



BOARD OF TRADE

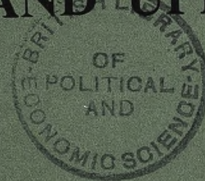
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THE REPORT  
on the  
CENSUS OF PRODUCTION  
FOR 1951

Volume 10

Trade B

FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY



*Presented by the Board of Trade to Parliament  
in pursuance of the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947  
(10 & 11 Geo. 6, Ch. 39, Sec. 7).*

LONDON: HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1955

TWO SHILLINGS NET

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\* Not applicable to this trade

FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY TRADE

THIS REPORT on the Furniture and Upholstery Trade relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture or repair of domestic, office, school, church, theatre and cinema furniture of wood, cane, wicker or woven fibre, in upholstering furniture, whether on wood or metal frames, and in the manufacture of wooden wireless cabinets. The manufacture of metal furniture, divan beds, mattresses, shop and office fittings, display and exhibition stands, blinds and basketware is excluded.

This trade corresponds to minimum list heading 171(2) in the Standard Industrial Classification.

IMPORTANT NOTES and definitions appear on the inside of the back cover of this report. In interpreting the data in the following tables, it is essential to bear these in mind.



## MANUFACTURES OF WOOD AND CORK

Analysis by standard region, 1951

TABLE 5  
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

Region	Estab- lish- ments	Gross output	Net output		Persons employed	Remuneration			Net output per person employed
			Value	Percent- age of total		Operatives	Other employees (a)	Total	
England	No.	£'000	£'000		No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
Northern	60	6,575	2,620	4.9	4,806	1,481	214	1,696	545
East and West Ridings	108	5,900	2,428	4.5	5,535	1,518	264	1,782	439
North Midland	56	4,905	1,830	3.4	4,202	1,140	224	1,364	436
Eastern	53	5,670	2,615	4.8	4,532	1,342	261	1,603	577
London and South Eastern	512	55,336	23,527	43.6	35,077	13,239	2,998	16,237	671
Southern	148	15,257	7,607	14.1	10,699	3,844	799	4,644	711
South Western	66	5,087	2,115	3.9	4,790	1,375	249	1,624	442
Midland	97	5,809	2,422	4.5	4,709	1,349	311	1,660	514
North Western	161	10,639	4,293	8.0	8,940	2,705	483	3,188	480
Total England	1,261	115,177	49,456	91.7	83,290	27,995	5,803	33,798	594(b)
Wales	45	2,624	1,014	1.9	2,957	763	166	929	343(b)
Scotland	99	6,605	2,887	5.4	6,851	1,858	361	2,219	421(b)
Great Britain	1,405	124,406	53,357	98.9	93,098	30,617	6,329	36,946	573(b)
Northern Ireland	32	1,554	602	1.1	1,670	390	42	432	361
United Kingdom	1,437	125,961	53,959	100.0	94,768	31,007	6,372	37,378	569

(a) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

(b) If certain establishments mainly employing disabled persons were excluded from the above figures the net output per person employed would be:-

Region	Net output per person employed
	£
England	606
Wales	497
Scotland	436
Great Britain	591

Analysis according to specialisation within the trade, 1951

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 6

	Estab- lish- ments	Gross output	Sales of charac- teristic products	Net output	Persons employed	Remuneration			Net output per person employed
						Operatives	Other employees (a)	Total	
	No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	No.	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
Specialist producers of Furniture, not upholstered, mainly of wood	771	80,596	73,862	35,678	60,392	20,297	4,300	24,597	591
Upholstered furniture	363	34,313	31,087	12,242	21,416	7,067	1,328	8,395	572
Remainder of the trade	303	11,052		6,039	12,960	3,642	744	4,386	466
Totql	1,437	125,961		53,959	94,768	31,007	6,372	37,378	569

(a) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

## FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY

TABLE 7 - Total make of intermediate products: Larger establishments

This table is not applicable to the trade.

Sales of the principal products of the trade, including sales of these  
products by establishments classified to other trades

Larger establishments

TABLE 8

	United Kingdom 1951			Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
	Th.pieces	£'000	No.	Th.pieces	£'000
Furniture, not upholstered, mainly of wood (a)					
Bedroom furniture (excluding chairs and dressing stools)					
Wardrobes (including fitted wardrobes)	800	13,629	385	472	8,842
Bedroom suite second and third pieces (including chests, toilets, cupboards, and other bedroom furniture)	1,318	14,938	431	895	11,167
Bedsteads (including divan heads, but excluding folding bedsteads)	1,191	5,600	421	899	3,746
Bedroom suites, complete (a)	No.				
Four piece (i.e., wardrobe, dressing chest, tallboy and bedstead)	7,662	380	19	-	-
Three piece (i.e., wardrobe, dressing chest and bedstead)	495	17	7	-	-
Living room and hall furniture (excluding chairs and stools)	Th.pieces				
Sideboards and buffets	432	6,746	328	361	4,878
Dining tables	646	5,601	388	467	3,785
Occasional tables (including nests of tables and tea trolleys, but excluding folding tables)	577	1,810	338	158	395
Bureaux, bookcases, bureau-bookcases, secretaires, desks and sectional bookcases (excluding office desks)	221	2,404	266	..	248
Other and occasional furniture (including china cabinets, cocktail cabinets, hall stands, hall cupboards, hall seats, benches and rug boxes, etc.)	..	1,692	248	..	486
Dining room suites, complete (i.e., sideboard, table and four chairs) (a)	No.				
Kitchen furniture (excluding chairs)	5,528	173	16	-	-
Kitchen cabinets and dressers	Th.pieces				
Kitchen tables	231	2,477	87	100	1,004
Other kitchen furniture	..	592	..	..	314
Other furniture (excluding small chairs) not upholstered, mainly of wood	62	201	86	82	247
Cots, playpens, high chairs and other nursery furniture	..	68	..	..	50
Folding furniture (e.g., chairs, tables, bedsteads)	..	181	32	..	196
Office furniture (including office chairs, upholstered or not)	..	864	41	..	1,057
School furniture	..	877	70	..	348
	..	3,153	201	..	1,519
	..	2,382	108	..	2,139

TABLE 8 (contd.)

