

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Note.—For information regarding the scope of the Census, instructions for making returns, and definitions of the terms used in this report, reference should be made to the Introductory Notes on pages v to xviii.

Introductory

This report relates to all work of construction, alteration, repair and renewal carried out by employees of Local Government Authorities (including canal, dock, harbour, river, etc. authorities) in Great Britain, other than work in connection with the supply of gas, electricity and water. The latter services are dealt with separately in the reports on pages 461 to 523. Work done by contractors on behalf of Local Authorities is not included in the present report: particulars relating to such work were furnished by the contractors in their returns and are dealt with in the reports on the trades concerned.

Work done by employees of parish councils and parish meetings and by inmates of poor law institutions was excluded both at the 1930 Census and at that of 1924.

The following table shows the main results of the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 in respect of Authorities in Great Britain that employed an average of more than ten persons in the kind of work mentioned above. At the 1924 Census particulars relating to quarries worked by Local Authorities were included in their general returns; at the 1930 Census separate returns were obtained on the schedule for Non-Metalliferous Mines and Quarries, and the results are incorporated in the report on pages 385-402. The comparability of the figures given below is affected by this change of practice, the number of persons employed in 1930 being understated in comparison with the 1924 figure by about 3,800, or 1·6 per cent.

The majority of the returns received from Authorities in England and Wales related to the years ended 31st March, 1931 and 1925, while those from Authorities in Scotland related to the years ended 15th May, 1931 and 1925, and this fact should not be overlooked in considering particulars which are specified in the report as relating to the years 1930 and 1924 respectively.

Particulars	Unit	1930	1924
Value of work done and goods made (Gross output)	£'000	65,370	56,317
Cost of materials used	"	29,149	25,415
Net output	"	36,221	30,902
Average number of persons employed	No.	232,790	191,032
Net output per person employed	£	156	162
Power available :—			
Prime movers (excluding road rollers and dredgers)	H.P.	131,170	135,644
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	43,223	40,129
Number of returns	No.	1,225	1,732

Deficiencies in 1930 aggregates.—The aggregate number of persons employed in 1930 by authorities that stated that they employed not more than ten persons on the average in work of construction or repair was 3,408. The corresponding figure for 1924 was 2,896 and the value of the gross output in that year of the authorities concerned was £702,000, particulars of the items included in this figure being as follows :—

	£'000
Building work :—	
New constructional work	11
Repair or maintenance work on existing buildings...	10
Total—Building work	21
Other work :—	
Construction, repair and renewal of—	
Highways and bridges	456
Sewers and sewage disposal works...	33
Harbours and docks	20
Parks, gardens, etc.	29
Land drainage works	43
Machinery and plant	23
Other and unclassified work	65
Total—Other work	669
Goods made	12
TOTAL	702

In addition, certain Local Authorities known to have employed only a small number of persons failed to make returns, the numbers being 186 for 1930 and 128 for 1924.

Size grouping.—In the following table the main particulars recorded at the Census of 1930 are grouped according to the average numbers of persons shown in the returns :—

Size group (average numbers employed)	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£
11-24 ...	266	1,144	606	4,726	128
25-49 ...	259	2,349	1,237	9,318	133
50-99 ...	271	5,034	2,624	19,192	137
100-199 ...	175	6,220	3,502	24,541	143
200-299 ...	69	4,212	2,348	16,856	139
300-399 ...	48	4,529	2,631	16,605	158
400-499 ...	31	3,671	2,116	13,773	154
500-749 ...	39	7,105	4,039	24,246	167
750-999 ...	24	6,856	3,788	20,719	183
1,000-1,499 ...	23	8,461	4,267	28,026	152
1,500 and over ...	20	15,789	9,063	54,788	165
TOTAL ...	1,225	65,370	36,221	232,790	156

Regional distribution.—In the following table the results recorded at the Censuses of 1930 and 1924 are grouped according to the areas* into which Great Britain has been sub-divided :—

Area	Number of returns	Gross output	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed	
	No.	£'000	£'000	No.	£	
1	1930	127	10,140	5,892	37,564	157
	1924	114	6,745	4,110	23,243	177
2	1930	192	10,465	6,404	40,729	157
	1924	175	9,626	5,543	34,323	161
3	1930	101	5,255	2,992	19,502	153
	1924	120	5,245	2,805	16,531	170
4	1930	78	3,773	1,966	12,860	153
	1924	112	3,414	1,788	12,072	148
5	1930	82	4,947	2,834	17,037	166
	1924	97	3,756	2,258	12,903	175
6	1930	438	21,444	11,008	71,716	153
	1924	793	19,292	9,715	62,284	156
7	1930	57	2,314	1,328	8,535	156
	1924	64	2,026	1,039	6,478	160
8	1930	38	1,124	633	4,661	136
	1924	79	886	500	3,543	141
9	1930	24	1,899	1,050	6,455	163
	1924	28	1,991	1,165	6,741	173
10	1930	88	4,009	2,114	13,731	154
	1924	150	3,336	1,979	12,914	153
TOTAL	1930	1,225	65,370	36,221	232,790	156
	1924	1,732	56,317	30,902	191,032	162

* For particulars see page xviii.

