

December 2009



ONS in the Regions North West

This is the tenth quarterly newsletter from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) regional team for North West England. Its aim is to keep our regional and sub-regional contacts informed of news from ONS which we think will be of interest.

Topics covered in this quarters newsletter include:

- Regional Gross Value Added briefings
- Local Economic Assessment update
- Population Consultations
- Focus on the Inter-Departmental Business Register
- Latest releases
- Latest articles

Local Announcements

1. A Christmas message

The North West team would like to wish newsletter readers the very best for the festive period and 2010. Thank you all for your support across 2009 and we look forward to working with you in the new year.

2. North West and North of England Gross Value Added briefings

On the 9th of December, the latest Gross Value Added (GVA) data was released for regions and nations of the UK. The data is a key measure of economic activity of an area and includes information on total economic activity, economic activity per resident and the economic activity produced by industries within each region/nation.

A key remit of the Regional Statistician (RS) network is to quality assure the final GVA estimates and the data used in the compilation process. In addition to quality assuring the estimates of GVA, RSs produce briefings describing the latest estimates for their region. In the North of England, the RSs of the respective Northern regions have produced a briefing on the estimates for the North, comparing it to other regional groupings (Greater South East, Midlands & the South West). Headline figures from North West and North of England briefing are outlined below:

North West

Headline Total GVA, 2008

- *Headline Total GVA 2008: £120.7bn* (annual increase of 3.6%)
- *Headline Total GVA 2008 rank = 3 of 9 English regions*

Headline GVA per head, 2008

- *Headline GVA per head 2008: £17,555* (annual increase of 3.5%)
- *Headline GVA per head 2008 rank = 6 of 9 English regions*
- *Index GVA per head (UK = 100): 85.6*



North of England

- *Headline Total GVA 2008: £250.7bn (annual increase of 3.4%)*
- *Headline GVA per head 2008: £17,099 (annual increase of 3.0%)*
- *Index Headline Total GVA 2008 (UK=100) = 83.3*

If you would like to receive a copy of the North West or the North of England briefing, do not hesitate to contact one of the team, see contact details at the end of the newsletter. Estimates for all regions and nations of the UK can be found on the ONS Regional Accounts homepage <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=7359>

The next key, regional economic briefing to be produced by the RS network will be on the estimates of Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI) on the 31st of March 2010. If you would like to know more about GDHI in preparation for the March release, do not hesitate to contact us.

2. Local Economic Assessments – ONS ‘offer’ the North West framework

2.1. Update from ONS

ONS has posted an update on what we can do centrally to support Local Authorities in Local Economic Assessments (LEAs), and the deliverables ONS intends to make available on the Communities of Practice LEA forum - <http://communities.idea.gov.uk/c/1108381/home.do> . Deliverables included in the update:

- Review of relevant ONS and official data for LEA indicators
- Knowledge sharing amongst Regional Statisticians
- Workforce containment and commuting analysis
- Local Profiles
- Inter-Departmental Business Register data
- Additional Centre for Regional & Local Statistics work relevant to LEAs

One of the key deliverables will be Local Authority (LA) profiles. LA profiles are data-driven profiles at local authority level which automatically generate tables, charts, maps and analysis on a number of themes including demography, skills and the labour market and enterprise. These profiles are being developed by the ONS Area Based Analysis team and more information can be found on the Neighbourhood Statistics website - <http://tinyurl.com/ONSPlaceProf>

2.2. Update on the North West LEA framework from 4NW

Ongoing work at 4NW will focus on agreeing a Core Indicator set to be used in LEAs within the North West. This approach will allow sub-regions the flexibility needed to undertake a LEA whilst ensuring the necessary consistency of reporting on a small set of indicators which will inform, and help monitor, the Regional Strategy, Part 1 of which is about to go to consultation.



The NW ONS team will be working with 4NW and sub-regional partners to help define these Core Indicators. More information on the decisions made by 4NW and the support being offered by ONS can be gained by contacting Economic Development Policy Officer, John Corish, and the North West Regional Statisticians, respectively.

3. North West Regional Profiles

Regional Statisticians have been working with the Sub-national Reporting unit within the Centre for Regional and Local Statistics (CRLS) to produce short online summaries of their region. Three of the intended four summaries have been published. The North West profiles for each of the topics can be accessed from the links below:

Population & Migration	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=2230
Economy	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=2280
Environment	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=2317

4. Population & Census Consultations – please review and respond

ONS are undertaking a range of consultations on population estimates and the forthcoming Census. Details of the consultations are below, we strongly encourage readers to respond to ensure their interests are accounted for.

