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# STATISTICAL NEWS



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## Government Statistical Service

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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## Home Office Statistical Department

Director of Statistics

**Rita Maurice**

**S1 Division – Chris Lewis**

Police statistics, criminal and domestic court proceedings, the offenders index

**S2 Division – Peter Ward**

Prison statistics, probation statistics, mentally disordered offenders, parole and the criminal justice system as a whole

**S3 Division – Tom Kavanagh**

Immigration statistics, statistics of the ethnic minorities, fire statistics, drugs, experiments on living animals, licensing etc.

Common Services

**Gordon Barclay** – computer support

**Eric Curson** – general administration



*Seated l to r: Peter Ward, Chris Lewis, Rita Maurice and Tom Kavanagh*



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# The Home Office Statistical Department

**Rita Maurice, Director of Statistics, Home Office**

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In 1982, the Home Office shared with the Foreign Office the celebration of its bicentenary: the two Departments were formed in 1782 when the apportionment of the main business of the state between the two geographical departments of the Southern Department and the Northern Department was replaced by one Secretary of State dealing with foreign affairs and the other with domestic and colonial affairs. By 1801 military affairs and oversight of the colonies had been transferred to an additional Secretary of State – for war – and the Secretary of State for the Home Department, or the Home Secretary, became the ‘residuary legatee’ for all those domestic affairs which did not come within the purview of another Minister. Thereafter, as the role of government grew, the Home Secretary progressively gained responsibilities with the passing of new legislation and shed others to his colleagues. That process continues with, for example, the Home Secretary’s new responsibilities for data protection embodied in the 1984 Data Protection Act and the transfer of radio regulation to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in 1983. But throughout the history of the Home Office the primary responsibility of the Home Secretary has remained that for law and order and his ‘residuary legatee’ role has continued.

That background is reflected in the responsibilities of the Statistical Department of the Home Office today, since the Department exists to provide a statistical service on those functions for which the Home Secretary has responsibility. The major part of the resources of the Department is devoted to work on the criminal justice system: two out of the three statistical divisions. The Director of Statistics now reports to the Deputy Secretary responsible for criminal policy. The third division of the department covers a wide range of topics, reflecting the ‘residual nature of the duties of the Home Secretary’: much of their work is on immigration control, but the division also deals with statistics about the ethnic minorities relevant to the Home Secretary’s responsibility for race relations, information on fires and the fire service stemming from the Home Secretary’s civil protection role, and statistics on the misuse of drugs, on experiments on living animals, on the operation of the television licensing system, on licensing legislation on betting and the sale of liquor, on expenses at general and European elections and so on.

An organisation chart for the Department is on page 70.4.

The nature of the Home Secretary’s duties also determines the type of statistical work done by the department, as well as its subject matter. Although the department has a responsibility to provide whatever statistical advice is needed, the bulk of its work is concerned with the collection, compilation and preparation of regular statistics on the services and administrative functions for which the Home Secretary has some responsibility. The statistics have long been used to account to the public for the operation of these functions and to provide information as a basis for formulating policy on them. More recently, the statistics are being developed as sources of management information; since most Home Office statistics monitor the operation of administrative systems they currently have particular importance, given the emphasis on controlling public expenditure and improving the management of government services.

Being mainly concerned with Home Office services, the statistical work of the Home Office is comparatively self-contained. But there are some links with the work of other parts of the Government Statistical Service, in particular with the Lord Chancellor’s Department and the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. The latter stem from use of population data, in particular for the ethnic minorities, and the use of the results of their continuing surveys – the Labour Force Survey, the General Household Survey, and the International Passenger Survey (for estimates of migration). The other side of that coin is that Home Office statistical publications have a relatively small sale: it is rare for a publication to sell more than 1,000 copies and sales of some publications are numbered in tens rather than hundreds. This was one factor leading to the establishment in 1979 of the series of Home Office Statistical Bulletins, which provide an easy and speedy means of publication; the Department now issues between 25 and 30 such Bulletins each year, in addition to six detailed annual volumes. Even so, a substantial number of parliamentary questions have to be dealt with, amounting to some 500 a year.

*This is the sixth in a series of articles on the structure and functions of the Government Statistical Service. The seventh in the series, on the Overseas Development Administration, will appear in the November 1985 issue.*



### **Some history**

Some Home Office statistical series have a long history; criminal statistics have been published in some form or another since 1857. However, professional statisticians came relatively late to the Home Office. The first professional statistical adviser was appointed in 1953 but the production of the regular criminal statistics continued for many years to be carried out without professional involvement and the acquisition of responsibility for other statistical work occurred gradually, mainly in the 1960s and 1970s. The statistical adviser in 1957 – Tom Lodge – assumed responsibility for research as well as statistics and built up a small staff of professional statisticians. But it was not until 1967 that a separate statistics division was formed under a chief statistician – Evelyn Gibson – supported by five professional statisticians. Thereafter the number of supporting professional staff grew rapidly and by 1974 numbered 21 – when Stella Cunliffe became Director of Statistics in charge of a separate statistical department of three divisions, each headed by a chief statistician (grade 5), as it is today. Milestones in the acquisition of new responsibilities were the taking over of responsibility for the central record of prisoners in 1965 and for immigration statistics and fire statistics in 1974. Thereafter, smaller additions continued but the Rayner Review in 1980 was followed by retrenchment. The elimination of a number of small, non-essential, statistical operations, and further computerisation enabled staff numbers on the areas then covered to be reduced from 158 in 1979 to 141 in 1984. Nevertheless, at a slower pace, the transfers of statistical work continued, and the reduction in complement was offset by additions to cope with them. The complement of Statistical Department is currently 173, of whom 26 are professional statisticians. The Statistical Department budget for 1985/86 amounts to nearly £6 million, about £2¼ million of which is accounted for by computing costs.

### **Computing arrangements**

The current 173 staff include six who comprise the computer support section (see the organisation chart) set up in 1975 following a report by a consultant (the Firnberg report) on the computing needs of the Department. Its function is, in conjunction with the computing division which serves the whole of the Home Office, to assist statisticians with their computing problems and ensure that the right computing facilities, both hardware and software, are available to them. The section has been responsible for the development and, since 1977, the support of a user-friendly tabulation package (SDTAB). And the existence of this section has made it possible for statistical sections to develop their analytical and modelling work by means of statistical software

packages and to take over responsibility for an increasing amount of their own output work. In time it is planned that all of the output work will be done within Statistical Department. Recently this section has been responsible for planning and supervising the extension of the terminal facilities from six in 1982 to the current 40. These terminals provide access to the main frame (currently two ICL 2966 running the George 3 and VME operating systems) and also local processing capacity. A consequence of this development, the full extent of which was not anticipated, is the use of the word processing facilities which come with the terminals to provide a quick and efficient means of updating statistical tables and revising drafts of commentaries on the statistics.

### **Some current topics**

In the space of a short article of this kind it is possible to give only a few examples of the statistical work done in the Home Office and what follows is a small selection of topics which have been in the forefront in the last few years.

#### *The police*

Over the last year the quarterly returns on crime recorded by the police have been analysed in order to assess the effects on crime of the miners' industrial action and the diversion of police resources to policing it. Given the uncertainties over the extent to which crime is recorded – the 'hidden economy' or 'dark figure' of crime is estimated from victim surveys to be some four times as large as that the police record – it is perhaps not surprising that the results were inconclusive! There is plenty of scope for variations in recording to occur. On the other hand, the greater part of what goes unrecorded is comparatively trivial and, in the short term, in circumstances when recording practices are unlikely to change much, recorded offences provide a more satisfactory indicator of changes in crime.

#### *The courts*

The original nucleus of the work of the Statistical Department, around which the other statistical work came to be grouped, is that on criminal court proceedings. This is a very large statistical system, which records the outcome of over two million court cases each year. Over a million of these are motoring offences and about half a million are the less serious, summary offences, both of which are dealt with by local magistrates. But over half a million cases a year relate to indictable offences, where there is the possibility of the case going to the Crown Court and being tried by jury. Most of the analytical work concentrates on these cases. Over the last year or so attention has been focused on assessing the results of the implementation, mainly from the end of May 1983, of provisions of the 1982 Criminal Justice Act. This changed the sentencing structure for



young offenders and introduced the new sentence of youth custody for sentences of over four months. The changes did not have a large effect on the number of custodial sentences imposed, but there was a move away from detention centre orders to youth custody which made it necessary to change the use of some detention centre accommodation.

### *Offending*

Recently a major project on the pattern of criminal careers has come to fruition with the publication of a Statistical Bulletin and a presentation to the Royal Statistical Society's Government Statistical Service Study Group on the criminal careers of those born in 1953, 1958 and 1963. Those offenders born in selected weeks have been identified and the successive convictions of these offenders have been associated. The first results of these 'cohort' studies show that a small proportion of the offenders account for a very large proportion of the offences – about five per cent of the men born in 1953 accounted for 70 per cent of all the convictions for indictable offences of that group up to the age of 28. But at the same time the prevalence of convictions was widespread and, by the age of 28, nearly one in three of the group had at least one conviction for an indictable offence to their discredit. These data provide a very flexible basis for analysis and open up the possibility of examining criminal careers with a view to assessing whether certain types of offence and offender might, with advantage, be treated differently by the criminal justice system, for example by being cautioned rather than taken to court, thereby reducing the cost of the criminal justice system and the penalty on the offender without detrimental effects on future offending.

### *Prison statistics*

The computer system on individual prisoners, maintained by S2 Division, provides the means of identifying the whereabouts of a prisoner and also the basis for statistics of the prison population. As such, it is an important planning and management tool and currently the computer system is being redesigned so that it should better serve the needs of prisons management, both central and local. Analyses of the composition of the prison population and of short and longer term trends are needed by the management of the prison service which is responsible for an annual expenditure of some £600 million and a large building programme which inevitably has a long-time horizon. Recently the basis of the long-term projections has had to be re-examined because of the prospect of a substantial reduction in the number of males in those young age groups for which the rates of reception into prison are highest. For some years the projections had been based solely on the estimation and projection of time trends in prison

receptions and the average time served. But this year, alternative projections have been prepared taking account of both time trends in the prison series and of the official population projections. Another recent development has been the appointment of a statistician to analyse the information on the costs of the prison service and to develop performance indicators relating to prisons.

The statistics of prisoners are also used in the formulation and monitoring of criminal justice policy. Recent examples here are the changes in the sentencing structure for young offenders already referred to and the reduction in the minimum qualifying period for parole in July 1984.

### *Probation statistics*

Co-ordination of the needs of local management of the probation service with those for central statistics is much further developed for the central record of clients of the probation service than for that of prisoners, partly because the system has the advantage of having been set up more recently, in 1979. The probation service is administered in 56 local areas, but with the spread of local computing facilities it has proved possible to develop direct data input on computer tape, and more recently on floppy disk, as a by-product of local systems and now nearly one half of the information is received in this way. This development has produced appreciable staff savings for the Home Office and is also found more convenient by the local probation areas themselves.

### *Immigration statistics*

The continuing interest in immigration control requires regular publication of up-to-date figures as well as the provision of statistics to formulate and monitor government policies. Computerisation of the process of control since August 1980 has led to improvements in the methods of production of certain regularly published statistics, and the computer system has been modified and further exploited to provide new management information on the operation of immigration control after entry to the United Kingdom as a basis for assessing its efficiency and effectiveness. Further computerisation is being developed and these plans are being drawn up with the needs for statistics and management information in mind as well as the needs of day-to-day administration.

### *Fire statistics*

Here the current emphasis is on analysing the reports on fires and other incidents attended by local authority fire brigades both in order to identify the types of fire which cause most concern (particularly in terms of casualties) as a guide to formulating appropriate prevention



policies and in order to throw light on the operation of the fire service. As part of the fire service review of fire cover standards, the report on which was published in May, a major survey of fire cover standards was undertaken. Work has also recently commenced on a model for analysing manpower deployment and fire service expenditure.

#### *Drugs statistics*

The increased problem of illicit use of drugs and the Government's response to it has required more detailed analysis of the figures on drug addicts, drugs seizures and drug offenders. The increased numbers of returns to be processed have increased the work involved but greater efficiency is being achieved by computerisation of the index of notified addicts and by redesigning the forms on drug seizures and drug offenders as computer input documents.

#### **The future**

The prime objective of the Statistical Department is to assist the Home Office in being more effective and efficient; so long as constraints on public expenditure continue, it will be an important role. That requires re-

examination of the present statistical systems to ensure that they are still of maximum relevance and where possible reducing them, in order to provide room to meet new demands. It also means ensuring that new computer systems are planned with the production of good management information in mind. Over the next year that task will be made easier by the move of about 60 of the staff currently located in Tolworth (Surrey) to central London in order to be close to the policy divisions which they serve. This move is a consequence of the consolidation of Home Office accommodation which will bring together all the headquarters staff of prison department and concentrate the outer London staff in Croydon, including the remaining Statistical Department staff in Tolworth who will move to Croydon during 1986.

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# The General Household Survey: its policy uses by Government

Maureen Bennett, Senior Assistant Statistician, Central Statistical Office

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## Introduction

The General Household Survey (GHS) was introduced in 1971. It is a continuous sample of private households in Great Britain (that is, non-institutional households) with interviews taking place throughout the year based on an annually selected sample. The GHS provides a means of examining relationships between some of the most significant variables with which social policy is concerned and is thus of considerable importance to central government in the allocation of resources to social programmes. One of the most important uses is measuring trends. It also complements the decennial population censuses.

The survey is sponsored by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) at a cost of about £1 million per annum, and is carried out by the Social Survey Division of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS). The results are published each year in the *General Household Survey* report<sup>1</sup> and much of the data is used and illustrated with graphs too in *Social Trends*<sup>2</sup>.

The conduct of the survey, the quality and use of the data and the cost are monitored by an interdepartmental committee of users and producers. In general, many of the questions which are repeated from year to year (known as the core material) are of interest to more than one department, for example for classification purposes; examples of such questions are the structure of the population in terms of its age and sex, socio-economic groups, household types and so on. The remainder of the questionnaire changes each year to allow flexibility to meet the changing policy needs of departments. Of course, there are various constraints on the number and type of questions asked, the main ones being cost and length of interview, since it is important to gain the co-operation of a high proportion of selected households in what is a voluntary survey.

Government departments who wish to include questions in the GHS must justify them in terms of intended policy applications of the results. Since 1982 a log of such policy uses has been prepared each year as a basis for deciding whether the GHS should continue. This 'Log of Uses' is maintained by the CSO as a result of a recommendation made by the Rayner Review of the Government Statistical Services (as reported in the 1981 White Paper on Government Statistical Services, Cmnd. 8236).<sup>3</sup>

Another effect of the Rayner Review was to recommend a reduction in the sample size by about 14 per cent. However, response is high (over 80 per cent) and in 1984 for example an effective set sample of

11,867 addresses yielded a response from 9,583 households. More extensive analysis of data can be obtained by aggregating the results of the GHS from more than one year. The GHS is only one data source used in the decision-making process, and GHS data are often used in conjunction with other data.

The information collected covers six broad subject areas: Population, Housing, Employment, Education, Health and Income. Some data on these subjects are collected every year in order to monitor changes. Some sections are repeated periodically. Other topics are covered now and again, and occasionally special sections are introduced to cover items of current interest. For example, in 1982 a new series of questions on bus travel was introduced to assess the difficulties which some people experience in travelling by bus. Since 1976, questions on smoking have been asked on a biennial basis, and consumption of alcohol since 1978. The GHS has also been used as a sampling frame to identify potential candidates for research in specific areas through further sample surveys.

The aim of this article is to give a broad idea of the uses made by government departments of GHS data. The following six sections correspond to the six broad categories in the GHS, followed by a section on the range of special items covered in the last few years. Finally, details are given on how to obtain GHS data.

## Population and family information

From its beginning, the GHS has provided detailed information about the types of household and family in which people live. The questions asked in the Population section allow analysis of the structure of households and of how this structure has changed over the years. This information on household type can then be cross-analysed with data on income, socio-economic group and other relevant variables. Household types of particular policy interest are one-parent families and people living alone.

The elderly form another group of special interest. The Population section examines the household circumstances of the elderly, for example the proportion of old people living alone, their age, and the proportion living with relatives. (The GHS does, of course, exclude people living in institutions.) This information is valuable to the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) in monitoring the needs of the elderly and the resources required to meet those needs. It is used in conjunction with information collected in the Health section from time to time on elderly dependency.



The GHS is the only survey to cover simultaneously country of birth, colour and ethnic origin. Although the numbers in the GHS are small, aggregation of figures over several years gives a substantial base for analysis of the characteristics of the ethnic minority population. The Population Statistics Division of OPCS and the Home Office require such data for estimating the size and character of the ethnic minority population.

The Population section of the GHS also investigates the marriage and fertility history of all women aged 18-49 and those aged 16-17 who were ever married. These data are used in conjunction with statistics from other sources to analyse fertility trends. Information about the number of children already born and the expected future family size is of importance in developing the assumptions about completed family sizes, which underlie the population projections made by OPCS; the projections are used to help assess future housing and educational requirements. The ages at which women have their children and the changing patterns in marriage and cohabitation and legitimate and illegitimate births are also of great importance in assessing future trends.

#### **Housing and household amenities**

Information from the Housing section highlights the relationships between the main housing variables and various household characteristics, in order to monitor trends in patterns of tenure and ownership of consumer durables. Changes in recent years include an increased proportion of owner-occupied properties and a decreased proportion of privately rented furnished accommodation.

The Department of the Environment is one of the principal users of housing information. The GHS is the Department's only source of information about mortgage expenditure on housing which can be analysed by both income and length of residence. GHS information has been very important in monitoring the distribution of tax relief and subsidy, an area of major policy interest.

The Department of the Environment has studied both the proportion of council house tenants who have not considered buying their home, and their reasons for not buying, and those who have considered buying but have not yet done so. The information showed that the number of sales which could be expected was smaller than was suggested by data from other sources, such as the size of the local authority stock or the right to a mortgage. These findings cast valuable light on the problems that would beset some of the schemes for transferring ownership to tenants.

The GHS monitors the changing availability of household amenities such as central heating, telephones,

televisions and other similar items. Ownership of cars and vans is an item of particular interest to the Department of Transport for monitoring trends at national and regional levels. The GHS allows analysis of car ownership according to socio-economic group, tenure and economic activity.

#### **Employment**

The Employment section is concerned with different aspects of economic activity. For example, from GHS data, people working can be compared with those unemployed, cross-analysed by their marital status, age, number of dependent children, economic status of spouse and socio-economic group. Socio-economic group is derived from details about a person's job. In the case of an unemployed person, the socio-economic group classification is derived from information on his most recent job.

The Department of Employment has used GHS data in conjunction with less detailed or less frequent data from other sources to monitor changes in the size and characteristics of the labour force—for example, changes in the activity rates of various groups, such as married women or the elderly; assessment of the effect of dependent children on activity rates of women; and measurement of the number of people seeking work. Although the GHS sample is too small to be used as the main source of data for estimating the numbers of people seeking work, including those not claiming benefit, the Department of Employment has used it to update less frequent estimates from other sources. The information is used in the development of employment policies and to monitor trends.

GHS data also provide a valuable insight into changes in the composition of the labour force. The proportions of men and women in full and part-time work may be estimated, and the proportion of the labour force who are unemployed and the proportion self-employed. A number of other characteristics of the population of the labour force can be assessed, such as age, marital status, economic activity and socio-economic group. This information is used by the Department of Employment to supplement data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and from the Long Term Unemployment study. Indeed, the subject coverage between these surveys and the GHS is closely coordinated to avoid gaps and unnecessary duplication; the GHS is a particularly valuable source for subjects where a personal interview is essential in order to collect reliable data, as a significant proportion of the information collected in the LFS is provided by someone else in the household.

