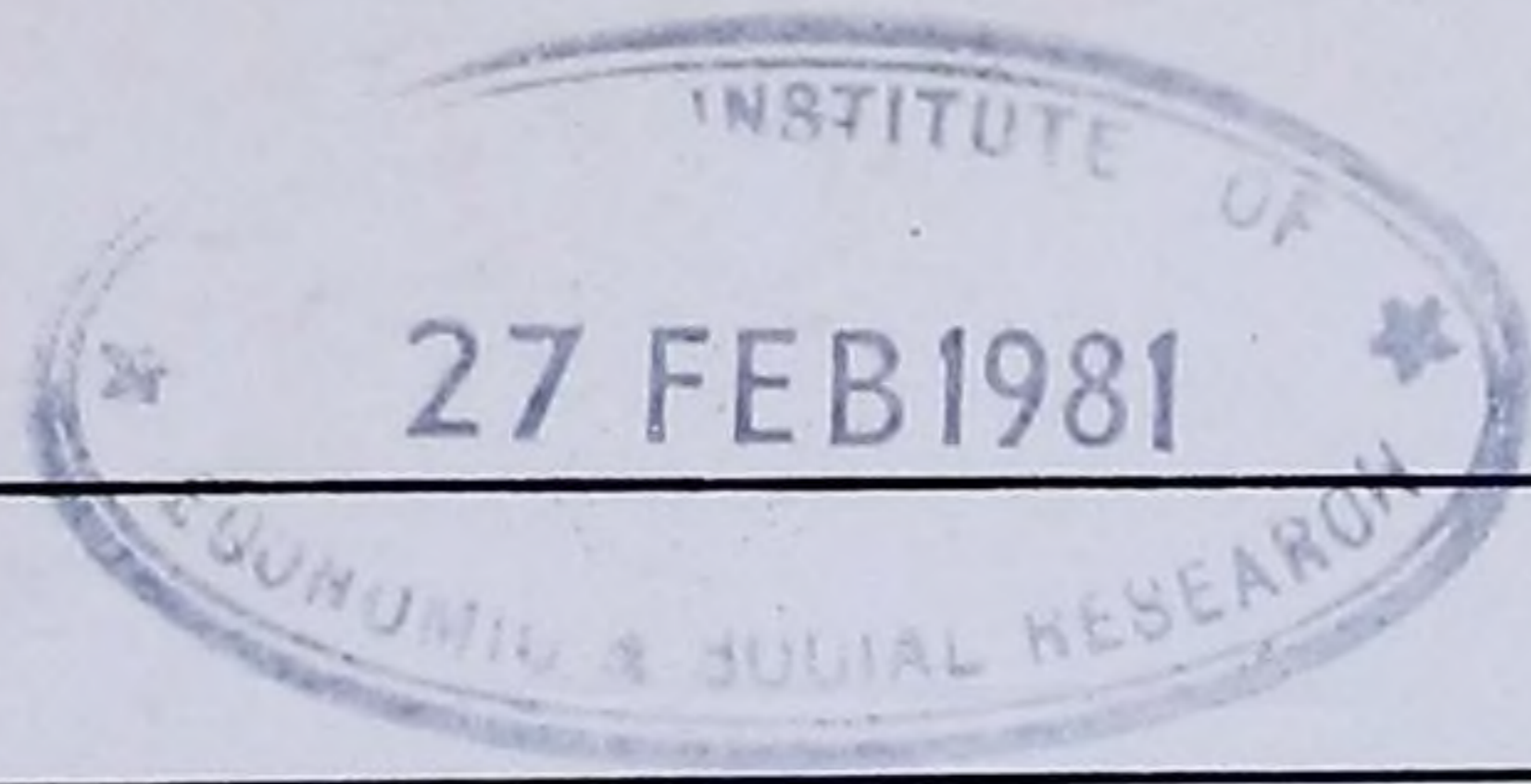


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STATISTICAL NEWS

**Developments
in British Official
Statistics**



A publication of the Government Statistical Service

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Note by the Editor

The aim of *Statistical News* is to provide a comprehensive account of current developments in British official statistics and to help all those who use or would like to use official statistics.

It appears quarterly and every issue contains two or more articles each dealing with a subject in depth. Shorter notes give news of the latest developments in many fields, including international statistics. Some reference is made to other work which, though not carried on by government organisations, is closely related to official statistics. Appointments and other changes in the Government Statistical Service are also given.

A cumulative index provides a permanent and comprehensive guide to developments in all areas of official statistics.

It is hoped that *Statistical News* will be of service and interest not only to professional statisticians but to everybody who uses statistics. The Editor would therefore be very glad to receive comments from readers on the adequacy of its scope, coverage or treatment of topics and their suggestions for improvement.

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NOP smoking survey of May and June 1980

Robin Oliver, Senior Assistant Statistician, Department of Health and Social Security

Cigarette smoking is recognised as the greatest preventable cause of illness and premature death in the United Kingdom and the DHSS therefore aims at reducing it. Frequent use is made of surveys of smoking behaviour to check on progress and identify particular problem areas or promising signs of change.

Since 1971, National Opinion Polls (NOP) Market Research Ltd. has been commissioned once or twice each year to carry out a survey on smoking habits and attitudes in Great Britain. A random sample of about 4,000 adults (about 2,000 prior to 1974) is asked a number of standard questions about smoking habits, supplemented by a range of additional questions on matters such as age of starting, desire to give up, and the rôle of smoking in helping to cause various illnesses. These additional questions vary from round to round of the survey. The results, which become available within a few weeks, provide a rapid indication of trends in smoking behaviour and give information on the climate of opinion¹. The NOP survey supplements the General Household Survey (GHS). The GHS is the most reliable source of information on smoking behaviour but it is only carried out biennially and the results do not become available for several months and include little information on attitudes to smoking. This article covers findings of the survey carried out by NOP in May and June of 1980 and compares them to some earlier NOP surveys. Sampling error means, of course, that reliance should not be placed on small changes from one survey to the next. Persons wishing to see the full reports of the NOP surveys should consult the Librarian, Department of Health and Social Security, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6BY.

Proportion of adults smoking cigarettes

As recorded by the NOP survey, the proportion of adults smoking cigarettes declined from 47 per cent for men and 38 per cent for women in March 1973, to 41 per cent and 35 per cent respectively in November 1976. Since then, as shown in table 1, there has been no consistent trend.

Table 1
Regular cigarette smokers

Date of survey	Percentage of adults who regularly ¹ smoke cigarettes	
	Males	Females
November 1976	41	35
November/December 1977	41	35
May 1978	42	37
November/December 1978	42	32
June 1979	39	33
November/December 1979	43	35
May/June 1980	37	34

1. At least one a day, on average, over a year.

Sources: NOP surveys

After various fluctuations, the proportion stood at 37 per cent for men and 34 per cent for women in June 1980. For many years there has been a strong association between smoking and social class, and this was still apparent in the June 1980 survey with 41 per cent of respondents in class DE (semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers and state pensioners) but only 24 per cent of those in class AB (higher and intermediate managerial, administrative and professional) being cigarette smokers. Average consumption per smoker appears to be remaining steady at about 19 a day for men and 15 a day for women.

Attitudes to smoking in public places

From time to time the NOP surveys include questions about attitudes to smoking in various public places. In June 1980 a question was asked on restaurants and cafés, theatres, cinemas, discothèques, public houses, Post Offices and banks, shops and work places. As shown in table 2, in all cases except public houses and discothèques, over 70 per cent of respondents, including over 65 per cent of smokers, favoured some restrictions.

1. These results are not published, but, along with results from other surveys, they were used in P J Capell's article 'Trends in cigarette smoking in the United Kingdom', published in *Health Trends*, August 1978, No 3 Vol 10.

Table 2

Attitudes to smoking in public places

May/June 1980

Great Britain

Type of public place	Percentage of respondents stating that		
	Smoking should not be allowed	There should be separate smoking areas	Smoking should be allowed in all areas
Restaurants and cafés	37	47	14
Theatres	40	46	12
Cinemas	37	48	13
Discothèques	26	23	47
Public houses	10	28	60
Post Offices and banks	63	7	28
Shops	84	5	10
Work places	30	44	24

Sources: NOP surveys

Advice from doctors

Respondents who had ever smoked cigarettes regularly were asked whether they had ever been advised by their doctor to give up. Only 19 per cent of such respondents reported receiving such advice. The proportion was higher for current smokers (22 per cent) than for ex-smokers (15 per cent). It was highest (27 per cent) for those who smoked 20 or more cigarettes a day.

Advice from parents

Respondents (smokers and non-smokers) were also asked what advice they had received from their parents about smoking. 60 per cent said they had received none, and 30 per cent reported having been advised by their parents not to start. 44 per cent of those aged 16-24 reported receiving advice not to start from their parents.

Investment income of husbands and wives

D W Flaxen, Chief Statistician and Miss E A Grant, Senior Assistant Statistician, Board of Inland Revenue

The regularly produced statistics of the investment income of married couples do not include any analysis of the distribution of investment income between spouses. However, tax returns do ask for this split. As a special exercise, a follow-up survey was made to the 1977/78 Survey of Personal Incomes¹ to see how investment income² recorded on tax returns was split between husband and wife. The information was obtained for use in the discussion of the Green Paper on the taxation of husband and wife. (Cmnd 8093, HMSO 1980.)

More detailed results are available in a Background Paper to the Green Paper. This is available, price £1.00, from Reference Room, Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1LB.

Sample size

The survey of investment income was based on a sub-sample of cases identified in the 1977/78 survey of personal incomes as married couples with investment income. The sample for the survey of investment income was stratified by the total amount of each couple's investment income reported for the survey of personal incomes. 4,256 couples with investment income under £5,000 and 1,510 couples with investment income of £5,000 or more were selected. For every case selected a report was requested from the tax district dealing with the case, showing the separate amounts of investment income reported as received by each of the husband and the wife. The total sample size was 5,766; the response rate was 95 per cent.

When referring to the results it should be borne in mind that the sample size is under 6,000 cases and that some of the cells in the cross-classification tables are therefore based on small samples and are not very reliable.

Reliability of the data

The quality of the data obtained was dependent upon the accuracy and completeness of the information held on the files for those included in the survey. For each case the original source of this information was an income tax

return. When completing the return, the husband should declare all his and his wife's investment income liable to income tax. However, for a number of reasons (e.g. when no tax return has recently been requested, or where a taxpayer has not included investment income on which tax has already been paid) the records held in the tax office may be incomplete or out of date.

It is thought that receipts of investment income are understated particularly where tax is deducted at source (in which case for a basic rate taxpayer no further liability arises, and the tax office has no need to determine precisely the amount of investment income received). However, where liability to tax at the higher rates or to the investment income surcharge arises the information available is likely to be more accurate and up-to-date. This is also true where tax deducted at source has to be repaid.

There are separate columns on tax returns for husband and wife, but the split for investment income may not be accurate because under current legislation the tax liability is unaffected by the split. It may well be that in some cases a husband will simply total the figures without troubling to divide them between himself and his wife. Where income was said to be joint income it was equally apportioned, unless there was reason to do otherwise.

Main results

The approximately 4.8 million married couples declaring investment income received about £2,900 million of investment income in 1977-78.

More precisely the survey showed that of the 4,810,000 couples declaring investment income, in 2,270,000 cases both husband and wife received some investment income, in 2,230,000 cases the husband alone was stated to have investment income and in 310,000 cases the wife alone was stated to have investment income. In addition there were about 10 million couples where neither husband nor wife declared any investment income.

The numbers receiving different types of investment income were as follows:—

1. *The Survey of Personal Incomes 1977-78* (HMSO 1980) (Price £5.25 net) includes a full description of the annual survey.

2. Investment income refers to all income other than earned income (wages and salaries, pensions and self-employment income, including taxable benefits from employment). The figures relate to gross investment income before deducting, for example, mortgage interest relief. They do not include any imputed income, such as imputed rent of owner-occupied housing.

	Husbands		Wives		Couples	
	Nos. (‘000)	Amount (£m)	Nos. (‘000)	Amount (£m)	Nos. (‘000)	Amount (£m)
Interest not taxed before receipt	2,280	270	1,150	110	2,660	380
Dividends and interest on foreign securities	70	50	15	10	75	60
Rents	280	170	50	20	310	200
Building Society interest	2,910	780	1,760	380	3,210	1,160
UK dividends	900	480	460	250	1,000	720
Other	430	240	260	150	500	400
Total	4,500	2,000	2,580	930	4,810	2,920

The amounts shown are gross, ie income received after deduction of tax has been grossed up to its pre-tax value.*

In this summary table the figures are rounded to a greater extent than in Tables 1 and 2, where the detail shown would be obscured by greater rounding. These show the distribution of investment income between husband and wife for these 4.8 million couples. Table 1 shows numbers receiving different amounts of investment income and Table 2 shows the corresponding total amounts of investment income.

Commentary

The survey shows that in 1977/78:—

- i. About 33 per cent of married couples received some investment income. This represented 39 per cent of married couples liable to tax.
- ii. Of these couples, 54 per cent of the wives had investment income and 93 per cent of the husbands. For nearly half of these couples both husband and wife had some investment income.
- iii. Of the total investment income, 32 per cent was received by the wife.
- iv. The average investment income per couple was about £600, averaged over those couples with some

investment income, about £200 to the wife and £400 to the husband.

- v. Relatively substantial sums were received by small numbers of wives – more than half the investment income of wives was received by about 8 per cent of those wives who had an investment income, i.e. about 1½ per cent of wives in total. (Some £540 million received by over 200,000 wives, an average of £2,600 each.)
- vi. Similarly, about two-thirds of the investment income of husbands was received by about 10 per cent of those husbands who had an investment income, or about 3 per cent of husbands in total.
- vii. Building society interest was the single most common type of investment income – two-thirds of couples with investment income received it and it represented about 40 per cent of investment income. The next most common element of income was interest not taxed before receipt (including National Savings Bank interest) – received by over half of the couples, but representing only about 10 per cent of investment income.
- viii. In about two thirds of the cases where the wife had investment income of £1,000 or more the husband also had at least £1,000 of investment income.

*In the case of building society interest the composite rate of tax, 24.25 per cent in 1977-78, has been used for grossing. This represents the average rate of tax payable on building society deposits. Tax is paid direct by the building society to the Inland Revenue. In the case of dividends grossing takes account of the basic rate of tax, 34 per cent in 1977-78.