4.1. Have your say on 2011 Census outputs - define your requirements now

The online consultation into the 2011 Census outputs has started. The purpose is to allow users of census data to define their requirements for the main set of statistical outputs for the 2011 Census and is open to all census users. In order to assist users in defining their requirements, and for ONS to evaluate them, a series of documents have been produced and are available for download from: <http://tinyurl.com/Census-Output-Cons>

The deadline for submissions is the 26th of March 2010. If you have any queries about the consultation and providing submissions, please email; CensusOutputConsultation@ons.gsi.gov.uk .

4.2. Census Output Geography Consultation

The Census Output Geography consultation is being run to gather views and submissions on the three outstanding aspects of 2011 Census Output Geography policy. These are:

- A new geography for improved reporting of business statistics and statistics relating to the workplace



- An Upper layer of Super Output Areas (USOAs)
- A request for exceptional instances of current OAs and SOAs, as designed for 2001, that do not fit present criteria for statistical zones

The consultation also provides an opportunity to comment on any aspect of the current 2011 Census Output Geography policy. The consultation ends on the 28th of March 2010 and more information is available for download from: <http://tinyurl.com/Census-Geog-Cons>

4.3. Consultation on planned improvements to methodology used for calculating population estimates

As part of the cross-government programme of statistical work to improve migration and population statistics, ONS intend to incorporate a package of improvements to the methods and sources used to estimate migration. These improvements will affect the population data that will be available to inform Communities and Local Government and the Department for Health in their distribution of funding to local authorities and Primary Care Organisations (PCOs) from 2011-12.

As part of the quality assurance process for these improvements, ONS have launched a statistical consultation on the impact of the improvements on local estimates, which will run until the 18th of January. More information can be found at: <http://tinyurl.com/PopMigConsultation>

4.4. Consultation on migration assumptions contained in Subnational Population Projections

The biennial consultation with local authorities and primary care organisations on the migration assumptions that are used in Subnational population projections is running concurrently with the consultation on planned improvements to the methodology used to calculate population estimates. The consultation ends on the 18th of January with further details found at: www.ons.gov.uk/about/consultations/open-consultations/index.html

5. Ideas for 2010 Newsletter articles

We are collecting ideas for the 'Focus On' section of next year's quarterly articles. If you have any suggestions for topics you would like to learn more about, please contact one of the team with your suggestions. Contact details are included at the end of the newsletter.

6. Great South run – the result

For those readers who have been following my running exploits (Gary): I completed the Great South run on the 20th October 2009 in a time of 1hr 29 minutes. My time was a slight disappointment but, one I am happy with after the pain of running too quickly during the Great North run! You can verify my time at www.greatrun.org/Results/Default.aspx. Select 'Bupa Great South Run 2009' from the drop down menu and enter my race number (19590) in the 'Race Number:' search box.



Thanks to those newsletter readers who made generous donations and helped me to raise just over £580 for my chosen charity – Dove House Hospice.

Focus On.....

This section forms a regular part of the NW newsletter and is designed to explain key releases or data sources. If you have any suggestions for topics which you would like covered, please get in touch (see contact details at the end of the newsletter).

This edition's Focus On will be....

Focus On..... The Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR)

1. Introduction

The IDBR is a list of UK businesses maintained by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and combines the former Central Statistical Office (CSO) VAT based business register and the former Employment Department (ED) employment statistics system. It provides a sampling frame for surveys of businesses carried out by the ONS and by other government departments. It is also a key data source for analysis of business activity.

The IDBR holds records of 2.1 million businesses representing nearly 99 per cent of UK economic activity, covering businesses in all parts of the economy. The IDBR does miss some very small businesses operating without VAT or PAYE schemes (self employed; businesses with low turnover and without employees) and some non-profit organisations.

1.2 Sources of information on the IDBR

Information on the register is derived from three administrative sources:

- Value Added Tax (VAT) - Detail of businesses registered for VAT. Covers over 1.7 million traders in 2009.. Provided daily by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC).
- Pay As You Earn (PAYE) - Details of employers with employees in PAYE schemes. Covers over 1.4 million employers in 2009. Provided by HMRC quarterly.
- National Statistics Surveys based on the IDBR - During 2007/08 ONS conducted 68 surveys of business and local authorities on its own behalf, issuing 1,449,789 survey questionnaires to some 267,000 businesses.
- Other sources of data include:
 - Dunn and Bradstreet - An annual extract of over 320,000 records detailing the group structures of approximately 70,000 global groups.
 - Companies House - Covers over two million incorporated businesses registered in Great Britain and over 29,100 incorporated businesses registered in Northern Ireland.