#### **Education**

The Education section of the GHS questionnaire allows analysis of the association between education and socio-economic background. Information is collected on full



and part-time education and other characteristics of interest, such as the educational establishment attended. Since 1981, the questionnaire has covered students who normally live outside the household such as those resident in educational institutions.

The Department of Education and Science (DES) are the main users of the Education section. They have used the data to estimate the rate of return to post-compulsory education by cross-analysing income by level of qualification attained. These results contribute to decisions on resource allocation and policy development for further and higher education.

DES also examine the relationship between socio-economic background and educational level attained for people aged 25-49 who are not currently in full-time education. Questions are asked about the type of educational establishment last attended and the educational qualification gained. A more detailed analysis of the relationship between socio-economic background and education is made by examining the links between the type and level of education individuals have received and their own current socio-economic status. Such information provides an insight into progress towards equal job opportunities for men and women. The GHS is the only source that can provide this information in the inter-censal period.

### **Health**

The GHS provides the only survey source of data for continuous monitoring by DHSS of characteristics of both users and non-users of health and personal social services.

An indication of use made of the National Health Service (NHS) is given by the number of GP consultations and the site of the consultation (at the surgery, by telephone or at home). The data have also been very useful to DHSS in regular negotiations with the medical profession and as evidence for the Doctors and Dentists Review Body. The GHS has the advantage of being a well-respected source of information and, as far as GP consultations are concerned, is the only source which can provide data on a regular basis.

GHS data were used extensively by the Working Group on Inequalities in Health and in their subsequent report, the Black Report<sup>4</sup>. The information provided by the GHS was unique in that the use of health services could be related to the need for health care.

In 1982, questions were included for the first time on private medical insurance to supplement the somewhat limited statistical information available from other sources. Changes in the use of the NHS and the private sector are measured by DHSS to monitor the continuing expansion of private medicine and the effect of government policies on the private sector.

The GHS is the principal source of information on

the prevalence of smoking and the quantity and types of tobacco products smoked. It also provides data for valuable analyses by age, sex and socio-economic group. The information is used extensively in developing and monitoring the government's policies to discourage smoking and in estimating the effects of smoking on health.

GHS data on drinking habits and attitudes have been used to help establish health education programmes which could result in a reduction of the burden on the health and personal social services caused by alcohol abuse. The information has also helped in the formulation of policies on licensing laws and taxation.

### **Income**

Income in the GHS is used mainly as a classificatory variable rather than as a topic in its own right. In 1979 the income questions were elaborated considerably to bring them more into line with similar questions in the Family Expenditure Survey, which made possible a better measurement of the social dimensions of poverty. The Income section is potentially of great interest to the CSO and DHSS in studying the social aspects of income distribution, poverty, taxes and benefits.

### **Special items in the GHS**

From time to time, the GHS carries a special series of questions covering an item of particular interest. These topics are usually only covered on a 'one-off' basis to provide information in an area where little is known. If necessary, a follow-up study can be made at a later stage either in the GHS for a subsequent year or in a separate survey. A few examples of the wide variety of special items in the GHS over the last few years are given below.

A short series of questions about travel by bus was included in the 1982 GHS at the request of the Transport and Road Research Laboratory of the Department of Transport as part of their research on possible modifications to bus design. The section sought to identify two groups of informants – those who used buses but had some kind of physical difficulty in doing so, and those who did not use buses because of physical difficulty. The data could then be used to estimate the number of people who might benefit from particular changes in bus design or service provision.

The GHS included for the first time in 1981 a section on voluntary work at the request of the Voluntary Services Unit of the Home Office. The Home Office wished to obtain reliable statistical information about the nature and extent of voluntary work for the development of government policy towards the voluntary sector. The main areas of policy are in enhancing voluntary activity through grants, publicity campaigns and general education. The GHS questions sought to estimate the proportion of people who do voluntary



work, to describe their characteristics and provide information about the nature of the voluntary work and for whom it is done.

Questions on household burglary were included in the GHS in 1971 and 1972, again in 1979 and 1980 and will be repeated in 1985 and 1986. GHS results show that about twice as many offences of burglary in a dwelling occur as are recorded by the police. The estimated annual increase in such offences averaged one per cent per year over the period 1972 to 1980, much smaller than the four per cent average recorded by the police, mainly due to more complete recording of burglaries. This information is used for crime prevention purposes.

Other special sections which have been covered in the GHS include use of leisure time, non-school activities on school premises and a study of informal caring by family and friends of sick or elderly people.

#### **How to obtain GHS data**

A report is published annually which gives the results of

many tabulations of GHS data with commentary on the tables. Information which is not published in the report may be provided in special tabulations from the Social Survey Division of OPCS, subject to the availability of resources at OPCS. *Social Trends* contains a large number of tables derived from the GHS.

Data for research or educational purposes may be obtained in the form of a computer tape from the Economic and Social Research Council Data Archive at the University of Essex. For purely educational purposes, teaching handbooks are available from the Sociology Department of the University of Surrey.

#### **References**

1. *General Household Survey 1982* (HMSO 1984) (Price £13.70 net)
2. *Social Trends*—latest edition *Social Trends 15* (HMSO 1985) (Price £19.95 net)
3. *Government Statistical Services* (Cmnd. 8236) (HMSO) April 1981. (Price £2.10 net)
4. *Inequalities in Health*, Report of a DHSS research working group. Published version by Peter Townsend (Penguin 1982) (Price £2.95 net) ISBN 0 14 022420 3

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# The development of a new register of businesses

J. A. Perry, Statistician, Business Statistics Office

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## Historical background

The idea of a central register of businesses has been discussed over a number of years. Articles on the subject have appeared in *Statistical News*, in the first issue in 1968 by J Stafford<sup>1</sup>, in 1969 by L. S. Berman<sup>2</sup> and in 1975 by D R Lewis<sup>3</sup>. The present article describes the progress since 1975 that has been made within the Business Statistics Office (BSO) towards setting up a central register. Earlier aims were ambitious: the concept of a central register of businesses which would be available for all government departments in conducting their inquiries has not been realised. The thrust of recent work has been to unify the registers of businesses held within the BSO, in particular two registers that have been maintained for inquiries into the production industries and into the service industries.

Business statistics have tended to be concentrated on the manufacturing industries. During the early 1970s following the setting up of the BSO, new inquiries were set up within an integrated framework. The two main inquiries within the production industries, the quarterly inquiries into manufacturers' sales and the annual census of production (ACOP), both use the same register for their selection. The main statistical unit for these inquiries has been the 'establishment' which is the smallest unit for which the full range of census statistics are available. This rather nebulous description can be expanded by stating that establishments comprise one or more local units (factories or sites). The production register comprised around 120,000 local units some of which were grouped together to form establishments. Data sources were numerous but no consistent source was available to ensure completeness and to prevent duplication.

Section 55 of the 1973 Finance Act gave powers to Her Majesty's Customs & Excise (C&E) to transfer to the BSO, for the purpose of compiling a central register of business or for any statistical survey, the following information about units registered for VAT: VAT registration number, name, trading style, address, legal status, trade classification and turnover. These powers were re-affirmed in the 1983 Value Added Tax Act. The VAT system covers all businesses trading in the United Kingdom with the exception of those with turnovers below a fixed threshold (£18,700 in 1984/5), which may register voluntarily, and in eight trades that are exempt from VAT (insurance, postal services, education, health, finance, property services, betting and funeral services). In addition some businesses trading only in zero-rated goods may elect not to be registered. It is a

source that is regularly and consistently updated and thus appeared an ideal source for a central register. It was initially used in inquiries in the distributive and service industries but not in the production industries. Responsibility for inquiries to the construction industry (other than the annual census of production of the construction industry) rests with the Department of the Environment (DOE) but since 1980 new VAT registrations supplied to BSO have been used also for the maintenance of the DOE construction register. A separate register based partly on VAT data is maintained by the BSO for the mainly exempt property services.

## The creation of an integrated register

Once the VAT based register had proved its usefulness for the inquiries into the distributive and service trades and had been found easy to maintain, the extension to the production industries was considered. The resulting integrated register was created towards the end of 1984. Reference was made to its introduction in a previous issue of *Statistical News*<sup>4</sup>. It combines the legal unit (companies, sole proprietors, partnerships, etc.) information, available from VAT sources, with the local unit information on the earlier production register. At its most aggregate level there is the enterprise group which comprises all legal units in common ownership. The apex of the enterprise and its country of ownership is identified. Below the enterprise are the individual legal units. Within the production industries the next tier is the establishment, and beneath that the local unit. For the production industries the establishment remains the unit to which inquiry forms are mailed, while reporting at the legal unit level continues for the distributive and service industries. Where a legal unit is not classified to the production industries but has some production activity a separate production activity unit is set up in addition to the legal unit; similarly activity units are created for the retail inquiries. The legal unit can then receive inquiry forms for more than one industrial sector.

In order to provide the links between the legal unit and the local unit it was necessary to obtain VAT numbers for local units on the production register. Initially this was done by inserting a question on the annual census of production and quarterly sales inquiry forms. In recent years many of the new local units on the production register have been identified by mailing proving letters to new VAT registrations. This supplemented the VAT numbers on the register but there still remained



many units without such references. A scheme was therefore developed whereby local units would be matched with legal units on the basis of their legal names. This yielded more matches but left a substantial number of local units without VAT references and a larger number of legal units classified to the production industries but with no local units attached. The final approach was to mail to these unmatched legal units, if they were thought on the basis of their turnover to have ten or more employees, to obtain their industrial classification and employment at each local unit.

Inquiry cut-offs are set for both ACOP and the quarterly sales inquiries so that the smallest businesses are not approached. For the annual census this means that businesses with less than twenty employees and for the quarterly inquiries businesses with less than some variable level of employment (determined for each industry individually but generally no lower than twenty-five employees) are not sent inquiry forms. Thus the production register was thought to contain a lot of dead wood at the lower end. Conversely, there was no way of identifying new units systematically, especially very small businesses. If small units, generally below twenty employees, could not be linked to a VAT unit using the methods outlined above they were not carried through into the integrated register but were replaced by the more numerous but generally small unmatched VAT legal units.

The new register had more establishments than the previous production register but the total employment was only a little higher. As at October 1984 there were 138,000 establishments in the production industries on the integrated register with employment of 5.41 million compared with 107,000 establishments with employment of 5.33 million of the previous production register.

One feature of the integrated register that is worth noting is the method by which locational references are generated. Each address includes its postcode as required by the Post Office for mailing purposes. The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) has created a computerised look-up that relates each postcode to a local authority area based on the electoral ward. From these basic building blocks districts, counties, regions and countries can be defined. DOE supply lists of postcodes which are located in enterprise zones. Department of Employment (DE) define Travel to Work Areas (TTWA's) in terms of electoral wards. From these it is possible to define the various assisted areas to provide various geographical analyses.

#### **Maintenance of the integrated register**

The register is updated each week with information from Customs and Excise covering new registrations, de-registrations and changes to existing registrations. The register comprises 1.43 million legal units, of which

ten per cent are classified to the production industries. The legal unit is classified according to the VAT Trade Classification (VTC), (the trader deciding on his own classification) which is consistent with the 1968 revision of the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) whereas the BSO uses the 1980 revision of the SIC for its inquiries in the production industries. Estimates of turnover, from which employment for production industries is imputed in the absence of any information obtained directly from local units, may occasionally be erroneous. No information is available from the VAT source about individual local units. For these reasons proving letters are sent regularly to new registrations which are classified to production and which have employment imputed as ten or more. Pending receipt of information from the proving, units with imputed employment of twenty or more are regarded as doubtful and excluded from all counts and inquiry results.

Other sources of information are now limited to feedback from BSO inquiries and to notifications of new production local units through the Regional Offices of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Welsh and Scottish Offices and Northern Ireland Department of Economic Development. A list of the main items of information stored on the integrated register is given in the annex.

Enterprise links are maintained through a computerised version of the Dun and Bradstreet publication *Who Owns Whom* supplemented by information on VAT group registrations supplied by Customs and Excise. Most registrations for VAT are for single legal units but some companies elect to pay VAT for a group of companies and nominate one member of the group as the 'representative' member; the remaining companies are non-representative members. Group members have common ownership and it is for this reason that the VAT source can add to *Who Owns Whom* data. Just as some companies elect to pay VAT as a group, others pay on a 'divisional' basis. In these instances, the BSO register combines all of the divisions of a company into a 'divisional company'. The updating of legal units and notifications of de-registrations and new registrations takes place on a weekly basis. In addition, once a year a tape is provided on which VAT turnovers are supplied (in November 1984 the tape contained annual turnover figures for the year ending March, April or May 1983). The turnover on the BSO register is then updated using this information and for legal units classified to production a revised imputed employment is calculated. This updating is normally delayed until the spring to allow employment (and classification) to be updated at the turn of the year on the basis of BSO inquiry results. The register therefore includes all units currently operating but has employment and turnover estimates that generally relate to a period some two



years earlier. More frequent updating has been considered but the current system is designed to maintain consistency between annual and quarterly production inquiries.

Limited use is made of the DE Employment Statistics System (ESS) for which a register of employer addresses was created prior to the mailing of the 1984 Census of Employment from information obtained in previous censuses updated with addresses of employers making new PAYE arrangements with the Inland Revenue. Investigations are under way to determine in what way the ESS can be used more extensively to supplement the other register data sources.

The integrated register relies more on automatic methods of maintenance than did the earlier registers. As a consequence register work which was two years ago undertaken by two sections with more than seventy staff now involves one section of forty two. To aid staff a comprehensive on-line interrogation system has been developed through which rapid access to all levels of data held on the computer files can be achieved. A limited amount of on-line updating of files is possible currently and plans exist for its extension.

#### **The use of the register**

References have been made to BSO inquiries which are the major users of the integrated register. They comprise, in the production industries, the monthly engineering inquiry, the monthly voluntary inquiries into industry sales and the iron castings inquiry (following the merger of a separate register for these industries early in 1985), the quarterly sales inquiries, the annual census of production, the purchases inquiry and the inquiry into research and development expenditure. The register supports six annual or biennial inquiries into the distributive and service industries but a number of small inquiries, such as the short period inquiries for building materials are run from separate registers.

The annual census of the construction industry is run from a copy of the DOE construction register but this register is now maintained by DOE undertaking proving of new VAT registrations as supplied by BSO. The register for the property inquiry uses information from the Companies Registration Office (CRO) supplemented by VAT records.

Annual analyses comprising the information previously published in *Analyses of United Kingdom manufacturing (local) units by employment size*<sup>5</sup> and in *British business*<sup>6</sup> will continue to be produced and will be extended. Where possible *ad hoc* analyses will be undertaken, subject to resources. Information collected under either the Value Added Tax Act 1983 or the Statistics of Trade Act 1947 can be passed outside BSO only under strict safeguards to its confidentiality. The BSO tests for possible disclosure of confidential

information where aggregate statistics are published or released to non-government bodies.

Limited information on individual production local units (name, address, classification, employment and date of opening) is passed under Ministerial authorisation to the DTI Regional Data System which provides information for policy purposes within DTI, the Welsh Office and the Scottish Office. Special arrangements also exist, because of the current legislation, for flows of data both to and from the Department of Economic Development in Northern Ireland.

#### **The way forward – ‘company reporting’**

The integrated register also provides a sound starting point for a related project – the introduction of ‘company reporting’ into the main BSO production sector inquiries. In its pure form this would involve the replacement of all establishments by individual companies (and by sole proprietorships or partnerships outside the corporate sector) as the main statistical unit in the quarterly sales inquiries, annual census of production and other major production inquiries. A move of this type would bring clearer definition of statistical units, greater scope for the control of duplication or omission between production and other industries, and some benefits for businessmen as a considerable body of statistical data is readily available at the company level. It would also enable the United Kingdom to meet the requirements of relevant European Communities’ Directives more fully.

Preliminary studies have shown that the implementation of full company reporting would bring unacceptable changes in several aspects of inquiry results. The existence of large mixed activity companies and companies with activities spread geographically would mean large distortions in industry and regional analyses. There would also be substantial losses of intra-sales ie sales between establishments owned by a single company. Simulation studies have shown that these distortions can be reduced to acceptable levels by the retention of establishments as reporting units for some 500 large mixed companies. Planning is under way for the introduction of a scheme of company reporting along these lines during 1987. This should bring most of the benefits of full company reporting whilst avoiding distortions in inquiry results.

The integrated register goes some way to the formation of a central register. It provides a better quality universe for BSO inquiries at lower cost than the previous registers. Work remains to be done in integrating some of the other BSO registers such as that for property services. Other developments will follow from the expected continuing rapid changes in technology.



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4. 'The Business Statistics Office after 15 years', R. Ash, *Statistical News* No. 68 (HMSO 1985) (Price £3.95 net)
5. *Business Monitor PA 1003 Analysis of United Kingdom Manufacturing (local) units by employment size - 1984* (HMSO 1985) (Price £8.50 net)
6. 'Business Analysis by turnover size in 1984' *British business* 14-20 December 1984 (HMSO) (Price £1.25 net)

## ANNEX

### Main items of information stored on integrated register

- i for legal units:*
  - VAT reference
  - Name
  - Address
  - Turnover
  - VAT trade code
  - Whether company/sole proprietor/partnership etc
  - Type of registration (standard, group or divisional)
  - Inquiry history
  - Date of birth and death
  - Imputed employment - production only
  - Imputed SIC(1980) classification - production only
- ii for establishments:*
  - BSO reference
  - SIC(1980) activity heading
  - Employment
  - Name
  - Address
  - Date of birth and death
  - Whether currently in production
  - Whether consented to publish name/address
  - Inquiry history
- iii for local units:*
  - BSO reference
  - SIC(1980) activity heading
  - Employment
  - Name
  - Address
  - Date of birth and death
  - Whether currently in production

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# Statistics of domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts, England and Wales, 1983

Lawrence Davidoff, Statistician, Home Office

## Background

Statistics of domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts used to be published annually in *Criminal Statistics* but in the late 1960s, three Committees (the Latey Committee on the age of majority, the Perks Committee on Criminal Statistics and the Adams Committee on Civil Judicial Statistics) each recommended the separation of statistics of domestic proceedings from those of criminal proceedings. These recommendations were partly implemented in 1968 when statistics on domestic proceedings began to be included in what is now *Judicial Statistics*, published by the Lord Chancellor's Department. However, publication continued in *Criminal Statistics* until, following criticism in 1974 by the Finer Committee on one-parent families, publication of statistics of domestic proceedings was dropped from *Criminal Statistics* with effect from the issue for 1973. Publication of statistics on domestic proceedings continued in *Judicial Statistics* up to the volume for 1979 (although figures up to 1978 only were given in that volume).

Publication ended with the figures for 1978 because the inadequacy of the figures became evident. The substantial decline shown during the previous decade in domestic proceedings was believed to be erroneous. The Home Office had been aware for some time that the coverage of these statistics was incomplete, mainly because of difficulties the police had in providing the information from court records, but the extent of their incompleteness had not been realised. Following the Rayner Review of Home Office Statistics in 1980, it was decided to stop collecting the statistics in this manner.

It was clear that a better method of collecting information on domestic proceedings would be to obtain the data direct from magistrates' courts. A pilot exercise during 1982 was successful in demonstrating that such a collection system was viable, and this new system was extended to cover all magistrates' courts in England and Wales from 1 January 1983. The first results covering the period January - June 1983 were published on 19 January 1984 in Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 1/84 - *Statistics of Domestic Proceedings in Magistrates' Courts*.

## Statistics for England and Wales

The Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978 (DPMCA 1978) came into force on 1 February 1981. From the pilot study in 1982 covering sixty seven

petty sessional divisions (PSDs) estimates were made for the whole of England and Wales for 1982 of proceedings in various categories, but since these figures were based on a non-random sample they have to be treated with caution. Nearly all (97 per cent) courts provided returns for 1983 and estimates were made for the missing information.