Table 1

Numbers of couples with investment income, showing respective contributions of husband and wife, 1977-78

Total investment income

Thousands

Range of wife's investment income	Range of husband's investment income							All ranges
	Nil	£1-£9	£10-£99	£100-£499	£500-£999	£1,000-£4,999	£5,000 and over	
Nil	-	285 (6)	1,048 (22)	633 (13)	131 (3)	127 (3)	10 (-)	2,234 (46)
£1-£9	64 (1)	117 (2)	148 (3)	43 (1)	5 (-)	7 (-)	0 (-)	384 (8)
£10-£99	113 (2)	48 (1)	522 (11)	225 (5)	58 (1)	41 (1)	2 (-)	1,009 (21)
£100-£499	107 (2)	15 (-)	53 (1)	398 (8)	89 (2)	80 (2)	7 (-)	750 (16)
£500-£999	24 (-)	1 (-)	12 (-)	64 (1)	71 (1)	50 (1)	5 (-)	226 (5)
£1,000-£4,999	7 (-)	0 (-)	8 (-)	27 (1)	31 (1)	98 (2)	16 (-)	187 (4)
£5,000 and over	1 (-)	0 (-)	1 (-)	0 (-)	2 (-)	11 (-)	5 (-)	21 (-)
All ranges	315 (7)	465 (10)	1,792 (37)	1,389 (29)	389 (8)	415 (9)	46 (1)	4,811 (100)

Figures in brackets are percentages of the total number of couples with investment income.
Rows and columns do not add exactly because of rounding.

Table 2

Couples with investment income 1977-78
Amounts of total investment income

£m

Range of wife's investment income	Range of husband's investment income							All ranges
	Nil	£1-£9	£10-£99	£100-£499	£500-£999	£1,000-£4,999	£5,000 and over	
Nil	-	1	46	148	99	264	83	642
£1-£9	0	1	6	14	4	12	0	39
£10-£99	5	2	50	61	45	84	20	269
£100-£499	25	3	17	189	90	185	71	580
£500-£999	18	1	10	62	98	142	42	373
£1,000-£4,999	14	0	21	59	80	408	192	773
£5,000 and over	6	0	4	5	17	92	127	249
All ranges	69	9	154	538	431	1,187	536	2,924

Rows and columns do not add exactly because of rounding.

A new system for collecting information about enrolments on advanced further education courses

Cyril Wood, SEO and Jon Ashe, Statistician, Department of Education and Science

Introduction

The most significant event in the history of the collection of statistics pertaining to further education in England and Wales was the decision in 1972 to change from a form filling exercise to an individualised student data base. The new system known as the Further Education Statistical Record (FESR) was introduced in the period 1973-76 and extended to cover the former teacher training colleges, now part of the further education network, in 1977. The annual record provides information about 2 million students enrolled on advanced and non-advanced further education courses in November each year. Advanced courses are defined as courses whose content is above GCE A level or OND standard. The early development of this system has been described in previous articles in this journal.^{1 2}

A highly successful offshoot of the FESR has been the introduction of a computer based system for the collection and presentation of early statistics of students on advanced further education courses. This procedure known as the Advanced Courses Early Statistics (ACES) has meant that, as well as providing information for administrative purposes, statistics of student enrolments on advanced courses in England and Wales have been available less than three months after the students have enrolled. The introduction of the new procedure does not appear to have resulted in substantial additional work for the college staff because it has been possible to abolish or reduce certain returns administered by outside bodies as the information they require is now available from ACES. This article describes the new ACES system briefly and gives summary statistics of the most recent exercise.

The ACES Systems

During the introductory period of FESR the DES Statistics Branch produced a paper proposing the rationalisation of the collection of statistics from further education establishments and thus mitigating some of the duplication of statistical returns. A particular area of concern was the separate collection by the Regional Staff Inspectorate (RSI) and the Regional Advisory Councils (RAC) of statistics of students on current advanced level courses in connection with the procedure (under the FE Regulations) of approving proposals for new advanced courses. Although most of the information required by RSIs and RACs for their course approval function would

have become available eventually from the FESR it was acknowledged that the FESR system, because of its size and complexity, would not be able to produce the particular figures at the time required, viz mid-December. The proposal contained in the discussion paper was for a computer based system to meet simultaneously the needs of RSIs, RAC and also the Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA) and the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics (CDP), in addition to providing early statistics for the DES. It was proposed that from the previous November's FESR computer file, print-out schedules should be produced for each college running advanced courses (some 400 of the 600 further education establishments in England and Wales), showing the number of student enrolments in each year of study of each advanced course. The schedules would also classify the courses by mode of attendance (full-time, sandwich, block release, etc) and duration of the course. Blank columns would be provided so that the RAC approval numbers of the courses could be entered, the number of vacancies in the first year of the course shown and other remarks made, viz whether the course had been validated by the appropriate body or whether approval had been withdrawn etc. (An example of the layout of a typical schedule after completion by the college is shown at Annex). The schedules contain two lines for each course. The first showing the figures as at October the previous year and the second, for completion by the college, to show the figures for the current year. For example, for the 1980 exercise which has recently been completed, the computer printed the enrolments figures for October 1979 and the colleges were asked to fill in the data for October 1980.

Following discussions with the representatives of the various bodies (RACs, RSIs, CNAA and CDP), the scheme was piloted in the North West region in Autumn 1976 and on its successful completion was introduced nationally in October 1977. The census date was fixed for 15 October for two reasons: firstly, it was considered the earliest date for courses to have settled down following the beginning of the term in September and, secondly, to enable the exercise to be completed before the main FESR submission relating to enrolments in November each year. After the first year of operation the new system was divorced from the FESR and became a separate autonomous exercise with the schedules being produced from the previous year's ACES file.

The present timetable for the system is as follows:-

- August: Production of schedules by DES from previous year's ACES file.
- September: Issue of schedules to RACs who check details, add courses approved since the previous October and forward to the appropriate colleges.
- Mid-October: Completion by the colleges and return to RACs for checking
- October/November: Return to DES and processing of completed schedule.
- End November: Production of updated schedules, national and regional registers and tabulation for CNAA and CDP.

Details of the content of the national and regional registers are described below. The national registers give details of enrolments classified by college, duration of course, mode of study, year of course and subject of study for the following types of course:

1. First degree courses
2. Higher degree courses
3. Dip HE courses
4. CNAA and university validated postgraduate courses
5. Post graduate courses (other than those in Registers 2 and 4)
6. HND courses including supplementary studies
7. HNC courses including supplementary studies
8. BEC and TEC courses
9. Other advanced courses (FE)
10. Teacher training courses (excluding those in universities)
11. Summaries by qualification aims and main subject groups

The regional registers are as follows:

1. CNAA degree and postgraduate courses
2. University validated degree and postgraduate courses
3. Full-time and sandwich, other than degree courses
4. Part-time other than degree courses
5. Teacher training courses (excluding those in universities)

Within DES scrutiny, encoding and processing of the schedules for the October 1980 exercise was completed in the period 21 October - 21 November. The object of the clerical scrutiny was designed to ensure that the schedules were legible for encoding and that information about course amalgamations, deletions, etc. was correct. Courses added to the schedules but which bore no DES reference numbers were not encoded.

The computer produced updated Schedules and the various Registers and tabulations showing data for both 1979 and 1980 during the period 28 November - 12

December. The bound printed copies of the national registers produced from the computer print-out and photo reduced to A4 size were issued early in January. In addition to the national and regional registers listed above, special print-outs have been produced for the Committee of Directors of Polytechnics.

The results of the 1980 exercise

The figures relating to mid-October 1980 together with the comparable figures for 1979 were available by the end of November. This meant information about changes in admissions (enrolments on first year of study) and overall numbers for each type of course and subject group could be circulated within the Department and to the CNAA and CDP early in December. The trends were analysed to update the implications of higher education student numbers on expenditure forecasts in time for the next round of Public Expenditure Survey Committee work.

Finally, a Statistical Bulletin describing the changes in admissions and enrolments on advanced further education courses in England and Wales was issued to the press and public in January. The main trends which were identified were:

(a) Changes in admissions and overall enrolments (all figures are in thousands)

	1970	1975	1978	1979	1980
Admissions, full-time	81	92	86	87	87
part-time	67	80	96	97	97
All enrolments, full-time	195	215	194	192	193
part-time	109	123	148	155	156

(b) Changes in all enrolments by type of course

	1978	1979	1980
Teacher training courses	59	52	46
Other courses			
Postgraduate	16	15	15
First degree	94	101	108
HND/HNC/TEC/BEC	74	78	80
Other	99	99	100

(c) Changes in all enrolments by subject of study*

	1978	1979	1980
Health subjects	14	14	14
Engineering & technology	68	73	78
Science	28	31	32
Social and business studies	114	114	112
Vocational subjects	20	20	20
Arts and languages	35	38	43
Other	3	4	4

*Excluding teacher training courses

References

1. *Statistical News* No 20 Further Education Statistical Record (HMSO February 1973)
2. *Statistical News* No 36 Measurement of Student Flows (HMSO February 1977)

BARKING COLL OF TECHNOLOGY

APPROVAL NO	REF NO	SHORT TITLE	MODE	COURSE LENGTH	DATE	YEAR OF COURSE				VACANCIES IN 1ST YR	LEAVE BLANK	REMARKS
						1	2	3	4			
L27	176 3232	TEC HCERT MECH/PROD ENG	BR	1	OCT 79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
L27	176 3232	TEC HCERT MECH/PROD ENG	PTD	2	OCT 79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	8	.....	.....	.....	7	.....
F400	248 5901	AIA PROFESSIONAL	FT	3	OCT 79	16	15	12	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	15	16	14	.....	5	.....
E4	277 5917	ACA DIP FINANCE & ACCS	FV	1	OCT 79	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	8	.....	.....	.....	12	.....
H343	354 5317	IISO MEMBERSHIP	PTD	2	OCT 79	10	11	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	7	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
H343	354 5317	IISO MEMBERSHIP	EV	2	OCT 79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
E156	448 5501	INST SECS/ADMIN CERT 1-4	PTD	4	OCT 79	16	15	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	15	16	21	.....	5	.....
E157	448 5501	INST SECS/ADMIN CERT 1-4	EV	5	OCT 79	25	18	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	14	16	23	.....	6	.....
J159	492 5314	IIM CERT INDUST MANAGMNT	PTDE	2	OCT 79	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	26	15	.....	.....	.....	.....
L21	493 5314	IIM DIP INDUST MANAGEMNT	PTDE	1	OCT 79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
					OCT 80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	LS	

The probation and after-care index

Rodney Taylor, Statistician, Home Office

Introduction

Statistics on the Probation and After-Care Service have been collected since the turn of the century but comprehensive information has only been collected on a regular basis since 1950. In 1972, the collection system was revised, but by 1976, following fairly substantial changes in the work of the service, it was generally agreed that a new statistical system was needed.

Extensive discussions were carried out with those who might be affected by the introduction of a new collection system, and a joint Home Office/Probation and After-Care Service working party was set up to reconcile the needs of the Home Office and the Probation Service. By the middle of 1977 discussions with the Probation Service were sufficiently advanced to justify giving detailed consideration to the type of computer system needed. Further detailed work was carried out and a limited system covering just community service orders commenced on the 1st January 1978. In 1978 this was extended to cover all casework in two pilot probation areas, and then finally extended to the whole service on 1 January 1979.

This article briefly summarises the old system, describes the new system and examines some of the problems which arose during its introduction.

The old collection system

In the collection system in operation prior to 1978 there were six annual forms to be completed by each officer. Information was collected about the types of orders/after-care and about the number and characteristics of those persons who were clients of the Probation and After-Care Service at the end of each year, and about the various reports and some miscellaneous work completed by probation officers. In addition one form was completed at the termination of each probation or supervision order and another form at the termination of each period of after-care. There was also a further form covering community service orders which was completed at four-monthly intervals.

The main deficiency of this system, apart from its complexity, was that it provided only limited data on the work of the Service and some of this information was of doubtful quality (e.g. it was not possible to ensure that all terminations were recorded); since information about the commencement of supervision/after-care was not collected, there was inevitably some delay in obtaining information about changes in the use of the various types

of supervision or after-care and complete information was not available about any clients who were simultaneously subject to more than one order or after-care.

The new collection system

Early on in the discussions concerning the development of the new system a number of major points emerged; if possible, individual Probation and After-Care areas should be able to use the system to collect local information and thus avoid duplication of work; the new system should be comprehensive but not collect unnecessary information; and, most important, it should be simple.

Much of the discussion centred on the content and design of the form to be used to collect the information required. After a number of attempts it was finally agreed that only two forms would be used. On one form (Form 30) monthly information about the number of reports prepared by probation officers and other work carried out would be recorded. The form was designed so that information required for Home Office use was on the left hand half, and Probation and After-Care areas could use the other half to collect local information. The Form 30 was extremely simple and few problems occurred in either its completion or analysis.

The other form (Form 20) would be filled in at the commencement and termination of each supervision or community service order or period of after-care, on the transfer of a client from one area to another, or on release of a client from custody and would also contain identification information about the individual client. The Form 20 was not as straightforward as the Form 30; 20 different types of supervision/after-care were identified, each having up to five possible occurrences during its 'life' (i.e. commencement, termination, transfer to another area, transfer from another area, release from custody). It was only after some considerable discussion that a form was designed which satisfied the various requirements but which nevertheless was reasonably simple to complete. It must be said that a considerable part of this achievement was a result of the many valuable comments and suggestions which were made by members of the Probation and After-Care Service.

Both forms (Form 30 and Form 20) were printed on multi-part self-copying stationery so that a number of copies of each form could be made at one time. Probation and After-Care areas could therefore keep copies of forms for local analysis.

The Probation and After-Care Index

In parallel with the discussions concerning the design of the form, work was also being carried out in the Home Office on the development of the computer system which would be used to analyse the two forms. The analysis of the Form 30 was straightforward and posed no major problems. For Form 20, however, there was a choice; either the forms could be analysed as they stood, i.e. the number and characteristics of commencements could be analysed and then the number and characteristics of terminations and so on; or the information about the commencement and termination etc. of each supervision or community service order or period of after-care could be linked to provide more useful information about the clients of the Service and about the caseload of probation officers. Without some linkage an additional form would have been required to collect caseload information, and so it was agreed that the Probation and After-Care Index would be set up to enable the linkage of information to take place and to enable statistical information about the characteristics of clients of the service to be provided.

The Index therefore contains details of the clients of the Probation and After-Care Service and details of the supervision or community service order or period of after-care to which they have been subject. Each record consists of a 'header' containing information about the client i.e. supervising probation area, client's reference number, client's name, date of birth and sex. The 'header' is followed by a variable number of 'trailers'; each 'trailer' containing information about each supervision or community service order or period of after-care including type of supervision/after-care, length of supervision/after-care, offence (where applicable), court imposing supervision, information about any additional requirements with the supervision and reason for termination of the supervision/after-care, including whether any breach of the supervision/after-care occurred during its 'life'.

