the claimant count for the effects of JSA

The analysis described above shows that the revision to the consistent, seasonally-adjusted claimant count series which should be made to allow for the direct benefit rule changes arising from JSA, will remove 15-20,000 claimants from the count for each month prior to October 1996 with a progressively smaller amount being removed each month from November 1996 to March 1997. ONS aims to refine this estimate and produce new, consistent series taking it into account by autumn 1998. As on previous occasions, these will be produced at national level and for each region, but not for smaller areas.

In presenting the consistent, seasonally-adjusted claimant count series, ONS will indicate clearly that these series are consistent specifically in respect of measurable

changes in benefit rules. Changes arising because of the way in which the rules are applied cannot be, and have not in the past been, adjusted for, and this will be made clear in presentations of the data (see, for example, *Figure 10*).

#### Future changes to seasonal adjustment practices

In April 1998 the seasonally-adjusted claimant count series will be revised as a result of the annual seasonal adjustment review. This review will introduce some improved methods of seasonal adjustment, particularly for data around the Easter period. As part of the seasonal adjustment review, statistical techniques are to be used to model the overall JSA effect on the count so that this factor can be temporarily removed from the series to prevent the seasonal adjustment process from being distorted by the effects of JSA. As a result of these changes in seasonal adjustment practice, a slightly smoother seasonally-adjusted series will be produced but the overall effect of JSA and the sharp falls in the series which occurred from October 1996 will still be apparent in the series.

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#### Impact of JSA in Northern Ireland

The impact of JSA in Northern Ireland has been assessed independently by the Department of Economic Development in Northern Ireland. This analysis provides an additional perspective in understanding the impact of JSA at a UK level for two reasons:

- It confirms at a regional level some of the main findings of the UK analysis. For example, in Northern Ireland and across the UK as a whole there have been large post-JSA falls in claimant unemployment; increased post-JSA outflows and reduced inflows; and relatively larger post-JSA falls for those claiming for longer durations compared with claimants with shorter durations.
- The Northern Ireland analysis also highlights the importance of regional and local labour market dynamics in mediating the effects of JSA. For example, within Northern Ireland the largest relative post-JSA falls in the claimant count tended to occur in areas where the concentration of female unemployed was higher. This would suggest that within Northern Ireland women claimants were more sensitive to the impact of JSA, although it is notable that these areas also tended to be 'tighter' in terms of having a higher relative demand for labour.

#### Post-JSA falls in the claimant count

Between September 1996 and September 1997 seasonally-adjusted claimant count in Northern Ireland fell by 31 per cent (26,200), reducing the claimant count rate by 3.4 percentage points to 7.9 per cent. Over the same period the claimant count fell by more than half a million in the UK as a whole (29 per cent).<sup>1</sup> Northern Ireland has not experienced falls of this magnitude within the last ten years.

Post-JSA falls in Northern Ireland tended to be concentrated on women, older claimants and long-term unemployed, particularly those unemployed for more than five years. In Great Britain larger percentage falls also occurred for women and claimants with longer durations. The difference between men and women was, however, more pronounced in Northern Ireland. Also, because pre-JSA a higher percentage of claimants in Northern Ireland were long-term

unemployed, the large falls that occurred in this group had more of an impact on the overall claimant count than in the UK as a whole.

For women claimants in Northern Ireland, more than a quarter of the post-JSA fall was accounted for by those with 'no usual occupation'.<sup>2</sup> For men, more than a quarter of the fall in the claimant count was accounted for by those in construction with a further 16 per cent accounted for by those whose usual occupation was labouring.<sup>3</sup>

Post-JSA falls in the claimant count occurred across all District Council Areas (DCAs) within Northern Ireland but were particularly concentrated in the east of the Province. DCAs that had a high percentage of women unemployed pre-JSA tended to experience the largest falls, as did DCAs that had the lowest percentage of long-term unemployed pre-JSA.

#### Effect on the flows series

The JSA effect in Northern Ireland was even more outflow-driven than in Great Britain. Immediately following the introduction of JSA, inflows were reduced and outflows increased dramatically; this continued for about eight months for inflows and about five months for outflows.

There were an additional 12,900 outflows from the claimant count in Northern Ireland in the year after JSA (September 1996 to August 1997) than in the year before (September 1995 to August 1996), an increase of 13 per cent. The overall increase in outflows occurred against a lower stock post-JSA and so represents an even more substantial change in behaviour in terms of those flowing off the claimant count than the raw numbers alone would suggest.

In the period September 1996 to August 1997 there were some 8,100 fewer inflows to the count in Northern Ireland compared with the same period the year before. While post-JSA changes in men's unemployment were driven by an increase in outflows, falls in women's unemployment post-JSA were typified by reductions in inflows. In addition, fewer post-JSA inflows reached six months duration compared with pre-JSA.

Despite higher numbers of outflows immediately post-JSA, the proportion of claimants returning to the count within nine months had fallen compared with pre-JSA, from 40 per cent to 35 per cent.<sup>4</sup> More recent evidence suggests that recycling rates are increasing again.

#### Benefit levels and JSA

Male single claimants in Northern Ireland tend to be on lower levels of benefit (on average £45 per week<sup>5</sup>) compared with their married counterparts (on average £75 per week). Female married claimants tend to be on lower levels of benefit than their single counterparts, with 38 per cent of married and 11 per cent of single women claiming less than £25 per week.

A higher percentage of those on lower levels of benefit (i.e. less than £50 per week) left the claimant count post-JSA compared with those on higher levels of benefit. Those on lower levels tended to enter employment or simply failed to sign, while those on higher levels tended to move on to other forms of benefit.

#### Comparisons with social security and employment data

In Northern Ireland over the period September 1996 to June 1997 there was an increase of 7,800 in employees in employment compared with a decrease of 1,600 over the same period a year before. This increase suggests that growth in employment could have easily accommodated the additional outflows from unemployment to employment that occurred over the same period.

Again from September 1996 to June 1997, there was an increase of between 5,400 and 9,100 claimants of non-unemployment related benefits (e.g. Incapacity Benefit, Income Support) in Northern Ireland. This could have accommodated the 4,500 additional outflows to other benefits in the same period when compared against the period September 1995 to June 1996.

#### Notes

- 1 The remainder of this section uses unadjusted claimant unemployment data.
- 2 September 1996 to September 1997; computerised claims only.
- 3 DED Statistics Research Branch uses its own 19 occupational groupings which are constructed from the Standard Occupational Classification.
- 4 Based on two samples of outflows taken at September to December 1995 and September to December 1996 respectively. Rates were calculated at September 1996 and September 1997 respectively.
- 5 Figures calculated from a 20 per cent sample of benefit records supplied by the Social Security Agency and linked to stock at September 1996.

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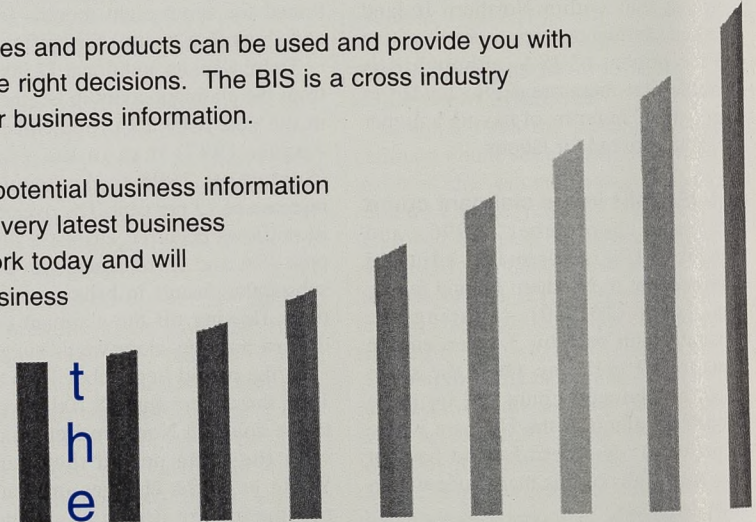
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Labour market statistics	
<i>Unemployment, employment, vacancies, earnings, hours, unit wage costs, productivity and industrial disputes.</i>	
April .....	22 Wednesday
May .....	13 Wednesday
June .....	17 Wednesday

Retail prices index	
April .....	21 Tuesday
May .....	19 Tuesday
June .....	16 Tuesday

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## NOTES ON SUMMARY TABLES

The Office for National Statistics publishes two regular and complementary measures of both employment and unemployment. One series is based on results from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which is a sample survey of households in the United Kingdom; the other uses employment information collected from employers and information on unemployment from the count of people claiming unemployment-related benefits before October 1996 and the number claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) thereafter. The quarterly series of LFS data has been available for Great Britain since spring 1992; prior to this an annual LFS was conducted in the spring of each year. Quarterly information for the United Kingdom is only available from winter 1994/5 when the first quarterly LFS was conducted in Northern Ireland; prior to this the LFS in Northern Ireland (and therefore the United Kingdom) was conducted annually.

In the following summary tables the LFS and Workforce series have been used to give, as far as possible, separate overall pictures of the labour force; the construction of the 'economically active' in the LFS table and the total 'workforce' in the Workforce table represent different approaches to estimating the total number either in employment or seeking employment.

### EMPLOYMENT

The two measures of employment are compiled on very different bases. The LFS classifies people according to their main job; those in employment are people who did at least one hour's work in the reference week (or had a job they were temporarily away from). In contrast, the Workforce in Employment (WiE) counts jobs which contribute to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Further, all LFS estimates come from a single source and are necessarily consistent. This is not the case with the WiE estimates, which depend on several sources - estimates for employees and for the Armed Forces are based on data from employers; figures for the self-employed are taken from the LFS; and estimates of those on work-related government training schemes are obtained from administrative sources. Additionally, the LFS is based on an average over 13 weeks, while the WiE is a point-in-time estimate.

### GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING

Both the LFS and WiE series have separate

components for people on government-supported training. Neither of these components represent everyone on programmes. Some people on programmes do not have an element of work experience in their training so are excluded from the workforce. Others are either self-employed or have a contract of employment so are counted as self-employed or employees. For more information on government-supported training and how it is treated, see the statistical note published in the October 1994 *Employment Gazette*.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

ILO (International Labour Organisation) unemployment, estimated from the LFS, is based on internationally standard definitions. It includes as unemployed all those people without a job, who were available to start work within the two weeks following their interview and had either looked for work in the four weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already obtained.

Because interviews are conducted throughout each quarter, ILO unemployment from the LFS is based on an average over a 13-week period. The claimant count figures are based on those claiming unemployment-related benefits before October 1996 and JSA thereafter at Employment Service offices on a particular day each month who are out of work, available for, capable of and actively seeking employment. A detailed comparison of the two measures of unemployment is shown in *Table 7.5* and an article giving further information was published in the October 1993 *Employment Gazette*.

### STRENGTHS

The different sources each have their own advantages and are useful in different circumstances. The following gives a brief indication of the advantages and disadvantages of each source.

**Labour Force Survey:** The LFS is very useful for providing an articulated view of the labour market on the basis of internationally agreed ILO concepts and definitions - the totals of the LFS estimates of people in employment, ILO unemployed and economically inactive add to the estimated total population\* aged 16 and over. The LFS also includes a wealth of demographic information so that people's economic status can be cross-referenced with such information

as age, occupation, ethnic origin and qualifications. Labour Force Surveys are conducted in all countries of the EU and OECD and also now in many of the new democracies of eastern and central Europe and so are very useful for making international comparisons. The disadvantages of the LFS are: first that, being a sample survey, it is subject to sampling error and is therefore very limited in what is available at local area level; and second, as mentioned below, it is not ideal for industrial classifications.

**Workforce in Employment:** The WiE series for employees is particularly useful for analysis by industry since it is based on information supplied by employers and is consistent with other government surveys of businesses. Additionally, the sample provides information which is consistent in industry coverage and quality from one quarter to the next. Industry classification within the LFS is based on statements by individuals who may have a different perception of the sector in which they work to that of their employer. The WiE series also feeds into National Accounts and the workforce in employment total is used in the denominator for calculating claimant unemployment rates. The disadvantages of the WiE are that, to give an overall picture of employment, a number of figures from different sources have to be added together. There is also evidence that the employment figures from the WiE are not as comprehensive in their scope as those from the LFS.

**Claimant count:** The claimant count is a timely and regular indicator of the number claiming unemployment-related benefits before October 1996 and JSA thereafter. It is particularly useful as an up-to-date indicator of latest unemployment trends and is therefore a valuable economic indicator. Since it covers all those claiming benefits (as opposed to the LFS which is only a representative sample) it is also able to provide unemployment figures for very small areas. The disadvantages of the claimant count are that: first, being an administrative by-product the coverage of the count can change whenever there is a change to the benefit system upon which it is based and compensating adjustments are necessary whenever the change is significant and relevant; and second, it is not internationally comparable.

\* Population in private households, student halls of residence and NHS accommodation.

## 0.1 SUMMARY TABLE The Labour Force Survey in the United Kingdom: seasonally adjusted

THOUSANDS

		In employment								
		Employees	Self-employed	Government-supported training programmes	Unpaid family workers	Total	ILO unemployed	Total econ. active	Econ. inactive	All aged 16 and over
<b>All</b>										
1993	Spr	21,871	3,186	356	151	25,564	2,998	28,561	16,838	45,400
1994	Spr	21,968	3,304	336	146	25,754	2,797	28,551	16,913	45,465
1995	Spr	22,251	3,361	284	140	26,036	2,514	28,549	17,024	45,574
1996	Aut	22,787	3,372	223	122	26,505	2,293	28,798	17,019	45,816
1996/7	Win	22,949	3,366	223	114	26,653	2,180	28,833	17,024	45,857
1997	Spr	23,065	3,348	219	118	26,751	2,093	28,844	17,054	45,898
1997	Sum	23,166	3,333	224	124	26,847	2,057	28,904	17,036	45,938
1997	Aut	23,319	3,316	215	115	26,966	1,913	28,879	17,099	45,978
<b>Changes</b>										
Sum97-Aut97		153	-17	-10	-9	119	-144	-26	64	39
Aut96-Aut97		532	-56	-9	-6	461	-380	81	81	162
<b>Males</b>										
1993	Spr	11,414	2,390	232	43	14,079	2,019	16,098	5,888	21,985
1994	Spr	11,459	2,487	220	49	14,216	1,858	16,074	5,976	22,050
1995	Spr	11,639	2,554	184	43	14,420	1,640	16,060	6,072	22,132
1996	Aut	11,915	2,532	136	41	14,624	1,481	16,105	6,183	22,288
1996/7	Win	12,024	2,525	134	39	14,722	1,375	16,097	6,218	22,315
1997	Spr	12,103	2,493	136	37	14,768	1,334	16,102	6,239	22,341
1997	Sum	12,187	2,466	141	42	14,835	1,277	16,112	6,255	22,367
1997	Aut	12,303	2,444	134	39	14,921	1,191	16,111	6,280	22,392
<b>Changes</b>										
Sum97-Aut97		117	-21	-7	-2	86	-87	-1	25	25
Aut96-Aut97		389	-87	-2	-2	297	-291	6	97	101
<b>Females</b>										
1993	Spr	10,457	796	123	108	11,485	979	12,464	10,951	23,415
1994	Spr	10,509	817	116	97	11,539	939	12,478	10,938	23,416
1995	Spr	10,612	807	100	97	11,616	874	12,490	10,952	23,442
1996	Aut	10,872	840	87	81	11,881	812	12,692	10,835	23,527
1996/7	Win	10,925	841	89	76	11,931	805	12,736	10,806	23,542
1997	Spr	10,962	856	84	80	11,982	759	12,742	10,816	23,557
1997	Sum	10,979	867	83	82	12,012	780	12,792	10,781	23,572
1997	Aut	11,016	872	81	76	12,044	723	12,767	10,819	23,586
<b>Changes</b>										
Sum97-Aut97		36	4	-2	-6	32	-57	-25	39	11
Aut96-Aut97		144	31	-6	-5	164	-89	75	-16	59

Note: LFS seasonal quarters are defined as follows: spring (March-May); summer (June-August); autumn (September-November); winter (December-February).

## 0.2 SUMMARY TABLE The Workforce in the United Kingdom: seasonally adjusted

THOUSANDS

		Workforce in employment						
		Employees in employment	Self-employed	Work-related government-supported training	HM forces	Total	Claimants	Workforce
<b>All</b>								
1994	Dec	21,874	3,345	296	237	25,752	2,424	28,176
1995	Dec	22,189	3,321	227	226	25,963	2,236	28,199
1996	Dec	22,569	3,361	190	216	26,336	1,880	28,216
1997	Jun	22,801	3,342	163	210	26,517	1,600	28,117
1997	Sep	22,911	3,327	176	210	26,624	1,474	28,098
1997	Dec	23,082	3,312	169	211	26,774	1,411	28,185
<b>Changes</b>								
Sep 97 - Dec 97		171	-15	-7	1	150	-63	87
Dec 96 - Dec 97		514	-48	-21	-5	438	-469	-30
<b>Males</b>								
1994	Dec	11,040	2,530	186	220	13,975	1,851	15,826
1995	Dec	11,200	2,519	146	210	14,075	1,704	15,779
1996	Dec	11,301	2,525	116	201	14,144	1,430	15,574
1997	Jun	11,492	2,487	101	195	14,276	1,222	15,498
1997	Sep	11,533	2,460	110	195	14,298	1,138	15,437
1997	Dec	11,634	2,438	106	196	14,375	1,077	15,452
<b>Changes</b>								
Sep 97 - Dec 97		101	-22	-4	1	76	-61	15
Dec 96 - Dec 97		333	-87	-10	-6	231	-354	-122
<b>Females</b>								
1994	Dec	10,834	816	110	17	11,776	573	12,349
1995	Dec	10,989	801	82	16	11,888	531	12,420
1996	Dec	11,268	835	74	15	12,193	449	12,642
1997	Jun	11,309	856	62	15	12,241	377	12,619
1997	Sep	11,378	867	65	15	12,326	336	12,661
1997	Dec	11,448	874	62	15	12,400	334	12,734
<b>Changes</b>								
Sep 97 - Dec 97		70	7	-3	0	74	-2	72
Dec 96 - Dec 97		180	38	-12	0	207	-115	92

Source: Earnings and Employment Division, ONS. Customer helpline: 01928 792563.

## SUMMARY TABLE 0.3 The Labour Force Survey in Great Britain: seasonally adjusted

THOUSANDS

		In employment								
		Employees	Self-employed	Government-supported training programmes	Unpaid family workers	Total	ILO unemployed	Total econ. active	Econ. inactive	All aged 16 and over
<b>All</b>										
1996	Aut	22,252	3,283	200	115	25,851	2,221	28,072	16,527	44,599
1996/7	Win	22,401	3,277	199	108	25,985	2,111	28,096	16,542	44,638
1997	Spr	22,507	3,260	197	111	26,076	2,037	28,113	16,564	44,677
1997	Sum	22,597	3,245	202	119	26,162	1,997	28,159	16,556	44,715
1997	Aut	22,749	3,230	190	110	26,279	1,847	28,126	16,627	44,752
<b>Changes</b>										
Sum97-Aut97		152	-15	-12	-9	117	-150	-33	70	37
Aut96-Aut97		497	-53	-11	-5	428	-374	54	100	154
<b>Males</b>										
1996	Aut	11,637	2,459	122	40	14,258	1,432	15,690	6,014	21,703
1996/7	Win	11,743	2,454	119	37	14,353	1,326	15,679	6,050	21,728
1997	Spr	11,817	2,421	121	37	14,395	1,294	15,689	6,064	21,753
1997	Sum	11,893	2,394	127	41	14,455	1,235	15,690	6,089	21,778
1997	Aut	12,008	2,373	117	38	14,535	1,145	15,680	6,122	21,802
<b>Changes</b>										
Sum97-Aut97		115	-22	-10	-3	80	-90	-10	34	24
Aut96-Aut97		371	-86	-5	-2	277	-287	-10	109	99
<b>Females</b>										
1996	Aut	10,615	824	79	75	11,593	789	12,382	10,513	22,895
1996/7	Win	10,658	824	79	71	11,632	785	12,417	10,492	22,909
1997	Spr	10,690	840	76	75	11,681	743	12,424	10,500	22,923
1997	Sum	10,703	851	75	78	11,707	762	12,470	10,468	22,937
1997	Aut	10,740	858	73	73	11,744	702	12,446	10,505	22,950
<b>Changes</b>										
Sum97-Aut97		37	7	-2	-6	36	-60	-24	37	13
Aut96-Aut97		126	34	-6	-3	151	-87	64	-9	55

Note: LFS seasonal quarters are defined as follows: spring (March-May); summer (June-August); autumn (September-November); winter (December-February).

## SUMMARY TABLE 0.4 The Workforce in Great Britain: seasonally adjusted

THOUSANDS

		Workforce in employment						
		Employees in employment	Self-employed	Work-related government-supported training	HM forces	Total	Claimants	Workforce
<b>All</b>								
1996	Sep	21,906	3,289	170	218	25,583	1,985	27,568
1996	Dec	21,987	3,283	171	216	25,657	1,809	27,466
1997	Mar	22,105	3,277	158	214	25,754	1,644	27,398
1997	Jun	22,216	3,260	149	210	25,835	1,537	27,373
1997	Sep	22,324	3,245	158	210	25,937	1,414	27,351
1997	Dec	22,491	3,230	152	211	26,084	1,351	27,435
<b>Changes</b>								
Sep 97 - Dec 97		167	-15	-6	1	147	-64	84
Dec 96 - Dec 97		505	-53	-20	-5	427	-458	-31
<b>Males</b>								
1996	Sep	10,951	2,466	103	203	13,722	1,506	15,229
1996	Dec	11,013	2,459	104	201	13,777	1,375	15,152
1997	Mar	11,127	2,454	97	199	13,877	1,255	15,132
1997	Jun	11,202	2,421	92	195	13,910	1,173	15,083
1997	Sep	11,242	2,394	98	195	13,929	1,091	15,020
1997	Dec	11,341	2,373	95	196	14,004	1,030	15,034
<b>Changes</b>								
Sep 97 - Dec 97		99	-22	-3	1	74	-61	14
Dec 96 - Dec 97		328	-86	-9	-6	227	-346	-119
<b>Females</b>								



0.5

BACKGROUND ECONOMIC INDICATORS \*

Seasonally adjusted

UNITED KINGDOM

Output								Income							
GDP		GDP 1990 prices		Index of output UK				Real personal disposable income		Gross trading profits of companies <sup>4</sup>					
1990=100		£ billion		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		£ billion		1990=100			
		%		%		%		%		%		%			
		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100			
1992	97.5	466.5	-0.5	97.0	0.4	94.9	-0.1	99.3	-0.3	101.9	2.0	69.0	0.5		
1993	99.5	476.8	2.2	99.1	2.2	96.3	1.5	98.7	-0.6	103.9	2.0	76.3	10.5		
1994	103.8	498.2	4.5	104.4	5.3	100.8	4.7	103.2	4.6	105.5	1.5	87.3	14.4		
1995	106.7	511.9	2.8	106.7	2.2	102.5	1.7	107.0	3.7	108.9	3.2	92.8	6.3		
1996	109.2	525.1	2.6	107.9	1.1	102.8	0.3	109.4	2.2	112.5	3.3	103.7	11.8		
1997	113.0	540.5	2.9	109.4	1.4	104.3	1.5	114.3	4.5	117.2	4.2	109.3	5.4		
1996 Q4	110.5	132.8	2.9	108.6	1.5	103.3	0.7	111.0	3.2	113.4	2.3	27.5	13.3		
1997 Q1	111.6	133.5	2.7	108.7r	1.4	103.9	1.5	112.4	4.2	114.2	2.3	26.5	5.1		
Q2	112.5	134.6	3.0	109.2	1.6	104.2r	2.0	113.8R	4.6	119.2	6.4	27.8	9.5		
Q3	113.6	135.8	3.4	110.3	1.9	104.8	1.6	115.2	4.7	116.4	3.1	27.5	9.5		
Q4	113.5	136.6	2.9	109.3	0.6	104.2	0.9	115.8	4.3	119.0	4.9	27.5	-0.1		
1997 Jul	...	...	...	110.8	1.5	104.9	1.5	115.6	4.7	...	...	...	...		
Aug	...	...	...	110.2	2.3	104.6	1.6	114.8r	4.7	...	...	...	...		
Sep	...	...	...	109.9	1.9	104.8	1.5	115.2	4.7	...	...	...	...		
Oct	...	...	...	109.6	1.7	104.6	1.4	116.1	4.6	...	...	...	...		
Nov	...	...	...	109.1	1.1	104.3	1.2	115.3	4.4	...	...	...	...		
Dec	...	...	...	109.2	0.6	103.9	0.9	116.0	4.4	...	...	...	...		
1998 Jan	...	...	...	108.6	0.1	103.9	0.6	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Expenditure								Base lending rates + 8				Effective exchange rate + 1.9			
Consumer expenditure 1990 prices		Retail sales volumes <sup>1</sup>		Fixed investments <sup>5</sup>				General government consumption at 1990 prices		Stock changes 1990 prices <sup>7</sup>					
£ billion		%		1990=100		%		1990=100		%		1990=100		%	
		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100	
		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100	
		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
1992	339.7	-0.1	99.4	0.7	74.1	-1.8	11.8	-7.6	115.7	-0.1	-0.97	7.00	96.8	-3.8	
1993	348.2	2.5	102.4	3.0	73.1	-1.2	11.2	-5.1	115.5	-0.2	-0.88	5.50	88.7	-8.3	
1994	357.8	2.8	106.2	3.7	76.4	4.4	12.0	6.8	118.1	2.2	3.12	6.30	89.2	0.3	
1995	364.0	1.7	107.5	1.2	78.2	2.4	13.2	9.9	119.6	1.3	3.73	6.80	84.2	-4.9	
1996	377.2	3.6	110.6	2.9	79.9	2.2	12.4	-5.6	121.0	1.2	1.01	5.94	86.2	1.8	
1997	394.5	4.6	116.6	5.4	83.6	4.5	14.2	14.4	120.5	-0.5	..	6.58	100.0	16.6	
1996 Q4	95.6	4.3	112.2	3.7	19.8	1.4	3.1	-6.1	30.5	1.4	1.76	5.92	91.2	9.5	
1997 Q1	96.6	3.7	113.8R	4.8	20.4	2.9	3.3	-4.0	30.3	0.5	1.26	6.00	96.5R	16.0	
Q2	98.4	4.9	115.8	5.3	21.0	3.8	3.8	31.3	29.8	-1.4	0.82	6.25	99.0	17.5	
Q3	99.1	4.8	116.7	5.1	21.0	4.7	3.6	20.9	30.1	-0.2	0.18	6.92	102.1	19.9	
Q4	100.5	5.1	118.5	5.6	21.1	6.8	3.5	13.0	30.2	-0.8	0.21	7.17	103.2	12.8	
1997 Jul	...	...	117.2	5.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.75	104.2	18.6	
Aug	...	...	117.6	5.8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.00	102.8	19.9	
Sep	...	...	115.6	5.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.00	100.5	19.8	
Oct	...	...	118.8	5.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.00	101.5	17.3	
Nov	...	...	118.4	5.1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.25	103.2	14.6	
Dec	...	...	118.2R	5.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.25	104.2	12.8	
1998 Jan	...	...	120.5R	5.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.75	104.7R	11.1	
Trade in goods				Balance of payments				Prices							
Export volume <sup>1</sup>		Import volume <sup>1</sup>		Trade in goods balance		Current balance		Tax and price index + 1.10		Producer price index + 1.3,10					
1990=100		1990=100		£ billion		£ billion		Jan 1987=100		1990=100		1990=100		1990=100	
%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
1992	103.7	2.5	100.9	6.5	-13.1	-10.1	129.8	2.9	97.4	-0.5	108.8	3.1			
1993	107.4	3.6	104.8	3.9	-13.5	-10.8	131.4	1.2	101.8	4.5	112.2	3.9			
1994	118.5	10.3	109.4	4.4	-11.1r	-1.7	135.2	2.9	104.4	2.6	115.8	2.6			
1995	127.7	7.8	114.3	4.5	-11.6	-3.7	140.4	3.8	114.4	9.6	120.0	4.1			
1996	136.8	7.1	124.5	8.9	-12.7	-1.9R	142.4	1.4	113.1	-1.1	129.8	2.7			
1997	147.7	8.0	135.6	8.9	-13.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
1996 Q4	140.0	6.9	126.5	7.8	-2.6	0.3	143.2	1.2	110.3	-4.6	124.4	2.0			
1997 Q1	143.1r	7.0	129.1r	5.4	-2.8	1.3r	143.4	0.8	107.9	-7.1	124.9	1.2			
Q2	147.9	8.5	136.2	9.9	-3.1	1.3	144.4	1.7	103.8	-9.6	125.1	1.0			
Q3	150.1	9.4	137.1	9.7	-2.8	0.2	146.0	2.6	101.8	-8.5	125.3	1.3			
Q4	149.6	6.9	140.0	10.7	-4.2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
1997 Jul	154.1	8.7	139.2	9.6	-0.7	..	145.0	2.1	101.7	-8.9	125.1	1.1			
Aug	148.1	9.3	134.7	10.7	-0.9	..	146.0	2.4	101.9	-8.5	125.3	1.2			
Sep	148.1	9.4	137.4	9.7	-1.3	..	146.9	2.6	101.8	-8.5	125.5	1.3			
Oct	148.4	6.7	139.7	10.0	-1.3	..	147.1	2.8	101.2R	-8.5	125.6	1.2			
Nov	145.1	5.6	137.5	9.6	-1.6	..	147.2	2.8	100.2R	-8.6	125.4	1.1			
Dec	155.4	6.9	142.7	10.6	-1.3	..	147.6	2.8	100.1	-8.9	125.9	1.0			
1998 Jan	...	..	..	..	..	..	147.1	2.7	98.4p	-9.2	125.9p	0.9			

P = Provisional  
 R = Revised  
 r = Series revised from indicated entry onwards.  
 \* Data values from which percentage changes are calculated may have been rounded.  
 For most indicators two series are given, representing the series itself in the units stated and the percentage change in the series on the same period a year earlier.  
 + Not seasonally adjusted.

1 The percentage change series for the monthly data is the percentage change between the three months ending in the month shown and the same period a year earlier.  
 2 Production industries: SIC divisions 1 to 4.  
 3 Manufacturing industries: SIC divisions 2 to 4.  
 4 Industrial and commercial companies (excluding North Sea oil companies) net of stock appreciation.  
 5 Gross domestic fixed capital formation, excluding fixed investment in dwellings, the transfer costs of land and existing buildings and the national accounts statistical adjustment.  
 6 Including leased assets.  
 7 Value of physical increase in stocks and work in progress.  
 8 Base lending rate of the London clearing banks on the last Friday of the period shown.  
 9 Average of daily rates.  
 10 Annual and quarterly figures are average of monthly indices.

EMPLOYMENT Workforce \* 1.1

THOUSANDS

UNITED KINGDOM	Employees in employment				Self-employed persons (with or without employees) **	HM Forces #	Work-related government-supported training programmes ++	Workforce in employment ##	Workforce *
	Male	Female	All	All					
	All	Part-time +	All	Part-time +					
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>									
Unadjusted for seasonal variation									
1994 Mar	10,884	1,109	10,669	4,852	21,553	3,246	254	323	25,376
Jun	10,947	1,127	10,754	4,896	21,700	3,298	250	302	25,551
Sep	11,079	1,148	10,759	4,858	21,838	3,306	289	246	25,679
Dec	11,061	1,163	10,895	4,990	21,956	3,371	237	296	25,860
1995 Mar	11,013	1,153	10,794	4,908	21,807	3,341	233	270	25,652
Jun	11,123	1,193	10,905	4,989	22,028	3,351	230	225	25,835
Sep	11,158	1,179	10,855	4,895	22,013	3,330	228	222	25,793
Dec	11,228	1,254	11,053	5,082	22,281	3,348	226	227	26,083
1996 Mar	11,095	1,248	10,992	5,080	22,088	3,270	225	214	25,798
Jun	11,186	1,283	11,160	5,199	22,345	3,283	221	181	26,031
Sep	11,284	1,305	11,230	5,217	22,513	3,373	218	189	26,293
Dec R	11,329	1,344	11,334	5,330	22,662	3,389	216	190	26,458
1997 Mar R	11,351	1,310	11,208	5,222	22,559	3,322	214	175	26,269
Jun R	11,493	1,354	11,325	5,305	22,818	3,329	210	163	26,521
Sep R	11,567	1,356	11,360	5,322	22,927	3,330	210	176	26,643
Dec	11,671	1,423	11,518	5,470	23,189	3,340	211	169	26,909
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>									
Adjusted for seasonal variation									
1994 Mar	10,943	1,119	10,714	4,871	21,656	3,274	254	323	25,508
Jun	10,941	1,125	10,723	4,868	21,663	3,302	250	302	25,517
Sep	11,034	1,160	10,793	4,912	21,828	3,302	246	289	25,664
Dec	11,040	1,153	10,834	4,938	21,874	3,345	237	296	25,752
1995 Mar	11,079	1,166	10,844	4,929	21,923	3,371	233	270	25,797
Jun	11,115	1,189	10,872	4,959	21,987	3,357	230	225	25,800
Sep	11,110	1,188	10,889	4,943	21,999	3,325	228	222	25,773
Dec	11,200	1,240	10,989	5,032	22,189	3,321	226	227	25,963
1996 Mar	11,157	1,260	11,053	5,110	22,210	3,302	225	214	25,952
Jun	11,186	1,281	11,136	5,176	22,322	3,291	221		

# 1.2 EMPLOYMENT Employees in employment in United Kingdom

GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992 Section, sub-section, group	THOUSANDS							
	All industries and services A-Q		Manufacturing industries D		Production industries C-E		Production and construction industries C-F	
	All employees unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	All employees unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	All employees unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	All employees unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
1984 Jun	20,741	20,735	4,928	4,946	5,504	5,524	6,542	6,564
1985 Jun	20,920	20,909	4,882	4,895	5,431	5,446	6,457	6,474
1986 Jun	20,886	20,874	4,763	4,777	5,262	5,277	6,263	6,280
1987 Jun	21,080	21,071	4,697	4,713	5,157	5,174	6,179	6,197
1988 Jun	21,740	21,736	4,735	4,754	5,170	5,192	6,233	6,254
1989 Jun	22,134	22,133	4,723	4,747	5,140	5,166	6,242	6,267
1990 Jun	22,382	22,370	4,605	4,628	5,000	5,026	6,114	6,142
1991 Jun	21,728	21,707	4,196	4,215	4,566	4,588	5,592	5,618
1992 Jun	21,387	21,359	3,983	3,995	4,316	4,331	5,242	5,260
1993 Jun	21,066	21,039	3,808	3,814	4,097	4,106	4,937	4,950
1994 Jun	21,141	21,103	3,823	3,827	4,078	4,084	4,917	4,928
1995 Jun	21,452	21,410	3,918	3,922	4,149	4,155	4,963	4,973
1995 Sep	21,437	21,422	3,945	3,919	4,173	4,146	4,982	4,948
Oct			3,960	3,942	4,187	4,168		
Nov			3,975	3,954	4,203	4,180		
Dec	21,702	21,613	3,998	3,975	4,228	4,206	5,034	5,006
1996 Jan			3,935	3,952	4,163	4,178		
Feb			3,943	3,964	4,172	4,193		
Mar	21,512	21,634	3,965	3,984	4,188	4,206	4,971	4,997
Apr			3,938	3,964	4,156	4,183		
May			3,941	3,964	4,157	4,180		
Jun	21,771	21,747	3,959	3,964	4,174	4,181	4,965	4,972
Jul			3,999	3,991	4,211	4,204		
Aug			4,010	3,991	4,221	4,203		
Sep	21,937	21,906	4,009	3,989	4,224	4,202	5,016	4,992
Oct			4,017	3,997	4,234	4,214		
Nov			4,011	3,989	4,226	4,203		
Dec	22,076 R	21,987 R	4,013	3,989	4,228 R	4,203 R	5,045 R	5,014 R
1997 Jan			3,985	4,001	4,204	4,219		
Feb			3,970	3,992	4,189	4,209		
Mar	21,978	22,105	3,976	3,995	4,194	4,213	4,998	5,024
Apr			3,974	4,001	4,194	4,221		
May			3,981	4,004	4,200	4,224		
Jun	22,234 R	22,216 R	4,001	4,006	4,222	4,227	5,083	5,089
Jul			4,010	3,999	4,228	4,219		
Aug			4,006	3,990	4,226	4,210		
Sep	22,341 R	22,324 R	4,003	3,986	4,220	4,204	5,124	5,106 R
Oct R			4,014	3,995	4,231	4,212		
Nov R			4,019	3,997	4,235	4,213		
Dec R	22,593	22,491	4,006	3,986	4,221	4,201	5,183	5,148
1998 Jan P			3,994	4,006	4,210	4,220		

GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992 Section sub-section, group	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED								
	Service Industries G-Q		Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	Mining and quarrying, supply of electricity, gas and water	Food products beverages and tobacco	Manufacture of clothing, textiles, leather and leather products	Wood and wood products	Paper, pulp, printing, publishing & recording media	Chemicals, chemical products & man-made fibres
	All employees unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	A,B 01-05	C,E 10-14,40-41	DA 15-16	DB/DC 17-19	DD 20	DE 21-22	DG 24
1984 Jun	13,863	13,825	346	577	531	549	78	455	398
1985 Jun	14,126	14,089	346	550	525	552	80	458	399
1986 Jun	14,297	14,261	334	500	508	557	83	448	399
1987 Jun	14,584	14,549	325	461	504	546	85	454	396
1988 Jun	15,196	15,166	317	437	495	549	89	457	397
1989 Jun	15,596	15,563	303	419	485	519	92	466	397
1990 Jun	15,974	15,931	297	398	479	476	91	467	395
1991 Jun	15,849	15,802	289	373	481	404	80	456	396
1992 Jun	15,855	15,808	291	336	455	388	78	447	398
1993 Jun	15,822	15,783	307	292	442	382	84	439	395
1994 Jun	15,944	15,894	281	258	432	373	85	453	394
1995 Jun	16,236	16,184	253	233	431	358	77	459	392
1995 Sep	16,175	16,219	255	227	432	354	77	450	393
Oct				226	438	352	78	454	393
Nov				227	438	353	77	459	391
Dec	16,417	16,346	262	230	437	354	86	458	391
1996 Jan				226	429	352	75	453	393
Feb				229	431	349	75	455	393
Mar	16,286	16,372	265	222	429	349	88	456	399
Apr				219	430	351	83	455	398
May				216	428	352	83	456	399
Jun	16,549	16,515	260	217	427	350	78	458	399
Jul				213	427	356	84	464	397
Aug				212	426	356	86	460	397
Sep	16,636	16,652	262	213	426	354	81	457	399
Oct				217	423	357	84	459	397
Nov				214	423	356	85	458	397
Dec	16,778 R	16,708 R	264	214 R	425	352	84	458	397
1997 Jan				218	425	363	85	462	397
Feb				216	426	362	83	461	397
Mar	16,720	16,812	268	217	428	361	84	461	397
Apr				220	426	363	84	460	397
May				220	429	362	85	461	397
Jun	16,891 R	16,863 R	263	221	429	362	84	461	397
Jul				220	425	359	84	461	399
Aug				220	424	359	85	459	398
Sep	16,930 R	16,953 R	266 R	218	424	356	85	461	398
Oct R				217	427	354	85	464	398
Nov R				216	426	354	86	466	397
Dec	17,148	17,070	273	215	428	350 R	85	463 R	396 R
1998 Jan P				214	428	351	86	467	397

# EMPLOYMENT 1.2 Employees in employment in United Kingdom: seasonally adjusted

GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992 Section, sub-section, group	THOUSANDS									
	Rubber and plastic products	Non-metallic mineral products, metal & metal products DIDJ 26-28	Machinery and equipment nec	Electrical and optical equipment	Transport equipment	Coke, nuclear fuel and other manufacturing nec DF, DN 23, 36-37	Construction	Wholesale and retail trade, and repairs	Hotels and restaurants	
	DH 25	DI, DJ 26-28	DK 29	DL 30-33	DM 34-35	F 45	G 50-52	H 55		
1984 Jun	201	925	491	615	540	217	1,040	3,268	959	
1985 Jun	202	911	492	613	523	219	1,029	3,287	989	
1986 Jun	203	866	480	596	506	223	1,002	3,287	988	
1987 Jun	208	844	475	588	485	226	1,022	3,291	993	
1988 Jun	218	854	485	586	482	232	1,063	3,335	1,068	
1989 Jun	222	870	489	582	474	238	1,101	3,330	1,158	
1990 Jun	216	856	488	550	470	238	1,116	3,597	1,216	
1991 Jun	190	765	457	447	425	209	1,028	3,532	1,188	
1992 Jun	185	722	422	422	422	203	929	3,521	1,174	
1993 Jun	188	681	381	425	353	203	844	3,500	1,139	
1994 Jun	198	690	377	440	328	207	844	3,583	1,143	
1995 Jun	218	690	391	477	348	220	818	3,631	1,204	
1995 Sep	220	691	395	481	353	214	802	3,621	1,202	
Oct	222	694	396	482	355	217				
Nov	223	696	398	484	358	215				
Dec	222	698	398	487	363	221	800	3,669	1,196	
1996 Jan	222	700	400	490	363	220				
Feb	221	706	401	492	363	221				
Mar	221	703	396	503	363	225	791	3,659	1,205	
Apr	222	703	394	500	364	215				
May	222	703	393	501	363	215				
Jun	223	700	394	500	368	217	791	3,688	1,240	
Jul	220	708	390	507	367	221				
Aug	223	711	390	507	369	220				
Sep	224	709	390	507	372	225	790	3,722	1,238	
Oct	223	713	389	507	374	227				
Nov	222	711	386	505	375	226				
Dec	223	711	390	504	375	226	811	3,735	1,256	
1997 Jan	223	707	392	501	378	224				
Feb	223	706	391	499	377	224				
Mar	223	706	392	496	377	227	812	3,810	1,264	
Apr	223	709	393	496	379	228				
May	222	710	392	497	379	228				
Jun	222	712	394	493	379	230	862	3,846	1,249	
Jul	221	712	396	493	382	228				
Aug	221	707	395	491	382	228				
Sep	219	708	396	490	383	226	902 R	3,893 R	1,261 R	
Oct R	220	707	396	495	384	225				
Nov	219	706 R	395	497 R	386	226				
Dec R	217	706	395	494	388	225	948	3,923	1,295	
1998 Jan P	219	712	392	502	386	227				

GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992 Section, sub-section, group	THOUSANDS									
	Transport & storage	Post and telecomm- unication	Financial intermediation	Real estate	Renting, research, computer & other business activities	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	Education	Health activities	Social work activities	Other community, social & personal activities O - Q * 90-93
	I 60-63	I 64	J 65-67	K 70	K 71-74	L+ 75	M 80	N 85.1-85.2	N 85.3	
1984 Jun	876	447	837	147	1,643	1,453	1,544	1,250	613	787
1985 Jun	868	442	858	152	1,719	1,424	1,570	1,296	654	841
1986 Jun	848	435	881	157	1,777	1,416	1,617	1,307	707	841
1987 Jun	832	436	920	165	1,846	1,438	1,680	1,332	767	852
1988 Jun	849	453	996	176	1,964	1,419	1,742	1,381	848	874
1989 Jun	878	463	1,038	183	2,083	1,341	1,784	1,409	812	884
1990 Jun	910	462	1,047	190	2,202	1,383	1,805	1,445	794	88

# 1.3 EMPLOYMENT

Employees in employment: industry: production industries: unadjusted

GREAT BRITAIN	Section subsection or group	THOUSANDS												
		December 1996			December 1997			1996			1997			
		Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	
<b>PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>C-E</b>	<b>3,052.9</b>	<b>1,174.8</b>	<b>4,227.7</b>	<b>3,061.9</b>	<b>1,159.5</b>	<b>4,221.4</b>	<b>4,221.5</b>	<b>4,223.7</b>	<b>4,233.8</b>	<b>4,225.5</b>	<b>4,227.7 R</b>	<b>4,203.9</b>	
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>73.7 R</b>	<b>74.8</b>	
Mining and quarrying of energy producing materials	CA (10-12)	34.9	5.8	40.7	36.0	5.9	41.9	38.8	41.3	41.1	41.1	40.7 R	42.4	
Mining	10/12	8.8	0.6	9.4	9.0	0.6	9.6	11.1	10.5	9.9	9.9	9.4 R	9.3	
Oil & natural gas extraction & incidental services	11	26.1	5.2	31.3	27.0	5.3	32.3	27.7	30.8	31.2	31.2	31.3	33.1	
Mining and quarrying except of energy producing materials	CB (13/14)	29.4	3.6	33.0	31.0	3.1	34.1	33.3	32.2	32.6	32.8	33.0	32.3	
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>2,880.2</b>	<b>1,133.3</b>	<b>4,013.5</b>	<b>2,887.4</b>	<b>1,118.8</b>	<b>4,006.2</b>	<b>4,009.6</b>	<b>4,009.4</b>	<b>4,017.5</b>	<b>4,011.1</b>	<b>4,013.5</b>	<b>3,984.8</b>	
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco	DA	273.2	157.3	430.5	275.4	159.3	434.7	431.5	430.6	431.2	434.1	430.5	422.5	
of food	15.1-15.8	235.7	140.8	376.4	241.7	138.4	380.1	376.3	376.0	375.8	379.7	376.4	369.2	
of beverages & tobacco	15.9/16	37.6	16.5	54.0	33.7	20.8	54.5	55.3	54.6	55.4	54.5	54.0	53.3	
Manufacture of textiles & textile products	DB	134.0	185.2	319.2	134.0	181.8	315.8	317.9	318.1	320.7	319.8	319.2	325.2	
of textiles	17	100.1	81.0	181.1	98.8	80.1	178.9	179.8	179.8	180.5	180.2	181.1	184.7	
of made-up textile articles, except apparel	17.4	16.9	20.1	36.9	16.1	19.8	36.0	38.5	36.1	37.2	36.7	36.9	38.8	
of textiles, excluding made-up textiles of wearing apparel; dressing & dyeing of fur	Rest of 17	83.2	60.9	144.1	82.6	60.3	142.9	141.3	143.7	143.5	144.1	145.9	145.9	
	18	33.9	104.2	138.1	35.2	101.8	137.0	138.1	138.3	140.2	139.6	138.1	140.5	
Manufacture of leather & leather products including footwear	DC	18.2	18.0	36.2	18.2	16.8	35.0	38.4	37.3	36.9	36.7	36.2	36.9	
of leather and leather goods of footwear	19.1/19.2	7.2	6.9	14.1	6.8	6.7	13.4	14.1	13.7	14.0	14.4	14.1	13.7	
	19.3	11.1	11.1	22.1	11.4	10.1	21.5	24.3	23.6	22.9	22.2	22.1	23.2	
Manufacture of wood & wood products	DD (20)	69.7	14.2	83.9	71.2	13.2	84.4	86.2	80.6	83.5	84.1	83.9	83.7	
Manufacture of pulp, paper & paper products; publishing & printing	DE	285.5	174.8	460.3	288.3	175.7	463.9	462.6	459.1	459.2	457.6	460.3	461.2	
of pulp, paper & paper products of corrugated paper & paperboard, sacks & bags, cartons, boxes, cases and other containers	21	88.1	33.1	121.2	88.9	32.3	121.2	121.6	121.0	120.6	121.4	121.2	122.1	
of pulp, paper, sanitary goods, stationery, wallpaper and paper products nec	21.21	32.9	10.4	43.3	32.5	10.1	42.6	42.0	41.8	42.2	43.1	43.3	43.1	
	Rest of 21	55.3	22.7	77.9	56.4	22.2	78.6	79.6	79.3	78.4	78.4	77.9	79.0	
Publishing, printing & reproduction of recorded media	22	197.3	141.8	339.1	199.3	143.4	342.7	340.9	338.1	338.6	336.2	339.1	339.1	
printing & service activities related to printing	22.2	122.8	70.2	193.1	121.0	73.5	194.5	197.8	195.7	195.2	192.9	193.1	192.7	
publishing & reproduction of recorded media	Rest of 22	74.5	71.6	146.1	78.3	69.9	148.2	143.1	142.4	143.4	143.3	146.1	146.3	
Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products & nuclear fuel	DF (23)	27.5	5.5	33.0	26.8	5.3	32.1	33.3	33.6	33.6	32.7	33.0	32.7	
of refined petroleum products	23.2	16.3	3.1	19.4	16.0	3.0	19.0	19.9	20.0	20.1	19.2	19.4	19.3	
Manufacture of chemicals, chemical products & man-made fibres	DG (24)	170.6	71.4	241.9	165.9	69.8	235.7	246.3	244.8	242.4	242.0	241.9	240.4	
Manufacture of rubber and plastic products	DH (25)	168.2	55.6	223.8	162.5	54.9	217.3	223.7	224.7	223.5	223.2	223.8	222.7	
Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	DI (26)	114.1	31.5	145.7	110.8	30.3	141.1	145.1	144.5	145.0	145.8	145.7	143.8	
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products	DJ	478.9	89.0	567.9	482.9	83.1	566.0	569.4	566.7	569.3	567.2	567.9	558.8	
of basic metals	27	121.8	13.0	134.8	121.6	12.1	133.8	135.0	134.9	133.8	134.3	134.8	133.5	
of fabricated metal products, except machinery	28	357.1	76.0	433.0	361.3	71.0	432.3	434.3	431.8	435.4	432.9	433.0	425.3	
Manufacture of machinery & eqpt. nec	DK (29)	325.5	65.0	390.5	328.9	67.7	396.6	391.1	391.4	390.9	387.7	390.5	392.7	
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	DL	346.4	162.4	508.8	338.6	160.2	498.8	509.3	513.4	510.8	508.4	508.8	497.1	
of office machinery & computers of electrical machinery & apparatus nec	30	35.5	14.1	49.6	36.1	13.3	49.4	49.2	49.3	48.9	48.7	49.6	47.7	
of electric motors, etc; control apparatus & insulated cable of accumulators, primary cells, batteries, lighting eqpt., lamps & electrical eqpt. nec	31	120.3	55.3	175.6	120.7	48.7	169.5	173.2	176.8	175.7	175.8	175.6	172.2	
of radio, television & communication eqpt. of electronic components	31.1-31.3	72.1	28.6	100.7	73.4	25.0	98.4	99.1	102.3	101.3	100.7	100.7	99.3	
of radio & TV and telephone apparatus; sound & video recorders etc.	32	83.8	44.7	128.5	75.2	48.2	123.4	131.0	130.8	132.1	130.0	128.5	122.9	
of medical, precision & optical eqpt; watches	32.1	34.3	19.7	54.0	32.7	21.0	53.7	54.2	54.5	55.2	54.0	54.0	51.9	
	32.2-32.3	49.4	25.0	74.5	42.5	27.2	69.7	76.8	76.2	76.9	76.0	74.5	70.9	
	33	106.9	48.3	155.2	106.6	49.9	156.5	155.9	156.6	154.0	154.0	155.2	154.3	
Manufacture of transport equipment	DM	334.2	42.0	376.1	345.9	43.9	389.7	367.6	372.3	375.2	375.3	376.1	377.8	
of motor vehicles, trailers	34	195.5	27.1	222.6	193.9	27.9	221.7	219.4	221.8	222.5	221.9	222.6	219.7	
of other transport equipment of aircraft and spacecraft	35	138.6	14.9	153.5	152.0	16.0	168.0	148.2	150.5	152.7	153.3	153.5	158.1	
of other transport equipment except aircraft & spacecraft	35.3	82.1	9.7	91.9	90.7	10.5	101.1	88.0	87.4	90.3	90.6	91.9	94.5	
	Rest of 35	56.5	5.1	61.6	61.4	5.5	66.9	60.2	63.1	62.4	62.7	61.6	63.6	
Manufacturing nec of furniture	DN	134.2	61.6	195.8	138.1	57.0	195.1	187.2	192.1	195.4	196.3	195.8	189.4	
	36.1	86.3	30.5	116.8	85.8	29.4	115.3	108.7	112.6	114.7	115.5	116.8	113.2	
<b>ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>108.4</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>140.5</b>	<b>107.5</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>139.2</b>	<b>139.9</b>	<b>140.8</b>	<b>142.6</b>	<b>140.5</b>	<b>140.5</b>	<b>144.4</b>	
Electricity, gas, steam and hot water supply	40	76.8	22.4	99.2	76.9	22.3	99.2	98.5	99.8	101.0	99.1	99.2	102.4	
Collection, purification and distribution of water	41	31.6	9.7	41.4	30.6	9.3	40.0	41.4	41.1	41.6	41.3	41.4	42.0	

