

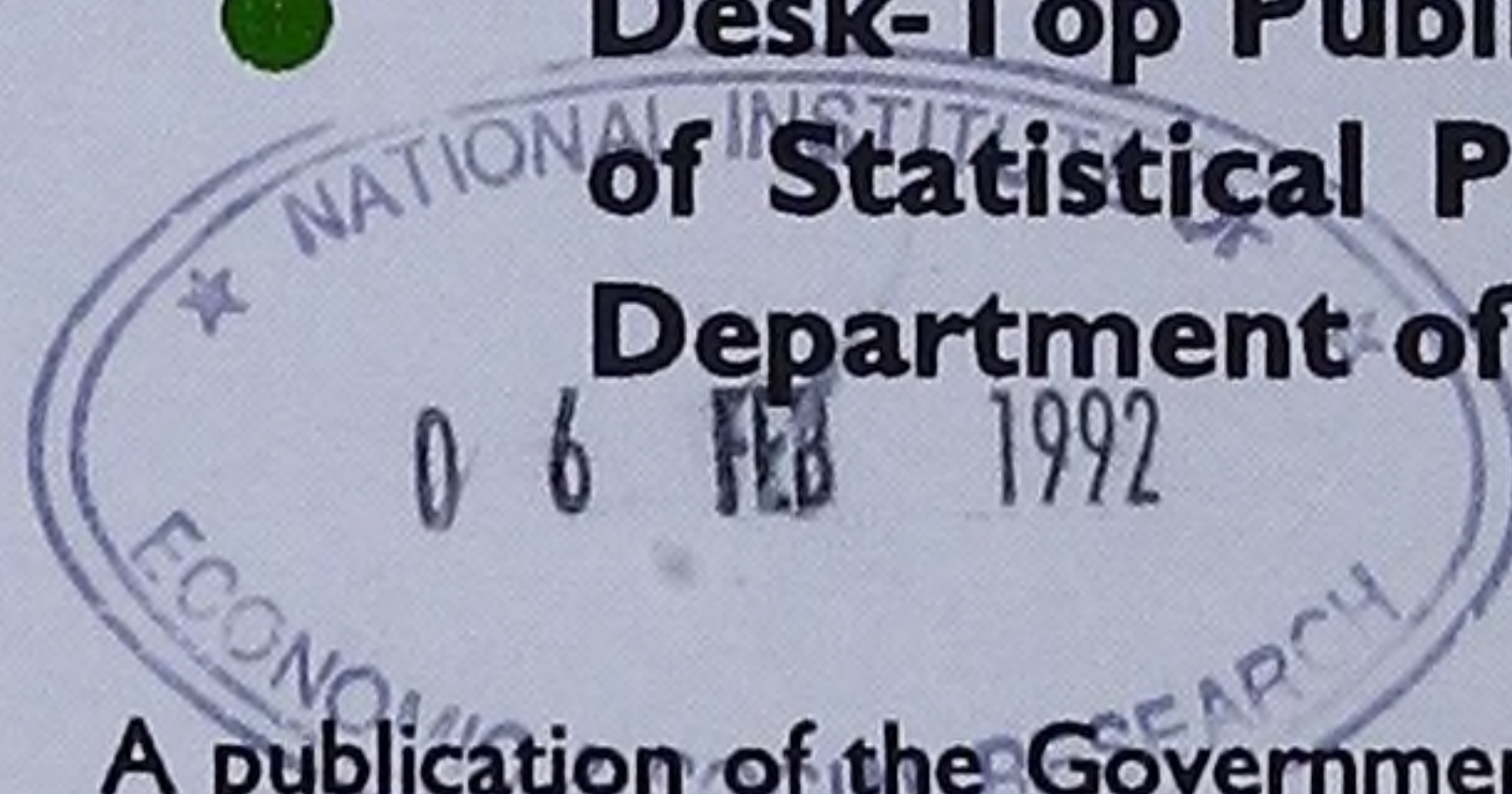
Statistical News

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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 glad to receive comments from readers on the adequacy of its scope, coverage or treatment of topics and their suggestions for improvement.

Enquiries about individual items in this issue should be made to the appropriate sources where indicated; otherwise they should be addressed to the Editor of *Statistical News* at Central Statistical Office, Room D.134, Government Buildings, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NP9 1XG. Telephone: 0633 812915.

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Statistical News

Developments in British
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As another year draws to a close we should like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has taken the time and effort to submit articles together with all our contacts who supply information for the various sections of *Statistical News*.

Please keep up the good work and keep the articles coming!

Many months ago we undertook a survey to assess your views on our publication. Your comments were welcome and most were encouraging. Many of your ideas now have been implemented. As you will see the introduction of colour on the inside pages is one such feature.

We hope to maintain a steady improvement in the presentation of *Statistical News* and we will always appreciate your comments, good or bad!