A number of dates are kept in the Index, including date of birth, date of commencement of supervision/after-care, date of release from custody (where applicable), date of termination of supervision/after-care and, where applicable, date of transfer to or from another Probation and After-Care area. Retention of these dates eliminates the need to create 'freeze' files and enables the Statistical Department to effectively recreate the state of the Index as at any particular date. This has proved extremely useful when ad hoc requests are made for tabulations.

The system operates like similar systems: forms are received from probation areas at monthly intervals, the information is keyed on to a magnetic tape and the tape used to update the main Index. The Index itself contains 1/4 million records held on magnetic discs. Direct access

facilities are provided for error correction via a computer terminal (e.g. searching for, amending, deleting and transferring records) and have been of great use. When errors are found in the data recorded in the Index, it is often easy to decide what is wrong and to correct it there and then. The ability to correct errors via a computer terminal also minimises the time-lag which can occur between discovering an error on the Index and being in a position to correct it. This is often a problem with conventional batch updating methods, when, during the time-lag, fresh information arrives which alters the state of the record on the Index and attempts to rectify the original error then fail.

Data privacy

Some considerable thought was given to what personal information should be retained in the Index in view of the general concern then and now, on the subject of data privacy. The client's sex and date of birth are required in order to produce tabulations by age and by sex, but the possibility of omitting the client's name from the system was considered. Each new client is allocated a unique client reference number but at an early stage in the development of the new system it was realised that linkage purely on the client's reference number is not always possible because of the miscoding/mispunching which inevitably occurs with any large scale recording system. It was felt that if, in addition to a match on the main key (client's reference number), at least two out of three subsidiary keys (surname, sex and date of birth) also match, then a linkage can proceed with some confidence. However, if only one or none of the subsidiary keys match, then the linkage does not proceed, and instead an error procedure is carried out. If the main key does not match, then a match on all three subsidiary keys is required before a linkage is attempted. Because dates of birth are often unknown or inaccurate it has proved essential for the surname to be held for matching purposes. Clients can be subject to more than one period of supervision/after-care and when the correct client is identified a similar matching procedure takes place to identify the supervision/after-care which is to be updated.

Since identifying information about each client (including name) is required for linkage purposes, it was realised that its presence on the Index would require stringent precautions concerning data privacy. In order to protect the privacy of the data, the Probation and After-Care Index is used only for statistical purposes and no information about identifiable individuals is used for administrative purposes. In addition, safeguards, both technical and administrative, have been incorporated in the system to avoid either accidental or deliberate misuse of the information held.

Operation of the new system

The quality of the information received from the Probation and After-Care Service has on the whole been quite good. Probation officers usually have more important things to do than fill out statistical forms, and understandably they give a fairly low priority to the completion of Home Office forms. Nevertheless, now that the initial and inevitable teething problems have been overcome, the error rate on forms processed has dropped from just over 20 per cent to just over 10 per cent and is likely to fall further as refinements are made to the system and more experience is gained in its use. The promptness with which probation officers make their returns has also improved.

Some information from the Index was published in the 1978 edition of *Probation and After-Care Statistics, England and Wales*; further information on community service orders covering 1978 and the first half of 1979 was given in a Home Office Statistical Bulletin *Statistics on Community Service Orders*. More extensive information was included in the 1979 edition of *Probation and After-Care Statistics, England and Wales* published in November 1980.

A small suite of computer programs have been written which produce, for each Probation and After-Care area at regular intervals, tabulations relating to that area. The response of areas in receipt of these tabulations has been encouraging and a number of areas have asked for additional information.

Future development

There is scope for certain improvements in the computer system in order to reduce the number of errors and the consequential work involved in dealing with them. By accepting magnetic tape input from those areas who have their own local computer system, duplication of data preparation and initial input errors can be eliminated. There are technical problems of compatibility between computer installations but the possible savings in resources make this worth pursuing.

Another area of development concerns output from the system; with the much greater quantity and improved quality of data being collected, there is already an increased demand for output and statistical analysis. Fortunately there are now available some fairly powerful computer programs for such work and in many cases a considerable amount of work can be achieved with very little input of human resources. What is clear, however, is that without the continuing efforts of the staff of the Probation and After-Care Service little could be achieved and the Home Office wishes to express its thanks for the co-operation of all staff concerned in this work.

References:

- Probation and After-Care Statistics, England and Wales 1978* – (December 1979) (Home Office) (Price £2.25 net).
- Probation and After-Care Statistics, England and Wales, 1979* – (November 1980) (Home Office) (Price £2.50 net).
- Statistics on Community Service Orders* – Home Office Statistical Bulletin Issue 3/80, March 1980 (Home Office) (Free).

Recently available statistical series and publications

The following publications containing social statistics have recently, or will soon become available during January–March quarter of 1981. Unless otherwise specified, copies may be purchased from Her Majesty's Stationery Office. A list of release dates of economic series is published monthly in *Economic Trends*.

Central Statistical Office

Regional Trends, 1981 Edition

Department of Education and Science

Education Statistics for the United Kingdom 1978

Statistics of Education, Volume 5, 1978: Finance and Awards Statistics 1978

Statistics of Education, Volume 1, 1979: Schools Statistics 1979

Statistics of Education, Volume 4, 1979: Teachers Statistics 1979

Department of Employment

Employment Gazette, published towards the end of each month, contains indicators on earnings, unemployment and prices. Issues due in the first quarter will contain the Family Expenditure Survey results for the first and second quarters of 1980, real expenditure by household type for the period, 1970-1978 and the annual revision of the weights for the Retail Prices Index.

Department of the Environment

Housing and Construction Statistics, September quarter Part 2

Local Housing Statistics. Issue 56: figures for the third quarter of 1980

Housing and Construction Statistics, December quarter, Part 1

Home Office

Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 1979

Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 1979, Supplement for Fire Brigades

Liquor Licensing Statistics, England and Wales, year ending June 1980

Coroners Statistics, England and Wales, 1969-1979

Statistics on the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Acts 1974 and 1976, fourth quarter 1980

Drowning Statistics, England and Wales, 1979

Control of Immigration Statistics fourth quarter and year 1980

Serious offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, fourth quarter and year 1980

Inland Revenue

Survey of Personal Incomes 1978-1979

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

OPCS Monitors are available free from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys and include:

<i>Weekly Return</i>	WR	Weekly
<i>Births and Deaths</i>	VS	Monthly
<i>Legal Abortions</i>	AB	Monthly
<i>Deaths from Accidents</i>	DH4	Monthly
<i>Infectious Diseases</i>	MB2	Quarterly
<i>International Migration</i>	MN	Quarterly
<i>Deaths by Cause</i>	DH2	Quarterly
<i>Adoptions</i>	FM3	Annually
<i>Electoral Statistics</i>	EL	Annually
<i>Infant and Perinatal Statistics</i>	DH3	Occasional
<i>Population Estimates</i>	PP1	Occasional
<i>Census</i>	CEN	Occasional

Scottish Office

Scottish Economic Bulletin No 22

Scottish Housing Statistics No 10

Scottish Housing Statistics No 11

Scottish Housing Statistics No 12

Scottish Education Department

Statistical Bulletin: Pupils and Teachers Authority Primary and Secondary Schools

Statistical Bulletin: University Students

Statistical Bulletin: Further Education Students Enrolments

Statistical Bulletin: Activities of Secondary School Teachers

Statistical Bulletin: Pupils and Teachers in Schools

Statistical Bulletin: Students in Courses of Non-Vocational Further Education

Welsh Office

- Mental Health Statistics for Wales, 1979*
- Welsh Housing and Dwelling Survey, 1978+1979*
- Welsh Local Government Financial Statistics*
- Welsh Economic Trends*
- Digest of Welsh Statistics*
- Health and Personal Social Services Statistics for Wales*
- Statistics of Education in Wales*

Department of Health and Social Security

In addition to the above, the following analyses in the Department of Health and Social Security statistical series have recently become available. Extracts and summaries from these will eventually be published in *Social Security Statistics*.

Further information can be obtained from:

Mr R J McWilliam,
 Department of Health and Social Security,
 Room A2216,
 Newcastle Central Office,
 Newcastle upon Tyne NE98 1YX

Unemployment benefit

Quarterly analyses of decisions of Insurance Officers, quarter ending 30 September 1980

Monthly analysis of claims by sex and region:

- 4 weeks ending 27.9.80
- 5 weeks ending 1.11.80

Child benefit

Monthly analysis of families and children, 2 months ended 30.9.80

Sickness invalidity and injury benefits

Monthly analysis of weekly average of new claims by region: GB:

- 4 weeks ended 28.10.80
- 4 weeks ended 25.11.80

Retirement pension and widows benefit

Number of widows receiving pensions or widows allowances, quarter ending 31.12.80

New surveys assessed by the Survey Control Unit

September to November 1980

For further information on the surveys listed, the appropriate departmental contact may be obtained from Mr R. C. Ponman (01-233 8583), Survey Control Unit, Central Statistical Office, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.
An introductory note was given in *Statistical News* 36.41

New Surveys assessed September to November 1980

Title	Sponsor	Those approached	Approximate number approached	Location	Frequency
Business surveys					
Enquiry into Export Transactions between Related Companies	C&E	Exporters	6000	UK	AH
Direct Training Services Study	COI/MS	Employers	425	GB	AH
Dairy Farm Waste Survey	DAFS	Farmers	170	S	AH
Pesticide Usage on Soft Fruit – Scotland	DAFS	Farmers	300	S	AH
Job Release Scheme Replacement Condition Survey	DEM	Employers	500	GB	AH
Decision-Making for Rural Areas – Lincolnshire Study	DOE	Businesses	NK	EM	AH
Business Services in Manchester and Salford	DOE	Banking, Insurance and Financial Institutions	150	NW	AH
Work Journey Rescheduling – Wakefield	DTP	Employers, Employees	144	GB	AH
Decision-Making in the Pest Control of Oilseed Rape	MAFF	Farmers	120	EM	AH
Lowland Sheep Farming Survey	MAFF	Farmers	430	EW	Y4
Survey of Peri-Urban Agriculture	MAFF	Farmers	300	NW	AH
Survey of Usage of Pesticides on Soft Fruit	MAFF	Farmers	400	EW	AH
Farmer Cooperation in Buckinghamshire	MAFF	Farmers	275	SE	AH
Safety Arrangements and Training Implications – Cotton and Allied Textiles ITB	MSC	Cotton and Allied Textile Companies	800	UK	AH
Future Requirements for Loom Overlookers – Cotton and Allied Textiles ITB	MSC	Weaving Establishments	200	GB	AH
Security of Employment	NEDO	Employers	200	GB	AH
Other surveys					
Dampness Survey – St Ninians, Stirling	BRE	Tenants	346	S	AH
Noise Insulation Opinion Survey	BRE	Occupiers	1100	E	AH
'View' Magazine Reader Research	COI/—	Readers	30000	GB	AH
Energy – Insulation Omnibus September 1980	COI/DEN	Adults	1000	GB	AH
Energy 1980/81 – TV Campaign Pretest	COI/DEN	Adults	300	GB	AH
Energy 1980 TV Campaign Evaluation	COI/DEN	Adults	1000	GB	AH
1980/81 Blood Donor Campaign	COI/DHSS	Adult	2000	SE	AH
Science and Technology Regional Organisations – Pilot Evaluation Study	COI/DI	Users	20	N	AH
1980/81 Drink and Drive Campaign	COI/DTP	Drivers	300	GB	AH
1980/81 Drink and Drive Campaign Evaluation	COI/DTP	Drivers	2520	GB	AH
Seat Belts – Radio Commercial Test	COI/DTP	Drivers	100	E	AH
Seat Belt Campaign Evaluation	COI/DTP	Drivers	4740	GB	AH
1980 Pedal Cycle Campaign	COI/DTP	Drivers	300	EA	AH
Pedal Cycle Campaign Evaluation	COI/DTP	Drivers	5000	GB	AH
Army 1980/81 TV Campaign – Development Research	COI/MOD	Youths	32	GB	AH
MOD Tri-Service Officers Research	COI/MOD	Youths	4270	GB	AH
Youth Opportunities Programme 1980 Leaflets Test	COI/MS	Youths	60	GB	AH
Jobcentres Window Display Research	COI/MS	Adults	332	GB	AH
1981 Census Campaign Evaluation	COI/OPCS	Adults	2000	GB	AH
1981 Census – Foreign Translations Test	COI/OPCS	Adults	96	SE	AH
Noise Insulation Opinion Survey	BRE	Occupiers	1100	E	AH
Young Peoples' Perceptions of Vocational Guidance Needs	DEM	Youths	1800	E	AH
Development of Socio-Dental Indicators of Treatment Need	DHSS	Adults	600	E	AH
Child Minding Practice in Staffordshire	DHSS	Parents and Childminders	325	WM	AH
Low Birth Weight Survey	DHSS	Mothers	200	GB	AH
Take Up of Family Income Supplement	DHSS	Claimants	70	GB	AH
Assessment of Furniture Designed for Handicapped Children	DHSS	Nurses	80	EA	AH
Patient Compliance in Early Detection of Breast Cancer	DHSS	Women	3300	GB	AH
Trans-Racial Adoption in Britain	DHSS	Adopters, Adopted	100	UK	I

New Surveys assessed September to November 1980 (continued)

<i>Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Those approached</i>	<i>Approximate number approached</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
Other surveys (continued)					
Parents for Children	DHSS	Social Workers	20	SE	AH
Decision Making on Admission of Children to Local Authority Care	DHSS	Parents	200	SW	AH
Assessment of Aids to Food Preparation	DHSS	Disabled	100	SE	AH
Short-term Residential Care for the Elderly	DHSS	Employees, Elderly, Carers, Social Workers	NK	E	AH
Facilities for the Incontinent Handicapped Child	DHSS	Parents	45	SE	AH
Mutual Aid and Social Welfare	DHSS	Adults	3000	EW	AH
Decision Making for Rural Areas – Lincolnshire Study	DOE	Adults	150	EM	AH
A4 Pedestrian Subway Study	DTP	Pedestrians	400	SE	AH
A38 Saltash-Trerulefoot Survey	DTP	Drivers	NK	SW	AH
Work Journey Rescheduling – Wakefield	DTP	Households	NK	GB	AH
1981 Holiday Intentions Surveys	ETB	Adults	12000	GB	AH
Review of Publication “EEC Agriculture and Food Statistics”	MAFF	Readers	150	UK	AH
Firestone Redundancy Study	MSC	Employees	1500	EA	AH
Survey of Technicians in Engineering – Engineering ITB	MSC	Employees	1110	GB	AH
Evaluating the Effectiveness of Forestry Commission Visitor/Information Centres	FC	Visitors	NK	GB	AH
British Council Study Fellows Survey	ODA	Foreign Students	4500	UK	AH
Improvement Grant Survey	SDD	Applicants	900	S	AH
Fines Enforcement Officer Experiment	SDD	Fine Defaulters	400	S	AH
Urban Aid Projects	SDD	Project Officers	100	S	AH
A408 Cycle Monitoring Study – Uxbridge	TRRL	Cyclists	2250	SE	AH
Survey to Determine the Effects of Urban Roads	TRRL	Adults	200	E	AH
Newcastle City Centre In-Street Shopping Survey	TRRL	Shoppers	1000	N	AH
Survey to Assess Headlight Glare	TRRL	Drivers	1500	SE	AH