	United Kingdom 1951			Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
	Th.pieces	£'000	No.	Th.pieces	£'000
Furniture, not upholstered, mainly of wood (a) (contd.)					
Other furniture (excluding small chairs) not upholstered, mainly of wood (contd.)					
Church furniture	..	205	62	..	102
Ships' furniture	..	438	46	..	737
Wireless cabinets	..	6,588	76	..	3,104
Small chairs (excluding folding chairs and office chairs)					
Dining room chairs and other small chairs (including bedroom chairs) with upholstered or padded seats	2,702	6,073	264	2,250	4,038
Kitchen and other small chairs (including windsor and bedroom chairs) with solid, cane or rush seats	425	447	34	244	193
Other small chairs (including bentwood and restaurant chairs) and stools (e.g., dressing stools and piano stools)	253	386	149	173	210
Component parts of furniture					
Of small chairs (e.g., frames for stuff-over upholstery)	..	1,200	87	..	688
Of other furniture	..	931	68	..	269
Unclassified	..	320	45	-	-
Upholstered furniture (excluding dining room, etc., chairs with upholstered or padded seats) (a)					
With wooden frames					
Settees	407	7,790(b)	424	233	3,535
Bed settees	141	2,813	105	88	1,161
Easy chairs	1,093	12,619(c)	427	726	6,377
Fireside and adjustable chairs	1,272	8,077(d)	384	837	3,869
Upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc.	..	215(e)	13	..	206
Theatre and cinema seating	..	630(e)	15	..	337
Upholstered furniture for ships	..	350(e)	37	..	438
Other upholstered furniture (including hotel and bar furniture and other household furniture, but excluding divan beds)	..	340(f)	93	..	350(g)
With metal frames					
Settees	10	231	36	70	1,452
Bed settees	11	245	9	12	152
Easy chairs	23	357	40	143	1,801
Fireside and adjustable chairs	14	101	6	11	77
Upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc.	..	1,042	10	..	1,045
Theatre and cinema seating	..	126	..	..	108
Other upholstered furniture (including hotel and bar furniture and other household furniture, but excluding divan beds)	..	84	12	..	45(h)
With wooden or metal frames	No.				
Chesterfield sets, complete (three pieces) (a)	6,256	251	13	-	-
Spring seating sold separately	..	224	19	..	113
Other upholstered furniture not elsewhere specified (e.g., pouffes)	..	217	53	..	113

TABLE 8 (contd.)

	United Kingdom 1951			Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
	Th.do z.	£'000	No.	Th.do z.	£'000
Unclassified furniture and cabinet ware of wood	..	567	82	-	-
Furniture manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker	Th.do z.			Th.do z.	
Chairs	6	77	19	66	1,098
Other	6	84	27		
Furniture of woven fibre					
Chairs	107	780(i)	19		
Other	147	317(i)	15		
Upholstery trimmings, sold separately (j)	..	574	26	..	(j)
Other principal products of the trade	..	355	..	..	509(k)
Making up of carpets (l)		719	160		799
Work done for the trade (l)					
Polishing and finishing		390	76		291
Milling, machining, veneering and other fabrication		334	69		(m)
Upholstery work		385	56		199
Carpet planning		255	35		117
Other work		274	66		218
Repairs to furniture, cabinet ware, etc. (l)		3,118	506		3,257
Other work done (l)		642	142		89
Total		124,987	..		80,215
Sales in other trades (see Table 9)		6,796	..		5,449
Principal products of this trade sold by establishments in the trade		118,191	1,346		74,766

- (a) In addition to pieces of furniture, sold separately, establishments in Northern Ireland were asked to record details of complete suites, sold as such, therefore the particulars relating to complete bedroom suites, dining room suites and chesterfield sets are those recorded by establishments in Northern Ireland only.
- (b) Including £19,000 (1,000 pieces) for settees, sold separately, recorded by establishments in Northern Ireland. Those with wooden frames or metal frames were not separately distinguished.
- (c) Including £12,000 (1,000 pieces) for easy chairs, sold separately, recorded by establishments in Northern Ireland. Those with wooden frames or metal frames were not separately distinguished.
- (d) Including £60,000 (10,000 pieces) for upholstered occasional chairs, recorded as such, by establishments in Northern Ireland.
- (e) Not recorded separately by establishments in Northern Ireland.
- (f) Including any upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc., theatre and cinema seating, and upholstered furniture for ships, and any other furniture with metal frames, not recorded separately by establishments in Northern Ireland.
- (g) Including other upholstered household furniture with metal frames.
- (h) Excluding other upholstered household furniture (see note (g)).
- (i) Including any furniture manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker, not recorded separately by establishments in Northern Ireland.
- (j) Made from purchased fabric. In 1948 all trimmings were included in the Narrow Fabrics Trade (Volume 6, Trade L). The amount recorded by establishments in the Furniture and Upholstery Trade and included in Table 10 in 1948 was £357,000.
- (k) Recorded as:-

	£'000
Venetian blinds	17
Trouser and tie presses	
Billiard and bagatelle tables (including accessories not recorded separately) and billiard room furniture and fittings	48
Rustic furniture	444

For 1951 rustic furniture is classified as a principal product of the Timber Trade (Volume 10, Trade A).  
(l) Amount charged.  
(m) Recorded in 1948 in the Timber Trade (Volume 10, Trade A). The amount recorded by establishments in the Furniture and Upholstery Trade and included in Table 10 in 1948 was £290,000.