P Provisional  
R Revised

# EMPLOYMENT 1.3

Employees in employment: industry: production industries: unadjusted

GREAT BRITAIN	Section subsection or group	THOUSANDS												
		1997			1998			1997			1998			
		Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	OctR	NovR	DecR	Jan P	
<b>PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>C-E</b>	<b>4,188.6</b>	<b>4,194.0</b>	<b>4,193.6</b>	<b>4,200.2</b>	<b>4,222.4</b>	<b>4,228.5</b>	<b>4,225.6</b>	<b>4,220.1</b>	<b>4,230.8</b>	<b>4,234.7</b>	<b>4,221.4</b>	<b>4,210.4</b>	
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>75.1</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>76.4</b>	
Mining and quarrying of energy producing materials	CA (10-12)	41.6	42.3	43.5	44.0	43.2	42.9	42.6	43.3	42.8	42.4	41.9	42.2	
Mining	10/12	9.4	9.5	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.6	
Oil & natural gas extraction & incidental services	11	32.2	32.7	33.6	34.2	33.2	33.2	32.8	33.7	33.3	32.9	32.3	32.6	
Mining and quarrying except of energy producing materials	CB (13/14)	32.0	31.1	31.5	31.9	34.2	33.5	33.8	34.3	34.6	34.4	34.1	34.3	
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>3,970.0</b>	<b>3,976.2</b>	<b>3,974.2</b>	<b>3,981.0</b>	<b>4,001.3</b>	<b>4,010.2</b>	<b>4,006.1</b>	<b>4,002.8</b>	<b>4,014.2</b>	<b>4,019.1</b>	<b>4,006.2</b>	<b>3,994.3</b>	
Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco	DA	420.6	418.9	418.5	421.4	424.2	428.0	429.9	427.8	434.9	436.5	434.7	425.5	
of food	15.1-15.8	367.5	367.1	366.2	368.8	371.6	373.5	375.9	374.6	380.2	381.6	380.1	371.3	
of beverages & tobacco	15.9/16	53.1	51.8	52.2	52.6	52.6	54.5	53.9	53.2	54.7	54.9	54.5	54.2	
Manufacture of textiles & textile products	DB	324.4	322.7	324.8	322.6	323.4	323.4	323.5	321.0	319.3	319.2	315.8	314.8	
of textiles	17	183.3	181.7	182.7	181.3	181.3	181.8	182.3	181.1	179.8	179.8	178.9	177.5	
of made-up textile articles, except apparel	17.4	37.7	35.5	34.6	33.7	35.7	35.5	35.9	36.5	35.9	35.6	36.0	35.1	
of textiles, excluding made-up textiles of wearing apparel; dressing & dyeing of fur	Rest of 17	145.5	146.2	148.1	147.7	145.6	146.4	146.3	144.6	143.9	144.2	142.9	142.5	
	18	141.1	141.0	142.1	141.3	142.1	141.5	141.2	139.9	139.6	139.4	137.0	137.3	
Manufacture of leather & leather products including footwear	DC	36.5	37.9	36.9	36.5	37.1	36.7	36.3	35.8	35.8	35.3	35.0	35.2	
of leather and leather goods of footwear	19.1/19.2	13.5	14.0	12.7	12.7	13.1	13.2	13.1	13.6	14.1	14.0	13.4	14.0	
	19.3	22.9	24.0	24.2	24.0	23.5	23.1	22.2	21.6	21.2	21.5	21.5		
Manufacture of wood & wood products	DD (20)	81.7	83.3	84.3	85.9	85.0	85.0	85.0	85.3	84.8	85.5	84.4		

# 1.4 EMPLOYMENT

## Employees in employment: unadjusted: December 1997

THOUSANDS

GREAT BRITAIN	Section sub-section group or class	December 1996 R				September 1997 R			December 1997					
		Male		Female		All			Male		Female		All	
		Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	
ALL SECTIONS	A-Q	9,742.3	1,297.1	5,844.6	5,192.1	22,076.2	11,275.2	11,066.0	22,341.2	10,002.7	1,373.1	5,888.8	5,328.9	22,593.5
AGRICULTURE, HUNTING AND FORESTRY	A	157.9	32.8	30.5	26.5	247.6	214.5	66.9	281.5	164.7	30.7	34.2	27.7	257.4
FISHING	B	3.3	0.5	1.0	0.7	5.5	3.8	1.7	5.5	3.3	0.5	1.0	0.7	5.5
MINING AND QUARRYING	C	63.9	0.4	7.9	1.6	73.7	67.7	9.9	77.6	66.5	0.5	7.4	1.6	76.0
ENERGY & WATER SUPPLY INDUSTRIES	C,E	171.3	1.4	34.4	7.1	214.2	176.1	41.3	217.3	173.4	1.1	34.1	6.6	215.2
MANUFACTURING	D	2,821.0	59.2	929.2	204.1	4,013.5	2,878.1	1,124.7	4,002.8	2,828.3	59.1	921.1	197.8	4,006.2
AGRICULTURE, HUNTING AND FORESTRY	A	157.9	32.8	30.5	26.5	247.6	214.5	66.9	281.5	164.7	30.7	34.2	27.7	257.4
AGRICULTURE, HUNTING AND FORESTRY service activities	01	151.3	32.6	28.9	25.6	238.4	207.7	64.6	272.3	158.2	30.5	32.7	26.8	248.2
FISHING	B	3.3	0.5	1.0	0.7	5.5	3.8	1.7	5.5	3.3	0.5	1.0	0.7	5.5
MINING AND QUARRYING	CA (10-12)	34.7	0.2	5.0	0.8	40.7	37.1	6.2	43.3	35.6	0.4	4.4	1.0	41.9
Mining and quarrying of energy producing materials	11	26.0	0.2	4.5	0.7	31.3	28.1	5.6	33.7	26.7	0.3	4.4	0.9	32.3
Mining and quarrying except of energy producing materials	CB (13/14)	29.2	0.2	2.9	0.7	33.0	30.6	3.7	34.3	30.9	0.1	2.5	0.6	34.1
ENERGY & WATER SUPPLY INDUSTRIES	C,E	171.3	1.4	34.4	7.1	214.2	176.1	41.3	217.3	173.4	1.1	34.1	6.6	215.2
Manufacture of food products; beverages and tobacco	DA	263.5	9.7	111.0	46.2	430.5	269.9	157.9	427.8	265.1	10.3	115.2	44.0	434.7
Manufacture of beverages & tobacco	15, 1-15, 8	226.4	9.2	97.9	42.9	376.4	236.1	138.5	374.6	231.7	10.0	97.3	41.1	380.1
Manufacture of textiles & textile products	DB	128.8	5.2	158.3	26.8	319.2	135.9	185.2	321.0	128.1	5.9	157.8	24.1	315.8
Manufacture of leather & leather products including footwear	DC	17.5	0.8	14.5	3.5	36.2	18.3	17.5	35.8	17.9	0.3	13.8	3.0	35.0
Manufacture of wood & wood products	DD (20)	19.3	1.3	10.6	3.6	83.9	72.0	13.3	85.3	69.6	1.6	8.5	4.7	84.4
Manufacture of pulp, paper & printing products	DE	273.8	11.7	140.1	34.8	460.3	285.4	176.4	461.8	278.0	10.2	140.6	35.1	463.9
Manufacture of printing & publishing products	21	87.5	0.6	28.5	4.6	121.2	88.8	33.6	122.4	88.4	0.6	28.2	4.1	121.2
Manufacture of printing & publishing products	21, 21.1	32.8	0.1	9.0	1.4	43.3	32.8	9.8	42.6	32.2	0.3	8.8	1.3	42.6
Manufacture of printing & publishing products	Rest of 21	54.8	0.5	19.4	3.2	77.9	56.0	23.8	79.8	56.2	0.3	19.4	2.8	78.6
Manufacture of printing & publishing products	22	186.3	11.1	111.6	30.2	339.1	196.5	142.8	339.4	189.7	9.7	112.4	31.0	342.7
Manufacture of printing & publishing products	22.2	118.4	4.5	55.0	15.2	193.1	119.5	73.3	192.8	116.7	4.3	57.6	15.9	194.5
Manufacture of printing & publishing products	Rest of 22	67.9	6.6	56.6	14.9	146.1	77.1	69.5	146.6	72.9	5.4	54.7	15.1	148.2
Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products & nuclear fuel	DF (23)	27.4	0.1	4.8	0.6	33.0	27.9	5.4	33.2	26.5	0.3	4.5	0.8	32.1
Manufacture of chemicals, chemical products & man-made fibres	DG (24)	168.7	1.9	61.9	9.5	241.9	168.6	69.4	238.0	163.4	2.5	59.9	9.9	235.7
Manufacture of rubber and plastic products	DH (25)	165.5	2.7	44.4	11.2	223.8	163.3	56.2	219.5	159.7	2.8	42.8	12.1	217.3
Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	DI (26)	113.2	0.9	27.5	4.0	145.7	109.7	30.4	140.1	109.2	1.5	26.3	4.0	141.1
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products	DJ	472.6	6.3	71.4	17.6	567.9	487.4	82.4	569.9	474.9	8.0	67.5	15.6	566.0
Manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products	27	121.3	0.5	11.0	2.0	134.8	123.2	12.5	135.7	121.1	0.5	10.6	1.5	133.8
Manufacture of machinery & equipment	DK (29)	351.3	5.8	60.4	15.6	433.0	364.2	70.0	434.2	353.8	7.5	56.8	14.1	432.3
Manufacture of machinery & equipment	DL	340.9	5.6	141.4	21.0	508.8	336.3	159.5	495.7	335.0	3.7	139.3	20.5	498.8
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	30	34.8	0.7	12.6	1.4	49.6	34.1	13.2	47.3	35.8	0.3	12.2	1.1	48.4
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	31	117.9	2.4	47.5	7.8	175.6	120.4	49.3	169.7	119.3	1.4	42.6	6.1	169.5
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	31, 1-31, 3	70.1	2.0	24.6	4.1	100.7	74.8	24.9	99.7	72.2	1.3	21.6	3.4	98.4
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	31, 4-31, 6	47.8	0.4	23.0	3.7	74.9	45.6	24.4	69.9	47.2	0.2	21.0	2.7	71.0
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	32	82.9	0.8	40.4	4.2	128.5	78.2	45.5	123.7	74.7	0.6	43.6	4.7	123.4
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	32, 1	34.0	0.3	17.4	2.3	54.0	33.9	20.5	54.4	32.6	0.1	18.6	2.4	53.7
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	32, 2-32, 3	48.9	0.5	23.0	2.0	74.5	44.3	25.0	69.2	42.1	0.4	25.0	2.2	69.7
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	33	105.3	1.6	40.8	7.5	155.2	103.6	51.5	155.1	105.3	1.3	40.9	9.0	156.5
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	DM	329.4	4.7	37.6	4.4	376.1	338.9	44.8	383.6	341.6	4.3	38.9	5.0	389.7
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	34	194.0	1.6	24.4	2.7	222.6	190.7	29.0	219.7	192.6	1.3	24.9	3.0	221.7
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	35	135.5	3.1	13.2	1.6	153.5	148.1	15.8	163.9	149.0	3.0	14.0	2.0	168.0
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	35, 3	81.6	0.5	9.1	0.6	91.9	88.7	10.2	99.0	90.4	0.3	9.8	0.6	101.1
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	Rest of 35	53.8	2.6	4.2	1.0	61.6	59.4	5.6	65.0	58.7	2.7	4.1	1.4	66.9
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	DN	128.0	6.2	49.0	12.6	195.8	136.0	58.1	194.0	132.4	5.7	47.1	10.0	195.1
Manufacture of electrical & optical equipment	36, 1	82.4	3.9	25.8	4.6	116.8	85.8	29.3	115.1	83.1	2.7	24.7	4.7	115.3
ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY	E	107.4	1.0	26.6	5.5	140.5	108.4	31.3	139.7	106.9	0.6	26.7	5.0	139.2
Electricity, gas, steam & hot water supply	40	75.9	0.9	18.5	3.9	99.2	76.9	21.8	98.7	76.4	0.5	18.8	3.5	99.2
Collection, purification and distribution of water	41	31.5	0.1	8.1	1.6	41.4	31.5	9.6	41.1	30.5	0.1	7.8	1.5	40.0
CONSTRUCTION	F	681.1	10.3	92.6	33.0	817.0	785.1	118.7	903.8	823.0	10.3	94.9	33.0	961.2
SERVICE INDUSTRIES	G-Q	5,907.8	1,192.9	4,756.9	4,920.8	16,778.3	7,217.5	9,712.8	16,930.3	6,010.0	1,271.3	4,803.4	5,063.3	17,148.0
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES & PERSONAL & HOUSEHOLD GOODS	G	1,486.7	328.4	797.7	1,175.9	3,788.8	1,852.2	2,015.6	3,867.8	1,538.9	341.1	840.5	1,259.4	3,979.8
Sale, maintenance & repair of motor vehicles; retail sale of automotive fuel	50	379.5	21.3	80.4	38.2	519.4	429.3	126.2	555.4	399.1	26.2	90.6	36.8	552.8
Sale of motor vehicles, motorcycles, fuel; & motorcycle repair	50, 1/50, 3/5	215.3	12.2	51.0	21.1	299.6	241.2	74.3	315.5	223.7	13.5	55.6	19.0	311.8
Maintenance & repair of motor vehicles	50, 2	131.7	5.3	19.8	10.3	167.1	149.7	31.6	181.3	144.4	7.7	22.6	10.0	184.6
Sale of automotive fuel	50, 5	32.4	3.8	9.7	6.8	52.7	38.4	20.2	58.6	31.1	5.1	12.5	7.8	56.4
Wholesale & Commission Trade (except motor vehicles)	51	642.5	44.3	196.2	78.1	961.2	694.7	290.8	985.5	659.3	42.4	213.5	76.9	992.1
Wholesale & Commission Trade (on fee or contract basis)	51, 1	24.4	1.7	7.6	2.1	35.8	25.1	9.5	34.6	25.3	1.2	8.4	1.8	36.7
Wholesale & Commission Trade (agricultural materials & animals)	51, 2	12.5	0.7	3.9	1.8	19.0	13.7	8.3	22.0	13.2	1.5	5.7	2.3	22.8

# EMPLOYMENT

## Employees in employment: unadjusted: December 1997

THOUSANDS

GREAT BRITAIN	Section sub-section group or class	December 1996 R				September 1997 R			December 1997					
		Male		Female		All			Male		Female		All	
		Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	
of food, beverages and tobacco of household goods	51.3	121.7	11.4	38.0	20.4	191.6	141.9	65.4	207.3	134.2	10.2	45.4	19.8	209.6
of non-agricultural intermediate products, waste and scrap	51.4	136.1	9.3	54.2	20.7	220.3	149.8	75.7	225.5	139.1	10.2	55.1	19.4	223.9
of machinery, eqpt. and supplies	51.5	162.5	12.5	41.5	14.9	231.4	171.7	58.2	229.9	162.3	10.7	43.0	12.9	228.9
Other wholesale	51.6	145.7	6.0	40.9	13.2	205.8	151.2	57.2	208.4	146.3	6.7	43.8	15.5	212.3
Retail trade, except motor vehicles & motorcycles, repair of personal goods	51.7	39.5	2.8	10.1	4.9	57.2	41.3	16.5	57.8	38.8	1.8	12.1	5.1	57.8
Non-specialised stores selling mainly food, drink & tobacco	52	464.7	262.8	521.1	1,059.6	2,308.1	728.3	1,598.6	2,326.9	480.4	272.4	536.4	1,145.7	2,435.0
Other non-specialised stores	52, 11	125.2	111.7	114.0	348.0	698.9	225.4	482.2	707.6	128.4	107.5	117.4	389.2	742.6
Other non-specialised stores	52, 21-52, 24	31.5	25.0	53.7	116.0	226.1	50.6	153.1	203.7	29.8	23.0	51.8	111.8	216.4
Products, fish & bread, cakes, etc	52, 27	32.4	10.9	34.8	73.9	152.0	47.5	107.7	155.2	35.6	10.0	40.7	71.4	157.7
Beverages and tobacco products	52, 25-52, 26	5.4	3.6											

# 1.5 EMPLOYMENT Employees in employment by region\*

THOUSANDS

Government Office Region SIC 1992	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted				
	Male		Female		Male All	Female All	Total	Production and construction industries C-F	Production industries C-E	Manufacturing industries D	Service industries G-Q	Agriculture, hunting, forestry & fishing A,B
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	
<b>North East</b>												
1996 Sep	392	43	223	220	878	435	443	878	253	206	198	615
Dec R	398	46	222	221	887	441	441	882	261	208	200	618
1997 Mar	394	45	223	214	876	442	440	881	256	207	198	611
Jun R	402	45	227	221	896	447	448	896	264	209	201	622
Sep R	399	45	223	225	893	444	450	894	258	208	200	625
Dec	400	47	219	236	903	445	453	897	262	206	198	632
<b>North West (GOR) &amp; Merseyside</b>												
1996 Sep	1,122	127	691	601	2,542	1,249	1,294	2,543	642	548	526	1,880
Dec R	1,148	129	690	621	2,588	1,269	1,304	2,573	681	551	529	1,909
1997 Mar	1,146	124	688	607	2,564	1,270	1,301	2,578	641	542	519	1,906
Jun R	1,162	129	691	623	2,604	1,290	1,314	2,604	655	547	525	1,932
Sep R	1,169	129	681	628	2,607	1,298	1,309	2,608	652	538	518	1,937
Dec	1,165	135	686	648	2,634	1,299	1,333	2,631	654	537	517	1,962
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber</b>												
1996 Sep	827	95	457	473	1,851	917	931	1,848	511	433	414	1,317
Dec R	830	102	462	462	1,856	931	921	1,852	513	432	412	1,323
1997 Mar	840	92	464	454	1,850	936	922	1,858	516	435	415	1,313
Jun R	837	92	461	458	1,848	929	918	1,847	508	433	413	1,321
Sep R	839	96	462	462	1,859	935	925	1,860	518	437	416	1,319
Dec	850	98	466	471	1,886	946	933	1,879	520	437	417	1,347
<b>East Midlands</b>												
1996 Sep	705	86	402	384	1,577	785	787	1,572	496	439	420	1,055
Dec R	708	87	405	378	1,578	793	778	1,570	500	442	423	1,055
1997 Mar	703	87	406	378	1,573	797	787	1,584	495	434	415	1,054
Jun R	720	93	407	384	1,603	812	792	1,604	510	441	421	1,069
Sep R	725	92	409	381	1,607	810	791	1,601	515	438	418	1,065
Dec	717	96	407	389	1,609	810	792	1,603	514	438	419	1,071
<b>West Midlands</b>												
1996 Sep	981	101	537	468	2,086	1,082	1,007	2,090	646	576	560	1,415
Dec R	995	98	543	479	2,114	1,088	1,013	2,101	659	586	570	1,433
1997 Mar	1,010	91	527	477	2,104	1,102	1,007	2,110	649	581	565	1,432
Jun R	1,013	90	528	487	2,118	1,102	1,019	2,121	648	578	562	1,446
Sep R	1,013	92	530	494	2,129	1,107	1,026	2,133	649	576	560	1,455
Dec	1,018	96	538	503	2,155	1,109	1,033	2,142	656	576	561	1,476
<b>Eastern</b>												
1996 Sep	850	121	491	463	1,925	966	956	1,923	436	372	356	1,453
Dec R	857	125	484	474	1,939	980	953	1,933	439	370	354	1,469
1997 Mar	857	122	483	469	1,931	983	959	1,943	432	364	348	1,466
Jun R	863	126	489	481	1,959	989	963	1,952	440	366	349	1,485
Sep R	869	125	492	478	1,964	990	973	1,964	448	369	352	1,480
Dec	878	132	493	489	1,992	1,007	977	1,984	457	371	354	1,503
<b>London</b>												
1996 Sep	1,480	204	1,008	579	3,271	1,683	1,594	3,278	373	288	274	2,895
Dec R	1,463	212	1,014	607	3,296	1,669	1,605	3,273	365	284	269	2,927
1997 Mar	1,467	218	1,013	585	3,283	1,693	1,603	3,296	372	285	270	2,908
Jun R	1,471	229	1,013	594	3,308	1,701	1,613	3,314	370	289	272	2,935
Sep R	1,478	228	1,014	600	3,320	1,701	1,620	3,327	372	286	272	2,944
Dec	1,480	243	1,017	623	3,363	1,716	1,625	3,341	379	283	270	2,981
<b>South East (GOR)</b>												
1996 Sep	1,322	206	807	728	3,063	1,520	1,540	3,060	552	457	432	2,460
Dec R	1,324	213	806	748	3,091	1,535	1,546	3,081	554	455	430	2,491
1997 Mar	1,320	204	798	744	3,066	1,531	1,553	3,084	548	450	425	2,472
Jun R	1,337	210	808	754	3,108	1,546	1,551	3,107	552	450	424	2,499
Sep R	1,360	206	819	741	3,126	1,559	1,566	3,125	577	457	431	2,497
Dec	1,370	217	824	767	3,178	1,582	1,583	3,165	591	460	434	2,537
<b>South West</b>												
1996 Sep	754	113	441	459	1,767	858	899	1,757	375	322	300	1,353
Dec R	752	116	440	463	1,771	870	900	1,770	376	325	302	1,361
1997 Mar	786	115	439	449	1,788	909	898	1,807	383	328	305	1,371
Jun R	802	120	448	451	1,821	893	903	1,816	400	333	309	1,386
Sep R	817	120	448	462	1,847	931	908	1,839	407	333	311	1,402
Dec	833	123	442	472	1,870	956	911	1,867	417	336	314	1,418
<b>Wales</b>												
1996 Sep	429	50	256	242	976	474	497	971	261	224	213	696
Dec R	420	50	256	241	968	472	496	967	257	221	211	693
1997 Mar	430	48	255	235	968	481	493	974	252	217	208	698
Jun R	436	47	256	233	973	483	490	973	259	218	209	697
Sep R	444	45	261	233	983	485	493	977	265	222	213	698
Dec	441	48	259	238	986	489	496	985	266	223	214	703
<b>Scotland</b>												
1996 Sep	877	114	542	468	2,001	979	1,008	1,987	471	358	316	1,497
Dec R	847	120	521	500	1,988	966	1,017	1,984	459	355	314	1,498
1997 Mar	849	117	532	475	1,973	976	1,015	1,991	454	353	310	1,488
Jun R	855	125	534	481	1,995	980	1,013	1,994	465	358	313	1,499
Sep R	853	131	539	482	2,005	975	1,019	1,994	462	357	311	1,509
Dec	852	138	536	491	2,017	987	1,023	2,010	466	355	309	1,518
<b>Great Britain</b>												
1996 Sep	9,738	1,260	5,855	5,084	21,937	10,951	10,955	21,906	5,016	4,224	4,009	16,636
Dec R	9,742	1,297	5,845	5,192	22,076	11,013	10,974	21,987	5,045	4,228	4,013	16,778
1997 Mar	9,801	1,263	5,827	5,087	21,978	11,127	10,977	22,105	4,998	4,194	3,976	16,720
Jun R	9,897	1,306	5,862	5,169	22,234	11,202	11,014	22,216	5,083	4,222	4,001	16,891
Sep R	9,966	1,309	5,879	5,187	22,341	11,242	11,082	22,324	5,124	4,220	4,003	16,930
Dec	10,003	1,373	5,889	5,329	22,593	11,341	11,151	22,491	5,183	4,221	4,006	17,148
<b>Northern Ireland</b>												
1996 Sep	240	45	158	133	576	285	292	577	133	110	104	425
Dec R	242	47	159	138	586	288	294	582	134	111	104	434
1997 Mar	240	47	158	136	581	288	294	582	133	110	104	430
Jun R	242	48	158	136	585	290	295	586	136	111	105	431
Sep R	244	47	159	136	586	291	296	588	136	111	105	431
Dec	245	50	159	141	595	294	297	591	137	112	106	439
<b>United Kingdom</b>												
1996 Sep	9,978	1,305	6,013	5,217	22,513	11,236	11,248	22,484	5,149	4,334	4,113	17,061
Dec R	9,984	1,344	6,004	5,330	22,662	11,301	11,268	22,569	5,178	4,339	4,118	17,212
1997 Mar	10,042	1,310	5,985	5,222	22,559	11,415	11,272	22,687	5,130	4,304	4,080	17,150
Jun R	10,139	1,354	6,020	5,305	22,							

# 1.5 EMPLOYMENT

## Employees in employment by region\*

THOUSANDS

Standard region	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted					Agriculture, hunting, forestry & fishing A, B
	Male		Female		Total	Male All	Female All	Total	Production and construction industries C-F	Manufacturing industries D	Service industries G-Q		
	Full-time	Part-time	Full-time	Part-time									
SIC 1992													
South East													
1996 Sep	3,284	480	2,102	1,579	7,445	3,753	3,695	7,448	1,167	950	904	6,214	
Dec R	3,270	496	2,107	1,634	7,507	3,759	3,714	7,473	1,163	942	895	6,289	
1997 Mar	3,268	491	2,094	1,607	7,461	3,778	3,720	7,498	1,160	936	889	6,243	
Jun R	3,295	511	2,108	1,630	7,544	3,805	3,729	7,534	1,178	940	892	6,306	
Sep R	3,333	504	2,125	1,617	7,579	3,827	3,757	7,584	1,202	947	901	6,314	
Dec	3,349	534	2,134	1,677	7,693	3,871	3,784	7,654	1,229	948	902	6,405	
Greater London (Included in South East)													
1996 Sep	1,480	204	1,008	579	3,271	1,683	1,594	3,278	373	288	274	2,895	
Dec R	1,463	212	1,014	607	3,296	1,669	1,605	3,273	365	284	269	2,927	
1997 Mar	1,467	218	1,013	585	3,283	1,693	1,603	3,296	372	285	270	2,908	
Jun R	1,471	229	1,013	594	3,308	1,701	1,613	3,314	370	289	274	2,935	
Sep R	1,478	228	1,014	600	3,320	1,707	1,620	3,327	372	286	272	2,944	
Dec	1,480	243	1,017	623	3,363	1,716	1,625	3,341	379	283	270	2,981	
East Anglia													
1996 Sep	368	51	204	191	814	417	396	813	193	167	159	593	
Dec R	374	52	198	194	818	424	390	815	196	166	157	599	
1997 Mar	376	52	200	191	820	430	394	824	192	163	154	602	
Jun R	376	55	201	200	832	430	398	828	194	165	156	612	
Sep R	374	55	201	201	831	429	402	831	195	164	155	608	
Dec	379	59	200	202	840	434	401	836	198	165	156	616	
South West													
1996 Sep	754	113	441	459	1,767	858	899	1,757	375	322	300	1,353	
Dec R	752	116	440	463	1,771	870	900	1,770	376	325	302	1,361	
1997 Mar	786	115	439	449	1,788	909	898	1,807	383	328	305	1,371	
Jun R	802	120	448	451	1,821	923	893	1,816	400	333	309	1,386	
Sep R	817	120	448	462	1,847	931	908	1,839	407	333	311	1,402	
Dec	833	123	442	472	1,870	956	911	1,867	417	336	314	1,418	
West Midlands													
1996 Sep	981	101	537	468	2,086	1,082	1,007	2,090	646	576	560	1,415	
Dec R	995	98	543	479	2,114	1,088	1,013	2,101	659	586	570	1,433	
1997 Mar	1,010	91	527	477	2,104	1,102	1,007	2,110	649	581	565	1,432	
Jun R	1,013	90	528	487	2,118	1,102	1,019	2,121	648	578	562	1,446	
Sep R	1,013	92	530	494	2,129	1,107	1,026	2,133	649	576	560	1,455	
Dec	1,018	96	538	503	2,155	1,109	1,033	2,142	656	576	561	1,476	
East Midlands													
1996 Sep	705	86	402	384	1,577	785	787	1,572	496	439	420	1,055	
Dec R	708	87	405	378	1,578	793	778	1,570	500	442	423	1,055	
1997 Mar	703	87	406	378	1,573	797	787	1,584	495	434	415	1,054	
Jun R	720	93	407	384	1,603	812	792	1,604	510	441	421	1,069	
Sep R	725	92	409	381	1,607	810	791	1,601	515	438	418	1,065	
Dec	717	96	407	389	1,609	810	792	1,603	514	438	419	1,071	
Yorkshire and Humberside													
1996 Sep	827	95	457	473	1,851	917	931	1,848	511	433	414	1,317	
Dec R	830	102	462	462	1,856	931	921	1,852	513	432	412	1,323	
1997 Mar	840	92	464	454	1,850	936	922	1,858	516	435	415	1,313	
Jun R	837	92	461	458	1,848	929	918	1,847	508	433	413	1,321	
Sep R	839	96	462	462	1,859	935	925	1,860	518	437	416	1,319	
Dec	850	98	466	471	1,886	946	933	1,879	520	437	417	1,347	
North West													
1996 Sep	1,042	117	648	551	2,358	1,160	1,200	2,360	589	502	483	1,752	
Dec R	1,067	118	647	570	2,403	1,178	1,210	2,388	607	504	486	1,780	
1997 Mar	1,065	114	644	557	2,381	1,185	1,205	2,390	587	495	476	1,778	
Jun R	1,080	118	647	572	2,417	1,197	1,221	2,418	601	500	482	1,800	
Sep R	1,088	119	638	575	2,420	1,206	1,216	2,421	598	492	475	1,805	
Dec	1,084	124	643	593	2,445	1,201	1,229	2,430	600	491	474	1,829	
North													
1996 Sep	472	53	266	271	1,061	524	537	1,061	306	252	241	744	
Dec R	479	56	265	272	1,073	532	535	1,067	315	255	243	747	
1997 Mar	474	55	266	264	1,060	534	535	1,069	309	253	241	740	
Jun R	484	55	271	273	1,083	541	541	1,082	319	256	245	754	
Sep R	480	55	266	279	1,080	537	545	1,082	312	254	243	757	
Dec	482	58	261	291	1,092	537	550	1,086	316	252	241	766	
Wales													
1996 Sep	429	50	256	242	976	474	497	971	261	224	213	696	
Dec R	420	50	256	241	968	472	496	967	257	221	211	693	
1997 Mar	430	48	255	235	968	481	493	974	252	217	208	698	
Jun R	436	47	256	233	973	483	490	973	259	218	209	697	
Sep R	444	45	261	233	983	485	493	977	265	222	213	698	
Dec	441	48	259	238	986	489	496	985	266	223	214	703	
Scotland													
1996 Sep	877	114	542	468	2,001	979	1,008	1,987	471	358	316	1,497	
Dec R	847	120	521	500	1,988	966	1,017	1,984	459	355	314	1,498	
1997 Mar	849	117	532	475	1,973	976	1,015	1,991	454	353	310	1,488	
Jun R	855	125	534	481	1,995	980	1,013	1,994	465	358	313	1,499	
Sep R	853	131	539	482	2,005	975	1,019	1,994	462	357	311	1,509	
Dec	852	138	536	491	2,017	987	1,023	2,010	466	355	309	1,518	
Great Britain													
1996 Sep	9,738	1,260	5,855	5,084	21,937	10,951	10,955	21,906	5,016	4,224	4,009	16,636	
Dec R	9,742	1,297	5,845	5,192	22,076	11,013	10,974	21,987	5,045	4,228	4,013	16,778	
1997 Mar	9,801	1,263	5,827	5,087	21,978	11,127	10,977	22,105	4,998	4,194	3,976	16,720	
Jun R	9,897	1,306	5,862	5,169	22,234	11,202	11,014	22,216	5,083	4,222	4,001	16,891	
Sep R	9,966	1,309	5,879	5,187	22,341	11,242	11,082	22,324	5,124	4,220	4,003	16,930	
Dec	10,003	1,373	5,889	5,329	22,593	11,341	11,151	22,491	5,183	4,221	4,006	17,148	
Northern Ireland													
1996 Sep	240	45	158	133	576	285	292	577	133	110	104	425	
Dec R	242	47	159	138	586	288	294	582	134	111	104	434	
1997 Mar	240	47	158	136	581	288	294	582	133	110	104	430	
Jun R	242	48	158	136	585	290	295	586	135	111	105	431	
Sep R	244	47	159	136	586	291	296	588	136	111	105	431	
Dec	245	50	159	141	595	294	297	591	137	112	106	439	
United Kingdom													
1996 Sep	9,978	1,305	6,013	5,217	22,513	11,236	11,248	22,484	5,149	4,334	4,113	17,061	
Dec R	9,984	1,344	6,004	5,330	22,662	11,301	11,268	22,569	5,178	4,339	4,118	17,212	
1997 Mar	10,042	1,310	5,985	5,222	22,662	11,301	11,272	22,687	5,130	4,304	4,080	17,150	
Jun R	10,139	1,354	6,020	5,305	22,818	11,492	11,309	22,801	5,218	4,334	4,106	17,321	
Sep R	10,211	1,356	6,038	5,322	22,927	11,533	11,378	22,911	5,260	4,332	4,108	17,361	
Dec	10,248	1,423	6,048	5,470	23,189	11,634	11,448	23,082	5,320	4,334	4,112	17,587	

\* See footnotes to Table 1.1.

# EMPLOYMENT 1.5

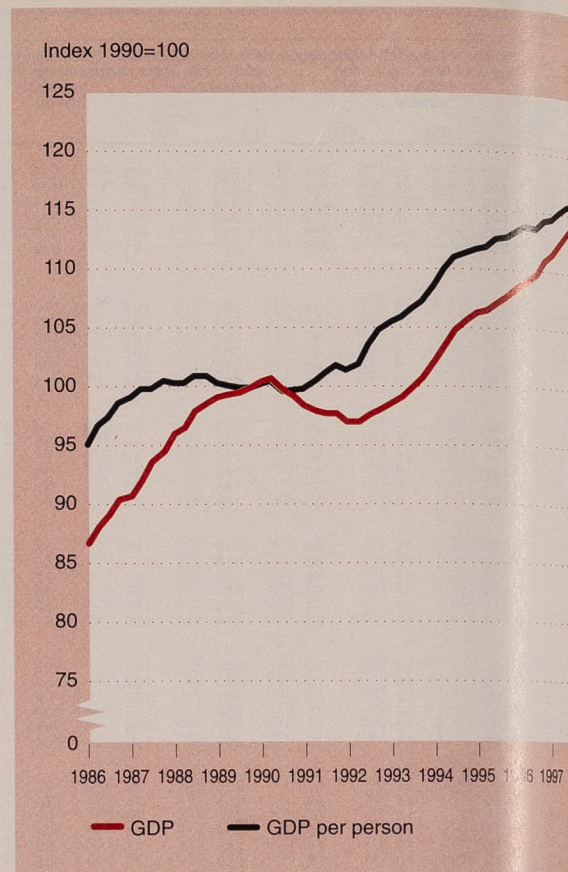
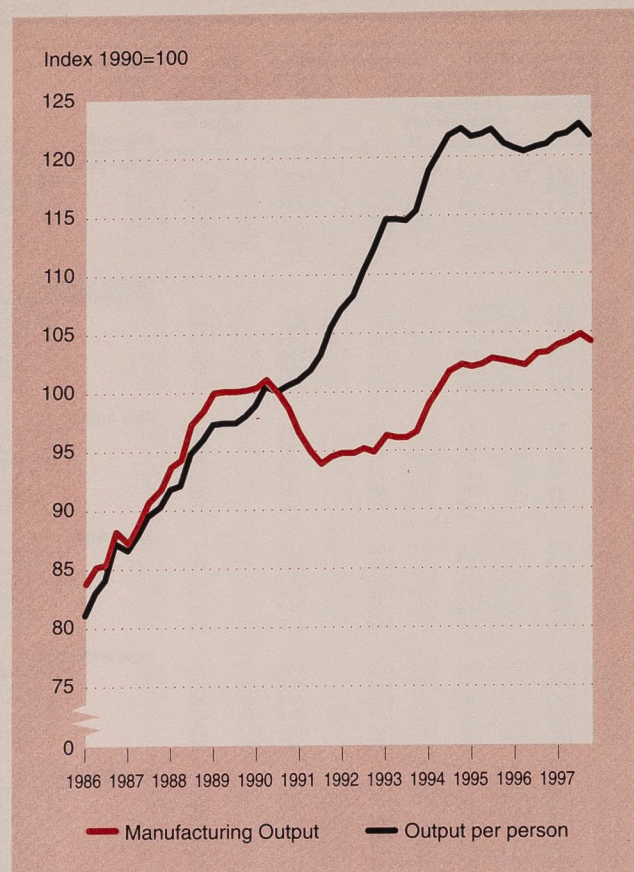
## Employees in employment by region\*

THOUSANDS

Standard region	Unadjusted																	Standard region	SIC 1992
	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O-Q	SIC 1992					
															Miner & quarrying	Manufacturing	Electricity, gas & water supply		
South East																	1996 Sep	368	
1997 Mar																	1997 Mar	360	
1997 Jun R																	1997 Jun R	361	
1997 Sep R																	1997 Sep R	367	
1997 Dec																	1997 Dec	371	
Greater London (Included in South East)																	1996 Sep	193	
1997 Mar																	1997 Mar	193	
1997 Jun R																	1997 Jun R	180	
1997 Sep R																	1997 Sep R	181	
1997 Dec																	1997 Dec	182	
East Anglia																	1996 Sep	33	
1997 Mar																	1997 Mar	33	
1997 Jun R																	1997 Jun R	35	
1997 Sep R																	1997 Sep R	36	
1997 Dec																	1997 Dec	35	
South West																	1996 Sep	76	
1997 Mar																	1997 Mar	76	
1997 Jun R																	1997 Jun R	80	
1997 Sep R																	1997 Sep R	85	
1997 Dec																	1997 Dec		

# 1.8 EMPLOYMENT

## Indices of output, employment and productivity

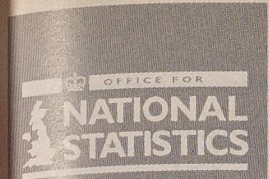


Seasonally adjusted (1990=100)

UNITED KINGDOM	Whole economy			Production industries			Manufacturing industries		
	Output *	Workforce in employment +	Output per person employed	Output	Workforce in employment +	Output per person employed	Output	Workforce in employment +	Output per person employed
SIC 1992									
1991	97.9	97.1	100.8	96.6	92.5	104.6	95.0	92.3	102.9
1992	97.4	94.6	102.9	97.0	86.8	111.8	94.9	86.8	109.4
1993	99.6	93.6	106.3	99.1	83.1	119.3	96.3	83.8	114.9
1994	104.0	94.4	110.2	104.4	82.2	127.1	100.8	83.4	120.8
1995	106.9	95.2	112.3	106.7	82.4	129.4	102.5	84.2	121.8
1996	109.5	96.3	113.7	107.9	83.0	129.9	102.8	85.1	120.7
1997	112.9	97.9	115.3	108.1	83.0	130.2	104.3	85.5	122.0
1990 Q1	100.4	100.1	100.2	100.0	101.6	98.4	100.4	101.5	98.9
Q2	100.7	100.3	100.5	101.4	100.7	100.7	101.1	100.6	100.5
Q3	99.7	100.1	99.6	99.7	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.8	100.1
Q4	99.2	99.5	99.7	98.8	98.0	100.9	98.6	98.0	100.6
1991 Q1	98.4	98.5	99.8	97.7	95.6	102.1	96.6	95.6	101.0
Q2	97.9	97.4	100.5	96.5	93.2	103.6	94.9	93.1	101.9
Q3	97.7	96.6	101.2	95.7	91.3	104.8	93.9	91.0	103.2
Q4	97.7	95.9	101.8	96.7	89.8	107.6	94.5	89.6	105.5
1992 Q1	97.0	95.7	101.4	96.7	88.7	109.0	94.8	88.6	107.0
Q2	97.0	95.2	101.9	96.2	87.7	109.7	94.8	87.6	108.2
Q3	97.6	94.2	103.6	97.2	86.2	112.8	95.2	86.3	110.3
Q4	98.0	93.5	104.8	97.7	84.5	115.7	94.9	84.6	112.1
1993 Q1	98.6	93.5	105.5	98.0	83.7	117.2	96.3	84.0	114.7
Q2	99.1	93.5	105.9	98.3	83.3	118.1	96.1	83.8	114.7
Q3	99.9	93.7	106.6	99.4	82.9	119.9	96.1	83.8	114.6
Q4	100.7	93.9	107.2	100.7	82.5	122.0	96.6	83.7	115.4
1994 Q1	102.2	94.0	108.6	102.3	82.3	124.3	99.0	83.3	118.8
Q2	103.5	94.1	110.0	104.1	82.1	126.8	100.3	83.4	120.3
Q3	104.8	94.5	111.0	105.6	82.1	128.7	101.7	83.5	121.8
Q4	105.7	94.9	111.4	105.7	82.1	128.6	102.3	83.5	122.4
1995 Q1	106.3	95.1	111.7	106.2	82.2	129.2	102.1	83.9	121.7
Q2	106.5	95.2	111.9	106.3	82.3	129.1	102.3	84.0	121.9
Q3	107.1	95.1	112.6	107.1	82.2	130.3	102.8	84.0	122.3
Q4	107.8	95.5	112.8	107.0	82.9	129.1	102.6	84.8	121.1
1996 Q1	108.5	95.7	113.3	107.2	83.2	128.9	102.4	84.9	120.7
Q2	109.0	95.9	113.7	107.5	82.9	129.7	102.2	84.8	120.4
Q3	109.7	96.5	113.6	108.2	83.0	130.3	103.2	85.4	120.8
Q4	110.9	97.0	114.3	108.6	83.1	130.6	103.3	85.4	121.0
1997 Q1	111.5	97.4	114.5	108.7	83.2	130.7	103.9	85.4	121.7
Q2	112.4	97.7	115.1	109.2	83.4	130.9	104.2	85.5	121.9
Q3	113.4	98.1	115.7	110.3	83.3	132.5	104.8	85.4	122.7
Q4	114.1	98.6	115.8	109.3	83.4	131.1	104.2	85.7	121.7

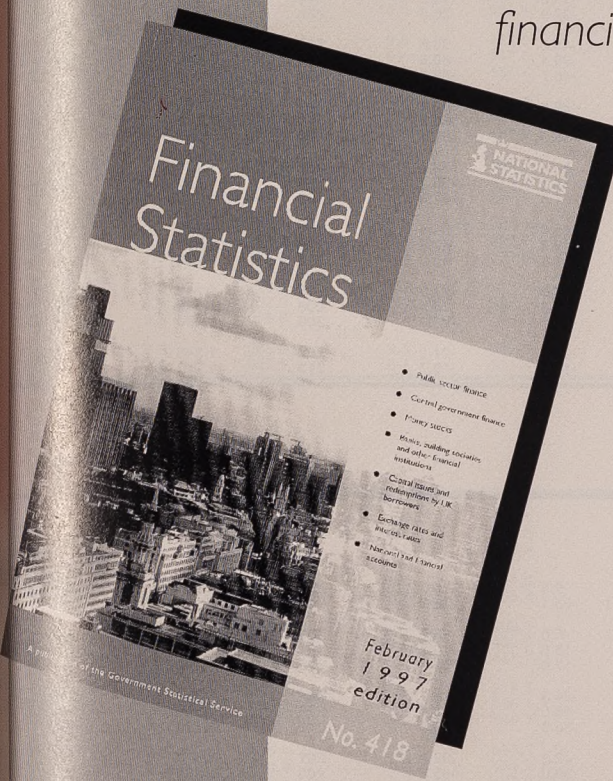
Source: Earnings and Employment Division, ONS. Customer Helpline: 01928 758

\* Gross domestic product for whole economy.  
 + The workforce in employment comprises: employees in employment, the self-employed, HM Forces and participants in work-related government-supported training and employment programmes. This series is used as a denominator for the productivity calculations for the reasons explained on page S6 of the August 1988 issue of *Employment Gazette*. The indices have been rebased from 1988=100 to 1990=100, in common with other economic series. Figures on a 1988=100 basis were last published in *Employment Gazette*, September 1997.