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<i>General</i>		<i>MAFF</i>	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food</i>
<i>EEC</i>	<i>European Economic Community</i>	<i>MOD</i>	<i>Ministry of Defence</i>
<i>ITB</i>	<i>Industry Training Board</i>	<i>MSC</i>	<i>Manpower Services Commission</i>
<i>NK</i>	<i>Not Known</i>	<i>NEDO</i>	<i>National Economic Development Office</i>
<i>Frequencies</i>		<i>ODA</i>	<i>Overseas Development Administration</i>
<i>AH</i>	<i>Ad Hoc (or single Time)</i>	<i>OPCS</i>	<i>Office of Population Censuses and Surveys</i>
<i>I</i>	<i>Intermittent</i>	<i>SDD</i>	<i>Scottish Development Department</i>
<i>Y4</i>	<i>Every 4 years</i>	<i>TRRL</i>	<i>Transport and Road Research Laboratory</i>
<i>Sponsors</i>		<i>Locations</i>	
<i>BRE</i>	<i>Building Research Establishment</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>England</i>
<i>C&E</i>	<i>Customs and Excise</i>	<i>EA</i>	<i>East Anglia</i>
<i>COI</i>	<i>Central Office of Information</i>	<i>EM</i>	<i>East Midlands</i>
<i>DAFS</i>	<i>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland</i>	<i>EW</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
<i>DEM</i>	<i>Department of Employment</i>	<i>GB</i>	<i>Great Britain</i>
<i>DEN</i>	<i>Department of Energy</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Northern England</i>
<i>DHSS</i>	<i>Department of Health and Social Security</i>	<i>NW</i>	<i>North West England</i>
<i>DI</i>	<i>Department of Industry</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Scotland</i>
<i>DOE</i>	<i>Department of the Environment</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>South East England</i>
<i>DTP</i>	<i>Department of Transport</i>	<i>SW</i>	<i>South West England</i>
<i>ETB</i>	<i>English Tourist Board</i>	<i>UK</i>	<i>United Kingdom</i>
<i>FC</i>	<i>Forestry Commission</i>	<i>WM</i>	<i>West Midlands</i>

Notes on current developments

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

People in Britain – a census atlas

Published in November was *People in Britain: a census atlas*, which gives a unique view of the spatial distribution of our population and of its characteristics.

Information from the 1971 Census of Population has been linked to the one-kilometre squares of the National Grid to produce cartographic representations of population density, birthplaces, socio-economic characteristics, travel-to-work, and households and housing.

The maps were plotted by computer driven laser beams fired on to photographic plates. Based on highly detailed statistical data, they demonstrate contrasts between different parts of the country while allowing local variations to be picked out. By making census data visually stimulating, the atlas should make it available to a wider public – especially schools and colleges.

Each map is explained by an accompanying text and further comment is given in the introduction. The atlas also includes statistical tables and technical data to provide the precision required by the specialist – but the maps are capable of standing alone and prompting questions and stimulating discussion about interrelationships of geographical, historical and sociological information.

The maps, in colour, are in two groups. First, 34 maps of Great Britain covering demographic and socio-economic characteristics; second, 28 larger scale maps in groups of four covering each of seven of Britain's most populous regions. Four appendices give details of the statistical bases of the maps.

Reference

People in Britain: a census atlas. (HMSO 1980) (Price £15 net.) Prepared by the Census Research Unit of the University of Durham, in collaboration with the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) and the General Register Office (Scotland).

Population Trends

The latest edition of *Population Trends*, the journal of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, was published in December. This issue contains the following articles:

Population trends in 1979

During the 12-month period to mid-1979 the estimated population of England and Wales increased for the first time since mid-1974. The increase of 53,500 persons, made up principally of an excess of births over deaths of 35 thousand and a net immigration balance of 15

thousand, was more than sufficient to compensate for the cumulative decreases of the past four years which amounted to 41,600 persons, and the total estimated population of the country at 49.17 million is, therefore, greater than in any previous year. The editorial also looks at live births, fertility rates, birth intervals, divorces, deaths, infant mortality and international migration in 1979.

Attitudes of British women towards abortion: trends and changes

This article by Chris Langford of the London School of Economics and Political Science examines the views on abortion expressed by women in a survey carried out in 1967–68 by the Population Investigation Committee and the differences between the views of women of different broad social classes and education categories. The situation in 1967–68 is then compared with that in 1976 when the same questions were put to women as part of the Family Formation Survey carried out by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, to see what changes had occurred in the intervening period.

Drinking habits in the United Kingdom

Opinions about differences in drinking habits between England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are frequently based on stereotypes which can be misleading. This article by Paul Wilson of the Social Survey Division of OPCS compares to results from similar surveys of alcohol consumption which were carried out in these countries in the Autumn of 1978.

Trends in marriages: church, chapel and civil ceremonies

This article by John Haskey of Population Statistics Division of OPCS examines one particular aspect of recent changes in social behaviour and attitudes – the rapid decline in the proportion of marriages solemnised with a religious ceremony. The influence of the ages of bride and bridegroom and their marital status before marriage is considered, as are the different trends for various religious denominations. Geographical variations in the proportions of marriages solemnised by the Established Church and the Roman Catholic Church are mapped and discussed.

Reference

Population Trends 22 Winter 1980. (HMSO 1980) (Price £3 net)

Population density and concentration

A Report¹ by John Craig of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys on population density and concen-

tration in Great Britain was published by HMSO in October. This study extends analyses for 1951 and 1961 given in an earlier study² and adds data for 1971. It analyses the population densities within Great Britain, how these densities have been changing over time, the most densely populated parts of Great Britain and the effect of the areal units used on the analysis.

The study provides a statistical summary of the information about population, population change, area and density of wards and local authorities which is available in the Census county reports as a geographical listing. The tables include frequency distributions for counties, regions, conurbations and so on, of the number of people living at different densities for 1961 and 1971. The relationship of these 1961 and 1971 'stock' figures is analysed in terms of the 'flows' of the wards between density groupings. Information is also given about local authority densities; about population potential (a form of weighted average of density); and about the physical size of wards and local authorities. In effect the tables show what the combined effect has been of the movement of population out of large city centres to their peripheries, together with the movement out of the very sparsely populated rural areas to small and medium sized towns. The text highlights the high degree of similarity between the 'flow' patterns of density and population change for the different counties and regions even though their 'stock' patterns differ. Similarities and differences between changes in the 1961-71 period compared with the 1951-61 and 1931-51 are noted.

References

1. *Population density and concentration in Great Britain 1951, 1961 and 1971* by John Craig. Studies on Medical and Population Subjects No 42. (HMSO 1980) (Price £6.80 net)
2. *Population density and concentration in Great Britain 1931, 1951 and 1961* by John Craig. Studies on Medical and Population Subjects No 30. (HMSO 1975) (Price £4.75 net)

Population projections

Produced jointly by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys and the Government Actuary's Department, population projections for England and Wales, Wales, Scotland, Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom were published in February. The projections are based on the estimates of the total population at mid-1979 for the United Kingdom and its constituent countries. The booklet contains a set of six microfiche on which are recorded the detailed tabulations of projected population by sex and age for 1979-2019. No new projections by marital condition or on alternative fertility assumption were made for the present round.

Reference

Population projections microfiche 1979-2019. (HMSO 1981) (Price £5.00 net)

Sub-national population projections

The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys has now produced a set of mid-1979 based home population projections for the regions, counties, London boroughs and metropolitan districts in England. These projections supersede the mid-1977 based series published in *Population projections: area 1977-1991* Series PP3 no 3 (HMSO 1980) and take account of the latest views on the future levels of fertility, mortality and migration at the time of preparation in mid-1980.

Abridged results for each area have been released in *OPCS Monitor* PP3 81/1 which is available, free of charge, direct from:

Information Branch (Dept SN),
OPCS,
St Catherines House,
10 Kingsway,
London WC2B 6JP.

More detailed results will be published in *Population projections: area 1979-1991* Series PP3 no 4 in the summer of 1981. The degree of detail to be published and also the various types of unpublished data available have been outlined previously in *Statistical News* 51.25, and will not be repeated here. However, OPCS have two further facilities available for the current round of projections. Firstly, the mid-1979 based projections have been extended to the year 2001. Results for these later years will not be published because of the increased uncertainty attached to projections for the more distant future and the fact that no explicit migration assumptions were made for the last decade, the assumptions for the period mid-1990/1 being held constant for the remainder of the projection. Secondly, it will be possible to incorporate individual users' views on fertility, mortality and migration, and produce differing sets of projections using the OPCS model. Projections for areas other than those listed above can also be made in this way provided the user is able to supply all the necessary input data or OPCS has the resources to set up the files. There will be a charge for this service. Requests for unpublished data and special projections, or queries on the published results should be addressed to:

Mr C W Simons,
Regional Demography Unit (Dept SNA),
OPCS,
St Catherines House,
10 Kingsway,
London WC2B 6JP.
Telephone: 01-242 0262, extension 2181.

References

- Population projections: area 1977-1991* Series PP3 no 3 (HMSO 1980) (Price £6.00 net)
OPCS Monitor (reference PP3 81/1) available direct from OPCS
Population projections: area 1979-1991 Series PP3 no 4 (HMSO forthcoming)

Internal migration

The first monitor in a new series on internal migration was issued last month (OPCS Monitor, Reference MN 81/1). Tables in it are based on a sample of re-registrations with National Health Service doctors as recorded in the National Health Service Central Register, NHSCR at Southport. The tables give details of inter-regional moves in England and with Wales and Scotland for the latest twelve months.

Some research into the use of NHSCR data from the National Health Service Central Register in studying internal migration was published in *Inter-regional migration since 1971*. (*Statistical News* 49). A further report by Dr Audrey Ogilvy, formerly of the Department of Environment's Building Research Establishment, has recently been issued as *Migration figures from the NHSCR*. This paper provides useful comparisons between NHSCR data and census data on migration. Although the two sources have some marked differences she concludes that they are comparable and derives adjustment factors for NHSCR inter-regional moves.

References

OPCS Monitor Reference MN 81/2. Available free from: Information Branch (Dept M), OPCS, St Catherines House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP

Inter-regional migration since 1971. Audrey Ogilvy. OPCS Occasional Paper 16 (OPCS 1980) (Price 70p net)

Migration figures from the NHSCR: adjustments to allow for age/sex recording. Audrey Ogilvy. BRE Information paper 16/80

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE FOR SCOTLAND VITAL EVENTS STATISTICS

Publications

Weekly Return

Until 1974 the Registrar General's Weekly Return referred only to the 18 principal towns. On Local government re-organisation the opportunity to extend cover to Scotland, to provide Region and Health Board Area tables, and to provide a vehicle for release of the main quarterly and provisional annual statistics, was taken. These non-weekly statistics are therefore available several months before their appearance, still as provisional figures, in a quarterly return.

A small charge was levied for this return (published and distributed by HMSO) until 1976, when it was made a departmental publication.

Quarterly Return

The Quarterly Return comprises 12 standard tables containing provisional statistics for Scotland and in some cases local government districts. A Meteorological table and narrative provided by the Superintendent, Meteorological Office are also published. In addition subsets of some 17 non quarterly and provisional annual tables are published in the March, June and December returns.

The current return costs £9.80 net per annum and is published by HMSO about 3 months after the end of the quarter to which it relates.

Annual Estimates of the Population

The Annual Estimates publication is a 24 page booklet which shows the estimated population as at 30 June by age and sex to Health and Local government district level. Figures for Home, Total and Civilian populations are also shown as are those for the Central Clydeside Conurbation and New Towns.

This publication currently costs £1.25 net and is published by HMSO.

Annual Report of the Registrar General

This report was first published for the year 1855, and since 1968 has comprised 2 volumes, part 1 dealing principally with mortality statistics and part 2 population, fertility, marriage and divorce. In all some 209 tables are included and these are supplemented by a short series of unpublished statistics which are available in the form of microfiche or hard copy for the cost of reproduction. The report is normally published by HMSO in the year following the end of the year to which it relates.

The cost of the 1978 volumes were: Part 1 £17.50 net; Part 2 £12.75 net.

Population Projections

A booklet giving sub national population projections to Local Government and Health District level by age and sex has been provided free in recent years. More detailed tables have been available for the cost of reproduction. Summary tables have appeared in the Annual Report, Quarterly and Weekly Returns.

Government Review of Statistical Services

Following Sir Derek Rayner's study of the Government Statistical Service, the Government have decided that the volume of statistical publication should be reduced and that an economic charge should be made. To implement the Government's decision the General Register Office proposes:

- (a) To discontinue the publication of the quarterly return after 4th Quarter 1980.
- (b) To include much of the present quarterly tables, and provisional annual tables, in the weekly return and supplements, as these statistics become available.
- (c) To charge a subscription of £20.00 per annum, including postage, plus VAT at the current rate for the augmented weekly series. Alternatively 4 issues, each comprising 13 week's material, for a subscription rate of £8.00 per annum including postage, plus VAT at the current rate.

- (d) To reduce the Annual Report to a single volume from the 1979 publication, which will no longer carry 39 previously published vital events tables.
- (e) To augment the series of unpublished Annual Report tables and include a series of population projection tables to district level which will allow users to purchase detailed analysis at the cost of reproduction either as paper prints; 14p+VAT per page, or microfiche, £1.00+VAT, (approx. 120 pages).
- (f) To include the summary projection for Scotland, and projected migration and natural change for Regions and Health Board Areas in the Weekly series.
- (g) To make available a 16 page booklet containing summary population projections for Regions by age and sex and District totals at a cost of £1.00 plus VAT.
- (h) To make available as unpublished tables at cost of reproduction (see (e) above) the more detailed single year projections.

Should you require further information please write to:

The Publications EO,
 General Register Office for Scotland,
 Statistics General Branch,
 Ladywell House,
 Ladywell Road,
 Edinburgh EH12 7TF
 or Telephone 031-334 0380 Extension 243

SOCIAL STATISTICS

Social Trends: 1981 edition

Social Trends entered its second decade with the publication of the 11th edition on 11 December 1980. The aim of *Social Trends 11* remains the same as its predecessors, i.e. to provide a background to public discussion of social changes and policies.