In case you have not seen us the editorial team pictured here consists of (l to r) John Harrison (Senior Publications Manager), Chris Spiller (Chief Statistician), who are responsible for vetting feature articles, and Alan Hyde (Editor).

We wish all our contributors and readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

Central Statistical Office Launched as Executive Agency



On the 19 November 1991 the Central Statistical Office (CSO) became an Executive Agency under the Next Steps initiative. Sir Jack Hibbert, Director of the CSO and head of the Government Statistical Service (GSS), gave the following statement about the Agency at a recent meeting of the Directors General of European Community National Statistical Institutes in Luxembourg.

Photographs are from the launch of the Agency at the QE11 Conference Centre, Westminster

What is an executive agency?

Since 1988 the UK Government has set up over 50 executive agencies which are, as the term indicates, bodies which carry out executive functions of government. Their lines of accountability are to the relevant government Minister, and they are usually units within the government department for which that Minister is responsible. For example, within the De-



John Maples (Economic Secretary to the Treasury) gives his best wishes to Sir Jack Hibbert on the launch of the new Agency

partment of Transport there is now a Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, the head (chief executive) of which is accountable to the Secretary of State for Transport through the permanent head of the Department of Transport. The staff of executive agencies continue to be civil servants. The principal aim of these changes is to improve the management of the activities in question.

Why has the CSO become an executive agency?

An official scrutiny of government economic statistics (the Pickford scrutiny) was set up in 1988 and reported in 1989. It recommended a number of organisational changes which meant the transfer to the Central Statistical Office of responsibility for data collection from businesses from the Department of Trade and Industry, and of responsibility for compilation of our Consumer Price Index (known in the UK as the Retail Prices Index) from the Department of Employment. The report also recommended that, in due course, the enlarged CSO should become an executive agency. The scrutiny team felt that agency status would be the most likely way to ensure the following:

- that customers of the CSO should specify their requirements and priorities, to form the basis of the CSO's work programmes and the setting of targets;
- that the CSO's performance should be monitored annually against customer requirements and targets;
- that the burdens on business resulting from customer requirements should be monitored and there should be pressure to minimise these burdens;
- that the independence and integrity of CSO statistics should be preserved.

Examination of the Framework Document which has been prepared as part of the process of becoming an

executive agency shows very clearly how these conditions have been met.

Is the CSO different from other executive agencies in any way?

There are a number of differences. First, unlike most other agencies, the CSO has been since 1989, and still is, a government department in its own right. This means that its head is accountable directly to the relevant Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, rather than through the permanent head of a parent department. Secondly, the head of the CSO is of permanent secretary rank, a civil service grade higher than that of any other chief executive of an executive agency in the UK.

Thirdly, the CSO's activities, through executive rather than policy-making in nature, are very different from those of most other agencies.

How is becoming an agency expected to affect the CSO's activities?

The points already made about objectives and targets are clearly relevant. The fact that our operating principles, objectives and key targets are now clearly and publicly stated seems to us important. We believe we have broken new ground in the way key targets have been formulated for the timeliness, revisions and coherence of national accounts estimates. There are, of course, some important aspects of these targets which need to be clearly understood. As professional statisticians it is our aim to provide the best possible estimate of a particular statistic at the time we are committed to providing it. The targets on revisions reflect the fact that our customers attach a good deal of importance to the reliability of our first estimates of these statistics. Thus our targets on revisions act as a proxy for the relative reliability of estimates subject to later revision.



Guests at the launch

The other types of key target set out in Annex E to the Framework Document are also of interest. They relate to the speed and efficiency of data collection, the quality and timeliness of our Consumer Price Index and other statistics outside the national accounts produced by the CSO, dealing with enquiries from, the public, the compliance costs on business of form-filling and the financial efficiency of the agency.

How is the rest of the UK Government Statistical Service affected?

The Framework Document explains that the agency has a number of central functions required by a decentralised statistical service, and that the Director of the CSO, in addition to his role as chief executive of the agency, also acts as the professional head of the whole of the statistical service across central government departments. One central function of particular interest to this audience is the co-ordination of UK statistical work for the European Communities. As well as this, the central functions include the provision of statistics needed by government which it is not the responsibility of any single department to provide (compilation of the publication *Social Trends* is an example of this function); co-ordinating statistical policy across government; setting common standards for use by the GSS; and, of course, the co-ordination of UK statistical work for the international agencies other than Eurostat, principally the UN, OECD and the IMF.

There are a number of other central functions which I carry out as head of the GSS which have been distin-

guished in the Framework Document from those already mentioned. They are described in Annex B to the document and differ from those I have referred to in that, where providing advice to other government departments on these matters I am accountable, not to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but to departmental Ministers and ultimately to the Prime Minister. These functions are concerned with the central management of government statisticians, including recruitment, professional development and interdepartmental transfers of staff; the practices and conventions to be followed throughout the GSS that are intended to maintain public confidence in the integrity and validity of UK official statistics; helping to resolve any interdepartmental disputes over statistical matters; maintaining links with the statistical profession outside government; advising on the design and conduct of government statistical surveys; and last, but not least, monitoring the impact of proposals for European Community statistical surveys and ensuring that Ministers' attention is drawn to the potential compliance costs for respondents to those surveys.