1.3 Business Structures on the IDBR: Introduction

When examining data from the IDBR and determining the analysis to be undertaken, it is important to understand the different types of business unit held on the IDBR. Three of the most important to understand are:

Enterprise Group	A group of legal units under common ownership.
Enterprise Unit	The headquarter of the business or organisation.
Local Unit	The individual site e.g. a supermarket has individual stores (local units) across the country but only a single headquarter location (enterprise unit).

Figure 1 illustrates how these business structures interrelate and how information is reported on the IDBR. Large Co. Group is the Enterprise Group (EG). Large Co. Group own a number of different high street businesses (enterprises) such as Bonus Financials & Big Shop Supermarkets. The Enterprises Units (EU) are the headquarters of each business. Branches of Bonus Financials & Big Shop Supermarkets are spread throughout the UK and these are the sites (Local Units(LU)). In the fictitious example (Figure 1) Large Co. Group has separate locations for each of its EU and EG. Although possible, it is a rare for an EG to be in a different location to the EU. More information on the businesses held on the register can be found under the heading 'What type of business units does it hold?' via this link <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/idbr/idbr.asp> .

1.3.1 Business Structures on the IDBR: Impact on analysis

The distinction between the types of business is important as it determines the type of data available from the IDBR, for example turnover data is only available for EUs and EGs. A further example of the impact of business structure and the data available from the IDBR is analysing businesses by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC). The SIC of a unit is based on its dominant activity. Analysis at the LU level will detail the SIC based on the unit's dominant activity as classified by the firm. At the EU level, SIC will be determined by dominant activity (employment) of the collection of LUs under the umbrella of the EU, see Figure 1 for an illustration. More details on the variables available for the enterprise and local units are contained in Section 4.

The difference in business type also affects the appropriate unit on which to analyse employment in small geographical areas. For example, an analysis of employment at the Local Authority (LA) level using EUs will inflate the employment for an LA as the employment for all LUs will be reported within the LA. In the example illustrated by Figure 1, an analysis at EU level will report the employment of the LUs under the umbrella of the Big Shop Supermarkets & Bonus Financials Headquarters in Leeds and Manchester, respectively. As a result, employment at the EU level will be reported as 37 (Leeds: 15 + Liverpool: 5 + Warrington: 10 + Manchester: 7) in Leeds (Big Shop Supermarkets) and 33 (Manchester: 10 + Preston: 15 + Crewe: 3 + Carlisle: 5) in Manchester (Bonus Financials).