The method of completing the summary returns is such that one case may result in entries in more than one category. For example:

- (a) a maintenance order under section 2 of the DPMCA 1978 could be accompanied by a custody/access order under section 8 of the Act; and
- (b) an order to pay arrears could be associated with an attachment of earnings order.

Notwithstanding this counting basis the total of all types of proceedings gives a rough indication of the volume of domestic business dealt with by magistrates' courts. The numbers for 1983 are shown in Figure 1 overleaf.

Table 1 gives some details of the results of applications for orders.

**Table 1**  
**Domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts, England and Wales, 1983**

Type of application	Total (= 100 per cent)	Percentage		
		Order made	Order refused	Withdrawn
Maintenance				
Total	27,000	65	2	33
Section 2	15,000	47	3	50
Section 6	8,000	95	1	5
Custody/access	10,000	99	1	-
Guardianship	12,000	71	4	25
Affiliation	10,000	80	3	16
Family protection				
Total	10,000	65	5	30
Expedited orders	2,500	94	2	3
			Percentage	
	Total = 100 per cent	County Courts	The High Court and other courts	
Registration of orders made in other courts	14,000	95	5	



**Figure 1. Domestic Proceedings in Magistrates' Courts, England and Wales, 1983**

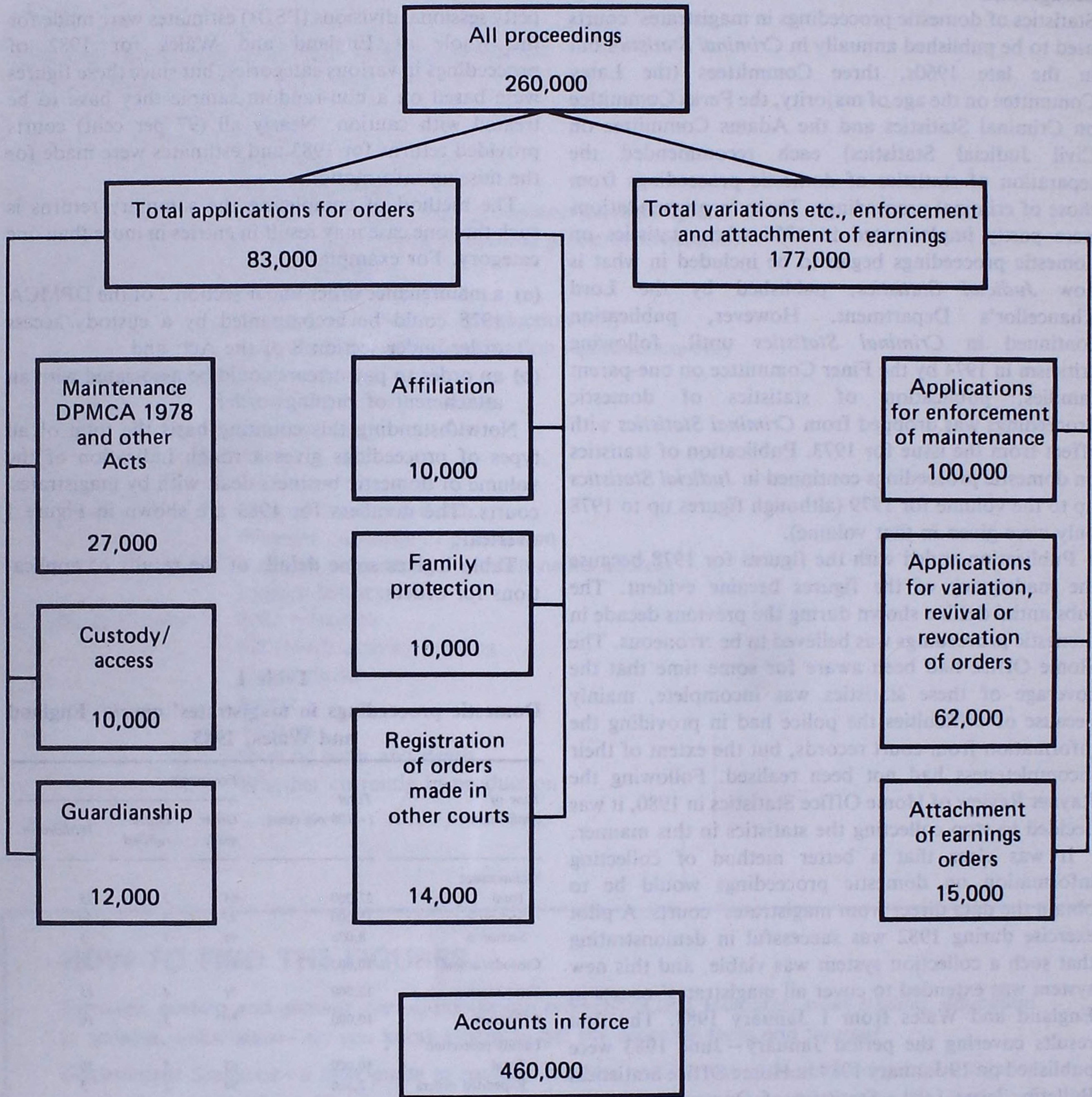




Table 2 gives some details of variations, enforcement and attachment of earnings.

**Table 2**  
**Domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts, England and Wales, 1984**

Applications for variation, revival or revocation of orders	Total (= 100 per cent)	Order made per cent	Order not made per cent
	62,000	74	26

Applications for enforcement	Percentage
Order to pay arrears	42
Proceedings discontinued	19
Remission of arrears	16
Committal or suspended	
Committal to prison	11
Other decision	12
<b>Total (= 100 per cent)</b>	<b>100,000</b>

Attachment of earnings	Percentage
In enforcement proceedings	63
On variation of maintenance order	16
On separate application	14
On making maintenance order	7
<b>Total (= 100 per cent)</b>	<b>9,000</b>

Variation or discharge of attachment order	6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,000</b>

### Area Variations

Returns for the PSDs for 1983 were summarised into fifty seven Commission of the Peace Areas (Inner London and City of London, and Hampshire and Isle of Wight were combined).

1. To obtain an indication of the variation in the volume of domestic proceedings between areas, the total of all types of domestic proceedings was related to the population in each area. For England and Wales in 1983 the average was about 500 proceedings per 100,000 population. Eleven areas had high rates (over 700 up to 1,000 proceedings per 100,000 population) and eleven had low rates (over 200 up to 300 proceedings per 100,000 population). Higher rates of domestic business were recorded in the Midlands and North of England.
2. Another indicator of the amount of domestic business is the number of proceedings for variation, etc., enforcement and attachment of earnings relative to the number of accounts in force. For England and Wales in 1983 the average was about 400 such proceedings per 1,000 accounts in force. Thirteen areas

had high rates (over 500 up to 800 proceedings per 1,000 accounts in force) and nine had low rates (over 100 up to 300 proceedings per 1,000 accounts in force).

3. However, the figures for accounts in force are thought to be less reliable than those for proceedings because of the greater difficulty of recording them accurately. There was not a close association between the two measures.

Complete figures for 1983 and estimates for 1982 were published on 5 June 1984 in Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 14/84. Annual publication is now planned and figures for 1984 are expected to be published in a Statistical Bulletin in the Summer of 1985. Home Office Statistical Bulletins are available from the address given on page 70.25.

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# United Kingdom National Accounts – Sources and Methods

Tim Jones, Statistician, Central Statistical Office

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A new updated edition of *Sources and Methods* (Studies in Official Statistics No 37) is now available. Users of the official estimates of gross domestic product (GDP), consumers' expenditure, capital formation and all the other estimates within the national accounting system will be pleased to have this rewritten reference book of the national accounts which gives definitions, concepts, statistical sources, estimations, methods and indications of the reliability of the data. It is the essential companion to the CSO Blue Book, *United Kingdom National Accounts*, which is prepared annually by the Central Statistical Office and provides eleven-year series of the main macro-economic statistics.

This new edition, the first for seventeen years, completely revises the previous edition though it follows closely the format and draws very heavily on it. Within many of the chapters there are substantial changes, including a simplified version of the opening discussion of the basic concepts.

The third in the series, it follows two earlier volumes published in 1956 and 1968 respectively. When read with the notes in the back of the CSO Blue Book the previous edition was for many years a reasonably robust account of the national accounts statistics. However, as changes accumulated a revision became more and more urgent. We would prefer to update *Sources and Methods* more often but it is inevitably a major undertaking.

Many months of painstaking work have been devoted to the preparation of the book and a large number of people have been involved. It is not always realised to what extent the Central Statistical Office depends on other departments and agencies, often with particular interests of their own, for individual pieces of the jigsaw which are fitted together to form the overall picture of the economy. Their contributions are acknowledged with particular gratitude.

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## Schools annual statistics competition

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The winners of the Second Annual Competition in Applied Statistics for Schools and Colleges of Further Education received their prizes at an informal ceremony at the Central Statistical Office in June. Mr Robert Dunn, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, presented the prizes.

Churchdown School, Gloucester, winners of the senior section (16-19 years) for the second year running, received a cheque for £500, as did Greenshaw High School, Sutton, Surrey which was awarded first prize in the junior section (11-16 years). A second prize of £250 went to Devonport High School for Girls, Plymouth in the senior section. No second prize was awarded this year in the 11-16 years age group.

The competition was established last year on the initiative of Professor Harvey Goldstein and Anne Hawkins of the Department of Mathematics, Statistics

and Computing at the London University Institute of Education in collaboration with the Central Statistical Office. It is intended to stimulate interest in statistics as a practical subject, and to give pupils the chance of discovering the scope and power of statistical reasoning, to learn statistical teamwork and to apply familiar techniques in unfamiliar contexts.

Sponsors of the competition this year included the Department of Education and Science, IBM United Kingdom Trust, represented by Dr Brian Kington, Royal Insurance (UK) Ltd, the Institute of Statisticians represented by Miss Gabrielle Blackman and the Royal Statistical Society represented by Mr Ian Blenkinsop.

### *Statistics Prize 1984/85: further information*

The Annual Statistics Competition for Schools and Colleges of Further Education has now completed its



Mr Robert Dunn MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Education and Science (centre) with pupils from Greenshaw High School, Sutton, winners of the 11-16 years age group in the schools annual statistics competition. Sir John Boreham is on the left and Professor Harvey Goldstein is on the right.



second year. A clearer picture is beginning to emerge as to the type of work being undertaken and the possible impact of the competition on statistical education. Although the number of entries is still smaller than the organisers would like, it has increased this year, more schools managing to complete the projects embarked upon.

Statistics forms part of most children's mathematics courses, and it also features in many other school subjects such as geography, biology and social sciences. This Competition is intended to encourage students to gain experience of applied statistics as practised by professional statisticians.

The research projects could incorporate either primary or secondary statistical data, and the use of computers was encouraged but not essential. The adjudicators were looking for reports which showed evidence of careful planning and teamwork, sensible choice of methods appropriate to the study undertaken, understanding of the implications and practical applications of the findings, skills in presentation and statistical competence.

The panel of adjudicators were Sir John Boreham, Director of the Central Statistical Office (Chief Adjudicator), Anne Hawkins of the London University Institute of Education, Peter Holmes, Sheffield University, representing the Institute of Statisticians and Professor Peter Moore of the London Business School, for the Royal Statistical Society. They considered that the entries, on a wide variety of topics, confirmed the educational value of the projects, and that the competition had achieved its aim.

Feedback from the participating schools and colleges has been very encouraging. Both teachers and students report that the projects have been enjoyable and beneficial to the teams concerned. Several schools have now entered the competition two years running, even without the reward of one of the prizes.

News of the competition has spread to other countries and interest has been expressed in an international finalists' award, based on the results of national heats established along similar lines to the existing United Kingdom Prize.

## New surveys notified to the Survey Control Unit (continued from page 70.23)

### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

General		Departments	
ADAS	<i>Agricultural Development and Advisory Service</i>	COI	<i>Central Office of Information</i>
ERDF	<i>European Regional Development Fund</i>	DEM	<i>Department of Employment</i>
STA	<i>Skillcentre Training Agency</i>	DEN	<i>Department of Energy</i>
YTS	<i>Youth Training Scheme</i>	DES	<i>Department of Education and Science</i>
		DHSS	<i>Department of Health and Social Security</i>
Locations		DNS	<i>Department for National Savings</i>
E	<i>England</i>	DOE	<i>Department of the Environment</i>
EA	<i>East Anglia</i>	DTI	<i>Department of Trade and Industry</i>
EM	<i>East Midlands</i>	DTP	<i>Department of Transport</i>
ES	<i>England and Scotland</i>	EEO	<i>Energy Efficiency Office</i>
EW	<i>England and Wales</i>	HO	<i>Home Office</i>
GB	<i>Great Britain</i>	IDS	<i>Industry Department for Scotland</i>
N	<i>North</i>	IR	<i>Board of Inland Revenue</i>
NW	<i>North West</i>	MAFF	<i>Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food</i>
S	<i>Scotland</i>	MOD	<i>Ministry of Defence</i>
SE	<i>South East</i>	MSC	<i>Manpower Services Commission</i>
SW	<i>South West</i>	NEDO	<i>National Economic Development Office</i>
UK	<i>United Kingdom</i>	OFT	<i>Office of Fair Trading</i>
W	<i>Wales</i>	OPCS	<i>Office of Population Censuses and Surveys</i>
WM	<i>West Midlands</i>	SO	<i>Scottish Office</i>
		SSC	<i>Scottish Sports Council</i>
Frequency		STB	<i>Scottish Tourist Board</i>
A	<i>Annual</i>	TRRL	<i>Transport and Road Research Laboratory</i>
AH	<i>Ad hoc</i>	WO	<i>Welsh Office</i>
Q	<i>Quarterly</i>		



# New surveys notified to the Survey Control Unit March to May 1985

For further information on the surveys listed, the appropriate departmental contact may be obtained from Miss C. MacMillan (01-233 5018), Survey Control Unit, Central Statistical Office, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

## New surveys notified March to May 1985

Title	Department	Those approached	Approximate number approached	Location	Frequency
<b>Business Surveys</b>					
Regional pressure test evaluation – employers (job splitting and part-time job release)	COI/DEM	Employers	1000	E	AH
Training pack communication check	COI/DEN	Managers in industry and commerce	230	GB	AH
Attitudes of self-employed to National Insurance information	COI/DHSS	Self-employed	250	GB	AH
The operation of profit sharing and share ownership schemes	DEM	Employers	270	GB	AH
Wider economic effects of youth training scheme and young workers scheme	DEM	Employers	400	GB	AH
Warehouse development trends – warehouse operators survey	DOE	Warehouse operators	75	EW	AH
West Midlands financial management advisory service experiment – evaluation	DTI	Small firms	83	WM	AH
ERDF assistance for small firms located in steel, shipbuilding and textile closure areas	DTI	Small firms	23	E	AH
Civil use of micro-wave fixed links	DTI		30	UK	AH
Manpower for information technology – an assessment of supply and demand	DTI	Employers	1000	GB	AH
British business reader survey	DTI	Readers	10000	GB	AH
Review of hints to exporters series of booklets produced by the British Overseas Trade Board	DTI	Exporters	54	UK	AH
Sources of supply service – survey	DTI		250	UK	AH
Evaluation of better business services	IDS	Small firms	460	S	AH
Evaluation of section 4 tourism assistance given by the Scottish Tourist Board	IDS/STB	Aid recipients	30	S	AH
Business Expansion Scheme study – companies	IR		123	UK	AH
Market for ADAS advice and services	MAFF	Farmers	1500	EW	AH
Industrial, retail, commercial businesses owning property liable to flooding	MAFF		100	GB	AH
Agricultural Training Board local collaborative project in Somerset	MAFF	Farmers	1100	SW	AH
STA mobile training service: market research in pilot areas	MSC	Employers	450	EW	AH
Study of investment in vocational education and training	MSC/NEDO	Employers	50	GB	AH
Clothing and Allied Products Industry Training Board – manpower survey	MSC	Clothing industry	2560	GB	AH
Competition act investigation: Holmes McDougall Ltd	OFT	Camping equipment retailers	160	GB	AH
Review of newspaper distribution: publishers	OFT	Publishers	16	UK	AH
Review of newspaper distribution: newsagents	OFT	Major multiple newsagents	11	UK	AH
Monitoring of cinema film distribution (exhibitors)	OFT	Cinemas	78	ES	AH
Monitoring of cinema film distribution (distributors)	OFT	Film distributors	84	ES	AH
Axle weight survey in Staffordshire (follow-up)	TRRL	Lorry drivers	1200	WM	AH
Survey of Welsh milk producers	WO	Farmers	800	W	AH
Grain storage investigation	WO	Farmers	NK	W	AH
<b>Local Authority Surveys</b>					
Provision in further education for special education needs	DES	Colleges	NK	E	AH
Housing activity	DOE	Housing departments	367	E	Q
National Landslide Survey	DOE	Engineers departments	488	GB	AH
Warehouse development trends – Local authority survey	DOE		78	EW	AH
Current state of road safety education in schools: head teachers	TRRL	Head teachers	260	UK	AH
Road safety education activities in police forces	TRRL	Police forces	64	GB	AH

For list of abbreviations see page 70.22



Title	Department	Those approached	Approximate number approached	Location	Frequency
<b>Other surveys</b>					
Regional pressure test evaluation – employees (job splitting and part time job release)	COI/DEM	Employees	500	E	AH
1984/85 domestic energy efficiency campaign evaluation	COI/DEN	Householders	1414	GB	AH
Study of potential RAF officers in headmaster's conference schools	COI/MOD	Youths	2000	UK	AH
Territorial Army monitor stage one	COI/MOD	Men	1000	GB	AH
Navy officer booklet research	COI/MOD	Men	84	ES	AH
Territorial Army: 1985/6 recruitment campaign communication check	COI/MOD	Men	64	E	AH
YTS young people's monitor stage one	COI/MSC	Young people 14-16	1200	GB	AH
YTS monitor stage seven	COI/MSC	Young people 16+	4000	GB	AH
Energy efficiency and the growth in energy management movement	DEN/EEO	Readers	5000	UK	AH
Young peoples intentions to enter higher education	DES/OPCS	'A' level candidates	9000	EW	AH
Attitudes to methods of payment of benefits	DHSS	Claimants	2075	GB	AH
National savings certificate application form survey	DNS	Adults	150	E	AH
The ordinary account survey	DNS	Account holders	560	SE	AH
Supply and demand for office accommodation in London and the South East	DOE	Planning departments and property developers	1065	SE	AH
Evaluation of urban development grant programme	DOE	Applicants	110	E	AH
Public perceptions of radioactive waste management	DOE	Adults	2000	EW	AH
Loughton roadside interview	DTP	Drivers	3500	SE	AH
A259 Winchelsea bypass study	DTP	Drivers	2500	SE	AH
A36 Salisbury by-pass traffic study	DTP	Drivers	14000	SW	AH
A30 Honiton to Exeter traffic survey 1985	DTP	Drivers	17800	SW	AH
A249 Iwade by-pass traffic survey	DTP	Drivers	2000	SE	AH
A31 Picket Post survey of turning traffic	DTP	Drivers	400	SE	AH
Application for a driving test appointment form	DTP/COI	Applicants	42	GB	AH
All Besthorpe – Wymondham traffic survey	DTP	Drivers	3000	EA	AH
Gloucester to Ross-on-Wye traffic survey 1985	DTP	Drivers	3000	SW	AH
1983 drink and drive campaign evaluation	DTP/COI	Drivers	800	GB	AH
A41 improvement at Chester roadside interview surveys 1985	DTP	Drivers	7000	NW	AH
A50/A564 Stoke – Derby link and A6 Kegworth by-pass survey	DTP	Drivers	7000	EM	AH
Survey of car travellers (value of time study)	DTP	Drivers	3000	EW	AH
Tyne crossing survey (value of time study)	DTP	Drivers	32000	N	AH
Long distance coach and rail users survey (value of time study)	DTP	Passengers	700	E	AH
Survey of bus passengers (value of time study)	DTP	Passengers	1200	E	AH
'Door to Door' – A guide to transport for disabled people	DTP	Community transport Groups	250	UK	AH
Business Expansion Scheme study – investors	IR		600	UK	AH
People with experience of having property damaged by flooding: households	MAFF	Householders	300	GB	AH
Research on industrial language training	MSC		216	E	AH
Monitoring the quality of Jobcentre services	MSC	Unemployed	15000	GB	A
Community programme – postal follow-up survey	MSC	Ex-participants	1500	GB	AH
Survey of disabled people	OPCS/DHSS	Disabled	100000	GB	AH
Housing trailer to 1984 Labour Force Survey	OPCS/DOE	Householders	39000	E	AH
Electoral registration – Form A test	OPCS/HO	Adults	1750	EW	AH
'Ever Thought of Sports?' campaign monitoring	SO/SSC	Young People	4500	S	AH

### Recently available statistical series and publications (continued from page 70.26)

#### Scottish Development Department

Statistical Bulletin HSIU No. 13 *Housing Trends in Scotland: quarter ended 31 December 1984.*

This Bulletin, price 50p may be obtained from:

Scottish Office Library  
Publications Sales  
Room 2/65  
New St Andrews House  
Edinburgh EH1 3TG  
Telephone: 031-556 8400 Ext 5901

#### Scottish Home and Health Department

Statistical bulletin No. 2/1985 *Recorded crime in Scotland 1984*

Copies of the Bulletin may be obtained from:

Scottish Home and Health Department  
Criminal Statistics Unit  
Room 324B  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh, EH1 3DE  
Telephone: 031-556 8501 Ext 2911



## Recently available statistical series and publications

The following publications containing social statistics have recently, or will soon become available during July to September quarter of 1985. 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*.