How would you summarise the effects of the move to agency status by the CSO?

The functions of the CSO are unchanged by the move to agency statistics. Our activities will, however, be open to greater public scrutiny than hitherto. In the process I believe that their nature may be better understood by those with a serious interest in them, and that the move to agency status, with all that it implies in terms of meeting customers' requirements and being publicly accountable for delivering a high quality service, will be of great benefit to the future of UK official statistics.

If you require further information on the Agency please contact: Brian Barr, Room 1.133, Central Statistical Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NP9 1XG. (Telephone: 0633-813146)

Copies of the CSO Framework Document have been circulated to GSS staff. For further copies of the Document please contact: The Library, Central Statistical Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NP9 1XG. (Telephone 0633-812973)



The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Norman Lamont, speaks to the press

A Classification of Local Housing Authorities Expenditure Characteristics and Imputation



by Richard Laux,
Department of the Environment

Summary

This paper describes an attempt to classify local authorities according to the similarity of their housing capital expenditure characteristics. It is intended that the classification can then be used for imputation purposes, in secondary analysis. The work reported in this paper is, however, a free-standing analysis in its own right.

Background

Housing capital expenditure by English local authorities (LAs) is now about £3 billion a year. The Government has an interest in volumes of such expenditure which form an important component of General Government Expenditure, and in controlling

This shows amounts of money spent by LAs on, for example, new housebuilding, slum clearance, renovation, the acquisition of dwellings and the provision of improvement grants, as well as lending to housing associations. At the time when estimates have to be made for publication deadlines and when internal reports are being prepared, the response rate is typically 65 per cent. Estimating the amount of expenditure incurred by the remaining 35 per cent of LAs, and the distribution of this expenditure between the different categories of housing expenditure, is one task of the Department's Housing Data and Statistics Division.

The imputation method currently used is a straightforward weighting-up procedure. Weights for each LA are taken from a separate, annual form, returned by all LAs. This is the HIP2, a form used for administrative purposes: bidding for resources. (The weights are actually expenditure estimates for the

year in question; these estimates cannot be used directly since they overestimate expenditure by about 15 per cent, although the extent of this overestimation varies between LAs and between categories of expenditure). Take the category of renovation expenditure as an example. The sum of the renovation weight for all authorities in the south west might be £3 million, of which £2 million might be due to authorities which have returned a P1A in any one quarter. If, on



local authority borrowing because of the financial implications for chargepayers, tenants and the Exchequer.

Expenditure information is collected on quarterly (P1A) forms returned by LAs to the Department.

their P1As, the respondent LAs claim to have spent £400,000 then renovation expenditure in this quarter in the south west as a whole would be imputed as $(3/2) * £400,000 = £600,000$.



As this example suggests, the groupings currently used are Departmental planning regions. Hence an assumption is being made that LAs within regions have similar housing capital expenditure characteristics. It is not intuitively clear that this is the case. The purpose of the work which this paper reports is to use multivariate techniques to find groups of LAs which are demonstrably similar. The use of the imputation method described above in conjunction with such groups of LAs will produce estimates for these groupings only. Further work on the imputation technique itself would be required to produce estimates of expenditure for each authority. The work described here is the first step in developing such estimates.

Finding the Clusters

The Data

The variables used as the basis for clustering were closely related to the main influences on LA housing capital expenditure. This is because the intention of stratification is to form groups whose members are relatively alike, whilst the various groups are relatively different. The variables chosen represented, on the one hand, the relationship between LAs' housing needs and resources, and on the other, the strategies which LAs use to target available resources to meet needs. Ten variables were used in the analysis, these were:

LA-owned sector

- 1 Non-standard dwellings in need of renovation as a percentage of total dwellings.
- 2 Vacant dwellings awaiting demolition as a percentage of total dwellings.

Private sector

- 3 Dwellings fit but lacking basic amenities as a percentage of total dwellings.
- 4 Non-standard dwellings in need of renovation as a percentage of total dwellings.

All sectors

- 5 Over-crowded households as a percentage of total households.

- 6 Households comprising elderly and disabled individuals as a percentage of total households.
- 7 Resources - prescribed proportions of receipts plus allocations.

Changes in relative propensity to spend on:

- 8 New Build.
- 9 Renovation.
- 10 Improvement Grants.