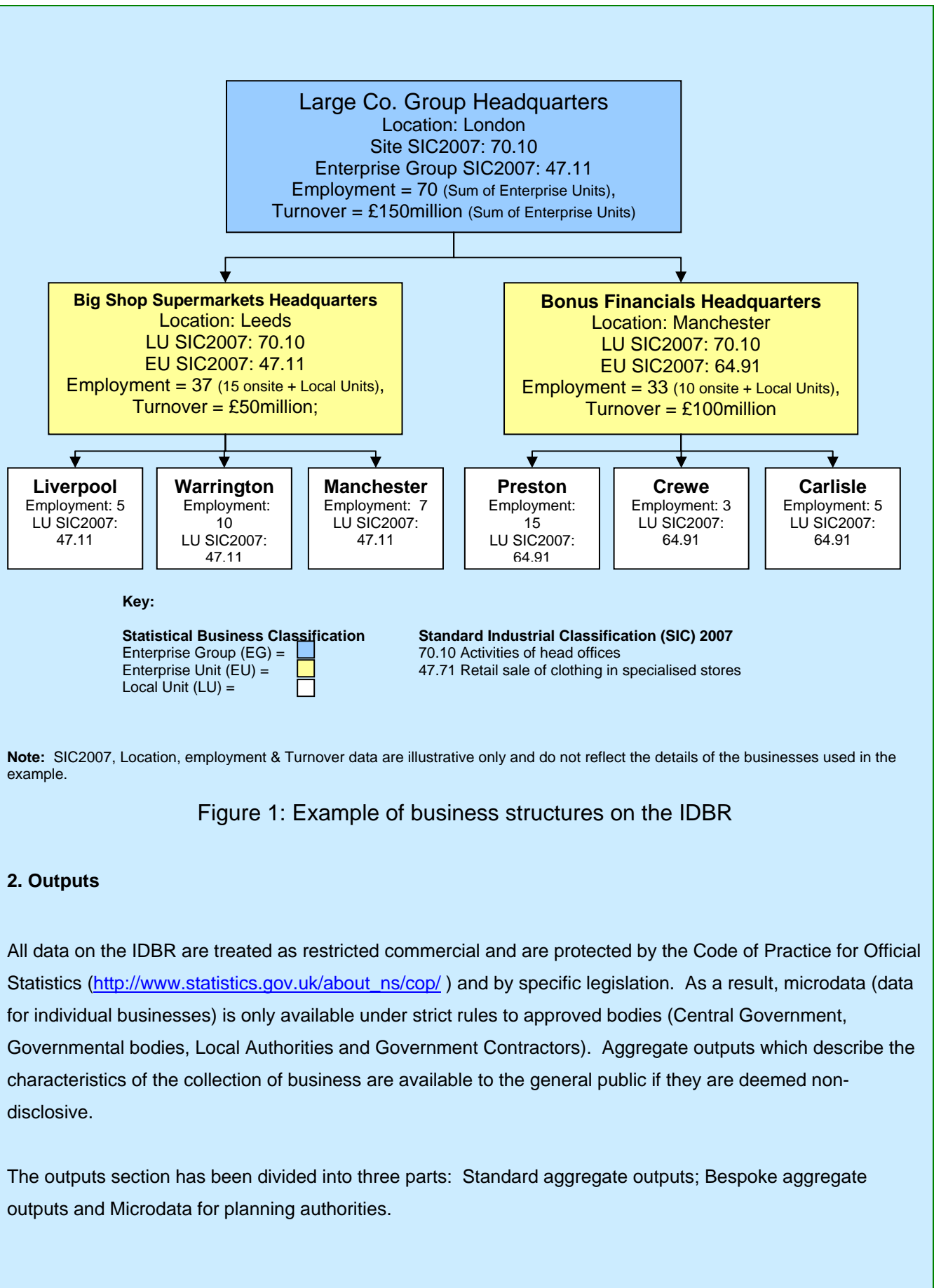


Figure 1: Example of business structures on the IDBR

2. Outputs

All data on the IDBR are treated as restricted commercial and are protected by the Code of Practice for Official Statistics (http://www.statistics.gov.uk/about_ns/cop/) and by specific legislation. As a result, microdata (data for individual businesses) is only available under strict rules to approved bodies (Central Government, Governmental bodies, Local Authorities and Government Contractors). Aggregate outputs which describe the characteristics of the collection of business are available to the general public if they are deemed non-disclosive.

The outputs section has been divided into three parts: Standard aggregate outputs; Bespoke aggregate outputs and Microdata for planning authorities.



2.1. Standard aggregate outputs

2.1.1. UK Business: Activity, Size and Location

The UK Business, Activity, Size & Location annual publication contains detailed information on all businesses in the UK including size, classification and location. This information is available to local unit (see Section 1.3) level for the whole economy. Data are available from:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=933>

2.1.2. Business Demography

Business Demography (BD) provides information on the births, deaths and survivals of UK enterprises and has been published by ONS since 2007. BD data is available from 2000 for businesses either registered for VAT or PAYE and is broken down by Government Office Region, Local/Unitary Authority and industry (SIC 2003). The BD data replaces the series on business births and deaths for businesses registered for VAT (only) published by BIS up until 2008. Due to the changes in methodology, the two data sources are not comparable; to aid users, ONS has produced data back to 2000 and an article explaining the main methodological differences - it can be found at http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_commerce/Intro-Bus-Demography.pdf

The Business Demography homepage can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=15186>

2.1.3. IDBR data on Neighbourhood Statistics (NeSS) website

Data available down to the Middle Layer Super Output Layer is available from the NeSS website, under the category Work Deprivation. Data includes:

- Business Demography: Enterprise Births & Deaths
- Local Units (VAT & PAYE) by: Employment Band (Rural/Urban); Broad Industry Group (Rural/Urban); Public/Private status (Single/multi-site).
- VAT Based Enterprises by: Age of business; Broad Industry Group (Ward Level, Rural, Urban); Employment size band (Ward Level, Rural, Urban); Public/Private status (Single/multi-site; Single/multi-site at ward level); Industry Group.
- VAT Based Local Units by: Broad Industry Group (Ward Level); Employment size band (Ward Level); Public/Private status (Single/multi-site; Single/multi-site at ward level); Urban/Rural Classification