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## 2.1 CLAIMANT COUNT UK summary

THOUSANDS

	MALE AND FEMALE		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #																		
	CLAIMANTS		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #		CLAIMANTS BY DURATION																
	Number	Per cent workforce *	Number	Per cent workforce *	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Up to 4 weeks	Over 4 weeks aged under 60	Over 4 weeks aged 60 and over												
1994 )	2,636.5	9.4	2,619.3	9.3																	
1995 ) Annual	2,325.6	8.3	2,308.2	8.2																	
1996 ) averages	2,122.2	7.6	2,104.0	7.5																	
1997 )	1,602.4	5.7	1,582.8	5.6																	
1996 Feb 8	2,303.0	8.2	2,212.3	7.9	5.5	-10.8	243	2,039	21												
Mar 14	2,230.8	7.9	2,186.7	7.8	-25.6	-16.3	206	2,005	20												1996 Feb 8
Apr 11	2,223.9	7.9	2,182.4	7.8	-4.3	-8.1	236	1,968	20												Mar 14
May 9	2,147.4	7.6	2,166.3	7.7	-16.1	-15.3	196	1,931	20												Apr 11
Jun 13	2,096.3	7.5	2,150.3	7.7	-16.0	-12.1	203	1,874	19												May 9
Jul 11	2,158.1	7.7	2,126.0	7.6	-24.3	-18.8	299	1,841	19												Jun 13
Aug 8	2,176.4	7.7	2,108.7	7.5	-19.2	-17.3	244	1,914	19												Jul 11
Sep 12	2,103.7	7.5	2,070.8	7.4	-37.9	-26.5	226	1,860	13												Aug 8
Oct 10	1,977.2	7.0	2,025.2	7.2	-45.6	-33.6	213	1,747	17												Sep 12
Nov 14	1,871.4	6.7	1,929.8	6.9	-95.4	-59.6	208	1,648	15												Oct 10
Dec 12	1,868.2	6.6	1,883.1	6.7	-46.7	-62.6	204	1,649	13												Nov 14
1997 Jan 9	1,907.8	6.8	1,814.5	6.5	-68.6	-70.2	223	1,670	16												Dec 12
Feb 13	1,827.8	6.5	1,748.7	6.2	-66.4	-60.6	211	1,603	13												1997 Jan 9
Mar 13	1,745.3	6.2	1,710.8	6.1	-37.3	-57.4	196	1,538	12												Feb 13
Apr 10	1,688.0	6.0	1,654.4	5.9	-56.4	-53.4	202	1,476	10												Mar 13
May 8	1,620.5	5.8	1,637.3	5.8	-17.1	-36.9	189	1,422	10												Apr 10
Jun 12	1,550.1	5.5	1,599.8	5.7	-37.5	-37.0	192	1,349	9												May 8
Jul 10	1,585.3	5.6	1,545.2	5.5	-54.6	-36.4	260	1,316	9												Jun 12
Aug 14	1,579.2	5.6	1,495.4	5.3	-49.8	-47.3	219	1,351	9												Jul 10
Sep 11	1,513.5	5.4	1,473.8	5.2	-21.6	-42.0	217	1,288	8												Aug 14
Oct 9	1,432.8	5.1	1,463.2	5.2	-10.6	-27.3	215	1,210	8												Sep 11
Nov 13	1,387.6	4.9	1,439.9	5.1	-23.3	-18.5	208	1,172	8												Oct 9
Dec 11	1,391.4	5.0	1,410.8	5.0	-29.1	-21.0	209	1,174	8												Nov 13
1998 Jan 8 R	1,479.3	5.3	1,397.5	5.0	-13.3	-21.9	222	1,248	9												Dec 11
Feb 12 P	1,451.2	5.2	1,383.8	4.9	-13.7	-18.7	212	1,231	9												1998 Jan 8 R

## 2.2 CLAIMANT COUNT GB summary

	MALE AND FEMALE		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #																			
	CLAIMANTS		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #		CLAIMANTS BY DURATION																	
	Number	Per cent workforce *	Number	Per cent workforce *	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Up to 4 weeks	Over 4 weeks aged under 60	Over 4 weeks aged 60 and over													
1994 )	2,539.2	9.3	2,522.3	9.2																		
1995 ) Annual	2,237.4	8.2	2,220.1	8.1																		
1996 ) averages	2,038.1	7.5	2,020.0	7.4																		
1997 )	1,539.0	5.6	1,519.6	5.6																		
1996 Feb 8	2,217.2	8.1	2,126.5	7.8	5.5	-10.6	237	1,960	20													
Mar 14	2,146.4	7.9	2,101.4	7.7	-25.1	-15.9	200	1,926	20													1996 Feb 8
Apr 11	2,138.4	7.8	2,096.4	7.7	-5.0	-8.2	230	1,889	19													Mar 14
May 9	2,064.7	7.6	2,080.6	7.6	-15.3	-15.3	191	1,854	19													Apr 11
Jun 11	2,011.7	7.4	2,063.6	7.6	-17.0	-12.6	195	1,799	19													May 9
Jul 11	2,067.3	7.6	2,039.3	7.5	-24.3	-19.0	288	1,762	18													Jun 11
Aug 8	2,083.9	7.6	2,021.3	7.4	-18.0	-17.0	238	1,828	18													Aug 8
Sep 12	2,014.1	7.4	1,985.0	7.3	-36.3	-26.2	218	1,778	17													Sep 12
Oct 10	1,895.7	6.9	1,942.8	7.1	-42.2	-32.2	207	1,672	16													Oct 10
Nov 14	1,797.5	6.6	1,853.8	6.8	-99.0	-55.8	203	1,580	15													Nov 14
Dec 12	1,796.3	6.6	1,808.8	6.6	-45.0	-44.7	218	1,604	15													Dec 12
1997 Jan 9	1,836.9	6.7	1,743.5	6.4	-65.3	-36.8	218	1,604	15													1997 Jan 9
Feb 13	1,760.2	6.4	1,679.9	6.1	-63.6	-43.0	206	1,541	13													Feb 13
Mar 13	1,679.5	6.1	1,643.8	6.0	-36.1	-55.0	191	1,477	12													Mar 13
Apr 10	1,624.1	5.9	1,589.6	5.8	-54.2	-51.3	197	1,417	10													Apr 10
May 8	1,559.2	5.7	1,573.1	5.8	-16.5	-35.6	184	1,365	9													May 8
Jun 12	1,489.3	5.4	1,537.2	5.6	-35.9	-35.5	185	1,295	9													Jun 12
Jul 10	1,520.1	5.6	1,484.6	5.4	-52.6	-35.0	251	1,261	8													Jul 10
Aug 14	1,513.5	5.5	1,435.7	5.3	-48.9	-45.8	213	1,292	8													Aug 14
Sep 11	1,449.3	5.3	1,414.2	5.2	-21.5	-41.0	209	1,232	8													Sep 11
Oct 9	1,372.4	5.0	1,402.9	5.1	-11.3	-27.2	208	1,157	8													Oct 9
Nov 13	1,329.3	4.9	1,379.7	5.0	-23.2	-18.7	202	1,119	8													Nov 13
Dec 11	1,333.8	4.9	1,350.6	4.9	-29.1	-21.2	204	1,122	8													Dec 11
1998 Jan 8 R	1,419.5	5.2	1,337.1	4.9	-13.5	-21.9	216	1,194	9													1998 Jan 8 R
Feb 12 P	1,392.1	5.1	1,323.3	4.8	-13.8	-18.8	206	1,178	9													Feb 12 P

P The latest national and regional seasonally-adjusted claimant count figures are provisional and subject to revision, mainly in the following month.  
R Revised.  
\* National and regional claimant count rates are calculated by expressing the number of claimants as a percentage of the estimated total workforce (the sum of claimants, employees in employment, self-employed, HM Forces and participants on work-related government training programmes) at mid-1996 for 1996 and 1997 figures and at the corresponding mid-year estimates for earlier years.

## CLAIMANT COUNT 2.1 UK summary THOUSANDS

	MALE				FEMALE				MARRIED				
	CLAIMANTS		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #		CLAIMANTS		SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #						
	Number	Per cent workforce *	Number	Per cent workforce *	Number	Per cent workforce *	Number	Per cent workforce *					
1994 )	2,014.4	12.7	2,004.8	12.7	622.1	5.1	614.6	5.0					1994 )
1995 ) Annual	1,770.0	11.2	1,760.2	11.2	555.6	4.5	548.1	4.4					1995 ) Annual
1996 ) averages	1,610.3	10.3	1,599.9	10.2	511.9	4.1	504.1	4.1					1996 ) averages
1997 )	1,225.1	7.8	1,213.9	7.7	377.3	3.0	368.9	3.0					1997 )
1996 Feb 8	1,761.0	11.2	1,687.2	10.8	541.9	4.4	525.1	4.2	136.6				1996 Feb 8
Mar 14	1,707.2	10.9	1,666.3	10.6	523.6	4.2	520.4	4.2	132.0				Mar 14
Apr 11	1,695.5	10.8	1,659.9	10.6	528.5	4.3	522.5	4.2	138.7				Apr 11
May 9	1,643.9	10.5	1,647.5	10.5	503.5	4.1	518.8	4.2	128.4				May 9
Jun 13	1,599.5	10.2	1,631.4	10.4	496.8	4.0	518.9	4.2	125.0				Jun 13
Jul 11	1,616.5	10.3	1,613.5	10.3									



# 2.3 CLAIMANT COUNT Government Office Regions

# CLAIMANT COUNT 2.3 Government Office Regions THOUSANDS

	CLAIMANTS			PER CENT WORKFORCE *			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #							
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	Number	Per cent workforce *	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Male		Female	
											Male	Female		
<b>NORTH EAST</b>														
1994 )	141.6	113.5	28.1	12.4	17.8	5.6	141.4	12.4			113.5	28.0		
1995 ) Annual	130.5	104.4	26.1	11.5	16.5	5.2	130.5	11.6			104.4	26.1		
1996 ) average	118.4	94.0	24.4	10.6	15.3	4.8	118.4	10.6			94.0	24.4		
1997 )	94.5	75.4	19.0	8.5	12.3	3.8	93.2	8.3			74.6	18.5		
1997 Feb 13	102.6	81.9	20.7	9.2	13.4	4.1	98.5	8.8	-3.2	-3.0	78.4	20.1		
Mar 13	99.4	79.5	19.9	8.9	13.0	3.9	97.4	8.7	-1.1	-2.7	77.7	19.7		
Apr 10	97.8	78.2	19.6	8.8	12.8	3.9	94.8	8.5	-2.6	-2.3	76.1	18.7		
May 8	94.4	75.7	18.8	8.5	12.3	3.7	94.6	8.5	-0.2	-1.3	75.4	19.2		
Jun 12	91.2	73.0	18.1	8.2	11.9	3.6	93.6	8.4	-1.0	-1.3	74.6	19.0		
Jul 10	93.9	74.2	19.7	8.4	12.1	3.9	92.3	8.3	-1.3	-0.8	74.0	18.3		
Aug 14	93.6	73.6	20.0	8.4	12.0	4.0	90.6	8.1	-1.7	-1.3	73.2	17.4		
Sep 11	90.8	71.7	19.1	8.1	11.7	3.8	89.3	8.0	-1.3	-1.4	72.0	17.3		
Oct 9	88.5	70.7	17.8	7.9	11.5	3.5	90.0	8.1	0.7	-0.8	72.5	17.5		
Nov 13	86.8	69.9	17.0	7.8	11.4	3.4	87.9	7.9	-2.1	-0.9	70.9	17.0		
Dec 11	87.2	70.7	16.4	7.8	11.5	3.3	87.1	7.8	-0.8	-0.7	69.8	17.3		
1998 Jan 8 R	93.7	75.8	17.8	8.4	12.4	3.5	88.3	7.9	1.2	-0.6	70.9	17.4		
Feb 12 P	90.6	73.0	17.6	8.1	11.9	3.5	87.2	7.8	-1.1	-0.2	70.1	17.1		
<b>NORTH WEST</b>														
1994 )	221.2	171.5	49.7	8.7	11.9	4.5	220.9	8.7			171.3	49.6		
1995 ) Annual	192.2	148.8	43.4	7.6	10.5	3.9	192.2	7.6			148.8	43.4		
1996 ) average	175.8	136.1	39.7	6.9	9.5	3.5	175.8	6.9			136.2	39.7		
1997 )	132.9	103.8	29.2	5.2	7.3	2.6	131.0	5.1			102.7	28.3		
1997 Feb 13	154.0	120.6	33.4	6.0	8.4	2.9	145.8	5.7	-5.8	-5.9	114.0	31.8		
Mar 13	146.6	115.0	31.5	5.7	8.0	2.8	142.2	5.5	-3.6	-5.4	111.0	31.2		
Apr 10	141.7	111.3	30.4	5.5	7.8	2.7	137.2	5.4	-5.0	-4.7	107.6	29.6		
May 8	135.2	106.7	28.5	5.3	7.5	2.5	135.6	5.3	-1.6	-2.4	106.0	29.6		
Jun 12	127.6	100.3	27.3	5.0	7.0	2.4	132.0	5.1	-3.6	-3.1	102.9	29.1		
Jul 10	131.9	101.8	30.1	5.1	7.1	2.7	128.0	5.0	-4.0	-3.1	100.7	27.3		
Aug 14	131.1	100.3	30.8	5.1	7.0	2.7	122.9	4.8	-5.1	-4.2	97.7	25.2		
Sep 11	124.0	95.6	28.4	4.8	6.7	2.5	121.1	4.7	-1.8	-3.6	95.6	25.1		
Oct 9	116.0	90.1	25.9	4.5	6.3	2.3	120.7	4.7	-0.4	-2.4	94.7	26.0		
Nov 13	112.9	88.2	24.6	4.4	6.2	2.2	118.8	4.6	-1.9	-1.4	93.0	25.8		
Dec 11	113.5	89.5	23.9	4.4	6.3	2.1	116.2	4.5	-2.6	-1.6	90.8	25.4		
1998 Jan 8 R	124.1	97.4	26.7	4.8	6.8	2.4	115.1	4.5	-1.1	-1.9	89.9	25.2		
Feb 12 P	121.5	95.0	26.4	4.7	6.6	2.3	114.2	4.5	-0.9	-1.5	88.9	25.3		
<b>MERSEYSIDE</b>														
1994 )	88.5	69.2	19.3	14.9	21.5	7.1	88.4	14.9			69.1	19.3		
1995 ) Annual	79.5	61.9	17.6	13.7	19.5	6.7	79.5	13.7			61.9	17.6		
1996 ) average	74.9	58.3	16.5	13.1	18.8	6.3	74.9	13.1			58.3	16.5		
1997 )	61.4	48.3	13.1	10.7	15.5	5.0	60.8	10.6			47.9	12.9		
1997 Feb 13	68.1	53.5	14.6	11.9	17.2	5.6	66.4	11.6	-1.2	-1.5	52.1	14.3		
Mar 13	66.0	52.0	14.0	11.5	16.7	5.3	65.2	11.4	-1.2	-1.4	51.2	14.0		
Apr 10	64.4	50.8	13.6	11.2	16.4	5.2	63.4	11.1	-1.8	-1.4	49.8	13.6		
May 8	62.4	49.3	13.0	10.9	15.9	5.0	62.5	10.9	-0.9	-1.1	49.1	13.4		
Jun 12	60.6	47.9	12.8	10.6	15.4	4.9	61.1	10.7	-1.4	-1.4	48.1	13.0		
Jul 10	61.5	48.0	13.5	10.7	15.4	5.2	59.8	10.4	-1.3	-1.2	47.2	12.6		
Aug 14	61.1	47.4	13.7	10.7	15.3	5.2	58.6	10.2	-1.2	-1.3	46.5	12.1		
Sep 11	59.2	46.2	13.0	10.3	14.9	4.9	57.3	10.0	-1.3	-1.3	45.6	11.7		
Oct 9	56.0	43.9	12.1	9.8	14.1	4.6	56.9	9.9	-0.4	-1.0	44.8	12.1		
Nov 13	54.1	42.7	11.4	9.4	13.7	4.3	55.9	9.7	-1.0	-0.9	44.1	11.8		
Dec 11	54.1	42.9	11.2	9.4	13.8	4.3	55.2	9.6	-0.7	-0.7	43.5	11.7		
1998 Jan 8 R	57.2	45.1	12.1	10.0	14.5	4.6	55.1	9.6	-0.1	-0.6	43.3	11.8		
Feb 12 P	55.7	43.8	11.9	9.7	14.1	4.5	54.1	9.4	-1.0	-0.6	42.4	11.7		
<b>YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER</b>														
1994 )	226.4	175.2	51.2	9.7	13.5	5.0	224.8	9.6			174.3	50.5		
1995 ) Annual	207.9	160.6	47.3	8.7	12.0	4.5	206.1	8.7			159.6	46.5		
1996 ) average	191.8	147.9	43.9	8.0	11.0	4.2	190.0	8.0			146.9	43.1		
1997 )	152.0	117.9	34.1	6.4	8.8	3.3	149.9	6.3			116.7	33.2		
1997 Feb 13	169.9	132.3	37.6	7.1	9.8	3.6	161.2	6.8	-5.5	-4.8	124.9	36.3		
Mar 13	162.7	126.8	35.9	6.8	9.4	3.4	158.1	6.6	-3.1	-4.9	122.6	35.5		
Apr 10	158.3	123.4	34.9	6.6	9.2	3.4	153.7	6.4	-4.4	-4.3	119.8	33.9		
May 8	152.0	118.6	33.4	6.4	8.8	3.2	153.3	6.4	-0.4	-2.6	118.7	34.6		
Jun 12	146.1	113.9	32.3	6.1	8.5	3.1	150.7	6.3	-2.6	-2.5	116.9	33.8		
Jul 10	150.7	115.8	34.8	6.3	8.6	3.3	147.8	6.2	-2.9	-2.0	115.7	32.1		
Aug 14	150.7	114.8	35.8	6.3	8.5	3.4	144.6	6.1	-3.2	-2.9	113.9	30.7		
Sep 11	145.8	111.6	34.3	6.1	8.3	3.3	142.7	6.0	-1.9	-2.7	111.8	30.9		
Oct 9	138.4	106.9	31.5	5.8	7.9	3.0	141.9	5.9	-0.8	-2.0	110.6	31.3		
Nov 13	135.2	105.0	30.2	5.7	7.8	2.9	140.1	5.9	-1.8	-1.5	109.0	31.1		
Dec 11	137.5	107.6	29.9	5.8	8.0	2.9	137.9	5.8	-2.2	-1.6	106.9	31.0		
1998 Jan 8 R	146.3	114.1	32.2	6.1	8.5	3.1	137.0	5.7	-0.9	-1.6	106.1	30.9		
Feb 12 P	143.7	111.8	31.9	6.0	8.3	3.1	136.4	5.7	-0.6	-1.2	105.5	30.9		

	CLAIMANTS			PER CENT WORKFORCE *			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #							
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	Number	Per cent workforce *	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Male		Female	
											Male	Female		
<b>EAST MIDLANDS</b>														
1994 )	168.8	128.7	40.1	8.8	11.7	4.9	167.6	8.7			128.0	39.6		
1995 ) Annual	148.3	112.5	35.7	7.7	10.3	4.2	147.2	7.6			111.9	35.3		
1996 ) average	133.6	101.0	32.5	6.9	9.4	3.8	132.5	6.8			100.4	32.1		
1997 )	97.4	74.2	23.2	5.0	6.9	2.7	96.2	5.0			73.5	22.7		
1997 Feb 13	113.8	87.5	26.3	5.9	8.1	3.0	106.5	5.5	-4.9	-4.5	81.3	25.2		
Mar 13	108.7	83.5	25.2	5.6	7.8	2.9	104.9	5.4	-1.6	-3.7	79.9	25.0		
Apr 10	104.8	80.5	24.3	5.4	7.5	2.8	101.7	5.3	-3.2	-3.2	77.7	24.0		
May 8	99.7	76.8	22.9	5.1	7.2	2.7	100.2	5.2	-1.5	-2.1	76.4	23.8		
Jun 12	94.2	72.4	21.8	4.9	6.7	2.5	98.0	5.1	-2.2	-2.3	74.6	23.4		
Jul 10	96.6	72.8	23.8	5.0	6.8	2.8	94.6	4.9	-3.4	-2.4	72.7	21.9		
Aug 14	95.2	70.9	24.3	4.9	6.6	2.8	90.2	4.7	-4.4	-3.4	69.8	20.4		
Sep 11	90.4	67.6	22.8	4.7	6.3	2.6	88.7	4.6	-1.5	-3.1	68.2	20.5		
Oct 9	84.0	63.1	20.8	4.3	5.9	2.4	87.7	4.5	-1.0	-2.3	66.8	20.9		
Nov 13	80.9	61.3	19.7	4.2	5.7	2.3	86.2	4.5	-1.5	-1.3	65.6	20.6		
Dec 11	81.9	62.7	19.2	4.2	5.8	2.2	83.9	4.3	-2.3	-1.6	63.6	20.3		
1998 Jan 8 R	88.9	67.8	21.2	4.6	6.3	2.5	82.5	4.3	-1.4	-1.7	62.2	20.3		
Feb 12 P	87.5	66.4	21.1	4.5	6.2	2.4	81.3	4.2	-1.2	-1.6	61.2	20.1		
<b>WEST MIDLANDS</b>														
1994 )	246.2	186.8	59.4	9.9	13.3	5.5	244.8	9.9			186.0	58.8		
1995 ) Annual	210.3	158.6	51.7	8.4	11.0	4.8	209.0	8.3			158.0	51.1		
1996 ) average	188.6	142.0	46.6	7.4	9.8	4.3	187.4	7.4			141.3	46.1		
1997 )	142.3	108.2	34.1	5.6	7.5	3.1	140.9	5.6			107.4	33.5		
1997 Feb 13	159.2	121.5	37.7	6.3	8.4	3.5	154.0	6.1	-6.1	-10.5	116.7	37.3		
Mar 13	152.1	116.2	35.9											

# 2.3 CLAIMANT COUNT Government Office Regions

THOUSANDS

	CLAIMANTS			PER CENT WORKFORCE *			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #					
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	Number	Per cent workforce *	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Male	Female
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>												
1994 )	272.8	208.5	64.3	7.3	10.1	3.9	272.5	7.3			208.3	64.1
1995 ) Annual	229.0	173.8	55.1	6.2	8.4	3.4	228.8	6.2			173.8	55.1
1996 ) average	200.2	151.3	48.9	5.4	7.4	3.0	200.2	5.4			151.3	48.9
1997 )	136.2	103.7	32.5	3.7	5.0	2.0	134.7	3.6			102.8	31.8
1997 Feb 13	163.5	125.2	38.4	4.4	6.1	2.3	154.0	4.2	-9.8	-8.2	117.1	36.9
Mar 13	153.7	117.9	35.9	4.2	5.7	2.2	149.6	4.1	-4.4	-7.4	113.8	35.8
Apr 10	146.2	112.1	34.1	4.0	5.4	2.1	143.4	3.9	-6.2	-6.8	109.4	34.0
May 8	138.1	106.2	32.0	3.7	5.2	2.0	140.2	3.8	-3.2	-4.6	106.6	33.6
Jun 12	129.4	99.5	30.0	3.5	4.8	1.8	136.3	3.7	-3.9	-4.4	103.6	32.7
Jul 10	131.0	99.3	31.7	3.5	4.8	1.9	129.9	3.5	-6.4	-4.5	99.9	30.0
Aug 14	130.5	97.8	32.8	3.5	4.7	2.0	124.1	3.4	-5.8	-5.4	96.1	28.0
Sep 11	125.0	93.6	31.4	3.4	4.5	1.9	121.4	3.3	-2.7	-5.0	93.7	27.7
Oct 9	117.9	88.8	29.0	3.2	4.3	1.8	120.1	3.3	-1.3	-3.3	92.0	28.1
Nov 13	112.8	85.5	27.3	3.1	4.2	1.7	118.8	3.2	-1.3	-1.8	90.6	28.2
Dec 11	112.6	86.1	26.6	3.0	4.2	1.6	114.4	3.1	-4.4	-2.3	86.9	27.5
1998 Jan 8 R	120.7	92.1	28.6	3.3	4.5	1.7	112.0	3.0	-2.4	-2.7	84.7	27.3
Feb 12 P	117.7	89.4	28.3	3.2	4.3	1.7	109.6	3.0	-2.4	-3.1	82.2	27.4
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>												
1994 )	191.7	143.9	47.8	8.2	10.9	4.6	190.4	8.1			143.2	47.2
1995 ) Annual	166.3	124.1	42.3	7.1	9.5	4.1	164.9	7.0			123.3	41.6
1996 ) average	148.2	110.3	38.0	6.3	8.4	3.6	146.9	6.2			109.5	37.4
1997 )	105.4	79.0	26.4	4.5	6.0	2.5	104.2	4.4			78.3	25.9
1997 Feb 13	128.4	96.1	32.3	5.4	7.3	3.1	118.5	5.0	-5.9	-4.9	88.8	29.7
Mar 13	120.0	90.2	29.8	5.1	6.9	2.8	115.0	4.9	-3.5	-4.8	86.1	28.9
Apr 10	114.0	86.2	27.8	4.8	6.6	2.7	111.6	4.7	-3.4	-4.3	83.9	27.7
May 8	106.2	80.6	25.6	4.5	6.1	2.4	108.9	4.6	-2.7	-3.2	81.7	27.2
Jun 12	98.2	74.7	23.5	4.2	5.7	2.2	105.6	4.5	-3.3	-3.2	79.2	26.4
Jul 10	98.7	74.0	24.7	4.2	5.6	2.4	101.1	4.3	-4.5	-3.5	76.3	24.8
Aug 14	98.8	73.2	25.6	4.2	5.6	2.4	96.9	4.1	-4.2	-4.0	73.6	23.3
Sep 11	95.0	70.6	24.4	4.0	5.4	2.3	94.8	4.0	-2.1	-3.6	71.7	23.1
Oct 9	90.3	67.2	23.1	3.8	5.1	2.2	93.5	4.0	-1.3	-2.5	70.4	23.1
Nov 13	89.5	66.5	23.0	3.8	5.1	2.2	91.4	3.9	-2.1	-1.8	68.6	22.8
Dec 11	90.0	67.4	22.7	3.8	5.1	2.2	88.8	3.8	-2.6	-2.0	66.4	22.4
1998 Jan 8 R	97.2	72.5	24.7	4.1	5.5	2.4	86.8	3.7	-2.0	-2.2	64.8	22.0
Feb 12 P	94.1	69.6	24.5	4.0	5.3	2.3	85.0	3.6	-1.8	-2.1	63.0	22.0
<b>WALES</b>												
1994 )	120.7	94.1	26.6	9.4	12.7	4.9	119.9	9.3			93.6	26.3
1995 ) Annual	107.8	83.4	24.4	8.8	12.2	4.5	106.9	8.7			82.9	24.0
1996 ) average	102.7	79.2	23.5	8.2	11.4	4.3	101.7	8.2			78.6	23.1
1997 )	80.3	62.4	17.9	6.4	9.0	3.2	79.3	6.4			61.8	17.4
1997 Feb 13	91.8	71.7	20.1	7.4	10.3	3.6	86.9	7.0	-3.1	-2.7	67.6	19.3
Mar 13	87.0	68.1	18.9	7.0	9.8	3.4	85.0	6.8	-1.9	-2.6	66.2	18.8
Apr 10	83.6	65.6	18.0	6.7	9.5	3.3	82.4	6.6	-2.6	-2.5	64.7	17.7
May 8	80.3	63.1	17.2	6.4	9.1	3.1	82.1	6.6	-0.3	-1.6	64.0	18.1
Jun 12	76.4	60.0	16.4	6.1	8.7	3.0	80.4	6.5	-1.7	-1.5	62.5	17.9
Jul 10	79.5	61.2	18.3	6.4	8.8	3.3	77.9	6.3	-2.5	-1.5	61.1	16.8
Aug 14	79.3	60.3	19.0	6.4	8.7	3.4	75.2	6.0	-2.7	-2.3	59.2	16.0
Sep 11	76.2	58.2	18.0	6.1	8.4	3.3	73.8	5.9	-1.4	-2.2	57.7	16.1
Oct 9	71.5	55.2	16.3	5.7	8.0	2.9	73.4	5.9	-0.4	-1.5	57.2	16.2
Nov 13	70.3	54.6	15.7	5.6	7.9	2.8	72.4	5.8	-1.0	-0.9	56.3	16.1
Dec 11	71.5	56.0	15.5	5.7	8.1	2.8	71.6	5.7	-0.8	-0.7	55.5	16.1
1998 Jan 8 R	76.5	59.6	16.9	6.1	8.6	3.1	70.6	5.7	-1.0	-0.9	54.5	16.1
Feb 12 P	75.0	58.1	16.9	6.0	8.4	3.1	70.3	5.6	-0.3	-0.7	54.1	16.2
<b>SCOTLAND</b>												
1994 )	231.5	178.6	52.8	9.4	13.0	4.8	228.4	9.3			176.8	51.5
1995 ) Annual	203.5	156.3	47.2	8.2	11.6	4.2	200.3	8.1			154.5	45.9
1996 ) average	195.1	149.3	45.7	8.0	11.3	4.1	191.9	7.9			147.5	44.4
1997 )	159.6	123.5	36.0	6.5	9.4	3.2	156.1	6.4			121.5	34.5
1997 Feb 13	179.6	139.6	39.9	7.3	10.6	3.5	169.7	6.9	-3.6	-3.9	132.0	37.7
Mar 13	172.1	134.1	38.0	7.0	10.2	3.4	167.5	6.9	-2.2	-3.7	130.3	37.2
Apr 10	166.2	129.4	36.8	6.8	9.8	3.3	162.5	6.6	-5.0	-3.6	126.6	35.9
May 8	160.3	125.1	35.3	6.6	9.5	3.1	161.6	6.6	-0.9	-2.7	125.0	36.6
Jun 12	156.2	121.2	35.0	6.4	9.2	3.1	160.1	6.6	-1.5	-2.5	123.3	36.8
Jul 10	164.0	124.3	39.7	6.7	9.4	3.5	151.7	6.2	-8.4	-3.6	120.1	31.6
Aug 14	161.9	122.5	39.5	6.6	9.3	3.5	148.2	6.1	-3.5	-4.5	117.3	30.9
Sep 11	148.9	114.7	34.2	6.1	8.7	3.0	147.9	6.1	-0.3	-4.1	115.6	32.3
Oct 9	142.1	110.3	31.8	5.8	8.4	2.8	146.2	6.0	-1.7	-1.8	113.6	32.6
Nov 13	138.7	108.0	30.7	5.7	8.2	2.7	144.1	5.9	-2.1	-1.4	111.8	32.3
Dec 11	139.0	108.8	30.2	5.7	8.3	2.7	139.9	5.7	-4.2	-2.7	108.2	31.7
1998 Jan 8 R	152.2	118.8	33.4	6.2	9.0	3.0	141.2	5.8	1.3	-1.7	109.5	31.7
Feb 12 P	149.5	115.9	33.6	6.1	8.8	3.0	140.5	5.7	-0.7	-1.2	108.6	31.9

# CLAIMANT COUNT Government Office Regions 2.3 THOUSANDS

	CLAIMANTS			PER CENT WORKFORCE *			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED #					
	All	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	Number	Per cent workforce *	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Male	Female
<b>NORTHERN IRELAND</b>												
1994 )	97.3	75.3	21.9	12.7	16.6	6.9	97.1	12.6			75.2	21.8
1995 ) Annual	88.2	68.7	19.5	11.4	15.3	6.0	88.1	11.4			68.6	19.5
1996 ) average	84.2	65.0	19.1	10.9	14.7	5.8	84.0	10.9			65.0	19.0
1997 )	58.7	46.1	12.5	7.6	10.4	3.8	63.2	8.2			49.8	13.4
1997 Feb 13	67.5	53.8	13.8	8.8	12.2	4.2	68.2	8.9	-2.8	-2.6	53.2	15.0
Mar 13	65.7	52.5	13.2	8.6	11.9	4.0	67.0	8.7	-1.2	-2.4	52.4	14.6
Apr 10	63.9	51.1	12.8	8.3	11.6	3.9	64.8	8.4	-2.2	-2.1	51.3	13.5
May 8	61.3	49.2	12.1	8.0	11.1	3.7	64.2	8.4	-0.6	-1.3	50.5	13.7
Jun 12	60.8	48.2	12.6	7.9	10.9	3.8	62.6	8.1	-1.6	-1.5	49.3	13.3
Jul 10	65.1	49.9	15.2	8.5	11.3	4.7	60.6	7.9	-2.0	-1.4	48.5	12.1
Aug 14	65.7	50.0	15.7	8.6	11.3	4.8	59.7	7.8	-0.9	-1.5	47.9	11.8
Sep 11	64.3	49.3	15.0	8.4	11.2	4.6	59.6	7.8	-0.1	-1.0	47.5	12.1
Oct 9	60.4	47.2	13.2	7.9	10.7	4.0	60.3	7.8	0.7	-0.1	47.5	12.8
Nov 13	58.3	46.1	12.2	7.6	10.4	3.7	60.2	7.8	-0.1	0.2	47.2	13.0
Dec 11	57.5	45.9	11.7	7.5	10.4	3.6	60.2	7.8	0.0	0.2	47.0	13.2
1998 Jan 8 R	59.8	47.5	12.2	7.8	10.8	3.7	60.4	7.9	0.2	0.0	47.1	13.3
Feb 12 P	59.2	47.0	12.2	7.7	10.6	3.7	60.5	7.9	0.1	0.1	46.9	13.6

\* # See footnotes to Tables 2.1 and 2.2.  
Note: Data for standard statistical regions have been withdrawn from this table but are available on request from the Labour Market Statistics Helpline: 0171-533 6094.





## 2.9 CLAIMANT COUNT Area statistics

Claimant count in counties and local authority districts as at February 12 1998

	Male	Female	All	Rate +	Per cent employees and claimants	Per cent workforce		Male	Female	All	Rate +	Per cent employees and claimants	Per cent workforce
Rochdale	4,622	1,171	5,793				Edinburgh, City of	8,377	2,486	10,863	4.0	3.8	
Salford	4,373	1,077	5,450				Eilean Siar (Western Isles)	978	254	1,232	12.6	8.9	
Stockport	3,584	970	4,554				Falkirk	3,401	937	4,338	8.1	6.9	
Tameside	3,551	998	4,549				Fife	8,164	2,479	10,643	8.5	7.1	
Trafford	3,008	872	3,880				Glasgow, City of	21,406	5,206	26,612	7.6	7.3	
Wigan	5,138	1,513	6,651				Highland	5,650	2,082	7,732	9.1	7.8	
<b>Lancashire</b>	<b>22,065</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>28,368</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>		Inverclyde	1,877	462	2,339	7.3	6.8	
Blackburn	2,648	624	3,272				Midlothian	1,175	312	1,487	7.3	6.1	
Blackpool	3,962	1,062	5,024				Moray	1,491	617	2,108	6.8	5.8	
Burnley	1,133	309	1,442				North Ayrshire	3,808	1,203	5,011	10.6	9.5	
Chorley	1,121	365	1,486				North Lanarkshire	8,265	2,253	10,518	9.5	8.5	
Fylde	438	135	573				Orkney Islands	265	103	368	5.0	4.0	
Hyndburn	1,071	338	1,409				Perthshire & Kinross	2,128	678	2,806	6.0	4.0	
Lancaster	2,727	835	3,562				Renfrewshire	4,348	1,133	5,481	6.1	5.7	
Pendle	1,100	330	1,430				Shetland Islands	330	110	440	4.1	3.6	
Preston	2,713	703	3,416				South Ayrshire	2,721	836	3,557	7.5	6.6	
Ribble Valley	271	78	349				South Lanarkshire	6,292	1,739	8,031	7.6	6.6	
Rossendale	641	211	852				Stirling	1,633	495	2,128	5.9	5.0	
South Ribble	876	336	1,212				West Dunbartonshire	3,352	838	4,190	11.5	10.4	
West Lancashire	2,091	608	2,699				West Lothian	2,740	729	3,469	6.2	5.7	
Wyre	1,273	369	1,642				<b>NORTHERN IRELAND</b>	<b>47,011</b>	<b>12,155</b>	<b>59,166</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>7.7</b>	
<b>MERSEYSIDE</b>							Antrim	849	249	1,098			
<b>Merseyside</b>	<b>43,782</b>	<b>11,948</b>	<b>55,730</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>9.7</b>		Ards	1,409	479	1,888			
Knowsley	5,571	1,473	7,044				Armagh	1,358	394	1,752			
Liverpool	18,718	4,939	23,657				Ballymena	1,141	364	1,505			
Sefton	6,946	1,935	8,881				Ballymoney	685	150	835			
St Helens	3,898	1,095	4,993				Banbridge	522	181	703			
Wirral	8,649	2,506	11,155				Belfast	11,064	2,498	13,562			
<b>NORTH EAST</b>							Carrickfergus	737	269	1,006			
<b>Cleveland (former county)</b>							Castlereagh	1,033	297	1,330			
Hartlepool	3,618	812	4,430	13.0	11.7		Coleraine	1,686	498	2,184			
Middlesbrough	6,097	1,319	7,416	11.5	10.9		Cookstown	768	209	977			
Redcar and Cleveland	4,498	1,048	5,546	11.7	10.3		Craigavon	1,631	528	2,159			
Stockton-on-Tees	5,961	1,441	7,402	9.7	8.7		Derry	4,826	1,064	5,890			
<b>Durham (former county)</b>							Down	1,652	512	2,164			
Darlington	2,668	661	3,329	7.1	6.7		Dungannon	1,431	395	1,826			
<b>Rest of Durham</b>	<b>10,385</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>13,019</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.2</b>		Fermanagh	1,921	482	2,403			
Chester-le-Street	1,181	287	1,468				Larne	593	173	766			
Derwentside	1,908	442	2,350				Limavady	1,099	188	1,287			
Durham	1,541	465	2,006				Lisburn	2,158	604	2,762			
Easington	1,995	444	2,439				Magherafelt	920	225	1,145			
Sedgefield	1,728	467	2,195				Moyle	612	120	732			
Teesdale	367	132	499				Newry and Mourne	3,109	688	3,797			
Wear Valley	1,665	397	2,062				Newtown abbey	1,380	445	1,825			
<b>Northumberland</b>	<b>6,192</b>	<b>1,873</b>	<b>8,065</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>		North Down	1,306	480	1,786			
Alnwick	622	202	824				Omagh	1,560	383	1,943			
Berwick-upon-Tweed	535	176	711				Strabane	1,561	280	1,841			
Blyth Valley	1,786	578	2,364										
Castle Morpeth	767	242	1,009										
Tynedale	743	240	983										
Wansbeck	1,739	435	2,174										
<b>Tyne and Wear</b>	<b>33,591</b>	<b>7,794</b>	<b>41,385</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.0</b>								
Gateshead	5,143	1,077	6,220										
Newcastle upon Tyne	9,289	2,202	11,491										
North Tyneside	5,308	1,317	6,625										
South Tyneside	5,200	1,361	6,561										
Sunderland	8,651	1,837	10,488										
<b>WALES</b>													
Blaenau Gwent	1,998	502	2,500	11.9	10.4								
Bridgend	2,468	722	3,190	9.0	7.8								
Caerphilly	3,354	974	4,328	8.8	7.8								
Cardiff	6,813	1,732	8,545	5.0	4.6								
Carmarthenshire	2,993	846	3,839	7.0	5.7								
Ceredigion	1,124	396	1,520	7.9	5.6								
Conwy	2,197	701	2,898	9.0	6.8								
Denbighshire	1,596	435	2,031	6.5	5.6								
Flintshire	2,015	660	2,675	4.7	4.2								
Gwynedd	3,394	1,079	4,473	9.7	7.6								
Isle of Anglesey	1,965	605	2,570	14.1	10.8								
Merthyr Tydfil	1,360	333	1,693	8.5	7.2								
Monmouthshire	1,065	395	1,460	5.1	4.4								
Neath Port Talbot	2,673	777	3,450	7.9	6.9								
Newport	3,248	913	4,161	6.7	6.1								
Pembrokeshire	3,221	1,045	4,266	13.6	9.5								
Powys	1,489	602	2,091	5.1	3.8								
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	4,971	1,293	6,264	8.3	7.2								
Swansea	4,367	1,164	5,531	6.3	5.7								
The Vale of Glamorgan	2,159	668	2,827	5.6	4.9								
Torfaen	1,663	483	2,146	5.7	4.9								
Wrexham	1,930	564	2,494	5.0	4.3								
<b>SCOTLAND</b>													
Aberdeen, City of	2,815	775	3,590	2.1	1.9								
Aberdeenshire	1,905	706	2,611	3.8	3.3								
Angus	2,228	891	3,119	9.5	8.3								
Argyll and Bute	2,079	761	2,840	8.9	6.8								
Borders, The Scottish	1,511	512	2,023	5.4	4.4								
Clackmannanshire	1,259	370	1,629	12.3	8.1								
Dumfries and Galloway	3,239	1,118	4,357	7.9	6.5								
Dundee, City of	4,822	1,340	6,162	7.7	7.3								
East Ayrshire	3,544	955	4,499	11.2	9.3								
East Dunbartonshire	1,661	500	2,161	9.0	7.6								
East Lothian	1,337	351	1,688	7.6	4.1								
East Renfrewshire	1,101	355	1,456	9.0	7.0								

+ Claimant count rates are calculated as a percentage of the estimated total workforce (the sum of employees in employment, claimants, self-employed, HM Forces and participants on work-related government-supported training programmes) and as a percentage of estimates of employees in employment and claimants only. All the county rates shown are calculated using mid-1996 based denominators.

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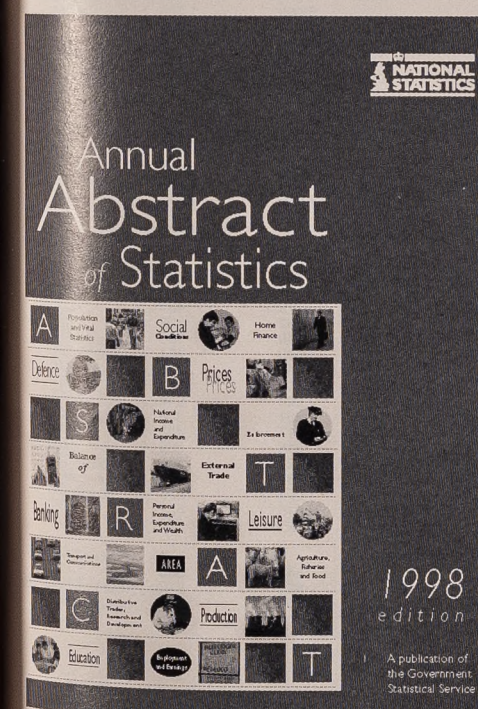
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# 2.10 CLAIMANT COUNT Area statistics

Claimant count in Parliamentary constituencies as at February 12 1998

	Male	Female	All		Male	Female	All
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>				Beckenham	1,686	537	2,223
<b>Berkshire</b>				Bethnal Green and Bow	4,602	1,256	5,858
Bracknell	714	198	912	Bexleyheath and Crayford	1,051	438	1,489
Maidenhead	646	189	835	Brent East	3,150	1,132	4,282
Newbury	509	146	655	Brent North	1,414	547	1,961
Reading East	983	291	1,274	Brent South	3,609	1,168	4,777
Reading West	872	251	1,123	Brentford and Isleworth	1,692	669	2,361
Slough	1,799	493	2,292	Bromley and Chislehurst	1,152	363	1,515
Windsor	831	203	1,034	Camberwell and Peckham	3,792	1,318	5,110
Wokingham	384	107	491	Carshalton and Wallington	1,177	369	1,546
				Chingford and Woodford Green	1,070	411	1,481
<b>Isle of Wight</b>	3,556	1,251	4,807	Chipping Barnet	1,166	511	1,677
				Cities of London and Westminster	2,218	931	3,149
<b>Kent</b>				Croydon Central	2,347	730	3,077
Ashford	1,292	362	1,654	Croydon North	3,257	1,122	4,379
Canterbury	1,509	494	2,003	Croydon South	1,958	691	2,649
Chatham and Aylesford	1,504	450	1,954	Dagenham	1,430	456	1,886
Dartford	1,532	486	2,018	Dulwich and West Norwood	3,114	1,223	4,337
Dover	2,251	575	2,826	Ealing, Acton and Shepherd's Bush	3,357	1,222	4,579
Faversham and Mid Kent	1,101	376	1,477	Ealing North	1,924	681	2,605
Folkestone and Hythe	2,288	587	2,875	Ealing Southall	2,474	881	3,355
Gillingham	1,339	500	1,839	East Ham	3,426	1,049	4,475
Gravesend	1,804	643	2,447	Edmonton	2,450	820	3,270
Maidstone and The Weald	1,038	333	1,371	Eltham	1,802	584	2,386
Medway	1,663	565	2,228	Enfield North	1,841	591	2,432
North Thanet	2,384	679	3,063	Enfield, Southgate	1,544	623	2,167
Sevenoaks	753	294	1,047	Erith and Thamesmead	2,873	1,003	3,876
Sittingbourne and Sheppey	1,784	595	2,379	Fitcham and Heston	1,594	530	2,124
South Thanet	2,022	537	2,559	Finchley and Golders Green	1,595	690	2,285
Tonbridge and Malling	836	256	1,092	Greenwich and Woolwich	4,868	1,858	6,726
Tunbridge Wells	837	266	1,103	Hackney North and Stoke Newington	4,927	1,719	6,646
				Hackney South and Shoreditch	2,869	1,201	4,070
<b>Oxfordshire</b>				Hammersmith and Fulham	2,487	1,128	3,615
Banbury	720	257	977	Hampstead and Highgate	1,540	641	2,181
Henley	422	153	575	Harrow East	1,130	461	1,591
Oxford East	1,535	485	2,020	Harrow West	1,268	445	1,713
Oxford West and Abingdon	583	232	815	Hayes and Harlington	2,017	703	2,720
Wantage	557	214	771	Hendon	3,540	1,326	4,866
Witney	455	205	660	Holborn and St Pancras	894	319	1,213
				Hornchurch	3,378	1,249	4,627
<b>Buckinghamshire</b>				Hornsey and Wood Green	1,186	550	1,736
Aylesbury	925	292	1,217	Ilford North	2,493	883	3,376
Beaconsfield	514	186	700	Ilford South	4,117	1,713	5,830
Buckingham	398	148	546	Islington North	3,290	1,297	4,587
Chesham and Amersham	439	136	575	Islington South and Finsbury	1,596	611	2,207
Milton Keynes South West	1,251	403	1,654	Kensington and Chelsea	1,195	471	1,666
North East Milton Keynes	977	366	1,343	Kingston and Surbiton	3,720	1,263	4,983
Wycombe	988	270	1,258	Lewisham, Deptford	2,157	720	2,877
				Lewisham East	2,768	859	3,627
<b>East Sussex</b>				Leyton and Wanstead	1,867	621	2,488
Bexhill and Battle	854	280	1,134	Mitcham and Morden	3,744	1,307	5,051
Brighton Kempdown	2,277	723	3,000	North Southwark and Bermondsey	881	371	1,252
Brighton Pavilion	2,783	1,008	3,791	Old Bexley and Sidcup	1,061	360	1,421
Eastbourne	1,439	444	1,883	Orpington	4,123	1,155	5,278
Hastings and Rye	2,527	690	3,217	Poplar and Canning Town	1,427	547	1,974
Hove	1,855	719	2,574	Putney	3,629	1,521	5,150
Lewes	858	325	1,183	Regent's Park and Kensington North	1,080	452	1,532
Wealden	615	179	794	Ruislip - Northwood	890	296	1,186
				Romford	721	235	956
<b>Hampshire</b>				Streatham	3,997	1,558	5,555
Aldershot	756	264	1,020	Sutton and Cheam	775	272	1,047
Basingstoke	853	278	1,131	Tooting	2,580	876	3,456
East Hampshire	909	252	1,161	Tottenham	6,032	1,927	7,959
Eastleigh	762	244	1,006	Twickenham	936	357	1,293
Fareham	650	195	845	Upminster	903	268	1,171
Gosport	1,190	415	1,605	Uxbridge	896	306	1,202
Havant	1,541	411	1,952	Vauxhall	5,089	1,766	6,855
New Forest East	784	265	1,049	Walthamstow	2,730	914	3,644
New Forest West	723	213	936	West Ham	3,588	1,100	4,688
North East Hampshire	497	166	663	Wimbledon	1,008	395	1,403
North West Hampshire	520	243	763				
Portsdown North	1,367	408	1,775	<b>EASTERN</b>			
Portsdown South	2,609	738	3,347	<b>Cambridgeshire</b>			
Romsey	580	187	767	Cambridge	1,492	475	1,967
Southampton Itchen	2,338	541	2,879	Huntingdon	883	421	1,304
Southampton Test	2,335	583	2,918	North East Cambridgeshire	1,433	528	1,961
Winchester	646	231	877	North West Cambridgeshire	954	372	1,326
				Peterborough	1,864	563	2,427
<b>Surrey</b>				South Cambridgeshire	601	214	815
East Surrey	579	198	777	South East Cambridgeshire	739	287	1,026
Epsom and Ewell	560	181	741				
Esher and Walton	564	194	758	<b>Essex</b>			
Guildford	606	227	833	Basildon	1,678	594	2,272
Mole Valley	396	134	530	Billerica	1,198	420	1,618
Reigate	524	151	675	Braintree	1,172	481	1,653
Runnymede and Weybridge	539	173	712	Brentwood and Ongar	632	232	864
South West Surrey	496	151	647	Castle Point	1,048	366	1,414
Spelthorne	610	209	819	Colchester	1,300	454	1,754
Surrey Heath	451	162	613	Epping Forest	1,050	424	1,474
Woking	458	147	605	Harlow	1,308	473	1,781
				Harwich	2,005	548	2,553
<b>West Sussex</b>				Maldon and East Chelmsford	931	330	1,261
Arundel and South Downs	402	136	538	North Essex	717	263	980
Bognor Regis and Littlehampton	848	278	1,126	Rayleigh	815	283	1,098
Chichester	813	274	1,087	Rochford and Southend East	2,924	827	3,751
Crawley	985	325	1,310	Saffron Walden	681	303	984
East Worthing and Shoreham	808	273	1,081	Southend West	1,624	515	2,139
Horsham	482	162	644	Thurrock	2,015	622	2,637
Mid Sussex	481	212	693	West Chelmsford	1,125	376	1,501
Worthing West	776	222	998				
				<b>Hertfordshire</b>			
<b>LONDON</b>				Broxbourne	841	306	1,147
Barking	1,565	496	2,061	Hemel Hempstead	898	270	1,168
Battersea	2,241	844	3,085	Hertford and Stortford	593	213	806