The Analysis

It is intuitively clear that many of these variables are likely to be correlated, and hence partly 'saying the same thing'. A principal components analysis was performed to gain a clearer understanding of the important factors underlying the variables. This technique aims to replace the original correlated variables with a new set of underlying, uncorrelated variables, or principal components. These components are linear combinations of the original variables. By looking at the relationship between the components and the original variables an interpretation of the components can frequently be suggested. This interpretation increases our understanding of the underlying patterns, or dimensionality, within the data.

Four principal components were found to explain 60.3 per cent of the total variance in the data. The matrix of factor loadings (which shows the relationship between the original variables and the components) suggested the following interpretation of the components:

- i general factor taking account of householders' living conditions;
- ii physical state of the housing stock;
- iii relative propensity to 'improve' the condition of the housing stock;
- iv relative propensity to alleviate problems as they affect householders.

For each of these components a value can be obtained for each authority, so that the original data set of 366

LAs and ten variables has been slimmed down to 366 LAs and four components. These component scores formed the inputs to a cluster analysis. This technique allocates individuals to a set of groups in such a way that individuals within any one group are 'similar' to one another, whilst individuals in different groups are dissimilar. The measure of similarity chosen here was unstandardised Euclidean distance. For example if the component scores in three authorities were:

Authority	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4
A	.10	.25	.15	.35
B	.50	.60	.55	.45
C	.75	.90	.80	.85

then the Euclidean distances between the LAs would be:

- A and B: $\sqrt{(.10-.50)^2 + (.25-.60)^2 + (.15-.55)^2 + (.35-.45)^2} = 0.67$
 - A and C: $\sqrt{(.10-.75)^2 + (.25-.90)^2 + (.15-.80)^2 + (.35-.85)^2} = 1.23$
 - B and C: $\sqrt{(.50-.75)^2 + (.60-.90)^2 + (.55-.80)^2 + (.45-.85)^2} = 0.61$

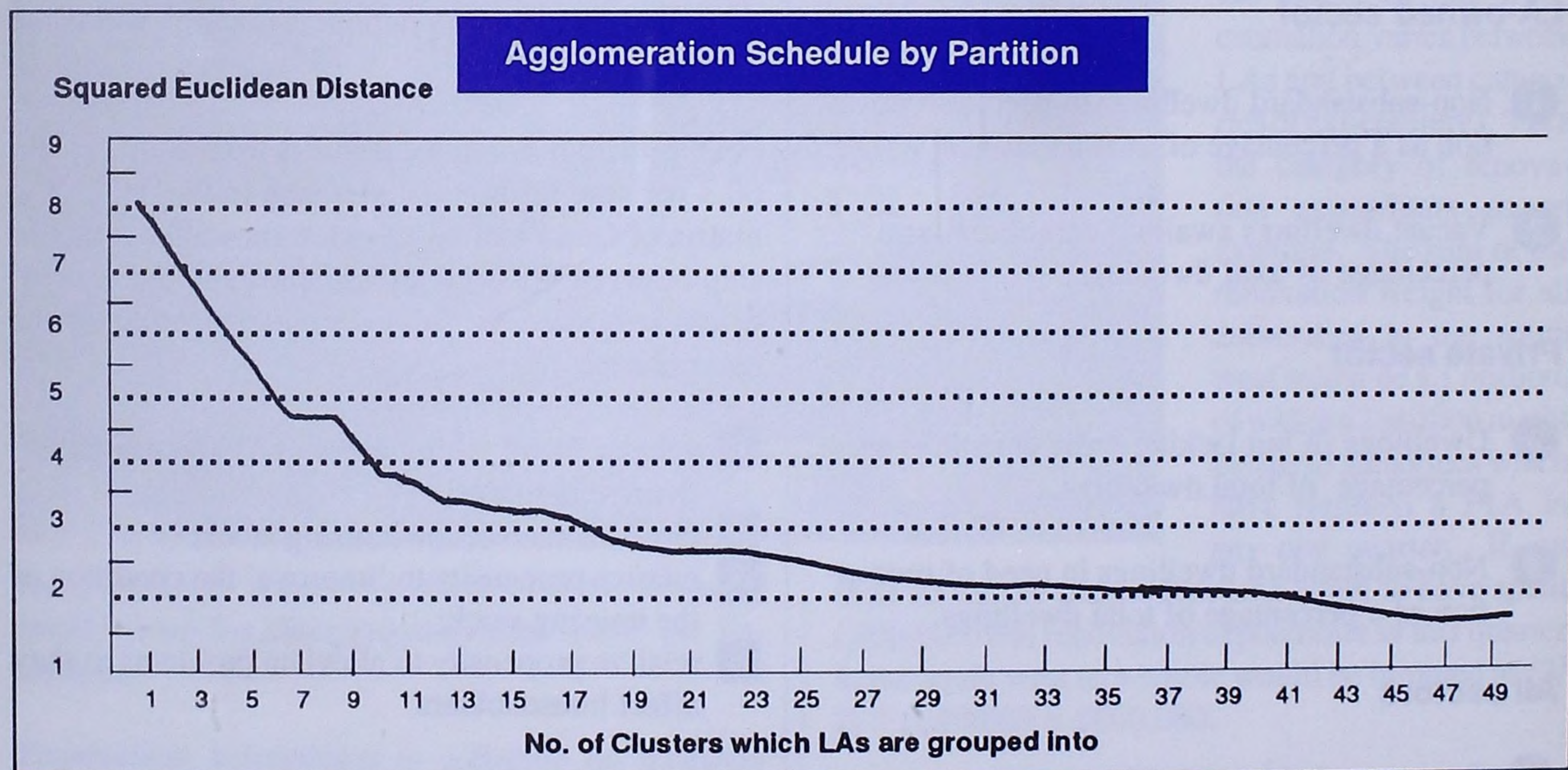
and hence the most similar, or closest, authorities are B and C, corresponding to the smallest Euclidean distance.