Social Trends 11 does not include a Social Commentary or any articles, but, instead it has even more extensive and helpful commentary than before to explain trends and to provide background information. In all, there are about 220 tables and 110 charts, about one-third of which are new to *Social Trends*.

The format of the chapters remains much the same as previously, generally reflecting the administrative functions of government. The topics covered are: population changes; households and families; social groups (including ethnic minorities); education; employment; redistribution of income and wealth; resources and expenditure; national and personal resources and expenditures; health, national health services, and private medical insurance; housing standards, tenure, and homelessness; environment, transport and communica-

tions; leisure; social participation; crime and terrorist activity.

Also included is a Calendar of Events for 1979. This covers events of social interest, such as certain changes in legislation, which are difficult to fit into the *Social Trends* framework of tables, charts, and explanatory text.

The index covering items in *Social Trends 10* and *11*, supplements the cumulative index published in *Social Trends 9*. Thus, together, the two cumulative indices cover the eleven editions of *Social Trends*.

Further details can be obtained from:

Martin Daly,
 Central Statistical Office,
 Great George Street,
 London,
 SW1P 3AQ
 Telephone: 01-233 8201

Reference

Social Trends 11, 1981 (HMSO December 1980) (Price £16.50 net)

Scottish housing statistics

The ninth and tenth issues of *Scottish Housing Statistics* were published by HMSO in the last 2 months of 1980. They contain regular tables on housebuilding, improvement work and housing finance.

An article on the operation of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act is included in No 9 along with tables in both issues. The article in No 10, the result of a study conducted by the Central Research Unit SDD, looks at factors affecting the levels of local authority expenditure on management and maintenance of housing. The authors conclude that objective factors such as age and type of stock and number of dwellings play a significant part in determining authorities' expenditure.

Reference

Scottish Housing Statistics Nos 9 and 10 (HMSO) (Price £4.00 net each)

Family Expenditure Survey

A report by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys of the sampling, fieldwork, coding procedures and related methodological experiments of the Family Expenditure Survey was published by HMSO in December.

This is a revised version of the *Handbook* which was first produced by the Government Social Survey in 1969. Each chapter has been updated, and there are several new chapters. These deal with the uses of the Family Expenditure Survey (FES), the role of the FES Research Unit, major changes in the FES since it started in 1957, a summary of all experimental work on methodology since 1950 and the use of the FES as a sampling frame for further surveys.

The *Family Expenditure Survey Handbook* discusses the contribution of the Social Survey Division (SSD) of OPCS to the Family Expenditure Survey at the time of

writing in late 1979, although most tables are only current for figures up to 1978. The *Handbook* includes the 1979 FES questionnaires and other interview documents current in 1979; it is therefore mainly for the user of FES data as well as for the survey specialist. It is intended to complement the FES Information Pack – including the FES Field Instructions, Coding Notes, Master Schedules as well as base tape codes and other computing documents – which is available from the Department of Employment.

Reference

Family Expenditure Survey Handbook by W F F Kemsley, R U Redpath and M Holmes. M146A. (HMSO 1980) (Price £11.60 net)

Welsh housing and dwelling survey

A report by the Welsh Office on the results of the Welsh Housing and Dwelling Survey will be published this month.

The fieldwork for the 5 per cent sample survey throughout Wales took place from May to August 1978 and May to August 1979.

The survey was designed to provide up-to-date information comparable to the basic housing and household information collected in the 1971 Census such as tenure, number of rooms, possession of basic amenities, sharing of space and amenities and household composition including age, sex, marital status, length of residence at address, employment status and occupation of household members. Questions were also asked about main forms of room heating, the use of cars and vans, whether household members were registered on council waiting lists and whether the accommodation was a second or primary home. A response rate of 89 per cent was achieved.

Further information about the survey is available from:

Economic and Statistical Services,
Welsh Office,
New Crown Building,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF1 3NQ
Telephone: Cardiff (0222) 825062

Criminal statistics

The annual volume *Criminal Statistics, England and Wales, 1979* was published on 27 November 1980. This issue includes a new chapter collating statistics on juveniles sentenced or cautioned for the more serious offences in the period 1965–1979. Additions to Chapter 2 include the results from questions in the General Household Survey for 1979 relating to domestic burglary and theft and information for 1979 on serious offences of violence between spouses. Chapter 4 evaluates the effect of the Criminal Law Act 1977 on the mode of trial;

Chapter 5 presents figures on cautioning and convictions for generations born in successive years. The Chapter on remand includes the results of a study of remands in the first half-year of the operation of the Bail Act 1976. As in previous years the volume also contains tables and commentary on serious offences recorded by the police, court proceedings, offenders found guilty or cautioned, aspects of sentencing, legal aid, homicide, mentally disordered offenders and appeals.

Reference

Criminal Statistics, England and Wales, 1979 (Cmnd 8098) (HMSO 1980) (Price £16.80 net)

Statistics of drowning

This bulletin contains tables and commentary describing some of the main characteristics of drowning fatalities in 1978, with historical tables for 1975 to 1978. Drownings are classified by age and sex of victim, type of water and type of activity, factors contributing to the drownings and warnings and hazardous conditions. It is planned to issue two further bulletins before bringing this series to a close.

Reference

Statistics of Drowning England and Wales 1978, Home Office Statistical Bulletin (1980). (Free)

Offences of drunkenness

Offences of Drunkenness, England and Wales, 1979 is the first issue of a new annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin which replaces the series of Command Papers, having a similar title. It gives statistics on cautions and findings of guilt for offences of drunkenness, and admissions to detoxification centres as an alternative to prosecution. The return shows the pattern of findings of guilt by the age and sex of the offender, and by age and police force area in which the offence occurred. The sentences imposed by the courts for drunkenness offences are also discussed. Some of the information is shown in less detail than in the Command Papers.

More detailed information relating to 1979, similar to that previously published, is available, price £1.50, from the Home Office Statistical Department.

Reference

Offences of Drunkenness, England and Wales, 1979, Home Office Statistical Bulletin Issue 15/80, 11 November 1980 (Free)

HEALTH STATISTICS

In-patient Statistics

The latest annual report on in-patient statistics from mental illness and mental handicap hospitals and units in England was issued by the Department of Health and Social Security in December 1980. This 1977 report contains detailed tables on admissions, discharges,

deaths and resident patients and some information on trends from 1970. Statistics for the Special Hospitals and on the legal status of in-patients are contained in separate sections of the report.

Reference

In-patient statistics from the Mental Health Enquiry for England 1977. DHSS Statistical and Research Report Series No 23 (HMSO 1980) (Price £8.50 net)

Hospital Statistics

A wide range of information about hospitals and units for the mentally ill and mentally handicapped in England in 1976 is given in a report issued by the Department of Health and Social Security in January 1981. National statistics and information about individual hospitals are included, covering the whole range of hospital activity and facilities for in-patients, out-patients and day-patients. The report also details the progress made in these hospitals towards achieving certain minimum standards of care as laid down by the Department.

Reference

The facilities and services of mental illness and mental handicap hospitals in England 1976. DHSS Statistical and Research Report Series No 21 (HMSO 1981) (Price £9.46 net)

Deaths by cause

The complete picture of causes of death in England and Wales in 1979 was published in December. The volume gives deaths and death rates analysed by sex and age-groups; deaths of children under one year of age are analysed separately.

In 1979 the total number of deaths in England and Wales (593,019) increased by 1.2 per cent from 585,901 in 1978.

Over one half of all deaths in 1979 were from circulatory disorders, 298,436 (50.3 per cent), of which ischaemic heart disease accounted for 155,647 (26.2 per cent) followed by cerebrovascular disease 74,378 (12.5 per cent). Neoplasms accounted for a further 129,638 (21.9 per cent), the major site being trachea, bronchus and lung (34,760). The third largest group of causes of death was diseases of the respiratory system accounting for 85,925 deaths (14.4 per cent), of which deaths from pneumonia (54,376) were the main constituent.

The new (ninth) revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), which was introduced at the beginning of 1979, prevents strict comparison of trends in individual diseases. The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) has assigned both ICD eighth and ICD ninth revision codes to 25 per cent of all 1978 deaths as a 'bridge coding' exercise, the results of which, when published in 1981 (DH1 series), should give a guide to the effect of the new classification on specific categories.

Reference

Mortality statistics: cause 1979 (HMSO 1980) (Price £7.10 net)

MANPOWER AND EARNINGS

Employment in the public and private sectors 1974-80

Mid-year estimates of employment in the United Kingdom analysed by sector and broad industry group for each year from 1974 to 1979 were presented in an article in the November 1980 issue of *Economic Trends*. Details of changes in the employed labour force between mid-1979 and mid-1980 and preliminary estimates of employment in the main subsectors of general government at mid-1980 were also included. Data for 1961 to 1978 had been published in *Economic Trends*, November 1979 and this latest article gives revised estimates of private sector employment following the 1977 Census of Employment.

The increase in the total employed labour force of 155 thousand between mid-1978 and mid-1979 reflected growth in both public and private sectors. Between mid-1979 and mid-1980, the employed labour force fell sharply by over 400 thousand, more than 50 thousand of which was in the general government sector. Within general government the sharpest falls were in the non-trading parts of the United Kingdom Civil Service, local authorities' education and construction. There were increases in police and armed forces employment.

Reference

'Employment in the public and private sectors 1974-1980' by Eric Lomas, Central Statistical Office. *Economic Trends* No 325, November 1980 (HMSO) (Price £6.45 net)

Monthly employment estimates for manufacturing industries

The number of establishments in manufacturing industries required by the Department of Employment to complete monthly employment returns (known as L2 returns) was reduced in January. Returns are now despatched to the full sample of about 12,000 establishments only every third month, in March, June, September and December to coincide with the corresponding quarterly figures for non-manufacturing industries. In all other months, only half of these 12,000 establishments are now required to make returns.

This change has been made as part of the Department of Employment's contribution to reductions in government expenditure and also in order to reduce the form-filling burden on employers, particularly small firms which make up the bulk of those no longer required to complete monthly returns.

Some reductions in the coverage and reliability of the published estimates of employees in employment and of overtime and short-time worked by operatives in manufacturing industries will inevitably follow from the change. For example, first provisional estimates of the numbers of employees in particular manufacturing industry groups (Orders of the 1968 Standard Industrial Classification) will be published for January, February,

April, May, July, August, October and November based on estimates produced from the reduced sample. When March, June, September or December figures become available based on both the full and the reduced samples, the first provisional estimates for the previous two months will be amended to take account of the differences between these full and reduced sample estimates.

To make sure that the annual questions about the numbers of apprentices and other trainees and about the numbers of administrative, technical and clerical employees are addressed to all establishments completing L2 returns, these items will, in future, be included in the March and September returns respectively (instead of in May and October).

Sixteen-year-olds entering employment in 1978

The main results of a 10 per cent sample of the first employment of 16-year-old school leavers in 1978 were published in an article in the December 1980 issue of *Employment Gazette*.

The survey, which is carried out by local authority careers offices, collects information on the industry and occupation of the first employment, on training received in this employment and on the educational qualifications of school leavers. Results from the 1979 survey, which covers 16 and 17 year-old school leavers entering their first employment, will be published in *Employment Gazette* in 1981.

This survey replaced an earlier inquiry on first employment based on registration for National Insurance purposes, which was discontinued after 1974 because of changes in administrative procedures.

Reference

Employment Gazette, December 1980 (HMSO) (Price £1.65 net.)

Age as a factor in employment

A recent research paper (No 1, April 1980) issued by the Department of Employment examines 'Age as a factor in employment'. Information has been collected on age qualifications for employment, age and earnings, the age structure of the labour force, age and redundancy, etc. Copies are available on request from:

Unit for Manpower Studies,
Department of Employment,
Caxton House,
Tothill Street,
London,
SW1H 9NA
Telephone 01-213 6828

New Earnings Survey 1981

As in previous years, information is to be obtained from employers about the earnings and hours and the main characteristics of a one per cent random sample of employees in employment in Great Britain. The 1981 survey questionnaire is similar to that used in 1980. A

question on holiday entitlements has been added, as in 1974, and the treatment of periodical bonuses within total earnings has been clarified. The questions on whether adult rates are paid and on the timing of pay settlements have been dropped.

Survey of labour costs:

1978 results

Following upon publication of the first results (*Statistical News* 41.34), further analyses were published in the December 1980 issue of the *Employment Gazette*. These provide separate analyses for manual and non-manual workers in index of production industries.

An analysis in pence per hour for manufacturing industry as a whole has been included for each standard region of the United Kingdom.

Reference

Employment Gazette December 1980 (HMSO) (Price £1.65 net.)
Statistical News 41 May 1978 (HMSO)

Family Expenditure Survey 1979

The Family Expenditure Survey report for 1979 was published in December 1980. The report contains 58 tables and 5 charts showing average weekly expenditure on 94 commodities and services by households, classified by income level and household composition, together with complementary information on their income and characteristics.

The report includes a commentary which discusses the main features of the results. A table has been introduced this year showing expenditure patterns (at commodity group level by ranges of household income) for households whose head is a full-time employee. Another new table shows the expenditure pattern for these households analysed by different numbers of workers.

Some preliminary annual results for 1979 (with comparisons for 1977 and 1978) were published in the July 1980 issue of the *Employment Gazette*. Quarterly results for 1979 have been published in the *Gazette* as they became available. An article in the November 1980 issue of the *Gazette* gives more detailed information on household spending in 1979. It presents, inter alia, a detailed examination of how household characteristics change with income, with special reference to the characteristics of households with incomes in the lowest tenth of the income distribution.

Average household expenditure on goods and services among the United Kingdom households which took part in the 1979 survey was over £94 per week. Expenditure per person increased by 17 per cent compared with 1978. In real terms, the increase was just over 4 per cent (after allowing for the 13.4 per cent rise between 1978 and 1979 in retail prices).

As spending varies markedly according to the size and composition of households, the survey shows how

average expenditure varies. At the bottom end of the expenditure range are the retired households mainly dependent on state pensions, whose average size in 1979 was 1.35 persons and whose average spending was just over £31 per week or £23 per person. One adult households with one or more children (average size 2.77 persons) spent nearly £74 per week or over £26 per person; a couple with two children spent a weekly average of about £119 or nearly £30 per person. At the top end of the expenditure scale, larger households comprising at least four adults and one child (average size 6.00 persons with 3.72 workers) spent almost £200 per week or £33 per person.

The detailed tabulations in the FES Annual Report take account of the differences between households, the number of persons and number of workers in a household, their income, their geographical location and other factors which determine how households spend their money. By so doing, a clear picture of the spending patterns of households in the United Kingdom during 1979 is obtained.