Northern Ireland.—The following table summarises the particulars recorded at the Census of Production taken by the Government of Northern Ireland for 1930, together with those furnished at the 1924 Census. The 1930 figures exclude authorities that employed an average of not more than five persons in work of construction or repair, while those for 1924 include all authorities. The figures for both years are inclusive of particulars relating to canal, dock, river and harbour companies, separate information regarding which is not available for publication.

Particulars	Unit	1930-31*	1924-25†
Value of work done and goods made (Gross output)	£'000	984	1,055
Cost of materials used	"	382	354
Net output	"	602	701
Average number of persons employed	No.	5,104	5,449
Net output per person employed	£	118	129
Power available :—			
Prime movers‡	H.P.	9,218	7,695
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	504	100

* Year ended 31st March, 1931.

† Year ended 31st March, 1925.

‡ Excluding road rollers and dredgers.

The items included in the gross output values shown in the above table are as follows :—

Kind of work done and goods made	1930-31	1924-25
	£'000	£'000
Building work :—		
New constructional work	4	3
Repair and maintenance work on existing buildings	29	28
Construction, repair and renewal of :—		
Highways and bridges (including roads, streets, footpaths, surface drains, tunnels, subways, lighting standards, public conveniences, etc.)	664	745
Sewers and sewage disposal works (except surface drains)	33	30
Harbours and docks (including wharves, piers and jetties)	53	79
Rivers and canals (including embankments, ferries and landing stages)	32	34
Parks, gardens, cemeteries and open spaces	12	6
Sea walls and defences... ..	26	—
Repairs to machinery and plant	12	12
Tramways, tramway equipment and dock railways (including repairs to ships and boats)	110	90
Other and unspecified work	8	27
Goods made and not used in the work shown above	1	1
TOTAL	984	1,055

Production

Work of construction, renewal, maintenance and repair.—The following statement shows the value of the principal classes of work done and goods made by employees of Local Authorities in the years 1930 and 1924. The values shown represent sums calculated to cover the estimated cost of materials used and the wages and salaries of the persons employed in connection with the work, together with the establishment charges properly attributable thereto. Interest, sinking fund and other loan charges are not included. Certain classes of maintenance work (e.g., street cleaning and watering, the collection and disposal of house refuse, the disposal of sewage, etc.) were not considered as "production" for the purposes of the Census and the cost and other particulars relating to such work are excluded throughout this report. Particulars regarding the operation of tramway services and the policing of public parks and other open spaces are similarly excluded.

Kind of work done and goods made	1930		1924
	Value (at cost)	Entries	Value (at cost)
	£'000	No.	£'000
Building work :—			
New constructional work (including enlargement of existing buildings) :—			
Public buildings (town halls, schools, baths, libraries and similar buildings)*	992	156	919
Factories and workshops	160	67	57
Dwellings (including tenements)‡	2,462	130	1,198
Other buildings	125	89	79
Total—New constructional work	3,739	...	2,253
Repair or maintenance work on existing buildings (including painting, decorating, work on heating or lighting installations, etc.)	3,942	749	1,656
TOTAL—Building work	7,681	...	3,909
Other work :—			
Construction, repair and renewal of :—			
Railways (including dock railways) :—			
Permanent way, bridges, signals, tunnels, etc.	143	18	199
Rolling stock	17	13	†
Tramways and light railways :—			
Permanent way and works connected therewith	1,725	79	} 4,115
Electrical equipment of lines	380	89	
Tramcars and trackless trolley vehicles and parts	2,707	113	} 2,875
Motor omnibuses and motor coaches and parts	1,241	83	