The clustering procedure involves combining the two most similar authorities, then repeatedly recalculating

average distances and combining LAs with other LAs or with clusters of LAs. This process is referred to as agglomeration. As agglomeration continues the distance between the groups being combined increases, which indicates that the amount of similarity between groups being combined is actually decreasing. At a certain point the distances increase sufficiently to suggest that any further agglomeration will result in dissimilar individuals in the same cluster, and the procedure is halted.

To reduce the problem caused by low response rates it was necessary to reach a compromise on the number of clusters identified. If too few clusters were identified they would tend not to be dissimilar, whilst if too many were identified there would be a good chance that some might only contain a small number of LAs, and hence be highly sensitive to problems of non-response. It was felt that a partitioning of the 366 LAs into between ten and twenty clusters would be reasonable.

In this analysis there was a clear step between the agglomeration distances involved in grouping the LAs into ten clusters and into nine clusters, so ten clusters were retained. The graph below shows how the distances increased as clusters were combined:



The final data set resulting from this analysis consisted of ten clusters (and four components).

Description of Clusters

Cluster 1

Numerically this is the largest cluster, containing almost a quarter of the LAs. It includes LAs which tend to have low levels of all the 'need' variables (those which would be expected to affect overall spending levels). Resources are about average. The relative propensity variables indicate that this cluster's LAs tend to have favoured new building and renovations.

Most of the LAs in this cluster are, of course, shire districts (these represent over 80 per cent of English housing LAs). Non shire districts in this cluster are Barking and Dagenham, Barnet, Bromley, Croydon, Hillingdon, Lewisham, Sutton and Wandsworth (London boroughs), and Bury and Dudley (metropolitan districts).

Cluster 2

The second largest cluster, containing a fifth of the LAs. It includes those with medium to high levels of the need variables, and average resources. Levels of LA properties needing renovation are the highest for any cluster. Spending on improvement grants has remained steady, whilst the proportion spent on new building has halved; there has been a small increase in the proportion spent on renovations.

LAs in this cluster which are not shire districts are Kensington and Chelsea and Richmond-Upon-Thames (London boroughs), and Bolton, Calderdale, Gateshead, Rotherham, St. Helens, Sunderland, Tameside, Trafford, Wakefield, Wigan and Wirral (metropolitan districts).

Cluster 3

An average sized cluster (12½ per cent of the 366 LAs) with average levels of properties needing renovations and high levels of private sector properties lacking basic amenities. Resources are low and the spending habits have overwhelmingly favoured the renovation of LA sector stock.

The only non shire districts are Bexley and Havering (London boroughs) and Coventry (metropolitan district).

Cluster 4

Like cluster 3 this contains about 12½ per cent of the

total number of LAs. It includes those with low levels of need to spend, and low resources. Spending habits favour renovation over new build, but the clearest change has been the increased proportion spent on improvement grants - the biggest increase for any cluster.

The only non shire districts are Harrow and Kingston-Upon-Thames (London boroughs) and Stockport (metropolitan district).

Cluster 5

This cluster represents 9 per cent of the LAs. These typically have low to medium levels of LA sector need - indeed, levels of vacant stock, overcrowded dwellings and the elderly and disabled are lower than for any other cluster - and medium to high levels of private sector need. Resources are the lowest for any cluster too. The proportion spent on renovation has remained steady, whilst that on new build has increased and on improvement grants has fallen.

All of the LAs are shire districts.

Cluster 6

This contains only 4 per cent of LAs. These have low to average levels of the need variables and average resources. Spending habits have favoured the renovation of LA stock more than any other cluster, and have moved away from new building and improvement grants very considerably.

All of these LAs are shire districts except for Solihull (metropolitan district) and several of them are in the South East.

Cluster 7

This is the smallest cluster, with only 2½ per cent of LAs. It has relatively high levels of need, including the highest level of private sector dwellings lacking basic amenities, but low resources. The LAs in this cluster have shown the highest relative propensity to spend on new build, on average, and the largest decrease in their relative propensity to spend on renovations - in fact this is the only cluster in which, on average, the proportion spent on renovations has fallen in recent years.