### Department of Health and Social Security

The Department of Health and Social Security produce regular monthly and quarterly statistical series on such topics as Unemployment benefit, Child benefit and Sickness, invalidity and injury benefits. Extracts and summaries from these series are eventually published in *Social Security Statistics*.

Further information can be obtained from:

Mr K. A. Fitch

Department of Health and Social Security

Room A2111

Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE98 1YX

Telephone: Tyneside (091) 2797373

Statistical series and publications:

*The facilities and services of mental illness and mental handicap hospitals in England 1982* (HMSO)

(Price £7.75 net)

*Amputation statistics for England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1984* (DHSS, price £5.50 net from the address given below.)

Statistical Bulletins on the following subjects:

*No. 1/85 Mental illness hospitals and units in England: Results from the Mental Health Enquiry 1983*, (Price £1.00 net)

*No. 2/85 Mental handicap hospitals and units in England: Results from the Mental Health Enquiry 1983* (Price £1.00 net)

Statistical Bulletins are available from:

DHSS Information Division

PO Box 21

Canons Park

Honeypot Lane

Stanmore

Middlesex HA7 1AY

### Department of Education and Science

Statistical Bulletin 9/85 *Student numbers in higher education—Great Britain: 1970-1983*, available free from Department of Education and Science, Room 1/28, Elizabeth House, York Road, London, SE1 7PH.

### Home Office

The following series will be published by HMSO:

*Statistics on experiments on living animals, Great Britain, 1984*

*Prison statistics, England and Wales, 1984*

*Criminal Statistics, England and Wales, 1984*

*Report of HM Chief Inspector of fire services, 1984*

*Report of HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 1984*

Statistical Bulletins on the following subjects:

*Statistics of domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts, 1984*

*Statistics on the misuse of drugs in the United Kingdom and supplementary tables, 1984*

*Statistics on the prevention of terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Acts 1974, 1976, 1984 and 2nd quarter 1985*

*Control of immigration statistics, United Kingdom, 2nd quarter 1985*

*Offences of drunkenness, England and Wales, 1984*

*Offences relating to motor vehicles, England and Wales and supplementary tables, 1984*

*Notifiable offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, 2nd quarter 1985*

*Projections of long term trends in the prison population to 1993*

*Sentencing of first offenders*

*Drug addicts and crime*

*Statistics of persons acquiring British Citizenship, 1984*

Statistical Bulletins are available from:

Home Office

Statistical Department

Room 1813, Tolworth Tower

Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DS

### Department of Employment

*Employment Gazette*, published towards the end of each month, regularly contains recent data and time-series on employment, unemployment, earnings, prices, family expenditure, and other indicators. Subjects of recent articles have included: recent trends in labour costs, revised unemployment series, stoppages caused by industrial disputes, and the labour force outlook for Great Britain.

*Employment Gazette* is published monthly by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price £2.95 per issue. Annual subscription inclusive of postage is £34.50.



### Department of the Environment

*Local Government Financial Statistics England and Wales 1982/83*

*Housing and Construction Statistics*, fourth quarter 1984 Part 2 No. 20 and first quarter 1985 Part 1 No. 21

*Local Housing Statistics* Issue 73, figures for 1984

*Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics, England 1981-1984 No. 13*

*Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics No. 7 1984*

The following information is issued in statistical bulletins on a regular basis:

Monthly: *Housebuilding, construction new orders building new orders, building materials and components, brick and cement production, and new orders by type of work.*

Quarterly: *Tender price indices, output price indices, construction output and employment planning applications and decision: England, renovations*

Half yearly: *Homeless households*

Annually: *Slum clearance*

Statistical bulletins are available from:

DOE, SPPG4

Room 513, Kingsgate House

66-74 Victoria Street

London SW1E 6SJ

### Department of Transport

*Vehicle Excise Duty Evasion in Great Britain in 1984/85* (price £12.00)

*International Road Haulage Survey (85)*, 22, (Statistical Bulletin price £5.00)

*Transport of Goods by Road in Great Britain 1984 (85)* 23, (Statistical Bulletin price £8.00)

*New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Great Britain (85)* 26, (Monthly) (Statistical Bulletin, price £2.00)

The following statistical bulletins are issued on a regular basis:

Quarterly: *Traffic in Great Britain first quarter 1985 (85) 19*

*Road goods vehicles on roll-on roll-off ferries to mainland Europe first quarter 1985 (85) 20*

*Quarterly Transport statistics first quarter 1985 (85) 24*

*Road Accidents and Casualties in Great Britain first quarter (85) 25*

Department of Transport publications and statistical bulletins are available from:

Publications Sales Unit

Building No. 1

Victoria Road

South Ruislip

Middlesex HA4 0NZ

### Scottish Education Department

Statistical Bulletins on the following subjects:

*Pupils and Teachers in Education Primary and Secondary Schools*

*Placing Requests in Education Authority Schools University Students.*

The Social Work Services Group of the Scottish Education Department have published the following bulletins:

*Home Care Services, Day Care Establishments and Day Services 1984*

*Community Service by Offenders 1983.*

Copies of the above bulletins may be purchased (price 50p post paid) from:

The Library

Official Publication Sales

Scottish Office

Room 2/65, New St Andrew's House

Edinburgh EH1 3TG

Telephone: 031-556 8400 Ext 5901

### Industry Department for Scotland

*Scottish Input-Output Tables for 1979*, (Price £5.00)

Volume 5 – comparisons with Scotland 1973 and United Kingdom 1979

The following statistical bulletin is now available:

*D2.1 Index of Industrial Production and Construction for Scotland: detailed industry series 1973-83*

Copies of Statistical Bulletins (Price 50p each) may be purchased from:

Scottish Office Library

Official Publication Sales

Room 2/65, New St Andrews House

Edinburgh EH1 3TG

### Welsh Office

*Children in Care or under Supervision Orders in Wales: Year ended 31/3/84*

*Welsh Transport statistics No. 1 1985*

*Welsh Hospital waiting list Bulletin 1985: No. 2*

*Road accidents: Wales No. 5 1984*

*Welsh Social Trends No. 6 1985*

The above publications are available only from:

Publications Unit

Economic and Statistical Services Division

Welsh Office

Cathays Park

Cardiff CF1 3NQ

Telephone: 0222-82 5054

(continued on page 70.24)



### POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

#### Population Trends

The latest edition of *Population Trends*, the quarterly journal of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, (OPCS) was published in July and contains the following articles:

#### *Ethnic intermarriage in Great Britain*

Since the Second World War, the arrival of more than a million immigrants from the New Commonwealth and Pakistan, together with their children born in the United Kingdom, has resulted in new ethnic minority populations of more than two million people, and with them new forms of ethnic diversity in British society. Their patterns of marriage, and especially of intermarriage are the subject of this article.

Marriage patterns are important because there are marked social, demographic and economic differences between members of ethnic minority groups and the rest of British society. The permanence or transience of these differences will depend upon patterns of acculturation and integration – or their absence – of which marriage is an important index.

In this article by David Coleman, Department of Social and Administrative Studies, University of Oxford, attention is concentrated on information available from the 1981 Labour Force Survey (LFS) on the prevalence of marriage between different ethnic groups in Britain and any trends that may be inferred from it.

#### *Socio-demographic differentials in mortality, 1971-1981*

This paper was produced by John Fox, David Jones and Kath Moser, Social Statistics Research Unit, City University and Peter Goldblatt, Medical Statistics Division, OPCS. It describes uses of the OPCS longitudinal study (LS) with particular reference to recently available data on mortality in 1976-81, in analyses of three important issues in socio-demographic mortality research. In the first example the authors describe how the new data on male mortality patterns by social class compare with data based on the traditional approach used in England and Wales; of particular interest is the new measurement of differentials at older ages, that is, beyond retirement age, and the inferences that can be drawn from those differentials. The second example focusses on the relationship between unemployment and mortality: here the authors illustrate the advantages of being able to allow for other socio-economic characteristics in the analysis and also of being able to look at the mortality of other people in the same household as the

person who was unemployed. Finally, the authors outline the preliminary findings of a research project in which they are trying to separate the influences of the socio-economic characteristics of the regions or geographical areas in which people live from the influences of the socio-economic characteristics of households and individuals.

#### *1981 Census of Population in Northern Ireland*

Chris Morris, Policy Planning and Research Unit, Department of Finance and Personnel (NI) and Dr Paul Compton, Department of Geography, Queen's University, Belfast discuss the results of the 1981 Census of Population in Northern Ireland.

The Census was undertaken under particularly difficult circumstances and the results were considered to have understated the actual population of Northern Ireland in April 1981. Official estimates of the extent of under-enumeration have been prepared by the Policy Planning and Research Unit of the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel. The estimates are described and presented together with an alternative view prepared by Dr Compton.

#### *1981 Census evaluation programme*

Following the 1981 Census, various checks were carried out by the Census Division, OPCS, on the coverage and quality of the results in England and Wales. The main conclusion from the coverage checks was that the census probably missed about 240,000 people net (about half of one per cent of the population) including some 36,000 children aged 0-4. At older ages than this, adults aged 16-44 were more likely to be missed than others and males rather more than females. Students and people out of employment were also more likely to be missed than people in employment.

The quality of householders' responses to particular census questions was evaluated in a detailed post-enumeration interview survey. The results of this showed that the questions subject to most response error were those on rooms, various aspects of economic activity and the main means of travel to work. These results have been given in greater detail in Census Monitors available from:

OPCS Information Branch  
St Catherines House  
10 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6JP

#### Reference

*Population Trends* 40 Summer 1985 (HMSO 1985) (Price £4.50 net)



### **Population Estimates (Scotland)**

Estimates of the population of Scotland for mid-1984 by sex, age and area have been published in *Population Estimates, Scotland, 1984* (HMSO) (Price £1.20 net). Tabulations showing more detailed age breakdowns are available from:

Population Statistics Branch  
GRO(S)  
New Register House  
EDINBURGH  
EH1 3YT

### **Vital statistics (Scotland)**

Tables relating to the first quarter of 1985 appeared in the Registrar General's Vital Statistics Return, Weeks 21 to 24/85.

## **SOCIAL STATISTICS**

### **Supplementary benefit statistics 1983**

The DHSS annual supplementary benefit statistical inquiry is the main source of specialised information on the characteristics of those receiving the benefit. It is used for monitoring the operation of the current scheme and for estimating the effects of proposals for changes, as well as providing an important input into financial planning and forecasting of supplementary benefit expenditure. It is also the primary source of information for Parliament and the public on the benefit which currently costs over £6 billion a year.

The information is obtained from a basic sample of 1 in 50 cases in Local Social Security Offices receiving regular payments on a specified day in December. The pensioner and unemployed cases are re-selected to produce samples of 1 in 200 and 1 in 100 respectively, effectively constituting an overall sample of around 1 in 100 for the whole enquiry.

Returns from Local Offices are processed by computer, leading to the establishment of a database and some 420 tables constituting the main set of results. The tables cover a wide variety of information about recipients; there are details of families with children, ownership of accommodation, types of income, average amounts of benefit, housing requirements, additional requirements, cases receiving other benefits as well as supplementary benefit, length of time on supplementary benefit and other characteristics.

Summary statistics on supplementary benefit are given in the annual HMSO publication, *Social Security Statistics*. For the first time the full set of tables, derived from the December 1983 enquiry is contained in a bound volume with explanatory notes and definitions. *Annual Statistical Enquiry (Supplementary Benefit)* is now available at a price of £25 per copy from:

Department of Health and Social Security  
Canons Park  
Government Buildings  
Honeypot Lane  
Stanmore  
Middlesex  
HA7 1AY  
Telephone: 01-952 2311

### **DHSS tax/benefit model tables**

The tax/benefit model is published twice yearly – usually in June and December following Budget changes in April and benefit upratings in November. The publication consists of a series of tables showing the net weekly spending power (known as 'total income support' or TIS) of various hypothetical families, who are assumed to be living in rented accommodation with average rent and rates and receiving all of the means-tested and other benefits to which they are entitled. There are separate tables for families where the head is in full-time work and where he/she is out of work and receiving unemployment benefit, in each case showing a wide range of earnings (or former earnings).

Also included are tables showing the relationship between the 'in' and 'out of work' incomes of the different family types at several earnings levels (again on the basis of full take-up of all benefits).

The April 1985 tables are now available on request at a cost of £2.35. Some earlier editions of the model tables are also available. All enquiries should be addressed to:

Mr I. R. Dolan  
Department of Health and Social Security  
Room A 526  
Alexander Fleming House  
Elephant and Castle  
London SE1 6BY  
Telephone: 01-407 5522 Ext 6660

### **Projections of trends in the prison population to 1993**

The Home Office recently published a Statistical Bulletin which presents the results of the latest annual exercise to project the prison population in future years. It is based on information available in the Autumn of 1984 and covers the period up to 1993, superseding Bulletin 8/84.

It presents a set of projections using the same methodology as those published last year and those prepared for several previous years, that is, based on time trends in prison receptions and average time spent in custody. It also presents an alternative set of projections which take explicit account of demographic changes, that is, of changes in the general population of England and Wales. The distinguishing assumption underlying the 'demographic' projections is that the trends in the numbers received into prison department



establishments are proportional to the numbers in the general population in the same age and sex groups, subject to trend over time. Both sets of projections are made separately for subsets of the prison population defined by type of custody, age, sex and length of sentence. Historical series on the numbers received are projected and then converted to population by means of projections of 'time served' factors – the average time spent in custody for those in each of the subsets.

A study of data for the period 1962-82 was carried out to determine whether past changes in the numbers of receptions in different age groups were better explained by a non-demographic model or by a demographic model but no sound statistical grounds were found for preferring the demographic model. The two sets of projections are presented in the Bulletin as a range within which the best estimate of the projected population lies. Using the demographic model the prison population is projected to rise from 43,300 in 1984 to 48,500 in 1993 and using the non-demographic model it is projected to rise to 51,900. The difference between the two sets of projections occurs mainly among young offenders and reflects the projected fall of 25 per cent between 1983 (a peak year) and 1993 in the number of males aged 17-20 in the general population of England and Wales.

#### Reference

Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 15/85 *Projections of long term trends in the prison population to 1993*, 29 May 1985 (Price £2.50 net) (See page 70.25 for availability)

#### The prison population in 1984

Home Office Statistical Bulletin 8/85 – *The prison population in 1984*, was published on 2 April 1985. It provides summary information on the population of prison department establishments in England and Wales in 1984 in comparison with earlier years. Information is provided on the changes in the remand population (both untried and convicted unsentenced prisoners) and in the adult and young offender sentenced population, resulting from changes in the parole system in mid-1984. More detailed information, including information on receptions into prison department establishments will be published in the third quarter of 1985 in *Prison Statistics, England and Wales 1984* (HMSO).

#### Reference

Home Office Statistical Bulletin No. 8/85, *The prison population in 1984* (Price £2.50 net) (See page 70.25 for availability.)

#### Control of Immigration Statistics, United Kingdom

The 1984 edition was published in June 1985. The statistics relate to people who are subject to immigration control under the Immigration Act 1971, that is, broadly speaking, to people who do not have the right of abode in the United Kingdom. British citizens and those Commonwealth citizens who have the right of abode may freely come into, and go from, the United Kingdom and are not represented in the statistics. Immi-

gration control regulates the entry and refusal of entry of passengers into the United Kingdom, the conditions of stay in the United Kingdom, the variation of such conditions following entry, settlement and the deportation of persons under the Act. The administration of immigration control is governed by immigration rules which are laid before Parliament by the Home Secretary from time to time. Changes in the rules have affected the statistics over the years, and an account of the more notable changes and of other developments are given.

The following changes to tables have been made. Separate figures are now given in Table 1 of returning settled passengers and those given a limited leave to enter, and in Table 4 of acceptances after four years in employment requiring Department of Employment approval and corresponding permit-free employment (in both cases the figures were previously published in total only). Minor changes have been made to the analysis of nationality in Tables 12, 13 and 20 and Table 20 now includes figures of notices of intention to deport.

Control of immigration statistics do not cover passengers arriving who are not subject to immigration control or those who leave the United Kingdom. Information on all people who enter or leave the United Kingdom is obtained through a sample survey (the International Passenger Survey) by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS). Half-yearly information from this survey on numbers of new residents and departing residents, using internationally accepted definitions, is published in the OPCS MN Monitor series. An Occasional Paper describing the Home Office and OPCS sources of immigration statistics (Occasional Paper 15, *Immigration Statistics sources and definitions*) is obtainable from the OPCS, St Catherine's House, 10 Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP.

Summary statistics on the control of immigration are also published quarterly, about two months after the end of each quarter, in the form of a Home Office Statistical Bulletin, obtainable (at a current cost of £2.50 per issue) from:

Statistical Department,  
Home Office,  
Room 1813,  
Tolworth Tower,  
Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DS.  
Telephone: 01-399 5191 Ext. 298

or by personal application to:

Senior Librarian,  
Home Office,  
Queen Anne's Gate,  
London SW1 9AT.

#### Reference

*Control of Immigration: Statistics 1984*, Cmnd. 9544 (HMSO) June 1985 (Price £6.75 net) ISBN 0 10 195440 9.



## Fire cover standards

As mentioned in the article on the work of the Home Office Statistical Department (pages 70.7 and 70.8), the Home Office published, on 22 May 1985, the *Report of the Joint Committee on Standards of Fire Cover*. This is a review by the fire service of the recommended minimum standards of fire cover, and requirements of special emergency and other services. The Home Office Statistical Department carried out a major survey to provide information for this review. This involved a comprehensive special analysis of all types of calls attended by fourteen representative fire brigades over a six month period. The published report includes reference to a considerable amount of this statistical material.

### Reference

*Report of the Joint Committee on Standards of Fire Cover*, available from the Home Office Library, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AT (Price £3).

## HEALTH

### Health and safety statistics

The definitive volume containing statistics for 1981 and 1982 will be available from August. It contains statistics collected under the reporting regulations which came into operation on 1 January 1981 – the Notification of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences (NADO) Regulations. Although in the same general form as an earlier series of publications for statistics up to 1980, it is not strictly comparable. Furthermore, changes in the arrangements for industrial injury benefit introduced in April 1983 have meant that some of the statistics are no longer collected. A document containing available statistics for 1983 is being prepared.