The Work Deprivation category can be accessed via the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/IDBR-NeSS-Outputs>



2.2. Bespoke aggregate outputs

ONS Business Register Strategy and Outputs (BRSO) team can produce bespoke IDBR data. Data are available for each year from 2000 to 2009 inclusive with data released annually around September of each year. Data for 1998 and 1999 may be possible for certain analyses but the database format used at the time make these much more time consuming and as a result expensive. Analysis is charged at £70+VAT per hour. Section 3 provides examples of possible bespoke analysis which readers may find useful and contact details for the team responsible can be found in Section 5.

2.3. Microdata for Planning Authorities

In addition to the aggregate data described above, Planning Authorities (County Councils, Local & Unitary Authorities) can access individual business level data for the Local Authorities within their area for the purpose of planning. Requests will be scrutinised by ONS' microdata release panel to ensure they meet their stringent criteria – more information can be found here <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/idbr/localauthorities.asp> .

If approved Planning Authorities can request information relating to local units plus all other businesses based on PAYE (only) at a cost of £150+VAT per Local Authority. As a result, a small proportion of the business in an area which are not registered for PAYE will be excluded. A smaller selection of variables from the main register is available for these businesses, see Section 4.4.

Strict security measures must be followed by the Planning Authority in receipt of the information and data must not be released or passed to a 3rd party without ONS first giving approval.

3. Possible bespoke analysis

Contained below are examples of possible IDBR analysis, each description contains intelligent suggestions for breakdowns by certain variables and can be produced (subject to disclosure) for geographies supported by ONS.

3.1. Bespoke industry sectors

Data could be produced for bespoke industry definitions which are based on collections of Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. This could produce metrics for industries, such as the creative industry or high technology manufacturing, in terms of employment, turnover and counts. Such sectors could be important for economies and such analysis could inform local and regional policy.

3.2. Public/private/non-profit

The structure of the local economy in terms of the number and composition of public, private and non-profit organisations can provide insights into the resilience of an areas economy and the impact of policy changes. The IDBR could provide enterprise counts, employment and turnover by geography.

3.3. Employment by size of enterprise

The IDBR allows analysis to determine the number of people working in small, medium and large enterprises at a range of geographies illustrating the mix of businesses within an area.



On a similar theme, an analysis could show the region of employment for enterprises registered in each region; which would simultaneously demonstrate the regions of headquarters for all those employed in each region. So, for example, for enterprises registered in the North East, how much of their employment is in the North East, how much is in the North West etc.

3.4. Rurality

Analysis of business activity by rurality would merely show that businesses are concentrated in urban areas. However, analysing employment by SIC would show where different industries choose to locate. Employment could be compared with working age population by rurality to hint at how many people live in rural areas and work in urban areas.

3.5. Deprivation by Local Authority

The IDBR could provide, deciles, quintiles, percentiles according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007. However, a local authority breakdown would be confusing because many local authorities will have tiny numbers of businesses in at least one of the deprivation quintiles. A comparison compared with resident working age population would show whether employment is concentrated in deprived areas in each region.

3.6 Data linking

It is possible to link individual business records to the IDBR to, for example, determine the average size of the businesses contained on a 3rd party database. This can be extremely useful if a 3rd party is trying to determine the characteristics of their customers at an aggregate level, for example average employment or number of businesses within deprived areas. Once matched to the IDBR, individual business level can not be released due to disclosure and all released information would be non-disclosive and at an aggregate level. Disclosure control means the smaller the geography and the more obscure the data request, the greater the chance of data suppression to reduce the chance of disclosure.

4. Variables available from the IDBR

4.1. Variables available for business births, deaths and survival rates

Variables available from 2002 include:

- SIC 2003
- SIC 2007
- Local Authority
- UK Employment
- Legal status
- UK Turnover size band
- Number of Local Units
- UK Employees

More variables are available on the business stock – businesses existing at a point in time – back to 2000.