References

Family Expenditure Report for 1979 (HMSO) (Price £10.50 net).
Employment Gazette, July 1980 and November 1980 (HMSO) (Price £1.65 each issue)

National training survey

An article on the National Training Survey entitled 'Counting our Skills: the National Training Survey' appeared in the November 1980 issue of *Employment Gazette*. The survey was effectively a retrospective cohort study covering approximately 1 in 500 of all individuals of working age in Great Britain. Details of their career history covered all training undertaken and included detailed information on their first occupation and all occupations held between 1965 and 1975 together with the associated industries. The data tapes are being prepared for deposit in the SSRC Archives at the University of Essex and it is expected that they will be generally accessible to bona fide researchers in the latter half of 1981.

Reference

Employment Gazette, November 1980 (HMSO) (Price £1.65 net)

Classification of Occupations 1980

The new Classification of Occupations and Coding Index, prepared by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS), was published in December by Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Based on the Department of Employment's Classification of Occupations and Directory of Occupational Titles (CODOT), the new classification contains 17 Orders, divided into 549 groups.

The Coding Index, listing more than 25,000 occupational titles, will enable researchers to code their own data in a way which will be compatible with 1981 Census output.

The Classification gives full details of the relationships between the OPCS and CODOT classifications, and also of classification by social class and socio-economic group. Summary information is given to the other classifications used by OPCS – industry, employment status, economic position and size of employer's establishment.

Classification by occupation is used to compare various sections of the population, in terms of demographic behaviour (such as mortality, fertility and nuptiality), housing and educational attainment.

The 1980 classification maintains a high degree of comparability with the OPCS Classification of Occupations 1970, and the structure of classifications by social class and by socio-economic group used in the 1971 Census are retained unchanged. A tabulation showing the relationships between the 1970 and 1980 classifications will be available free of charge from OPCS (apply to Customer Services, OPCS, Titchfield, Fareham, Hants).

Reference

Classification of occupations 1980 (HMSO 1980) (Price £13.00 net)

Employee participation in Scottish industry

A paper recently issued by the Centre for Research in Industrial Democracy and participation presents the results of research carried out by a team based at Glasgow University, exploring attitudes and practices with regard to employee participation in Scottish industry and commerce. The study, financed by the Department of Employment, was based on a survey of key people from management and unions in enterprises employing 500 or more employees and covering the whole range of private sector including construction and the service sector as well as manufacturing. It looked, among other things, at management and union structures and their implications for participative systems, the growth and functions of consultative committees and support for worker directors and other schemes of worker participation. The main findings of the study suggest that while there is general enthusiasm on all sides for participation when broadly conceived, this tends to disappear when specific schemes and legislative measures are considered.

Reference

Employee participation in Scottish Industry and Commerce – A Survey of Attitudes and Practices, P Cressey, J McInnes (under the direction of Prof J E T Eldridge). Centre for Research in Industrial Democracy and Participation, University of Glasgow. August 1980.

Homeworking

An article in the October issue of the *Employment Gazette* presents results from a study of homeworkers, and outlines how the results confirm or differ from those of other recent studies. The 1971 Census showed that some 1.5 million people work at home, but this group includes many professionals and craftsmen working on

their own account, some whose home is tied to the workplace (such as farmers, publicans and shopkeepers), and some family workers. It is estimated that between 200,000 and 400,000 people are homeworkers or outworkers in the sense that they work in or from their homes for an employer who supplies the work and is responsible for marketing the results. The article outlines the reasons for doing homework, the rates of pay and attitudes towards pay, the significance of homeworkers' earnings to the family budget, attitudes to intervention, and the reasons for homeworkers reticence about their work, both among blue-collar and white-collar homeworkers.

Reference

'Homeworking: some new evidence', C Hakim, *Employment Gazette*, October 1980, pp. 1105-1110 (HMSO) (Price £1.65 net)

The Paper Box Wages Council

A recently published DE Research Paper (No 12) describes the results of research carried out by a team at Cambridge University on the effects of the abolition of the Paper Box Wages Council. The research for this report was funded by the Department of Employment as part of a larger research project into the effects of the abolition of the Wages Council. It investigated the present system of collective bargaining and conditions of employment in a sample of establishments previously within the scope of the Paper Box Wages Council. The paper concludes that the voluntary collective agreements which replaced the statutory minimum wage setting machinery for the paper box industry have proved ineffective in protecting a minority of workers in the industry from low pay.

Reference

Abolition and after: The Paper Box Wages Council, Christine Craig, Jill Rubery, Roger Tarling and Frank Wilkinson. Labour Studies Group, Department of Applied Economics, University of Cambridge. Research Paper No 12, Department of Employment, June 1980

Justices' Clerks' Assistants -- Pay

Report No 11 of the Standing Commission on Pay Comparability under the Chairmanship of Professor H A Clegg, published in October 1980, covered the pay of some 6,000 justices' clerks' assistants who work in magistrates courts in England and Wales (excluding Inner London). Pay comparisons for the clerical and administrative staff, who comprised some three quarters of the total (as shown by the distribution of staff by grade in Table 1), were based on remuneration data for 349 comparator jobs (in 48 outside organisations) provided by the Civil Service Pay Research Unit (PRU). As similar 'job-for-job' comparisons could not be made directly for the remaining staff (court clerks and deputy clerks), the PRU carried out a special survey using 100 comparators (in 25

organisations) for whom giving professional advice within a system of rules was an important part of their job. Appendix 4 shows the distribution of both samples of comparator organisations by industry group.

Table 2 summarises the PRU data, showing for each principal grade, the comparators' median maximum pay and the justices' clerks' assistants' scale maximum, as adjusted for differences in pensions, fringe benefits and other conditions of employment. Tables 3 and 4 set out the Standing Commission's findings from the PRU studies, in the form of pay scales appropriate to 1 July 1979 and 1 July 1980. Finally Appendix 5 compares sick leave entitlements inside and outside the magisterial service.

Reference

Standing Commission on Pay Comparability, Report No 11: 'Justices' Clerks' Assistants (excluding Inner London)' (Cmnd 8061 October 1980) (Price £2.40 net)

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Agricultural censuses and surveys

Annual Estimates of Crop Production 1979 Harvest

Final estimates of yield for principal agricultural crops, for England, England and Wales and the United Kingdom, were published in Statistical Information Notice Stats. No. 216/80 on July 31 1980.

The August 1980 Sample Pig Enquiry

The results of this enquiry, conducted under Community legislation, were published in Statistical Information Notice Stats. No. 285/80 on October 10 1980.

The 1979/80 Egg Yields Survey

The estimates of the annual yield per laying fowl by system of management for England and Wales were published in Statistical Information Notice Stats. No. 290/80 on October 17 1980.

The June 1980 Agricultural Census

The final results for England were published in Statistical Information Notice Stats. No. 336/80 on December 15 1980.

The statistical material mentioned above may be obtained from:

Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food,
Room A615,
Government Buildings,
Epsom Road,
Guildford, GU1 2LD.

Agricultural statistics for England and Wales

This recently published volume gives for agriculture and horticulture in England and Wales details of the area of crops and the numbers of livestock, workers and holdings; production of crops; agricultural machinery and implements; and prices of agricultural products, livestock, fruit and vegetables, feedingstuffs and fertilisers.

Reference

Agricultural Statistics for England and Wales 1976/77 (HMSO 1980) (Price £15.00 net)

August 1980 sample pig census – Scotland

The results of the Scottish August 1980 Sample Pig Census were published as a Scottish Office Press Notice on 9 October 1980 (Press Notice 1121/80).

Final results of the June 1980 Scottish agricultural census

The final results of the Scottish Agricultural Census held in June 1980 were published as a Scottish Office Press Notice on 29 December 1980 (Press Notice 1444/80).

Output and utilisation of farm produce in the United Kingdom

This publication gives for all holdings in the United Kingdom, the production, output and utilisation of farm and horticultural crops and livestock production for the years 1973 to 1979, together with the estimated values of output. Figures are the latest available at the time of going to press.

Copies are available (Price £6.00 net) from:

Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food (Publications),
Government Buildings,
Tolcarne Drive,
Pinner,
Middlesex,
HA5 2DT

INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

Business Monitors – Annual Census of Production 1978

Readers of *Statistical News* are made aware of the results of the 1978 Census of Production as the Business Monitors become available. The following table lists the monitors published since that which appeared in the last number of *Statistical News*.

<i>Business Monitor Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Standard Industrial Classification Minimum List Heading</i>
<i>P A Series</i>		
102	Stone and slate quarrying and mining	102
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction	103
104	Petroleum and natural gas	104
109	Miscellaneous mining and quarrying	109/1/2/3/and 4
212	Bread and flour confectionery	212
213	Biscuits	213
214	Bacon curing, meat and fish products	214
215	Milk and milk products	215
216	Sugar	216
217	Cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery	217
218	Fruit and vegetable products	218
219	Animal and poultry foods	219
229.2	Starch and miscellaneous foods	229/2
231	Brewing and malting	231
232	Soft drinks	232
239.1	Spirit distilling and compounding	239/1
239.2	British wines, cider and perry	239/2
262	Mineral oil refining	262
271.1	Inorganic chemicals	271/1
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272
274	Paint	274
275	Soap and Detergents	275
276	Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber	276
279.1	Polishes	279/1
279.2	Formulated adhesives, gelatine etc	279/2
279.4	Formulated pesticides etc	279/4
279.5	Printing ink	279/5
279.7	Photographic chemical materials	279/7
311	Iron and steel (General)	311
312	Steel tubes	312
313	Iron castings etc	313
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys	322

323	Miscellaneous base metals	323
333.1	Pumps	333/1
333.2	Valves	333/2
333.3	Compressors and fluid power equipment	333/3 and 4
334	Industrial Engines	334
337	Mechanical handling equipment	337
339.1	Mining machinery	339/1
339.2	Printing, bookbinding and paper goods machinery	339/2
339.3	Refrigerating machinery, space-heating, ventilating and air-conditioning equipment	339/3 and 4
339.5	Scales and weighing machinery and portable power tools	339/5 and 6
339.7	Food and drink processing machinery and packaging and bottling machinery	339/7 and 8
339.9	Miscellaneous (non-electrical) machinery	339/9
341	Industrial (including process) plant and steelwork	341
342	Ordnance and small arms	342
349.1	Ball, roller, plain and other bearing	349/1
349.2	Precision chains and other mechanical engineering	349/2 and 3
351	Photographic and document copying equipment	351
353	Surgical instruments and appliances	353
354	Scientific and industrial instruments and systems	354
362	Insulated wires and cables	362
363	Telegraph and telephone apparatus and equipment	363
364	Radio and electronic components	364
365.1	Gramophone records and tape recordings	365/1
366	Electronic computers	366
367	Radio, radar and electronic capital goods	367
368	Electrical appliances primarily for domestic use	368
369.1	Electrical equipment for motor vehicles, cycles and aircraft	369/1
369.2	Primary and secondary batteries	369/2 and 3
369.4	Electric lamps, electric light fittings, wiring accessories etc	369/4 and 5
370	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	370
381.1	Motor vehicle manufacturing	381/1
383	Aerospace equipment manufacturing and repairing	383
384	Locomotives, railway track equipment, railway carriages, wagons and trams	384, 385
390	Engineer's small tools and gauges	390
391	Hand tools and implements	391
396	Jewellery and precious metals	396
399.5	Drop forging etc	399/5
399.8	Miscellaneous metal manufacture	399/8 9 10 11 and 12
411	Production of man-made fibres	411
415	Jute	415
416	Rope, twine and net	416
417.1	Hosiery and other knitted goods	417/1
423	Textile finishing	423
429.1	Asbestos	429/1
431	Leather (tanning and dressing) and fellmongery	431
432	Leather goods	432
433	Fur	433
442	Men's and boys' tailored outerwear	442
443	Women's and girls' tailored outerwear	443
444	Overalls and men's shirts, underwear etc	444
445	Dresses, lingerie, infants' wear etc	445
450	Footwear	450
462	Pottery	462
463	Glass	463
469.1	Abrasives	469/1
469.2	Miscellaneous building materials and mineral products	469/2
471	Timber	471
472	Furniture and upholstery	472
473	Bedding etc	473
474	Shop and office fitting	474
475	Wooden containers and baskets	475
479	Miscellaneous wood and cork manufactures	479
489	General printing and publishing	489
493	Brushes and brooms	493
494.1	Toys, games and children's carriages	494/1 and 2
494.3	Sports equipment	494/3

496	Plastics products	496
499.1	Musical instruments	499/1
603	Water supply	603

All 163 Business Monitors in the series have now been published.

Copies of these Business Monitors are available on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH (telephone 01-928 1321) or through any Government Bookshop. They are not, however, included in the global subscription arrangements of the Business Monitor series.

Further information on the PA series of Business Monitors and Censuses generally can be obtained from:-

Mr R J Egerton,
Business Statistics Office,
Cardiff Road,
NEWPORT,
Gwent,
NPT 1XG.
Telephone Newport 56111 (STD Code 0633)
Ext 2455.

Size analyses of British businesses

Information derived from Business Statistics Office Register
Summary turnover size analyses of records held on the register which the Business Statistics Office (BSO) maintains largely from information obtained by HM Customs and Excise in the administration of Value Added Tax (VAT) were published in an article which appeared in *British business* on 23 January 1981. The register analyses relate to legal units (i.e. companies, partnerships, sole proprietorships etc). In addition to overall turnover size distributions by industrial grouping, the article contains separate analyses for sole proprietorships and partnerships, as well as an analysis covering corporate businesses, central and local government and non profit-making bodies.

This is the first occasion when data from this source have been published by the BSO. Despite their limitations, the recently published register analyses provide a useful indication of the broad size distribution of British industry in mid-1980 and should be of particular interest to users concerned with making comparisons between different parts of the economy. It is planned to publish such analyses annually in future.

Inquiries about the BSO VAT-based register and information derived from it should be made to:

Central Register Section,
Business Statistics Office,
Cardiff Road,
Newport,
Gwent,
NPT 1XG.
Telephone: Newport (0633) 56111, ext. 2120.

Reference

British business 23 January 1981 (HMSO) (Price 95p net)

TRANSPORT STATISTICS

1978/9 National Travel Survey

Tabulations from the most recent National Travel Survey, conducted during 1978/9, are now available from the Department of Transport.

The 1978/9 Survey was conducted over a twelve-month period commencing in May 1978, covering a sample of 15,000 households. The members of each household were asked to provide details of all journeys made during a pre-specified week, including journey purpose, distance travelled, time taken and mode used. Information about the household and its individual members (e.g. age and working status) and the vehicles available was also collected. Many of the data available on the edited computer tape are compatible with that held for the preceding 1975/76 Survey.