# CLAIMANT COUNT 2.10 Area statistics

Claimant count in Parliamentary constituencies as at February 12 1998

	Male	Female	All		Male	Female	All
Hartsmere	742	281	1,023	Hereford	1,319	509	1,828
Hitchin and Harpenden	689	222	911	Leominster	892	324	1,216
North East Hertfordshire	715	227	942	Mid Worcestershire	767	373	1,140
South West Hertfordshire	659	218	877	Redditch	1,266	496	1,762
St Albans	627	210	837	West Worcestershire	756	276	1,032
Stevenage	1,260	423	1,683	Worcester	1,319	424	1,743
Watford	1,117	345	1,462	Wyre Forest	1,253	478	1,731
Watlington Hatfield	671	226	897				
				<b>Staffordshire</b>			
<b>Norfolk</b>				Burton	1,591	532	2,123
Great Yarmouth	2,959	1,046	4,005	Cannock Chase	1,458	542	2,000
Mid Norfolk	1,126	392	1,518	Lichfield	810	342	1,152
North Norfolk	1,397	477	1,874	Newcastle-under-Lyme	1,028	343	1,371
North West Norfolk	1,649	577	2,226	South Staffordshire	1,021	398	1,419
Norwich North	1,701	579	2,280	Stafford	1,027	355	1,382
Norwich South	2,547	755	3,302	Staffordshire Moorlands	917	344	1,261
South Norfolk	1,025	429	1,454	Stoke-on-Trent Central	1,972	536	2,508
South West Norfolk	1,186	530	1,716	Stoke-on-Trent North	1,266	395	1,661
				Stoke-on-Trent South	1,547	556	2,103
<b>Bedfordshire</b>				Stone	652	336	988
Bedford	1,644	570	2,214	Tamworth	1,185	454	1,639
Luton North	1,537	492	2,029				
Luton South	2,120	623	2,743	<b>Shropshire</b>			
Mid Bedfordshire	542	240	782	Ludlow	740	276	1,016
North Bedfordshire	603	241	844	North Shropshire	990	387	1,377
South Bedfordshire	871	378	1,249	Shrewsbury and Atcham	1,001	343	1,344
				Telford	1,257	372	1,629
<b>Suffolk</b>				The Wrekin	809	253	1,062
East Suffolk	793	336	1,129				
Central Suffolk and North Ipswich	943	337	1,280	<b>Warwickshire</b>			
Ipswich	1,989	523	2,512	North Warwickshire	1,019	425	1,444
South Suffolk	924	299	1,223	Nuneaton	1,283	422	1,705
Suffolk Coastal	1,229	446	1,675	Rugby and Kenilworth	1,112	385	1,497
Waveney	2,620	1,010	3,630	Stratford-on-Avon	786	310	1,096
West Suffolk	1,013	378	1,391	Warwick and Leamington	1,249	385	1,634
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>				<b>West Midlands</b>			
<b>Avon (former county)</b>				Aldridge - Brownhills	1,138	419	1,557
Bristol	1,265	474	1,739	Birmingham Edgbaston	2,430	722	3,152
Bristol East	2,287	703	2,990	Birmingham Edlington	2,789	699	3,488
Bristol North West	1,410	420	1,830	Birmingham Hall Green	1,858	621	2,479
Bristol South	2,226	664	2,890	Birmingham Hodge Hill	2,638	704	3,342
Bristol West	2,065	747	2,812	Birmingham Ladywood			

# 2.10 CLAIMANT COUNT Area statistics

Claimant count in Parliamentary constituencies as at February 12 1998

	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	
North East Derbyshire	1,636	469	2,105	Ashton under Lyne	1,822	462	2,284
South Derbyshire	1,253	417	1,670	Bolton North East	1,714	368	2,082
West Derbyshire	836	288	1,124	Bolton South East	1,755	403	2,158
<b>Leicestershire</b>				Bolton West	805	235	1,040
Blaby	579	250	829	Bury North	901	246	1,147
Bosworth	689	282	971	Bury South	1,096	332	1,428
Charnwood	691	251	942	Cheadle	621	204	825
Harborough	705	280	985	Denton and Reddish	1,400	402	1,802
Leicester East	1,626	607	2,233	Eccles	1,655	432	2,087
Leicester South	2,527	696	3,223	Hazel Grove	833	248	1,081
Leicester West	2,257	654	2,911	Heywood and Middleton	2,079	562	2,641
Loughborough	1,115	427	1,542	Leigh	1,454	410	1,864
North West Leicestershire	968	331	1,299	Makerfield	1,432	451	1,883
Rutland and Melton	565	224	789	Manchester Blackley	2,731	607	3,338
<b>YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER</b>				Manchester Central	4,376	1,218	5,594
<b>Humberside (former county)</b>				Manchester Gorton	3,353	900	4,253
Beverley and Holderness	1,470	536	2,006	Manchester Withington	2,447	812	3,259
Brigg and Goole	1,614	455	2,069	Oldham East and Saddleworth	1,469	399	1,868
Cleethorpes	2,197	676	2,873	Oldham West and Royton	1,855	486	2,341
East Yorkshire	1,743	555	2,298	Rochdale	2,401	588	2,989
Great Grimsby	3,371	829	4,200	Salford	1,985	452	2,437
Haltemprece and Howden	837	357	1,194	Stalybridge and Hyde	1,487	431	1,918
Kingston upon Hull East	3,199	801	4,000	Stockport	1,589	380	1,969
Kingston upon Hull North	3,648	966	4,614	Stretford and Urmston	1,810	518	2,328
Kingston upon Hull West and Hessle	3,119	841	3,960	Wigan	1,646	477	2,123
Scunthorpe	1,828	545	2,373	Worsley	1,339	368	1,707
<b>North Yorkshire</b>				Wythenshawe and Sale East	2,336	563	2,899
Harrogate and Knaresborough	803	264	1,067	<b>Lancashire</b>			
Richmond	866	377	1,243	Blackburn	2,168	495	2,663
Ryedale	2,293	318	2,611	Blackpool North and Fleetwood	2,019	540	2,559
Scarborough and Whitby	797	377	1,174	Blackpool South	2,855	758	3,613
Selby	1,269	779	2,048	Burnley	1,133	309	1,442
Skipton and Ripon	687	451	1,138	Chorley	1,121	365	1,486
Vale of York	562	264	826	Fylde	656	207	863
York, City of	2,114	646	2,760	Hyndburn	1,205	371	1,576
<b>South Yorkshire</b>				Lancaster and Wyre	1,190	409	1,599
Barnsley Central	2,214	506	2,720	Morecambe and Lunesdale	1,882	552	2,434
Barnsley East and Mexborough	2,426	614	3,040	Pendle	1,100	330	1,430
Barnsley West and Penistone	1,724	445	2,169	Preston	2,418	619	3,037
Don Valley	1,986	509	2,495	Ribble Valley	538	166	704
Doncaster Central	3,114	807	3,921	Rossendale and Darwen	987	307	1,294
Doncaster North	2,472	567	3,039	South Ribble	815	316	1,131
Rother Valley	2,076	574	2,650	West Lancashire	1,977	559	2,536
Rotherham	2,775	669	3,444	<b>MERSEYSIDE</b>			
Sheffield Attercliffe	2,022	610	2,632	<b>Merseyside</b>			
Sheffield Brightside	3,112	728	3,840	Birkenhead	3,434	909	4,343
Sheffield Central	4,253	1,142	5,395	Bootle	3,280	735	4,015
Sheffield Hallam	910	369	1,279	Crosby	1,419	436	1,855
Sheffield Heeley	2,590	712	3,302	Knowsley North and Sefton East	2,690	793	3,483
Sheffield Hillsborough	1,828	591	2,419	Knowsley South	3,466	906	4,372
Wentworth	2,447	617	3,064	Liverpool Garston	2,569	665	3,234
<b>West Yorkshire</b>				Liverpool Riverside	4,837	1,351	6,188
Batley and Spen	1,501	429	1,930	Liverpool West	3,903	1,024	4,927
Bradford North	2,700	754	3,454	Liverpool Walton	3,547	938	4,485
Bradford South	2,029	583	2,612	Liverpool Wavertree	3,862	961	4,823
Bradford West	3,189	876	4,065	Liverpool West Derby	1,662	538	2,200
Calder Valley	1,342	481	1,823	Southport	1,732	534	2,266
Colne Valley	1,364	481	1,845	St Helens North	2,166	561	2,727
Dewsbury	1,399	348	1,747	St Helens South	2,748	732	3,480
Elmet	2,361	601	2,962	Wallasey	1,152	411	1,563
Halifax	1,809	486	2,295	Wirral South	1,152	411	1,563
Hemsworth	2,342	725	3,067	Wirral West	1,315	454	1,769
Huddersfield	1,445	513	1,958	<b>NORTH EAST</b>			
Keighley	4,123	961	5,084	<b>Cleveland (former county)</b>			
Leeds Central	2,898	736	3,634	Hartlepool	3,618	812	4,430
Leeds East	1,781	562	2,343	Middlesbrough	4,681	998	5,679
Leeds North East	1,292	374	1,666	Middlesbrough South and East	2,695	674	3,369
Leeds North West	2,333	564	2,897	Middlesbrough West	3,219	695	3,914
Leeds West	1,404	421	1,825	Redcar	3,562	826	4,388
Morley and Rothwell	1,263	563	1,826	Stockton North	2,399	615	3,014
Normanton	1,852	419	2,271	Stockton South			
Pontefract and Castleford	837	265	1,102	<b>Northumberland</b>			
Pudsey	1,172	404	1,576	Berwick-upon-Tweed	1,482	471	1,953
Shipley	1,964	587	2,551	Blyth Valley	1,786	578	2,364
Wakefield				Hexham	855	285	1,140
<b>NORTH WEST</b>				Wansbeck	2,069	539	2,608
<b>Cheshire</b>				<b>Durham</b>			
Chester, City of	1,427	395	1,822	Bishop Auckland	1,906	472	2,378
Congleton	759	254	1,013	Darlington	2,527	614	3,141
Crewe and Nantwich	1,378	392	1,770	Durham City of	1,541	465	2,006
Eddisbury	890	304	1,194	Easington	1,760	406	2,166
Ellesmere Port and Neston	1,354	383	1,737	North Durham	1,994	461	2,455
Halton	2,186	209	2,395	North West Durham	1,849	469	2,318
Macclesfield	857	226	1,083	Sedgefield	1,476	408	1,884
Tatton	641	226	867	<b>Tyne and Wear</b>			
Warrington North	1,515	421	1,936	Blaydon	1,808	403	2,211
Warrington South	1,092	339	1,431	Gateshead East and Washington West	1,897	425	2,322
Weaver Vale	1,724	508	2,232	Houghton and Washington East	2,076	491	2,567
<b>Cumbria</b>				Jarrow	2,344	579	2,923
Barrow and Furness	2,184	479	2,663	Newcastle upon Tyne Central	2,645	692	3,337
Carlisle	1,724	579	2,303	Newcastle upon Tyne East and Wallsend	3,152	755	3,907
Copeland	2,169	569	2,738	Newcastle upon Tyne North	2,120	500	2,620
Penrith and The Border	334	334	668	Newcastle upon Tyne South	2,552	646	3,198
Westmorland and Lonsdale	666	265	931	North Tyneside	3,085	811	3,896
Workington	2,340	634	2,974	South Shields	2,688	515	3,203
<b>Greater Manchester</b>				Sunderland North	3,259	653	3,912
Altrincham and Sale West	917	259	1,176	Sunderland South	3,909	804	4,713
				Tyne Bridge	2,056	520	2,576
				Tynemouth			

# CLAIMANT COUNT 2.10 Area statistics

Claimant count in Parliamentary constituencies as at February 12 1998

	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All	
<b>WALES</b>							
Aberavon	1,292	367	1,659	Paisley South	2,036	511	2,547
Alyn and Deeside	1,068	377	1,445	Perth	1,422	422	1,844
Blaenau Gwent	1,998	502	2,500	Ross Skye and Inverness West	2,013	797	2,810
Brecon and Radnorshire	903	345	1,248	Roxburgh and Berwickshire	941	340	1,281
Brigend	1,357	431	1,788	Stirling	1,334	396	1,730
Carmarfon	1,766	530	2,296	Strathkelvin and Bearsden	1,382	398	1,780
Cearphilly	1,961	531	2,492	Tweeddale Ettrick and Lauderdale	752	232	984
Cardiff Central	1,833	537	2,370	West Aberdeenshire and Kincardine	516	230	746
Cardiff North	800	250	1,050	West Renfrewshire	1,034	268	1,302
Cardiff South and Penarth	2,333	535	2,868	Western Isles	978	254	1,232
Cardiff West	2,123	498	2,621	<b>NORTHERN IRELAND</b>			
Carmarthen East and Dinefwr	961	317	1,278	Belfast East	2,095	534	2,629
Carmarthen West and South	1,822	519	2,341	Belfast North	3,227	681	3,908
Ceredigion	1,124	396	1,520	Belfast South	2,500	865	3,365
Ceredigion North	1,049	331	1,380	Belfast West	4,717	730	5,447
Ceredigion South	1,059	341	1,400	East Antrim	1,963	600	2,563
Ceredigion West	1,874	534	2,408	East Londonderry	2,785	686	3,471
Clackmannon	1,564	388	1,952	Fermanagh and South Tyrone	2,776	759	3,535
Clackmannon East	947	283	1,230	Forth Valley	4,826	1,064	5,890
Clackmannon West	1,093	324	1,417	Galloway	1,449	523	1,972
Clackmannon North	925	350	1,275	Mid Ulster	2,264	552	2,816
Clackmannon South	1,581	415	1,996	Newry and Armagh	3,487	808	4,295
Clackmannon North East	1,004	420	1,424	North Antrim	2,438	634	3,072
Clackmannon North West	1,828	426	2,254	North Down	1,588	572	2,160
Clackmannon South East	1,017	359	1,376	South Antrim	1,596	536	2,132
Clackmannon South West	559	244	803	South Down	2,579	754	3,333
Clackmannon East	1,381	410	1,791	Strangford	1,676	562	2,238
Clackmannon West	1,527	445	1,972	Upper Bann	1,924	632	2,556
Clackmannon North East	1,881	535	2,416	West Tyrone	1,672	663	2,335
Clackmannon North West	1,385	389	1,774				
Clackmannon South East	1,506	413	1,919				
Clackmannon South West	1,850	560	2,410				
Clackmannon East	1,747	441	2,188				
Clackmannon West	1,617	400	2,017				
Clackmannon North East	1,657	440	2,097				
Clackmannon North West	1,551	452	2,003				
Clackmannon South East	1,314	331	1,645				
Clackmannon South West	1,763	533	2,296				
Clackmannon East	1,078	305	1,383				
Clackmannon West	1,965	605	2,570				
<b>SCOTLAND</b>							
Aberdeen Central	1,224	338	1,562				
Aberdeen North	756	195	951				
Aberdeen South	835	242	1,077				
Aberdeen East and Shotts	2,03						

# 2.18 UNEMPLOYMENT Selected countries

	EU average	Major 7 nations (G7)	United Kingdom *	Australia ##	Austria #	Belgium ++	Canada ##	Denmark ++	Finland ++	France ++	Germany # (FR)
<b>STANDARDISED RATE: SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (2)</b>											
1992	9.2	6.9	10.1	10.7	..	7.3	11.2	9.2	12.4	10.4	6.6
1993	10.7	7.2	10.4	10.8	4.0	8.9	11.2	10.1	16.9	11.7	7.9
1994	11.1	7.1	9.6	9.8	3.8	10.0	10.4	8.2	17.4	12.3	8.4
1995	10.7	6.8	8.7	8.6	3.9	9.9	9.5	7.2	16.3	11.7	8.2
1996	10.9	6.8	8.2	8.6	4.4	9.8	9.7	6.9	15.4	12.4	8.9
1997											
Jan	10.8	6.8	7.6	8.6	4.4	9.5	9.7	6.6	15.2	12.4	9.4
Feb	10.7	6.8	7.4	8.8	4.4	9.5	9.7	6.7	15.1	12.5	9.4
Mar	10.8	6.8	7.5	8.8	4.4	9.6	9.3	6.4	15.1	12.5	9.5
Apr	10.8	6.7	7.3	8.8	4.4	9.6	9.5	6.3	15.3	12.5	9.5
May	10.7	6.6	7.1	8.8	4.4	9.6	9.5	6.3	16.3	12.6	9.6
Jun	10.7	6.6	7.3	8.5	4.5	9.6	9.4	6.3	14.3	12.6	9.7
Jul	10.6	6.7	7.2	8.7	4.5	9.6	9.1	6.1	12.5	12.6	9.7
Aug	10.6	6.6	7.2	8.7	4.5	9.6	9.0	6.2	12.6	12.6	9.9
Sep	10.6	6.6	6.8	8.5	4.5	9.2	9.0	5.8	13.1	12.5	10.0
Oct	10.5	6.5	6.7	8.3	4.5	9.1	9.1	5.8	13.0	12.4	10.0
Nov	10.5	6.5	6.6	8.4	4.5	9.0	9.0	5.7	12.7	12.4	10.0
Dec	10.4	6.5	6.6	8.1	4.4	9.0	8.6	5.7	12.6	12.2	10.0
1998											
Jan	10.4	6.4	6.7	8.2	4.3	8.9	8.9	5.9	12.6	12.1	9.8
<b>NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED, NATIONAL DEFINITIONS (1) SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>											
1997											
Feb	1748	808	1748	808	232	576	1477	226	429	..	4113
Mar	1711	801	1711	801	227	577	1418	223	425	..	4011
Apr	1654	800	1654	800	232	579	1464	223	420	..	4302
May	1637	808	1637	808	236	574	1453	224	416	..	4013
Jun	1600	783	1600	783	238	580	1396	223	412	..	4019
Jul	1545	800	1545	800	240	576	1384	226	407	..	4007
Aug	1495	798	1495	798	237	577	1388	220	402	..	4006
Sep	1474	787	1474	787	237	573	1385	214	392	..	4007
Oct	1463	774	1463	774	236	559	1409	212	392	..	4015
Nov	1440	779	1440	779	235	558	1394	208	389	..	4016
Dec	1411	762	1411	762	228	556	1321	206	385	..	4017
1998											
Jan	1398	755	1398	755	233	..	..	206	386	..	4035
Feb	1384	751	1384	751	..	..	..	..	386	..	4018
<b>% rate: latest month</b>											
<b>Latest 3 months: change on previous 3 months</b>											
	4.9	8.1	7.1	12.9	8.6	7.4	15.2	12.2	..	..	11.5
	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	..	..	N/C
<b>NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED, NATIONAL DEFINITIONS (1) NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>											
1992	2779	925	2779	925	193	473	1640	315	328	2818	1093
1993	2919	939	2919	939	222	550	1649	345	441	2999	1143
1994	2639	856	2639	856	215	589	1541	340	453	3094	1093
1995	2326	766	2326	766	216	597	1422	285	427	2976	1022
1996	2122	783	2122	783	231	588	1469	242	405	3063	1080
1997											
Feb	1828	906	1828	906	289	572	1566	245	438	3205	1072
Mar	1745	845	1745	845	252	560	1530	237	424	3120	1077
Apr	1688	800	1688	800	236	551	1493	227	410	3020	1047
May	1621	792	1621	792	211	537	1469	211	395	2982	1056
Jun	1550	751	1550	751	194	541	1378	203	421	2947	1022
Jul	1585	751	1585	751	193	588	1431	221	428	2964	1054
Aug	1579	765	1579	765	195	607	1394	222	396	3075	1072
Sep	1514	793	1514	793	197	599	1258	197	381	3158	1008
Oct	1433	736	1433	736	219	578	1300	195	378	3180	1091
Nov	1388	737	1388	737	241	563	1323	189	377	3182	1022
Dec	1391	764	1391	764	269	566	1240	192	407	3132	1022
1998											
Jan	1479	817	1479	817	301	..	..	235	405	..	1023
Feb	1451	843	1451	843	..	..	..	..	396	..	1019
<b>% rate: latest month</b>											
<b>Latest month: change on a year ago</b>											
	5.2	9.1	9.2	13.2	8.1	8.5	15.9	N/A	..	..	12.6
	-1.3	-0.7	N/C	-0.4	-1.3	-0.7	-1.7	N/A	..	..	0.4

Notes: 1 The figures on national definitions are not directly comparable due to differences in coverage and methods of compilation.  
 2 Unemployment as a percentage of the total labour force. The standardised unemployment rates are based on national statistics but have been adjusted when necessary, and as far as the available data allow, to bring them as close as possible to the internationally agreed ILO definitions. The standardised rates are therefore more suitable than the national figures for comparing the levels of unemployment between countries. The OECD are now using Eurostat unemployment rates for all EU countries. Rates for all other countries are calculated by the OECD.  
 The following symbols apply only to the figures on national definitions.  
 \* The seasonally adjusted series for the United Kingdom takes account of past discontinuities to be consistent with the current coverage (see notes to Table 2.1).  
 # Numbers registered at employment offices. Rates are calculated as percentages of civilian labour force, except Greece, which excludes civil servants, professional people, and farmers.  
 ++ Numbers registered at employment offices. Rates are calculated as percentages of total employees.  
 ## Insured unemployed. Rates are calculated as percentages of total insured labour force.  
 # Labour force sample survey. Rates are calculated as a percentage of total labour force.  
 # Labour force sample survey. Rates are calculated as a percentage of the civilian labour force.  
 N/C Not change.  
 N/A Not available.

# UNEMPLOYMENT 2.18 Selected countries

	Greece +	Irish Republic +	Italy **	Japan **	Luxembourg #	Netherlands ++	Norway ++	Portugal #	Spain +	Sweden ##	Switzerland ++	United States ##
<b>STANDARDISED RATE: SEASONALLY ADJUSTED (2)</b>												
1992	7.9	15.4	9.0	2.2	2.1	5.6	5.9	4.2	18.5	5.8	2.9	7.4
1993	8.6	15.6	10.3	2.5	2.7	6.6	6.0	5.7	22.8	9.5	3.8	6.8
1994	8.9	14.3	11.4	2.9	3.2	7.1	5.5	7.0	24.1	9.8	3.6	6.1
1995	9.2	12.3	11.9	3.1	2.9	6.9	5.0	7.3	22.9	9.2	3.3	5.6
1996	9.6	11.8	12.0	3.4	3.3	6.3	4.9	7.3	22.1	10.0	..	5.4
1997												
Jan	..	10.7	12.1	3.3	3.6	5.8	..	7.1	21.2	10.4	..	5.4
Feb	..	10.6	12.2	3.3	3.6	5.7	4.2	7.1	21.2	10.9	..	5.3
Mar	..	10.6	12.2	3.2	3.6	5.5	..	7.0	21.3	10.8	..	5.2
Apr	..	10.3	12.2	3.3	3.7	5.5	..	6.6	21.2	10.7	..	4.9
May	..	10.2	12.2	3.6	3.7	5.5	4.5	6.5	21.1	10.8	..	4.8
Jun	..	10.2	12.1	3.5	3.7	5.6	..	6.8	21.0	10.8	..	5.0
Jul	..	10.2	12.1	3.4	3.8	5.5	..	7.0	20.6	10.5	..	4.8
Aug	..	10.1	12.1	3.4	3.7	5.4	4.1	6.8	20.5	9.9	..	4.9
Sep	..	10.0	12.1	3.4	3.7	4.9	..	6.8	20.6	9.8	..	4.9
Oct	..	9.9	12.1	3.4	3.7	4.7	..	6.7	20.2	9.8	..	4.8
Nov	..	9.8	..	3.5	3.6	4.5	3.8	6.6	20.2	9.2	..	4.6
Dec	..	9.8	..	3.4	3.6	4.6	..	6.6	20.4	9.1	..	4.7
1998												
Jan	..	..	..	3.5	3.4	..	..	6.6	20.2	9.3	..	4.7
<b>NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED, NATIONAL DEFINITIONS (1) SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>												
1997												
Feb	191	260	..	2280	6.2	398	81	..	2190	..	194	7174
Mar	212	261	..	2220	6.1	389	81	..	2167	..	195	7080
Apr	204	257	2864	2240	6.4	386	78	..	2160	..	195	6768
May	212	256	..	2350	6.5	395	78	..	2124	..	193	6566
Jun	221	256	..	2330	6.4	395	72	..	2123	..	192	6814
Jul	226	255	2731	2310	6.5	387	71	..	2085	..	189	6633
Aug	226	254	..	2300	6.5	372	73	..	2075	..	188	6657
Sep	227	251	..	2330	6.5	353	75	..	2075	..	185	6678
Oct	232	250	2784	2350	6.4	350	69	..	2069	..	179	6496
Nov	224	246	..	2360	6.2	333	65	..	2064	..	176	6289
Dec	..	245	..	2350	6.4	329	..	..	2068	..	..	6392
1998												
Jan	..	241	..	2380	..	333	..	..	..	..	..	6409
Feb	..	238	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6393
<b>% rate: latest month</b>												
<b>Latest 3 months: change on previous 3 months</b>												
	N/A	N/A	12.1	3.5	N/A	4.9	2.7	..	12.9	..	4.9	4.6
	N/A	N/A	-0.3	0.1	N/A	-0.4	-0.1	..	-0.1	..	-0.2	-0.1
<b>NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED, NATIONAL DEFINITIONS (1) NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED</b>												
1992	185	283	2549	1421	2.7	337	114	317	2260	232	92	9384
1993	176	294	2335	1656	3.5	417	118	347	2538	356	163	8734
1994	180	282	2561	1920	4.6	485	110	396	2647	340	171	7997
1995	184											



# 2.19 CLAIMANT COUNT

Flows standardised, not seasonally adjusted

THOUSANDS

UNITED KINGDOM		INFLOW +						
Month ending	Male and Female		Male		Female		Married	
	All	Change since previous year	All	Change since previous year	All	Change since previous year		
	1997 Feb 13	292.3	-16.9	206.6	-13.1	85.7		-3.8
Mar 13	263.4	-6.1	188.2	-1.9	75.1	-4.3	21.4	
Apr 10	270.4	-21.0	190.2	-10.4	80.2	-10.6	25.2	
May 8	257.0	3.9	185.0	5.7	71.9	-1.8	20.8	
Jun 12	261.9	6.4	186.6	9.0	75.3	-2.7	20.5	
Jul 10	338.0	-26.4	223.7	-9.2	114.3	-17.1	26.3	
Aug 14	289.6	-19.1	194.3	-5.6	95.3	-13.6	25.1	
Sep 11	279.8	-0.9	190.6	1.6	89.2	-2.5	22.7	
Oct 9	280.6	1.5	196.6	1.9	84.0	-0.3	22.5	
Nov 13	269.3	0.6	192.8	2.5	76.5	-1.8	21.3	
Dec 11	262.4	4.8	194.5	4.6	67.9	0.2	18.9	
1998 Jan 8	281.2	-22.1	201.0	-14.1	80.3	-8.1	23.3	
Feb 12	282.4	-9.9	199.2	-7.4	83.2	-2.5	23.4	

UNITED KINGDOM		OUTFLOW +						
Month ending	Male and Female		Male		Female		Married	
	All	Change since previous year	All	Change since previous year	All	Change since previous year		
	1997 Feb 13	361.6	44.3	258.8	33.3	102.8		11.0
Mar 13	352.8	20.7	254.2	17.4	98.5	3.3	28.5	
Apr 10	332.5	33.7	237.4	24.1	95.1	9.6	28.5	
May 8	330.0	-5.9	238.1	2.9	92.0	-8.8	26.9	
Jun 12	322.9	23.1	235.6	19.6	87.3	3.5	24.0	
Jul 10	299.9	2.5	215.0	0.5	84.9	2.0	22.3	
Aug 14	294.9	6.0	207.1	4.7	87.7	1.4	22.1	
Sep 11	350.9	7.2	238.5	13.5	112.4	-6.2	29.1	
Oct 9	368.0	-48.1	254.0	-27.1	113.9	-21.0	27.3	
Nov 13	308.5	-51.9	217.7	-32.0	90.7	-19.9	23.6	
Dec 11	258.4	-2.8	183.0	0.1	75.4	-2.9	19.3	
1998 Jan 8	186.0	-74.5	129.8	-49.5	56.2	-24.9	15.9	
Feb 12	306.7	-54.9	222.5	-36.3	84.2	-18.6	23.8	

\* The claimant count flow statistics are described in *Employment Gazette*, August 1983, pp351-58. Flow figures are collected for four or five-week periods between count dates; the figures in the table are converted to a standard 4 1/3 week month.  
+ The flows in this table are not on quite the same basis as those in Table 2.20. While Table 2.20 relates to computerised records only for GB, this table gives estimates of total flows for the UK. It is assumed that computerised inflows are the best estimates of total inflows, while outflows are calculated by subtracting the changes in stocks from the inflows.

# CLAIMANT COUNT 2.20

Flows by age (GB): standardised\* not seasonally adjusted: computerised claims only THOUSANDS

INFLW Month ending	Age group									
	Under 18	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60 and over	All ages
MALE 1997 Sep 11	4.7	22.1	40.4	30.6	22.9	30.3	23.3	8.0	2.3	184.5
Oct 9	4.6	19.5	41.4	32.4	23.8	32.1	25.3	9.0	2.8	190.9
Nov 13	4.2	18.2	38.6	31.8	24.4	32.9	25.8	9.1	2.9	187.8
Dec 11	4.3	18.7	38.3	32.4	25.5	34.4	25.1	8.4	2.6	189.8
1998 Jan 8	4.0	17.9	38.9	33.1	26.2	36.1	27.7	9.1	3.1	196.1
Feb 12	6.0	20.7	39.5	32.4	24.8	33.8	25.2	8.8	2.7	193.9
FEMALE 1997 Sep 11	3.7	14.9	20.4	11.7	7.4	11.7	11.9	3.4	0.0	85.2
Oct 9	3.6	12.2	19.1	11.6	7.3	11.3	11.9	3.6	0.0	80.8
Nov 13	3.1	10.2	16.7	10.9	6.8	10.9	11.9	3.7	0.0	74.1
Dec 11	2.9	9.4	14.0	9.3	6.1	10.1	10.9	3.3	0.0	66.1
1998 Jan 8	2.7	10.5	17.4	11.4	7.3	12.1	12.8	3.6	0.0	77.8
Feb 12	4.5	12.5	17.4	11.3	7.5	12.0	11.8	3.6	0.0	80.5
Changes in a year earlier										
MALE 1997 Sep 11	1.1	0.8	-1.5	0.3	0.6	1.1	-0.8	-0.3	-0.6	0.8
Oct 9	0.7	0.9	-0.9	0.6	0.7	1.7	-1.2	-0.4	-0.5	1.6
Nov 13	0.2	1.8	-1.0	0.5	0.7	1.2	-0.2	-1.0	-0.4	2.0
Dec 11	0.1	2.0	-0.8	0.8	1.0	1.6	0.1	-0.3	-0.3	4.2
1998 Jan 8	0.1	-0.1	-4.4	-2.7	-2.2	-1.0	-2.5	-1.1	-0.5	-14.3
Feb 12	-0.2	0.4	-3.2	-1.4	-1.1	0.0	-1.3	-0.7	-0.4	-7.8
FEMALE 1997 Sep 11	0.8	0.3	-2.3	-0.9	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-2.8
Oct 9	0.6	0.3	-1.6	-0.6	-0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.0	-0.6
Nov 13	0.1	0.5	-1.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.5	-0.3	-0.1	0.0	-1.9
Dec 11	0.1	0.4	-0.8	-0.3	-0.2	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1
1998 Jan 8	-0.1	-0.3	-3.1	-1.5	-0.8	-0.9	-0.8	-0.3	0.0	-7.9
Feb 12	-0.1	0.2	-2.0	-0.8	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-2.9

OUTFLOW Month ending	Age group									
	Under 18	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-44	45-54 +	55-59 +	60 and over +	All ages
MALE 1997 Sep 11	4.6	19.6	52.4	38.4	29.4	38.4	29.0	10.0	3.5	225.4
Oct 9	4.6	23.1	56.4	40.9	30.8	40.3	30.2	10.6	3.6	240.7
Nov 13	4.0	17.6	44.8	35.4	27.1	36.7	27.9	9.9	3.4	206.9
Dec 11	3.4	14.6	36.9	29.5	23.0	30.8	23.6	8.7	3.2	173.6
1998 Jan 8	2.8	10.1	24.6	20.7	16.5	22.2	17.0	6.1	2.5	122.5
Feb 12	4.4	16.5	41.7	36.8	29.3	39.4	29.4	10.2	4.1	211.8
FEMALE 1997 Sep 11	3.7	12.7	30.1	15.3	9.4	14.8	14.7	4.4	0.1	105.3
Oct 9	3.6	15.1	29.3	15.2	9.5	14.3	14.9	4.7	0.1	106.8
Nov 13	3.1	11.3	21.7	12.7	7.8	12.9	12.9	4.2	0.1	85.9
Dec 11	2.6	9.3	17.8	10.7	6.5	9.9	11.0	3.4	0.1	71.2
1998 Jan 8	2.1	6.1	11.9	8.0	5.3	8.1	8.5	2.6	0.2	52.8
Feb 12	3.3	9.6	18.2	11.9	7.8	12.1	12.8	4.0	0.1	79.9
Changes on a year earlier										
MALE 1997 Sep 11	1.3	2.3	-0.4	1.2	1.4	2.2	0.7	-0.2	-0.9	7.5
Oct 9	0.5	-1.6	-11.0	-4.2	-2.9	-2.3	-2.6	-1.0	-1.2	-26.0
Nov 13	0.4	0.3	-7.1	-4.8	-3.5	-3.2	-4.0	-2.0	-1.4	-25.2
Dec 11	1.0	2.2	-0.2	0.5	0.6	0.8	-1.2	-0.5	-0.9	2.3
1998 Jan 8	-0.1	-1.2	-9.1	-7.2	-5.2	-6.8	-7.0	-2.8	-1.4	-40.9
Feb 12	0.0	-0.2	-7.4	-5.2	-4.6	-5.5	-5.8	-2.5	-1.7	-33.0
FEMALE 1997 Sep 11	1.1	1.2	-2.1	-0.8	-1.0	-2.8	-2.7	-0.3	-0.1	-7.4
Oct 9	0.4	-2.0	-8.4	-3.2	-2.2	-2.2	-1.2	-0.1	-0.1	-18.9
Nov 13	0.3	-0.6	-5.3	-2.8	-2.1	-2.2	-2.2	-0.8	-0.1	-15.8
Dec 11	0.8	1.1	-0.9	-0.7	-0.6	-0.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-1.5
1998 Jan 8	-0.2	-1.2	-5.3	-3.7	-2.3	-2.9	-3.1	-1.1	-0.1	-19.8
Feb 12	-0.1	-1.0	-4.8	-3.2	-2.2	-2.3	-2.4	-0.8	-0.1	-16.9

\* Flows figures are collected for four or five-week periods between count dates; the figures in the table are converted to a standard 4 1/3 week month.  
+ The outflows, for older age groups in particular, are affected by the exclusion of non-computerised records from this table. Those who attend ES local offices only quarterly, who are mainly aged 50 and over, cease to be part of the computerised records.

# 2.21 CLAIMANT COUNT

## Average duration

### Average duration of claims terminating in the quarter ending January 1998

Age (years)	Off-flows (thousands)			Mean duration (weeks)			Median duration (weeks)		
	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All
<b>United Kingdom</b>									
16-17	7.9	10.4	18.3	8	7	8	6	5	5
18-19	28.4	44.6	73.0	14	15	14	8	8	8
20-24	55.0	112.4	167.4	19	23	22	8	10	9
25-29	33.1	89.8	122.8	24	34	31	9	11	11
30-34	20.6	69.9	90.5	27	44	40	9	13	12
35-39	15.8	52.4	68.3	26	48	43	9	13	11
40-44	15.7	41.5	57.2	27	50	44	9	12	11
45-49	17.2	37.0	54.2	29	51	44	9	11	11
50-54	16.4	34.4	50.8	30	46	41	10	11	11
55-59	10.6	25.7	36.3	42	54	51	14	14	14
60 & over	0.4	9.4	9.9	130	46	50	55	13	15
<b>All ages</b>	<b>221.1</b>	<b>527.6</b>	<b>748.7</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>North East</b>									
16-17	0.5	0.8	1.3	8	8	8	6	6	6
18-19	1.8	3.0	4.8	17	16	16	8	9	9
20-24	2.8	6.6	9.4	20	24	23	9	10	10
25-29	1.3	5.0	6.3	24	35	33	8	11	10
30-34	0.9	4.1	5.0	25	42	39	9	10	10
35-39	0.8	3.5	4.2	22	43	39	8	8	8
40-44	0.9	2.9	3.8	27	43	39	8	8	8
45-49	0.9	2.5	3.5	30	40	37	8	7	8
50-54	0.8	2.3	3.1	31	39	37	9	9	9
55-59	0.5	1.7	2.2	47	50	49	19	10	11
60 & over	0.0	0.6	0.6	94	55	55	45	13	13
<b>All ages</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>North West (GOR)</b>									
16-17	0.8	1.1	1.9	8	7	8	5	5	5
18-19	2.9	4.7	7.6	12	14	13	7	7	7
20-24	5.1	11.8	16.9	12	20	18	7	9	8
25-29	2.8	8.9	11.8	20	29	27	8	10	9
30-34	1.6	6.5	8.2	20	34	32	8	10	10
35-39	1.4	4.8	6.2	24	37	34	7	10	9
40-44	1.3	3.7	5.0	18	41	35	7	10	9
45-49	1.6	3.4	5.0	20	44	37	7	10	9
50-54	1.4	3.3	4.7	25	38	34	8	10	9
55-59	0.9	2.4	3.3	37	46	40	10	11	11
60 & over	0.0	0.8	0.8	86	37	39	57	10	11
<b>All ages</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Merseyside</b>									
16-17	0.3	0.4	0.7	7	8	7	5	5	5
18-19	1.0	1.5	2.5	17	20	19	9	11	10
20-24	1.8	3.7	5.5	25	31	29	11	14	13
25-29	0.9	2.8	3.7	28	46	41	9	17	15
30-34	0.6	2.1	2.7	36	62	57	11	19	17
35-39	0.4	1.6	2.0	38	70	64	12	21	19
40-44	0.4	1.3	1.7	35	59	52	12	18	16
45-49	0.4	1.0	1.4	38	70	61	13	16	15
50-54	0.4	1.0	1.3	37	66	58	12	15	14
55-59	0.2	0.7	1.0	58	71	68	21	19	19
60 & over	0.0	0.2	0.2	139	70	72	90	17	17
<b>All ages</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Yorks &amp; Humberside</b>									
16-17	1.0	1.2	2.2	7	7	7	5	5	5
18-19	2.8	4.6	7.4	14	15	15	8	8	8
20-24	4.8	11.2	16.1	19	29	23	9	10	10
25-29	2.8	8.7	11.5	24	32	30	9	10	10
30-34	1.6	6.4	8.0	27	40	37	9	11	11
35-39	1.3	4.8	6.1	24	42	39	9	11	10
40-44	1.4	4.1	5.4	24	45	40	9	11	10
45-49	1.5	3.6	5.1	25	39	39	9	10	10
50-54	1.4	3.3	4.8	30	42	38	10	11	10
55-59	0.9	2.5	3.4	41	56	52	14	14	14
60 & over	0.0	0.8	0.9	152	46	50	59	15	16
<b>All ages</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>51.3</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>East Midlands</b>									
16-17	0.5	0.6	1.1	8	8	8	6	6	6
18-19	1.9	2.9	4.8	13	14	13	7	7	7
20-24	3.6	7.4	11.0	18	23	21	8	10	9
25-29	2.1	5.8	7.9	25	38	35	8	11	10
30-34	1.3	4.5	5.8	30	52	47	9	13	12
35-39	1.0	3.4	4.4	24	54	47	8	12	11
40-44	1.0	2.7	3.8	28	57	49	8	12	11
45-49	1.2	2.5	3.7	29	59	49	9	12	11
50-54	1.2	2.3	3.4	30	46	41	13	10	10
55-59	0.7	1.7	2.4	43	54	51	13	13	13
60 & over	0.0	0.6	0.7	136	49	53	95	12	13
<b>All ages</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>West Midlands</b>									
16-17	0.6	0.7	1.3	7	7	7	5	5	5
18-19	2.8	4.3	7.1	15	14	15	9	8	8
20-24	5.1	10.2	15.3	21	24	23	10	11	10
25-29	2.8	7.6	10.4	25	36	33	10	13	12
30-34	1.6	5.6	7.2	29	49	44	9	14	12
35-39	1.3	4.2	5.5	25	51	45	8	15	14
40-44	1.3	3.4	4.7	30	52	46	9	13	12
45-49	1.5	3.1	4.5	32	46	39	9	12	11
50-54	1.6	2.9	4.5	34	48	43	10	12	11
55-59	1.0	2.2	3.2	45	56	53	12	15	14
60 & over	0.0	0.9	0.9	219	47	54	99	12	13
<b>All ages</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>64.7</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Eastern</b>									
16-17	0.6	0.7	1.3	7	7	7	5	5	5
18-19	2.2	3.2	5.5	13	13	13	7	7	7
20-24	4.0	7.6	11.6	17	20	19	7	8	8
25-29	2.3	6.0	8.3	19	29	26	9	10	9
30-34	1.5	4.7	6.2	24	37	34	8	11	10
35-39	1.2	3.6	4.7	25	40	36	9	11	10
40-44	1.3	3.0	4.3	23	42	36	8	11	9
45-49	1.5	2.7	4.2	29	44	39	9	12	11
50-54	1.5	2.7	4.2	27	38	34	9	10	9
55-59	0.9	1.9	2.8	36	42	40	13	12	12
60 & over	0.0	0.9	0.9	82	33	36	49	11	12
<b>All ages</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

# CLAIMANT COUNT 2.21

## Average duration

### Average duration of claims terminating in the quarter ending January 1998

Age (years)	Off-flows (thousands)			Mean duration (weeks)			Median duration (weeks)		
	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All
<b>London</b>									
16-17	0.7	0.8	1.5	9	8	9	7	6	6
18-19	3.2	4.5	7.8	17	18	18	10	10	10
20-24	8.4	13.7	22.1	25	30	28	11	13	12
25-29	6.6	13.8	20.4	30	42	38	12	16	14
30-34	4.3	11.6	15.9	36	55	50	13	20	18
35-39	2.8	8.1	10.9	34	64	56	13	22	19
40-44	2.3	5.7	8.0	35	70	60	13	23	19
45-49	2.3	4.5	6.8	39	72	61	14	24	20
50-54	2.0	3.7	5.7	40	63	55	14	24	21
55-59	1.5	3.0	4.4	50	66	61	21	24	23
60 & over	0.1	1.1	1.2	134	50	55	60	21	22
<b>All ages</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>104.8</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>South East (GOR)</b>									
16-17	0.7	0.8	1.5	7	6	7	5	4	5
18-19	2.3	3.8	6.1	13	13	13	7	7	7
20-24	4.8	9.9	14.8	17	19	18	7	8	8
25-29	3.0	8.2	11.2	24	30	28	8	10	9
30-34	1.9	6.7	8.6	24	37	35	8	11	10
35-39	1.5	4.9	6.4	22	41	37	9	11	11
40-44	1.6	4.1	5.6	25	44	38	8	11	10
45-49	1.9	3.9	5.9	25	44	38	9	12	11
50-54	1.8	3.8	5.6	27	40	36	9	11	10
55-59	1.3	2.7	4.0	36	45	42	11	12	12
60 & over	0.0	1.1	1.2	101	36	39	29	11	11
<b>All ages</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>70.8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>South West</b>									
16-17	0.5	0.7	1.2	7	6	6	5	5	5
18-19	2.1								

## 2.24 CLAIMANT COUNT By sought and usual occupation

United Kingdom as at February 12 1998

Description	SOC Major sub-groups	Usual occupation						Sought occupation					
		Men		Women		All		Men		Women		All	
		Thousand	Per cent	Thousand	Per cent	Thousand	Per cent	Thousand	Per cent	Thousand	Per cent	Thousand	Per cent
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>													
		29.3	2.7	7.3	2.2	36.6	2.5	31.2	2.8	8.0	2.4	39.2	2.7
Corporate managers and administrators	10-15&19	29.3	2.7	7.3	2.2	36.6	2.5	31.2	2.8	8.0	2.4	39.2	2.7
Managers/proprietors in agriculture and services	16-17	15.7	1.4	4.6	1.4	20.4	1.4	16.2	1.5	4.9	1.5	21.1	1.5
Science and engineering professionals	20-21	11.3	1.0	1.5	0.5	12.8	0.9	13.2	1.2	2.1	0.6	15.3	1.1
Health professionals	22	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.9	0.1
Teaching professionals	23	8.9	0.8	7.3	2.2	16.1	1.1	9.5	0.9	7.8	2.3	17.3	1.2
Other professional occupations	24-29	7.3	0.7	2.7	0.8	10.0	0.7	8.6	0.8	3.4	1.0	12.0	0.8
Science and engineering associate professionals	30-32	11.4	1.0	1.4	0.4	12.9	0.9	14.1	1.3	1.8	0.5	16.0	1.1
Health associate professionals	34	1.2	0.1	2.5	0.7	3.7	0.3	1.4	0.1	2.9	0.9	4.3	0.3
Other associate professional occupations	33&35-39	34.1	3.1	14.6	4.3	48.6	3.4	42.3	3.8	18.9	5.6	61.1	4.2
Clerical occupations	40-44&49	102.8	9.3	56.2	16.6	159.0	11.0	128.8	11.7	68.5	20.2	197.3	13.7
Secretarial occupations	45-46	1.6	0.1	15.1	4.5	16.8	1.2	1.8	0.2	17.1	5.1	18.9	1.3
Skilled construction trades	50	67.9	6.2	0.5	0.1	68.3	4.7	72.0	6.5	0.6	0.2	72.6	5.0
Skilled engineering trades	51-52	34.3	3.1	0.5	0.2	34.8	2.4	36.8	3.3	0.6	0.2	37.4	2.6
Other skilled trades	53-59	95.0	8.6	7.7	2.3	102.8	7.1	103.2	9.4	8.0	2.4	111.3	7.7
Protective service occupations	60-61	15.0	1.4	0.9	0.3	15.9	1.1	16.5	1.5	1.1	0.3	17.6	1.2
Personal service occupations	62-69	43.6	4.0	44.3	13.1	88.0	6.1	47.9	4.3	53.3	15.7	101.3	7.0
Buyers, brokers and sales representatives	70-71	11.6	1.1	2.0	0.6	13.6	0.9	12.6	1.1	2.1	0.6	14.7	1.0
Other sales occupations	72-73&79	43.5	3.9	48.6	14.3	92.1	6.4	53.6	4.9	63.8	18.8	117.3	8.1
Industrial plant and machine operators, assemblers	80-86&89	51.3	4.7	14.4	4.3	65.8	4.6	53.5	4.9	14.6	4.3	68.1	4.7
Drivers and mobile machine operators	87-88	78.4	7.1	2.0	0.6	80.4	5.6	93.5	8.5	2.6	0.8	96.2	6.7
Other occupations in agriculture, forestry & fishing	90	12.9	1.2	2.2	0.6	15.1	1.0	13.7	1.2	2.8	0.8	16.4	1.1
Other elementary occupations	91-99	303.3	27.5	47.9	14.1	351.2	24.4	318.9	28.9	48.8	14.4	367.7	25.5
No previous occupation/ sought occupation unknown		122.1	11.1	54.0	15.9	176.1	12.2	13.4	1.2	4.6	1.4	18.0	1.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,103.1</b>		<b>338.7</b>		<b>1,441.8</b>		<b>1,103.1</b>		<b>338.7</b>		<b>1,441.8</b>	

Note: Excludes clerically operated claims.  
Not seasonally adjusted.

## 2.25 CLAIMANT COUNT Destination of leavers from the claimant count by duration of claim

Leavers between 9 January 1998 and 12 February 1998, unadjusted

Description	Duration of claim					Total
	Less than 13 weeks	13-26 weeks	26-52 weeks	52-104 weeks	More than 104 weeks	
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>						
	120.9	30.7	18.8	8.5	6.5	185.4
Found work	5.9	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	8.2
Works on average 16+ hours per week	4.6	1.8	1.3	0.6	0.4	8.7
Gone abroad	2.0	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.8	5.4
Claimed Income Support	5.9	3.5	3.4	2.2	2.5	17.6
Claimed Incapacity Benefit	2.4	1.7	1.5	0.9	1.1	7.5
Claimed another benefit	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.7
Full-time education	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.5
Approved training	5.5	2.5	5.5	3.4	6.5	23.5
Government supported training	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6
Retirement age reached	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.7
Automatic credits	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.2
Gone to prison	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Attending court	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Defective claim	3.2	1.1	1.2	0.5	0.4	6.4
Ceased claiming	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deceased	6.7	1.7	1.5	0.7	0.6	11.1
Not known	41.0	10.4	7.4	3.5	2.7	65.1
Failed to sign	203.0	56.6	43.1	21.6	22.3	346.6
<b>Total</b>						

Notes: 1 Computerised claims only.  
2 For more information on the definitions and uses of these data, see 'Destination of leavers from claimant unemployment', *Labour Market Trends*, October 1996, pp443-52.

## REDUNDANCIES IN GREAT BRITAIN 2.32

THOUSANDS

Now in employment (found new job since redundancy)	All	1994	1994	1995	1995	1995	1995	1996	1996	1996	1997	1997	
		Aut	Win	Spr	Sum	Aut	Win	Spr	Sum	Aut	Win	Spr	Sum
	All	61	53	87	80	82	77	74	84	76	67	77	72
Not in employment	All	129	66	133	130	131	148	133	124	109	119	129	98
All people	All	190	119	220	210	213	225	207	208	185	186	206	187
	Men	129	80	137	132	135	149	143	136	116	123	140	117
	Women	61	39	82	78	78	75	64	72	69	63	66	70

Note: Figures are based on estimates from the Labour Force Survey, and show the numbers of people who were made redundant in the three months prior to their interview.