Sales of principal products of the trade by establishments  
classified to other trades

## Larger establishments

TABLE 9

	United Kingdom 1951			Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
	Th.pieces	£'000	No.	Th.pieces	£'000
Furniture, not upholstered, mainly of wood					
Bedroom furniture (excluding chairs and dressing stools)					
Wardrobes (including fitted wardrobes)	12	142	16	3	56
Bedroom suite second and third pieces (including chests, toilets, cupboards and other bedroom furniture)	5	62	13	..	489
Bedsteads (including divan heads, but excluding folding bedsteads)	210	640	39	7	105
Living room and hall furniture (excluding chairs and stools)				..	30
Sideboards and buffets	1	12	9	20	267
Dining tables	3	20	15	7	54
Occasional tables (including nests of tables and tea trolleys, but excluding folding tables)	16	50	21	3	19
Bureaux, bookcases, bureau-bookcases, secretares, desks and sectional bookcases (excluding office desks)	2	29	7	..	11
Other and occasional furniture (including china cabinets, cocktail cabinets, hall stands, hall cupboards, hall seats, benches and rug boxes, etc.)	..	129	22	..	18
Kitchen furniture (excluding chairs)					
Kitchen cabinets and dressers	7	63	8	5	47
Kitchen tables	7	20	11	..	46
Other kitchen furniture	..	54	7	1	3
Other furniture (excluding small chairs) not upholstered, mainly of wood				..	7
Cots, playpens, high chairs and other nursery furniture	..	87	8	..	11
Folding furniture (e.g., chairs, tables, bedsteads)	..	164	11	..	118
Office furniture (including office chairs, upholstered or not)	..	343	33	..	3
School furniture	..	147	23	..	161
Church furniture	..	46	12	..	94
Ships' furniture	..	35	6	..	31
Wireless cabinets	..	463	15	..	226
Small chairs (excluding folding chairs and office chairs)					
Dining room chairs and other small chairs (including bedroom chairs) with upholstered or padded seats	11	16	5	26	51
Kitchen and other small chairs (including windsor and bedroom chairs) with solid, cane or rush seats	..	..	..	10	5
Other small chairs (including bentwood and restaurant chairs) and stools (e.g., dressing stools and piano stools)	41	41	7	..	3
Component parts of furniture					
Of small chairs (e.g., frames for stuff-over upholstery)	..	38	6	..	13
Of other furniture	..	44	12	..	11

TABLE 9 (contd.)

	United Kingdom 1951			Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Entries	Quantity	Value
	Th.pieces	£'000	No.	Th.pieces	£'000
Furniture, not upholstered, mainly of wood (contd)					
Component parts of furniture (contd.)					
Unclassified	..	320	45	-	-
Upholstered furniture (excluding dining room, etc. chairs with upholstered or padded seats)					
With wooden frames					
Fireside and adjustable chairs	35	212	24	25	116
Upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc.	..	146	8	..	104(a)
Upholstered furniture for ships	..	..	..	..	145(a)
With wooden or metal frames					
Settees; and chesterfield sets, complete (three pieces)	..	147	31	8	126(b)
Bed settees	13	271	8	..	237
Easy chairs	23	276	31	16	212
Spring seating sold separately	..	41	6	26	225
Other upholstered furniture (including hotel and bar furniture and other household furniture, but excluding divan beds, theatre and cinema seating with wooden or metal frames, and fireside and adjustable chairs and upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc. with metal frames)	..	41	12	..	139(c)
Other upholstered furniture not elsewhere specified, e.g., pouffes	..	49	15	..	27
Unclassified furniture and cabinet ware of wood	..	559	..	-	-
Furniture manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker	..	149	31	Th.do.	-
Furniture of woven fibre, and upholstery trimmings sold separately	..	6	6	1	26(d)
Other principal products of the trade	-	-	-	..	467(e)
Making up of carpets (f)		120	45		149
Work done for the trade (f)					
Polishing and finishing		2	12		11
Milling, machining, veneering and other fabrication		3	13		-
Upholstery work		116	10		36
Carpet planning		11	5		-
Other work		89	25		-
Repairs to furniture, cabinet ware, etc. (f)		1,160	134		730
Other work done (f)		307	43		19
Total		6,796	..		5,449

(a) With wooden or metal frames.

(b) Excluding chesterfield sets, complete.

(c) Recorded as:-

Other upholstered household furniture with wooden and metal frames, including fireside and adjustable chairs with metal frames 84  
Theatre and cinema seating; spring seating sold separately; hotel and bar upholstered furniture, with wooden and metal frames 41  
Other upholstered furniture (excluding divan beds), with wooden and metal frames 14

(d) Excluding upholstery trimmings, sold separately.

(e) Recorded as:-

Venetian blinds 17  
Trouser and tie presses }  
Billiard and bagatelle tables (including accessories not recorded separately) } 8  
Rustic furniture 442

(f) Amount charged.