4.2. Variables available for the stock of enterprises

Variable	Notes
Employment in UK size band	Employment = employees + business proprietors. Standard bands are defined (such as 20-49 for employees/ment and £500K-£999K for turnover) but ONS can specify bespoke bands e.g. 37-92 employment.
Employees in UK size band	
Turnover in UK size band	
Employment in region size band	Regional employment only for 2007 onwards.
Employees in region size band	Regional employees only for 2007 onwards.
SIC 2003	
SIC 2007	SIC 2007 is only available for 2009 onwards.
Legal status	Non profit, Central Government, Local Government, Limited Company, Sole proprietorships, Partnerships, Public Corporations & nationalised bodies
Foreign ownership	Country e.g. UK, USA etc
Business birth date	month and year
Number of local units	
Geographies:	www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/england.asp
Local Authority (LA) Includes districts within counties	Any aggregation of LAs is possible (region, sub-region, NUTS) and also city regions, provided they are defined using whole LAs.
Urban/rural 2004	www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/nrudp.asp
Ward	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/electoral_wards.asp
Travel to work area (TTWA)	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/ttwa.asp
Super Output Area	Note: SOA coding is time consuming and requests can be expensive.
Parliamentary Constituency	http://www.statistics.gov.uk/geography/westminster.asp
Index of Multiple Deprivation 2007 percentile	Deprivation is only available for 2009 onwards. (www.communities.gov.uk/indices)

4.3. Variables available for the stock of Local Units (LU)

Turnover is not available. Otherwise, available variables are the same as for enterprises, with some differences:

- Stock of enterprise data have the enterprise birth date, month and year; the LU extracts have the LU birth date, month and year.
- Stock of enterprise data have employment and employees in the whole enterprise in the UK; the LU extracts have employment and employees in the LU.



4.4. Variables available to Planning authorities

The data available to Planning Authorities is a sub-set of the complete IDBR and includes the following variables.

- Local Unit Reference
- Name
- Address
- Postcode
- Legal Status
- SIC 2003
- County
- District
- Ward
- Super Output Area Lower Layer
- Employees*
- Employment*: Total
- Employment*: Male Full Time
- Employment*: Male Part Time
- Employment*: Female Full Time
- Employment*: Female Part Time

Notes: * see section 4.2 for the difference between employment and employees.

5. Contact details

5.1 Bespoke aggregate requests

Bespoke analysis can be requested directly from the IDBR Data Analysis Service on:

Telephone: 01633 456902

Email: IDBRDAS@ons.gov.uk

Or, more information can be found on the team's web page: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/idbr/nondisclosive.asp>

5.2 Planning Authority Microdata

Disclosive data for Planning Authorities can be requested directly via Karen Ralph:

Telephone: 01633 455228

Email: karen.ralph@ons.gov.uk

Or, more information can be found on the team's web page: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/idbr/localauthorities.asp>

Latest Releases

Find out what the latest data releases are by accessing the ONS release calendar at;

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/releasecalendar>

1. Super Output Area mid-year population estimates for England and Wales (experimental) - Mid-2008

Mid-2001 to mid-2008 Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) and Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) estimates are available. The mid-2001 estimates are census based and reflect adjustments incorporated in the mid-2001 Local Authority estimates.

The methodology used to produce the mid-2002 to mid-2008 LSOA and MSOA estimates differs to the method used to produce the local authority mid-year estimates, and is subject to further development. In view of this ongoing work, these LSOA and MSOA estimates are published as 'experimental statistics', and are under



evaluation. Feedback on these estimates is therefore welcomed. More information on experimental statistics can be found via this link: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=173> .

The estimates for mid-2001 to mid-2008 are consistent with the local authority mid-year estimates. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=14357>

2. Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings Results

The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) provides information about the levels, distribution and make-up of earnings and hours paid for employees within industries, occupations and regions.

The ASHE tables contain UK data on earnings for employees by sex and full-time/part-time workers. Further breakdowns include by region, occupation, industry, region by occupation and age-groups. These breakdowns are available for the following variables: gross weekly pay, weekly pay excluding overtime, basic pay including other pay, overtime pay, gross hourly pay, hourly pay excluding overtime, gross annual pay, annual incentive pay, total paid hours, basic paid hours and paid overtime hours.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=13101>

3. Wealth in Great Britain - Main Results from the Wealth and Assets Survey 2006/2008

The Wealth and Assets Survey collects information about the economic well-being of households and individuals in Great Britain. The survey asks people about their assets and liabilities in order to estimate household and personal wealth. This includes information on; property, financial, physical and private pension wealth; savings, debt, borrowing and arrears. The survey also asks people about their attitudes to debt, saving and retirement. A range of demographic data is also available such as sex, age, employment status, socio-economic classification, geography and education.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=15074>