Kind of work done and goods made	1930		1924
	Value (at cost)	Entries	Value (at cost)
Other work— <i>cont.</i> :—	£'000	No.	£'000
Construction, repair and renewal of— <i>cont.</i> :—			
Highways and bridges (including roads, streets, footpaths, surface drains, tunnels, subways, lighting standards, public conveniences, etc.)	41,269	1,032	35,492
Sewers and sewage disposal works (except surface drains)	3,152	737	2,891
Harbours and docks (including wharves, piers and jetties)	1,130	88	2,212
Canals and waterways (including embankments, ferries and landing stages)	652	100	883
Sea walls, embankments and defences	572	115	412
Waterworks (reservoirs, aqueducts, wells, mains, hydraulic works, etc.)	19	11	†
Electric lines and works	46	4	†
Parks, promenades, gardens, cemeteries and open spaces (including recreation and sports grounds and the laying out of tennis courts, bowling greens, etc.)	2,036	609	1,591
Land drainage and reclamation works	165	58	243
Ships, boats, etc.	272	46	263
Vehicles, not elsewhere specified	622	400	†
Machinery and plant (including hoists and cranes)	837	376	722
Other work of construction, repair and renewal	71	...	107
Other work done	269	...	...
TOTAL—Other work	57,325	...	52,005
Goods made by employees of Local Authorities and not used in the work shown above :—			
Road-making materials, artificial stone, etc.	200	130	193
Mortar	8	11	30
Manures	25	42	39
Clothing	47	11	141
Other goods	84	63	...
TOTAL—Goods made	364	...	403
TOTAL—WORK DONE AND GOODS MADE	65,370	...	56,317

* Including amounts returned by Canal, Dock and Harbour Authorities as follows :—

1930—Depots, workshops, offices and other buildings	£204,000
1924—Warehouses, offices, etc.	£606,000

‡ Described in 1924 as "Working-class dwellings."

† Not separately recorded.

Volume of production in 1930 and 1924.—No precise comparison of the volume of work done by Local Authorities in the two censal years is practicable but by using such information as is available regarding the price of building, etc., materials and other manufacturing costs, it is estimated that the sum of £56,317,000 shown as the value of the output in 1924, would, if valued on the basis of 1930 prices, be reduced to a sum of about £52,000,000. The increase in the volume of production as between 1924 and 1930 appears, therefore, to have been about 26 per cent. This increase is in substantial agreement with that recorded for persons employed, viz. 22 per cent.

Total value of work carried out by Local Authorities in 1930 and 1924.—The following table shows the aggregate value of the productive work carried out by Local Authorities in 1930 and 1924 in respect of all their undertakings, together with the numbers of persons employed in such work and other leading particulars obtained at the two Censuses. The qualifications noted in the introductory paragraph on page 447 should be borne in mind.

Local Authority Undertakings	Value of gross output	Cost of materials used	Net output	Average number of persons employed	Net output per person employed
	£'000	£'000	£'000	No.	£
Gas undertakings ... { 1930	20,523	9,109	11,414	33,465	341
{ 1924	20,794	10,893	9,901	32,613	304
Electricity undertakings ... { 1930	34,915	12,933	21,982	46,768	470
{ 1924	24,721	10,254	14,467	31,925	453
Water undertakings { 1930	18,331	3,596	14,735	23,755	620
{ 1924	15,172	2,899	12,273	23,829	515
Other undertakings :—					
Tramways and light railways ... 1930	6,464	2,777	3,687	22,985	160
Canals, docks and harbours ... 1930	2,558	916	1,642	10,145	162
Other services ... 1930	56,348	25,456	30,892	199,660	155
Total—Other undertakings ... { 1930	65,370	29,149	36,221	232,790	156
{ 1924	56,317	25,415	30,902	191,032	162
TOTAL ... { 1930	139,139	54,787	84,352	336,778	250
{ 1924	117,004	49,461	67,543	279,399	242

Employment

The following table shows the average numbers of persons employed in 1930 and 1924 :—

Persons employed	Males		Females		Total	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
1930						
Operatives (average for the year)	2,708	217,971	35	1,047	2,743	219,018
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	417	12,477	103	1,295	520	13,772
TOTAL	3,125	230,448	138	2,342	3,263	232,790
1924						
Operatives (average for the year)	2,705	180,924	20	392	2,725	181,316
Administrative, technical and clerical staff (as at 18th October)	303	9,104	36	612	339	9,716
TOTAL	3,008	190,028	56	1,004	3,064	191,032

Power

The following table shows the capacity of prime movers, electric generators and electric motors ordinarily in use and in reserve or idle in 1930 and 1924 :—

Power equipment	1930			1924		
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total
PRIME MOVERS*	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Reciprocating steam engines	97,209	7,629	104,838	118,313	2,222	120,535
Steam turbines	98	880	978	195	87	282
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	3,823	387	4,210	3,378	882	4,260
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils ...	14,230	934	15,164	8,660	319	8,979
Heavy oils	5,553	389	5,942	1,296	110	1,406
Water engines	38	—	38	182	—	182
TOTAL	120,951	10,219	131,170	132,024	3,620	135,644

* Excluding road rollers and dredgers.