Further details about these items and on available data can be provided by:

Economics and Statistics Unit  
Magdalen House  
Stanley Precinct  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L20 3QZ  
Telephone: 051-951 4842/4862

### Reference

*Health and Safety Statistics 1981-82* (HMSO 1985) (Price £7.50 net) ISBN 01188 38164, ISSN 0140-5934

### DHSS statistical bulletins

The following bulletins are the second and fifth in a series and include graphs, tables and commentary summarising trends over the decade:

No. 2/84, *NHS hospital activity statistics for England 1973-1983*, published December 1984

No. 3/85, *New cases of sexually transmitted diseases seen at NHS clinics in England 1973-1983*, published May 1985.

The two following bulletins, published on 22 March 1985, are the third and fourth of a series and the first two on the subject of mental health. They include graphs, tables and commentary which summarises the results of the 1983 Mental Health Enquiry and examine trends from 1973:

No. 1/85, *Mental illness hospitals and units in England: Results from the Mental Health Enquiry 1983*

No. 2/85, *Mental handicap hospitals and units in England: Results from the Mental Health Enquiry 1983*.

All four bulletins are priced £1.00 net and are available from:

Department of Health and Social Security  
Canons Park  
Government Buildings  
Honeypot Lane  
Stanmore  
Middlesex, HA7 1AY  
Telephone: 01-952 2311

### Scottish health statistics

*Surveillance Programme for Foodborne Infections and Intoxications Scotland 1984*, published in July 1985, analyses foodborne disease by type of outbreak, causative agent, type of food involved and place of consumption.

*General Medical Services at 1 October 1984*, published in June 1985, shows the type of practitioners, services provided, practice structure, and list sizes, for Scotland and analysed by health board areas.

*Advance Tables*. The fifth edition, published in June 1985, contains a selection of recently-available national and health board figures on many aspects of the NHS. Most of the data relate to calendar year 1984.

Copies of the above publications can be obtained from:

Information Services Division  
Common Services Agency  
Scottish Health Service  
Trinity Park House  
South Trinity Road  
EDINBURGH EH5 3SQ  
Telephone: 031-552 6255 Ext 2707

### References

*Surveillance Programme for Foodborne Infections and Intoxications, Scotland 1984*. P. W. Collier, J. C. M. Sharp, T. W. Hill, A. I. Young, I. Ronald and G. I. Forbes (Price £1.50) ISSN 0263-8754

*General Medical Services 1984*. (Price £4.00) ISSN 0265-8968

*Advance Tables June 1985* (Price £1.50) ISSN 0263-8096



## EDUCATION

### Education Statistics – Scotland

#### *Pupils and teachers in education authority primary and secondary schools*

Published annually, this bulletin gives the number of pupils and teachers in education authority primary and secondary schools, and the number of schools at September 1984 (provisional).

Information is given for Scotland as a whole and for the regions and islands authorities: separate figures are provided for Roman Catholic schools where appropriate.

#### *Placing requests in education authority schools*

This statistical bulletin gives information on the number of placing requests received by education authorities during the period 1 August 1983 to 31 July 1984 under the Education (Scotland) Act 1981, which conferred upon parents the right to make a request nominating the school which they wished their children to attend. Some information is also given about the numbers received since the provision was introduced on 15 February 1982.

#### *University students*

This bulletin gives numbers of full-time students (including students on sandwich courses) at UK universities in December 1983 and numbers of full-time and part-time students at Scottish universities in December 1978, 1982 and 1983. It also includes a section on students registered with the Open University in Scotland in the same period.

See page 70.26 for availability of the above bulletins.

## MANPOWER AND EARNINGS

### 1984 Labour Force Survey – preliminary results

Preliminary results of the 1984 Labour Force Survey are published in the May issue of *Employment Gazette*. Topics covered include economic activity, employment and unemployment; the economic activity of ethnic minority groups; full and part-time working; industry and occupation; second jobs; and methods of job search. The article also presents data on job-related training and on health and disability, included in the survey for the first time in 1984.

**Reference**  
*Employment Gazette*, May 1985 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net)

### Recent trends in redundancies

During 1984 the level of redundancies was significantly lower than in 1983, continuing the declining trend of recent years. An article in May 1985 *Employment Gazette* presents statistics of confirmed redundancies for 1984 by industry and region, and comments on recent trends. It also reviews the bases of the available information.

**Reference**  
*Employment Gazette* May 1985 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net)

### Labour market for new graduates 1983

Using the latest annual survey of new graduates' first destinations, for 1983, an article in *Employment Gazette* May 1985 by Jason Tarsh, Economic Advisor, Department of Employment describes the patterns of new graduates' entry to the labour market. The article shows that graduates' choice of further study or training, their prospects of being unemployed and their distribution across occupations can be limited to their degree subject, sex, type of degree and their graduating institution.

**Reference**  
*Employment Gazette* May 1985 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net)

### Armed Forces Pay

The Fourteenth Report by the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay (Chairman, Sir David Orr) was published in June 1985 and recommends pay, accommodation and food charges for Service ranks up to and including Brigadier (and equivalent), to apply from 1 April 1985. A full list of the Review Body's reports is in Appendix 1.

Details of the main recommended levels of military salary (in Army terms) are in Tables 1-3, and of accommodation charges in Tables 4-5. Equivalent levels of 1 April 1984 and 1 November 1984 military salaries and accommodation charges are in Appendices 2 and 3 respectively.

The results of four unpublished remuneration surveys – covering Officers, Corporals, and Warrant Officers and Senior Non-commissioned Officers – were used by the Review Body as a guide to judgement in determining appropriate levels of military salary.

**Reference**  
*Review Body on Armed Forces Pay, Fourteenth Report 1985 Cmnd. 9526* (HMSO June 1985) (Price £4.30 net)

### Doctors' and dentists' remuneration

The Fifteenth Report by the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' remuneration (Chairman, Sir Robert Clark) was published in June 1985: it recommends pay levels, for the year from 1 April 1985, for doctors and dentists in the National Health Service.

Details of recommendations are in Appendix B. (The Government has announced that the recommended



rates will be paid from 1 June 1985.) Appendix C compares movements in earnings in the year April 1983 to April 1984, while Appendix D gives the numbers of doctors and dentists in the National Health Service (Great Britain) at September 1983 and 1984.

#### Reference

*Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration Fifteenth Report* Cmnd. 9527 (HMSO June 1985) (Price £5.90 net)

### Pay of professions allied to medicine

The Second Report on Professions Allied to Medicine by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine (Chairman, Sir John Hedley Greenborough) was published in June 1985 and recommends pay levels, for the year from 1 April 1985, for chiropodists, dietitians, occupational therapists, orthoptists, physiotherapists, radiographers, remedial gymnasts and related grades in the National Health Service. Details of the numbers covered and paybill are in text Tables 1 and 2 respectively; and current and recommended pay scales, together with the cash and percentage increases arising from the recommendations, are in Appendix A. (The Government announced that an increase of five per cent (or the whole amount of the award where this is less) would be paid from April 1985 and the balance of the recommended increases from February 1986.)

At the request of the Review Body, the Regional Health Authority Chairmen carried out a survey, in a representative sample of forty health districts, of vacancies which, at 31 March 1984, had existed for at least four weeks or for at least three months. The results (in Appendix B) are in terms of whole-time-equivalent numbers and percentages of funded posts by grade within profession. Management's view of the reasons for the vacancies is also shown. The Regional Chairmen also collated readily available information on reasons for leaving amongst members of the professions allied to medicine (Appendix C).

Appendix E contains results of a survey (carried out for the Review Body by the Office of Manpower Economics, which provides its secretariat) of the academic qualifications of entrants to the schools and departments which train members of the professions allied to medicine. The results are shown by level of qualification within each profession.

Appendix F summarises the results of a limited survey, carried out by the Office of Manpower Economics for the Review Body, of the early career pay and conditions of service for jobs outside the NHS for which the academic entry requirements fall in the same range as those required for entrants to schools of nursing, entrants to schools and departments training members of the professions allied to medicine, and entrants to the professions themselves.

At the Review Body's request the Government Actuary carried out an evaluation of the superannuation benefits of the professions allied to medicine: his report is Appendix G.

#### Reference

*Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine, Second Report on Professions Allied to Medicine, 1985* Cmnd. 9528 (HMSO June 1985) (Price £5.55 net)

### Pay of nursing staff, midwives and health visitors

The Second Report on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine (Chairman, Sir John Hedley Greenborough) was published in June 1985 and recommends pay levels, for the year from 1 April 1985, for nursing staff, midwives and health visitors in the National Health Service. Details of the numbers covered and paybill are in text Tables 1 and 2 respectively; and current and recommended pay scales, together with the cash and percentage increases arising from the recommendations, are in Appendix A. (The Government announced that an increase of five per cent (or the whole amount of the award where this is less) would be paid from April 1985 and the balance of the recommended increases from February 1986.)

At the request of the Review Body, the Regional Health Authority Chairmen carried out a survey, in a representative sample of forty health districts, of vacancies which, at 31 March 1984, had existed for at least four weeks or for at least three months. The results (in Appendix B) are in terms of whole-time-equivalent numbers and percentages of funded posts by grade and by type of work. Management's view of the reasons for the vacancies is also shown. The Regional Chairmen also collated readily available information on reasons for leaving amongst nursing staff (Appendix C).

Appendix E contains results of a survey (carried out for the Review Body by the Office of Manpower Economics, which provides its secretariat) of the academic qualifications of entrants to schools of nursing. The results are shown by level of qualification within type of course.

Appendix F summarises the results of a limited survey, carried out by the Office of Manpower Economics for the Review Body, of the early career pay and conditions of service for jobs outside the NHS for which the academic entry requirements fall in the same range as those required for entrants to schools of nursing, entrants to schools and departments training members of the professions allied to medicine, and entrants to the professions themselves.



At the Review Body's request the Government Actuary carried out an evaluation of the superannuation benefits of nursing staff, midwives and health visitors: his report is Appendix G.

#### Reference

*Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine, Second Report on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors, 1985* Cmnd. 9529 (HMSO June 1985) (Price £6.20 net)

### Agricultural workers' earnings and hours

*Employment Gazette* for June 1985 includes the latest in the series of articles on the earnings and hours of agricultural workers in Great Britain. The article gives details for 1984 of full-time hired workers. The results obtained are based on a regular series of investigations of statistically selected farms carried out by officers of the agricultural departments.

More detailed information for England and Wales is contained in a booklet *Earnings and hours and numbers of agricultural workers 1984 – including the report of the Wages and Employment Enquiry* published in August by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (MAFF), price £3 plus 50 pence postage and packing. Copies can be obtained from:

MAFF Publications, Lion House,  
Willowburn Estate, Alnwick,  
Northumberland, NE66 2PF.

Separate information for Scotland can be found in the *Economic Report for Scottish Agriculture*.

#### References

*Employment Gazette*, June 1985 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net)  
*Economic Report for Scottish Agriculture 1984* (Price forthcoming)

### Hours and holidays: manual workers

An article in *Employment Gazette* April 1985 summarises recent changes in hours and holiday entitlements affecting manual workers featured in national collective agreements or in wages orders by Wages Councils during 1984 and gives some indications of future changes.

#### Reference

*Employment Gazette* April 1985 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net)

## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

### National Food Survey

The National Food Survey Committee's recently published Annual Report for 1983 presents extensive analyses of data obtained from the National Food Survey about household food consumption, expenditure and nutritional levels in Great Britain in 1983. A commentary on the Survey's findings is also provided. The data included in the Report are considerably more detailed than those presented in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's *Food Facts* series.

The data on food consumption, expenditure and nutrient intakes are analysed at both national and regional level as well as according to household composition and the income group of the head of the household. The report also includes analyses of consumption by groups of households classified by age of the housewife, by housing tenure, and by freezer-ownership.

Appendix A of the Report describes the structure and methodology of the Survey and Appendix B gives estimates of income and price elasticities of demand for food and of other demand parameters derived using the Survey data.

Summarised quarterly results are released to the press as soon as they become available and a commentary is published in *British business*. Detailed monthly, quarterly and other unpublished data are also available on a subscription basis.

For details contact:

National Food Survey Branch  
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Room 419  
Whitehall Place (West Block)  
London SW1A 2HH  
Telephone: 01-233 5088

#### References

*Household Food Consumption and Expenditure 1983* (HMSO June 1985) (Price £16.95 net)  
*British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

### Agricultural censuses and surveys

#### December 1984 – survey of English wine

The results of a survey of vineyards and wine production in England and Wales were published in MAFF Statistics Notice STATS 71/85 on 12 March 1985.

#### December 1984 – agricultural survey

Results for the United Kingdom were published in MAFF Statistics Notice STATS 95/85 on 10 April 1985.

#### October 1984 – census of vegetables and flowers for England and Wales

Results of this census of vegetables and flowers grown in the open were published in MAFF Statistics Notice STATS 98/85 on 12 April 1985.

#### December 1984 – machinery survey

Results for England, including those derived from the census of Agricultural Labour & Machinery Contractors held on 3 December 1984, were published in MAFF Statistics Notice STATS 142/85 dated 3 June 1985.

#### Stocks of home grown wheat, barley and oats – England and Wales

Figures for February and March 1985 were published in MAFF Statistics Notices STATS 100/85 and STATS 130/85 respectively.



Copies of the MAFF Statistics Notices can be obtained, free of charge, from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Press Office  
Whitehall Place  
London SW1A 2HH  
Telephone: 01-233 8226

*Production of canned & bottled fruit & vegetables*

Results of the MAFF survey showing production during the 1st quarter of 1985 have now been published. Copies of the Press Notice can be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Room 500A, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE (Telephone: 01-216 6763).

## INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

### Business Monitors – Annual Census of Production 1983

Readers of *Statistical News* are made aware of the results of the 1983 Census of Production as the Business Monitors become available. A list of the first of these monitors to be published is given below:

<i>Business Monitor</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>SIC 1980 Group</i>
PA 1001	Introductory notes	
PA 111	Coal extraction and manufacture of solid fuels	111
PA 120	Coke ovens	120
PA 161	Production and distribution of electricity	161
PA 239	Extraction of miscellaneous minerals (including salt)	239
PA 246	Abrasive products	246
PA 248	Refractory and ceramic goods	248
PA 257	Pharmaceutical products	257
PA 311	Foundries	311
PA 312	Forging pressing and stamping	312
PA 323	Textile machinery	323
PA 324	Machinery for the food, chemical and related industries, process engineering contractors	324
PA 328	Miscellaneous machinery and mechanical equipment	328
PA 329	Ordnance, small arms and ammunition	329
PA 341	Insulated wire and cables	341
PA 342	Basic electrical equipment	342
PA 347	Electric lamps and other electric lighting equipment	347

PA 351	Motor vehicles and their engines	351
PA 352	Motor vehicle bodies, trailers and caravans	352
PA 353	Motor vehicle parts	353
PA 362	Railway and tramway vehicles	362
PA 363	Cycles and motor cycles	363
PA 365	Miscellaneous vehicles	365
PA 371	Measuring checking and precision instruments and apparatus	371
PA 372	Medical and surgical equipment and orthopaedic appliances	372
PA 373	Optical precision instruments and photographic equipment	373
PA 374	Clocks, watches and other timing devices	374
PA 414	Processing of fruit and vegetables	414
PA 416	Grain milling	416
PA 420	Sugar and sugar by-products	420
PA 426	Wines, cider and perry	426
PA 428	Soft drinks	428
PA 433	Throwing, texturing etc of continuous filament yarn	433
PA 451	Footwear	451
PA 456	Fur goods	456
PA 492	Musical instruments	492
PA 494	Toys and sports goods	494

Copies of these Business Monitors are available on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 276, LONDON SW8 5DT (Telephone: 01-622 3316) or through any Government Bookshop.

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

Mr J. Dowsell  
Business Statistics Office  
Government Buildings  
Cardiff Road  
NEWPORT  
Gwent  
NP9 1XG  
Telephone: 0633-56111 Ext 2455

Individual monitors or a free brochure describing the full range of Monitors with prices and order form may be obtained from:

The Librarian  
Business Statistics Office  
Government Buildings  
Cardiff Road  
NEWPORT  
Gwent  
NP9 1XG  
Telephone: 0633-56111 Ext 2973



### Annual census of production 1982

Summary results are now available in *Business Monitor PA 1002*.

The summary volume includes both establishment tables, which summarise results previously published in separate industry monitors (PA 111-500), and enterprise analyses. The establishment tables show information for 1979-1982 on total sales and work done, cost of purchases, net output, gross value added, employment, wages and salaries, capital expenditure, stocks and work in progress and operating ratios. This information is shown at the three-digit level of the Standard Industrial Classification Revised 1980, a separate table shows a limited range of data at the four-digit level of the classification. The enterprise tables include an analysis of public and private enterprises, concentration ratios for the five largest enterprises by employment size at three-digit group level, analyses of private sectors' 100 largest manufacturing enterprises defined by size of employment, net output and turnover.

#### Reference

*Business Monitor PA 1002 Report on the Census of Production 1982: Summary Tables* (HMSO May 1985) (Price £18.50 net)

### Trends in manufacturing trade and output

In almost all the industrial countries, the importance of manufacturing as measured by its contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) has been declining since the early 1960s. Over the last 15 years the share of manufacturing in employment has also declined, but manufacturing has maintained its share of international trade. An article in *Economic Progress Report No. 178* June/July 1985, published by HM Treasury, sets out the trends in manufacturing output and employment in the industrial countries, and examines the changing position of their trade in manufactures.

#### Reference

*Economic Progress Report* is available, free of charge, from Publications Division, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU.

### Commercial and industrial floorspace statistics

The thirteenth issue of *Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics* was published in June 1985. It contains information about the floorspace changes between 1981 and 1984.

The information is provided to the Department of the Environment by the Inland Revenue Valuation Offices and contains details for each local authority on the number of non-domestic properties and their floorspace area. Information on the latest annual changes are given at regional level.

The four previous issues are available from HMSO. More detailed information can be obtained from:

Statistics Planning, Population and General  
Division,  
Department of the Environment,  
Room 515,  
Kingsgate House,  
66-74 Victoria Street,  
London, SW1E 6SJ,  
Telephone: 01-212 8473

#### References

- Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics No. 13—England 1981-1984* (HMSO 1985) (Price £5.85 net) ISBN 0 11 751788 7  
*Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics No. 12—England 1980-1983* (HMSO 1984) (Price £5.50 net) ISBN 0 11 751961 8  
*Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics No. 11—England 1979-1982* (HMSO 1983) (Price £4.40 net)  
*Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics No. 10—England 1978-1981* (HMSO 1982) (Price £4.00 net)  
*Commercial and Industrial Floorspace Statistics No. 9—England 1977-1980* (HMSO 1981) (Price £5.60 net)

## DISTRIBUTION AND OTHER SERVICES

### Starts and stops of businesses in the 'other services' sector: UK 1980-83

An economy such as that of the United Kingdom is made up of a wide range of economic activities, from the very small to the very large in scale, from the very short-term to the very long-term, carried out by individuals and businesses involved in the production of goods and services for consumption at home and abroad.

To produce some sort of order out of the diverse and complicated picture of what is happening in the economy, for analytical purposes similar activities are grouped together into 'industries' (or, more generally, sectors of trade) under a system known as standard industrial classification. Most of these groupings are straightforward such as agriculture, manufacturing, transport, wholesale, retail, catering, motor trades and so on.

Activities which are regarded as being of lesser importance or those which cannot easily be fitted into one of the individual groups are included in the residual category usually known as 'other services'. But times change and some of the activities so grouped together may come to be regarded as of much greater importance to the nation's economy.