All of the LAs are shire districts.

Cluster 8

This cluster contains only 4 per cent of LAs. These have high levels of the need variables - the proportion of elderly and disabled is the highest for any cluster - except for private sector dwellings lacking basic amenities, which is the lowest for any cluster. The resource base is high. The only changes in their relative propensity to spend have been a decline in new building and small increases in renovations and improvement grants.

Only two LAs, Harlow and Slough, are shire districts.

Cluster 9

This contains 7 per cent of the LAs. These have high levels on all of the need variables - the highest for any cluster in the cases of vacant LA properties, private sector dwellings in need of renovation, and overcrowded dwellings. Resources are higher than for any other cluster. The proportion spent on renovations has increased, whilst the proportions spent on new build and improvement grants have declined, the latter by more than any other cluster.

The LAs are a mixture of classes, mainly metropolitan districts and London boroughs together with the larger shire districts - Blackburn, Brighton, Bristol, Kingston-Upon-Hull and Nottingham.

Cluster 10

Contains only 4 per cent of LAs. These have generally low levels of need, though high levels of the elderly and disabled. Resources are low. The relative propensity to spend on new building has declined more than for any other cluster; that for improvement grants has remained steady. The relative propensity to spend on renovation has shown the second largest increase for any cluster.

Most of the LAs are shire districts, apart from Merton and Redbridge (London boroughs) and Doncaster and Sefton (metropolitan districts).

Discussion: are the Clusters useful?

The most satisfactory way of evaluating the clusters is to use them for grossing and to compare the results produced with forms that are returned after authorities' data have been grossed. A similar test of robustness might involve omitting data for some actual returns. If the procedure produces results

which are sufficiently close to the reported figures then the clusters can be considered workable.

The method of grossing currently used does not produce estimates at the individual authority level, so these sorts of evaluation cannot yet be performed. However a method which will generate data suitable to allow full evaluation may become available during 1991-92.

So, can this method, and the clusters produced, be taken seriously? Intuitively, they probably can, because most of the clusters have an underlying rationale, in the sense that they can be visualised in a meaningful way. For example, because so many authorities are broadly similar in terms of the data used for the analysis we would expect a few clusters larger than the average size. Two of the ten clusters identified here contain 40 per cent of the housing authorities. Conversely we would expect small clusters containing LAs which are particularly different from the other clusters. One of the clusters identified provides just such an example, comprising large urban areas with resources allowing them to spend considerable amounts of money to alleviate their high levels of need.

Because of this underlying rationale it is likely that the clusters will be useful as grossing strata for a number of years. This is because the factors which provide this rationale, such as the resource base and the local housing need, are likely to remain. There is no reason to believe that there will be a significant change in the level of one or more variables amongst certain LAs but not others, at least in the short term. If particular policy initiatives are introduced which have the effect of altering the level and distribution of certain variables then the analysis will need to be reworked. In practice it will be desirable to revise the analysis when 1991 Population Census data become available, since these provide a baseline for LAs' estimates of their household and dwelling stock characteristics. To take account of changing habits of housing expenditure it will also be beneficial to rework the components and clusters once during the inter-Census period too.

The Enhancement of the Labour Force Survey in Great Britain



by Elaine Chamberlain, *Employment Department* and Tony Manners and Michael Bradley, *Office of Population Censuses and Surveys*

On 9 March 1990, the Secretary of State for Employment announced the development of the Labour Force Survey in Great Britain to deliver results on a quarterly rather than annual basis.

This article outlines the development of the Enhanced Labour Force Survey (ELFS) such that individuals from approximately 60,000 households are interviewed each quarter (the size of the current spring survey) to commence in March 1992. Particular emphasis is given to those areas in which the ELFS differs from the current LFS.

In May 1990, the Chancellor announced an initiative aimed at improving key inputs to the National Accounts. Since the ELFS will be used in the provision of some of these inputs (eg estimates of self-employment), the enhancement of the LFS was adopted as part of this initiative.

Brief History

The Labour Force Survey is carried out in Great Britain for the Employment Department by the Social Survey Division of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS). The survey is also extended to Northern Ireland, by the Department of Economic Development in Northern Ireland, in order to provide estimates for the whole of the United Kingdom.

The first LFS in the UK was carried out from 1973, as a condition of membership to the European Community, under the terms of a Regulation derived from the Treaty of Rome. This has continued to be one of the reasons for carrying out a survey at regular intervals. The Statistical Office of the European Communities (SOEC) co-ordinates information from labour force surveys in the member states in order to assist the EC in such matters as the allocation of the Social Fund. Employment Department, as agent to the CSO in this matter, is responsible for delivering UK data to SOEC.