Power equipment	1930			1924		
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Total
	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
ELECTRIC GENERATORS						
Driven by						
Reciprocating steam engines	1,185	484	1,669	2,685	391	3,076
Steam turbines	—	83	83	92	59	151
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	306	7	313	90	8	98
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils	28	—	28	12	—	12
Heavy oils	65	—	65	—	—	—
TOTAL	1,584	574	2,158	2,879	458	3,337
	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
ELECTRIC MOTORS						
Driven by						
Electricity generated in same premises	921	925	1,846	9,259	322	9,581
Purchased electricity†	39,657	3,566	43,223	35,856	4,273	40,129
TOTAL	40,578	4,491	45,069	45,115	4,595	49,710

† Including electricity supplied by the electricity undertaking of the Authority.

Consumption of fuel

The following table shows the quantities of coal, coke and electricity recorded as used in 1930 :—

Kind of fuel used		For power (driving engines)*
Coal ... ..	...	Tons
Coke ... ..	...	205,465
		11,073
		B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) '000
Electricity used for all purposes† :—		
Generated in same premises ... ..	...	1,388
Purchased ... ..	...	21,214
TOTAL—Electricity		22,602

* No record was obtained of the quantities of coal and coke used for purposes other than the production of power.

† Exclusive of 744,149,000 units used for transport purposes.

TABLES

I. Summary of results

Particulars	Unit	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Value of work done and goods made (Gross output)	£'000	59,462	5,908	65,370
Cost of materials used	"	26,405	2,744	29,149
Net output	"	33,057	3,164	36,221
Average number of persons employed...	No.	212,604	20,186	232,790
Net output per person employed ...	£	155	157	156
Power available :—				
Prime movers (excluding road rollers and dredgers)	H.P.	110,495	20,675	131,170
Electric motors driven by purchased electricity	"	37,948	5,275	43,223

II. Production

Kind of work done and goods made	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Building work :—			
New constructional work (including enlargement of existing buildings) :—			
Public buildings (town halls, schools, baths, libraries and similar buildings)	949	43	992
Factories and workshops	130	30	160
Dwellings (including tenements)	2,456	6	2,462
Other buildings	125	—	125
TOTAL—New constructional work	3,660	79	3,739
Repair or maintenance work on existing buildings (including painting, decorating, work on heating or lighting installations, etc.)	3,707	235	3,942
TOTAL—Building work	7,367	314	7,681
Other work :—			
Construction, repair and renewal of :—			
Railways (including dock railways) :—			
Permanent way, bridges, signals, tunnels, etc.	102	41	143
Rolling stock	17	—	17

Kind of work done and goods made	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Other work— <i>contd.</i> :—			
Construction, repair and renewal of— <i>contd.</i> :—	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tramways and light railways :—			
Permanent way and works connected therewith	1,332	393	1,725
Electrical equipment of lines	346	34	380
Tramcars and trackless trolley vehicles and parts	2,235	472	2,707
Motor omnibuses and motor coaches and parts	1,088	153	1,241
Highways and bridges (including roads, streets, footpaths, surface drains, tunnels, subways, lighting standards, public conveniences, etc.)	37,658	3,611	41,269
Sewers and sewage disposal works (except surface drains)	2,988	164	3,152
Harbours and docks (including wharves, piers and jetties)	926	204	1,130
Canals and waterways (including embankments, ferries and landing stages)	*	*	652
Sea walls, embankments and defences	532	40	572
Waterworks (reservoirs, aqueducts, wells, mains, hydraulic works, etc.)	10	9	19
Electric lines and works	45	1	46
Parks, promenades, gardens, cemeteries and open spaces (including recreation and sports grounds and the laying out of tennis courts, bowling greens, etc.)	1,908	128	2,036
Land drainage and reclamation works	*	*	165
Ships, boats, etc.	*	*	272
Vehicles, not elsewhere specified	573	49	622
Machinery and plant (including hoists and cranes)	722	115	837
Other work of construction, repair and renewal	70	1	71
Other work done	264	5	269
TOTAL—Other work	51,778	5,547	57,325
Goods made by employees of Local Authorities and not used in the work shown above :—			
Road-making materials, artificial stone, etc. ...	164	36	200
Mortar	8	—	8
Manures	*	*	25
Clothing	*	*	47
Other goods	74	10	84
TOTAL—Goods made	317	47	364
TOTAL VALUE OF WORK DONE AND GOODS MADE (GROSS OUTPUT)	59,462	5,908	65,370

* Owing to the possible disclosure of information relating to individual Authorities, separate figures for England and Wales and for Scotland cannot be given.