In an article in *British business* 5 July 1985, Pom Ganguly from the Department of Trade and Industry's small firms division, reviews the composition of the 'other services' sector and takes a look at the businesses involved in the various trades and services which make up this particular sector and about which so little is known.

Previous articles in *British business* have been covered in *Statistical News* 56.29, 57.26, 58.32, 59.45, 61.24,



63.36, 64.29, 65.36, 66.53, 67.40, 68.41 and 69.42.

Inquiries about, but not requests for, the articles should be addressed to:

Mr Pom Ganguly  
Small Firms Division, DTI  
Room 214, Ashdown House  
123 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6RB

**Reference**

*British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

**Registration of films**

The Film Act 1985 came into effect on 23 May 1985, abolishing the requirement to register films.

Consequently *British business* will no longer publish a weekly list of film registrations.

**Reference**

*British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

**Computer services: estimates of industry turnover**

Since 1969 a quarterly inquiry has been conducted into the computer services industry (activity heading 8394 in the Standard Industrial Classification, revised 1980) and the results have been published in Business Monitor *SDQ9* (formerly *SD9*) since 1973. However, for the first quarter of 1983 certain changes were made to the inquiry which mean that current results are not directly comparable with those of 1982 and earlier. The inquiry relates to a voluntary panel of contributors, and so the results are indicators of rates of change rather than measures of total billings (i.e. total sales) by all firms engaged in the computer services industry.

For 1983 the quarterly inquiry has been supplemented by a sample survey drawn from the register of businesses held by the Business Statistics Office. This survey has made possible the calculation of improved estimates of total turnover of all firms classified to the industry. At the time they numbered 15,000 including voluntary registrations. The 200 largest firms accounted for over half of the estimated total turnover of £1,750 million in 1983.

The estimates of turnover in 1983 have been projected forward to 1984, using the change in the annual results of the quarterly inquiry. A summary of these estimates for 1983 and 1984 has been published in the fourth quarter 1984 edition of Business Monitor *SDQ9*. This is available from HMSO.

A report describing the survey, how it was conducted and the information gained from it has also been produced. It is available from:

Statistics 1A  
Department of Trade and Industry  
Room 1905, Millbank Tower  
London SW1P 4QU  
Telephone: 01-211 7220.

70.36

## DEFENCE

### Defence statistics

The latest *Statement on the Defence Estimates* (SDE) was published on 1 May 1985. As usual, Volume 2 contains the most recently available statistics on a wide range of defence topics, including expenditure, trade, Service and civilian manpower, health of the Armed Forces and services to the community. A comprehensive list for the 1983 edition was given in *Statistical News* 63.31.

Since then, two new tables have been added. Table 2.2 showing the net cost of works, buildings and land to Ministry of Defence and Property Services Agency (PSA) as well as gross costs to PSA of new works, maintenance and staff was introduced in SDE 1984. This year, a new table 2.11 was added giving an analysis of defence contracts placed by type of contract. The summary of Royal Ordnance Factory activity has been dropped this year following transfer to independent Companies Act status on 2 January 1985. This information may be obtained from the Royal Ordnance Factories Trading Fund Accounts, the latest of which, covering the year 1983-84 was published by HMSO as HC 591 in September 1984, price £3.95 net.

**Reference**

*Statement on the Defence Estimates 1985* (HMSO May 1985) (Volume 1, Cmnd. 9430-I, price £4.50 net; Volume 2, Cmnd. 9430-II, price £5.00 net).

## ENERGY

### UK oil and gas resources

*Development of the Oil and Gas resources of the United Kingdom 1985* is the latest of a series of annual reports to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Energy.

The report describes the development of the United Kingdom's oil and gas resources in 1984 and also includes several significant events in early 1985. It contains the Department of Energy's estimates of oil and gas reserves on the United Kingdom Continental Shelf and facts and figures on oil and gas exploration, development, production and operational activities, and environmental aspects. It also includes financial and economic information about the impact of oil and gas production on the United Kingdom.

A series of appendices covers specific aspects of oil and gas development such as licences issued, wells drilled, significant discoveries, oil and gas fields in production and under development, production statistics and expenditure by operators. The last appendix is a map of the United Kingdom Continental Shelf, Spring 1985.

**Reference**

*Development of the Oil and Gas resources of the United Kingdom 1985* (HMSO) May 1985 (Price £9.50 net) ISBN 0 11 411565 6.



### Short-term energy demand forecasting.

An article in *Energy Economics* Volume 7 Number 3 July 1985 describes an application of multivariate Box-Jenkins techniques to the problems of United Kingdom energy demand forecasting.

The paper explains the reasons for adopting Box-Jenkins methods, citing in particular this method's attempts to take account of the serial and cross-correlation of residuals. Energy demand data were disaggregated to five sectors of the economy, and within each sector, demand was disaggregated to four fuels. By measuring energy demand in units of million useful therms, and fuel prices in units of pence per useful therm the paper shows how relative fuel efficiencies may be omitted from models which relate fuel demand to fuel price while taking into account the consumer's objective of useful heat.

By expressing fuel demand within sectors in terms of fuel-shares, the scale of the multivariate stochastic Box-Jenkins model can be reduced to one of estimating a multi-input single-output transfer function, (to forecast sectoral fuel demand) and a four input-four output multiple transfer function (to forecast fuel shares within sectors). The short-comings of this approach, namely its failure to assure fuel shares which sum to unity, and its failure to take account of feedback from demand to price are discussed. The paper describes an algorithm which adjusts the forecast fuel shares using information from the variance-covariance structure of the residuals, subject to the constraint that fuel shares sum to one. The lack of feedback in the models is justified by the weak relationship between oil demand in the United Kingdom and world trade dominated oil prices, and by non-demand orientated interventions in nationalised fuel industries pricing policies.

The paper contains a description of each of the models. Short-term income and price elasticities associated with sectoral demand models and own and cross-price elasticities associated with the fuel share models are presented.

The paper concludes by recording the model's performance in 1983, showing that the actual forecasting error conformed with expected patterns. A useful by-product of the analysis was that it provided measures of the potential accuracy of the forecasting models.

Offprints are available from Dr M. P. G. Pepper, Department of Energy, Room 769, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1 4QJ.

#### Reference

'Multivariate Box-Jenkins analysis: A case study in energy demand forecasting', by Dr M. P. G. Pepper, published in *Energy Economics* (1985) Vol 7, No 3, pages 168-178.

## NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

### United Kingdom National Accounts 1985 edition

The 1985 edition of *United Kingdom National Accounts* – the CSO Blue Book – is due to be published on September 6 1985.

Quarterly figures for the latest ten years consistent with the annual figures in the Blue Book will be published as usual in the October issue of *Economic Trends* together with a table giving financial year totals for gross domestic and gross national product at factor cost and market prices for the years 1975/76-1984/85.

#### References

*United Kingdom National Accounts 1985 edition* (HMSO) (Price forthcoming) ISBN 0 11 620155 X

*Economic Trends* No.384 October 1985 (HMSO) (Price £9.95 net)

### Commodity flow accounts for the United Kingdom

The May edition of *Economic Trends* contained an article about the United Kingdom Commodity Flow Accounts by John Astin (Central Statistical Office) and Nick Brady (British Steel Corporation). The purpose of the article was to put on record detailed information about what the accounts are and how they are compiled, and also to illustrate how they can be used in an industrial forecasting context.

The commodity flow accounts are a unique set of tables matching the supply and demand for some 40 commodity groups, covering the whole economy. They are less detailed than the United Kingdom input-output tables, but much more up-to-date.

This year, for the first time, they will be produced with the aid of finance from a group of users outside government. Any potential subscribers are invited to contact the CSO. Enquiries should be addressed to:

John Astin  
Input-Output Section  
Central Statistical Office  
Cabinet Office  
Great George Street  
London SW1P 3AQ  
Telephone: 01-233 3553

#### Reference

*Economic Trends* No 379, May 1985 (HMSO) (Price £9.95 net)

### Revisions to quarterly estimates of Gross Domestic Product

An article in the July 1985 issue of *Economic Trends* describes an analysis of the experience of revisions to quarterly estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), concentrating on the first five years after publication and reviewing data for periods from 1971 onwards. It is found that revisions to the growth rates of constant price GDP are more often upward than downward; after five years the balance is about three quarters



upward to one quarter downward. The range of revisions is quite large; for the average measure, GDP(A), two thirds of the growth rate revisions after five years lie in the range from 0.3 percentage points below the first estimate to 1.7 percentage points above.

The article reviews the methods by which the GDP estimates are constructed, and indicates what factors lead to revisions of the first estimates. It reports a number of analyses to investigate factors which may influence the size and direction of revisions, including the stage of the economic cycle, the rate of inflation and the effect of re-basing. Finally, the article announces that future articles and press notices on GDP will contain, for each estimate of the growth rate of GDP(A), an indication of the range within which the revised value five years after first publication is likely to lie if future revisions are similar to those in the past.

#### Reference

*Economic Trends* No 381 July 1985 (HMSO) (Price £9.95 net)

## HOME FINANCE

### Company finance

The sixteenth issue of Business Monitor *MA3 Company Finance* (HMSO, price £8.50 net) appeared on 22 May. It contains information derived from the published annual accounts of a representative sample of about 2,500 industrial and commercial company groups and independent companies registered in Great Britain.

As in the fifteenth issue (June 1984) there are standardised and aggregated balance sheets, income and appropriation accounts and statements of sources and uses of funds. Information is given for all companies in respect of standardised accounting year 1981 (i.e. inclusive of any twelve month accounting period which ended between 1 April 1981 and 31 March 1982), for large and medium-sized companies in respect of 1982 and for large companies in respect of 1983. Accounting ratios are given for large companies for the accounting years 1977 to 1983. The new monitor also continues the innovation in the fifteenth issue of a table which compares rates of return on capital employed between 1980 and 1983 for a selection of large companies, using information compiled both on the traditional book value basis and on the Current Cost Accounting (CCA) approach of Statement of Standard Accounting Practice (SSAP) 16.

As in previous monitors, analyses are made by size of company, area of operation (i.e. wholly or mainly UK or wholly or mainly overseas), whether the company is UK or overseas-controlled and by about two dozen industry groups based on the current Standard Industrial Classification. For reasons of economy and timeliness in publication, the amount of information

which can be included in the monitor is limited. The Company Accounts Analysis system developed by the Department of Trade and Industry in recent years is, however, capable of generating many combinations of data and levels of aggregation. Much information is also available for individual companies in the sample and details of the composition of the sample itself can readily be obtained. Readers who wish to know more are invited to address their enquiries as follows:

Mr J. F. Knight

Company Accounts Analysis Section  
Department of Trade and Industry (S1B2)

Government Buildings

Cardiff Road

Newport

Gwent

NP9 1XG

Telephone: 0633 56111 Extension 2929

### Company liquidity survey

Starting with the publication of first quarter 1985 figures in *British business* 31st May 1985, the Department of Trade and Industry are presenting the results of their quarterly survey of company liquidity (CLS) as grossed up estimates of the liquidity of all large industrial and commercial companies, instead of simply aggregates of survey respondents' figures as in the past. The allowances for non-respondents have been based on data taken from their published accounts as part of the company accounts analysis (CAA) carried out by the Department of Trade and Industry and published annually in Business Monitor *MA3 Company Finance*.

The definition of 'large' companies covers those with capital employed (defined as shareholders' interest, deferred taxation, long term loans, bank loans, overdrafts and short term loans) of £21.8 m or more in their published accounts at the end of their 1982 accounting year plus public corporations transferred to the company sector by the end of 1984. The 280 companies responding to the CLS have been treated as though representative of the 700 or so companies in the CAA 'very large' category in 1982, although the CLS panel is in fact weighted rather towards the top end of this size range. (It should be noted that figures for 'large' companies in Business Monitor *MA3* cover those with capital employed down to £4.16 m.) The survey results have been grossed up to represent this fixed population of large companies throughout and, apart from the public corporations mentioned above, no allowances have been made for companies which moved in or out of our definition of large industrial and commercial companies before or after 1982. This means, for example, that the former large public corporations which are now part of the private sector are included in the results throughout the whole series; similarly,



present public corporations which have been wholly or partly in the company sector in earlier years are excluded throughout.

Grossing for non-respondents has been done separately for manufacturing companies, oil companies and other non-manufacturing companies and it has been assumed that within each of these three groups the liquidity of non-respondents will have been changing in the same way as that of respondents. The grossing factors have been derived by relating the totals for current assets and liabilities as shown by respondents to the CLS at the end of 1982 to the liquidity headings in the CAA for the same companies at the end of their 1982 accounting year (year ends between 1st April 1982 and 31st March 1983).

There are a number of reasons why the CAA and CLS figures for individual companies should not agree but regression analyses showed that the relationship between the two sources of information was sufficiently strong to allow grossing factors to be based upon the CAA data for manufacturing and non-manufacturing excluding oil. Oil companies were estimated slightly differently; coverage was higher in the survey than for the other two sectors and in essence the ratio of total CAA figures to survey respondents' CAA figures was used although allowance was made for known differences.

Time series have been built up from the end 1982 starting point by applying the movements shown by survey respondents, allowing for breaks in continuity.

The CAA liquidity information was not sufficiently detailed to enable independent grossed up estimates to be made for the individual types of assets and liabilities distinguished in the survey. It was therefore decided to use the same grossing factor for all current asset headings and for all current liability headings, which is equivalent to assuming that the breakdown between items shown by survey respondents in each industrial sector is representative of that for all large companies in that sector. Because of the change in survey coverage at the end of each year, when new recruits to the survey are introduced and some companies fall out of the survey, there will still be differences in the breakdown between the two versions of each fourth quarter. It is impossible to say which is 'better' because we have no means of knowing whether our survey respondents are more representative of all large companies in one year rather than another.

The grossed up estimates now being published are subject to margins of error which may be large and could be in either direction. These errors arise partly through normal sampling errors, partly because the enquiry is voluntary and the panel is therefore not a true random sample and partly as a result of problems encountered in estimating the grossing factors. Never-

theless the new series should give a more reliable indication of the movements in, and underlying trends of, liquidity of all large industrial and commercial companies than the former series.

Other changes in presentation of the survey results over the last few years have been the distinction between oil companies and other non-manufacturing companies from the end of 1982, the addition of figures for longer term borrowing from the monetary sector from the same date. Also the inclusion in the published tables of figures of real net current assets at the end of each quarter from the start of the survey at end 1969.

Enquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade and Industry, Statistics Division 2b, Room 419, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3DB; Telephone: 01-215 3462/4133.

#### Reference

*British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

#### Investment intentions survey, 1985 and 1986

An article in *British business*, 7 June 1985, gives details of the latest survey of investment intentions carried out by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). It indicates a rise of nearly eight per cent in the volume of investment by the manufacturing, construction, distribution and selected service industries in 1985. The results of the second survey for 1986 suggest that the level of investment in 1986 will be about the same as in 1985.

The results are based on the latest of a series of regular surveys directed to a panel of mainly larger companies in manufacturing and in the construction, distribution and selected service industries. A full description of the surveys is given in *Investment intentions, authorisations and expenditure*, Government Economic Service Occasional Paper, 12 (HMSO 1976) (Price £1.06 net). A shorter account by Miss M. O'Connor, DTI, was published in *Statistical News*, May 1978 (pages 41.15 to 41.19).

#### Reference

*British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

#### Demand for liquidity aggregates by the UK personal sector

A new Treasury Working Paper (No.36) has recently become available, *The Demand for Liquidity Aggregates by the UK Personal Sector* by R. B. Johnston, (No.81 in the Government Economic Service Working Paper series).

The paper examines trends since the mid-1960s in personal sector holdings of liquid financial assets and debt. It pays particular attention to the effects of liberalisation in the financial system since 1979 and presents some estimates, based on detailed econometric analysis, of the identifiable effects of liberalisation on



personal sector debt and holdings of liquid assets.

The estimates suggest that, over the period 1980-83, the increases in lending to the personal sector, directly resulting from liberalisation, have caused the annual rate of growth in the personal sector's holdings of gross liquid assets to be about 1½ per cent higher than it would otherwise have been. These are not the total effects of liberalisation. Holdings will have been further boosted by the narrowing of the margins between personal sector borrowing and deposit rates that has occurred because of liberalisation. These secondary effects are not quantifiable.

Copies of Treasury Working Papers are available subject to a handling charge of 50p per copy, and cheques, money and postal orders for this amount (made payable to HM Treasury) should be sent with the order to Committee Section, HM Treasury, Parliament Street, London SW1P 3AG.

### Rate of return on investment

The Government require nationalised industries, as part of their financial discipline, to aim at a certain fixed rate of return on their capital investment programmes. This return represents the opportunity cost of their capital, that is to say the cost of using the capital there rather than somewhere else. The nationalised industries are required to aim at a rate of return on their investment programmes of 5 per cent in real terms before payment of interest and tax. This was first spelled out in the 1978 White Paper, *The Nationalised Industries*, (Cmnd. 7131 HMSO). While the figure has been reviewed from time to time since then it has not so far been found necessary to change it. In fixing the appropriate figure, the Government take into account the rate of return being achieved in private industry. *Economic Progress Report No.178* June/July 1985 published by HM Treasury includes an article which summarises some recently published evidence on rates of return in the private sector, and shows how they compare with the rate of return achieved by nationalised industries as a whole. The results suggest that the rates of return achieved by nationalised industries overall have been rather lower than rates of return elsewhere in the economy. They also suggest that there is little evidence that a 5 per cent required rate of return is too high a target given the need to ensure that resources are used efficiently to the benefit of the community as a whole.

#### Reference

*Economic Progress Report* is available, free of charge, from Publications Division, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London, SE1 7DU

### Required rate of return on investment

Treasury Working Paper, No.35, will shortly become available. It is *The Required Rate of Return on Investment: Recent Evidence from the Private and Public Sectors* by R. Stannard. It is No.80 in the Government

Economic Service series. An article dealing with some of the material in the Working Paper appears on page 6 of *Economic Progress Report No.178*, see above item.

Copies of Treasury Working Papers are available subject to a handling charge of 50p per copy, and cheques, money and postal orders for this amount (made payable to HM Treasury) should be sent with the order to Committee Section, HM Treasury, Parliament Street, London SW1P 3AG.

## OVERSEAS FINANCE AND TRADE

### United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1985 Edition The CSO Pink Book

The 1985 edition of the CSO Pink Book, containing detailed balance of payments figures for the last eleven years and summary figures from 1963 was published on 23 August. The Pink Book contains revisions to previously published figures reflecting mainly the incorporation of later information although some changes result from improvements in the methods of estimating certain series. The Pink Book presents more complete information than is published elsewhere and is the source for estimates of UK transactions with the countries and institutions of the European Community and the overseas earnings of UK financial institutions ('City' earnings). The annual data are consistent with the quarterly series which will be published in the September issue of *Economic Trends*.

As in previous years the Pink Book is divided into sections e.g. visible trade, services, transfers, etc. with each section containing explanatory notes on the series covered and the sources of the data. This year's edition includes a new section relating earnings (interest, profits and dividends) and investment data.

#### References

*United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1985 Edition* (HMSO) (Price £8.95 net) ISBN 011 620154 1

### Overseas direct investment 1983

The main results of the Department of Trade and Industry's detailed inquiry into the annual flows of overseas direct investment and the earnings on it in 1983 were given in a *British business* article 17 May 1985.

Detailed results giving figures for each main country and industry will be published in *Business Monitor MA4 Overseas transactions 1983* later this year.

The inquiry into UK direct investment overseas was conducted on a statutory basis for the first time in 1983 whilst the inquiry into investment in the United Kingdom remains voluntary.

