

Statistical bulletin

Non-financial business economy, UK and regional (Annual Business Survey): 2021 results

Size and growth within the UK and regional non-financial sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey.



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1 . Main points

- In 2021, approximate gross value added at basic prices (aGVA) of the UK non-financial business economy was estimated to be £1,368.1 billion; an increase of £174.1 billion (14.6%) compared with 2020.
- The non-financial services sector, which accounted for over half (55.6%) of total aGVA in 2021, increased by £87.4 billion (13.0%) to £760.9 billion; professional, scientific and technical activities saw the largest increase in aGVA of £20.3 billion (11.6%), increasing from £175.0 billion to £195.3 billion.
- Total turnover and purchases of the UK non-financial business economy were estimated to be £4,105.9 billion and £2,728.7 billion respectively; an increase of £511.4 billion (14.2%) and £351.2 billion (14.8%) compared with 2020.
- All of the 12 UK regions experienced increased growth in aGVA; London experienced the largest increase in aGVA of £36.3 billion to £319.6 billion (12.8%).
- Yorkshire and the Humber and the South West saw the largest year-on-year aGVA percentage increases, Yorkshire and the Humber's aGVA increased by £18.8 billion (24.7%), from £76.2 billion to £94.9 billion; the aGVA in the South West rose by £18.2 billion (23.7%), from £76.9 billion to £95.2 billion.

2 . Annual Business Survey data

[Non-financial business economy, UK regional results: quality measures](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual data on quality measures for business turnover, approximate gross value added (aGVA), purchases and employment costs, from the Annual Business Survey.

[Non-financial business economy, UK regional results: revisions and change on previous year](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual revisions and year-on-year changes to business turnover, approximate gross value added (aGVA) and purchases, from the Annual Business Survey. Standard Industrial Classification 2007 broad industry group by region or country.

[Non-financial business economy, UK regional results: Sections A to S](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual data on business turnover, approximate gross value added (aGVA), purchases and employment costs, from the Annual Business Survey. Two-digit Standard Industrial Classification 2007 group by region or country.

[Non-financial business economy, UK: changes year-on-year](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual revisions and year-on-year changes to business turnover, approximate gross value added (aGVA) and purchases within the UK non-financial business sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey; Standard Industrial Classification 2007 by broad industry group.

[Non-financial business economy, UK: quality measures](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Quality measures for annual data on size and growth within the UK non-financial business sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey.

[Non-financial business economy, UK: Sections A to S](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual data on size and growth within the UK non-financial business sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey, broken down to four-digit Standard Industrial Classification 2007.

[Non-financial business economy, UK: employment size-band](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual data on size and growth within the UK non-financial business sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey, broken down by employment size-bands.

[Non-financial business economy, UK: retail commodities](#)

Dataset | Released 18 May 2023

Annual retail business turnover, retail turnover and commodities, from the Annual Business Survey. Three-digit Standard Industrial Classification 2007 group.

3 . Measuring the data

The average response rate before the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic was approximately 75%. The 2020 rate was lower than usual (58.8%) because the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic made it more difficult to contact respondents in order to process survey returns. This means that the estimates in this release are subject to more uncertainty than usual. Quality measures for the Annual Business Survey (ABS) results are available in our [Non-financial business economy, UK: quality measures dataset](#).

In 2021, 67.5% of sampled businesses were included in the final ABS results. This demonstrates a marked improvement from the 2020 position, but is still below the pre-coronavirus pandemic average. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has released a public statement on [COVID-19 and the production of statistics](#). Email queries can be sent to the ONS's Media Relations office at media.relations@ons.gov.uk.

Employment data

The employment data have been removed from this publication. These data can be found from our [Business Register and Employment Survey \(BRES\)](#) and downloaded from the [Nomis web portal](#).

Data sources and collection

The ABS is a sample survey of approximately 73,000 businesses across the UK. The ABS draws its sample from the [Inter-Departmental Business Register \(IDBR\)](#).

Quality and Methodology

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in our [Annual Business Survey \(ABS\) Quality and Methodology Information report](#) and [ABS technical report methodology](#) published on the [ABS methodology page](#).

Accessibility of ABS output datasets

We have reviewed the new accessibility of datasets legislation and updated all datasets within this release. Feedback or questions on the new layout can be emailed to ABAPS@ons.gov.uk.

4 . Related links

[Non-financial business economy, UK and regional \(Annual Business Survey\): 2020 results](#)

Statistical bulletin | Released 16 June 2022

Size and growth within the UK and regional non-financial sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey.

[Foreign-owned businesses in the UK: business count, turnover and aGVA, from the Annual Business Survey](#)

Dataset | Released 8 July 2022

Annual estimates of foreign-owned businesses by industry group, section, employment and turnover group, and country breakdown.

[Firm-level labour productivity measures from the Annual Business Survey, UK: 1998 to 2019](#)

Article | Released 7 March 2022

Labour productivity firm-level experimental statistics using the Annual Business Survey. Covering non-financial business economy for the UK, 1998 to 2019

[Non-financial business economy, UK and regional \(Annual Business Survey\): 2019 results](#)

Statistical bulletin | Released 24 June 2021

Size and growth within the UK and regional non-financial sectors as measured by the Annual Business Survey.

5 . Cite this statistical bulletin

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