4. UK Business Enterprise Research and Development – 2008

Breakdowns of R&D spending and employment by UK business across different market sectors. In 2008, 94 per cent of UK business R&D expenditure was carried out in England, the same level as in 2007, and similar to earlier years. The UK regions with the largest R&D expenditure were all in England: the East of England accounted for 26 per cent of the total expenditure; the South East accounted for 22 per cent and the North West accounted for 14 per cent. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=8206>

5. Business Demography

Data includes births, deaths and survivals of UK enterprises. The active stock of businesses is also shown, so that birth and death rates can be calculated. A high level time series from 2000 to 2007 is included and then 2007 is broken down by region and industry. More detailed geographical and industry tables are available.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=2074>



6. Annual Business Inquiry (Part 1 - Employment)

2008 employment estimates for the Annual Business Inquiry Part 1 (ABI/1) were released on the 16th of December. In the ABI/1 survey, totals are obtained covering the whole of a business. These totals are then apportioned across the business's sites using information about the structure of the business which is held on the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR). By this method, aggregate statistics for the whole business population, analysed by industry and geography are produced. Custom analysis is available.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=6365&Pos=4&ColRank=1&Rank=272>

Warning on using ABI/1 data for time series analysis

Three changes to the ABI/1 survey were introduced in 2006 which resulted in a discontinuity when comparing with previous years. Users who require a consistent time series should amend data prior to 2006 onto the new method using link factors. More information on the discontinuity can be found in this article:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/article.asp?ID=2343>

Articles

Outlined below are a selection of recent ONS articles we feel will be useful or interesting to newsletter readers.

Article search function

The ONS website has a useful 'Article search' page, which searches for articles from a wide range of ONS journals by keyword, date etc. You can access the Article search here:

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/articlesearch.asp>

1. The labour market across the UK in the current recession

The article examines the performance for the UK, countries of the UK and the Government Office Regions (GOR) of England during the current recession. This is followed by individual chapters showing the performance for areas with differing levels of deprivation (Chapter 2), urban and rural areas across Great Britain (Chapter 3), and subregions within the countries of the UK and GOR within England. The North West description can be found in Chapter 7 and spans pages 7-1 to 7-7 or 60 to 67 of the pdf file .

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/article.asp?ID=2310>

2. Regional economic indicators with a focus on industries in the UK regions

The article focuses on performance of industries in the UK regions, and examines the contributions of specific industries to aggregate productivity in each region. The article gives an overview of the economic activity of UK regions in terms of their Gross Value Added (GVA), GVA per head and labour productivity. This is followed by a presentation of headline indicators of regional welfare, other drivers of regional productivity and regional labour market statistics. The indicators cover the nine Government Office Regions of England and the



devolved administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/ci/article.asp?ID=2308>

3. National Accounts Classifications: Financial crisis interventions by the public sector

The article explains the decisions of the ONS on the National Accounts classification of the financial crisis interventions by public sector authorities between 2007 and 2009. There have been different types of intervention by public authorities in the UK, and these have different classification effects. The first effect is on the sector classification of the entities involved and this has brought more entities into the public sector, either through nationalisation or control.

The decisions on the classifications and whether they are deemed public sector entities can have a large impact on the UK's fiscal measures, with the biggest impact on public sector net debt. The exact effect of the reclassification of financial corporations between 2007 and 2009 has not been quantified but is expected to contribute approximately £1.5 trillion. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/ci/article.asp?ID=2301>

4. Migration Statistics Quarterly Report: November 2009

Migration Statistics Quarterly Reports provide summaries of trends from the quarterly publications of migration data by ONS, the Home Office, Department for Work and Pensions and General Register Office for Scotland. The report provides key messages from the latest data and includes links to all datasets and supporting materials for the quarter. <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=15230>

5. National Statistician's Annual Article on the Population – 2009

The article brings together key population statistics issued during the year and looks at the impact of EU enlargement five years after ten countries, including eight central and eastern European countries, acceded to the EU in May 2004.

Published in Population Trends No. 138, see: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=6303>

6. ONS Population Trends - No. 138

Population Trends contains commentary on the latest population and demographic information. It includes regularly updated statistical tables and graphs, showing trends and the latest quarterly information on: conceptions, births, marriages, divorces, internal and international migration, population estimates and projections, etc.