MANUFACTURES OF WOOD AND CORK  
Sales in the trade of other than principal products

Larger establishments

TABLE 10

	United Kingdom 1951		Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Thous.	£'000	Thous.	£'000
Bedding and soft furnishings				
Divan beds (excluding mattresses)	13	92	5	28
Bases for spring interior mattresses	4	22	-	1
Wire mattresses	..	377	..	363
Upholstered mattresses				
Mattresses 4 feet in width and over				
Interior spring	71	550	27	229
Other	68	247	..	63
Mattresses under 4 feet in width (other than cot mattresses)			52	148
Interior spring	38	236	13	80
Other	62	185	..	31
Cot mattresses	22	31	..	18
Cot mattresses	Th.doz.		29	32
Bolsters, pillows, quilts and cushions	7	47	Th.doz.	
Other bedding, e.g., counterpanes, blankets, sheets, pillow and bolster cases	..	5	33	63
Curtains	Thous.		Thous.	
Canopies for prams, etc., and other soft furnishing goods (table cloths, etc.)	13	30	18	36
Built-in wooden and/or metal furniture and fittings	..	34	..	57
For shops and offices (including banks)	..	273	..	91
For ships	..	173	..	171
For other purposes	..	250	..	799
Shop fronts of wood or metal	..	57	..	(a)
Aircraft parts and accessories, and gliders and sailplanes and parts thereof	..	118	..	103(b)
Bodies and other parts and accessories of motor vehicles	..	34	..	139
Clock cases of wood	..	47	..	99
Builders' woodwork	..	244	..	
Domestic woodware	..	205	..	
Wooden boxes, crates, etc., except cabinet ware	..	443	..	918
Other manufactures of timber, including sawn hardwoods, plywood, portable wooden buildings, cold rooms and refrigerator cabinets of wood, and rustic and garden furniture	..	762	..	
Furniture, mainly of metal	..	456	..	222(c)
Upholstery trimmings, sold separately	..	(d)	..	357
Baskets manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker	Th.doz.		..	
Baskets of woven fibre	4	64	..	124
Other goods made	..	14	..	
Work done (e)	12	125	..	637
Making up of loose covers, pelmets and curtains	..	17	..	
Work done (e)	..	455	..	
Making up of loose covers, pelmets and curtains	..	338	..	396

## FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY

TABLE 10 (contd.)

	United Kingdom 1951		Great Britain 1948	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Work done (e) (contd.)		£'000		£'000
Shop and office fitting (f)		87		48
Milling, machining, veneering and other fabrication		(g)		290
Other work done		103		165
Total		6,229		5,789

(a) Not recorded separately.

(b) Recorded as 'Aircraft parts and accessories, including parts of gliders and sailplanes'.

(c) Recorded as 'Furniture and domestic utensils, mainly of metal'.

(d) See footnote (j) to Table 8.

(e) Amount charged.

(f) Value of work done during the year, exclusive of the value of goods made and used by firms and recorded against the appropriate output heading. The value of these goods was £153,000 in 1951 and £54,000 in 1948.

(g) See footnote (m) to Table 8.

Production, exports and imports of certain principal products

Note - Owing to the exclusion of the output of small firms, a precise comparison between production and oversea trade is not practicable. The particulars given in this table are, therefore, confined to exports and retained imports.

TABLE 11

£'000

	Exports (a)			Retained imports (b)		
	1951	1948	1935	1951	1948	1935
Furniture and cabinet ware mainly of wood, including parts						
Of bentwood	..	3	4	261	3	108
Chairs and settees with seats, backs or arms of leather or textile material	180	156	485	81	46	287
Other	..	681	..	644	2,087	..
Total	1,018	839	489	986	2,136	395
Furniture of basketware	18	13	6	..	1	5

(a) Valued f.o.b.

(b) Valued c.i.f.

Usage of certain specified purchased materials, 1951

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 12

Materials used	Quantity
Timber (other than reclaimed), including that used for packing or packing case manufacture but excluding joinery, other fabricated woodwork and purchased packing cases	Th.cu.ft.
Hardwood	18,961
Softwood	1,317
Cotton waste	Th.lbs. 1,490
Cotton linters	8,195
Woven cotton cloth	Th.sq.yds. 9,642
Woven cloth of rayon, nylon, etc., or of rayon, nylon, etc. mixed with materials other than silk	2,094





Wages and salaries and employers' National Insurance  
contributions paid during the year

## Larger establishments

	£'000				
	United Kingdom			Great Britain	
	1951	1950	1949	1949	1948
Wages and salaries (a) of					
Operatives	31,007	29,203	25,365	24,924	20,921
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	6,372	6,260	5,543	5,500	4,303
Total	37,378	35,463	30,908	30,424	25,223
Employers' contributions to all National Insurance Schemes	945	952	887	868	629

(a) Including bonus and commission payments, but excluding payments to outworkers shown below.  
£'000

United Kingdom			Great Britain	
1951	1950	1949	1949	1948
39	36	61	61	42

Plant, machinery and vehicles - acquisitions and disposals,  
and capital expenditure on new building work

## Larger establishments

	£'000			
	United Kingdom		Great Britain	
	1951	1949	1949	1948
Plant, machinery and vehicles				
Acquisitions				
Plant and machinery				
New	1,555	1,305	1,273	1,135
Second-hand	68	92	87	71
Vehicles				
New	703	487	479	352
Second-hand	157	101	97	89
Total acquisitions	2,483	1,985	1,936	1,646
Disposals				
Plant and machinery	97	137	127	91
Vehicles	153	106	104	78
Total disposals	250	243	231	170
New building work				
Capital expenditure on new building and other constructional work of a capital nature (excluding site values and development charges)	560	402	376	374