A publication along the same lines as the 1975/6 National Travel Survey Report is planned for late 1981. As well as a selection of tables with accompanying text the publication will contain detailed notes on the way the Survey was carried out.

Further details of the tabulations available and their costs can be obtained from:

Miss D Patterson,
Room S12/12,
Department of Transport,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1 3EB,
Telephone: 01-212 5698

Trends in Commuting to Central London by British Rail

New information on commuting travel to Central London, by area of origin, for the period 1973-79 inclusive is now available, based on an analysis of BR ticket sales. Travel to work by mode data from the censuses in 1966 and 1971 have also been incorporated to provide a near continuous series since 1966 to give a longer term perspective to commuter travel changes.

The results were derived from work carried out by the Department of Transport in association with BR. This was undertaken in response to a commitment given in the 1977 White Paper *Transport Policy* (Cmnd 6836) to monitor changes in the pattern of rail transport in the South East, together with changes in associated factors such as BR fare levels, changes in employment, population, residential and work place locations, house prices etc. It is intended that these aspects, together with considerable detail on BR commuting trends in the South East will be published in 1981.

Overall, total BR commuting to Central London increased marginally up to 1971, but since 1971 it has declined at about 1.4 per cent per annum. In terms of the home base of the commuting trips, up to 1975

commuting to Central London by BR from outside the Greater London Area (GLA) was increasing strongly whereas commuting to Central London from within the GLA was falling sharply. Around 1975 and in the years following, these trends changed substantially; the trend in commuting to Central London over longer distances, essentially from outside the GLA, declined and the longer the distance the sharper was the decline. Commuting to Central London from within the GLA, however, remained at around the same level.

Further results are given in a summary note which can be obtained from:

Mr F Thurygill,
Room S19/19,
Department of Transport,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1.
Telephone: 01-212 7513

Offences relating to motor vehicles

This Home Office publication covers a wide range of motoring offences in England and Wales and gives details of written warnings, fixed penalty notices issued, prosecutions, findings of guilt, sentences and licence disqualifications and endorsements, and ages of offenders.

Also included are the results of roadside breath tests and of subsequent tests of blood or urine. In those cases where a prosecution for driving with alcohol above the prescribed limit led to a finding of guilt, the sentence imposed and the age of the offender are shown.

The 1979 report includes a commentary on the statistics over the past 10 years.

Reference

Offences relating to Motor Vehicles, 1979 (Cmnd 8087) (HMSO 1980) (Price £6.70 net)

TRADE STATISTICS

United Kingdom visible trade: developments in the post-war years

The October issue of *Economic Trends* contained an article describing the main developments in our overseas trade performance since the end of the Second World War, looking, in particular, at the eventful years of the 1970s. The article also examines the commodity and area structure of UK trade, and how they have changed, with some international comparisons. There is some discussion of the factors which have influenced our export and import performance over this period. The article spans a longer run of years than usual and also provides a useful reference source.

Reference

Economic Trends, No 324, October 1980 (HMSO) (Price £6.45 net)

HOME FINANCE

The North Sea and the UK economy: some longer-term perspectives and implications

The Bank of England's December 1980 *Quarterly Bulletin* includes the text of this year's Ashridge Lecture given by the Governor of the Bank on 20 November 1980. The Governor reviewed the impact on the world economy of the great increase in the price of oil in the last decade pointing out that the real price of oil has increased by 400 per cent since 1970 and that the amount of a typical oil-importing country's GDP spent on oil has increased from 1%-2% in 1970 to 6%-8% now. In addition he considered whether the UK is better off because of North Sea oil, whether it is inevitable or desirable that UK industry should contract because of the oil discoveries and how UK oil should affect patterns of consumption and investment.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from:

Bulletin Group,
Economics Division,
Bank of England,
Threadneedle Street,
London,
EC2R 8AH.

Corporate insolvency

An article in the Bank of England's December *Quarterly Bulletin* offers a brief survey of corporate insolvency for the non-specialist reader. It considers the more common underlying causes of insolvency and the factors which lead to the decision to appoint a receiver or to wind up the company. Alternatives to insolvency and the difference between receivership and liquidation are discussed as are various practical aspects and procedures. The article concludes with an appraisal of the present position of financial pressure which underlines the importance of continuous and well-informed contact between banks and their corporate customers.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from the address given above.

Distribution of the national debt at end-March 1980

An article in the Bank of England's December *Quarterly Bulletin* continues the annual series, which began in 1962, analysing the national debt by instrument and holder.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from the address given above.

Capital market issues in the UK

A paper issued by the Bank of England on 10 November is reproduced in the Bank of England's December

Quarterly Bulletin. It provides guidance on the arrangements which the Bank wish to see observed for new issues in the UK capital market so that the development of the market can be on an efficient and orderly basis.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from the address given above.

Methods of monetary control

A paper issued by the Bank of England on 24 November is reproduced in the Bank of England's December *Quarterly Bulletin*. It details various improvements within the existing framework of monetary control which will enable more to be learnt about the properties of a monetary base system and would be consistent with further evolution to either a non-mandatory or a mandatory system of monetary base control.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from the address given above.

Revised company profits

A note in the Bank of England's December *Quarterly Bulletin* examines the effects of recent revisions to industrial and commercial companies' profits on the pre-tax real rate of return on the trading assets of non-North Sea companies; income gearing; and the financial balance.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from the address given above.

There is one change to the tables in the Statistical Annex to the December 1980 issue of the Bank of England's *Quarterly Bulletin*.

Table 13: Consolidated external claims and unused commitments of UK-registered banks in sterling and foreign currencies.

This is a new table which covers the consolidated claims and unused commitments of UK-registered banks in respect of non-residents of the UK. The information is collected primarily to enable the Bank of England to monitor the exposure of these banks, and of the British banking system as a whole, to individual countries. The new table, which is described in an introductory note in the *Bulletin*, does not yet give full information on country exposure; more complete coverage will appear in the March 1981 issue of the *Bulletin*.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) may be obtained from the address given above.

National and sector balance sheets for the United Kingdom

An article has been published in the November 1980 edition of *Economic Trends* giving details of work that has been carried out recently at the Central Statistical Office in respect of the compilation of National and

Sector Balance Sheets for the UK.

Sector balance sheets are similar in concept to company balance sheets in that they show a detailed breakdown of the tangible and financial assets/liabilities that can be attributed to each of the domestic sectors. Moreover in much the same way as the joint analysis a company's balance sheet, profit and loss account and funds statement enables the financial/productive health of the company to be examined, Sector Balance Sheets when considered in conjunction with the comparable flows of income and expenditure for the corresponding sectors, enable similar conclusions about the UK economy to be drawn. The typically more important ones are the inferences about the structure and behaviour of the economy and the study of the major parameters and factors that influence it, the latter being of particular importance in the area of short/medium term forecasting.

The work to date (as the article implies) has predominantly centred around the associated problems of compiling the balance sheets for the 8 domestic sectors, with initial results showing for example, that National Wealth grew 8 fold between 1957 and 1975. The article describes this in presenting the first full set of results, and also discusses further aspects of balance sheet concepts, trends in national wealth and its distribution, the potential usefulness of balance sheets and the possible direction that future work might take. Further information may be obtained from Branch 7, Central Statistical Office, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

Reference

'National and sector balance sheets for the United Kingdom' *Economic Trends* No. 325 November 1980 (HMSO) (Price £6.45 net)

Financial Statistics

The August issue of *Financial Statistics* contained (in a supplementary table) a long run of earlier figures for the components of private sector liquidity. A quarterly series from 1963 to 1975 and monthly figures from May 1975 to December 1978 were shown. In the October issue the standing table showing the components of private sector liquidity was changed so that net transactions as well as amounts outstanding could be shown. Also in this issue the supplementary table on loans for house purchase was altered to show estimates of annuity and endowment advances in 1978 and 1979; also details of repayments of principal broken down into regular repayments, repayments on redemption and other lump sum payments have now been included.

In the November issue the local authority capital account now carries seasonally adjusted series whilst the table on financing of the local authority borrowing requirement now shows overseas official financing for the banking sector and overseas sector separately. In

the December issue the table on insolvencies in England and Wales shows monthly unadjusted figures for the most recent period. The tables on the exchange rates now include rates for the Spanish peseta and the Irish punt, figures for Portuguese escudos are no longer shown. The table on 'foreign exchange rates: related items' now includes rates for the ECU to the US \$.

Reference

Financial Statistics (HMSO) (Price £4.95 net)

OVERSEAS FINANCE

The foreign exchange market in London

An article in the Bank of England's December *Quarterly Bulletin* gives an introduction to the operation of the foreign exchange market for the general reader. It describes the structure of the market in London and how exchange rates are quoted and deals done both in the spot and forward markets. The Bank of England's operations in the market and its supervisory role over the market are also described.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (at £4 per copy) and offprints of this article may be obtained from the address on page 52.28.

OUTPUT STATISTICS

Input-output tables for 1974

Input-output tables for the United Kingdom for the year 1974 will be published shortly as a *Business Monitor*. As usual they have been compiled by the Central Statistical Office.

Input-output tables add an extra dimension to the national accounts as normally compiled and presented. The latter are concerned with the composition and value of goods and services entering into final demand, and the factor incomes generated in the economic process, but not with the transactions between industries which form part of the process of supplying final demand. Input-output tables present these intermediate transactions together with the flows of goods and services to final demand and the incomes generated, within a framework which records all transactions among the industry or commodity groups distinguished in the tables. As a result, they show the detailed input structures of each industry, whereas the mainstream national accounts show only the value added or factor incomes generated in the industry.

The layout of the tables follows the same general pattern as for previous years. However, the tables for 1974 distinguish 102 industry and commodity groups, compared with 90 for 1968 and 1970 and 59 for 1971 and 1972.

Reference

Input-Output Tables for the United Kingdom 1974, *Business Monitor* PA 1004 (HMSO 1981) (Price £7.10 net)

INCOME AND WEALTH

The distribution of income in the United Kingdom, 1978/79

The February issue of *Economic Trends* gives the latest, 1978/79, estimates of the distribution of income for the United Kingdom; including an analysis of pre-tax incomes by source (e.g. employment, self-employment, investment, pensions, etc) at different income levels. The article also includes a section on part-year incomes and their effect on the 1978/79 distribution. The income receiving unit throughout is the tax-unit, which is either a married couple or an unmarried individual who has left school.

The 1978/79 estimates show that the top 1 per cent of tax-units received 5.3 per cent of total pre-tax income, the top 10 per cent received 26.1 per cent and the bottom 10 per cent received 2.4; these percentages shares were similar to those for 1977/78. After tax, the income shares of the top 1 per cent and the top 10 per cent were reduced to 3.9 per cent and 23.4 per cent respectively, whilst the share of the bottom decile group rose to 2.9 per cent.

The top 1 per cent of tax-units paid on average 40 per cent of their pre-tax income in income tax. The next 9 per cent paid on average 22 per cent, and the bottom 20 paid 1 per cent.

Reference

Economic Trends, No 328, February 1981 (HMSO) (Price £8.50 net). Further information is obtainable from:

A McIntyre;
Room 81/1,
Central Statistical Office,
Great George Street,
London SW1P 3AQ.
Telephone 01-233 7681.

Stock of consumer durables in the United Kingdom

An article in the March 1978 issue of *Economic Trends* (subsequently reprinted in *Studies in Official Statistics* No 35) by J R Calder entitled 'The stock of consumer durables in the United Kingdom' provided a selection of figures over the run of years end-1966 to end-1976 for the total and major components of consumer durables. Six variants were considered, two methods of calculating depreciation (straight-line and reducing balance) for each of three life-length assumptions (short, medium and long). Estimates were provided at current (end-year) prices and at constant (1970) prices.

The results for the reducing balance, medium life-length variant were used in the compilation of the balance sheets for the personal sector which formed part of the CSO's evidence to the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth.

The exercise was extended during 1979 by John Dryden ('Estimates of the net stock of consumer durables in the United Kingdom to end-1978') to include

estimates at end-1977 and at end-1978, and to update the base-year of the constant price figures from 1970 to 1975.

A further extension of the exercise, to end-1979, has now been completed. A short paper summarising the results is available, updating some of the tables given in the *Economic Trends* article, of which off-prints are also available. A small charge, of £1 each including postage, is made for these items.

Enquiries to:

Mr T C Jones,
Central Statistical Office,
Great George Street,
London,
SW1P 3AQ.
Telephone 01-233 7431

References

Economic Trends No 293 (March 1978) (HMSO)
Studies in Official Statistics No 35. *Personal sector balance sheets and current developments in Inland Revenue estimates of personal wealth 1978* (HMSO) (Price £2.25 net).

Taxation of husband and wife

A Green Paper, 'The taxation of husband and wife', was published at the beginning of December.

The Green Paper follows a good deal of comment, mostly critical, about the way in which our tax system treats married women. Its purpose is to examine the treatment of married couples under the present system and the criticisms which have been made, and to consider possible changes and the effects which they would have. The change to which most attention is given is one under which, instead of having her income regarded as her husband's for tax purposes, a wife would be treated as independent from her husband so that her income would be separately taxed from his.

As part of the background work for the preparation of the Green Paper a survey was conducted into how the investment income of couples is split on tax returns between husband and wife. A brief article summarising the results of this survey is published in this edition of *Statistical News* (Page 52.3) and fuller results are available in a background paper.

Other background papers include one on the distributional effects of a change to mandatory independent taxation. This gives illustrative effects for couples at different levels of income under four different 'revenue neutral' schemes of taxing husband and wife together with estimates of the aggregate effect for different groups in the population.

References

The taxation of husband and wife, Cmnd 8093, (HMSO 1980) (Price £4.20) 'Investment income of husbands and wives' - article by D W Flaxen and Miss E M Grant, *Statistical News* February 1981 and background paper by Inland Revenue Statistics Division, January 1981*.

Distributional effects of a change to mandatory independent taxation, background paper by Inland Revenue Statistics Division and Department of Health and Social Security Economic Advisers' Office, January 1981*.

*Available from Reference Room, Board of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, Strand, WC2 price £1.00 and £2.50 respectively.

Capital transfer tax and settled property

In August 1980 the Board of Inland Revenue published a consultative document under the above title to encourage informed discussion of the application of capital transfer tax to settled property. This document in turn forms part of the thorough study of capital taxation that the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in 1979.

The consultative document is supported by three statistical appendices dealing respectively with assets held in trust, the destination of assets on death and a comparison of the treatment accorded to property held in discretionary trusts and property held absolutely. The first appendix draws largely on material already published ('The distribution of personal wealth' by A T Dunn and P D R B Hoffman, *Economic Trends*, November 1978, noticed in *Statistical News* 43.41). The second is based on two special surveys. The first covered a stratified sample of estates with a net value exceeding £25,000 and was designed to discover the recipients of the assets bequeathed. The second examined the nature and asset composition of a random sample of distributions from discretionary trusts, paying special attention to the relationship between the beneficiaries and the settlor.