The survey was carried out biennially from 1973 to 1983 and was used increasingly by UK government departments to obtain information which could assist in the framing of social and economic policy. By 1983 it was being used by Employment Department to obtain information which was not available from other sources or was only available for Census of Population years.

From 1984, the survey has been carried out annually, and has consisted of two elements:

- i** a quarterly survey of approximately 15,000 private households, conducted in Great Britain throughout the year;
- ii** a 'boost' survey in the quarter from March to May, of over 44,000 private households in Great Britain and 4,000 households in Northern Ireland.

Results, published for the March to May quarters, consist of a combination of the boost survey with the quarterly survey carried out in this period. Separate results for the quarterly survey have not been published as it was found that, due to the sample size, these results were not robust. However, the quarterly survey has provided us with an invaluable development ground, without which the implementation of the ELFS would have taken significantly longer. Indeed, the design of the ELFS is predominantly based on the design of the current quarterly LFS.

It should be noted that the ELFS is restricted to Great Britain. For the time being, the survey is to remain annual in Northern Ireland, thus data for the United Kingdom will only be available for the spring quarter ie March to May each year.

Survey Design

The ELFS is designed to provide both good estimates of level over each quarter (eg the stock of persons in employment) as well as good estimates of quarterly change. This is achieved by maintaining a large

sample each quarter and by using an overlapping sample between quarters.

Each quarter's sample is made up of 5 'waves' each of approximately 12,000 private households interviewed throughout the quarter. Each sampled address in a wave is interviewed on 5 occasions at quarterly intervals, such that in any one quarter one wave will be receiving their first interview, one wave their second, and so on, with one wave receiving their fifth and final interview. Thus there is an 80 per cent sample overlap between quarters.

The table below presents some approximate estimates of level for some key variables together with the approximate error expected for a 90 per cent confidence interval.

Estimates of Level

	Approx. Estimate of Level	90% Confidence Interval
In Employment	26,150,000	±102,000
Employee	22,250,000	±104,000
Self-Employed	3,500,000	±56,000
Unemployed	1,900,000	±42,000
Economically Inactive 16+	15,800,000	±100,000

Source: Spring 1990 LFS estimates, Great Britain

The Sample

Apart from the sample size, the design of the ELFS, in general, closely resembles that of the quarterly element to the current LFS¹. However there have been some considerable improvements made in the design of the sample itself.

Essentially, the sample for the ELFS is an 'unclustered' sample of delivery points (DP's) extracted from the Post Office's Postcode Address File (PAF) small users file (excludes DP's which receive more than 25 items of mail daily). There are three exceptional elements to the sample, namely:

- i** residents in NHS hospital accommodation, formerly known as nurses' homes;
- ii** students living in halls of residence or boarding schools;
- iii** the Northern Scotland sample;

The first two groups will be included in the sample to improve the coverage of young people in the survey.

i NHS Hospital Accommodation

It is proposed to draw a sample of NHS Hospital accommodation, to visit these in order to get a list of accommodation within them and then to draw, at random, a unit of accommodation in each selected home.

It is intended to sample from a list of NHS Hospital Accommodation which shows the amount of accommodation, or the number of residents (not necessarily nurses, but hospital staff) accommodated in each home in order to be able to sample with probability proportionate to size. When this has been done it should be possible to make a selection of one accommodation unit from each selected NHS Hospital Accommodation.

At the next quarter's fieldwork the interview will be carried out with whoever is now occupying the same unit of accommodation, whether or not this is the same person as in the previous quarter.

ii Students in Halls of Residence or Boarding Schools

It is intended to obtain information from young people aged 16 and over who are either students living in halls of residence or school children living at boarding schools.

Such persons would currently be excluded from the household definition and it will therefore be

necessary to ask the following questions in order to identify them:

- i) May I just check, is there anyone aged 16 or over who is living away from this address because they are at school, or college, or university and who comes home during the holidays?

If yes, then ask:

- ii) May I just check, while they are away are they living at a private address or are they living in a hall of residence/boarding school.

If they are living in a hall of residence/boarding school then they should be included in the household.

It is recognised that collecting information on such persons from a related member of their household (ie a proxy response) is not an ideal arrangement, but it is by far the most cost-effective way of obtaining the information and it should be noted that, since there are five interviews carried out at quarterly intervals, these persons may well be present at the address for one or more interviews.

iii Northern Scotland Sample

Approximately 5 per cent of the population of Scotland or about ½ per cent of the population of Great Britain, lives in the area which is loosely defined as 'North of the Caledonian Canal'. Because of the sparseness of the population in this region and the consequent high cost of attempting face to face interviews, it has been decided to use telephone interviewing only. It is recognised that doing so excludes two sections of the population: those living in households where there is no telephone and those living in households which have a telephone, but which are not listed in the telephone directory, by choice, inadvertence or because they are new numbers.