1951

## Summary

## Larger establishments

TABLE 18

	England	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Gross output (production)	115,177	2,624	6,605	124,406	1,554	125,961
Cost of materials and fuel used	63,096	1,474	3,585	68,155	937	69,092
Payment for work done on materials given out	874	61	58	994	2	996
Transport payments	1,751	75	75	1,901	13	1,914
Net output	49,456	1,014	2,887	53,357	602	53,959
Wages and salaries of persons employed	33,798	929	2,219	36,946	432	37,378
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Average number of persons employed (a)	83,290	2,957	6,851	93,098	1,670	94,768
£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net output per person employed (a)	594	343	421	573	361	569
£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Stocks at end of year						
Products on hand for sale and work in progress	7,762	432	707	8,901	70	8,971
Materials and fuel	18,091	548	987	19,627	152	19,780
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Number of establishments	1,261	45	99	1,405	32	1,437

The values of gross output and of materials and fuel used are derived in the following way:-

	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Output of firms in this trade						
Total value of sales (see Table 20)	113,842	2,556	6,473	122,871	1,549	124,420
Changes in stocks and work in progress (see Table 21)	+ 1,336	+ 68	+ 132	+ 1,536	+ 5	+ 1,541
Gross output (production)	115,177	2,624	6,605	124,406	1,554	125,961
Materials and fuel used by firms in this trade						
Purchases	67,470	1,578	3,749	72,797	979	73,776
Changes in stocks (see Table 21)	- 4,374	- 104	- 164	- 4,641	- 42	- 4,684
Materials and fuel used	63,096	1,474	3,585	68,155	937	69,092

(a) Excluding outworkers but including working proprietors.

## Summary

## Small firms in Great Britain (a)

TABLE 19

	England	Wales	Scotland	Great Britain
Number of returns	2,049	47	165	2,261
Average number of persons employed (b)				
Males	7,848	145	641	8,634
Females	1,233	30	126	1,389
Total	9,081	175	767	10,023

(a) Small firms in Great Britain (employing on the average ten or fewer persons) that made satisfactory returns.  
(b) Including working proprietors.

Sales in the trade  
Larger establishments

TABLE 20

	England and Wales		Scotland		Great Britain		Northern Ireland		United Kingdom	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000
Principal products										
Furniture, not upholstered, mainly of wood (a)										
Bedroom furniture (excluding chairs and dressing stools)										
Wardrobes (including fitted wardrobes)	764	13,049	20	369	783	13,418	4	69	788	13,487
Bedroom suite second and third pieces (including chests, toilets, cupboards, and other bedroom furniture)	1,265	14,278	41	512	1,306	14,790	7	86	1,313	14,876
Bedsteads (including divan heads but excluding folding bedsteads)	917	4,636	50	249	967	4,885	15	75	982	4,960
Bedroom suites, complete (a)							No.		No.	
Four pieces (i.e., wardrobe, dressing chest, tallboy and bedstead)	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,662	380	7,662	380
Three pieces (i.e., wardrobe, dressing chest and bedstead)	-	-	-	-	-	-	495	17	495	17
Living room and hall furniture (excluding chairs and stools)							Th.pieces		Th.pieces	
Sideboards and buffets	407	6,352	21	339	428	6,691	3	43	431	6,734
Dining tables	607	5,238	31	298	638	5,536	5	46	644	5,582
Occasional tables (including nests of tables and tea trolleys, but excluding folding tables)	510	1,600	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	561	1,761
Bureaux, bookcases, bureau-bookcases, secretares, desks and sectional bookcases (excluding office desks)	212	2,303	7	71	218	2,374	..	9	218	2,374
Other and occasional furniture (including china cabinets, cocktail cabinets, hall stands, hall cupboards, hall seats, benches and rug boxes, etc.)	..	1,514	..	46	..	1,561	..	3	..	1,564
Dining room suites, complete (i.e., sideboard, table and four chairs) (a)	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,528	173	5,528	173
Kitchen furniture (excluding chairs)							Th.pieces		Th.pieces	
Kitchen cabinets and dressers	206	2,218	14	151	220	2,369	4	45	224	2,414
Kitchen tables	54	176	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	56	181
Other kitchen furniture	..	117	-	-	..	117	-	-	..	117

MANUFACTURES OF WOOD AND CORK COUNTRY TABLES

Other furniture (excluding small chairs) not upholstered, mainly of wood										
Cots, playpens, high chairs and other nursery furniture	..	724	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	778
Folding furniture (e.g., chairs, tables, bedsteads)	..	673	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	714
Office furniture (including office chairs, upholstered or not)	..	2,678	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	2,810
School furniture	..	2,105	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	2,235
Church furniture	..	116	..	43	..	159	-	-	..	159
Ships' furniture	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	403	-	-	..	403
Wireless cabinets	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	6,124	-	-	..	6,124
Small chairs (excluding folding chairs and office chairs)										
Dining room chairs and other small chairs (including bedroom chairs) with upholstered or padded seats							17	35		
Kitchen and other small chairs (including windsor and bedroom chairs) with solid, cane or rush seats	2,961	6,123	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	3,117	6,503
Other small chairs (including bentwood and restaurant chairs) and stools (e.g., dressing stools and piano stools)	203	315	10	29	212	344	-	-	212	344
Component parts of furniture										
Of small chairs (e.g., frames for stuff-over upholstery)	..	1,105	..	56	..	1,162	-	-	..	1,162
Of other furniture	..	868	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	887
Upholstered furniture (excluding dining room, etc. chairs with upholstered or padded seats) (a)										
With wooden frames										
Fireside and adjustable chairs	1,156	7,362	71	443	1,227	7,805	10	60(c)	1,237	7,865
Upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc. and upholstered furniture for ships	..	340	..	78	..	418	..	(d)	..	418
Theatre and cinema seating	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	630	..	(d)	..	630
With metal frames										
Fireside and adjustable chairs	14	101	-	-	14	101	..	(d)	14	101
Upholstered seats for railway carriages, public vehicles, aircraft, etc.	..	1,042	-	-	..	1,042	..	(d)	..	1,042
Theatre and cinema seating	..	126	-	-	..	126	..	(d)	..	126

FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY COUNTRY TABLES

TABLE 20 (contd.)