III. Employment

A.—NUMBERS EMPLOYED IN WEEK ENDED 18TH OCTOBER, 1930

Persons employed	Males		Females		Males and females	
	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages	Under 18	All ages
<i>England and Wales</i> :—						
Operatives	2,487	199,665	35	1,020	2,522	200,685
Administrative, etc.*	392	11,681	95	1,141	487	12,822
TOTAL	2,879	211,346	130	2,161	3,009	213,507
<i>Scotland</i> :—						
Operatives	233	19,295	—	32	233	19,327
Administrative, etc.*	25	796	8	154	33	950
TOTAL	258	20,091	8	186	266	20,277
<i>Great Britain</i> :—						
Operatives	2,720	218,960	35	1,052	2,755	220,012
Administrative, etc.*	417	12,477	103	1,295	520	13,772
TOTAL	3,137	231,437	138	2,347	3,275	233,784

* Administrative, technical and clerical staff.

B.—OPERATIVES EMPLOYED IN ONE WEEK IN EACH MONTH OF 1930

Week ended	Males and females			Week ended	Males and females		
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain		England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Jan. 18 ...	202,110	18,155	220,265	July 19 ...	200,237	19,941	220,178
Feb. 15 ...	206,557	18,594	225,151	Aug. 16 ...	201,360	19,909	221,269
Mar. 15 ...	206,106	19,053	225,159	Sept. 13 ...	201,607	19,582	221,189
April 12 ...	182,695	20,157	202,852	Oct. 18 ...	200,685	19,327	220,012
May 17 ...	191,814	18,398	210,212	Nov. 15 ...	201,739	19,108	220,847
June 21 ...	198,672	19,800	218,472	Dec. 13 ...	203,806	18,810	222,616
AVERAGE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS					199,782	19,236	219,018

IV. Power

PARTICULARS OF PRIME MOVERS, ELECTRIC GENERATORS AND ELECTRIC MOTORS

Power equipment	England and Wales		Scotland		Great Britain	
	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle	Ordinarily in use	In reserve or idle
PRIME MOVERS*	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Reciprocating steam engines	79,220	7,287	17,989	342	97,209	7,629
Steam turbines	98	880	—	—	98	880
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	3,678	324	145	63	3,823	387
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils ...	13,120	866	1,110	68	14,230	934
Heavy oils	4,595	389	958	—	5,553	389
Water engines	38	—	—	—	38	—
TOTAL	100,749	9,746	20,202	473	120,951	10,219
TOTAL OF PRIME MOVERS INSTALLED	110,495		20,675		131,170	
ELECTRIC GENERATORS Driven by	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.	Kw.
Reciprocating steam engines	1,185	484	—	—	1,185	484
Steam turbines	—	83	—	—	—	83
Internal combustion engines :—						
Gas	306	7	—	—	306	7
Petrol, kerosene, or other light oils	28	—	—	—	28	—
Heavy oils	65	—	—	—	65	—
TOTAL	1,584	574	—	—	1,584	574
TOTAL OF ELECTRIC GENERATORS INSTALLED	2,158		—		2,158	
ELECTRIC MOTORS Driven by	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.	H.P.
Electricity generated in same premises	921	925	—	—	921	925
Purchased electricity†	34,711	3,237	4,946	329	39,657	3,566
TOTAL	35,632	4,162	4,946	329	40,578	4,491
TOTAL OF ELECTRIC MOTORS INSTALLED	39,794		5,275		45,069	

* Excluding road rollers and dredgers.

† Including electricity supplied by the electricity undertaking of the Authority.

V. Consumption of fuel

Kind of fuel used	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Coal used for power	161,043	44,422	205,465
Coke used for power	10,067	1,006	11,073
	B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) '000	B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) '000	B.T.U. (Kw.-hrs.) '000
Electricity used for all purposes*—			
Generated in same premises	1,388	—	1,388
Purchased	18,026	3,188	21,214
TOTAL—Electricity	19,414	3,188	22,602

* Exclusive of 744,149,000 units (635,438,000 units in England and Wales and 108,711,000 units in Scotland) used for transport purposes.