The latest edition of ONS Population Trends includes the following articles:

- National Statistician's Annual Article on the Population: a Demographic Review
- Building the address register for the 2011 Census
- The changing living arrangements of young adults in the UK



- Towards 2011 output geographies: Exploring the need for, and challenges involved in, maintenance of the 2001 output geographies
- An estimate of the veteran population in England: Based on data from the 2007 Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey

Population Trends No. 138, see: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=6303>

7. Presenting statistics on religion

ONS has published an addendum to the guidance on how to collect and classify data on ethnicity in the UK. The guidance gives a simple, practical understanding of the subject and provides guidance on the best way to gather and collate ethnic group, national identity and religion data in their own area. The addendum provides guidance advising on how to present data from the recommended religion questions. Because religion is a complex concept with different aspects such as affiliation, practice and belief it is important to be clear which concept data refers to.

The full document can be accessed from the 'Downloads' section from the page linked to below:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/about-statistics/measuring-equality/ethnic-group-statistics/index.html>

8. Painting Pictures of Place Series - Topic Profiles

The Painting Pictures of Place series includes Topic Profiles which provide an understanding of a particular topic for different places in England and Wales using the most relevant data. These profiles also serve as a signpost to help others access these Official Statistics.

The first profile to be released provides a picture of worklessness in England and Wales. Child poverty and enterprise topic profiles are due to be released at a later date. The worklessness profile can be found via the following link: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=15290>

Previous Editions

Previous editions of the newsletters can be obtained by contacting one of the team stating the copy of the newsletter you require. Please remember to provide an e-mail address when contacting the team as all newsletters are held electronically.

Contact details

Gary Wainman
ONS Regional Statistician
Office: 01925 400310
Mobile: 07788 436441
E-mail: Gary.Wainman@ONS.gsi.gov.uk

Rachel Young
ONS Regional Analyst
Office: 01925 400252
Mobile: 07788 403968
E-mail: Rachel.Young@ONS.gsi.gov.uk



Postal address: Office for National Statistics, NW Regional Development Agency, PO Box 37, Renaissance House, Centre Park, Warrington WA1 1QN

ONS Web page: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/about/our-organisation/regional-statisticians/index.html>

Useful Contact Points

Recorded announcement of latest RPI

01633 456961

rpi@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Labour Market Statistics Helpline

01633 456901

labour.market@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Earnings Customer Helpline

01633 819024

earnings@ons.gsi.gov.uk

National Statistics Customer Contact Centre

0845 601 3034

info@statistics.gsi.gov.uk

Skills and Education Network

024 7682 3439

senet@lsc.gov.uk

Department for Children, Schools and Families Public Enquiry Unit

0870 000 2288

Statistical Information on

Average Earnings Index (monthly)

01633 819024

Claimant count

01633 456901

Consumer Prices Index

01633 456900

cpi@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Earnings Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

01633 456120

Basic wage rates and hours for manual workers with a collective agreement

01633 819008

Low-paid workers

01633 819024

lowpay@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Labour Force Survey

01633 456901

labour.market@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Economic activity and inactivity

01633 456901

Employment Labour Force Survey

01633 456901

labour.market@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Employee jobs by industry

01633 456776

Total workforce hours worked per week

01633 456720

productivity@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Workforce jobs series – short-term estimates

01633 456776

workforce.jobs@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Labour costs

01633 819024

Labour disputes

01633 456721

Labour Force Survey

01633 456901

labour.market@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Labour Force Survey Data Service

01633 455732

lfs.dataservice@ons.gsi.gov.uk

New Deal

0114 209 8228

Productivity and unit wage costs

01633 456720

Public sector employment

General enquiries

01633 455889

Source and methodology enquiries

01633 812865

Qualifications (Department for Children, Schools and Families)

0870 000 2288

Redundancy statistics

01633 456901

Retail Prices Index

01633 456900 rpi@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Skills (Department for Innovation, Universities & Skills)

0870 001 0336

Skill needs surveys and research into skill shortages

0870 001 0336

Small firms (BERR)

Enterprise Directorate

0114 279 4439

Subregional estimates

01633 812038

Annual employment statistics

annual.employment.figures@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Annual Population Survey,

local area statistics

01633 455070

Trade unions (BERR) Employment relations

020 7215 5934

Training

Adult learning – work-based training (DWP)

0114 209 8236

Employer-provided training (Department for Innovation, Universities & Skills)

0870 001 0336

Travel-to-Work Areas

Composition and review

01329 813054

Unemployment 01633 456901

Vacancies

Vacancy Survey:

total stocks of vacancies

01633 455070