	England and Wales		Scotland		Great Britain		Northern Ireland		United Kingdom	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Principal products (contd.)	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000	Th.pieces	£'000
Upholstered furniture (excluding dining room, etc. chairs with upholstered or padded seats) (a) (contd.)										
With wooden or metal frames										
Settees; and chesterfield sets, complete (three pieces) (a)	..	7,617	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	8,124
Bed settees	104	2,040	35	734	139	2,774	1	12	139	2,786
Easy chairs	1,012	11,837	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	1,093	12,700
Spring seating sold separately	..	182	-	-	..	182	-	-	..	182
Other upholstered furniture (including hotel and bar furniture and other household furniture, but excluding divan beds)	..	376	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	383
Other upholstered furniture not elsewhere specified (e.g., pouffes)	..	153	..	15	..	168	..	(d)	..	168
Unclassified furniture and cabinet ware of wood	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	8
Furniture manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	38	..	(d)	..	38
Furniture of woven fibre, and upholstery trimmings sold separately	..	1,638	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	1,666(e)
Other principal products of the trade	..	347	..	5	..	352	..	3	..	355
Making up of carpets (f)		570		30		600		-		600
Work done for the trade (f)										
Polishing and finishing		340		47		388		-		388
Milling, machining, veneering and other fabrication		324		4		328		4		332
Upholstery work		258		(b)		..		(b)		269
Carpet planning		(b)		(b)		244		-		244
Other work		174		(b)		..		(b)		185
Repairs to furniture, cabinet ware, etc. (f)		1,733		220		1,953		5		1,958
Other work done (f)		324		11		335		-		335
Total principal products		110,953		5,783		116,736		1,455		118,191

MANUFACTURES OF WOOD AND CORK COUNTRY TABLES

FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY COUNTRY TABLES

	Thous.		Thous.		Thous.		Thous.		Thous.		
Other output											
Bedding and soft furnishings											
Divan beds (excluding mattresses)	11	81	2	9	13	90	-	2	13	92	
Bases for spring interior mattresses	4	22	-	1	4	22	-	-	4	22	
Wire mattresses	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	377	-	-	..	377	
Upholstered mattresses											
Mattresses, 4 feet in width and over											
Interior spring	50	388	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	71	550	
Other	57	197	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	68	247	
Mattresses under 4 feet in width (other than cot mattresses)											
Interior spring	31	187	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	38	236	
Other	45	128	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	62	185	
Cot mattresses	19	28	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	22	31	
Bolsters, pillows, quilts and cushions	Th.do z.	41	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	Th.do z.	7	47
Other bedding, e.g., counterpanes, blankets, sheets, pillow and bolster cases	..	5	..	(b)	..	..	..	(d)	..	5	
Curtains	Thous.	25	1	5	13	30	-	-	Thous.	13	30
Canopies for prams, etc., and other soft furnishing goods (table cloths, etc.)	..	28	..	6	..	34	-	-	..	34	
Built-in wood and/or metal furniture and fittings											
For shops and offices (including banks)	..	211	..	62	..	273	-	-	..	273	
For ships	..	82	..	91	..	173	-	-	..	173	
For other purposes	..	236	..	14	..	250	-	-	..	250	
Shop fronts of wood or metal	..	57	-	-	..	57	-	-	..	57	
Aircraft parts and accessories, and gliders and sailplanes and parts thereof	..	118	-	-	..	118	-	-	..	118	
Bodies and other parts and accessories of motor vehicles	..	34	-	-	..	34	-	-	..	34	
Clock cases of wood	..	47	-	-	..	47	-	-	..	47	

TABLE 20 (contd.)

	England and Wales		Scotland		Great Britain		Northern Ireland		United Kingdom	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Other output (contd.)		£'000		£'000		£'000		£'000		£'000
Builders' woodwork	..	226	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	244
Domestic woodware	..	205	-	-	-	-	-	-	..	205
Wooden boxes, crates, etc., except cabinet ware	..	409	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	443
Other manufactures of timber, including sawn hardwoods, plywood, portable wooden buildings, cold rooms and refrigerator cabinets of wood, and rustic and garden furniture	..	709	..	(b)	..	..	..	(b)	..	762
Furniture, mainly of metal	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	456	-	-	..	456
	Th.doz.				Th.doz.				Th.doz.	
Baskets manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker	..	(b)	..	(b)	..	64	-	-	..	64
					..	14			..	14
Baskets of woven fibre	12	125	-	-	12	125	-	-	12	125
	..	17			..	17			..	17
Other goods made	..	421	..	35	..	455	-	-	..	455
Work done (f)										
Making-up of loose covers, pelmets and curtains		316		22		338		-		338
Shop and office fitting (g)		66		21		87		-		87
Other work done		79		23		103		-		103
Total		116,398		6,473		122,871		1,549		124,420

- (a) In addition to pieces of furniture, sold separately, establishments in Northern Ireland were asked to record complete bedroom suites, dining room suites and chesterfield sets, sold as such.
- (b) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars cannot be given.
- (c) Recorded as 'Upholstered occasional chairs'.
- (d) Not recorded separately.
- (e) Including any furniture manufactured wholly or partly of willow, cane or wicker, not recorded separately by establishments in Northern Ireland.
- (f) Amount charged.
- (g) Value of work done during the year, exclusive of the value of goods (£153,000 for Great Britain) made and used by firms and recorded against the appropriate output headings.