Quarterly estimates of overseas direct investment and earnings for 1983 and the most recent quarters are given in the balance of payments accounts published in the March, June, September and December editions of



## Economic Trends.

### References

- British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)  
*Economic Trends* (HMSO monthly) (Price £9.95 net)

### Overseas earnings

A *British business* article of 24 May 1985 presents figures of overseas royalty transactions in 1983 obtained for the invisibles account of the United Kingdom balance of payments from the Department of Trade and Industry's overseas transactions inquiry for that year. More detailed figures from the inquiry will be published later this year in Business Monitor *MA4 Overseas transactions 1983*, obtainable by standing order from HMSO, or separate copies from the Librarian, Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG. The results of the inquiry for 1982 appeared in *British business*, 25 May 1984. Transactions covered include royalties, licences, patents, trade marks, designs, copyrights, manufacturing rights and the like. Overseas transactions relating to film and television rights are not included here, but figures for 1983 were published in *British business*, 5 October 1984.

The inquiry does not cover all companies with royalty transactions, though estimates are made for all firms in the first table in the article. The other tables report only the transactions of companies responding to the inquiry. These concerns account for nearly 80 per cent of total receipts and over 90 per cent of total payments.

### Reference

- British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

### Classification of overseas trade—signing of the harmonised system (HS) convention

On 10 June at the Headquarters of the Customs Cooperation Council in Brussels Sir Angus Fraser, TD, Chairman of the Board of HM Customs and Excise, signed the International Convention on the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System on behalf of the United Kingdom. Signature of the Convention is subject to later ratification.

This Convention, with associated structured Nomenclature and Numeric coding system, was adopted by the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) in Brussels in June 1983. Development has taken nearly fourteen years of intensive work and negotiation involving a wide range of countries, international and national governmental and non-governmental trade and statistical organisations. The United Kingdom Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (SITPRO) has played its full part.

The system provides for the identification and classification of commodities of significance in world trade and is intended to replace the present CCC Nomenclature from which it essentially evolved. It will also correlate as far as practicable with the United Nation's

Standard International Trade Classification system (SITC) which is also being revised.

It is hoped that given the widest possible adoption, including in particular by the USA and Canada, the system will provide significant trade facilitation advantages. Its associated mandatory Numeric coding should also facilitate the collection, compilation and exchange of statistical data by computer means thus providing a more speedy and reliable basis for the conduction of international and European Community trade negotiations.

Countries throughout the world are working to introduce the HS as quickly as possible, but no firm date for its implementation can yet be given.

HM Customs & Excise and the Department of Trade and Industry have been engaged for the past three years, in conjunction with the other Member States, on the 'transposition' of the existing Common Customs Tariff (CCT) of the European Community and NIMEXE (European Community external trade classification) to the HS. The new instrument and consequential changes to the United Kingdom's own tariff and overseas trade classification will be introduced when the harmonised system is implemented.

It is hoped to publish a full article on the harmonised system much nearer the time of its actual introduction.

Enquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade and Industry, Statistics Division 2B, Room 456, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone: 01-215 5770/5850.

### UK exports and imports invoiced in foreign currency: 1979-83

Surveys examining the extent to which export and import shipments were invoiced in foreign currencies were conducted on a regular basis in the past, and results were published in *British business* (formerly *Trade and Industry*). The most recent articles were published in October 1980 for exports relating to a survey held in May 1979, and in February 1981 for imports covering surveys held in March and September 1979.

Shortly after these articles were published, industrial action was taken at Customs and Excise. This disrupted processing of overseas trade statistics, and also of special surveys associated with them, including the currency of invoicing surveys. Following the resumption of processing, there were inevitable delays associated with the 'catching-up' of work affected by the dispute.

Although the results were not processed immediately, the surveys continued during this period and analyses are now available for the years 1980-83. These are given in an article in *British business* of 31 May 1985 together with results for 1979. Although two surveys were held each year, annual averages only are given to keep the article to a manageable size. In future, the results of



each survey will be published as they become available.

Enquiries should be made to:

Department of Trade and Industry  
Room 282  
1 Victoria Street  
London, SW1H 0ET  
Telephone: 01-215 3445

#### Reference

*British business* (HMSO weekly) (Price £1.25 net)

## ENVIRONMENT

### Committee of Enquiry into the handling of geographic information

On the 28th February Environment Minister William Waldegrave announced the establishment of a Committee with the following terms of reference:

'To advise the Secretary of State for the Environment within two years on the future handling of geographic information in the United Kingdom taking account of modern developments in information technology and of market need.'

The Committee's Enquiry is intended to be wide-ranging and to cover all types of spatially-related information. This will include but not be limited to: topography, hydrography, planning, development, rateable values, utilities, communications, land use, land cover, air pollution, soils, geology, population and social and economic information.

The Committee will be examining policies and practices of both users and suppliers of information, whether in the public or private sectors, in order to consider how access to information can be improved, unnecessary duplication reduced and, in the context of expected technological development, the extent to which related information may be brought together more economically and cost effectively.

The Committee is primarily concerned with the handling rather than the collection of information.

Interested organisations and individuals who wish to submit evidence and who have not already been invited to do so should write to the Secretary to the Committee at the following address requesting an Invitation to Submit Evidence:

Mr John Metcalf  
Committee of Enquiry into the handling of geographic information  
Room C15/02A  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 3EB

### Waterfacts

A new publication by the Water Authorities Association *Waterfacts* brings together, for the first time, basic

statistics concerning the activities of the water authorities in England and Wales.

It contains fourteen sections covering: structure of the industry; rainfall and abstractions; water supply; sewerage, sewerage and sludge disposal; river quality; charges; income and expenditure; capital expenditure; manpower; reformance ratios; land drainage; fisheries and recreation, international; and indices, conversion factors and sources.

The publication is issued in conjunction with the free leaflet *Water industry in figures*, which has several items of information not included in the publication. The main additional items in *Water industry in figures* are assets (lengths of water mains and sewers, number of sewerage treatment works), average household use (by appliance) and also water authorities' areas, general populations and residual rainfalls.

The information that was published in the appendices of the National Water Council's annual reports 1974/75 to 1982/83 has been continued within the tables of *Waterfacts* with only minor modifications.

*Waterfacts* is obtainable from the Water Authorities Association, 1 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BT, price £3.00.

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

### Research and development statistics

An article on research and development (R & D) has appeared in *Economic Trends* for a number of years, the latest in the edition for August 1985. It brings up to date the estimate of R & D performed in the United Kingdom economy, using the results of the 1983 survey of industrially performed research and the recently completed inquiry into government spending on R & D for the financial year 1983/84. Details of the industrial survey appeared in *British business*, 18 January 1985.

The article shows that, although spending on R & D in 1983 rose by eleven per cent compared with the 1981 level, the increase was not sufficient to affect the rising cost of research. The volume of R & D in 1983 was four per cent lower than the peak level of 1981. The fall occurred in both government and industrial research.

In addition to the two main sectors, government and industry, the article provides details of R & D performed and funded by higher education and the private non-profit institutions. Together, these bodies performed fourteen per cent of R & D in 1983.

Funds for research were provided roughly equally by government on one hand, and all other sectors together on the other. Rather more than half government spending was related to defence needs.

#### References

*Economic Trends* No 382, August 1985 (HMSO) (Price £9.95 net)  
*British business*, 18 January 1985 (HMSO) (Price £1.25 net)



## INTERNATIONAL

### International comparisons of stoppages

*Employment Gazette* for April 1985 contains the latest annual article in a series which compares the incidence of working days lost in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. Such comparisons of international disputes statistics are complicated by differences between countries in methods of compiling data and the criteria used for inclusion of stoppages in the statistics and the article also discusses these differences.

#### Reference

*Employment Gazette* April 1985 (HMSO) (Price £2.95 net)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Civil Service Statistics

*Civil Service Statistics 1985* was published in July by HMSO for HM Treasury. The introductory article charts trends in civil service numbers since 1902 and shows more recent changes in the occupational structure of the service. Promotion rates for the Administrative Group over the last ten years are discussed, together with some indicators of the turnover of labour. The article also highlights the major towns and cities where civil servants work.

Statistical tables show where civil servants are located, both in terms of their government departments and the region of the country where they serve and displays the number in each of the major grades. One table notes all the significant changes in the allocation of functions between departments over the last six years. A new table shows the salary scales of major grades and others cover the distribution of entrants and leavers by grade, age and sex.

A selected bibliography is included.

#### Reference

*Civil Service Statistics 1985* (HMSO) (Price £7.00 net)

### United Kingdom Mineral Statistics 1984

This edition is the eleventh in the annual series of *United Kingdom Mineral Statistics* which was first published in 1973. Four sections with explanatory notes cover Mineral production; UK overseas trade in minerals and mineral-based products; Commodity reviews; and Commodity summaries: UK production, consumption and trade 1977-1983. Maps and diagrams are included in a fifth section. The data are obtained from a wide variety of published and unpublished sources.

Compared with the preceding edition, all the contents have been systematically updated by one year and revisions for earlier years have been made whenever more up-to-date information has become available. One

new table has been introduced which lists the number and types of mineral workings in the United Kingdom. Also minor improvements and additions have been made to a number of tables.

#### Reference

*United Kingdom Mineral Statistics 1984* (HMSO) May 1985 (Price £20.00 net) ISBN 0 11 884283 8

### Scottish Economic Bulletin

The latest edition of the *Scottish Economic Bulletin*, published in June, contains an economic review, three articles and revised charts and statistics.

The first article 'Economic trends and support to economic activity in rural Scotland' by J. Randall discusses performance and Government expenditure over the period since 1970. Indicators and support have been generally more favourable in rural Scotland than in Scotland as a whole.

The second article 'Research and development in mechanical engineering' by A. K. MacLeod reports the findings of a survey in Scotland. It shows that the emphasis is overwhelmingly on development in Scotland.

The third article 'Patterns of work in Scotland' by W. M. McNie and D. S. Carmichael examines changes in part-time, shift and overtime working over the past decade.

#### Reference

*Scottish Economic Bulletin No. 31* (HMSO June 1985) (Price £6.00 net)

### Welsh Transport Statistics No. 1, 1985

This new publication brings together details of the transport economy of Wales—roads, railways, ports and airports, the traffic through them in its various forms, the expenditure on this traffic and the numbers employed in transport.

The publication is in five sections, four dealing with the main forms of transportation, road, rail, sea and air; while the final section presents other statistical aspects of the transport economy in terms of employment, public and household expenditure and such related subjects as petrol prices and travel to work. The importance of road transport in Wales is reflected in the large number of tables relating to the road system, numbers and types of vehicles, freight traffic, buses, road accidents and motoring offences.

The publication, which is illustrated with charts and maps, is intended to be the first of an annual series.

Further and more detailed statistics on road accidents and road lengths in Wales can be obtained from the publications *Road Accidents: Wales*, and *Statistics of Road Lengths in Wales* (see item below).

The new publication is available from Welsh Office Economic and Statistical Services, Cathays Park, Cardiff, price £3.00, including postage and packing.



### **Statistics of road lengths in Wales: 1984**

Welsh road length statistics are collected annually from the County Council Highway departments. Results are not published annually and this publication provides statistics for years 1982 to 1984 inclusive.

The first eighteen tables give trend data for 1974-1984 in miles and kilometres for Wales and eight Counties. The remaining thirty tables are in sets of ten, the data headings being repeated in each set for annual data of 1982, 1983 and 1984.

The publication costs £2.00 net and is available from:

Publications Unit  
ESS Division  
Welsh Office  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff CF1 3NQ

### **Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin**

In addition to regular articles commenting on recent developments in the United Kingdom economy, and on domestic and international financial markets, the June issue of the Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* contains the following items:

#### *Investment management in the United Kingdom*

The provision of investment management services is an important industry in the United Kingdom, but one about which only limited information is available from published sources. This article reports the results of a survey undertaken by the Bank to assess the amount and type of such business conducted in this country and the extent to which United Kingdom firms have succeeded in penetrating the international market in fund management.

#### *Company profitability and finance*

This article, which continues an annual series, updates various estimates of the financial position and profitability of industrial and commercial companies. Company profitability improved in 1984 for the third year in succession, with the increase in profits reflecting both a growth of output and a widening of margins, especially on exports. In contrast with the previous four years, fixed investment grew strongly and destocking, though continuing, was fairly modest. Companies had a record financial surplus, in real terms, in 1984 but, despite their apparent financial strength, increased their bank borrowing very sharply.

#### *The boards of quoted companies*

This article reports the results of a study of changes in the numbers of non-executive directors on the boards of the larger quoted companies since an earlier exercise conducted in 1982 (see March 1983 *Bulletin*). The number of non-executive directors on company boards

has continued to increase, but the study found no evidence of any acceleration in this trend. Moreover, one third of the non-executive directors were serving, or had served their company in another capacity: this is seen as disquieting, since such people may on occasion find it hard to exercise the independence and objectivity required of non-executive directors.

#### *Sector financing: 1984*

This note updates the Bank's flow of funds matrices, setting out some of the main financial transactions between the principal sectors of the economy in 1984.

#### *Future structure of the gilt-edged market*

Details of the new arrangements for the Bank of England's dealing and supervisory relationships with certain participants in the gilt-edged market are reprinted: these were originally published by the Bank on 12 April 1985. Also reprinted are press notices issued on 3 and 17 June giving details of firms which have confirmed their intention to become gilt-edged market makers in the future structure of the gilt-edged market.

#### *Other items*

Also reprinted are speeches by the Governor on shifting frontiers in financial markets and on recent developments in consumer credit; and speeches by the Governor and Mr. W. P. Cooke at a conference on banking control and supervision arranged by the Arab Bankers' Association.

The Bank's *Quarterly Bulletin* (£7.50 per copy) may be obtained from:

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

### **National Institute Economic Review**

The latest issue of the *National Institute Economic Review* includes the following items:

*Public services pay in the 1980s.* This study by C. Trinder and R. Biswas describes movements in the pay of the major public sector groups since 1980 and shows how they have compared with movements in prices and with pay in other parts of the economy. In the 1960s and 1970s there were considerable fluctuations in the relative pay of workers in the public and private sectors and these variations sometimes lasted as long as five years. But trend stability was always restored in the end. In 1985, after years of relative decline in public services pay, current government pay targets still make no allowance for any catching up; on the contrary, it



would seem that the policy is to allow a continued widening of the gap.

*Committed and discretionary saving of households.* This note examines the savings decisions of households since 1973, paying particular attention to the distinction between discretionary and non-discretionary saving and to the methods of financing these decisions. The author, Gerald Kennally, finds that in recent years households have undertaken considerable discretionary dissaving financed by increased borrowing.

*Models of the United Kingdom economy and the real wage-employment debate.* This article by M. J. Andrews, D. N. F. Bell, P. G. Fisher, K. F. Wallis and J. D. Whitley describes an example of the type of exercise made possible by the existence of a set of five UK models at Warwick, and it considers the use of such models to illustrate the real wage-employment debate.

In UK models real wages and employment are determined jointly and the article shows that the sign of the association between these two variables depends on the nature of the shock which causes real wages to change. A common method of analysis is to perturb the endogenous real wage directly and although the results are quantitatively similar to those where the change to real wages results from a supply-side shock to the labour market, it is argued that such exercises are typically without foundation since no mechanism for achieving a direct reduction in real wages is put forward. Any implicit model which underpins the assumption of an exogenous shift in an endogenous variable needs to be stated clearly in order for the plausibility of the 'intervention' and resulting policy analysis to be assessed.

*Schooling standards in England and Germany: some summary comparisons bearing on economic performance.* The way higher productivity depends on a workforce that is technically-skilled at all levels—from operators and foremen to senior engineers and directors of production—was examined on the basis of an interview-study of matched engineering firms in Britain and Germany in the last issue of the *Review*. The present article, by S. J. Prais and Karin Wagner, traces differences in workforce skills between these two countries to differences in preparation at school, particularly in mathematics and vocational education, and particularly for those in the lower half of the ability spectrum.

#### Reference

*National Institute Economic Review* No. 112 May 1985, available from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, 2 Dean Trench Street, Smith Square, London SW1P 3HE (Price £8.50 plus 45p postage)

#### Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Data Archive Bulletin

The May 1985 issue of this Bulletin contains notes on—'Network access to the archive' which discusses possible solutions to problems of on-line access to the Data Archive's holdings by most computer analysts in the United Kingdom and abroad. 'Domesday update' progress on the BBC Domesday project. 'Polls on war-time Britain' concerns data available from the Archive from a series of polls from November 1938 to September 1946. 'Census for schools' describes a pack of Census datafiles for use in schools. 'Census news' reports results of a user survey on use of Data Archive and regional computer centres services. Other notes are included as well as news of forthcoming workshops and conferences.

A list of data sets acquired since the last Bulletin is given in appendices and selected data sets are described in more detail in the new acquisitions section.

A software bulletin is included containing among other items a note on 'Social network analysis in Great Britain'. A diary of forthcoming events, a section on book reviews and news of research organisations, data institutions and foreign archives is also given.

#### Reference

*ESRC Data Archive Bulletin* No. 31 May 1985, available free from, ESRC Data Archive, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ.

#### United Kingdom Statistical Sources

This publication, a selection guide for libraries, is published by the Library Association Reference Special and Information Section (LA RSIS) on behalf of the Committee of Librarians and Statisticians set up by the Library Association and the Royal Statistical Society to promote the use of statistical information, it is a new edition of *Recommended basic statistical sources for community use*, (3rd edition, 1975).

The new title more closely reflects the contents and purpose of the guide. There are two sections. The first gives ten publication titles covering England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland with a synopsis of the contents, which are recommended for library reference sections. The second section is an extended list containing 163 titles under various subject headings, with details of frequency of publication and publisher.

The guide is available from the LA RSIS Sales Agent:

Mrs F. V. Winkworth,

Meadow Close,

Sandhoe Road,

Oakwood,

HEXHAM.

Northumberland. NE46 4LJ

Telephone: Hexham (0434) 602306.

#### Reference

*United Kingdom Statistical Sources*. 4th edition. 1985. Edited by Peter C. Mcshane. Library Association—Reference, Special and Information Section. ISBN 0 946347 06 9, price £5.00 (£4.00 to members of the Library Association).



## Engineering Industry Training Board (EITB) publications

The EITB possesses information on manpower and training trends in engineering which is unique and up to date. It is also very detailed, since the data base consists of annual returns from nearly all the establishments in the industry. In future all these statistics will be made available on a commercial basis, both to the industry as a whole and to other interested research and educational bodies.

### Sector and Regional Profiles

Starting from June the EITB will publish a series of reports, called Profiles. Seventeen will deal with separate sectors of the engineering industry and eight with regions of the United Kingdom. The Profiles will contain recent and historical data, showing the distribution of employment by size, region and occupation. There will also be information on training and a brief appraisal of economic performance and prospects. The Profiles will be revised and republished annually.

Some Profiles are available already, the rest will be published during the remainder of 1985. Each Profile will cost £10 but there are special rates for subscribers.

An example of the information contained may be seen in the recently published Sector Profile on the electronics industry. An analysis of the relevant data shows that, despite the recession, the number of professional engineers, scientists and technologists employed in the electronics industry has gone up from 21,000 in 1978 to 35,000 in 1984, which is an increase of 65 per cent.

### Other publications

The EITB has for a long time produced printed information on particular aspects of its research work, sometimes mainly for internal use. In future this information will be made available on a wider basis. Its Economic and Industry Monitor, for example, on the current state of the engineering industry, will be on sale three times a year. Other publications will include education and occupation Profiles and an education press review.

### EITB Statistical Service

In addition to these publications the EITB is willing, on request, to use its data to produce analyses on occupational employment and training on a county or sub-county basis. The charge for the supply of this information will vary according to the work entailed.

### Further details

More information about the Sectors and Regions covered and about the publications is given below.

### Enquiries

Press: John Bourgojn, Telephone: 01-387 0501.  
Research: Mrs C. J. Laidlaw, 54 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts. Telephone: 0923 38441.  
Publications: EITB Publications, PO Box 75, Stockport, Telephone: 061 480 5285.