## REDUNDANCIES BY REGION 2.33

	Great Britain	North East	North West	Mersey-side	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland
<b>Redundancies (thousands)</b>													
All	185	*	16	*	20	15	15	13	21	30	15	*	22
Autumn 1996	186	*	23	*	13	18	19	21	15	27	12	*	23
Winter 1996	206	13	23	*	20	18	18	18	21	28	13	11	18
Spring 1997	187	*	21	*	16	15	22	20	20	23	13	*	19
Summer 1997	170	*	22	*	16	13	16	16	20	19	13	*	18
<b>Redundancy rates (redundancies per 1,000 employees)</b>													
All	8	*	8	*	11	9	7	6	8	9	8	*	11
Autumn 1996	8	*	11	*	7	10	9	10	6	8	6	*	11
Winter 1996	9	13	11	*	11	10	9	8	8	9	7	11	9
Spring 1997	8	*	10	*	8	9	10	9	7	7	7	*	9
Summer 1997	7	*	10	*	8	7	7	7	6	7	7	*	9

Less than 10,000 in cell; estimate not shown.

## REDUNDANCIES BY AGE 2.34

Ages	16 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 and over	All ages
<b>Redundancies (thousands)</b>						
Autumn 1996		41	52	31	38	22
Winter 1996		39	48	39	38	22
Spring 1997		39	50	48	41	28
Summer 1997		31	49	40	43	24
Autumn 1997		34	35	39	41	20
<b>Redundancy rates (redundancies per 1,000 employees)</b>						
Autumn 1996		11	9	6	8	9
Winter 1996		11	8	7	8	9
Spring 1997		11	8	9	8	11
Summer 1997		9	8	7	9	10
Autumn 1997		9	6	7	8	8

## REDUNDANCIES BY INDUSTRY 2.35

SIC 1992 #	Agriculture & fishing (A,B)	Energy and water (C,E)	Manufacturing (D)	Construction (F)	Distribution, hotels & restaurants (G,H)	Transport (I)	Banking, finance & insurance (J,K)	Public admin, education & health (L,M,N)	Other services (O,P,Q)
<b>Redundancies (thousands)</b>									
Autumn 1996	*	*	44	20	44	12	28	19	*
Winter 1996	*	*	56	23	37	15	26	17	*
Spring 1997	*	*	61	25	43	17	28	19	*
Summer 1997	*	*	54	21	34	12	30	21	*
Autumn 1997	*	*	42	22	33	15	27	19	*
<b>Redundancy rates (redundancies per 1,000 employees)</b>									
Autumn 1996	*	*	9	20	10	8	9	3	*
Winter 1996	*	*	12	23	8	10	8	3	*
Spring 1997	*	*	13	26	9	12	9	3	*
Summer 1997	*	*	12	20	8	8	9	4	*
Autumn 1997	*	*	9	20	7	10	8	3	*

Note: Table 2.35 assumes that people do not change industry when starting employment after having been made redundant.  
Less than 10,000 in cell; estimate not shown.

## REDUNDANCIES BY OCCUPATION 2.36

SIC	Managers and administrators	Professional	Associate professional and technical	Clerical and secretarial	Craft and related	Personal and protective services	Sales	Plant and machine operatives	Other
<b>Redundancies (thousands)</b>									
Autumn 1996	26	11	11	28	30	15	19	22	20
Winter 1996	22	*	11	30	31	16	17	32	19
Spring 1997	26	*	12	32	43	14	15	36	19
Summer 1997	20	*	13	38	33	12	15	32	16
Autumn 1997	20	*	*	34	30	14	15	26	14
<b>Redundancy rates (redundancies per 1,000 employees)</b>									
Autumn 1996	8	5	6	8	14	6	10	10	11
Winter 1996	7	*	5	8	14	6	9	15	10
Spring 1997	8	*	6	9	19	5	7	17	10
Summer 1997	6	*	6	10	15	5	8	15	9
Autumn 1997	6	*	*	9	13	5	8	11	7

Note: Table 2.36 assumes that people do not change occupation when starting employment after having been made redundant.  
Less than 10,000 in cell; estimate not shown.

New From the Office for National Statistics

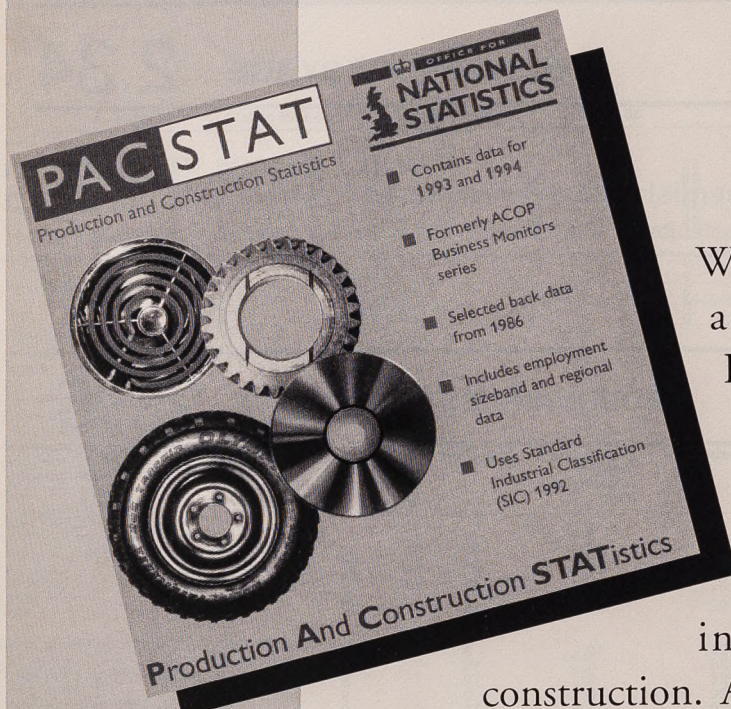
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## UK vacancies at Jobcentres:\* seasonally adjusted 3.1

THOUSANDS

UNITED KINGDOM	UNFILLED VACANCIES			INFLOW		OUTFLOW		of which PLACINGS	
	Level	Change since previous month	Average change over 3 months ended	Level	Average change over 3 months ended	Level	Average change over 3 months ended	Level	Average change over 3 months ended
1994 } Annual averages	158.0			211.4		208.1		160.6	
	182.8			223.5		222.5		170.9	
	225.8			203.0		196.9		139.0	
1996 } Annual averages	283.4			227.3		227.2		139.7	
	187.9	0.6	-1.4	225.7	-3.1	225.4	-2.9	166.8	-3.9
	195.1	7.2	2.3	224.7	1.1	219.7	-0.6	158.5	-2.9
1996 } Monthly	197.0	1.9	3.2	228.0	3.6	222.7	1.1	157.8	-3.1
	205.1	8.1	5.7	228.6	1.0	222.4	-1.0	157.3	-3.2
	218.8	13.7	7.9	218.1	-2.2	206.9	-4.3	145.3	-4.4
1997 } Monthly	230.1	11.3	11.0	223.1	-1.6	212.4	-3.4	147.7	-3.4
	237.0	6.9	10.6	218.7	-3.3	212.1	-3.4	147.3	-3.3
	253.6	16.6	11.6	220.6	0.8	207.1	0.1	143.8	-0.5
1997 } Monthly	262.6	9.0	10.8	202.2	-7.0	193.6	-6.3	131.7	-5.3
	268.7	6.1	10.6	229.6	3.6	220.9	2.9	145.2	-0.7
	266.3	-2.4	4.2	225.7	1.7	234.4	9.1	160.0	5.4
1997 } Monthly	263.1	-3.2	0.2	204.1	0.6	213.5	6.6	150.0	6.1
	271.6	8.5	1.0	243.4	4.6	236.6	5.2	160.6	5.1
	275.3	3.7	3.0	250.4	8.2	255.6	7.1	173.1	4.4
1997 } Monthly	274.6	-0.7	3.8	238.2	11.4	240.3	8.9	163.7	4.6
	274.3	-0.3	0.9	239.0	-1.5	239.0	0.8	163.2	0.9
	282.9	8.6	2.5	225.9	-8.2	217.7	-12.6	141.1	-10.7
1997 } Monthly	285.1	2.2	3.5	224.2	-4.7	224.6	-5.2	137.5	-8.7
	292.1	7.0	5.9	218.6	-6.8	210.2	-9.6	120.2	-14.3
	300.2	8.1	5.8	228.2	0.8	214.8	-1.0	124.7	-5.5
1997 } Monthly	311.5	11.3	8.8	225.5	0.4	216.5	-2.7	116.4	-7.0
	289.3	-22.2	-0.9	217.7	-0.3	235.3	8.4	112.6	-2.5
	280.8	-8.5	-6.5	212.5	-5.2	221.8	2.3	113.2	-3.8
1998 } Jan F	268.9	-11.9	-14.2	192.2	-11.1	212.2	-1.4	120.7	1.4
	279.7	10.8	-3.2	224.2	2.2	215.0	-6.8	116.2	1.2

Note: Vacancies notified to and placings made by Jobcentres do not represent the total number of vacancies/engagements in the economy. Latest estimates suggest that about a third of all vacancies nationally are notified to Jobcentres; and about a quarter of all engagements are made through Jobcentres. Inflow, outflow and placings figures are collected for four or five-week periods between count dates; the figures in this table are converted to a standard 4 1/3 week month. Excluding vacancies on government programmes (except vacancies on Enterprise Ulster and Action for Community Employment (ACE) which are included in the seasonally-adjusted figures for Northern Ireland). Figures on the current basis are available back to 1980. For further details, see *Employment Gazette*, p 143, October 1985. The latest national and regional seasonally adjusted vacancy figures are provisional and subject to revision, mainly in the following month.

## Government Office Regions: vacancies remaining unfilled at Jobcentres:\* seasonally adjusted 3.2

THOUSANDS

	North East	North West	Mersey-side	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
1996 } Monthly	6.6	18.7	4.0	13.9	12.7	16.0	14.6	19.5	24.1	15.4	13.2	23.5	180.9	7.0	187.9
	6.8	19.4	4.5	14.6	13.0	16.5	15.3	21.0	24.8	16.6	13.5	23.1	187.9	7.2	195.1
1996 } Monthly	6.6	19.0	4.8	15.0	13.0	16.5	14.6	21.6	26.4	17.0	13.3	22.9	190.0	7.0	197.0
	7.2	20.2	4.7	15.3	13.1	17.4	16.3	25.1	25.7	17.3	13.4	23.4	198.3	6.8	205.1
	7.9	21.5	4.6	15.7	13.7	18.5	17.3	28.3	27.7	18.9	14.0	24.4	212.0	6.8	218.8
1997 } Monthly	8.4	23.3	4.7	16.6	14.4	19.5	17.9	30.1	28.9	19.4	14.6	25.8	223.4	6.7	230.1
	8.8	22.7	5.0	17.9	14.9	19.8	18.6	31.8	29.5	20.0	15.1	26.0	230.5	6.5	237.0
	9.5	23.8	5.2	19.4	16.5	20.6	19.6	34.5	30.7	21.6	15.7	27.6	246.8	6.8	253.6
1997 } Monthly	9.9	25.3	5.3	19.6	17.4	21.5	21.1	37.0	32.2	22.0	16.0	28.6	255.8	6.8	262.6
	9.7	25.4	5.9	19.8	18.1	21.6	21.5	39.5	32.4	22.9	15.7	28.7	261.1	7.6	268.7
	9.6	25.1	5.7	19.0	18.4	21.7	22.2	38.6	32.3	23.0	15.7	28.2	259.2	7.1	266.3
1997 } Monthly	9.3	24.5	5.8	19.1	17.9	21.2	22.0	38.0	31.6	23.0	15.8	28.0	256.5	6.6	263.1
	9.8	25.7	6.0	20.3	18.6	21.9	23.9	36.9	33.0	24.1	17.1	28.5	265.0	6.6	271.6
	10.0	25.5	6.1	20.8	18.7	22.5	23.1	36.0	35.2	25.1	17.3	28.7	268.8	6.5	275.3
1997 } Monthly	9.9	25.1	6.2	20.9	18.7	23.1	22.1	35.9	34.1	25.8	17.6	28.8	268.3	6.3	274.6
	10.2	24.6	6.7	20.8	19.0	23.1	21.5	35.5	34.5	25.1	17.9	28.7	267.7	6.6	274.3
	10.3	26.7	6.9	20.9	19.4	23.5	22.8	35.5	34.7	27.0	18.2	30.2	276.1	6.8	282.9
1997 } Monthly	10.4	27.3	7.1	21.2	19.7	24.0	23.0	35.5	34.3	26.1	18.3	31.6	278.4	6.7	285.1
	10.5	29.8	7.1	21.4	20.3	23.9	24.0	35.8	34.1	25.8	18.8	33.8	285.3	6.8	292.1
	10.6	31.0	7.1	21.9	21.4	24.2	25.3	36.5	34.8	26.7	19.0	34.8	293.2	7.0	300.2
1997 } Monthly	10.4	31.4	7.1	22.4	23.8	24.5	27.0	37.3	37.4	27.3	19.5	36.4	304.4	7.1	311.5
	10.0	30.0	6.8	21.0	23.4	22.9	24.8	37.4	35.1	25.3	18.5	34.7	281.9	7.4	289.3
	10.0	29.1	8.0	20.7	22.8	22.3	22.9	27.5	34.7	24.3	18.6	32.6	273.4	7.4	280.8
1998 } Jan F	9.3	27.5	7.9	19.4	22.0	22.0	21.7	25.9	33.5	23.7	17.9	30.9	261.5	7.4	268.9
	9.8	29.5	8.1	20.3	21.7	23.1	22.1	28.3	35.2	24.9	17.8	31.1	271.9	7.8	279.7

See footnote to Table 3.1. The latest national and regional seasonally adjusted vacancy figures are provisional and subject to revision, mainly in the following month.

Data for standard statistical regions have been withdrawn from this table, but are available on request from the Labour Market Statistics Helpline on 0171 533 6094.

### 3.3

#### VACANCIES

Government Office Regions: vacancies remaining unfilled at Jobcentres and careers offices: not seasonally adjusted

	North East	North West	Mersey-side	Yorkshire and the Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	Eastern	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
<b>Vacancies at Jobcentres: total +</b>															
1994 ) Annual	5.6	16.8	3.6	11.8	10.9	12.3	13.0	13.1	20.8	12.5	11.2	19.9	151.4	5.0	155.4
1995 ) Annual	6.4	18.7	4.0	13.3	12.8	15.3	14.8	16.5	22.8	14.4	13.3	23.2	175.4	5.8	181.2
1996 ) averages	8.1	22.0	4.9	16.7	14.9	18.9	17.8	28.9	28.2	19.2	14.5	25.6	219.6	5.6	225.1
1997 )	10.1	27.7	6.7	21.0	20.4	23.1	23.6	35.1	34.4	25.4	18.1	31.5	277.0	6.0	283.0
1997 Feb	9.0	23.5	5.6	18.7	17.1	20.3	21.7	35.1	29.3	21.9	15.9	25.9	244.1	5.5	249.5
Mar	9.4	24.2	5.7	19.6	17.7	21.4	21.7	35.0	32.5	24.1	16.8	27.2	255.3	5.6	260.8
Apr	9.6	24.6	6.1	20.8	18.3	22.6	22.0	35.4	34.0	26.3	17.6	28.7	265.9	5.4	271.3
May	10.0	24.8	6.6	20.4	18.7	23.0	21.8	34.9	34.2	25.9	18.2	28.7	267.2	5.7	272.9
Jun	10.4	27.6	7.0	21.1	19.7	23.8	23.7	35.6	36.2	28.8	19.2	31.4	284.5	5.9	290.4
Jul	10.5	26.9	7.0	21.3	19.4	24.3	23.2	34.9	35.0	27.0	18.5	32.1	280.1	5.8	285.8
Aug	10.6	29.5	7.2	21.8	20.0	23.5	23.9	34.6	34.2	26.0	19.0	34.5	284.6	5.8	290.3
Sep	11.7	33.6	7.7	23.9	23.0	25.6	27.4	37.9	38.0	28.6	20.4	37.8	315.6	6.4	322.0
Oct	11.7	35.0	7.8	25.0	26.5	27.6	29.5	41.0	41.4	29.3	20.9	39.3	335.1	6.9	342.0
Nov	10.5	32.0	7.2	22.1	25.3	24.5	26.0	31.6	37.3	25.2	18.8	35.9	296.3	7.0	303.3
Dec	9.5	28.1	7.7	19.6	22.6	21.5	22.1	28.4	33.1	22.5	17.2	31.4	263.6	6.7	270.3
1998 Jan	8.5	25.0	7.4	17.5	20.1	19.7	19.2	24.3	29.3	20.1	16.0	27.5	234.7	6.2	241.0
Feb	8.9	27.4	7.7	18.7	20.3	21.3	20.1	26.3	31.6	22.5	16.6	28.2	249.5	6.4	256.0
<b>Vacancies at careers offices</b>															
1994 ) Annual	—	—	—	0.3	0.3	0.8	—	1.4	—	0.7	0.1	0.6	6.5	0.5	7.2
1995 ) Annual	—	—	—	0.4	0.4	0.6	—	0.8	—	0.8	0.2	0.6	6.8	0.7	7.5
1996 ) averages	0.2	1.0	0.1	1.3	0.5	1.4	1.4	2.0	2.3	0.9	0.2	0.6	11.9	0.8	12.7
1997 )	0.2	1.7	0.2	1.7	0.6	1.0	1.7	3.7	2.5	1.3	0.3	0.9	15.8	1.0	16.8
1997 Feb	0.2	1.4	0.2	1.5	0.6	1.1	1.4	3.1	2.1	0.9	0.2	0.6	13.1	0.9	14.0
Mar	0.2	1.6	0.2	1.7	0.6	1.3	1.2	3.2	0.8	1.1	0.2	0.7	12.8	0.9	13.6
Apr	0.2	2.0	0.2	1.9	0.7	1.2	1.7	3.0	2.8	1.2	0.3	0.7	15.9	0.9	16.7
May	0.2	2.0	0.2	1.9	0.7	1.2	1.7	3.0	2.1	1.2	0.3	0.7	15.2	0.9	16.0
Jun	0.2	1.3	0.2	1.6	0.6	1.0	1.7	2.6	2.2	1.1	0.4	1.1	14.1	0.9	15.0
Jul	0.3	2.0	0.4	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.7	4.4	3.8	1.7	0.4	1.0	19.7	0.9	20.6
Aug	0.3	2.1	0.3	1.8	0.6	0.8	2.2	5.7	3.7	1.7	0.3	1.2	20.7	0.9	21.5
Sep	0.2	1.8	0.3	1.9	0.6	1.1	1.8	3.0	2.3	1.3	0.4	1.1	15.7	1.0	16.7
Oct	0.3	1.9	0.2	2.3	0.7	0.8	2.0	5.5	3.0	1.3	0.3	0.9	19.2	1.0	20.3
Nov	0.2	1.7	0.3	1.6	0.6	0.8	1.8	5.9	2.7	1.5	0.3	0.9	18.4	1.0	19.6
Dec	0.2	1.3	0.3	1.4	0.6	0.9	1.5	4.7	2.5	1.3	0.3	0.9	15.9	1.0	17.0
1998 Jan	0.2	1.4	0.4	1.3	0.5	1.0	1.6	5.0	2.3	1.2	0.2	0.7	15.8	1.0	16.8
Feb	0.2	1.5	0.2	1.4	0.6	1.0	1.3	5.0	2.4	1.1	0.3	0.7	15.4	0.9	16.3

Note: 1 About one third of all vacancies nationally are notified to Jobcentres. These could include some that are suitable for young people and similarly vacancies notified to careers offices could include some for adults. The figures represent only the number of vacancies notified by employers and remaining unfilled on the day of the count. Because of possible duplication and also due to a difference between the timing of the two counts, the two series should not be added together.  
 2 Data for standard statistical regions have been withdrawn from this table, but are available on request from the Labour Market Statistics Helpline on 0171 533 6099.  
 3 Annual averages for vacancies at careers offices for GORs are unavailable prior to 1996.  
 + Excluding vacancies on government programmes. See note to Table 3.1.



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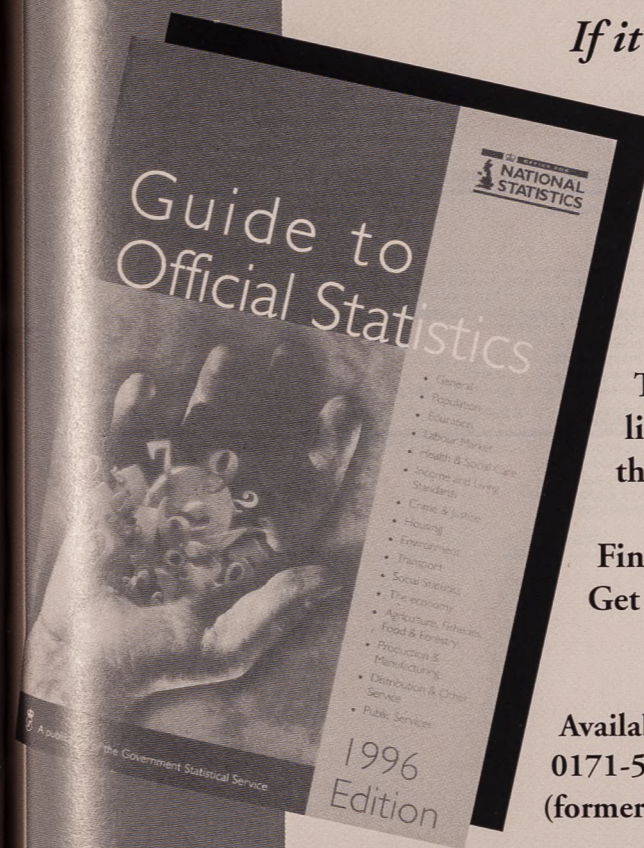
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# 4.1 LABOUR DISPUTES

## Stoppages of work

### Stoppages in progress: industry

United Kingdom	12 months to January 1997			12 months to January 1998			
	SIC 1992	Stoppages	Workers involved	Working days lost	Stoppages	Workers involved	Working days lost
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	1	100	100	-	-	-	-
Mining and quarrying	6	900	1,800	1	400	2,100	
Manufacturing of:							
food, beverages and tobacco	3	100	2,500	5	3,000	7,300	
textiles and textile products	8	2,100	2,900	2	100	300	
leather and leather products	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
wood and wood products	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
pulp, paper and paper products	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
printing and publishing	1	100	4,500	-	-	-	-
coke, refined petroleum products, nuclear fuels	2	2,500	8,400	1	3,000	9,000	
chemicals, chemical products and man-made fibres	2	200	400	-	-	-	-
rubber and plastics	3	200	1,000	1	100	200	
other non-metallic mineral products	1	700	4,200	4	1,300	3,100	
basic metals and fabricated metal products	9	600	4,200	6	400	2,700	
machinery and equipment nec	10	3,000	8,200	5	400	3,100	
electrical and optical equipment	6	1,300	1,900	6	1,000	3,000	
transport equipment	22	19,200	42,400	17	13,800	49,800	
manufacturing nec	4	1,500	21,500	1	300	100	
Electricity, gas and water supply	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	11	3,100	8,100	14	13,000	16,300	
Wholesale and retail trade; repairs	-	-	-	1	+	#	
Hotels and restaurants	3	100	2,500	1	800	1,400	
Transport, storage and communication	69	141,000	875,000	64	23,700	36,600	
Financial intermediation	3	30,100	19,100	8	13,800	16,200	
Real estate, renting and business activities	5	300	500	2	+	500	
Public administration and defence	23	32,100	124,700	22	20,200	29,400	
Education	36	123,700	130,200	37	13,400	25,800	
Health and social work	11	5,200	9,000	6	4,600	6,800	
Other community, social and personal service activities	13	2,200	3,400	9	1,300	4,700	
<b>All industries and services</b>	<b>251*</b>	<b>370,200</b>	<b>1,276,700</b>	<b>210*</b>	<b>114,300</b>	<b>218,300</b>	

\* Some stoppages which affected more than one industry group have been counted under each of the industries but only once in the total for all industries and services.  
 + Less than 50 workers involved.  
 # Less than 50 working days lost.

### Stoppages: January 1998

United Kingdom	Number of stoppages	Workers involved	Working days lost
Stoppages in progress	16	5,500	10,500
of which, stoppages:			
Beginning in month	9	3,300*	3,900
Continuing from earlier months	7	2,200**	6,500

\* All directly involved  
 \*\* Includes 40 involved for the first time in the month.

The monthly figures are provisional and subject to revision, normally upwards, to take account of additional or revised information received after going to press. For notes on coverage, see *Definitions* page at the end of the *Labour Market Data* section. The figures for 1997/8 are provisional.

### Stoppages in progress: cause

United Kingdom	12 months to January 1998		
	Stoppages	Workers involved	Working days lost
Pay: wage-rates and earnings levels	69	35,900	88,400
extra wage and fringe benefits	15	13,700	18,400
Duration and pattern of hours worked	12	3,200	6,300
Redundancy questions	40	38,800	64,700
Trade union matters	8	500	1,800
Working conditions and supervision	9	7,300	7,900
Manning and work allocation	38	12,800	17,100
Dismissal and other disciplinary measures	19	2,200	3,700
<b>All causes</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>114,300</b>	<b>18,300</b>

# LABOUR DISPUTES\*

## Stoppages of work: summary 4.2

United Kingdom	Number of stoppages		Number of workers (000)		Working days lost in all stoppages in progress in period (000)	
	Beginning in period	In progress in period	Beginning involvement in period in any dispute	All involvement in period	All industries and services	All manufacturing industries
1994	203	205	107	107	278	58
1995	232	235	170	174	415	65
1996	230	244	353	364	1303	97
1995 Jan	12	15	14.7	17.9	24.3	4.5
Feb	16	19	20.9	22.1	18.0	0.3
Mar	16	17	7.0	19.0	28.3	1.3
Apr	22	26	18.1	20.4	33.9	5.4
May	24	29	26.1	29.8	51.3	11.1
Jun	16	23	2.5	4.3	16.0	5.4
Jul	25	29	16.5	16.9	32.2	1.6
Aug	24	31	9.9	10.5	18.5	3.0
Sep	24	35	4.7	13.4	24.5	1.6
Oct	13	25	4.0	10.4	30.6	7.3
Nov	21	34	21.7	30.4	77.2	13.5
Dec	19	32	24.4	29.0	59.6	9.9
1996 Jan	10	24	5.6	17.1	51.3	5.9
Feb	26	36	6.3	9.8	36.0	2.7
Mar	16	27	4.2	5.1	15.2	9.3
Apr	18	27	6.1	8.3	13.2	3.5
May	14	23	2.5	4.1	7.6	0.6
Jun	32	43	138.6	140.4	241.0	7.6
Jul	14	28	6.5	127.2	148.6	7.6
Aug	25	33	22.4	135.7	442.2	3.5
Sep	19	29	5.4	120.7	121.9	8.4
Oct	20	26	3.8	16.5	39.3	13.7
Nov	24	34	124.4	127.1	162.1	23.0
Dec	12	23	27.1	28.8	24.9	9.8
1997 Jan	21	31	19.4r	20.7r	24.7r	11.4
Feb	12	28	5.8	8.1	14.4r	4.1r
Mar	23	36	25.7	32.1	36.4	4.4
Apr	26	36	13.4	14.9	47.7	27.5
May	20	32	9.4	14.1	35.9	19.2
Jun	19	25	3.8	5.3	13.4	6.5
Jul	15	18	9.5	10.4	10.9	4.7
Aug	12	16	4.4	6.0	5.8	2.0
Sep	7	9	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.4
Oct	21	25	15.7r	15.8r	16.5r	3.7
Nov	16	21	7.7r	12.2r	14.0r	0.3
Dec	14r	17r	12.2r	12.5r	11.7r	1.4r
1998 Jan	9	16	3.3	5.5	10.5	4.3

### Working days lost in all stoppages in progress in period by industry

United Kingdom	Agriculture, hunting, forestry & fishing	Mining, quarrying, electricity, gas and water	Manufacturing	Construction	Wholesale & retail trade; repairs; hotels and restaurants	Transport, storage & communication	Finance, real estate, renting & business activities	Public administration and defence	Education	Health and social work	Other community, social and personal service activities O,P,Q
	SIC 1992 A,B	C,E	D	F	G,H	I	J,K	L	M	N	
1994	-	1	58	5	1	110	7	11	70	5	11
1995	-	1	65	10	6	120	10	95	67	16	23
1996	-	2	97	8	5	884	11	158	129	8	3
1995 Jan	-	-	4.5	-	-	13.6	-	1.0	5.3	-	-
Feb	-	0.1	0.3	-	-	1.0	2.5	0.9	6.9	-	6.2
Mar	-	0.1	1.3	5.0	-	1.7	-	-	20.1	-	0.2
Apr	-	-	5.4	0.9	0.2	11.8	-	0.6	13.9	0.3	0.8
May	-	1.0	11.1	0.2	0.1	24.0	6.5	2.8	4.5	0.9	0.1
Jun	-	-	5.4	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.1	1.1	0.6	0.8	6.4
Jul	-	-	1.6	0.1	-	18.5	0.7	0.6	1.5	0.1	9.1
Aug	-	0.2	3.0	-	-	4.9	-	7.7	-	2.6	0.1
Sep	-	0.1	1.6	0.3	-	4.4	0.1	8.0	5.5	4.4	0.1
Oct	-	-	7.3	-	1.3	7.8	0.1	9.0	1.6	3.7	-
Nov	-	-	13.5	2.4	2.2	27.9	-	26.4	4.3	0.1	0.4
Dec	-	-	9.9	0.5	2.0	4.1	-	36.7	2.8	3.4	0.1
1996 Jan	-	-	5.9	-	2.2	9.2	-	33.0	0.9	-	0.2
Feb	0.1	-	2.7	5.2	2.2	2.8	0.2	21.8	0.4	0.1	0.5
Mar	-	1.3	9.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	1.8	1.8	1.0	0.5	0.5
Apr	-	-	3.5	2.5	-	1.8	-	3.7	1.1	0.5	-
May	-	-	0.6	0.1	-	0.9	-	3.9	2.1	-	-
Jun	-	-	7.6	0.2	-	221.0	-	8.1	2.9	-	0.2
Jul	-	-	3.5	-	-	135.7	-	4.0	1.1	-	0.2
Aug	-	-	8.4	-	-	394.0	0.1	44.6	-	-	-
Sep	-	-	13.7	0.1	-	98.9	-	13.0	0.3	1.3	-
Oct	-	0.3	23.0	-	-	1.6	-	23.0	0.1	0.5	-
Nov	-	-	9.8	-	-	16.1	-	0.6	117.1	3.8	1.4
Dec	-	0.2	7.6	-	-	1.5	10.0	0.1	1.5	1.7	-
1997 Jan	-	-	11.4	-	-	0.5	9.0	0.1	2.6	0.5r	0.6
Feb	-	-	4.1r	-	-	1.9	-	0.3	0.7	4.5	2.8
Mar	-	-	4.4	-	-	3.8	-	19.4	6.9	1.8	0.1
Apr	-	2.1	27.5	1.1	-	4.6	-	4.0	8.0	0.5	-
May	-	-	19.2	1.6	-	5.4	-	4.5	5.2	-	-
Jun	-	-	6.5	-	-	2.9	0.1	0.1	3.8	-	-
Jul	-	-	4.7	-	-	5.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	-	0.2
Aug	-	-	2.0	-	-	3.5	0.1	-	-	-	0.2
Sep	-	-	0.4	-	-	0.6	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
Oct	-	-	3.7	3.2	-	1.0	7.4	0.2r	-	-	0.9r
Nov	-	-	0.3	6.3	1.4	2.6	2.3r	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.2
Dec	-	-	1.4r	2.7	-	3.2	4.1	0.2	0.1	-	-
1998 Jan	-	-	4.3	1.5	-	1.6	2.5	-	0.4	-	0.2

\* See 'Definitions' page at the end of 'Labour Market Data' section for notes of coverage. The figures for 1997/8 are provisional.

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## Average Earnings Index: all employees: main industrial sectors 5.1

GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992	Whole economy (Divisions 01-93)		Manufacturing industries (Divisions 15-37)		Production industries (Divisions 10-41)		Service industries (Divisions 50-93)									
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted								
									Per cent change over previous 12 months		Per cent change over previous 12 months					
										Underlying*		Underlying*				
1990=100	118.5		120.5		121.0		117.5									
1993 Annual averages	123.2		126.2		126.9		121.7									
1994	127.4		131.9		132.4		125.1									
1995	132.3		137.8		138.1		129.7									
1996	138.2		143.8		143.9		135.5									
1997																
1993 Jan	116.1	117.0	4.5	4 3/4	117.1	118.2	4.9	5 1/4	117.6	118.6	4.9	5 1/4	115.6	116.3	4.3	4 1/2
Feb	116.7	117.2	4.0	4 1/2	118.3	118.7	4.9	5	118.7	119.1	4.8	5	116.1	116.5	3.7	4 1/2
Mar	119.6	117.2	2.8	4	121.9	118.8	3.9	5	122.1	119.5	3.8	5	118.5	115.8	2.4	3 3/4
Apr	117.5	117.6	4.0	4	119.0	119.2	5.4	5	119.7	119.5	5.3	5	116.5	116.8	3.3	3 1/4
May	118.0	117.9	3.5	3 3/4	120.4	120.1	4.9	5	120.8	120.4	4.8	5	116.9	116.9	3.1	3
Jun	118.5	118.3	3.6	3 3/4	120.9	120.4	5.0	5	121.3	120.7	4.8	5	117.0	117.2	3.0	2 3/4
Jul	119.5	118.8	3.8	3 1/2	121.8	121.0	4.9	4 3/4	122.4	121.6	5.0	4 3/4	118.3	117.7	3.3	2 3/4
Aug	118.2	118.9	3.3	3 1/4	119.5	121.2	3.8	4 1/2	119.9	121.5	4.0	4 1/2	117.3	117.7	2.8	2 3/4
Sep	118.0	119.2	3.1	3	120.1	121.9	4.6	4 1/4	120.6	122.3	4.8	4 1/2	116.8	118.0	2.4	2 1/4
Oct	118.4	119.7	2.1	3	121.3	122.1	3.8	4 1/4	121.7	122.6	3.8	4 1/4	116.9	118.5	1.4	2 1/4
Nov	120.0	120.4	3.3	3	122.4	122.6	4.1	4	123.1	123.3	4.3	4 1/4	118.7	119.0	2.6	2 1/2
Dec	121.6	120.5	3.2	3 1/4	123.5	122.5	3.9	4 1/4	124.1	123.3	4.0	4 1/4	120.8	119.5	2.9	2 3/4
1994 Jan	120.3	121.2	3.6	3 3/4	122.6	123.7	4.7	4 1/2	123.3	124.3	4.8	4 1/2	119.2	119.8	3.1	3 1/4
Feb	122.0	122.2	4.3	3 3/4	123.5	123.6	4.2	4 3/4	123.9	124.1	4.2	4 3/4	121.7	121.8	4.6	3 1/2
Mar	124.9	121.8	3.9	4	128.4	124.7	5.0	4 3/4	128.4	125.2	4.8	4 3/4	123.6	120.4	3.9	4
Apr	121.6	121.7	3.5	3 3/4	124.6	124.7	4.6	4 3/4	125.1	124.9	4.5	4 3/4	120.3	120.6	3.2	3 1/2
May	123.5	123.3	4.6	4	125.6	125.4	4.4	4 1/2	129.3	129.0	7.2	4 1/2	121.0	120.9	3.4	3 3/4
Jun	123.0	123.0	3.9	3 3/4	126.2	125.8	4.5	4 1/4	126.4	125.9	4.3	4 1/4	121.3	121.6	3.8	3 1/2
Jul	124.0	123.3	3.8	3 3/4	126.9	126.1	4.2	4 1/4	127.3	126.5	4.0	4 1/4	122.5	121.9	3.6	3 1/2
Aug	122.8	123.7	4.1	3 3/4	125.0	126.9	4.8	4 1/2	125.5	127.4	4.9	4 1/4	121.4	122.1	3.7	3 1/2
Sep	122.7	124.1	4.1	3 3/4	125.6	127.6	4.7	4 3/4	126.1	128.1	4.7	4 1/2	121.0	122.4	3.7	3 1/2
Oct	122.9	124.4	3.9	3 3/4	127.2	128.2	5.0	4 3/4	127.5	128.6	4.9	4 1/2	120.9	122.6	3.5	3 1/4
Nov	124.0	124.6	3.5	3 3/4	128.5	128.9	5.1	5	128.7	129.1	4.7	4 3/4	121.8	122.3	2.7	3
Dec	127.0	125.8	4.4	3 3/4	130.8	129.5	5.7	5	131.2	130.1	5.5	5	125.5	124.2	3.9	2 3/4
1995 Jan	124.8	125.7	3.8	3 3/4	128.4	129.6	4.8	5 1/4	129.2	130.3	4.8	5 1/4	123.1	123.7	3.2	2 3/4
Feb	125.9	125.9	3.0	3 1/2	130.4	130.2	5.3	5	131.1	130.9	5.5	5	123.8	123.8	1.6	2 3/4
Mar	130.3	126.5	3.8	3 1/2	134.5	130.4	4.5	5 1/4	134.6	130.9	4.5	5 1/4	128.9	125.2	4.0	2 3/4
Apr	126.2	126.3	3.8	3 3/4	131.1	131.1	5.1	4 3/4	131.4	131.2	5.0	4 3/4	123.8	124.0	2.8	3
May	127.0	126.8	2.8	3 1/2	131.1	131.2	4.6	4 3/4	131.6	131.5	2.0	4 3/4	125.0	124.8	3.2	2 3/4
Jun	126.8	127.0	3.2	3 1/2	131.8	131.5	4.5	4 1/2	132.6	132.2	5.0	4 3/4	123.9	124.4	2.3	2 3/4
Jul	127.9	127.2	3.2	3 1/4	133.2	132.2	4.9	4 1/2	133.6	132.7	4.9	4 3/4	125.3	124.7	2.3	2 1/2
Aug	126.6	127.8	3.3	3 1/4	130.2	132.4	4.3	4 1/4	130.8	133.0	4.4	4 1/2	124.5	125.4	2.7	3
Sep	126.6	128.1	3.2	3 1/4	130.5	132.7	4.0	4	131.3	133.4	4.2	4 1/2	124.0	125.5	2.6	2 1/2
Oct	127.2	128.8	3.6	3 1/4	132.3	133.6	4.2	4	132.9	134.2	4.4	4 1/4	124.4	126.2	2.9	2 3/4
Nov	128.3	129.0	3.6	3 1/4	133.2	133.7	3.8	4	133.7	134.2	4.0	4	125.9	126.5	3.5	2 3/4
Dec	130.6	129.4	2.8	3 1/4	136.1	134.6	3.9	4	136.2	135.0	3.7	4	128.3	127.0	2.2	3
1996 Jan	128.9	129.9	3.3	3 1/2	133.6	134.9	4.1	4 1/4	134.1	135.3	3.8	4	126.9	127.5	3.1	3
Feb	130.8	130.6	3.7	3 3/4	136.4	135.8	4.4	4 1/4	136.8	136.2	4.1	4	128.2	128.1	3.5	3 1/2
Mar	135.5	131.1	3.7	3 3/4	140.7	136.2	4.4	4 1/4	140.9	136.7	4.5	4 1/4	133.3	129.2	3.2	3 1/2
Apr	131.4	131.6	4.1	3 3/4	136.7	136.5	4.2	4 1/4	137.2	136.9	4.4	4 1/4	128.9	129.0	4.0	3 1/2
May	131.0	130.8	3.2	3 3/4	136.4	136.7	4.2	4 1/4	136.8	137.0	4.1	4	128.3	128.1	2.6	3 1/2
Jun	131.6	131.9	3.9	3 3/4	137.5	137.3	4.4	4 1/4	137.7	137.4	4.0	4	128.7	129.4	4.0	3 3/4
Jul	133.1	132.4	4.1	4	139.0	137.9	4.3	4 1/2	139.2	138.2	4.2	4	130.3	129.8	4.0	3 3/4
Aug	131.3	132.7	3.9	4	136.1	138.4	4.6	4 1/2	136.3	138.6	4.2	4 1/4	128.8	129.9	3.6	3 3/4
Sep	131.9	133.4	4.2	4	136.6	139.0	4.7	4 1/2	137.0	139.2	4.4	4 1/4	129.0	130.6	4.0	3 3/4
Oct	131.9	133.6	3.7	4	137.6	139.2	4.2	4 1/2	138.0	139.5	3.9	4 1/4	129.0	130.9	3.7	4
Nov	133.5	134.2	4.0	4 1/4	139.5	139.9	4.7	4 3/4	139.9	140.3	4.5	4 1/2	130.4	131.1	3.6	4
Dec	137.1	135.7	4.9	4 3/4	143.1	141.3	5.0	4 3/4	143.4	142.0	5.2	4 3/4	134.2	132.9	4.6	4 1/2
1997 Jan	135.2	136.3	4.9	4 3/4	139.2	140.6	4.2	4 3/4	139.8	141.1	4.3	4 3/4	133.6	134.1	5.2	4 3/4
Feb	136.3	136.0	4.1	4 1/2	142.9	142.0	4.6	4 1/2	142.9	142.0	4.3	4 1/4	133.6	133.5	4.2	5
Mar	141.7	136.9	4.4	4 1/2	146.7	141.9	4.2	4 1/2	146.5	142.0	3.9	4 1/4	140.1	135.6	5.0	4 3/4
Apr	136.9	137.0	4.2	4 1/2	142.2	141.9	4.0	4 1/4	142.7	142.4	4.0	4 1/4	134.6	134.6	4.3	4 3/4
May	136.4	136.3	4.2	4 1/4	142.3	142.7	4.4	4 1/4	142.9	143.2	4.5	4	133.3	133.0	3.9	4 1/2
Jun	137.0	137.4	4.2	4 1/4	143.5	143.4	4.4	4 1/4	143.4	143.3	4.2	4 1/4	134.1	134.9	4.3	4 1/2
Jul	138.8	138.1	4.3	4 1/2	144.5	143.4	3.9	4 1/4	144.9	143.8	4.0	4 1/4	135.9	135.4	4.3	4 1/2
Aug	137.3	138.8	4.6	4 1/4	142.1	144.6	4.4	4 1/4	142.0	144.6	4.3	4	134.9	136.1	4.8	4 1/2
Sep	137.4	138.9	4.1	4 1/4	142.1	144.6	4.0	4 1/4	142.0	144.3	3.7	4	134.7	136.3	4.4	4 1/2
Oct	137.7	139.5	4.4	4 1/2	143.9	145.6	4.7	4 1/2	143.7	145.3	4.2	4 1/4	134.7	136.6	4.4	4 1/2
Nov	139.7	140.5	4.8	4 1/2	146.3	146.9	5.0	4 3/4	146.5	146.9	4.7	4 1/4				

# 5.3 EARNINGS

## Average Earnings Index: all employees: by industry (unadjusted)

GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992	Agriculture and forestry (E&W)	Mining and quarries	Food products, beverages and tobacco	Textiles	Clothing leather and footwear	Wood, wood products and other manufacturing n.e.c.	Pulp, paper products printing and publishing (21,22)	Chemicals and chemical products	Rubber and plastic products	Other non-metallic mineral products	Basic metals	Fabric'd metal products (excl. machinery)	Machinery and equipment n.e.c.
	(01,02)	(10-14)	(15,16)	(17)	(18,19)	(20,23,36,37)	(21,22)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)
1990=100													
1993 } annual	117.7	126.1	125.0	123.2	117.7	114.5	118.9	121.2	122.6	115.3	115.6	119.2	122.7
1994 } averages	121.5	136.2	130.6	128.7	123.5	120.0	123.6	125.6	128.4	120.6	123.7	127.4	128.2
1995 } averages	126.4	139.0	136.2	132.7	129.3	123.9	128.5	131.7	133.7	124.8	131.8	133.4	134.3
1996 } averages	133.7	142.2	140.9	138.8	134.1	131.2	133.9	137.1	137.7	128.7	137.8	139.0	139.8
1997 } averages	137.7	147.5	146.4	144.7	140.4	137.4	139.9	143.1	143.2	133.9	142.2	145.0	144.9
1993 Jan	109.7	122.5	120.4	119.0	115.2	110.7	114.5	119.4	118.1	112.2	117.8	114.9	120.3
1993 Feb	108.9	122.2	123.9	119.3	117.1	114.0	115.4	119.2	120.8	114.3	108.9	115.6	121.5
1993 Mar	113.0	125.9	129.2	121.2	116.0	114.9	118.8	130.4	124.1	114.1	111.0	118.3	124.5
1993 Apr	114.4	126.3	123.3	121.5	116.9	112.2	117.3	118.6	120.2	114.2	116.0	120.3	121.0
1993 May	114.7	125.0	125.9	123.4	117.1	116.6	118.5	118.9	122.5	114.8	113.5	120.1	121.5
1993 June	118.6	126.1	123.7	125.8	118.7	114.2	119.5	120.9	123.8	117.4	112.4	120.4	123.5
1993 July	124.1	128.1	123.9	123.8	120.5	119.0	120.2	124.0	115.9	123.8	120.3	124.0	124.0
1993 Aug	134.7	123.2	123.5	124.0	117.4	113.2	119.4	118.5	120.9	115.9	110.5	119.1	121.1
1993 Sep	126.0	125.3	123.2	124.4	118.8	114.4	120.8	118.6	123.3	115.8	114.8	118.9	122.6
1993 Oct	121.2	126.8	123.6	125.4	118.0	114.2	120.6	119.2	123.4	115.3	124.4	120.0	123.6
1993 Nov	117.8	128.5	129.0	125.3	117.5	116.1	121.1	124.4	123.3	116.0	113.8	120.9	124.9
1993 Dec	108.7	133.5	130.3	125.4	119.1	118.3	122.1	126.5	126.2	118.1	117.8	121.1	124.4
1994 Jan	112.6	131.5	126.0	124.8	119.6	114.9	120.2	123.2	124.4	116.9	122.4	121.4	125.2
1994 Feb	112.5	129.4	126.2	125.4	122.9	120.4	119.9	124.1	125.0	118.4	114.8	125.3	126.7
1994 Mar	121.6	132.2	137.4	129.0	125.4	118.9	124.5	134.4	129.4	120.2	118.9	126.5	130.3
1994 Apr	117.1	132.9	127.8	127.1	123.8	116.6	120.8	123.1	126.4	120.6	126.8	124.0	127.7
1994 May	119.4	189.4	129.6	127.8	123.1	121.1	123.4	123.0	130.2	121.2	119.4	126.9	128.3
1994 June	121.3	131.1	129.3	130.7	123.5	118.4	125.0	126.4	128.9	122.5	118.2	128.3	127.1
1994 July	127.7	133.2	129.9	130.9	121.8	119.5	122.9	123.8	129.8	123.1	138.7	127.3	127.9
1994 Aug	134.9	126.9	130.1	128.1	122.3	120.2	123.3	122.0	126.6	119.5	120.5	126.3	126.3
1994 Sep	130.6	129.4	129.1	128.2	123.3	119.5	125.2	123.7	128.6	120.0	121.2	129.0	127.8
1994 Oct	124.7	129.6	129.7	130.2	124.9	119.7	124.8	123.7	129.3	120.4	133.1	130.3	129.0
1994 Nov	119.4	131.1	135.7	130.3	124.7	123.9	125.9	126.7	130.7	121.3	122.6	131.1	130.3
1994 Dec	115.9	137.5	136.5	132.2	128.0	127.1	127.1	133.6	131.6	123.6	128.1	132.4	131.2
1995 Jan	118.1	139.7	132.7	129.3	126.8	119.1	124.7	128.5	130.3	121.5	133.8	128.4	129.9
1995 Feb	114.7	142.2	132.4	131.0	128.2	124.5	125.8	134.0	132.2	124.3	124.7	132.3	131.7
1995 Mar	122.4	141.0	142.7	134.0	130.9	122.7	129.3	141.8	135.0	125.0	128.0	137.0	135.2
1995 Apr	129.5	135.7	133.3	130.7	128.0	121.6	128.6	129.4	132.8	124.6	139.9	132.4	131.7
1995 May	124.9	137.6	135.4	133.6	129.5	124.6	127.9	134.5	134.5	124.6	126.6	133.6	133.0
1995 June	120.7	144.3	134.3	134.1	128.8	122.4	131.4	133.5	133.5	125.6	127.2	133.6	134.8
1995 July	123.0	134.5	136.1	133.4	127.8	123.7	128.9	129.7	135.4	127.5	148.7	134.0	136.2
1995 Aug	141.0	135.8	135.8	132.3	128.6	122.8	127.5	127.2	132.4	123.0	124.4	131.4	133.0
1995 Sep	143.5	138.2	133.8	131.5	129.5	123.0	129.5	128.0	133.4	124.0	125.3	133.6	134.6
1995 Oct	135.1	140.9	134.0	132.6	129.7	123.9	129.2	128.2	133.5	124.7	143.2	134.1	136.5
1995 Nov	122.9	141.0	140.6	134.1	130.9	125.9	128.8	131.1	134.6	124.9	126.7	135.8	138.6
1995 Dec	121.2	137.1	142.7	135.2	132.3	132.1	129.8	141.9	136.8	127.5	133.4	135.0	138.8
1996 Jan	116.0	142.1	136.5	132.5	131.6	126.8	129.8	133.2	133.5	125.1	137.2	134.7	138.2
1996 Feb	123.1	144.8	137.0	133.9	134.8	132.4	131.3	134.5	137.8	126.9	133.1	137.3	140.6
1996 Mar	133.1	148.9	145.9	136.9	134.3	129.7	135.9	149.2	139.1	129.3	132.8	142.3	142.1
1996 Apr	129.6	144.2	138.0	135.7	132.9	128.9	132.0	135.8	136.9	129.8	146.0	137.8	138.8
1996 May	133.8	140.5	139.6	137.9	133.3	131.5	132.6	134.4	137.1	128.8	132.5	136.6	139.0
1996 June	126.8	136.5	139.0	144.1	134.9	131.1	136.7	136.7	138.0	128.6	132.8	138.6	139.5
1996 July	134.1	139.3	142.9	140.3	133.6	131.7	133.2	136.8	137.4	131.1	151.8	138.6	141.1
1996 Aug	151.4	134.4	140.3	138.3	128.4	133.1	133.0	133.0	136.7	127.7	132.9	138.1	137.8
1996 Sep	153.1	140.4	138.9	139.2	135.1	130.7	134.6	134.2	137.4	128.1	133.6	140.1	138.7
1996 Oct	136.4	140.8	138.3	141.7	135.1	131.5	134.4	134.3	137.9	128.8	144.3	139.9	138.7
1996 Nov	130.5	146.3	146.9	141.7	134.9	132.3	135.2	137.2	139.5	129.9	135.7	142.1	141.8
1996 Dec	135.9	148.4	147.4	143.8	136.4	138.8	137.9	145.6	141.3	130.8	141.3	142.4	143.1
1997 Jan	123.1	147.6	140.2	139.9	137.1	132.0	136.4	139.7	129.2	144.8	140.6	142.3	139.5
1997 Feb	128.6	147.1	142.7	141.1	141.8	138.9	137.3	141.2	141.9	130.4	137.0	144.2	145.0
1997 Mar	137.7	152.6	155.4	143.5	143.2	137.4	140.3	155.4	145.2	133.8	141.4	148.3	145.1
1997 Apr	136.0	150.7	146.0	142.1	140.1	133.7	138.3	140.8	140.5	133.1	147.1	142.3	143.6
1997 May	136.4	149.5	144.4	142.5	138.9	138.8	139.6	142.2	142.2	133.2	140.1	142.6	143.8
1997 Jun	129.5	143.2	143.6	145.3	140.8	138.0	140.7	143.3	142.5	135.2	137.1	142.8	145.9
1997 Jul	141.6	151.6	148.1	144.5	139.8	136.8	139.1	141.3	144.0	134.4	151.7	145.0	146.0
1997 Aug	156.5	141.3	145.9	145.1	138.2	133.6	140.3	139.3	142.2	133.4	135.8	143.7	143.3
1997 Sep	150.7	141.5	143.0	145.1	140.5	136.9	141.2	139.7	143.7	134.4	139.6	145.3	142.2
1997 Oct	145.1	142.2	144.0	146.7	140.5	137.9	141.3	140.6	143.1	134.4	148.1	146.2	144.4
1997 Nov	137.2	148.7	150.5	150.0	140.4	141.7	141.6	144.2	145.2	135.6	138.5	148.2	149.0
1997 Dec	130.2	153.8	153.5	150.2	142.9	143.3	142.2	154.2	147.6	140.0	145.0	150.3	150.7
1998 Jan P	128.8	145.9	147.0	144.7	142.8	139.4	140.5	146.1	148.2	136.7	148.0	146.7	146.4

Notes: 1 Figures for the years 1985 to 1989 on a 1985=100 basis were published in *Employment Gazette* in October 1989; the 1985=100 series was discontinued after July 1989.  
 2 Figures on a 1988=100 basis were last published in *Employment Gazette* in September 1993.  
 3 The Index has been reclassified from SIC 1980 to SIC 1992, in common with other economic series in the national accounts. Figures on an SIC 1980 basis were last published in *Employment Gazette*, May 1995.  
 4 Industrial groupings which have not changed are: agriculture and forestry, chemical and man-made fibres (now called chemicals and chemical products); mechanical engineering (machinery and equipment n.e.s.); electrical, electronic and instrument engineering (electrical and optical equipment); food, drink and tobacco (food products, beverages and tobacco); paper products, printing and publishing (pulp, paper products, printing and publishing); construction; hotels and catering (hotels and restaurants); transport and communication (transport, storage and communication); public administration; education and health services (education, health and social work).