Stocks of products on hand for sale and work in progress,  
and stocks of materials and fuel

## Larger establishments

TABLE 21

£'000

		England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Products on hand for sale	{ at beginning of year	1,612	151	1,763	25	1,788
	{ at end of year	2,044	210	2,254	33	2,287
Work in progress	{ at beginning of year	5,179	424	5,603	39	5,642
	{ at end of year	6,150	497	6,647	36	6,684
Total products on hand for sale and work in progress	{ at beginning of year	6,791	575	7,366	65	7,430
	{ at end of year	8,194	707	8,901	70	8,971
Materials and fuel	{ at beginning of year	14,162	823	14,986	110	15,096
	{ at end of year	18,640	987	19,627	152	19,780

## Employment in September

## Larger establishments (a)(b)

TABLE 22

## (i) Operatives

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Males					
Under 18	7,056	740	7,796	272	8,068
All ages	64,797	4,720	69,517	1,403	70,920
Females					
Under 18	1,075	126	1,201	11	1,212
All ages	11,045	1,113	12,158	92	12,250
Total					
Under 18	8,131	866	8,997	283	9,280
All ages	75,842	5,833	81,675	1,495	83,170

## (ii) Administrative, technical and clerical employees

Number

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Males					
Under 18	153	13	166	2	168
All ages	7,245	537	7,782	73	7,855
Females					
Under 18	565	59	624	12	636
All ages	3,678	341	4,019	54	4,073
Total					
Under 18	718	72	790	14	804
All ages (c)	10,923	878	11,801	127	11,928

(continued overleaf)

TABLE 22 (contd.)

	(iii) Total employees					Number
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Males						
Under 18	7,209	753	7,962	274	8,236	
All ages	72,042	5,257	77,299	1,476	78,775	
Females						
Under 18	1,640	185	1,825	23	1,848	
All ages	14,723	1,454	16,177	146	16,323	
Total						
Under 18	8,849	938	9,787	297	10,084	
All ages (c)	86,765	6,711	93,476	1,622	95,098	

(a) Excluded employees. The number of persons employed at the larger establishments in this trade but not included in the above tables or in any other Census of Production report (employees in Great Britain engaged, for example, in merchandising and in Northern Ireland canteen and welfare workers) are shown in Table 22(v) below.

(b) Number employed in the week ended September 22, 1951.

(c) Working proprietors. In addition working proprietors, shown in Table 22(iv) below, were engaged in this trade in larger establishments.

	(iv) Working proprietors					Number
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Males	264	47	311	52	363	
Females	14	4	18	7	25	
Total	278	51	329	59	388	

	(v) Excluded employees					Number
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Canteen workers						
Males	44	-	44	-	44	
Females	684	23	707	5	712	
Total	728	23	751	5	756	
Other workers						
Males	1,243	165	1,408	-	1,408	
Females	955	44	999	1	1,000	
Total	2,198	209	2,407	1	2,408	
Total excluded employees	2,926	232	3,158	6	3,164	

## Average employment

## Larger establishments (a)

	TABLE 23					Number
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Operatives	75,264	5,929	81,193	1,484	82,677	
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	10,705	871	11,576	127	11,703	
Total	85,969	6,800	92,769	1,611	94,380	

Outworkers. In addition to the employees shown above the firms in this trade employed outworkers whose numbers are shown below.

	TABLE 23					Number
	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom	
Males	(b)	(b)	91	-	91	
Females	(b)	(b)	231	-	231	
Total	(b)	(b)	322	-	322	

(a) For employment in small firms in Great Britain (employing on the average ten or fewer persons) that made satisfactory returns see Table 19.

(b) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms separate particulars cannot be given.

## Wages and salaries and employers' National Insurance contributions paid during the year

## Larger establishments

TABLE 24

£'000

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Wages and salaries (a) of					
Operatives	28,758	1,858	30,617	390	31,007
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	5,969	361	6,329	42	6,372
Total	34,727	2,219	36,946	432	37,378
Employers' contributions to all National Insurance Schemes	862	67	929	16	945

(a) Including bonus and commission payments but excluding payments to outworkers shown below.

£'000

England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
38	1	39	-	39

## Plant, machinery and vehicles - acquisitions and disposals, and capital expenditure on new building work

## Larger establishments

TABLE 25

£'000

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Plant, machinery and vehicles					
Acquisitions					
Plant and machinery					
New	1,483	50	1,533	22	1,555
Second-hand	62	4	67	1	68
Vehicles					
New	670	25	695	8	703
Second-hand	146	9	155	2	157
Total acquisitions	2,361	88	2,449	33	2,483
Disposals					
Plant and machinery	91	5	96	1	97
Vehicles	140	10	151	2	153
Total disposals	232	15	247	4	250
New building work					
Capital expenditure on new building and other constructional work of a capital nature (excluding site values and development charges)	524	15	539	21	560

Payments for transport services for finished goods  
sold and materials and fuel purchased

Larger establishments

TABLE 26 £'000

	England and Wales	Scotland	Great Britain	Northern Ireland	United Kingdom
Amounts paid to other firms and undertakings	1,519	54	1,573	13	1,586
Amount paid or credited to firms' own separate transport organisations	308	21	328	-	328
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,826</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>1,901</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1,914</b>

## GENERAL NOTES

The following brief notes refer to Great Britain and, unless otherwise stated, to the census of production for 1951. Reference should be made to the separate booklet in this series entitled 'The Report on the Census of Production for 1951: Introductory Notes' (price 1s.6d. net) for particulars of the minor differences in the Northern Ireland censuses and other details about the census of production.