An important conclusion drawn from both surveys, particularly the first, is that there is little evidence of 'generation-skipping', only 3.5 per cent of the total property bequeathed going to the next generation but one; in consequence property passing on death may be regarded as normally suffering tax once a generation. This conclusion is particularly relevant to the third appendix, which uses examples to show how the proposed periodic and exit charges on wealth held in discretionary trusts compare with the charges that would arise on the deaths of successive absolute owners of like property.

Reference

Capital Transfer Tax and Settled Property – a consultative document (Board of Inland Revenue) (issued free).

REGIONAL STATISTICS

Territorial analysis of public expenditure

The Treasury has updated its series of identifiable public expenditure in the four countries of the United Kingdom for the years 1975-76 to 1979-80. Identifiable expenditure is expenditure which can be identified from official records as having been incurred in a particular country. It amounts to around three-quarters of all public expenditure. The series shows expenditure by all spending authorities on the various functional programmes of the public expenditure survey. Summaries of the results are being published in *Regional Trends* and *Social Trends*, and more detailed results for

Scotland and Wales in the *Scottish Abstract* and *Welsh Economic Trends* respectively. Detailed figures for all four countries are however available, particularly for the two most recent years. Any enquiries should be addressed to:

Mr I G Richardson,
HM Treasury,
Parliament Street,
London, SW1P 3AG.
Telephone: 01-233 4488

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Research and development statistics

The Department of Industry (Business Statistics Office and Statistics Division 1) recently completed a survey of expenditure and employment on research and development by British industry in 1978. This updates the results of the 1975 survey. The survey covered private industry, public corporations, research associations and private research laboratories.

Preliminary results were published in an article in *British business* dated 8 August 1980. A detailed set of results now appears in a Business Monitor (the second in the new series), MO 14, 1978, *Industrial Research and Development Expenditure and Employment*.

Further information about statistics of R&D may be obtained from:

Statistics Division 1,
Department of Industry,
Room 106,
Abell House,
John Islip Street,
London,
SW1P 4LN.
Telephone: 01-211 7152 or 01-211 5156

References

British business 8 August 1980 (HMSO) (Price 75p net)
Industrial Research and Development Expenditure and Employment Business Monitor MO 14, 1978 (HMSO) (Price £3.50 net)

INTERNATIONAL

International comparisons of public services employment

There has been much interest recently in comparisons between countries of the levels of public services employment. An earlier note in the August 1980 issue of *Statistical News* gave some of the relevant internationally published data but pointed out that direct comparisons of the data were not valid because of institutional differences between countries. An article in the December issue of *Economic Trends* describes some further work carried out by the Central Statistical Office which has identified the extent of the institutional differences for a sample of six European

Countries including the United Kingdom. In addition, using national sources of data a more consistent analysis of non-trading general government employment in each country, broken down into main areas of activity, has been constructed.

The study has revealed that variations in the proportions employed in general government shown by the international data are largely due to the institutional differences between countries. In particular, in several countries health and personal social services are mainly provided by independent or state subsidised organisations outside the general government sector. In those areas where there can be little or no private sector involvement (i.e. armed forces and public administration) the United Kingdom does not appear to be out of line with the other countries covered by the study in the total numbers employed.

Reference

'International comparisons of public service employment', by Eric Lomas, Central Statistical Office, *Economic Trends*, No 326, December 1980 (HMSO) (Price £6.45 net)

International comparisons of purchasing power

An article in the March issue of *Employment Gazette* highlights the need to consider alternatives to the use of market exchange rates when making international comparisons of measures expressed in national currencies. This is particularly important in comparing wages, expenditure or estimates of national income, when it is often desirable to take into account the internal purchasing power of each currency. The article illustrates the importance of converting currencies using purchasing power parities (PPPs) based on the price in different countries of a broadly comparable 'basket' of goods and services.

There are often substantial differences between comparisons based on market exchange rates and those using PPPs. For instance gross earnings in many other European Community countries appear over half as much again as the UK equivalents when converted at exchange rates, but the gap is reduced dramatically if PPPs are used. The article gives several other detailed examples of the application of PPPs, suggests guidelines for their use and examines some of the pitfalls in making international comparisons in this field.

Reference

Employment Gazette, March 1981 (HMSO) (Price £2.00 net)

Taxes and social security contributions: international comparisons

An article in the December 1980 issue of *Economic Trends* gives a comparison of taxation in seventeen countries within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for the years

1971-1978. The tables are based mainly on national accounts returns supplied to OECD by member countries and show for each country total taxes and social security contributions as a percentage of gross national product; main categories of tax as percentages of gross national product and total taxation; and income taxes and social security contributions paid by households as a percentage of total personal income.

Reference

Economic Trends, December 1980 (HMSO) (Price £6.45 net).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Annual Abstract of Statistics

The 1981 edition of the *Annual Abstract of Statistics*, No 117, was published on 15 December 1980. This publication contains 443 tables that provide a selection of important economic, industrial and social statistics for the United Kingdom. Where possible, annual statistics are given for the period 1969 to 1979 and a few tables publish monthly figures for early 1980.

The main alteration in this issue is the new series of Defence tables in chapter VII. One new table has been added to this chapter. The new data shows the involvement of the Defence services with the civilian community. Four other tables have been combined into two that give similar information to that previously published, but in a less detailed form. These alterations reflect that fact that the primary publication of Defence statistics is now Volume II of the annual *Statement on the Defence Estimates* from which these tables are abstracted.

Four other chapters include a new table and in chapter IV, five new tables give a new classification for some criminal statistics.

The following amendments should be made:

Table 9.15 Food and animal feedingstuffs: disposals

Bacon and ham

1979, delete 519 insert 516

Table 16.54 Income of local authorities from government grants – Scotland

1978/79 Total, delete 1,348,771 insert 1,348,831

1978/79 Rate fund services, delete 99,588 insert 99,648

Reference

Annual Abstract of Statistics, No 117, 1981 Edition (HMSO) (Price £14.00 net)

Economic Trends Annual Supplement

The 1981 edition of the *Economic Trends Annual Supplement* was published on 18 December 1980. This sixth issue of the Supplement brings together long runs of quarterly and annual data for the key series of economic statistics and is of special value to economists, planners, analysts and academic researchers. Some 300 series are included, linked to give continuous runs as far back as possible in the post-1945 period. In many cases there are both seasonally adjusted and unadjusted figures and over half the series span 25 years or more. Tables in the Supplement are backed by concise notes and definitions and an index to further, more detailed, sources.

There are two new tables this year – ‘Tax and price index’ and ‘Sterling exchange rates and UK official reserves’. Among other changes the tables showing expenditure on the gross domestic product now include seasonally adjusted figures at current prices and GDP at market prices as well as at factor cost. The index of industrial production and index numbers of output pages include an additional column showing figures for all industries other than MLH 104 (extraction of mineral oil and natural gas). The index of average earnings on pages 110 to 113 has been revised. It now gives the series shown in *Economic Trends* together with seasonally adjusted figures for the ‘older series’ included in previous Supplements. The latter series was discontinued at the end of 1980 but the figures for earlier years are of value for historical analyses of trends and will therefore continue to appear in the Supplement. The relative labour costs series in the trade competitiveness tables now show actual and normalised series. The series on ‘Taxes paid abroad on income from abroad’ has been deleted from the appropriation account of companies and financial institutions because of deficiencies in the data and the unreliability of the estimates. The balance of undistributed income is not affected by this change.

The following amendments should be made to this edition:

Page 25 Consumer's expenditure – component categories

Clothing including footwear

1979 delete 8,896 insert 8,876

Page 148 Domestic credit expansion, etc.

External and foreign currency finance

1979 delete 2,839 insert –2,839

General government receipts and expenditure

Trading income, rent, interest, etc.

Page 151

	delete		Insert	
1976		5,221		5,223
1977	"	5,897	"	5,909
1978	"	6,461	"	6,488
1979	"	7,321	"	7,353

Page 153

1976	Q3	delete	1,395	insert	1,396
	Q4	"	1,265	"	1,266
1977	Q1	"	1,526	"	1,527
	Q2	"	1,369	"	1,371
	Q3	"	1,693	"	1,697
	Q4	"	1,309	"	1,314
1978	Q1	"	1,714	"	1,720
	Q2	"	1,506	"	1,512
	Q3	"	1,695	"	1,702
	Q4	"	1,546	"	1,554
1979	Q1	"	1,909	"	1,917
	Q2	"	1,714	"	1,722
	Q3	"	1,954	"	1,962
	Q4	"	1,744	"	1,752
1980	Q1	"	2,028	"	2,036
	Q2	"	2,099	"	2,107

Page 157 Sector financial accounts

Personal sector: Saving

1958 delete 664 insert 644

Page 176 Appropriation account of industrial and commercial companies

Rent and non-trading income: Total

1973 Q3 delete 322 insert 263

1974 Q4 " 332 " 322

Reference

Economic Trends Annual Supplement No 6, 1981 Edition (HMSO) (Price £6.45 net)

National Institute Economic Review No 94

Two articles of note appeared in the November issue of the *National Institute Economic Review* (Price £4 net). The first, by Keith Cuthbertson, is entitled ‘The Determination of Expenditure on Consumer Durables’.

This article presents some alternative models of consumers' expenditure on durable goods and examines some general issues of econometric model building. In the preferred model, income, the change in liquid assets and the real cost of credit have a substantial effect on durables expenditure. Hence, both fiscal policy instruments such as a change in the rate of income tax and monetary variables such as nominal interest rates and sterling M3 influence durables expenditure.

The second article is by David Savage and entitled ‘Retail and Consumer Prices: An Explanatory Note’.

In this Review, as a response to comments from readers, we have replaced the consumer price index by the retail price index as a measure of annual price inflation in our Summary table of our forecast for the home economy. This note therefore sets out the differences between the two series in order to make the nature of the change clear.

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

4th International Time Series Meeting – Valencia (Spain) 22-26 June 1981

So far, 120 specialists from 26 countries have indicated their intention to attend this important conference. The scheduled speakers will include T. W. Anderson, R. J. Bhansali, W. S. Cleveland R. E. Kalman, R. D. Martin, P. Newbold, M. B. Priestley, E. A. Robinson, P. Shaman and H. Tong. Contributed papers are welcome and the Proceedings, as usual, will be published. For further information, contact the convenor:

Oliver D. Anderson,
ITSM Spain,
9 Ingham Grove,
Lenton Gardens,
Nottingham NG7 2LQ,
England

Telephone: National – (0602) 708085, International – (44602) 708085

The Time Series Analysis and Forecasting (TSA&F) Society is an international non-profit making body, established to provide a professional organisation for Time Series Analysts throughout the world. Details and application form from Oliver D. Anderson, TSA&F Society, c/o the above address.

Institute of Development Studies – Development Statistics: A Course for Officials, 4 May-31 July 1981

The IDS Now regularly offers each year a course in general statistics of three months' duration. This course is designed to have a strong, specific operational focus and application. It is being presented in response to a declared need for a practical statistical programme that recognises and caters for the special requirements of developing countries. Although the basic context of the programme remains the same certain topics will be given greater emphasis to reflect participants' own special background and concerns. The course will be of particular interest to those countries which have staff requiring short-term practical training in data collection and analysis.

There are vacancies for 25 participants. The fees are £1,625 for the seminar and £728 for accommodation and breakfast for 13 weeks. Both charges are subject to revision. Notice of any change will be given to potential study fellows.

Further information is available from:

The Assistant Secretary (Studies Programme),
Institute of Development Studies,
University of Sussex,
Falmer, Brighton,

Cables: Development Brighton,
Telex: 877159 HOVE IDS.

LATE ITEMS

Stock relief consultative document

The Inland Revenue released a Consultative Document on Stock Relief in November giving details of proposed reforms. Stock relief was introduced in 1975 as a temporary measure at a time of great pressure on business liquidity as a result of inflation. It was intended to give relief for businesses having to replace stocks in a period of rising prices, but it suffers from serious defects. The proposed reforms seek to overcome these and represent an important step forward in the direction of ensuring that taxation of business profits takes account of the effects of inflation.

The proposals give relief on opening stocks, the amount of the relief being calculated by reference to the movement of an index of the prices of stocks, instead of on the change in the book value of a firm's stocks (as abated by a percentage of profits); they also involve the abolition (in most cases) of clawback of past relief when the book value of stocks falls; and (for very large companies) a restriction of relief to take account of the extent to which stocks are financed by borrowing.

Appendices to the Consultative Document give (1) provisional values of the proposed 'all-stocks' index, (2) figures of the yield of corporation tax, of the number of companies paying it and of the cost of the present form of stock relief, analysed by broad industrial sector, (3) examples of how the proposed scheme would work. (An Inland Revenue press release was issued in January taking the provisional values of the all-stocks index up to December 1980.)

In preparing the Document estimates were produced to investigate the effects of the proposed reform, including the generation of forecast tax yields under the new proposals. The calculations used the Inland Revenue's computer simulation model of corporation tax. The model uses a stratified sample of about 5,000 individual companies to forecast or simulate profit levels and tax allowances under specified economic assumptions. Tax liability is then calculated and grossed to population levels. The effects of suggested legislation are estimated by amending the tax calculations to incorporate the proposed changes.

As the proposed stock relief reforms incorporate the use of an all-stocks price index to measure stock price movements over the whole corporate and unincorporated sector, and provide for certain abatements of relief on account of companies' borrowing, the estimates relied extensively on statistical work undertaken by the

The effects of taxes and benefits on household income, 1979

This is the latest analysis of the redistributive effects of government taxation and expenditure. This year's article contains a number of new features. For the first time it covers redistribution, both between households of different composition types, and between households at different income level *within* each composition type; and it includes an analysis where household income is adjusted to a 'per equivalent adult' basis.

Amongst the principal findings are that taxes and benefits increased the share of total income going to the bottom 20 per cent of households on the income scale from 1/2 per cent to 7 per cent. On the 'adjusted' basis their effects appeared more marked, raising the share from 0.8 per cent to 11 per cent.

Reference

Economic Trends, January 1981 (HMSO) (Price £8.50 net)

Alphabetical Index

The index to *Statistical News* covers the last nine issues. Page numbers are prefixed by the issue number, e.g. 49.30 signifies number 49, page 30.

Generally speaking articles relating to the United Kingdom, Great Britain, England and Wales or covering several geographical groups are not indexed under these groups, but topics with a significant regional interest are indicated, e.g. regional earnings. Articles and notes dealing particularly with Scottish statistics are indexed under 'Scotland' as well as the topic, e.g. 'Scotland, population projections', and similarly for Wales and Northern Ireland.

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