# EARNINGS 5.3

## Average Earnings Index: all employees: by industry (unadjusted)

Electrical and optical equipment	Transport equipment	Electricity, gas and water supply	Construction	Wholesale trade	Retail trade and repairs	Hotels and restaurants	Transport, storage and communication +	Financial intermediation	Real estate renting and business activities	Public administration services	Education health and social work	Other services #	GREAT BRITAIN SIC 1992
(30-33)	(34,35)	(40,41)	(45)	(51)	(50,52)	(55)	(60-64)	(65-67)	(70-74)	(75)	(80-85)	(90-93)	1990=100
121.7	119.2	123.1	116.5	114.9	112.3	118.0	119.9	119.1	113.2	119.3	120.2	117.3	1993 Annual
127.2	126.4	127.1	120.0	119.1	115.9	119.9	124.3	128.1	115.8	123.5	122.9	122.5	1994 Averages
132.9	133.2	133.6	123.5	124.4	118.3	122.3	128.2	133.4	119.3	126.0	124.6	129.5	



# 5.8 UNIT WAGE COSTS \*

All employees: index for main industrial sectors

UNITED KINGDOM		Manufacturing	Energy and water supply	Production industries	Construction	Whole economy	
SIC 1992 1990=100		Per cent change from a year earlier				Per cent change from a year earlier	
1987	87.4	2.1	84.9	79.4	71.7	76.7	5.1
1988	89.5	2.4	95.2	84.6	77.6	82.3	7.2
1989	93.8	4.8	96.2	93.7	90.7	90.6	10.2
1990	100.0	6.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	10.4
1991	105.2	5.2	111.3	101.3	107.7	106.8	6.8
1992	105.5	0.3	113.0	105.2	104.1	110.4	3.4
1993	105.0	-0.5	105.6	103.8	99.2	110.2	-0.1
1994	104.5	-0.4	97.8	100.6	98.9	109.5	-0.7
1995	108.4	3.7	..	..	..	111.3	1.6
1996	114.1	5.3	..	..	..	113.3	1.9
1997	117.9	3.3	..	..	..	117.3	3.5
1992 Q3	105.4	-0.6	..	..	..	110.4	2.6
Q4	105.0	-0.5	..	..	..	110.1	1.3
1993 Q1	103.4	-2.4	..	..	..	109.6	-0.5
Q2	104.5	-1.0	..	..	..	110.4	-0.6
Q3	105.9	0.5	..	..	..	110.6	0.2
Q4	106.1	1.0	..	..	..	110.3	0.3
1994 Q1	104.4	1.0	..	..	..	110.2	0.5
Q2	104.2	-0.3	..	..	..	109.1	-1.2
Q3	104.2	-1.6	..	..	..	109.0	-1.4
Q4	105.3	-0.8	..	..	..	109.6	-0.7
1995 Q1	106.8	2.3	..	..	..	110.5	0.3
Q2	107.7	3.4	..	..	..	111.0	1.7
Q3	108.3	3.9	..	..	..	111.1	1.9
Q4	110.7	5.1	..	..	..	112.4	2.6
1996 Q1	112.4	5.2	..	..	..	112.5	1.8
Q2	113.7	5.5	..	..	..	112.8	1.6
Q3	114.6	5.9	..	..	..	113.8	2.4
Q4	115.8	4.7	..	..	..	114.3	1.7
1997 Q1	116.3	3.5	..	..	..	116.4	3.5
Q2	117.1	3.0	..	..	..	116.6	3.4
Q3	117.5	2.5	..	..	..	117.5	3.3
Q4	120.6	4.1	..	..	..	118.6	3.8
1995 Jul	108.6	4.6	..	..	..	..	..
Aug	107.8	3.7	..	..	..	..	..
Sep	108.4	3.4	..	..	..	..	..
Oct	109.6	4.8	..	..	..	..	..
Nov	110.1	5.1	..	..	..	..	..
Dec	112.2	5.5	..	..	..	..	..
1996 Jan	111.7	4.6	..	..	..	..	..
Feb	112.5	5.8	..	..	..	..	..
Mar	112.9	5.2	..	..	..	..	..
Apr	113.8	5.6	..	..	..	..	..
May	113.4	5.4	..	..	..	..	..
Jun	113.8	5.5	..	..	..	..	..
Jul	114.1	5.1	..	..	..	..	..
Aug	114.9	6.6	..	..	..	..	..
Sep	114.8	5.9	..	..	..	..	..
Oct	115.0	4.9	..	..	..	..	..
Nov	115.8	4.9	..	..	..	..	..
Dec	116.6	3.9	..	..	..	..	..
1997 Jan	116.1	3.9	..	..	..	..	..
Feb	116.3	3.4	..	..	..	..	..
Mar	116.5	3.2	..	..	..	..	..
Apr	115.9	1.9	..	..	..	..	..
May	117.6	3.7	..	..	..	..	..
Jun	117.7	3.5	..	..	..	..	..
Jul	116.9	2.4	..	..	..	..	..
Aug	117.9	2.6	..	..	..	..	..
Sep	117.7	2.5	..	..	..	..	..
Oct	119.2	3.7	..	..	..	..	..
Nov	120.8	4.3	..	..	..	..	..
Dec	121.7	4.4	..	..	..	..	..
1998 Jan	122.0	4.9	..	..	..	..	..
Three months ending	1995 Jul	108.0	3.8	..	..	..	..
Aug	108.1	3.9	..	..	..	..	..
Sep	108.3	3.9	..	..	..	..	..
Oct	108.6	4.0	..	..	..	..	..
Nov	109.4	4.4	..	..	..	..	..
Dec	110.7	5.1	..	..	..	..	..
1996 Jan	111.4	5.1	..	..	..	..	..
Feb	112.2	5.3	..	..	..	..	..
Mar	112.4	5.2	..	..	..	..	..
Apr	113.1	5.5	..	..	..	..	..
May	113.4	5.4	..	..	..	..	..
Jun	113.7	5.5	..	..	..	..	..
Jul	113.8	5.3	..	..	..	..	..
Aug	114.3	5.7	..	..	..	..	..
Sep	114.6	5.9	..	..	..	..	..
Oct	114.9	5.8	..	..	..	..	..
Nov	115.2	5.3	..	..	..	..	..
Dec	115.8	4.7	..	..	..	..	..
1997 Jan	116.2	4.3	..	..	..	..	..
Feb	116.3	3.7	..	..	..	..	..
Mar	116.3	3.5	..	..	..	..	..
Apr	116.2	2.8	..	..	..	..	..
May	116.7	2.9	..	..	..	..	..
Jun	117.1	3.0	..	..	..	..	..
Jul	117.4	3.2	..	..	..	..	..
Aug	117.5	2.8	..	..	..	..	..
Sep	117.5	2.5	..	..	..	..	..
Oct	118.3	2.9	..	..	..	..	..
Nov	119.2	3.5	..	..	..	..	..
Dec	120.6	4.1	..	..	..	..	..
1998 Jan	121.5	4.6	..	..	..	..	..

Source: Earnings and Employment Division, ONS. Customer helpline: 01928 792442.

Note: Manufacturing is based on seasonally adjusted monthly statistics of average earnings, workforce in employment and output. Other sectors are based on national accounts data of wages and salaries, employment and output. The indices have been rebased from 1988=100 to 1990=100, in common with other economic series. Figures on a 1985=100 basis were last published in *Employment Gazette*, September 1993.

# EARNINGS 5.9

Selected countries: index of wages per head: manufacturing (manual workers)

	Great Britain (1,2)	Belgium (7,8)	Canada (8)	Denmark (6,8)	France (4)	Germany (FR) (4)	Greece (8)	Irish Republic (8)	Italy (4)	Japan (2,5)	Netherlands (4)	Spain (2,8,9)	Sweden (6,8)	United States (8,10)
1990=100														
Annual averages														
1992	115.4	110	108.4	107.9	108.7	114.2	133	110	115.7	104.6	108.3	116.5	110.3	106.0
1993	120.5	114	110.7	110.6	111.1	120.4	147	117	120.0	104.7	111.8	124.4	113.9	108.0
1994	126.2	117	112.5	113.2	113.4	123.9	166	118	124.0	106.9	113.7	130.1	118.6	111.0
1995	131.9	118	114.1	117.6	116.1	128.0	188	123	127.8	110.4	115.0	136.4	124.9	114.0
1996	137.8	120	117.7	122.1	119.0	134.7	204	126	130.1	113.1	117.2	143.6	133.1	118.0
1997	143.8	123	..	..	121.9	..	..	..	134.8	116.4	120.7	..	..	122.0
Quarterly averages														
1995 Q4	134.0	118.0	115.3	118.2	116.8	131.4	196.0	123.0	129.5	111.0	115.3	139.2	127.9	115.0
1996 Q1	135.6	120.0	115.4	120.4	117.1	134.1	198.0	122.0	128.8	112.2	116.3	140.7	129.6	116.0
Q2	136.8	120.0	116.9	121.4	118.1	134.7	202.0	124.0	129.3	113.2	116.8	143.0	135.1	118.0
Q3	138.4	121.0	118.4	122.7	119.3	134.9	206.0	124.0	130.9	113.8	117.4	144.4	133.0	118.0
Q4	140.1	121.0	120.0	123.7	119.8	135.2	210.0	126.0	131.6	113.5	118.2	145.9	134.8	120.0
1997 Q1	141.5	121.0	119.2	124.8	120.6	135.2	219.0	..	133.9	118.0	119.4	147.2	137.2	120.0
Q2	142.7	..	118.9	126.4	121.3	136.7	221.0	..	134.2	116.3	120.2	149.0	139.6	121.0
Q3	144.2	..	117.1	..	122.6	137.0	..	..	135.4	116.7	121.3	149.7	137.9	122.0
Q4	146.7	..	..	..	123.2	..	..	..	135.9	115.4	121.8	..	..	123.0
Monthly														
1995 Aug	132.4	..	114.3	117.6	..	..	..	..	128.5	106.2	115.5	..	123.8	114.0
Sep	132.7	118.0	114.7	..	..	..	..	120.0	129.2	111.0	115.5	..	126.8	115.0
Oct	133.6	..	114.8	..	116.8	131.4	..	..	129.4	111.4	115.5	..	126.8	115.0
Nov	133.7	..	114.9	118.2	..	..	..	..	129.5	110.8	115.4	..	127.1	115.0
Dec	134.6	118.0	116.3	..	..	..	..	..	129.5	110.5	115.5	..	129.7	116.0
1996 Jan	134.9	..	115.2	..	117.1	134.1	..	..	128.8	110.2	116.2	..	129.3	117.0
Feb	135.8	..	115.7	120.4	..	..	..	..	128.8	112.9	116.4	..	129.3	116.0
Mar	136.2	120.0	115.4	..	..	..	..	..	128.8	113.0	116.4	..	130.4	116.0
Apr	136.5	..	115.2	..	118.1	134.7	..	..	129.1	112.8	116.7	..	134.5	118.0
May	136.7	..	116.8	124.3	..	..	..	..	129.2	112.7	116.7	..	136.1	117.0
Jun	137.3	120.0	118.7	..	..	..	..	124.0	129.5	114.2	116.8	..	134.7	118.0
Jul	137.9	..	117.2	..	119.3	134.9	..	..	130.9	112.6	117.4	..	134.3	118.0
Aug	138.4	..	118.5	122.3	..	..	..	..	130.9	114.7	117.4	..	131.6	118.0
Sep	139.0	121.0	119.5	..	..	..	..	124.0	130.9	114.0	117.4	..	133.2	119.0
Oct	139.2	..	119.3	..	119.8	135.2	..	..	131.4	114.2	118.1	..	132.5	118.0
Nov	139.9	..	120.5	122.7	..	..	..	..	131.5	113.6	118.2	..	134.6	119.0
Dec	141.3	121.0	120.1	..	..	..	..	126.0	131.8	112.7	118.2	..	137.2	121.0
1997 Jan	140.6	..	118.7	..	120.6	135.2	..	..	133.8	121.6	119.2	..	135.8	120.0
Feb	142.0	..	119.7	124.8	..	..	..	..	133.8	116.3	119.5	..	136.4	120.0
Mar	141.9	121.0	119.2	..	..	..	..	..	134.0	116.0	119.5	..	139.5	121.0
Apr	141.9	..	118.6	..	121.3	136.7	..	..	134.1	115.8	120.0	..	138.4	121.0
May	142.7	..	120.2	126.4	..	..	..	..	134.1	115.8	120.1	..	141.8	121.0
Jun	143.4	..	118.0	..	..	..	..	..	134.3	117.4	120.5	..	138.7	121.0
Jul	143.4	..	117.1	..	122.6	137.0	..</							

## 6.1 RETAIL PRICES Summary of recent movements

	All items (RPI)		All items excluding		Mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes (RPIY)		Housing	
	Index Jan 13, 1987=100	Percentage change over 12 months	Index Jan 13, 1987=100	Percentage change over 12 months	Index Jan 13, 1987=100	Percentage change over 12 months	Index Jan 13, 1987=100	Percentage change over 12 months
1997 Feb	155.0	2.7	154.5	2.9	149.9	2.5	151.3	2.5
Mar	155.4	2.6	154.9	2.7	150.3	2.3	151.7	2.2
Apr	156.3	2.4	155.8	2.5	150.8	2.0	152.2	2.1
May	156.9	2.6	156.3	2.5	151.3	2.0	152.7	2.1
Jun	157.5	2.9	156.7	2.7	151.8	2.2	153.0	2.2
Jul	157.5	3.3	156.4	3.0	151.0	2.2	152.6	2.6
Aug	158.5	3.5	157.1	2.8	151.8	2.1	153.5	2.5
Sep	159.3	3.6	157.8	2.7	152.6	2.0	154.1	2.4
Oct	159.5	3.7	157.9	2.8	152.9	2.2	154.2	2.4
Nov	159.6	3.7	158.0	2.8	152.9	2.1	154.2	2.4
Dec	160.0	3.6	158.3	2.7	152.8	2.2	154.5	2.3
1998 Jan	159.5	3.3	157.7	2.5	152.1	1.9	153.7	2.0
Feb	160.3	3.4	158.5	2.6	153.0	2.1	154.6	2.2

## 6.2 RETAIL PRICES Detailed figures for various groups, sub-groups and sections for February 10 1998

	Index Jan 1987=100	Percentage change over		Index Jan 1987=100	Percentage change over	
		1 month	12 months		1 month	12 months
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>160.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>			
Food and catering	151.6	0.1	1.6	<b>Tobacco</b>	<b>219.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Alcohol and tobacco	189.8	0.6	5.0	Cigarettes	222.7	0.1
Housing and household expenditure	162.1	0.6	4.7	Tobacco	189.8	0.1
Personal expenditure	137.8	2.1	2.1	<b>Housing</b>	<b>187.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Travel and leisure	161.8	0.2	2.9	Rent	219.1	0.3
Consumer durables	115.2	1.8	-0.3	Mortgage interest payments	205.3	2.7
Seasonal food	120.1	-0.9	2.7	Depreciation (Jan 1995=100)	114.5	2.3
Food excluding seasonal	145.8	0.2	0.5	Community charge and rates/council tax	154.4	2.0
All items excluding seasonal food	161.4	0.6	3.5	Water and other payments	257.8	2.0
All items excluding food	163.8	0.6	3.9	Repairs and maintenance charges	184.6	2.2
Other indices				Do-it yourself materials	156.1	2.1
All items excluding:				Dwelling insurance & ground rent	187.8	2.1
mortgage interest payments (RPIX)	158.5	0.5	2.6	<b>Fuel and light</b>	<b>125.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>
housing	154.6	0.6	2.2	Coal and solid fuels	130.2	0.3
mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes (RPIY)[1]	153.0	0.6	2.1	Electricity	134.9	0.3
mortgage interest payments and council tax	158.5	0.6	2.5	Gas	119.2	0.3
mortgage interest payments and depreciation	158.3	0.6	2.5	Oil and other fuels	106.3	0.3
Food	141.9	0.1	0.8	<b>Household goods</b>	<b>139.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Bread	133.1	-3	-3	Furniture	140.6	1.6
Cereals	141.8	1	1	Furnishings	144.5	1.6
Biscuits and cakes	152.0	-1	-1	Electrical appliances	98.4	1.6
Beef	130.0	-4	-4	Other household equipment	144.5	1.6
Lamb	144.2	10	10	Household consumables	157.8	1.6
of which, home-killed lamb	136.5	-18	-18	Pet care	148.0	1.6
Pork	141.0	-5	-5	<b>Household services</b>	<b>146.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Bacon	153.5	-4	-4	Postage	153.0	0.1
Poultry	111.9	-2	-2	Telephones, telemessages, etc	103.6	0.1
Other meat	133.4	0	0	Domestic services	187.4	0.1
Fish	126.7	0	0	Fees and subscriptions	169.1	0.1
of which, fresh fish	128.9	0	0	<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	<b>118.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Butter	169.3	1	1	Men's outerwear	117.7	2.3
Oil and fats	139.2	0	0	Women's outerwear	102.5	2.3
Cheese	162.8	-1	-1	Children's outerwear	117.7	2.3
Eggs	142.9	-6	-6	Other clothing	154.0	2.3
Milk fresh	153.7	-1	-1	Footwear	116.2	2.3
Milk products	143.7	0	0	<b>Personal goods and services</b>	<b>175.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Tea	166.7	12	12	Personal articles	121.0	1.9
Coffee and other hot drinks	132.3	13	13	Chemists goods	186.1	1.9
Soft drinks	185.6	2	2	Personal services	230.7	1.9
Sugar and preserves	149.3	-5	-5	<b>Motoring expenditure</b>	<b>169.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Sweets and chocolates	148.2	2	2	Purchase of motor vehicles	142.3	0.2
Potatoes	127.9	0	0	Maintenance of motor vehicles	191.8	0.2
of which, unprocessed potatoes	101.0	9	9	Petrol and oil	183.4	0.2
Vegetables	121.5	4	4	Vehicles tax and insurance	206.4	0.2
of which, other fresh vegetables	111.4	7	7	<b>Fares and other travel costs</b>	<b>172.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Fruit	131.3	6	6	Rail fares	194.2	0.1
of which, fresh fruit	128.2	6	6	Bus and coach fares	186.4	0.1
Other foods	149.5	3	3	Other travel costs	150.3	0.1
<b>Catering</b>	<b>186.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>Leisure goods</b>	<b>123.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Restaurant meals	183.9	4	4	Audio-visual equipment	60.8	0.2
Canteen meals	204.1	4	4	Tapes and discs	119.3	0.2
Take-aways and snacks	182.4	3	3	Toys, photographic and sports goods	119.3	0.2
Alcoholic drink	177.9	0.8	3.3	Books and newspapers	185.9	0.2
Beer	189.5	4	4	Gardening products	148.7	0.2
on sales	194.5	5	5	<b>Leisure services</b>	<b>187.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
off sales	157.7	2	2	Television licences and rentals	127.2	0.2
Wines and spirits	161.8	2	2	Entertainment and other recreation	227.7	0.2
on sales	183.3	4	4	Foreign holidays (Jan 1993=100)	121.8	0.2
off sales	149.7	1	1	UK holidays (Jan 1994=100)	110.8	0.2

Note: Indices are given to one decimal place to provide as much information as is available although accuracy is reduced at lower levels of aggregation.

For this reason, annual percentage changes for individual sections are given rounded to the nearest whole number.

[1] The taxes excluded are council tax, VAT, duties, vehicle excise duty, insurance tax and airport tax.

## RETAIL PRICES 6.3 Average retail prices of selected items

Average retail prices on February 10 for a number of important items derived from prices collected by the Office for National Statistics for the purpose of the General Index of Retail Prices in more than 146 areas in the United Kingdom are given below.

### Average prices on February 10 1998

Item	Number of quotations	Average price (pence)	Price range within which 80 per cent of quotations fell (pence)	Item	Number of quotations	Average price (pence)	Price range within which 80 per cent of quotations fell (pence)
Beef: home-killed, per kg				Margarine			
Best beef mince	543	398	262-580	Margarine/Low fat spread, per 500g	183	81	38-103
Topsteaks	512	621	438-899	<b>Cheese, per kg</b>			
Brisket (without bone)	360	405	328-507	Cheddar type	223	507	378-645
Rump steak *	569	838	659-1076	<b>Eggs</b>			
Stewing steak	561	458	299-678	Size 2 (65-70g), per dozen	202	149	125-189
<b>Lamb: home-killed, per kg</b>				Size 4 (55-60g), per dozen	207	126	75-198
Loin (with bone)	505	745	549-999	<b>Milk</b>			
Shoulder (with bone)	417	293	239-397	Pasteurised, per pint +	249	34	28-34
<b>Lamb: imported (frozen), per kg</b>				<b>Tea</b>			
Loin (with bone)	131	543	352-627	Loose, per 125g	193	73	62-79
Leg (with bone)	142	439	357-524	Tea bags, per 250g	216	154	109-189
<b>Pork: home-killed, per kg</b>				<b>Coffee</b>			
Loin (with bone)	553	460	306-629	Pure, instant, per 100g	217	212	195-255
Shoulder (without bone)	433	305	218-408	Ground (filter fine), 227g/per 8oz	203	222	139-269
<b>Bacon, per kg</b>				<b>Sugar</b>			
Shoulder *	453	447	328-676	Granulated, per kg	204	70	62-79
Back *	507	571	430-665	<b>Fresh vegetables</b>			
	537	565	407-795	Potatoes, old loose, 454g/per lb	407	21	12-25
<b>Ham</b>				Potatoes, new loose, 454g/per lb	403	35	25-49
Ham (not shoulder), 113g/per 4oz	590	87	49-115	Tomatoes, 454g/per lb	497	52	45-65
<b>Sausages, 454g/per lb</b>				Cabbage, hearted, 454g/per lb	482	30	19-39
Pork	582	134	101-159	Caulliflower, each	488	76	49-89
<b>Canned meats</b>				Brussels sprouts, 454g/per lb	457	45	30-55
Coronet beef, 340g	215	98	75-115	Carrots, 454g/per lb	503	24	18-28
<b>Chicken: roasting, oven ready, per kg</b>				Onions, 454g/per lb	503	31	25-39
Frozen	158	168	126-194	Mushrooms, 113g/per 4oz	500	34	27-40
Fresh or chilled	592	222	183-265	Cucumber, each	483	72	49-89
<b>Fresh and smoked fish, per kg</b>				Lettuce - iceberg, each	496	61	49-70
Cod filets	309	610	430-794	Leeks, 454g/per lb	493	56	45-69
Rainbow trout	277	489	342-605	<b>Fresh fruit</b>			
<b>Bread</b>				Apples, cooking, 454g/per lb	478	59	49-65
White loaf, sliced, 800g	208	51	33-80	Apples, dessert, 454g/per lb	502	43	29-59
White loaf, unwrapped, 800g	152	71	59-89	Pears, dessert, 454g/per lb	499	50	44-60
Brown loaf, sliced, 400g	161	50	39-60	Oranges, each	493	22	15-29
Brown loaf, unsliced, 800g	149	73	59-91	Bananas, 454g/per lb	502	48	39-50
<b>Flour</b>				Grapes, 454g/per lb	467	132	99-149
Self-raising, per 1.5kg	196	59	39-76	Avocado pear, each	268	56	39-75
<b>Butter</b>				Grapefruit, each	493	29	22-38
Home produced, per 250g	196	85	78-89	<b>Items other than food</b>			
Imported, per 250g	190	88	84-89	Draught bitter, per pint	553	166	141-195
				Draught lager, per pint	553	186	165-210
				Whisky per nip	554	132	112-150
				Cigarettes 20 king size filter	712	313	253-343
				Coal, per 50kg	127	718	640-935
				Smokeless fuel per 50kg	265	1,003	820-1275
				4-star petrol, per litre	567	69	67-71
				Derv per litre	558	63	62-65
				Unleaded petrol ord. per litre	558	63	62-66

\* On Scottish equivalent.

+ Average price estimates include prices of delivered milk and shop-bought milk. However, 80 per cent price range includes only shop-bought milk.

### General Notes - Retail Prices

The responsibility for the Retail Prices Index was transferred in July 1989 from the Employment Department to the Office for National Statistics (formerly Central Statistical Office). The RPI is now being published in full in the ONS *Business Monitor MM23*.

### Structure

With effect from February 1987 the structure of the published components was recast. In some cases, therefore, no direct comparison of the new component with the old is possible. The relationship between the old and the new index structure is shown in *Employment Gazette*, p379, September 1986.

### Definitions

Seasonal food: items of food the prices of which show significant seasonal variations. These are fresh fruit and vegetables, fresh fish, eggs and home-killed lamb.

Consumer durables: Furniture, furnishings, electrical appliances and other household equipment, men's, women's and children's outerwear and footwear, audio-visual equipment, records and tapes, toys, photographic and sports goods.

# 6.4 RETAIL PRICES

## General index of retail prices

UNITED KINGDOM January 13 1987 = 100		ALL ITEMS	All items except food	All items except seasonal food +	All items except housing	All items except mortgage interest	National- ised industries**	Consumer durables	Food	Catering		Alcoholic drink	
									All	Seasonal + Non- seasonal +			
1987	Weights	1,000	833	974	843	956	57	139	167	26	141	46	76
1988		1,000	837	975	840	958	54	141	163	25	138	50	78
1989		1,000	846	977	825	940	46	135	154	23	131	49	83
1990		1,000	842	976	815	925	—	132	158	24	134	47	77
1991		1,000	849	976	808	924	—	128	151	24	127	47	77
1992		1,000	848	978	828	936	—	127	152	22	130	47	80
1993		1,000	856	979	836	952	—	127	144	21	123	45	78
1994		1,000	858	980	842	956	—	127	142	20	122	45	76
1995		1,000	861	978	813	958	—	123	139	22	117	45	77
1996		1,000	857	978	810	958	—	116	143	22	121	48	78
1997		1,000	864	981	814	961	—	122	136	19	117	49	80
1998		1,000	870	982	803	955	—	121	130	18	112	48	71
1987	Annual averages	101.9	102.0	101.9	101.6	101.9	100.9	101.2	101.1	101.6	101.0	102.8	101.7
1988		106.9	107.3	107.0	105.8	106.6	106.7	103.7	104.6	102.4	105.0	109.6	106.9
1989		115.2	116.1	115.5	111.5	112.9	—	107.2	110.5	105.0	111.6	116.5	112.9
1990		126.1	127.4	126.4	119.2	122.1	—	111.3	119.4	116.4	119.9	126.4	123.8
1991		133.5	135.1	133.8	128.3	130.3	—	114.8	125.6	121.6	126.3	139.1	139.2
1992		138.5	140.5	139.1	134.3	136.4	—	115.5	128.3	114.7	130.6	147.9	148.1
1993		140.7	142.6	141.4	138.4	140.5	—	115.9	130.6	111.4	134.0	155.6	154.7
1994		144.1	146.5	144.8	141.6	143.8	—	115.5	131.9	117.7	131.3	162.1	158.5
1995		149.1	151.4	149.6	145.4	147.9	—	116.2	137.0	127.2	138.5	169.0	164.5
1996		152.7	154.9	153.4	149.3	152.3	—	117.1	141.4	125.4	144.2	175.7	169.2
1997		157.5	160.5	158.5	152.9	156.5	—	117.3	141.5	118.5	145.7	182.3	173.9
1987	Jan 13	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1988	Jan 12	103.3	103.4	103.3	103.2	103.7	102.8	101.2	102.9	103.7	102.7	106.4	103.9
1989	Jan 17	111.0	111.7	111.2	108.5	109.4	110.9	104.5	107.4	103.2	108.2	113.1	109.7
1990	Jan 16	119.5	120.2	119.6	114.6	116.1	—	108.0	116.0	116.3	116.0	121.2	116.3
1991	Jan 15	130.2	131.6	130.4	122.7	126.0	—	110.7	122.9	121.2	123.1	132.2	129.7
1992	Jan 14	135.6	137.1	135.9	131.6	133.1	—	110.7	122.9	121.2	123.1	132.2	129.7
1993	Jan 12	137.9	139.7	138.6	135.0	137.4	—	112.8	128.8	112.2	131.7	151.7	151.0
1994	Jan 18	141.3	143.5	142.1	139.3	141.3	—	113.0	130.0	110.3	133.5	159.1	156.9
1995	Jan 17	146.0	148.3	146.5	142.9	145.2	—	113.2	134.1	126.3	135.3	165.7	161.3
1996	Jan 16	150.2	152.3	150.7	146.8	149.3	—	113.8	139.6	128.5	141.4	172.5	166.0
	Feb 13	150.9	152.8	151.3	147.6	150.2	—	115.5	141.1	131.8	142.5	172.9	167.1
	Mar 12	151.5	153.3	151.9	148.4	150.9	—	117.4	142.3	134.9	143.3	173.3	167.4
	Apr 16	152.6	154.6	153.0	149.0	152.0	—	117.5	142.3	132.3	143.8	174.0	168.0
	May 14	152.9	154.8	153.3	149.5	152.5	—	118.0	143.3	134.9	144.5	174.6	168.6
	Jun 11	153.0	154.9	153.5	149.7	152.6	—	118.0	143.2	132.1	144.9	175.5	169.7
	Jul 16	152.4	154.5	153.2	148.8	151.9	—	114.1	141.3	120.1	145.0	176.3	170.5
	Aug 13	153.1	155.1	153.7	149.7	152.8	—	115.6	142.9	126.5	145.8	176.9	170.5
	Sep 10	153.8	156.2	154.7	150.5	153.6	—	118.5	141.4	119.2	145.5	177.5	170.7
	Oct 15	153.8	156.4	154.8	150.5	153.6	—	118.1	140.3	114.4	145.0	177.9	171.0
	Nov 12	153.9	156.6	154.9	150.6	153.7	—	119.3	139.7	113.7	144.5	178.3	170.7
	Dec 16	154.4	157.2	155.4	151.1	154.2	—	120.0	139.9	116.0	144.2	178.8	170.1
1997	Jan 14	154.4	157.0	155.3	150.7	153.9	—	114.2	141.0	120.3	144.7	179.2	171.1
	Feb 11	155.0	157.7	156.0	151.3	154.5	—	115.5	140.8	116.9	145.1	179.7	172.2
	Mar 11	155.4	158.4	156.5	151.7	154.9	—	117.9	140.0	113.9	144.7	180.0	172.1
	Apr 15	156.3	159.3	157.4	152.2	155.8	—	117.8	140.4	114.4	145.2	181.2	172.7
	May 13	156.9	159.8	157.9	152.7	156.3	—	118.3	141.5	117.0	146.0	181.7	173.8
	Jun 10	157.5	160.3	158.4	153.0	156.7	—	117.9	142.8	122.9	146.3	182.2	174.1
	Jul 15	157.5	160.4	158.4	152.6	156.4	—	114.4	142.2	119.3	146.3	182.7	175.0
	Aug 12	158.5	161.5	159.4	153.5	157.1	—	116.1	142.3	120.0	146.3	183.0	175.2
	Sep 09	159.3	162.5	160.3	154.1	157.8	—	118.4	142.1	118.0	146.4	183.6	175.4
	Oct 14	159.5	162.8	160.5	154.2	157.9	—	117.9	142.3	118.7	146.6	184.1	175.8
	Nov 11	159.6	163.0	160.6	154.2	158.0	—	119.0	141.6	119.3	145.6	184.9	175.1
	Dec 09	160.0	163.5	161.0	154.5	158.3	—	119.7	141.6	121.7	145.2	185.1	174.4
1998	Jan 13	159.5	162.8	160.4	153.7	157.7	—	113.2	141.8	121.2	145.5	185.8	176.5
	Feb 10	160.3	163.8	161.4	154.6	158.5	—	115.2	141.9	120.1	145.8	186.3	177.9

+ For the February, March and April 1988 indices the weights used for seasonal and non-seasonal food were 24 and 139 respectively. Thereafter the weight for home-killed lamb (a seasonal item) was increased by 1 and that for imported lamb (a non-seasonal item) correspondingly reduced by 1, in the light of new information about the relative shares of household expenditure.  
 \*\* The nationalised industries index is no longer published from December 1989, see also General Notes under Table 6.3.

# 6.4 RETAIL PRICES

## General index of retail prices

		Tobacco	Housing	Fuel and light	Household goods	Household services	Clothing and footwear	Personal goods and services	Motoring expenditure	Fares and other travel	Leisure goods	Leisure services	Weights
1987	Weights	36	157	61	73	44	74	38	127	22	47	30	1987
1988		36	160	55	74	41	72	37	132	23	50	29	1988
1989		36	175	54	71	41	73	37	128	23	47	29	1989
1990		34	185	50	71	40	69	39	131	21	48	30	1990
1991		32	192	46	70	45	63	38	141	20	48	30	1991
1992		32	172	47	77	48	59	40	143	20	47	32	1992
1993		36	164	46	79	47	58	39	136	21	46	32	1993
1994		35	158	45	76	47	58	37	142	20	48	31	1994
1995		34	187	45	77	47	54	39	125	19	46	26	1995
1996		35	190	43	72	48	54	38	124	17	45	25	1996
1997		34	186	41	72	52	56	40	128	20	47	29	1997
1998		34	187	36	72	54	55	40	136	20	46	26	1998
1987	Annual averages	100.3	103.3	99.1	102.1	101.9	101.1	101.9	103.4	101.5	101.6	101.6	101.6
1988		103.4	112.5	101.6	105.9	106.8	104.4	106.8	108.1	107.5	104.2	108.1	108.8
1989		106.4	135.3	107.3	110.1	112.5	109.9	114.1	114.0	115.2	107.4	115.5	115.5
1990		113.9	163.7	115.9	115.4	119.6	115.0	122.7	120.9	123.4	124.5	124.5	124.5
1991		129.2	160.8	125.1	122.5	129.5	118.5	133.4	129.9	135.5	138.8	138.8	139.1
1992		144.1	159.6	127.8	126.5	137.0	118.8	142.2	138.7	143.9	120.8	150.0	150.0
1993		158.2	151.0	126.2	128.0	141.9	119.8	147.9	144.7	151.4	122.5	156.7	156.7
1994		168.2	156.0	131.7	128.4	142.0	120.4	153.3	149.7	155.4	121.8	162.5	162.5
1995		179.5	166.4	134.5	133.1	141.6	120.6	158.2	152.4	159.3	121.7	167.7	167.7
1996		191.5	168.6	134.8	137.5	141.7	119.7	164.1	157.0	164.1	123.6	173.8	173.8
1997		205.9	179.6	130.6	139.1	144.3	120.6	170.0	165.3	169.6	123.9	182.3	18

# 6.8 RETAIL PRICES

## EU countries - Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs)<sup>1</sup>

1996=100	European Comm (15) <sup>3</sup>	United Kingdom	Austria	Belgium	Denmark	Finland	France	Germany
<b>Annual averages</b>								
1995	97.7 e	97.6 e	98.3	98.3	98.0 r	98.9	98.0	98.8
1996	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1997	101.7	101.8 r	101.2	101.5	101.9 r	101.2	101.3	101.5
<b>Monthly</b>								
1995 Nov	98.4 e	N/A	98.4	98.5	98.7	98.6	98.7	98.8
1995 Dec	98.6 e	N/A	98.4	98.7	98.6	98.5	98.8	99.1
1996 Jan	98.8 e	98.5	99.1	99.2 r	98.4	99.2	98.9	99.2
1996 Feb	99.2 e	98.9	99.4	99.3 r	99.0	99.5	99.3	99.7
1996 Mar	99.6 e	99.4 r	99.6	99.5	99.6	99.7	100.0	99.8
1996 Apr	99.9 e	99.9	99.7	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.1	99.8
1996 May	100.1	100.2	99.5	100.2 r	100.1	100.3	100.3	100.0
1996 Jun	100.2 e	100.3	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.3	100.2	100.1
1996 Jul	100.1 e	99.6 r	100.3	99.9	99.9	100.3 r	100.0	100.4
1996 Aug	100.1	100.2	100.3	99.9	100.1	99.9	99.8	100.3
1996 Sep	100.4 e	100.7	100.5	100.1	100.6	100.2	100.1	100.1
1996 Oct	100.5 e	100.6 r	100.5	100.6	100.8	100.2 r	100.4	100.1
1996 Nov	100.5	100.7	100.6	100.6	100.9 r	100.0 r	100.3	100.1
1996 Dec	100.7 e	101.0	100.6	100.8	100.7	100.2	100.5	100.3
1997 Jan	100.9	100.6	100.7	101.3	100.7 r	100.1 r	100.7	100.9
1997 Feb	101.1	100.9	100.9	101.2	101.1 r	100.2	101.0	101.3
1997 Mar	101.3	101.1	100.8	100.8	101.4 r	100.5 r	101.1	101.1
1997 Apr	101.4	101.4 r	101.1	101.1	101.6 r	100.9	101.1	101.0
1997 May	101.6	101.8	101.1	101.6	102.3 r	101.2	101.2	101.4
1997 Jun	101.7	102.0	101.1	101.6	102.5 r	101.4	101.2	101.6
1997 Jul	101.7	101.6 r	101.1	101.8	101.9 r	101.4 r	101.1	102.2
1997 Aug	101.9	102.2	101.2	101.6	102.1	101.6 r	101.4	102.0
1997 Sep	102.1	102.5	101.1	101.7	102.5	101.7	101.6	101.7
1997 Oct	102.2	102.6	101.2	101.8	102.4	101.9	101.5	101.6
1997 Nov	102.3	102.6 r	101.5	101.9	102.5	101.8	101.7	101.5
1997 Dec	102.4	102.8	101.7	101.7	102.3 r	101.8	101.7	101.7
1998 Jan	102.2 p	102.1	101.7 p	101.8	102.4	101.9	101.3	101.7
<b>Increases on a year earlier</b>								
<b>Annual averages</b>								
1996	2.4 e	2.5 e	1.8	2.1	2.1 r	1.1	2.1	1.2
1997	1.7 e	1.9	1.2	1.5	1.9 r	1.2	1.3	1.5
<b>Monthly</b>								
1996 Nov	2.2 e	2.8 e	2.0	2.1	2.4 r	1.4	1.6	1.3
1996 Dec	2.1 e	2.3 e	2.3	2.1	2.2 r	1.7	1.7	1.2
1997 Jan	2.2 e	2.1	1.2	2.1 r	2.3 r	0.9	1.8	1.7
1997 Feb	2.0	2.0	1.4	1.9 r	2.1 r	0.6	1.7	1.6
1997 Mar	1.7 e	1.7 r	1.2	1.3	1.8 r	0.7	1.1	1.3
1997 Apr	1.5 e	1.5 r	1.2	1.1	1.7 r	0.9	1.0	1.2
1997 May	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.4 r	2.2 r	0.9	0.9	1.4
1997 Jun	1.6 e	1.7	1.0	1.6	2.4 r	1.1	1.0	1.5
1997 Jul	1.6 e	2.0	0.9	1.9	2.0 r	1.1	1.1	1.5
1997 Aug	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.7
1997 Sep	1.8 e	1.8	1.2	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.6
1997 Oct	1.7 e	2.0 r	1.1	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.4
1997 Nov	1.7	1.9 r	1.1	1.3	1.6 r	1.8	1.4	1.4
1997 Dec	1.6 e	1.8	1.0	0.9	1.6 r	1.6	1.2	1.4
1998 Jan	1.3 p	1.5	1.1 p	0.5	1.7	1.8	0.6	0.8

Notes: 1 Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) are being calculated in each member state of the European Union for the purpose of international comparisons. This is in the context of one of the convergence criteria for monetary union as required by the Maastricht treaty. The rules underlying the construction of the HICPs for EU member states were published in a Commission Regulation of 9 September 1996. The HICPs replace the Interim Indices of Consumer Prices which were published by Eurostat in a monthly news release.  
2 Figures for Irish Republic for 1996 are only available on a quarterly basis.  
3 Percentage change figures for 1996 are estimated.

# RETAIL PRICES 6.8

## EU countries - Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs)<sup>1</sup>

1996=100	Greece	Irish Republic <sup>2</sup>	Italy <sup>3</sup>	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Portugal	Spain	Sweden
<b>Annual averages</b>								
1995	92.7	97.9 e	96.2	98.8	98.6	97.2	96.6	99.2
1996	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1997	105.4	101.2	101.9	101.4	101.9	101.9	101.9	101.9
<b>Monthly</b>								
1995 Nov	95.2	98.4	98.1 e	99.2 p	99.0	97.9	97.6	100.0
1995 Dec	96.7	N/A	98.2 e	99.3 p	98.5	97.9	97.9	99.7
1996 Jan	98.3	N/A	98.6	99.4	98.7	98.3	98.5	99.1
1996 Feb	98.1	99.1	99.0	99.5	99.2	98.8	98.7	99.3
1996 Mar	98.5	N/A	99.3	99.6	100.4	99.0	99.1	100.0
1996 Apr	98.4	N/A	99.7	99.8	100.7	99.8	99.7	100.4
1996 May	98.7	100.0	100.1	99.9	100.3	100.2	100.1	100.5
1996 Jun	100.0	N/A	100.3	99.9	99.8	100.2	100.0	100.1
1996 Jul	99.1	N/A	100.2	100.0	99.5	100.4	100.1	99.9
1996 Aug	99.0	100.2	100.3	100.1	99.3	100.7	100.4	99.6
1996 Sep	101.3	N/A	100.4	100.1	100.4	100.7	100.7	100.4
1996 Oct	102.3	N/A	100.5	100.3	100.7	100.5	100.8	100.4
1996 Nov	102.2	100.7	100.9	100.6	100.5	100.7	100.8	100.2
1996 Dec	103.4	N/A	101.0	100.6	100.4	100.7	101.1	100.2
1997 Jan	102.7	100.3	101.2	100.7	100.4	101.1	101.3	100.4
1997 Feb	102.5	100.9	101.3	101.0	100.6	101.2	101.2	100.4
1997 Mar	104.4	101.0	101.5	100.9	101.6	101.3	101.3	101.0
1997 Apr	105.2	101.0	101.6	100.9	101.7	101.4	101.3	101.7
1997 May	105.0	101.1	101.9 r	101.0	101.9	102.1	101.4	101.8
1997 Jun	106.0	101.4	101.9	101.1	101.3	101.8	101.4	101.8
1997 Jul	104.2	101.2	101.9	101.3	101.4	101.8	101.6	101.6
1997 Aug	104.5	100.9	101.9	101.5	101.8	102.3	102.1	101.7
1997 Sep	105.3	101.4	102.0	101.8	102.9	102.2	102.6	103.0
1997 Oct	106.8	101.5	102.4	102.0	103.0	102.1	102.6	103.1
1997 Nov	107.1	101.9	102.7	102.1	103.0	102.6	102.7	102.9
1997 Dec	108.0	102.2	102.8	102.1	102.6	102.8	103.0	102.9
1998 Jan	107.1	101.5	103.1	102.2	102.0 p	102.7	103.2	102.5
<b>Increases on a year earlier</b>								
<b>Annual averages</b>								
1996	7.9	2.2 e	4.0	1.2	1.4	2.9	3.6	0.8
1997	5.4	1.2 e	1.9	1.4	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8 r
<b>Monthly</b>								
1996 Nov	7.4	2.1	2.9	1.4	1.5	2.9	3.3	0.2
1996 Dec	6.9	2.4 e	2.9	1.3	1.9	2.9	3.3	0.5
1997 Jan	6.4	1.8 e	2.6	1.3	1.7	2.8	2.8	1.3
1997 Feb	6.6	1.7	2.3	1.5	1.4	2.4	2.5	1.1
1997 Mar	5.8	1.3 e	2.2	1.3	1.2	2.3	2.2	1.0
1997 Apr	5.7	1.6 e	1.9	1.1	1	1.6	1.6	1.3
1997 May	5.2	1.4	1.8 r	1.1	1.6	1.9	1.3	1.3
1997 Jun	5.4	1.5 e	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.7
1997 Jul	5.3	1.5 e	1.7	1.3	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.7
1997 Aug	5.2	0.6	1.6	1.4	2.5	1.6	1.7	2.1
1997 Sep	4.7	0.6 e	1.6	1.7	2.5	1.5	1.9	2.6
1997 Oct	4.6	0.8 e	1.9	1.7	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.7
1997 Nov	5.0	1.1	1.8	1.5	2.5	1.9	1.9	2.7
1997 Dec	4.6	1.0 e	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.7
1998 Jan	4.9	1.2	1.9	1.5	1.6 p	1.6	1.9	2.1

Source: Office for National Statistics/Eurostat

## 6.9 RETAIL PRICES

Selected countries: all items excluding housing costs<sup>1,2,3</sup>

1990=100	United Kingdom <sup>3</sup>	Germany (West) <sup>3</sup>	France <sup>3</sup>	Italy <sup>3</sup>	United States	Japan	Canada
<b>Annual averages</b>							
1993	116.1	111.0	107.5	116.7	110.3	105.9	109.5
1994	118.8	113.9	109.2	121.4	112.9	106.3	109.6
1995	122.0	115.7 P	111.1	127.7	115.9	105.8	112.5
1996	125.3	117.1 P	113.3 P	132.6 P	119.2	105.8	114.9
1997	128.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	121.6	N/A	117.3
<b>Monthly</b>							
1996 Jul	124.8	117.8 P	113.3	132.8 P	119.2	105.6	114.9
Aug	125.6	117.1 P	113.0	132.9 P	119.3	105.5	115.0
Sep	126.3	117.1 P	113.4	133.3 P	119.8	105.9	115.2
Oct	126.3	117.2 P	113.7	133.4 P	120.3	106.1	115.4
Nov	126.3	117.1 P	113.7 P	133.8 P	120.6	105.8	116.3
Dec	126.8	117.2 P	113.7 P	133.9 P	120.7	105.9	116.2
1997 Jan	126.4	118.4 P	113.7 P	133.9 P	120.9	105.8 P,R	116.5
Feb	126.9	118.4 P	113.7 P	133.9 P	121.1	105.5 P,R	116.7
Mar	127.3	118.5 P	113.9 P	133.9 P	121.1	105.6 P,R	117.0
Apr	127.7	118.7 P	114.4 P	134.8 P	121.5	108.2 P,R	117.0
May	128.1	119.2 P	114.6 P	135.1 P	121.5	108.4 P,R	117.2
Jun	128.4	119.8 P	114.6 P	135.1 P	121.5	108.3 P	117.6
Jul	128.0	119.8 P	..	135.1 P	121.4	107.6 P	117.5
Aug	128.8	..	..	..	121.6	107.7 P	117.8
Sep	129.3	..	..	..	122.2	108.6 P	117.8
Oct	129.4	..	..	..	122.4	108.9 P	117.7
Nov	129.6	..	..	..	122.3	..	117.6
Dec	128.3	..	..	..	122.0	..	117.3
1998 Jan	128.9	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Increases on a year earlier</b>							
<b>Annual averages</b>							
1993	3.0	3.6	2.2	4.4	3.0	1.0	2.0
1994	2.3	2.6	1.6	4.0	2.4	0.4	0.2
1995	2.7	1.6 P	1.7	5.2	2.6	-0.5	2.6
1996	2.7	1.2 P	2.0	3.8 P	2.8	0.0	2.1
1997	2.0	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Monthly</b>							
1996 Jul	2.6	1.3 P	2.3	3.6 P	2.8	0.3	1.7
Aug	2.6	1.4 P	1.6	3.4 P	2.7	0.2	2.0
Sep	2.6	1.4 P	1.6	3.4 P	2.8	0.0	1.9
Oct	2.9	1.5 P	1.8	3.1 P	2.9	0.5	2.3
Nov	3.0	1.5 P	1.7 P	2.7 P	3.3	0.5	2.8
Dec	2.6	1.4 P	1.6 P	2.6 P	3.4	0.6	3.1
1997 Jan	2.7	1.9 P	1.4 P	2.4 P	3.1	0.4 P	2.9
Feb	2.5	1.7 P	1.1 P	2.1 P	3.0	0.3 P	2.9
Mar	2.2	1.6 P	0.6 P	1.8 P	2.4	0.2 P	2.4
Apr	2.1	1.3 P	0.9 P	2.0 P	2.2	1.9 P	2.1
May	2.1	1.3 P	0.9 P	1.8 P	1.9	1.9 P	1.9
Jun	2.2	1.7 P	1.0	1.6	1.9	2.3 P	2.4
Jul	2.6	1.7 P	..	1.7	1.8	1.9 P	2.2
Aug	2.5	..	..	..	2.0	2.1 P	2.4
Sep	2.4	..	..	..	2.0	2.5 P	2.3
Oct	2.5	..	..	..	1.8	2.6 P	2.0
Nov	2.3	..	..	..	1.4	..	1.2
Dec	2.3	..	..	..	1.1	..	0.9
1998 Jan	2.3	..	..	..	2.0	..	2.1

Source: Office for National Statistics/national statistics offices/OECD

Notes: 1 Comparisons of consumer price indices are affected by differences in national concepts and definitions especially in the treatment of housing costs. Consumer price indices excluding housing costs are therefore given as the best available basis for comparison for non-EU countries. This is in accordance with a resolution adopted by the 14th International Conference of Labour Statisticians that countries should "provide for the dissemination at the international level of an index which excludes shelter, in addition to the all-items index." Figures are given for each country on the nearest basis to the UK series "All items excluding housing." Where necessary the figures in this table have been estimated by the ONS using data kindly supplied by other countries.