**Trade classification:** Establishments are classified to trades according to the nature of their output. Certain products, called principal products, are identified as characteristic of the production of individual trades, the principal products for a given trade being of a similar nature or commonly associated in production. An establishment is classified to a trade if its output of principal products of that trade accounted for a greater proportion of the value of its output than did its output of principal products of any other trade.

**The establishment:** The basic unit for the collection of information is generally the establishment which in most cases comprises the whole of the premises under the same ownership or management at a particular address (e.g., a factory). Offices, warehouses and other ancillary places of business situated apart from the producing works are included in the return for the works.

**Larger establishments and small firms:** Larger establishments are those which employed more than 10 persons on the average during the year; small firms are those employing on the average 10 or fewer persons.

**Working proprietors** are proprietors of businesses other than limited companies, and include members of their families who work in the business without receiving fixed wages or salaries. Any persons working less than half the normal hours are excluded.

**Persons employed:** Administrative employees include directors other than those paid by fee only, managers, superintendents and works foremen; research, experimental, development, technical and design employees (other than operatives); draughtsmen and tracers; and travellers and office (including works office) employees. Operatives include all other classes of employees, that is, broadly speaking, all manual workers.

All these figures exclude canteen employees and persons engaged in merchanting or any other activity not covered by a firm's return who are shown separately as excluded employees.

Figures for employees include only persons on the pay-roll (that is whose National Insurance cards were held by the firm), whether full-time or part-time employees.

**Outworkers,** who are shown separately, are persons employed by the firm who work on materials supplied by the firm, but do not work on the premises; operatives directly employed who work out of doors (e.g., maintenance workers) and sub-contractors are not included as outworkers.

**Wages and salaries** include all overtime payments, bonuses, and commissions, without any deduction for income tax, insurance, contributory pensions, etc. They exclude payments to working proprietors.

**Capital expenditure:** Expenditure on plant, machinery and vehicles relates to expenditure charged to capital account during the year of return, including transport and installation costs involved. Expenditure on new building work is similarly that charged to capital account during the year.

**Materials and fuel:** The cost of materials and fuel purchased includes all purchases during the year of materials for use in production and of fuel (including oil, gas, and electricity for all purposes, including heating and lighting); all packing materials, including the full cost of returnable containers when first purchased; workshop materials; office materials; water charges; materials for repairs to firms' own buildings, plant and vehicles when carried out by

their own work people included in the return; and consumable tools and parts for machinery purchased as replacement. Materials, components, etc. which were purchased and re-sold in the same state (that is, merchantable or factored goods) were excluded. For 1951 firms in many trades were required to state the quantities of certain purchased materials used.

**Stocks and work in progress:** Firms were instructed to give these at income tax value.

**Output:** Sales means sales during the year of goods made in the establishment covered by the return or made on commission for it, whether produced in the year or not. For all post-war censuses the value of sales was the net selling value, that is, the amount charged to customers, whether on an ex-works or delivered basis, and net of any trade discounts, agents' commissions, allowances for returnable cases, purchase tax, etc. For goods charged on a delivered basis to customers overseas, firms were required to give the f.o.b. value.

**Gross output** of a trade is the total value of goods made and other work done during the year; this means the value of sales and work done during the year adjusted for changes in the values of stocks.

**Net output** is the amount left after deducting from the value of gross output the aggregate of the cost of materials and fuel used and the amount paid for work given out and, for 1951, any transport payments included in firms' returns. This represents the value added to materials by the process of production, and constitutes the fund from which wages, salaries, rents, rates and taxes, advertising and other selling expenses and all other similar charges have to be met as well as depreciation and profits.

**Customs and Excise Duty** paid on materials purchased is included in the cost of materials, but where it is especially important separate figures are shown.

**Later reports:** Reports will be published later summarising the main census results and giving information about power equipment and fuel consumption.

**Disclosure of information:** The report has been prepared in conformity with the disclosure provisions of the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947. Figures have been combined with others of a similar nature in certain cases where publication of separate details might disclose the operations of an individual firm.

**Symbols used:** '..' for 'Not available', '-' for 'Nil or negligible (less than half the final digit shown)'

The figures in the tables have been rounded off to the nearest final digit, and there may be an apparent slight discrepancy between the sums of the constituent items and the totals shown.

Tables 1 to 17 show figures for the United Kingdom (or Great Britain).

Tables 18 to 26 are country tables and give, where practicable, separate details for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Table 6: Specialist producers refer to those establishments 50 per cent. or more of whose total output by value is accounted for by the groups of products specified.

Table 8 (or 8(i)) shows the total sales of principal products of the trade, and includes therefore the sales of these products returned by establishments whether classified to the trade or to other trades. Those produced by establishments in other trades are shown in Table 9.

Table 10 shows the sales by establishments in the trade of products other than those regarded as principal products of the trade.

Table 20 (or 20(i)) shows sales by establishments in the trade of products, whether principal products or not, and broadly the aggregates here are equal to the corresponding figures in Table 8 (or 8(i)) less those in Table 9, plus those in Table 10.

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