### EITB's Statistical and Research Publications

#### Sector Profiles (£10 each or £90 for all 17)

The seventeen Sector Profiles, which can be obtained on an individual or subscription basis, will be:

Profile No.	Sector	Availability
RM 84 01	Foundries (up to 1983)	Now
RM 85 01	Electronics (whole sector)	Now
RM 85 02	Aerospace	Now
RM 85 03	Telecommunications	Now
	equipment manufacture	
RM 85 04	Office machinery and electronic data processing	Now
RM 85 05	Machine tools	Summer
RM 85 06	Electronic components	Summer
RM 85 07	Electrical engineering	Summer
RM 85 08	Mechanical and electrical engineering construction industry	Summer
RM 85 09	Electronic capital goods	Summer
RM 85 10	Instrument engineering	Summer
RM 85 11	Industrial plant and steelwork	Summer
RM 85 12	Metal goods	Autumn
RM 85 13	Motor vehicles and parts	Autumn
RM 85 14	Electronic consumer goods	Autumn
RM 85 15	Electrical instruments and control systems	Autumn
RM 85 16	Machinery	Autumn

Also available is *Trends in Manpower and Training in the Engineering Industry since 1978* (RM 85 50), which describes the trends in employment and training in the engineering industry as a whole.

#### Regional Profiles (£10 each or £50 for all 8)

The eight Regional Profiles, which can be obtained on an individual or subscription basis, will be:

Profile No.	Region	Availability
RM 85 20	Scotland	Now
RM 85 21	South east including East Anglia	Now
RM 85 22	South west	Summer
RM 85 23	Wales	Summer
RM 85 24	North west	Autumn
RM 85 25	Northern	Autumn
RM 85 26	Yorkshire and Humberside	Autumn
RM 85 27	Midland	Early 1986

#### Education and occupation profiles (£10 each)

The EITB is producing, on an occasional basis, Profiles on various aspects of the education world as it affects engineering:

Profile No.	Topic	Availability
RM 85 30	Statistics on public examinations in computer studies/science	Now
RM 85 31	Trends in A levels	Autumn

The EITB is also producing on an occasional basis a



series of Profiles on various occupations found in the industry:

Profile No.	Occupation	Availability
RM 85 40	Technicians	Now
RM 85 41	Professional engineers, scientists and technologists	Autumn

#### *Economic and Industry Monitor*

The *Economic and Industry Monitor*, which for some time has been produced three times a year mainly for internal use, will now be made available generally. It reviews economic developments and forecasts for the whole UK economy and for the engineering industry in particular. It also examines trends in apprentice recruitment and skill shortages. It costs £10 a copy or £30 for a year's subscription.

#### *Education review*

The *Education Review* has been produced about 26 times a year. It is a press review of what is going on in the educational world, with special reference to where it will affect the engineering industry. Subscription to 1 year's supply is £12 (plus VAT).

#### **International publications**

The following have recently been published and are available from HMSO:

##### United Nations

*Annual bulletin of electrical energy statistics for Europe, Vol 29: 1983*, price £12.50 net

##### Conference on Trade and Development

*UNCTAD statistical pocket book*, price £4.00 net

*Yearbook of international commodity statistics 1984*, price £45.00 net

##### Conference of European Statisticians

Statistical standards and studies 36—*Statistics of air quality: some methods*, price £8.50 net

##### Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

Studies in methods: series F 35—*Handbook of vital statistics systems and methods, Vol 2 Review of national practices*, price £12.50 net

##### Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. Statistical Office

*Demographic yearbook 1983*, prices, paperback £80.00 net, hardback £90.00 net

##### Statistical papers: series M

78—*A framework for the development of environment statistics*, price £5.00 net

*Construction statistics yearbook 1982*, price £30.00 net

##### Department of Technical Co-operation for Development

*Report of the International Conference on Population 1984*, price £11.00 net

##### Economic Commission for Europe

*Annual bulletin of gas statistics for Europe, Vol 19: 1983*, price £11.00 net

*Annual bulletin of transport statistics for Europe, Vol 35: 1983*, price £27.00 net

*Statistics of road traffic accidents in Europe*, price £13.50 net

##### Economic Commission for Latin America

*Statistical yearbooks for Latin America 1981 and 1983*, prices £35.00 and £40.00 net respectively

##### Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

*Foreign trade statistics of Asia and the Pacific 1979-1982 Vol 15: series B*, price £12.50 net

*Foreign trade statistics of Asia and the Pacific 1982 Vol 21: series A*, price £17.50 net

*Electric power in Asia and the Pacific 1981 and 1982*, price £15.00 net

##### International Energy Agency

*Energy statistics and main historical series 1982/1983*, price £10.00 net

##### International Narcotics Control Board

*Statistics on narcotic drugs for 1983: furnished by governments in accordance with the international treaties*, price £12.50 net

##### Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

##### FAO fisheries reports

316—*Report (Co-ordinating Working Party on Atlantic Fishery statistics: 12th session)*, price £4.00 net

*Food balance sheets: 1979-81 average*, price £11.60 net

##### Eurostat

*Basic statistics of the Community: comparison with some European Countries, Canada, the USA, Japan and the USSR, 1984*, price £3.40 net

*Community survey on the structure of agricultural holdings 1979/1980*

*Vol 2, main results*, price £10.80 net

*Vol 3, main results*, price £12.10 net

*Comparison of price levels and economic aggregates: results for 15 African countries 1980*, price £11.80 net

*Definitions of registered unemployed 1984*, price £8.80 net

*Employment and unemployment 1985*, price £10.80 net

*Energy statistics yearbook 1983*, price £10.10 net

*Family Budgets: comparative tables, Germany, France, Italy, United Kingdom*, price £2.70 net

*Regional accounts ESA: detailed tables by branches 1981*, price £6.80 net

*Statistical yearbook: transport, communications, tourism 1970-1983*, price £16.20 net



Studies of national accounts

7—*Current international thinking and objectives for the revision of the systems of national accounts*, price £1.40 net

OECD

*Annual oil and gas statistics and main historical series 1982, 1983*; price £20.00 net

*Economic outlooks: Historical statistics 1960-1983*, price £8.50 net

*Milk and milk products balances in OECD countries 1975-1983*, price £9.50 net

*National accounts: main aggregates 1960-1983, Vol 1*, price £8.80 net

Social policy studies

*Social expenditure 1960-1990: problems of growth and control*, price £7.50 net

World Health Organisation

European series

17. *Demographic trends in the European region: health and social implications*, by A. D. Lopez and R. L. Cliquet (edition), price £8.80 net

International Monetary Fund

*Balance of payments statistics Vol 35: Yearbook 1984, parts 1 and 2. In two volumes not to be sold separately*, price £12.00 net

*Government finance statistics yearbook 1984*, price £20.00 net

Occasional paper

No 33 *Foreign private investment in developing countries*, price £7.50 net

European Conference of Ministers of Transport

*Trends in transport investment and performance in 1981: statistical report on road accidents in 1982*, price £6.50 net

Readers should note that publications of international organisations are subject to price changes.

## CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

### Directors General, National Statistical Institutes

The 1985 Spring Conference of Directors-General of National Statistical Institutes of the European Community was held in Heerlen, Netherlands, from 8 to 10 May. Sir John Boreham and Deo Ramprakash of the Central Statistical Office and Jack Hibbert of the Department of Trade and Industry attended. Seven broad topics were discussed; poverty, high technology, trade in services, hidden economy, environment, national accounts and 'births' and 'deaths' of business firms. For further information please contact Miss Kathy Marsh, Central Statistical Office, Telephone 01-233 7088.

### European statisticians

The thirty-Third Conference of European Statisticians was held in Geneva on 17 to 21 June 1985. The United Kingdom delegates were Sir John Boreham and Deo Ramprakash. The main purpose of the Conference was to review the Statistical programme of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Secretariat for the period 1985/86 to 1989/90. There were also in-depth discussions on:

—problems of publication, dissemination and interpretation of data;

—dependency of the quality of statistics upon the quality of registers and other bases for the production of survey data;

—population and housing censuses.

The Report of the Conference will be sent to the Central Statistical Office in due course. For further details, please contact Miss Kathy Marsh of the CSO, Telephone: 01-233 7088.

### Statistics Users' Conference 1985

Annual conferences have been organised in recent years under the aegis of the Statistics Users' Council, with the object of promoting discussion between compilers and users of official statistics. The subject of this year's conference, to be held at the Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1 on Wednesday 13 November, will be Financial statistics.

The programme, which has been arranged by the Bank of England in conjunction with representatives of producers and users of financial statistics from the public and private sectors, is provisional at this stage, but is expected to include the following:

Morning sessions—

i Theme: the current scene, discussion of papers from—

H M Treasury

Central Statistical Office

ii Theme: adaptation and change in United Kingdom financial statistics (domestic and external), discussion of papers from the—

Bank of England

British Bankers' Association

London Business School

Afternoon sessions—

iii Theme: industrial and commercial companies, problems and prospects discussion of papers from the—

Central Statistical Office

Society of Investment Analysts

Department of Applied Economics, Cambridge

iv panel discussion and open forum.

The conference will conclude with an evening



reception.

Enquiries about the Conference should be addressed to the Secretary of the Conference Planning Committee:

D. J. Fecci Esq  
Financial Statistics Division  
Bank of England  
Threadneedle Street  
London, EC2R 8AH  
Telephone: 01-601 4444 ext 3929

### **Seminar on bibliographical control of statistical data files**

As the number of machine-readable statistical data files increases it is becoming ever more difficult for data users to find out about all the data which may be relevant to their work. The need for a comprehensive register, or national bibliography, of data files is becoming apparent. How could this be prepared? Could it be compatible with bibliographies and library catalogues of printed material? How might it relate to output from the European Access Project with which the Economic and Social Research Council, (ESRC) Data Archive is involved? What is the role of data libraries in making data accessible to the user community?

In order to provide an opportunity for discussion of these and related questions, the Committee of Librarians and Statisticians is organising a seminar at the City University, London on Monday, 23 September 1985. The principal speaker will be Sue Dodd, Social Sciences Data Librarian at the University of North Carolina, whose pioneering work in developing standards for cataloguing machine-readable data files has earned her an international reputation. Other speakers include Marcia Taylor (ESRC Data Archive), Peter Burnhill (University of Edinburgh Data Library Services) and Geoffrey Hamilton (British Library).

The seminar fee is £50. *More details* and booking forms from: Maria Collins, Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Telephone: 01-215 3003.

While she is in the United Kingdom, Sue Dodd will also lead a workshop on 'Computer-based catalogues for describing computer files and their documentation', on Friday, 20 September 1985 at the University of Edinburgh. *Details from:* Peter Burnhill, Data Library Services, CAST, University of Edinburgh, 18 Buccleuch Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LN. Telephone: 031-667 1011 Ext. 6202.

## **GOVERNMENT STATISTICAL SERVICE**

### **Appointments and changes**

#### **Sir John Boreham retires**

Sir John Boreham KCB, Director of the Central Statistical Office and Head of the Government Statistical Service since 1 August 1978, retired on 31 July after thirty-five years in the Government Statistical Service.

Sir John was educated at Marlborough and Trinity College, Oxford, where he read politics, philosophy and economics. Following a short spell at the Agricultural Economics Research Institute in Oxford, he joined the Statistics Division of the Ministry of Food as an HEO in 1950. It was in the following year he took up an appointment as an Assistant Statistician with the Ministry of Agriculture, transferring to the General Register Office (GRO) in 1955. In 1958 he moved to the Central Statistical Office, returning to the GRO in 1963 as Chief Statistician. He was Director of Economics and Statistics at the Ministry of Technology from 1967-71. He was appointed Deputy Director of the CSO in 1972 and created a KCB in 1980.

Non-Governmental positions held by Sir John outside the Civil Service include being President of the Institute of Statisticians and Vice President of the Royal Statistical Society. A great believer in interesting schools in statistical matters he has been active in promoting the Schools Statistical Competition, now in its second year. This has attracted some sixty entries and has the support of the Department of Education and Science as well as commercial concerns such as Midland Bank, IBM and Royal Insurance.

Sir John says that following his retirement, 'his wife Heather and he intend to travel deeply in Europe by motorhome, studying the music, literature and history of the places they visit. That, golf and grandchildren will keep them occupied until 2029, after which new plans will be needed.'

Sir John will be remembered with affection by many staff for his approachability and encouragement at all levels. His informal 'walk-about' in the office, his participation in the annual CSO revue and his enthusiasm for staff cricket combine to make him a most human and exceptional 'Very Senior Civil Servant.'

#### **K. G. Forecast**

Ken Forecast retired from the Government Statistical Service (GSS) on 20th August after 40 years as a practising statistician. Until recently he was an Assistant Director in the Central Statistical Office covering GSS policy, Statistician Group Management, social statistics and CSO computing. From March this year he has been



a statistical consultant on a special assignment with the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel.

Ken was educated at the William Morris School, Walthamstow and the SW Essex Technical College where he gained a London BSc(Econ). His early career was spent in the Ministry of Aircraft Production and with a firm of London stockbrokers.

From 1951 to 1958 he worked in the Central Statistics Office in Dublin. He then joined the Government Statistical Service as a Statistician in the Board of Trade. In 1966 he was promoted to Chief Statistician in the Ministry of Transport and in 1970 he became the Director of Statistics in the Department of Education and Science, transferring to the CSO in 1979.

Ken is well known for his unflustered approach to his work. As a man with a developed sense of humour and a ready wit, the aptness of his name 'K. G. Forecast' to someone of his profession has always been a source of gentle amusement to him.

Ken was awarded the CB in the recent Birthday Honours List, a fitting end to an honourable career in the Civil Service.

#### **Len Adams ISO—game, set and match—retirement of a well-known sportsman**

Many members of the Government Statistical Service will know Len Adams who retired in July. Since joining the Civil Service forty-four years ago he has spent almost thirty in the Central Statistical Office.

Len has been a highly respected colleague at work but it was as a sportsman, and sports organiser, that he really excelled. Many of us may dream of representing our country in competitive sport but few of us ever reach those heights as Len did when he represented England at Table Tennis on three occasions and went on to be non-playing Captain for England in over fifty international matches.

He was already a keen and competent soccer and cricket player at the age of ten but he was inspired by Fred Perry who had, some fifteen years earlier, attended the same school, the same YMCA and the same sports club to seek table tennis fame. The lost war years were a severe blow to his ambitions but, as well as his success in table tennis, he has nevertheless won hundreds of tournament prizes for activities as diverse as boxing, athletics, gymnastics, chess, billiards, snooker, squash, tennis, badminton and contract bridge. Perhaps it was not surprising therefore that in the first Super Stars sports competition in the Cabinet Office, Len, then about fifty years old, came out on top. He has not competed since 'so that the younger lads have a chance'. At billiards, for example, he has only ever been beaten once in the office and then, he claims, he had an "off" half hour!

Throughout his time in the Cabinet Office Len has been unstinting in his efforts to encourage sporting activities. He was responsible for example for the first departmental sports day which has since developed into a large interdepartmental occasion. He was founder Chairman of the Cabinet Office Sports and Social Association from 1964 to 1979 during which time fifteen well-supported activities were set up, and most continue to flourish.

The dedication and single-mindedness required to reach the standard Len attained in sport has also been evident in his work in the office. Following war-time service as a navigator in the RAF Len joined the Cabinet Office in 1948. Of the many interesting jobs he did in the CSO he says that none was more absorbing than that of balance of payments coordinator from 1967 to 1971, when those figures were the centre of attention and Chancellors' red pens hovered ready to pounce on any indiscreet wording in the draft quarterly press notices. Subsequently he took on responsibility for coordinating and publishing the UK estimates for research and development expenditure, followed by eight years of maintaining the high standards of CSO publications (including *Statistical News*) and four years looking after national income estimates for the ever-changing public corporations sector.

After being at the heart of all the post-1981 privatisation issues Len has finally privatised himself and we wish him well.

*Mr M. J. N. Hughes*, Statistician, Ministry of Defence was promoted to Grade 6 on 15 April 1985 and transferred to H M Customs and Excise, Southend.

*Dr R. James*, Statistician, HM Treasury was promoted to Grade 6 on 15 April 1985.

*Mr R. K. Willmer*, Statistician, Department of Health and Social Security was promoted to Grade 6 on 24 June 1985 and transferred to the Ministry of Defence.

#### **Review of regular surveys**

Set out below is a list of recently completed category B reviews of surveys to businesses. These surveys are subject to an internal departmental review and a report which is monitored by the Survey Control Unit. Any enquiries concerning a survey or its review should be made to the appropriate departmental contact point given below.

#### *Surveys to businesses*

'Report on the 1984 Review of the Annual Minerals Raised Inquiry' (an inquiry covering the extraction of minerals in Great Britain).

'Report on the 1984 Review of Building Materials Inquiries' (a group of inquiries covering the



production of bricks, concrete building blocks, concrete roofing tiles, fibre cement products, ready mixed concrete, sand and gravel, and slate in Great Britain).

Copies of the reports are available, price £1.50, from:

Mr C. R. Slight  
Room 1.361  
Business Statistics Office  
Government Buildings  
Cardiff Road  
Newport  
Gwent NP9 1XG  
Telephone: Newport (0633) 56111 Exts 2399/2973

#### Pesticide Usage Surveys

Mr A. Barnett  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Fisheries and Food  
Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2HH

## LATE ITEMS

### Measuring public spending

An article appearing in the August issue of *Economic Trends* reviews the coverage of current and earlier definitions of 'public spending' and places them in the context of public sector transactions generally. This is followed by a description of ways of comparing public expenditure totals with gross domestic product. The article also includes a brief account of the information available to monitor spending during the current year and concludes by describing the various analyses of spending available—by function or purpose, economic category, spending authority, etc. Some of the latest analyses are provided, updating in part an article which appeared in *Economic Trends* in November 1983 and, in addition, publishing some newly compiled estimates for earlier years of capital spending as it has been defined in recent Public Expenditure White Papers.

#### Reference

*Economic Trends* No. 382 August 1985 (HMSO) (Price £9.95 net)

### Data Protection Act 1984

In reply to a written question from Teddy Taylor (Southend East) asking when a day will be appointed for registration under the Data Protection Act 1984. Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary said:

'I have today made an order under section 42(1) of the Data Protection Act 1984 appointing

11 November 1985 as the day on which applications for registration under the Act may begin to be made. Data users will have six months from that date within which to apply for registration.

This date has been appointed after consultation with the Data Protection Registrar, who, since his appointment last September, has concentrated his efforts on setting up his office and devising procedures for registration. With this in mind, he has held meetings with a wide range of representative organisations and has taken account of the views which they have expressed. He has also published advice and information about the Act. Details of his activities during the last nine months are set out in his first annual report, which was presented to Parliament yesterday and which is published today (HC 470).'

#### References

*Hansard* Volume 82 No. 154 12 July 1985 (Column 429) (HMSO 1985) (Price £1.95 net)

*First Report of the Data Protection Registrar* (HC 470) (HMSO) June 1985 (Price £3.50 net)

### Sir Claus Moser

Sir Claus Moser, Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, was appointed Chancellor of Keele University on 8 July 1985 upon the retirement of HRH Princess Margaret after 30 years in office. He will take up the appointment in February 1986.

Sir Claus Moser was formerly Head of the Government Statistical Service and Director of the Central Statistical Office.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor is willing to consider for publication letters of interest but cannot enter into correspondence on the matters raised.

Address: The Editor  
Statistical News  
Room 74A/3rd  
Central Statistical Office  
Great George Street  
London SW1P 3AQ



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## Alphabetical Index

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The index to *Statistical News* covers the last nine issues. Page numbers are prefixed by the issue number, e.g. 64.18 signifies number 64, page 18.

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 accounts. Articles and notes dealing particularly with Scottish statistics are indexed under 'Scotland' as well as the topic, e.g. 'Scotland, population postcodes' and similarly for Wales and Northern Ireland.

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