2 The definition of housing costs varies between countries. The figures shown for most countries exclude owner-occupiers' costs, rents, repairs and maintenance. For Canada, fuel and lighting are also excluded.

3 Figures for the four EU member states have been provided in this table for comparison with non-EU countries only. The best measure of comparison between these four countries are the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices shown in Table 6.8.

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## BRITAIN 1998

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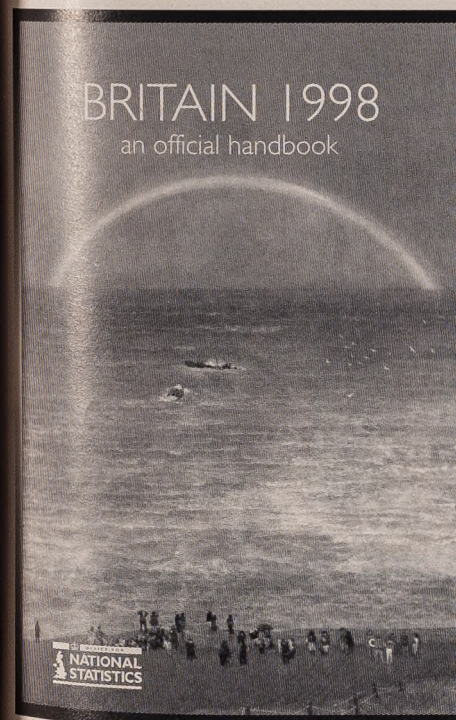
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# 7.1 LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

## Economic activity,<sup>+</sup> seasonally adjusted §§

GREAT BRITAIN	In employment #		Govt-supported training and employment programmes §	Unpaid family workers **	In employment ++	ILO unemployed	Total economically active	Economically inactive	All aged 16 and over
	Employees	Self-employed							
<b>ALL</b>									
Spr 1979	22,600	1,769	..	..	24,369	1,466 X	25,836 X	15,310 X	41,146
Spr 1981	21,574	2,191	..	..	23,765	2,521 X	26,286 X	15,654 X	41,940
Spr 1983	20,446	2,292	366	..	23,103	2,891 X	26,000	16,399 X	42,394
Spr 1984	20,673	2,606	321	..	23,626	2,964 X	26,590 X	16,130 X	42,720
Spr 1985	20,890	2,606	321	..	23,826	3,143	26,768	15,951	42,720
Spr 1986	20,982	2,703	402	..	23,996	3,026	27,021	15,950	43,011
Spr 1987	21,010	2,957	513	..	24,489	2,946	27,435	16,053	43,437
Spr 1988	21,708	3,136	541	..	25,389	2,424	27,813	15,852	43,865
Spr 1989	22,269	3,429	490	..	26,195	2,021	28,216	15,623	43,899
Spr 1990	22,488	3,471	458	..	26,417	1,925	28,346	15,616	43,882
Spr 1991	22,132	3,318	418	..	25,883	2,361	28,243	15,835	44,078
Spr 1992	21,577	3,147	356	176	25,255	2,361	28,000	16,159	44,147
Spr 1993	21,371	3,109	333	145	24,959	2,745	27,868	16,349	44,217
Win 1993/4	21,404	3,193	323	135	25,055	2,798	27,853	16,409	44,282
Spr 1994	21,475	3,219	315	140	25,150	2,716	27,865	16,412	44,277
Sum 1994	21,557	3,220	296	138	25,211	2,667	27,878	16,415	44,293
Aut 1994	21,597	3,263	291	142	25,293	2,523	27,816	16,507	44,322
Win 1994/5	21,644	3,289	277	128	25,338	2,457	27,795	16,557	44,352
Spr 1995	21,737	3,274	267	133	25,412	2,435	27,846	16,534	44,381
Sum 1995	21,894	3,242	254	125	25,515	2,408	27,923	16,487	44,410
Aut 1995	21,945	3,238	246	131	25,560	2,383	27,944	16,504	44,447
Win 1995/6	22,062	3,219	235	118	25,634	2,334	27,968	16,517	44,485
Spr 1996	22,085	3,213	225	122	25,645	2,321	27,966	16,556	44,522
Sum 1996	22,096	3,289	225	114	25,724	2,255	27,978	16,582	44,560
Aut 1996	22,252	3,283	200	115	25,851	2,221	28,072	16,527	44,599
Win 1996/7	22,401	3,277	199	108	25,985	2,111	28,096	16,542	44,638
Spr 1997	22,507	3,260	197	111	26,075	2,037	28,113	16,564	44,677
Sum 1997	22,545	3,245	199	119	26,199	1,997	28,198	16,566	44,715
Aut 1997	22,749	3,230	190	110	26,279	1,847	28,126	16,627	44,752
Changes									
Sum 97 - Aut 97	152	-15	-12	-9	117	-150	-33	70	37
Per cent	0.7	-0.5	-6.0	-7.3	0.4	-7.5	-0.1	0.4	0.1

<b>MEN</b>									
Spr 1979	13,381	1,449	..	..	14,830	787 X	15,617 X	4,067 X	19,684
Spr 1981	12,427	1,753	..	..	14,180	1,583 X	15,763 X	4,324 X	20,087
Spr 1983	11,672	1,759	221	..	13,651	1,838 X	15,490 X	4,842 X	20,332
Spr 1984	11,643	1,988	201	..	13,845	1,802 X	15,647 X	4,872 X	20,519
Spr 1985	11,643	1,988	201	..	13,845	1,861	15,707	4,813	20,519
Spr 1986	11,683	2,039	255	..	13,977	1,818	15,795	4,886	20,681
Spr 1987	11,583	2,057	278	..	13,920	1,817	15,736	5,071	20,806
Spr 1988	11,487	2,231	329	..	14,052	1,807	15,877	5,138	20,986
Spr 1989	11,366	2,375	339	..	14,552	1,425	15,978	5,074	21,058
Spr 1990	11,984	2,626	313	..	14,928	1,173	16,101	5,058	21,158
Spr 1991	12,082	2,647	296	..	15,029	1,122	16,150	5,099	21,249
Spr 1992	11,803	2,535	252	..	14,598	1,470	16,068	5,251	21,318
Spr 1993	11,363	2,374	234	54	14,025	1,835	15,860	5,509	21,369
Spr 1994	11,154	2,321	219	41	13,735	1,955	15,690	5,730	21,420
Win 1994/5	11,189	2,383	218	37	13,826	1,837	15,663	5,801	21,460
Spr 1995	11,204	2,414	207	47	13,877	1,797	15,673	5,806	21,496
Sum 1995	11,252	2,425	194	49	13,920	1,774	15,693	5,801	21,495
Aut 1995	11,313	2,458	192	44	14,007	1,664	15,670	5,846	21,516
Win 1995/6	11,317	2,478	187	41	14,022	1,611	15,633	5,904	21,537
Spr 1996	11,380	2,480	173	40	14,073	1,582	15,655	5,904	21,580
Sum 1996	11,447	2,447	160	44	14,098	1,566	15,664	5,916	21,604
Aut 1996	11,469	2,448	158	42	14,117	1,542	15,660	5,945	21,629
Win 1996/7	11,523	2,419	148	35	14,125	1,539	15,664	5,965	21,654
Spr 1997	11,551	2,408	142	40	14,137	1,525	15,662	5,992	21,678
Sum 1997	11,542	2,468	143	37	14,187	1,472	15,659	6,019	21,703
Aut 1997	11,637	2,459	122	40	14,258	1,432	15,690	6,014	21,728
Win 1997/8	11,743	2,454	119	37	14,353	1,326	15,679	6,050	21,753
Spr 1997	11,817	2,421	121	37	14,395	1,294	15,689	6,064	21,778
Sum 1997	11,893	2,394	127	41	14,455	1,235	15,690	6,089	21,778
Aut 1997	12,008	2,373	117	38	14,535	1,145	15,680	6,122	21,802
Changes									
Sum 97 - Aut 97	115	-22	-10	-3	80	-90	-10	34	24
Per cent	1.0	-0.9	-7.8	-7.8	0.6	-7.3	-0.1	0.6	0.1

<b>WOMEN</b>									
Spr 1979	9,220	319	..	..	9,539	679 X	10,218 X	11,243 X	21,462
Spr 1981	9,147	438	..	..	9,585	937 X	10,522 X	11,330 X	21,852
Spr 1983	8,774	533	145	..	9,452	1,053 X	10,505 X	11,557 X	22,000
Spr 1984	9,030	619	120	..	9,780	1,182 X	10,943 X	11,258 X	22,200
Spr 1985	9,207	664	147	..	10,018	1,208	11,226	11,138	22,200
Spr 1986	9,399	661	136	..	10,197	1,214	11,411	11,029	22,330
Spr 1987	9,522	727	185	..	10,437	1,191	11,628	10,915	22,543
Spr 1988	9,872	761	202	..	10,836	999	11,835	10,778	22,613
Spr 1989	10,285	803	177	..	11,267	848	12,116	10,565	22,681
Spr 1990	10,406	824	162	..	11,393	803	12,196	10,517	22,713
Spr 1991	10,329	784	166	..	11,285	891	12,178	10,584	22,760
Spr 1992	10,214	773	122	122	11,230	910	12,140	10,650	22,790
Spr 1993	10,217	788	114	104	11,224	954	12,178	10,619	22,797
Win 1993/4	10,216	810	105	98	11,229	961	12,190	10,608	22,798
Spr 1994	10,265	806	108	93	11,273	919	12,192	10,606	22,798
Sum 1994	10,305	794	103	89	11,291	893	12,185	10,613	22,798
Aut 1994	10,284	805	99	98	11,286	859	12,146	10,661	22,806
Win 1994/5	10,327	810	90	88	11,316	845	12,161	10,653	22,822
Spr 1995	10,357	795	93	93	11,339	853	12,191	10,631	22,830
Sum 1995	10,447	795	94	81	11,417	842	12,259	10,571	22,830
Aut 1995	10,476	789	89	88	11,443	841	12,284	10,559	22,843
Win 1995/6	10,539	800	87	83	11,509	796	12,305	10,551	22,869
Spr 1996	10,534	810	83	82	11,509	796	12,305	10,564	22,869
Sum 1996	10,554	823	82	77	11,537	782	12,319	10,562	22,881
Aut 1996	10,615	824	79	75	11,593	789	12,382	10,513	22,909
Win 1996/7	10,658	824	79	71	11,632	785	12,417	10,492	22,923
Spr 1997	10,690	840	76	75	11,681	743	12,424	10,500	22,923
Sum 1997	10,703	851	75	78	11,707	762	12,470	10,468	22,937
Aut 1997	10,740	858	73	73	11,744	702	12,446	10,505	22,950
Changes									
Sum 97 - Aut 97	37	7	-2	-6	36	-60	-24	37	13
Per cent	0.3	0.8	-2.9	-7.1	0.3	-7.9	-2.2	0.4	0.1

Since 1984 the definitions used in the Labour Force Survey (LFS) have been fully in line with international recommendations. For details see 'The quarterly Labour Force Survey: a new dimension to labour market statistics', *Employment Gazette*, October 1992, pp 483-90.

# People in full-time education who also did some paid work in the reference week have been classified as in employment since spring 1993.

§ Those on employment and training programmes have been classified as in employment since spring 1983. Some of those on government-supported training programmes may consider themselves to be employees or self-employed and so appear in other categories. Full information on those on government-supported training programmes is in *Table 8.1*.

X The Labour Force (LF) definition of unemployment and inactivity applies for these years. LF unemployment is based on a one week job search period, rather than four weeks with the ILO definition.

\*\* Unpaid family workers have been classified as in employment since spring 1992.

++ Includes those who did not state whether they were employees or self-employed.

§§ Revised April 1997.

# LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 7.2

## Economic activity,<sup>+</sup> not seasonally adjusted

GREAT BRITAIN	In employment #		Govt-supported training and employment programmes §	Unpaid family workers**	In employment ++	ILO unemployed	Total economically active	Economically inactive	All aged 16 and over
	Employees	Self-employed							
<b>ALL</b>									
Spr 1979	22,432	1,778	..	..	24,210	1,428 X	25,638 X	15,507 X	41,146
Spr 1981	21,405	2,201	..	..	23,606	2,483 X	26,089 X	15,851 X	41,940
Spr 1983	20,288	2,301	355	..	22,944	2,853 X	25,797 X	16,596 X	42,394
Spr 1984	20,515	2,616	311	..	23,467	2,926 X	26,393 X	16,327 X	42,720
Spr 1985	20,515	2,616	311	..	23,467	3,105	26,571	16,148	42,720
Spr 1986	20,746	2,713	390	..	23,850	2,990	26,840	16,171	43,011
Spr 1987	20,852	2,729	400	..	23,984	2,996	26,979	16,267	43,246
Spr 1988	20,892	2,969	498	..	24,368	2,392	27,280	16,208	43,487
Spr 1989	21,601	3,148	527	..	25,279	2,392	27,671	15,934	43,665
Spr 1990	22,167	3,441	478	..	26,093	1,989	28,083	15,757	43,839
Spr 1991	22,388	3,482	448	..	26,324	1,894	28,218	15,745	43,962
Spr 1992	22,034	3,330	412	..	25,792	2,329	28,121	15,957	44,107
Spr 1993	21,977	3,147	364	176	25,206	2,684	27,890	16,269	44,159

# 7.3 LABOUR FORCE SURVEY Economic activity,\* by age

THOUSANDS

GREAT BRITAIN	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED \$\$			NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED							
	All aged 16 and over			Age groups							
	All	Men	Women	All	16-17	16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-64 (Men) 50-59 (Women)	65 & over (M) 60 & over (W)
<b>In employment</b>	23 626	13 845	9 780	23 467	819	1 956	2 942	5 189	7 878	4 780	722
Spr 1984	23 626	13 845	9 780	23 467	819	1 956	2 942	5 189	7 878	4 780	722
Aut 1984	23 626	13 845	9 780	23 467	819	1 956	2 942	5 189	7 878	4 780	722
Spr 1985	23 995	14 018	10 018	23 850	854	2 023	3 099	5 318	8 043	4 693	674
Aut 1985	23 995	14 018	10 018	23 850	854	2 023	3 099	5 318	8 043	4 693	674
Spr 1986	24 117	13 920	10 177	23 984	848	1 984	2 929	5 159	7 757	4 606	644
Aut 1986	24 117	13 920	10 177	23 984	848	1 984	2 929	5 159	7 757	4 606	644
Spr 1987	24 489	14 052	10 437	24 368	841	2 025	3 021	5 257	7 850	4 550	720
Aut 1987	24 489	14 052	10 437	24 368	841	2 025	3 021	5 257	7 850	4 550	720
Spr 1988	25 389	14 553	10 836	25 269	825	2 122	3 091	6 043	8 571	4 583	642
Aut 1988	25 389	14 553	10 836	25 269	825	2 122	3 091	6 043	8 571	4 583	642
Spr 1989	26 195	14 928	11 267	26 076	803	2 128	3 066	6 359	8 795	4 678	767
Aut 1989	26 195	14 928	11 267	26 076	803	2 128	3 066	6 359	8 795	4 678	767
Spr 1990	26 421	15 029	11 393	26 304	801	1 972	2 877	6 617	8 968	4 713	767
Aut 1990	26 421	15 029	11 393	26 304	801	1 972	2 877	6 617	8 968	4 713	767
Spr 1991	26 583	14 598	11 285	26 467	734	1 772	2 836	6 618	8 988	4 618	749
Aut 1991	26 583	14 598	11 285	26 467	734	1 772	2 836	6 618	8 988	4 618	749
Spr 1992	26 555	14 555	11 224	26 437	633	1 510	2 830	6 555	8 536	4 536	762
Aut 1992	26 555	14 555	11 224	26 437	633	1 510	2 830	6 555	8 536	4 536	762
Spr 1993	26 555	14 555	11 224	26 437	633	1 510	2 830	6 555	8 536	4 536	762
Aut 1993	26 555	14 555	11 224	26 437	633	1 510	2 830	6 555	8 536	4 536	762
Spr 1994	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Aut 1994	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Win 1994/5	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Spr 1995	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Aut 1995	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Win 1995/6	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Spr 1996	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Aut 1996	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Win 1996/7	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Spr 1997	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
Aut 1997	26 515	14 515	11 224	26 397	538	1 303	2 714	6 642	8 478	4 478	755
<b>ILO unemployed</b>	3 143	1 861	1 282	3 105	227	551	630	723	691	450	59
Spr 1984	3 143	1 861	1 282	3 105	227	551	630	723	691	450	59
Aut 1984	3 143	1 861	1 282	3 105	227	551	630	723	691	450	59
Spr 1985	3 026	1 818	1 208	2 990	217	495	590	736	706	414	49
Aut 1985	3 026	1 818	1 208	2 990	217	495	590	736	706	414	49
Spr 1986	3 031	1 817	1 214	2 996	223	490	507	759	686	408	46
Aut 1986	3 031	1 817	1 214	2 996	223	490	507	759	686	408	46
Spr 1987	3 031	1 817	1 214	2 996	223	490	507	759	686	408	46
Aut 1987	3 031	1 817	1 214	2 996	223	490	507	759	686	408	46
Spr 1988	3 424	1 991	1 424	3 392	202	432	405	449	405	449	43
Aut 1988	3 424	1 991	1 424	3 392	202	432	405	449	405	449	43
Spr 1989	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1989	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1990	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1990	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1991	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1991	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1992	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1992	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1993	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1993	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1994	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1994	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Win 1994/5	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1995	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1995	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Win 1995/6	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1996	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1996	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Win 1996/7	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Spr 1997	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
Aut 1997	3 821	2 175	1 646	3 793	199	424	356	534	454	349	52
<b>Economically inactive</b>	15 951	8 813	11 138	16 148	708	1 078	813	1 586	1 656	2 247	788
Spr 1984	15 951	8 813	11 138	16 148	708	1 078	813	1 586	1 656	2 247	788
Aut 1984	15 951	8 813	11 138	16 148	708	1 078	813	1 586	1 656	2 247	788
Spr 1985	16 100	9 071	11 104	16 267	649	1 001	807	1 541	1 632	2 269	922
Aut 1985	16 100	9 071	11 104	16 267	649	1 001	807	1 541	1 632	2 269	922
Spr 1986	16 053	9 138	11 015	16 208	618	924	806	1 486	1 655	2 238	886
Aut 1986	16 053	9 138	11 015	16 208	618	924	806	1 486	1 655	2 238	886
Spr 1987	16 053	9 138	11 015	16 208	618	924	806	1 486	1 655	2 238	886
Aut 1987	16 053	9 138	11 015	16 208	618	924	806	1 486	1 655	2 238	886
Spr 1988	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1988	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1989	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1989	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1990	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1990	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1991	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1991	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1992	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1992	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1993	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1993	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1994	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1994	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Win 1994/5	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Spr 1995	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688	2 300	930
Aut 1995	16 523	9 424	11 103	16 683	827	1 126	888	1 565	1 688		

# 7.5 LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

## Alternative measures of unemployment

THOUSANDS

GREAT BRITAIN	ILO unemployment measure				Claimant unemployment measure				
	Seasonally adjusted				Not ILO unemployed				
	Claimants *	Non claimants *	Total	Difference	Total #	ILO unemployed *	Economically inactive **	In employment **	Total **
<b>ALL</b>									
Spr 1984			3,143	369	2,774				
Spr 1985			3,025	115	2,911				
Spr 1986			3,031	38	2,993				
Spr 1987			2,946	147	2,799				
Spr 1988			2,424	154	2,270				
Spr 1989			2,021	279	1,742				
Spr 1990			1,925	422	1,502				
Spr 1991			2,361	294	2,067				
Spr 1992	1,963	782	2,745	157	2,588	1,963	354	271	25
Aut 1992	2,059	798	2,857	94	2,763	2,059	405	299	704
Win 1992/3	2,140	825	2,965	104	2,861	2,140	418	303	721
Spr 1993	2,147	762	2,909	72	2,837	2,147	383	307	690
Sum 1993	2,057	822	2,879	72	2,807	2,057	468	282	750
Aut 1993	2,021	830	2,851	104	2,747	2,021	433	293	736
Win 1993/4	1,976	794	2,770	123	2,647	1,976	412	287	706
Spr 1994	1,922	794	2,716	119	2,597	1,922	380	294	674
Aut 1994	1,841	826	2,667	150	2,518	1,841	405	272	677
Sum 1994	1,740	783	2,523	105	2,417	1,740	392	285	677
Win 1994/5	1,667	790	2,457	149	2,307	1,667	388	251	640
Spr 1995	1,650	785	2,435	189	2,246	1,650	330	265	695
Sum 1995	1,581	827	2,408	191	2,217	1,581	374	262	636
Aut 1995	1,564	819	2,383	212	2,171	1,564	373	235	608
Win 1995/6	1,550	784	2,334	202	2,132	1,550	338	244	582
Spr 1996	1,540	781	2,321	229	2,093	1,540	282	271	553
Sum 1996	1,466	789	2,255	213	2,041	1,466	297	279	576
Aut 1996			2,221	293	1,928				
Win 1996/7			2,111	367	1,744				
Spr 1997			2,037	435	1,602				
Sum 1997			1,997	509	1,487				
Aut 1997			1,847	448	1,399				
<b>Changes</b>									
Sum 97 - Aut 97			-150		-89				
Aut 96 - Aut 97			-374		-529				
<b>MEN</b>									
Spr 1984			1,861	-95	1,956				
Spr 1985			1,818	-208	2,026				
Spr 1986			1,817	-251	2,067				
Spr 1987			1,755	-188	1,943				
Spr 1988			1,425	-150	1,575				
Spr 1989			1,173	-62	1,234				
Spr 1990			1,122	22	1,100				
Spr 1991			1,470	-92	1,562				
Spr 1992	1,560	275	1,835	-146	1,981	1,560	231	190	421
Aut 1992	1,655	264	1,919	-202	2,120	1,655	246	219	466
Win 1992/3	1,716	267	1,983	-212	2,195	1,716	258	222	479
Spr 1993	1,708	247	1,955	-221	2,176	1,708	239	229	468
Sum 1993	1,653	254	1,907	-247	2,154	1,653	282	219	501
Aut 1993	1,624	258	1,882	-224	2,106	1,624	254	227	482
Win 1993/4	1,588	249	1,837	-217	2,053	1,588	246	219	465
Spr 1994	1,533	264	1,797	-194	1,990	1,533	233	224	457
Sum 1994	1,481	293	1,774	-149	1,923	1,481	232	211	443
Aut 1994	1,407	257	1,664	-182	1,846	1,407	227	212	439
Win 1994/5	1,343	268	1,611	-149	1,761	1,343	226	192	418
Spr 1995	1,320	262	1,582	-131	1,712	1,320	199	193	392
Sum 1995	1,266	300	1,566	-122	1,688	1,266	223	199	422
Aut 1995	1,255	287	1,542	-110	1,653	1,255	218	179	397
Win 1995/6	1,258	281	1,539	-85	1,624	1,258	191	174	365
Spr 1996	1,213	312	1,525	-66	1,591	1,213	196	183	378
Sum 1996	1,163	309	1,472	-76	1,548	1,163	199	187	386
Aut 1996			1,432	-32	1,464				
Win 1996/7			1,326	-4	1,329				
Spr 1997			1,294	69	1,225				
Sum 1997			1,235	91	1,144				
Aut 1997			1,145	70	1,074				
<b>Changes</b>									
Sum 97 - Aut 97			-90		-69				
Aut 96 - Aut 97			-287		-390				
<b>WOMEN</b>									
Spr 1984			1,282	464	817				
Spr 1985			1,208	323	885				
Spr 1986			1,214	288	926				
Spr 1987			1,191	335	856				
Spr 1988			999	304	695				
Spr 1989			848	340	508				
Spr 1990			803	401	402				
Spr 1991			891	386	505				
Spr 1992	403	507	910	303	607	403	123	81	204
Aut 1992	404	534	938	295	643	404	159	80	238
Win 1992/3	424	558	982	316	665	424	160	81	241
Spr 1993	438	516	954	294	661	438	144	79	222
Sum 1993	404	568	972	319	653	404	186	63	244
Aut 1993	396	573	969	328	641	396	179	66	233
Win 1993/4	388	573	961	340	621	388	166	67	238
Spr 1994	389	530	919	313	607	389	147	70	218
Sum 1994	360	533	893	299	595	360	173	61	234
Aut 1994	333	526	859	287	572	333	165	73	238
Win 1994/5	325	520	845	299	547	325	163	59	222
Spr 1995	330	523	853	319	533	330	131	72	203
Sum 1995	315	527	842	313	529	315	150	64	210
Aut 1995	308	533	841	322	519	308	154	56	217
Win 1995/6	292	504	796	287	509	292	147	70	217
Spr 1996	327	469	796	295	501	327	86	89	174
Sum 1996	303	479	782	289	493	303	98	92	190
Aut 1996			789	326	464				
Win 1996/7			785	370	415				
Spr 1997			743	365	377				
Sum 1997			762	418	344				
Aut 1997			702	377	325				
<b>Changes</b>									
Sum 97 - Aut 97			-60		-19				
Aut 96 - Aut 97			-87		-139				

\* The figures for spring 1992 to summer 1996 are derived with reference to both the claimant count and LFS results; the total is controlled to the actual claimant count. The method is based on the results of a record linkage study carried out in summer 1996 which is thought to be applicable only to the period spring 1992 to summer 1996. See 'LFS estimates of unemployment-related benefits', Labour Market Trends, November 1997, pp455-60 for details.  
# The claimant count figures shown are the averages of the published figures for the months of each LFS quarter.  
++ Economically inactive and employed claimant count series have not been separately seasonally adjusted but are derived as residuals.

# LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

## Alternative measures of unemployment 7.6

THOUSANDS

GREAT BRITAIN	ILO unemployment measure				Claimant unemployment measure				
	Not seasonally adjusted				Not ILO unemployed				
	Claimants *	Non claimants *	Total	Difference	Total #	ILO unemployed *	Economically inactive **	In employment **	Total **
<b>ALL</b>									
Spr 1984			3,105	114	2,991				
Spr 1985			2,990	-149	3,139				
Spr 1986			2,996	-186	3,181				
Spr 1987			2,912	-41	2,952				
Spr 1988			2,392	-10	2,401				
Spr 1989			1,989	214	1,775				
Spr 1990			1,894	373	1,520				
Spr 1991			2,329	243	2,086				
Spr 1992	1,955	729	2,684	71	2,613	1,955	375	283	658
Aut 1992	1,973	873	2,846	189	2,657	1,973	438	247	684
Win 1992/3	2,037	810	2,847	113	2,735	2,037	402	296	698
Spr 1993	2,173	794	2,967	45	2,922	2,173	436	314	750
Sum 1993	2,138	711	2,849	-18	2,867	2,138	407	322	728
Aut 1993	2,057	885	2,942	131	2,811	2,057	471	283	754
Win 1993/4	1,998	844	2,842	120	2,721	1,998	432	292	724
Spr 1994	2,005	785	2,790	53	2,737	2,005	433	299	732
Sum 1994	1,913	743	2,656	32	2,624	1,913	403	307	711
Aut 1994	1,842	892	2,734	212	2,523	1,842	408	273	681
Win 1994/5	1,715	802	2,517	125	2,392	1,715	392	285	677
Spr 1995	1,693	742	2,435	66	2,369	1,693	412	264	676
Sum 1995	1,641	735	2,376	105	2,271	1,641	352	278	630
Aut 1995	1,584	895	2,479	255	2,224	1,584	377	263	640
Win 1995/6	1,537	845	2,						



# 7.7 LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

## Job-related training received by employees

THOUSANDS

GREAT BRITAIN		All who received job-related training in the last four weeks					
		Seasonally adjusted		Not seasonally adjusted			
		Age groups					
All of working age +		16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-59/64	
ALL							
Spr 1985	1,951	2,128	410	464	559	546	148
Spr 1986	2,032	2,130	374	470	613	598	159
Spr 1987	2,196	2,430	363	504	694	694	175
Spr 1988	2,595	2,893	411	565	793	849	215
Spr 1989	3,065	3,136	407	594	881	983	272
Spr 1990	3,132	3,209	421	614	973	1,067	305
Spr 1991	3,944	3,381	364	529	960	1,051	306
Spr 1992	2,856	3,209	366	504	918	1,060	286
Spr 1993	2,825	3,057	322	496	940	1,089	275
Spr 1994	3,042	3,267	267	500	1,051	1,137	313
Spr 1995	3,207	3,026	222	431	980	1,081	314
Spr 1996	3,892	3,267	267	463	1,024	1,136	300
Spr 1997	3,551	3,209	286	463	1,013	1,094	306
Aut 1997	3,116	3,137	285	416	1,013	1,094	306
Win 1996/7	3,121	3,137	310	428	978	1,101	322
Spr 1997	3,157	3,384	356	463	1,056	1,160	346
Sum 1997	3,121	3,384	370	463	900	973	322
Aut 1997	3,299	3,391	335	443	1,055	1,182	376
Men							
Spr 1985	1,151	1,293	251	277	356	324	86
Spr 1986	1,170	1,308	224	267	374	348	95
Spr 1987	1,225	1,373	212	282	415	368	110
Spr 1988	1,417	1,569	236	312	459	448	116
Spr 1989	1,557	1,706	230	320	517	498	144
Spr 1990	1,669	1,825	253	324	534	542	172
Spr 1991	1,585	1,717	207	292	531	512	176
Spr 1992	1,485	1,608	167	261	505	522	166
Spr 1993	1,455	1,573	142	238	568	549	194
Spr 1994	1,537	1,573	118	215	514	514	152
Spr 1995	1,529	1,529	157	239	521	505	161
Spr 1996	1,512	1,615	157	239	505	505	161
Spr 1997	1,531	1,524	149	211	513	500	162
Aut 1997	1,531	1,538	161	234	543	533	179
Win 1996/7	1,563	1,566	177	234	475	475	162
Spr 1997	1,556	1,496	127	193	560	569	171
Sum 1997	1,556	1,496	127	193	560	569	171
Aut 1997	1,668	1,706	170	234	560	569	171
Women							
Spr 1985	800	835	159	188	203	222	62
Spr 1986	863	906	150	202	239	249	64
Spr 1987	971	1,057	150	209	279	326	68
Spr 1988	1,168	1,254	176	253	338	401	101
Spr 1989	1,349	1,430	177	273	364	485	116
Spr 1990	1,463	1,556	168	290	439	524	133
Spr 1991	1,379	1,493	157	237	428	539	121
Spr 1992	1,341	1,456	129	240	413	534	118
Spr 1993	1,370	1,484	116	235	439	566	116
Spr 1994	1,505	1,618	130	261	483	597	128
Spr 1995	1,384	1,497	104	216	455	567	128
Spr 1996	1,481	1,497	129	223	470	615	127
Spr 1997	1,540	1,594	136	217	493	590	140
Aut 1997	1,585	1,592	148	217	464	627	140
Win 1996/7	1,604	1,719	173	249	513	627	140
Spr 1997	1,565	1,719	173	249	425	498	139
Sum 1997	1,565	1,719	173	249	425	498	139
Aut 1997	1,631	1,685	165	209	495	613	152

GREAT BRITAIN		All who received job-related training in the last four weeks					
		Seasonally adjusted		Not seasonally adjusted			
		Age groups					
All of working age +		16-19	20-24	25-34	35-49	50-59/64	
ALL							
Spr 1985	9.6	10.5	24.2	16.1	11.9	7.9	3.6
Spr 1986	9.9	10.9	22.2	16.3	12.6	8.6	4.0
Spr 1987	10.7	11.8	21.6	17.2	14.0	9.9	4.6
Spr 1988	12.2	13.4	21.4	18.9	15.1	11.8	6.0
Spr 1989	13.4	14.5	20.9	19.4	16.1	13.3	6.5
Spr 1990	14.3	15.0	20.4	19.0	17.0	14.2	8.3
Spr 1991	13.7	14.3	20.4	17.0	16.7	14.0	8.4
Spr 1992	13.5	14.6	23.4	19.2	16.1	14.0	7.6
Spr 1993	13.6	14.7	23.8	19.6	16.1	14.3	7.4
Spr 1994	14.5	15.7	20.6	17.6	16.7	14.8	8.4
Spr 1995	14.3	15.7	20.1	18.5	16.2	13.8	8.2
Spr 1996	13.9	14.3	20.3	19.0	16.2	13.8	8.2
Spr 1997	14.0	14.3	22.3	18.3	16.3	13.6	7.8
Aut 1997	14.0	14.3	22.3	18.3	16.3	13.6	7.8
Win 1996/7	14.3	14.4	24.3	19.0	16.8	13.7	8.0
Spr 1997	14.4	14.4	24.3	19.0	16.9	13.7	8.0
Sum 1997	14.2	14.2	27.3	20.8	16.9	13.7	8.0
Aut 1997	14.9	15.3	24.6	19.6	16.8	14.5	9.0
Men							
Spr 1985	10.0	11.3	29.5	17.9	12.6	8.7	3.4
Spr 1986	10.2	11.5	26.8	17.7	13.1	9.3	3.8
Spr 1987	10.9	12.1	25.9	18.2	14.4	9.9	4.4
Spr 1988	12.1	13.2	25.6	19.9	15.1	11.8	5.6
Spr 1989	13.2	13.9	26.7	20.0	16.8	12.9	6.6
Spr 1990	14.0	15.4	30.3	20.8	16.7	13.8	8.3
Spr 1991	13.4	14.8	27.8	20.3	16.2	13.6	8.3
Spr 1992	13.3	14.4	28.4	20.1	16.2	13.5	8.3
Spr 1993	13.3	14.3	27.0	20.1	15.8	13.5	8.2
Spr 1994	13.6	14.9	25.9	19.2	17.4	14.1	8.3
Spr 1995	12.6	13.7	21.9	17.6	16.9	13.8	7.5
Spr 1996	13.2	14.2	26.5	16.8	15.5	12.3	6.8
Spr 1997	13.1	13.2	25.5	17.9	15.2	12.3	6.7
Aut 1997	13.2	13.2	25.5	17.9	15.2	12.3	6.7
Win 1996/7	13.2	13.2	25.5	17.9	15.2	12.3	6.7
Spr 1997	13.3	14.3	27.7	19.9	16.0	13.9	7.1
Sum 1997	13.3	14.3	27.7	19.9	16.0	13.9	7.1
Aut 1997	14.1	14.4	24.9	18.1	15.9	14.4	7.4
Women							
Spr 1985	9.1	9.5	18.9	13.9	10.8	7.1	4.1
Spr 1986	9.6	10.3	17.9	14.4	11.9	7.7	4.3
Spr 1987	10.6	11.3	16.0	15.0	13.4	10.0	5.2
Spr 1988	12.3	13.4	20.2	17.9	15.0	11.8	6.3
Spr 1989	13.7	14.6	20.0	18.8	15.2	12.9	7.4
Spr 1990	14.7	15.7	20.6	20.4	17.4	14.7	8.4
Spr 1991	13.9	15.1	20.9	17.7	16.8	14.8	8.5
Spr 1992	13.9	15.1	20.2	19.1	15.9	14.4	8.1
Spr 1993	14.0	15.2	20.6	19.0	16.4	14.8	8.1
Spr 1994	15.3	16.4	24.2	19.4	16.4	14.9	8.3
Spr 1995	13.9	15.1	18.4	19.4	16.4	14.9	8.3
Spr 1996	13.7	15.8	21.6	20.2	16.9	15.7	9.1
Spr 1997	15.1	15.6	21.4	19.9	17.4	15.2	9.6
Aut 1997	15.1	15.6	21.4	19.9	17.4	15.2	9.6
Win 1996/7	15.5	15.6	23.2	20.2	18.1	16.0	9.8
Spr 1997	15.6	16.8	27.6	21.8	18.1	16.0	9.8
Sum 1997	15.6	16.8	27.6	21.8	18.1	16.0	9.8
Aut 1997	16.8	16.3	24.2	19.6	17.4	15.5	11.1

+ Men aged 16-64 and women aged 16-59.  
# Employees receiving job-related training as a percentage of employees in the relevant age group.  
\$ Data for summer 1994 onwards are not comparable with earlier periods.

# LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

## Average actual weekly hours<sup>+</sup> of work by industry sector

7.8 HOURS

GREAT BRITAIN

GREAT BRITAIN		SIC 92 (Standard Industrial Classification)														
		Seasonally adjusted				Not seasonally adjusted										
		Total (millions) #	Average	Total (millions) #	Average	Agriculture and fishing	Energy and water	Manufac-turing	Constr-uction	Distribution hotels & catering	Transport & comms	Banking, finance & insurance etc	Public admin education & health	Other services	Total services	
		A-B C,E D F G,H I J,K L-N O-Q G-Q														
ALL																
Spr 1984	782	33.1	790	33.7	47.7	28.2	36.3	38.2	32.5	37.8	34.5	29.1	30.2	31.7		
Spr 1985	810	33.8	818	34.4	47.1	35.0	37.1	38.2	33.1	38.6	33.6	29.8	30.1	32.3		
Spr 1986	814	33.8	823	34.4	47.4	36.9	37.2	38.3	33.2	38.9	33.9	29.2	30.6	32.3		
Spr 1987	821	33.6	830	34.1	47.4	36.2	37.1	38.3	32.8	39.0	33.1	28.9	31.4	32.1		
Spr 1988	872	34.4	882	34.9	47.7	37.0	38.1	39.8	33.2	39.4	34.4	29.7	31.4	32.7		
Spr 1989	894	34.2	905	34.7	49.0	37.4	37.6	39.3	33.1	39.7	34.0	29.3	31.5	32.6		
Spr 1990	876	33.9	887	34.4	48.0	37.2	37.5	39.4	32.7	39.0	33.9	29.0	31.8	32.2		
Spr 1991	832	33.1	835	33.3	45.8	37.0	37.2	39.0	32.7	39.7	33.9	29.7	31.2	32.4		
Spr 1992	829	33.1	828	32.9	4											

# 8.1 GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING

## Number of people participating in training and enterprise programmes

THOUSANDS

Period ending	Training for Work*			Youth Training (including credits)		Modern Apprenticeships			
	England	Wales	England and Wales	England	Wales	England and Wales	England	Wales	England and Wales
1990-91*	114.7	10.3	124.9	193.2	16.4	209.5			
1991-92*	127.7	11.5	139.2	233.2	16.5	249.6			
1992-93#	133.4	11.8	145.2	231.8	15.1	246.7			
1993-94	124.4	8.7	133.1	234.1	16.1	250.2			
1994-95	94.9	8.6	103.4	224.2	15.3	239.5			
1995-96	68.2	4.7	72.8	211.0	13.2	224.2	24.8	3.0	27.8
1996-97+	53.4	3.8	57.2	189.1	14.8	203.9	75.8	6.1	81.9
1995-96 23 Apr	75.4	6.6	82.0	213.0	14.6	227.6	1.3	0.4	1.7
26 May	72.9	6.3	79.2	212.4	15.1	227.5	1.4	0.4	1.7
18 Jun	69.7	6.1	75.8	210.7	15.1	225.8	1.5	0.3	1.8
16 Jul	63.3	5.0	68.3	220.9	15.5	236.3	2.1	0.3	2.4
13 Aug	60.1	4.7	64.9	223.5	15.5	239.0	2.8	0.4	3.2
10 Sep	58.4	4.5	62.9	223.8	15.5	239.3	5.6	0.5	6.1
08 Oct	61.6	4.8	66.4	229.0	16.0	244.9	9.7	1.4	11.1
05 Nov	63.5	5.0	68.5	229.4	16.0	245.4	12.3	1.8	14.2
03 Dec	65.3	5.0	70.3	228.1	15.9	243.9	14.9	2.0	16.9
31 Dec	60.7	4.8	65.5	223.7	15.5	239.2	16.8	2.1	18.9
28 Jan	63.9	4.8	68.7	216.6	14.6	231.2	18.9	2.1	21.0
25 Feb	66.9	4.9	71.8	214.5	13.3	227.8	21.4	2.7	24.1
24 Mar	68.2	4.7	72.8	211.0	13.2	224.2	24.8	3.0	27.8
1996-97 28 Apr	61.7	4.3	65.9	201.1	12.8	213.8	27.2	3.4	30.6
26 May	61.4	4.1	65.5	198.1	12.9	211.0	29.0	3.5	32.5
23 Jun	60.4	4.0	64.4	198.0	12.8	210.8	31.1	4.0	35.0
21 Jul	58.3	3.5	61.8	208.0	13.1	221.1	35.1	3.8	38.9
18 Aug	56.0	3.4	59.4	209.6	13.6	223.2	39.1	4.0	43.1
15 Sep	55.5	3.4	59.0	211.0	13.9	224.9	47.4	4.7	52.1
13 Oct	57.6	3.8	61.3	212.4	14.4	226.8	53.7	5.3	59.0
10 Nov	58.4	3.9	62.3	211.8	14.9	226.6	58.8	5.5	64.3
08 Dec	58.8	3.9	62.7	210.5	15.2	225.7	63.3	5.8	69.1
05 Jan	52.8	3.6	56.3	205.0	15.1	220.1	65.0	5.7	70.7
02 Feb	56.6	3.8	60.4	203.3	15.1	218.4	68.4	6.1	74.5
02 Mar	57.7	4.0	61.6	197.9	14.9	212.9	72.7	6.1	78.8
30 Mar	53.4	3.8	57.2	189.1	14.8	203.9	75.8	6.1	81.9
1997-98 04 May	50.0	3.4	53.4	180.5	13.4	193.9	79.2	6.2	85.4
01 Jun	49.3	3.1	52.3	176.5	13.2	189.7	80.5	6.3	86.8
29 Jun	50.3	2.8	53.0	178.8	13.6	192.4	82.8	6.4	89.2
03 Aug	48.1	2.5	50.5	183.2	14.2	197.4	87.6	6.6	94.2
31 Aug	47.2	2.4	49.5	181.1	13.9	195.0	91.5	6.7	98.2
28 Sep	49.2	2.8	52.0	182.2	14.1	196.3	101.1	7.6	108.6
02 Nov	49.6	2.7	52.3	179.4	13.5	192.9	104.8	7.7	112.5
30 Nov	48.4	2.4	51.8	176.3	14.1	190.4	105.8	8.0	113.8
28 Dec	45.3	2.2	47.5	173.3	14.3	187.6	106.2	8.1	114.3

Source: TEC management information, the Welsh Office

Note: Modern Apprenticeships were launched in September 1995 (in England and Wales); at the end of 1995 in Scotland, following prototyping in 17 industry sectors. Accelerated Modern Apprenticeships for 18 and 19-year-old school and college leavers, also launched in September 1995, have been merged with Modern Apprenticeships from April 1996 in England (although they will continue separately in Wales). Modern Apprenticeships aim to increase significantly the number of young people trained to technician, supervisory and equivalent-level skills, at NVQ level 3 as a minimum plus the breadth and flexibility required for the relevant industry sector. Accelerated Modern Apprenticeships figures have been merged with Modern Apprenticeships.

\* Employment Training.  
 # Employment Training and Employment Action.  
 + 1996-97 starts and in training figures include Pre-Vocational Pilots (PVPs).

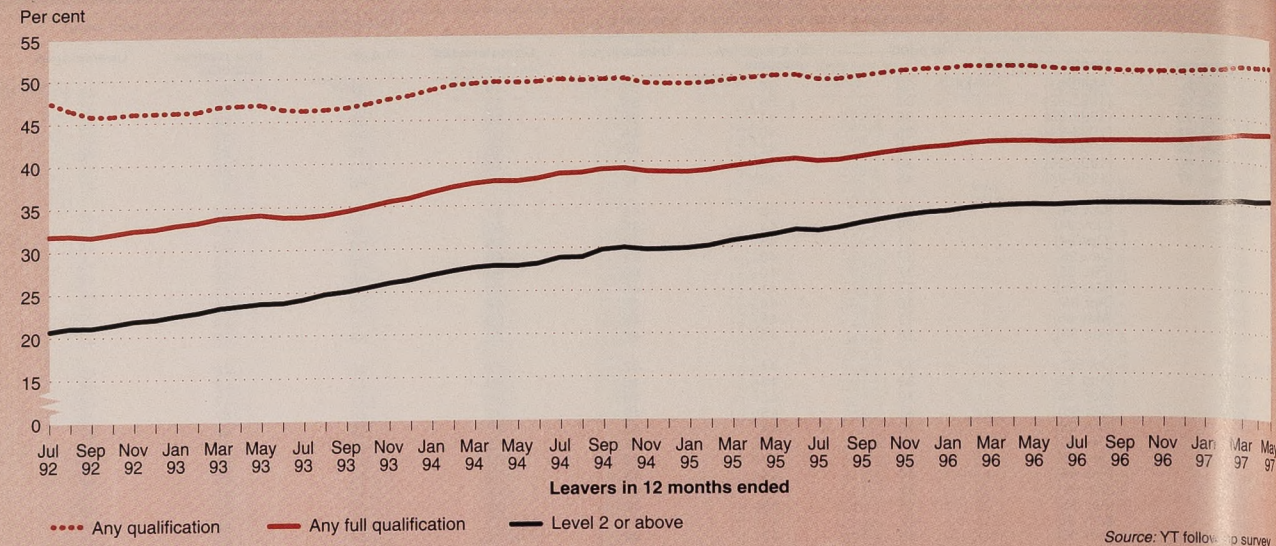
# 8.2 GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING

## Number of starts on training and enterprise programmes

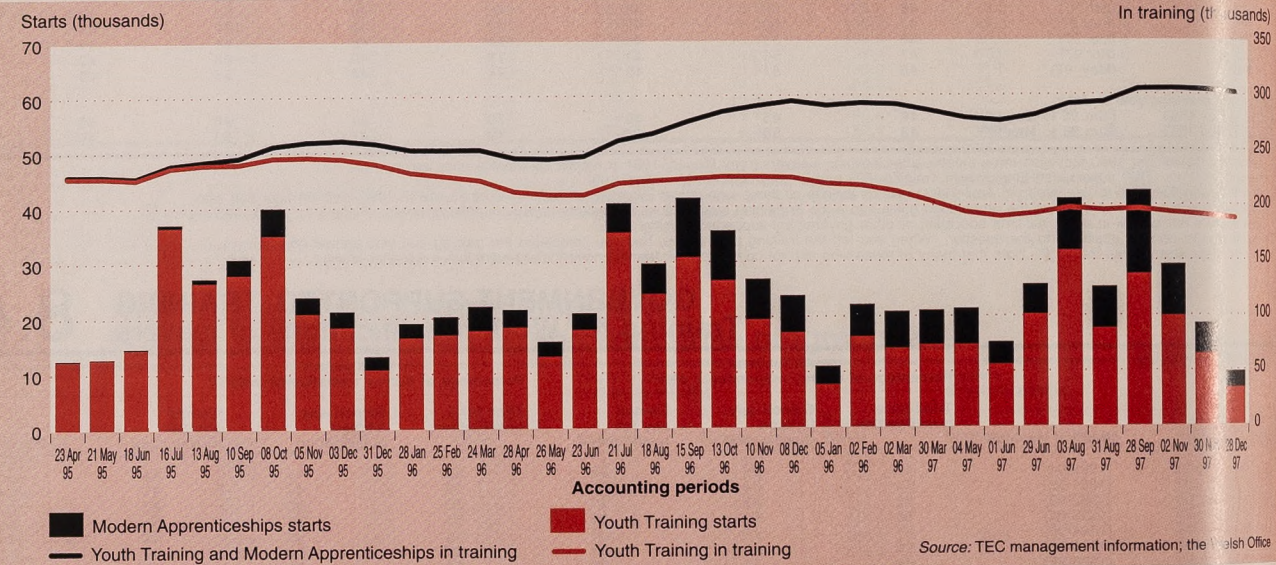
THOUSANDS

Period ending	Training for Work*			Youth Training (including credits)		Modern Apprenticeships			
	England	Wales	England and Wales	England	Wales	England and Wales	England	Wales	England and Wales
1990-91*	280.2	24.4	304.6	225.9	18.2	244.1			
1991-92*	253.2	24.0	277.2	227.4	17.9	245.3			
1992-93#	291.2	27.2	318.4	236.4	15.3	251.7			
1993-94	290.7	19.1	309.8	238.7	17.5	256.3			
1994-95	269.8	19.3	289.1	251.8	16.7	268.5			
1995-96	212.4	12.1	224.4	250.7	17.4	268.1	25.8	2.6	28.4
1996-97+	216.3	12.5	228.8	235.4	21.5	256.9	70.1	5.3	75.5
1995-96 23 Apr	11.2	0.7	12.0	11.5	1.0	12.5	0.2	0.0	0.2
21 May	14.9	0.8	15.7	11.7	1.1	12.8	0.1	0.0	0.1
18 Jun	14.6	0.9	15.4	13.6	1.0	14.6	0.2	0.0	0.2
16 Jul	15.2	0.9	16.1	34.7	1.9	36.6	0.6	0.0	0.6
13 Aug	13.9	0.8	14.7	25.0	1.7	26.6	0.8	0.0	0.8
10 Sep	14.5	0.8	15.2	26.1	1.9	28.0	2.8	0.7	3.5
08 Oct	20.3	1.5	21.8	32.9	2.3	35.1	4.3	0.8	5.1
05 Nov	18.2	1.2	19.4	19.4	1.6	21.0	2.8	0.3	3.1
03 Dec	18.5	1.0	19.5	17.2	1.0	18.5	2.7	0.2	2.9
31 Dec	10.2	0.6	10.8	10.2	0.7	10.9	2.2	0.2	2.4
28 Jan	17.6	1.0	18.6	15.6	1.0	16.6	2.4	0.2	2.6
25 Feb	20.6	0.9	21.5	16.2	0.9	17.1	2.9	0.4	3.3
24 Mar	22.7	0.9	23.7	16.8	1.0	17.8	4.0	0.4	4.4
1996-97 28 Apr	18.4	0.9	19.3	15.0	3.3	18.4	3.0	0.3	3.3
26 May	17.2	1.0	18.1	11.9	1.1	13.1	2.5	0.3	2.7
23 Jun	16.2	0.9	17.1	16.7	1.2	17.9	2.8	0.2	3.0
21 Jul	17.1	0.9	18.0	33.7	1.7	35.4	4.9	0.4	5.3
18 Aug	15.4	0.9	16.3	22.5	1.7	24.3	5.1	1.0	6.1
15 Sep	16.2	1.0	17.2	28.7	2.2	30.9	9.8	0.8	10.7
13 Oct	19.8	1.5	21.3	24.5	2.1	26.7	8.1	0.8	8.9
10 Nov	18.3	1.1	19.4	17.9	1.8	19.6	6.8	0.6	7.3
08 Dec	17.6	1.0	18.7	15.6	1.6	17.2	6.4	0.4	6.7
05 Jan	7.1	0.4	7.5	7.1	0.7	7.8	3.0	0.2	3.3
02 Feb	17.9	1.1	19.0	15.2	1.2	16.4	5.5	0.3	5.8
02 Mar	18.7	1.2	19.9	13.1	1.2	14.3	6.3	0.3	6.6
30 Mar	16.5	0.6	17.1	13.4	1.5	14.9	5.9	0.3	6.2
1997-98 04 May	18.3	1.1	19.4	13.5	1.4	14.9	6.2	0.2	6.5
01 Jun	14.1	0.7	14.8	10.2	1.1	11.3	3.8	0.2	4.0
29 Jun	16.2	0.8	17.0	18.5	1.7	20.3	5.2	0.2	5.4
23 Jul	17.1	0.9	18.0	33.7	1.7	35.4	4.9	0.4	5.3
18 Aug	15.4	0.9	16.3	22.5	1.7	24.3	5.1	1.0	6.1
15 Sep	16.2	1.0	17.2	28.7	2.2	30.9	9.8	0.8	10.7
13 Oct	19.8	1.5	21.3	24.5	2.1	26.7	8.1	0.8	8.9
10 Nov	18.3	1.1	19.4	17.9	1.8	19.6	6.8	0.6	7.3
08 Dec	17.6	1.0	18.7	15.6	1.6	17.2	6.4	0.4	6.7
05 Jan	7.1	0.4	7.5	7.1	0.7	7.8	3.0	0.2	3.3
02 Feb	17.9	1.1	19.0	15.2	1.2	16.4	5.5	0.3	5.8
02 Mar	18.7	1.2	19.9	13.1	1.2	14.3	6.3	0.3	6.6
30 Mar	16.5	0.6	17.1	13.4	1.5	14.9	5.9	0.3	6.2
1997-98 04 May	18.3	1.1	19.4	13.5	1.4	14.9	6.2	0.2	6.5
01 Jun	14.1	0.7	14.8	10.2	1.1	11.3	3.8	0.2	4.0
29 Jun	16.2	0.8	17.0	18.5	1.7	20.3	5.2	0.2	5.4
23 Jul	17.1	0.9	18.0	33.7	1.7	35.4	4.9	0.4	5.3
18 Aug	15.4	0.9	16.3	22.5	1.7	24.3	5.1	1.0	6.1
15 Sep	16.2	1.0	17.2	28.7	2.2	30.9	9.8	0.8	10.7
13 Oct	19.8	1.5	21.3	24.5	2.1	26.7	8.1	0.8	8.9
10 Nov	18.3	1.1	19.4	17.9	1.8	19.6	6.8	0.6	7.3
08 Dec	17.6	1.0	18.7	15.6	1.6	17.2	6.4	0.4	6.7
05 Jan	7.1	0.4	7.5	7.1	0.7	7.8	3.0	0.2	3.3
02 Feb	17.9	1.1	19.0	15.2	1.2	16.4	5.5	0.3	5.8
02 Mar	18.7	1.2	19.9	13.1	1.2	14.3	6.3	0.3	6.6
30 Mar	16.5	0.6	17.1	13.4	1.5	14.9	5.9	0.3	6.2
1997-98 04 May	18.3	1.1	19.4	13.5	1.4	14.9	6.2	0.2	6.5
01 Jun	14.1	0.7	14.8	10.2	1.1	11.3	3.8	0.2	4.0
29 Jun	16.2	0.8	17.0	18.5	1.7	20.3	5.2	0.2	5.4
23 Jul	17.1	0.9	18.0	33.7	1.7	35.4	4.9	0.4	5.3
18 Aug	15.4	0.9	16.3	22.5	1.7	24.3	5.1	1.0	6.1
15 Sep	16.2	1.0	17.2	28.7	2.2	30.9	9.8	0.8	10.7
13 Oct	19.8	1.5	21.3	24.5	2.1	26.7	8.1	0.8	8.9
10 Nov	18.3	1.1	19.4	17.9	1.8	19.6	6.8	0.6	7.3
08 Dec	17.6	1.0	18.7	15.6	1.6	17.2	6.4	0.4	6.7
05 Jan	7.1	0.4	7.5	7.1	0.7	7.8	3.0	0.2	3.3
02 Feb	17.9	1.1	19.0	15.2	1.2	16.4	5.5	0.3	5.8
02 Mar	18.7	1.2	19.9	13.1	1.2	14.3	6.3	0.3	6.6
30 Mar	16.5	0.6	17.1	13.4	1.5	14.9	5.9	0.3	6.2
1997-98 04 May	18.3	1.1	19.4	13.5	1.4	14.9	6.2	0.2	6.5
01 Jun	14.1	0.7	14.8	10.2	1.1	11.3	3.8	0.2	4.0
29 Jun	16.2	0.8	17.0	18.5	1.7	20.3	5.2	0.2	5.4
23 Jul	17.1	0.9	18.0	33.7	1.7	35.4	4.9	0.4	5.3
18 Aug	15.4	0.9	16.3	22.5	1.7	24.3	5.1	1.0	6.1
15 Sep	16.2	1.0	17.2	28.7	2.2	30.9	9.8	0.8	10.7
13 Oct	19.8	1.5	21.3	24.5	2.1	26.7	8.1	0.8	8.9
10 Nov	18.3	1.1	19.4	17.9	1.8	19.6	6.8	0.6	7.3
08 Dec	17.6	1.0	18.7	15.6	1.6	17.2	6.4	0.4	6.7
05 Jan	7.1	0.4	7.5	7.1	0.7	7.8	3.0	0.2	3.3
02 Feb	17.9	1.1	19.0	15.2	1.2	16.4	5.5	0.3	5.8
02 Mar	18.7								

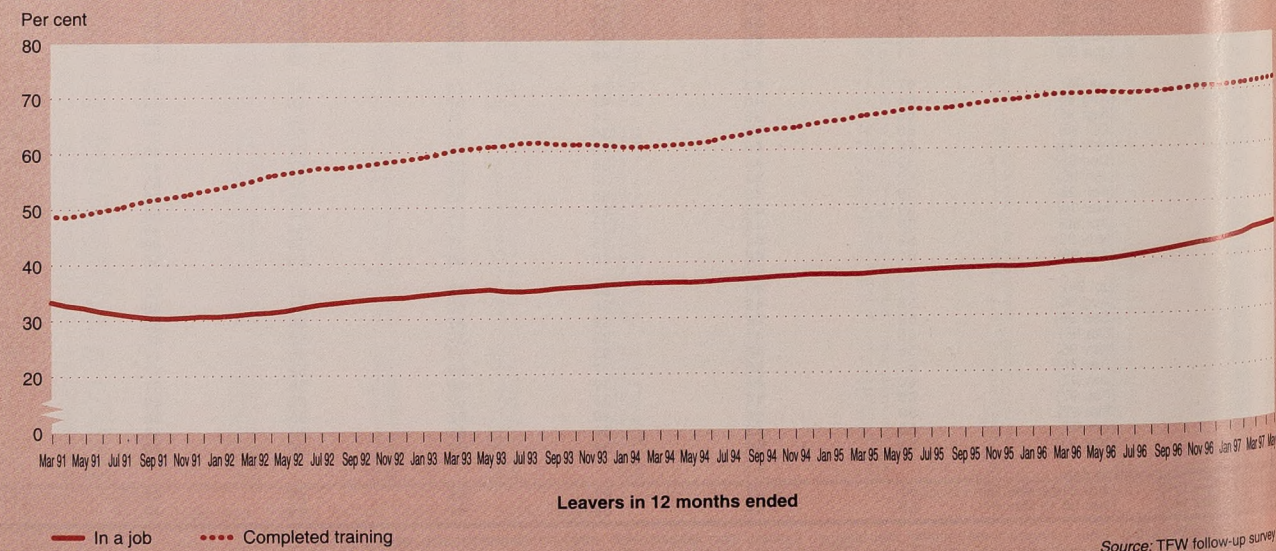
YT leavers gaining qualifications (smoothed); England and Wales



Participation in youth programmes; England and Wales



Outcomes achieved by TFW leavers (smoothed); England and Wales



GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING Youth Training: destination of leavers 8.5

ENGLAND and WALES		All leavers Percentage of survey respondents who were:				Completers Percentage of those who completed who were:		
Month of survey*	Month of leaving	In a job	In a positive outcome#	Unemployed	Completers**	In a job	In a positive outcome#	Unemployed
Oct 94 to Sep 95	(1994-95)	58	72	22	46	72	81	14
Oct 95 to Sep 96	(1995-96)	63	76	18	52	75	85	11
Oct 96 to Sep 97	(1996-97)	65	79	15	54	77	87	9
1995 Apr	(Oct 94)	55	69	25	37	71	79	16
May	(Nov 94)	56	68	25	37	73	80	16
Jun	(Dec 94)	60	70	23	45	76	81	14
Jul	(Jan 95)	57	68	26	40	74	80	15
Aug	(Feb 95)	59	70	23	43	74	80	15
Sep	(Mar 95)	64	75	20	51	78	84	12
Oct	(Apr 95)	59	71	22	43	70	78	16
Nov	(May 95)	60	72	22	42	72	80	15
Dec	(Jun 95)	65	76	19	58	76	84	12
1996 Jan	(Jul 95)	61	76	18	55	72	84	12
Feb	(Aug 95)	57	76	17	50	70	85	10
Mar	(Sep 95)	57	79	15	53	70	85	10
Apr	(Oct 95)	63	75	19	46	80	86	9
May	(Nov 95)	64	75	19	48	78	85	10
Jun	(Dec 95)	68	77	16	57	79	85	10
Jul	(Jan 96)	64	75	20	49	78	85	11
Aug	(Feb 96)	67	76	18	54	79	85	11
Sep	(Mar 96)	68	79	15	56	79	86	9
Oct	(Apr 96)	65	77	16	49	77	85	10
Nov	(May 96)	65	77	17	48	77	85	11
Dec	(Jun 96)	68	80	15	60	79	87	9
1997 Jan	(Jul 96)	63	78	16	58	74	85	11
Feb	(Aug 96)	59	81	13	54	71	88	8
Mar	(Sep 96)	59	81	13	54	71	88	7
Apr	(Oct 96)	64	77	17	49	77	86	9
May	(Nov 96)	66	76	17	49	79	86	9
Jun	(Dec 96)	71	79	16	57	81	86	9
Jul	(Jan 97)	68	77	17	52	79	86	10
Aug	(Feb 97)	69	79	16	56	81	88	8
Sep	(Mar 97)	71	82	13	61	81	88	8
Oct	(Apr 97)	65	78	16	51	76	86	9
Nov	(May 97)	67	78	15	52	76	85	10
Current and previous year to date								
Nov 95 to Oct 96	(May 95 to Apr 96)	63	77	17	52	78	85	10
Nov 96 to Oct 97	(May 96 to Apr 97)	65	79	15	55	77	87	9

Note: From April 1995 the definition of YT leavers changed, no longer counting those making planned transfers from one training provider to another as leavers. Many of these transferring trainees will not have gained a job or qualification or completed their training. Therefore the change in definition will increase slightly the proportions with jobs and qualification and completing their training.  
# In a positive outcome = in a job, full-time education or other government supported training.  
\*\* Those whose response to the question, "Did you leave your last Training Programme before you were due to finish?" was "No".

GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING Youth Training: qualifications of leavers 8.6

ENGLAND and WALES		All Leavers Percentage of survey respondents who:				Completers Percentage of those who completed who:			
Month of survey*	Month of leaving YT	Tried for a qualification	Gained any full/part qualification	Gained any full qualification	Gained any full qualification at Level 2 or above	Tried for a qualification	Gained any full/part qualification	Gained any full qualification	Gained any full qualification at Level 2 or above
Oct 94 to Sep 95	(1994-95)	65	50	39	31	76	71	63	52
Oct 95 to Sep 96	(1995-96)	66	51	42	35	74	70	63	53
Oct 96 to Sep 97	(1996-97)	65	51	43	36	73	70	63	54
1995 Apr	(Oct 94)	60	40	31	24	72	66	58	48
May	(Nov 94)	59	38	30	23	70	65	58	48
Jun	(Dec 94)	62	46	36	28	70	65	57	47
Jul	(Jan 95)	61	43	33	26	71	66	59	49
Aug	(Feb 95)	62	46	37	30	72	69	63	53
Sep	(Mar 95)	66	53	43	35	72	69	62	52
Oct	(Apr 95)	65	48	39	30	73	68	63	52
Nov	(May 95)	65	49	39	30	73	68	61	51
Dec	(Jun 95)	71	59	49	41	78	74	66	56
1996 Jan	(Jul 95)	70	56	46	38	78	74	66	55
Feb	(Aug 95)	66	51	43	36	77	74	67	59
Mar	(Sep 95)	66	52	43	35	77	73	65	56
Apr	(Oct 95)	63	46	37	30	73	68	61	52
May	(Nov 95)	62	44	36	30	69	63	57	49
Jun	(Dec 95)	64	49	41	34	69	64	58	49
Jul	(Jan 96)	63	46	38	31	69	64	58	49
Aug	(Feb 96)	65	50	42	35	71	68	61	53
Sep	(Mar 96)	66	53	45	37	71	68	62	53
Oct	(Apr 96)	64	49	40	33	70	67	60	51
Nov	(May 96)	64	48	40	32	70	66	58	49
Dec	(Jun 96)	69	58	49	41	77	74	67	58
1997 Jan	(Jul 96)	67	55	47	39	76	73	67	57
Feb	(Aug 96)	66	52	43	37	76	72	65	56
Mar	(Sep 96)	65	50	43	35	75	71	64	55
Apr	(Oct 96)	62	45	38	31	71	67	60	51
May	(Nov 96)	62	45	37	31	69	65	59	51
Jun	(Dec 96)	63	49	43	34	69	66	60	49
Jul	(Jan 97)	65	49	41	33	72	68	62	51
Aug	(Feb 97)	67	53	45	37	74	70	64	54
Sep	(Mar 97)	69	57	50	40	74	72	67	55
Oct	(Apr 97)	65	51	42	33	73	70	63	50
Nov	(May 97)	65	52	44	37	71	68	63	54
Current and previous year to date									
Dec 95 to Nov 96	(Jun 95 to May 96)	66	51	42	35	74	70	62	53
Dec 96 to Nov 97	(Jun 96 to May 97)	66	52	44	36	74	70	64	54

Note: From April 1995 the definition of YT leavers changed, no longer counting those making planned transfers from one training provider to another as leavers. Many of these transferring trainees will not have gained a job or qualification or completed their training. Therefore the change in definition will increase slightly the proportions with jobs and qualification and completing their training.  
# Leavers surveyed six months after leaving.

## A.1 OTHER FACTS AND FIGURES

### Jobseekers with disabilities: placement into employment

Placed into employment by jobcentre advisory service, 7 February 1998 - 6 March 1998 +

6,119

+ Not including placings through displayed vacancies.

## A.2 OTHER FACTS AND FIGURES

### Regional Selective Assistance: October - December 1997\*

	East	East Midlands	London	Mersey-side	North East	North West	South East	South West	West Midlands	Yorkshire and the Humber	England	Scotland	Wales	Great Britain
Number of Offers	3	14	7	26	55	27	20	7	38	28	225	46	42	313
Value of Offers (£,000)	51	1,087	991	3,549	9,919	2,455	1,245	1,427	24,245	2,355	47,324	17,970	100,210	165,504

Note: Enquiries should be directed to the Department of Trade and Industry, tel 0171 215 2598.  
\* Date of first payment.

## A.3 OTHER FACTS AND FIGURES

### Regional Selective Assistance: Offers of £75,000 or more: October - December 1997\*

Region and company	Travel-to-work area	Total amount of assistance offered (£)	Project category +	SIC 1992 description
<b>EAST MIDLANDS</b>				
Manufacturing Electrical Design	Alfreton & Ashfield	150,000	A	Mfr elec distrib'n & control gear
Coseley Panel Products Ltd	Chesterfield	200,000	B	Mfr of insulated panels and building materials
Television Installation Service (UK)	Mansfield	190,000	A	Design, mfr and installation of electro
Newburgh Engineering Co Ltd	Sheffield	240,000	A	Architectural & engineering acts
Total		780,000		
<b>LONDON</b>				
Carphone Warehouse Ltd	Heathrow	413,400	A	Other non-store retail sale
La Fornaiia	Heathrow	200,000	A	Mfr mch for food, bev'ge, tobacco
Toughglaze (UK) Ltd	Heathrow	240,000	A	Mfr of flat glass
Total		853,400		
<b>MERSEYSIDE</b>				
Central Plastics Ltd	Liverpool	125,000	B	Mfr of plastic packing goods
Delivery Networks International	Liverpool	175,000	A	Restaurants, cafes, takeaways
Henry Bath & Son Ltd	Liverpool	130,000	A	Agents: sale of specific prods nes
HPL Jars & Containers	Liverpool	300,000	B	Mfr of plastic packing goods
Knowsley Plastics Ltd	Liverpool	600,000	B	Mfr of other plastic products
Metabuild Ltd	Liverpool	75,000	B	General mechanical engineering
Optoplast Manuf Co Ltd	Liverpool	95,000	A	Mfr specs/optical instrs/photo equip
Productplus Ltd	Liverpool	450,000	B	Mfr of machine tools
Satin Profiles Ltd	Liverpool	115,000	B	Mfr of other plastic products
St Ivel Ltd	Liverpool	975,000	B	Mfr margarine & similar edible fats
Sylvester Torpey & Sons Ltd	Liverpool	90,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
Total		3,130,000		
<b>NORTH EAST</b>				
AKV Cladding Fabrications Ltd	Bishop Auckland	80,000	A	Oth first proc of iron & steel nes
Q-Fab Eng Ltd	Bishop Auckland	75,000	A	Architectural & engineering acts
Mono Containers Ltd	Durham	500,000	B	Mfr of plastic packing goods
Flex-Ability Ltd	Hartlepool	100,000	A	Mfr of plastic valves and tubes and other electronic components
Du Pont (UK) Ltd	Middlesbrough	2,000,000	B	Mfr of other inorganic basic chems
Imperial Chemical Industries Plc	Middlesbrough	1,900,000	B	Mfr of plastics in primary form
Onyx Internet Ltd	Middlesbrough	125,000	A	Business & management consultancy
Symtol Eng Ltd	Morpeth & Ashington	80,000	A	Mfr other fabricated metal prods
Welwyn Components Ltd	Morpeth & Ashington	500,000	A	Mfr of other elec equip nes
Geka Manufacturing Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	80,000	A	Mfr of plastic packing goods
International Cuisine Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	750,000	A	Packaging activities
C & D Insulation Co Ltd	South Tyneside	120,000	A	Insulation work activities
Marcraft Ltd	South Tyneside	80,000	A	Mfr concrete prods for construct'n
MTK Holdings SA	South Tyneside	750,000	A	Building & repairing of ships
Calberto Ltd TA L & S Eng	Sunderland	200,000	A	Mfr other fabricated metal prods
Golden Feast Frozen Foods Ltd	Sunderland	75,000	A	Mfr of other food products nes
LMC Technik Ltd	Sunderland	250,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
Neyr Plastiques	Sunderland	950,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
Universal Protective Coatings	Sunderland	75,000	A	Treatment & coating of metals
Villa Soft Drinks Ltd	Sunderland	400,000	A	Prod mineral waters & soft drinks
Total		9,090,000		
<b>NORTH WEST</b>				
Kammac 1988 Ltd	Liverpool	200,000	A	Packaging activities
Setcol Food Products Ltd	Widnes & Runcorn	240,000	A	Mfr of other food products nes
BST Batteries Ltd	Wigan & St Helens	150,000	B	Mfr accumulators, cells, batteries
Mayflower Vehicle Systems Plc	Wigan & St Helens	560,000	A	Mfr bodies for motor vehs, trailers
Cumbrian Seafoods Ltd	Workington	700,000	A	Fish freez'g, process'g, preserv'g
Total		1,850,000		
<b>SOUTH EAST</b>				
Kent Auto Panels Ltd	Folkestone	95,000	A	Maint & repair of motor vehicles
Johnston Engineering Ltd	Sittingbourne & Sheerness	200,000	B	Mfr of motor vehicles
Sittingbourne Analytical Lab Ltd	Sittingbourne & Sheerness	75,000	A	R&D on nat sciences & engineering
Blowspeed Industrial Mouldings	Thanet	245,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
Pioneer Welding Co Ltd	Thanet	99,000	A	Treatment & coating of metals
Trutape Setting Sysms Ltd	Thanet	98,000	A	Printing nes
Wantsum Produce Ltd	Thanet	75,000	A	Packaging activities
Total		887,000		
<b>SOUTH WEST</b>				
Carbo Ltd	Bodmin & Liskeard	125,000	A	Mfr of machine tools
Century Litho (Truro) Ltd	Falmouth	175,000	A	Printing nes
Gleason Works Ltd	Plymouth	950,000	B	Mfr of machine tools
Total		1,250,000		

## OTHER FACTS AND FIGURES

### Regional Selective Assistance: Offers of £75,000 or more: October - December 1997\*

# A.3

Region and company	Travel-to-work area	Total amount of assistance offered (£)	Project category +	SIC 1992 description
<b>WEST MIDLANDS</b>				
Redfern Stevens Ltd	Birmingham	90,000	A	Forging/pressing metal, powder metal
Rover Group Ltd	Birmingham	22,500,000	B	Mfr of motor vehicles
Webasto Holdings Ltd	Birmingham	500,000	A	Mfr parts/access's for motor vehs
Acc Sports Ltd	Dudley & Sandwell	75,000	A	Mfr of hats, other apparel, access
Camcraft Ltd	Dudley & Sandwell	95,000	A	Mfr of machine tools
Newby Hill Top Foundry Ltd	Dudley & Sandwell	180,000	B	Casting of iron
Daines & Hathaway	Walsall	97,000	A	Mfr luggage/handbags/saddlery
Total		23,537,000		
<b>YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER</b>				
A G Glass & Glazing Ltd	Barnsley	125,000	A	Mfr of flat glass
Seals Packings & Gaskets Ltd	Barnsley	90,000	A	Mfr of other rubber products
Charles Synes Plc	Sheffield	400,000	B	Mfr of taps & valves
Luk (UK) Ltd	Sheffield	940,000	A	Mfr parts/access's for motor vehs
Parker Hannifin Plc	Wakefield & Dewsbury	200,000	A	Mfr of pumps & compressors
Total		1,755,000		
<b>SCOTLAND</b>				
Adam Watson & Sons Ltd	Ayr	140,000	B	Sawmill'g/planing/impregn'n of wood
Ascada Ltd	Bathgate	150,000	A	Mfr computers & oth inf proc equip
Deans Edge (Livingston) Ltd	Bathgate	1,150,000	A	General mechanical engineering
Eraba Ltd	Bathgate	800,000	A	Forging/pressing metal, powder met
Fast Forward (Scotland) Ltd	Bathgate	95,000	A	Finishing of textiles
Oci Optical Coatings Ltd	Dunfermline	250,000	A	Mfr specs/optical instrs/photo equip
James Alexander & Son Ltd	Falkirk	100,000	B	Wh'sale wood, constrn mats, san equip
BPC Magazines (East Kilbride)	Glasgow	850,000	B	Printing nes
Craig Taylor Services Ltd	Glasgow	80,000	A	Mfr of lifting & Handling equip
Daniel Montgomery & Son Ltd	Glasgow	850,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
Devro International Ltd	Glasgow	700,000	B	Mfr of other food products nes
Display Products Technology Ltd	Glasgow	270,000	A	Mfr televis'n, radio, video, assoc
Instrument Specialities Europe	Glasgow	600,000	A	Mfr of other elec equip nes
Labelgraphics (Glasgow) Ltd	Glasgow	325,000	A	Mfr other arts of paper & board nes
Premier Housewares	Glasgow	240,000	A	Other wholesale
Thames Valley Ltd	Glasgow	120,000	A	Mfr of milk products
Dockra Concrete Co Ltd	Irvine	85,000	A	Mfr concrete prods for construct'n
John Robertson & Sons Hamcurer	Irvine	455,000	B	Bacon & ham production
Johnston Castings & Eng Ltd	Irvine	300,000	A	Casting of light metals
Smithkins Beecham Plc	Irvine	5,000,000	B	Mfr of medicaments & non-medicams
Sandwich Co Ltd	Kilmarnock	500,000	A	Mfr of other food products nes
Scott & Co Ltd	Kilmarnock	600,000	B	Prep/spinning other textile fibres
BBR Systems Ltd	Kirkcaldy	150,000	A	Mfr elec equip for motor vehs nes
Abb Vels Gray UK Ltd	Lanarkshire	700,000	B	Mfr of pumps & compressors
Gilmour Mills Ltd	Lanarkshire	75,000	A	Mfr of tools
Martyn Smith (Eng) Ltd	Lanarkshire	75,000	A	Mfr fasteners, chain, springs
Organic Laboratories Ltd	Lanarkshire	2,500,000	B	Mfr of basic pharmaceutical prods
Tannoy Ltd	Lanarkshire	240,000	A	Mfr of other elec equip nes
Total		17,400,000		
<b>WALES</b>				
Aero-Mech (UK) Ltd	Blaenau Gwent Abergavenny	400,000	A	Mfr of machine tools
Ford Motor Co Ltd	Bridgend	10,000,000	B	Mfr of motor vehicles
Powersport International Ltd	Bridgend	247,000	A	Mfr of sports goods
Punch Precision Ltd	Bridgend	180,000	A	Mfr televis'n, radio, video, assoc
Sony UK Ltd	Bridgend	7,000,000	A	Mfr televis'n, radio, video, assoc
Ematic (Cardiff) Ltd	Cardiff	120,000	A	Mfr of other elec equip nes
West Day Press Ltd	Cardiff	100,000	B	Bookbinding & finishing
Tab Wau Ltd	Cardigan	200,000	B	Mfr of other chemical products nes
Fiamm Ltd	Merthyr & Rhymney	3,000,000	A	Mfr accumulators, cells, batteries
Mediascope Ltd	Merthyr & Rhymney	100,000	A	Software consultancy & supply
Nordam Europe Ltd	Merthyr & Rhymney	2,350,000	A	Mfr of sports goods
TBS (South Wales) Ltd	Merthyr & Rhymney	600,000	A	Mfr other fabricated metal prods
SEI Interconnect Products (UK)	Neath & Port Talbot	450,000	A	Mfr of insulated wire & cable
BTR Industrial Holdings Ltd	Newport	250,000	A	Other human health activities
LG Group Ltd	Newport	69,500,000	A	Mfr of elec valves, tubes, others
Perio Corporation Ltd	Pontypridd & Cwmbran	240,000	A	Mfr of brooms & brushes
Janee Services Ltd	Pontypridd & Rhondda	1,400,000	A	Mfr of aircraft & spacecraft
Flowtech Precision Mouldings Ltd	Pontypridd & Rhondda	75,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
McKechin UK Ltd	Pontypridd & Rhondda	250,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
Peruvian Art & Crafts Ltd	Pontypridd & Rhondda	125,000	A	Mfr other office & shop furniture
Aler Packaging Ltd	Shotton, Flint & Rhyl	210,000	A	Mfr of plastic packing goods
Continental Can Co Ltd	Shotton, Flint & Rhyl	600,000	B	Mfr of light metal packaging
Crosslee Plc	Shotton, Flint & Rhyl	100,000	B	Mfr of electric domestic appls
Evergreen Environmental Service	Shotton, Flint & Rhyl	75,000	A	Mineral oil refining/oth petrim trt
Systems Labelling Ltd	Shotton, Flint & Rhyl	108,000	A	Mfr of other plastic products
BAW Precision Eng Ltd	Swansea	180,000	A	Mfr of tools
SM UK Plc	Swansea	1,750,000	B	Production of abrasive products
Etiquette Labels Ltd	Wrexham	80,000	A	Mfr other arts of paper & board nes
Total		99,690,000		

\* Date of first payment. Payment of RSA is made in instalments, typically over several years as jobs and capital expenditure targets laid down in the offer are met. The amounts quoted above therefore represent the maximum grant potentially payable if the project is satisfactorily completed, and not the amount actually paid to date.

+ A = Employment created, B = Employment safeguarded.

Note: Enquiries regarding this table should be addressed to:

English cases - Department of Trade and Industry, REG (A), Bay 3.A.39, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1 (tel 0171 215 2598).

Scottish cases - Scottish Office Industry Department, SO IA 2, 5th Floor, Meridian Court, Cadogan Street, Glasgow G2 6AT (0141 242 5623).

Welsh cases - Welsh Office, Industry Department, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ (tel 01222 825167).

## DEFINITIONS

### CLAIMANT COUNT

The claimant count consists of all those people who are claiming unemployment-related benefits at Employment Service local offices and who have declared that they are unemployed, capable of, available for, and actively seeking work during the week in which their claim is made. All people claiming unemployment-related benefits are included in the claimant count. (Students claiming benefit during a vacation and who intend to return to full-time education are excluded.)

### EARNINGS

Total gross remuneration which employees receive from their employers in the form of money. Income in kind and employers' contributions to National Insurance and pension funds are excluded.

### ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE

In Tables 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.5 and 7.6 (Labour Force Survey) people aged 16 and over who are in employment (as employees, self-employed, on government-supported employment and training programmes, or from 1992, as unpaid family workers) together with those who are ILO unemployed.

### ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE

In Tables 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.5 and 7.6 (Labour Force Survey) people aged 16 and over who are neither in employment nor ILO unemployed; this group includes people who are, for example, retired or looking after their home/family.

### EMPLOYEES IN EMPLOYMENT

A count of civilian jobs of employees paid by employers who run a PAYE scheme. Participants in government employment and training schemes are included if they have a contract of employment. HM Forces, homeworkers and private domestic servants are excluded. As the estimates of employees in employment are derived from employers' reports of the number of people they employ, individuals holding two jobs with different employers will be counted twice.

### FULL-TIME WORKERS

People normally working for more than 30 hours a week except where otherwise stated.

### GENERAL INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES

The general index covers almost all goods and services purchased by most households, excluding only those for which the income of the household is in the top 4 per cent and those one and two-person pensioner households (covered by separate indices) who depend mainly on state benefits, i.e. more than three-quarters of their income is from state benefits.

### HM FORCES

All UK service personnel of HM Regular Forces, wherever serving, including those on release leave.

### ILO UNEMPLOYED

In Tables 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.5 and 7.6 (Labour Force Survey) people without a paid job in the reference week who were available to start work in the next fortnight and who either looked for work at some time in the last four weeks or were waiting to start a job already obtained.

### LABOUR DISPUTES

Statistics of stoppages of work due to industrial disputes in the United Kingdom relate only to disputes connected with terms and conditions of employment.

*The terms used in the tables are defined more fully in the periodic articles in Labour Market Trends which relate to particular statistical series*

Stoppages involving fewer than ten workers or lasting less than one day are excluded except where the aggregate of working days lost exceeded 100.

Workers involved and working days lost relate to persons both directly and indirectly involved (thrown out of work although not parties to the disputes) at the establishments where the disputes occurred. People laid off and working days lost elsewhere, owing for example to resulting shortages of supplies, are not included.

There are difficulties in ensuring complete recording of stoppages, in particular those near the margins of the definitions; for example, short disputes lasting only a day or so. Any under-recording would particularly bear on those industries most affected by such stoppages, and would affect the total number of stoppages much more than the number of working days lost.

### MANUAL WORKERS (OPERATIVES)

Employees other than those in administrative, professional, technical and clerical occupations.

### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

SIC 1992 Section D.

### NORMAL WEEKLY HOURS

The time which the employee is expected to work in a normal week, excluding all overtime and main meal breaks. This may be specified in national collective agreements and statutory wages orders for manual workers.

### OVERTIME

Work outside normal hours for which a premium rate is paid.

## CONVENTIONS

The following standard symbols are used:

- .. not available
- nil or negligible (less than half the final digit shown)
- P provisional
- break in series
- R revised
- r series revised from indicated entry onwards
- nes not elsewhere specified
- SIC UK Standard Industrial Classification
- EU European Union

Where figures have been rounded to the final digit, there may be an apparent slight discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total as shown. Although figures may be given in unrounded form to facilitate the calculation of percentage changes, rates of change etc by users, this does not imply that the figures can be estimated to this degree of precision, and it must be recognised that they may be the subject of sampling and other errors.

### PART-TIME WORKERS

People normally working for not more than 30 hours a week except where otherwise stated.

### PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

SIC 1992 Sections C-E.

### SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Adjusted for regular seasonal variations.

### SELF-EMPLOYED PEOPLE

Those who in their main employment work on their own account, whether or not they have any employees. Second occupations classified as self-employed are not included.

### SERVICE INDUSTRIES

SIC 1992 Sections G-Q.

### SHORT-TIME WORKING

Arrangements made by an employer for working less than regular hours. Therefore time lost through sickness, holidays, absenteeism and the direct effects of industrial disputes is not counted as short-time.

### STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (SIC)

The classification system used to provide a consistent industrial breakdown for UK official statistics. It was revised in 1968, 1980 and 1992.

### TAX AND PRICE INDEX

Measures the increase in gross taxable income needed to compensate taxpayers for any increase in retail prices, taking account of changes to direct taxes (including employees' National Insurance contributions). Annual and quarterly figures are averages of monthly indices.

### TEMPORARILY STOPPED

People who at the date of the unemployment count are suspended by their employers on the understanding that they will shortly resume work and are claiming benefit. These people are not included in the unemployment figures.

### VACANCY

A job opportunity notified by an employer to a Jobcentre or careers office (including 'self-employed' opportunities created by employers) which remained unfilled on the day of the count.

### WEEKLY HOURS WORKED

Actual hours worked during the reference week and hours not worked but paid for under guarantee agreements.

### WORKFORCE

Workforce in employment plus the claimant unemployed as defined above.

### WORKFORCE IN EMPLOYMENT

Employees in employment, self-employed, HM Forces and participants on work-related government-supported training programmes.

### WORK-RELATED GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Those participants on government programmes and schemes who in the course of their participation receive training in the context of a workplace but are not employees, self-employed or HM Forces.

## REGULARLY PUBLISHED statistics

	Frequency	Latest issue	Table number or page		Frequency	Latest issue	Table number or page
<b>SUMMARY TABLES</b>				<b>OUTPUT PER HEAD</b>			
Labour Force Survey: UK	M(Q)	Apr 98	0.1	Output per head: quarterly and annual indices	M(Q)	Apr 98	1.8
Workforce: UK	M(Q)	Apr 98	0.2	Wages and salaries per unit of output			
Labour Force Survey: GB	M(Q)	Apr 98	0.3	Manufacturing index, time series	M	Apr 98	5.8
Workforce: GB	M(Q)	Apr 98	0.4	Quarterly and annual indices	M	Apr 98	5.8
<b>BACKGROUND ECONOMIC INDICATORS</b>				<b>LABOUR COSTS</b>			
	M	Apr 98	0.5	Survey results 1992 Quadrennial		Sep 94	313
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WORKFORCE</b>				Annual update			
Workforce: UK and GB					A	Feb 96	5.7
Quarterly series	M(Q)	Apr 98	1.1	<b>RETAIL PRICES</b>			
Labour force estimates, projections		Feb 97	51	General index (RPI)			
Employment in employment industry: GB				Latest figures: detailed indices			
All industries: by division, class or group	Q	Feb 98	1.4	: percentage changes			
: time series, by order group	M	Apr 98	1.2	Recent movements and the index			
Manufacturing: by division, class or group	M	Apr 98	1.3	excluding seasonal foods			
Administrative, technical and clerical in manufacturing	D	Dec 94	1.10	Main components: time series and weights			
Local authorities manpower	D	Jan 94	1.7	Changes on a year earlier: time series			
Employment in employment by region and sector	B(Q)	Apr 98	1.5	Food prices			
Annual Employment Survey	A	Nov 97	461	International comparisons			
International comparisons	Q	Feb 98	1.9	Selected countries (national definitions)			
Registered disabled in the public sector	D	Sep 97	355	Harmonised indices of consumer prices			
Trade union membership	A	Jun 97	231	All items excluding housing costs			
Tourism-related industries in Great Britain	Q	Feb 98	1.14	<b>LABOUR FORCE SURVEY</b>			
Women in the labour market	A	Mar 98	97	Economic activity: seasonally adjusted			
<b>CLAIMANT UNEMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES</b>				Economic activity: not seasonally adjusted			
Claimant unemployment				Economic activity by age: not seasonally adjusted			
Summary: UK	M	Apr 98	2.1	Full-time and part-time workers			
: GB	M	Apr 98	2.2	Alternative measures of unemployment (seasonally adjusted)			
Age and duration: UK	Q	Mar 98	2.5	Alternative measures of unemployment (not seasonally adjusted)			
Broad category: UK	M	Apr 98	2.1	Job-related training received by employees			
Detailed category: GB	M	Apr 98	2.2	Average actual weekly hours of work by industry sector			
Regional summary	Q	Mar 98	2.6	Additional Labour Force Survey tables			
Age time series UK	Q	Mar 98	2.7	Labour market and educational status of young people			
Estimated rates	Q	Mar 98	2.15	<b>LABOUR DISPUTES: STOPPAGES OF WORK</b>			
Duration: time series UK	Q	Mar 98	2.8	Summary: latest figures			
Region and area				: time series			
Time series summary: by region	M	Apr 98	2.3	Latest year and annual series			
: standard areas, travel-to work areas	M	Apr 98	2.4	Industry			
: counties, local areas	M	Apr 98	2.9	Monthly: broad sector time series			
: parliamentary constituencies	M	Apr 98	2.10	Annual: detailed			
Age and duration: summary	Q	Mar 98	2.6	: prominent stoppages			
Flow				Main causes of stoppage			
UK time series	M	Apr 98	2.19	Cumulative			
: time series	M	Apr 98	2.20	Latest year for main industries			
Mean duration	Q	Apr 98	2.21	Size of stoppages			
Claim history: number of previous claims	Q	Feb 98	2.22	Days lost per 1,000 employees in recent years by industry			
Claim history: interval between claims	Q	Mar 98	2.23	International comparisons			
By sought and usual occupation	M	Apr 98	2.24	<b>GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED TRAINING</b>			
Destination of leavers by duration	M	Apr 98	2.25	Participants in the programmes			
Students: by region	D	Mar 93	2.13	Number of starts on the programmes			
Disabled jobseekers: GB	M	Apr 98	A.1	Training for work: destination of leavers			
International comparisons	M	Apr 98	2.18	Training for work: qualifications of leavers			
Ethnic origin	A	Aug 97	295	Youth training: destination of leavers			
Temporarily stopped				Youth training: qualifications of leavers			
Latest figures: by UK region	D	Nov 93	2.14	Participants in the programmes			
Vacancies				New starts on the programmes			
Unfilled: inflow, outflow and placements seasonally adjusted	M	Apr 98	3.1	Destinations and qualifications			
Unfilled: seasonally adjusted by region	M	Apr 98	3.2	TFW/ET leavers			
Unfilled: unadjusted by region	M	Apr 98	3.3	YT leavers			
<b>REDUNDANCIES</b>				TFW/ET leavers completing agreed training			
In Great Britain	M	Apr 98	2.32	YT leavers completing agreed training			
by region	M	Apr 98	2.33	Characteristics of TFW/ET starts for England and Wales			
by age	M	Apr 98	2.34	and Wales			
by industry	M	Apr 98	2.35	Characteristics of young people leaving YT for England and Wales			
by occupation	M	Apr 98	2.36	and Wales			
<b>EARNINGS AND HOURS</b>				Characteristics of young people starting Modern Apprenticeships for England and Wales			
Average earnings (index)				Destinations and qualifications of TFW/ET by their characteristics for England and Wales			
Whole economy				Destinations and qualifications of YT leavers by their characteristics for England and Wales			
Main industrial sectors	M	Apr 98	5.1	<b>DISABLED JOB SEEKERS</b>			
Industries	M	Apr 98	5.3	Registrations and placements into employment			
Underlying trends	Q	Feb 98	76	M			
Levels of earnings and hours for main industrial sectors and industries				Apr 98			
Manual employees	Q(A)	Feb 98	5.4	<b>REGIONAL AID</b>			
Non manual employees	Q(A)	Feb 98	5.5	Selective Assistance by region			
All employees	Q(A)	Feb 98	5.6	Selective Assistance by region and company			
Quarterly estimates of levels	Q	Feb 98	77	Development Grants by region			
International comparisons (index)				Development Grants by region and company			
Manufacturing	M	Apr 98	5.9	D			
Overtime and short-time: manufacturing				Aug 97			
Latest figures: industry	D	Dec 96	1.11	A.2			
Regions: summary	D	Dec 96	1.13	A.3			
Hours of work: manufacturing	D	Sep 95	1.12	A.4			
				A.5			

\*Frequency of publication, frequency of compilation shown in brackets (if different).  
A Annual. S Six monthly. Q Quarterly. M Monthly. B Bi-monthly. D Discontinued.

For the convenience of readers of *Labour Market Trends* who require additional statistical information or advice, a selection of enquiry telephone numbers is given below.

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Average Earnings Index (monthly) **01928 792442**  
 Basic wage rates and hours for manual workers with a collective agreement **01928 792442**  
 New Earnings Survey (annual): levels of earnings and hours worked for groups of workers (males and females, industries, occupations, part-time and full-time); distribution of earnings; composition of earnings; hours worked **01928 792077/8**  
 Unit wage costs, productivity, international comparisons of earnings and labour costs **01928 792442**

**Employment** (Tables 1.1-1.5 and 1.9-1.13)

Annual Employment Survey **01928 792690**  
 Employment and hours **01928 792563**  
 Workforce in employment **01928 792563**

**Labour disputes** (Tables 4.1-4.2)

**01928 792825**

**Labour Force Survey** (Tables 7.1-7.8)

**0171 533 6094**

**Qualifications**

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**Redundancy statistics** (Tables 2.32-2.36)

**0171 533 6086**

**Retail Prices Index** (Tables 6.1-6.9)

Ansafo service **0171 533 5866**  
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 Workforce training **0114 259 3489**  
**Travel-to-Work Areas (TTWAs)**, composition and review of **0171 533 6119**  
**Unemployment** (Tables 2.1-2.24) (claimant count) **0171 533 6099**  
**Vacancies** (Tables 3.1-3.3) notified to Jobcentres **0171 533 6099**  
**Youth Cohort Study** **0114 259 4233**

(Note: The table numbers quoted relate to tables on the preceding pages)

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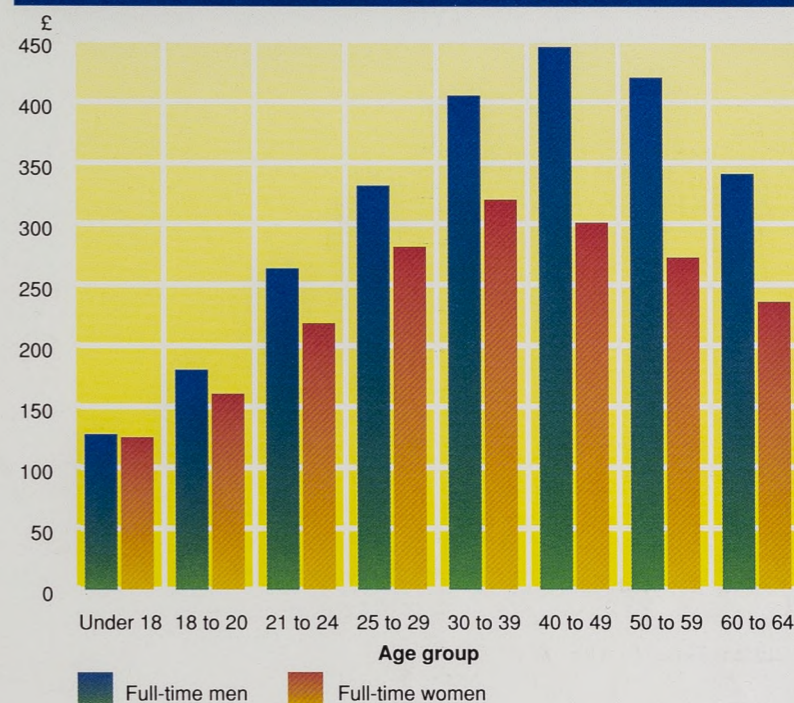
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