The total number of households to be interviewed north

of the Caledonian Canal should be approximately 300. The sample will be drawn with the objective of obtaining telephone interviews with approximately 300 addresses. Although the degree of bias that this involves - due to the fact that households that cannot be contacted by telephone could be considerably different to those with listed telephone numbers - cannot easily be measured, the advantages of cost savings are considered to outweigh the disadvantages of bias, which is thought to be fairly small in this area. This will be closely monitored in the early stages of ELFS.

Building up the sample

The first full quarter of the ELFS will be conducted in March to May 1992. Although this sample will be divided into the five waves, the fifth wave, for example, will not have had four previous interviews. For this to have been possible, the build up of the sample would have needed to have started in March to May 1991, which was not possible for a number of reasons: primarily because the final LFS on the current basis was being conducted in this quarter; development of the questionnaire and of the new computer systems for the ELFS were not due for completion.

The build up of the sample is occurring from September 1991, aiming to achieve about 28,000 household interviews between September and November 1991; about 42,000 household interviews between Decem-



ber 1991 and February 1992; and with the first full quarter of about 60,000 interviews being conducted between March and May 1992.

Interviewing Techniques

As for the current LFS, interviewing will be conducted on both a face-to-face basis and by telephone. First interviews will always be carried out on a face-to-face basis (with the exception of the Northern Scotland sample and, exceptionally during the build up period, elsewhere); if respondents agree, follow up interviews (ie waves 2-5) will be carried out over the telephone. This is done as response rates are better if first contact is made on a face-to-face basis.

The most innovative feature in the development of the ELFS is the use of Computer Assisted Interviewing (CAI). Interviewers conducting face-to-face interviews will use portable lap-top computers whilst telephone interviewers will use desk-top computers. Prior to the announcement of the ELFS in March 1990, the Employment Department had already sponsored the development of a (CAI) system for the quarterly element of the current LFS. Only by doing this has it been possible to implement the ELFS by March 1992. The article *Computer Assisted Interviewing for the Labour Force Survey* also featured in this edition of *Statistical News*, gives details of the implementation of CAI in the quarterly element of the current LFS. The article also details the advantages associated with CAI.

Questionnaire Content

The development of the ELFS has enabled the Employment Department to review the questionnaire content for the LFS. This also coincides with new questionnaire requirements from the European Community.

Consultations with colleagues working in key policy areas lead to some amendments to the current questionnaire. In particular, in one or more quarters of the year (see next para.), unpaid family workers and homeworkers will be separately identified; place of work will be recorded; questions will be included with the specific aim of better reconciling LFS estimates of persons in employment with the published employer-based estimates; although the internation-

ally recommended definition of unemployment, based on job search over a four week period, has been available from the LFS since 1984, the questionnaire has been amended to better record the characteristics of this group eg the types of jobs sought and for those not seeking work, their reasons for economic inactivity.

The most fundamental change, however, is in the use of 'core' and 'supplement' questionnaires. The core questionnaire will be included each quarter and contains approximately 90 per cent of the questions in any one quarter. Each quarter there will also be a supplement questionnaire, containing questions which need not be asked each quarter eg in the March to May quarter, questions specific to SOEC requirements will be included in the supplement questionnaire. This, in theory, allows us to increase the total number of questions included in the survey on an annual basis.

It has not been possible to take on all the requested questionnaire additions and amendments for the initial implementation. Subjects requiring extensive piloting have been deferred for the time being. For example, we are considering including some questions on income and/or earnings. Initial piloting work looks promising, but this has some response rate implications and further work is necessary.

Data Sets

The initial development of the ELFS is aimed at producing quarterly data on an individual basis (ie grossed up to the population of Great Britain). However, the very nature of the ELFS will enable a number of different data sets to be produced.

- Data based on the 96,000 independent households interviewed each year could be compiled to provide more reliable estimates of some of the detailed information available from the ELFS, but relating to a longer time period.
- Annual averages and volumes can be calculated for such estimates as hours and training undertaken.
- Estimates of quarterly change could be based on 'linked records' data ie taking the 80 per cent

overlapping sample between quarters and matching the individual records to monitor change. Indeed this could be taken further to carry out cohort analyses across the 5 waves of interviewing. These data sets will be particularly useful when considering the subject of labour mobility.



The intention is to consider the production of all the above listed data sets at the earliest opportunity following the implementation of the ELFS.

The quarters used are not standard quarters: March-May, June-August, September-November and December-February. There are a number of reasons for using these quarter dates: Easter falls in either March or April, if standard quarters were used Easter would fall in one of two quarters; it is particularly difficult to interview in December and January, timetables are not jeopardised since the quarter runs until the end of February, allowing time to obtain all the necessary interviews; it is particularly important that ELFS results can continue the time series already built up from the current annual LFS, which is based on March to May data.

However, the design of the sample for the ELFS is such that any three consecutive months provide representative data. Thus it will be possible to create data based on standard quarters if desired.

Publication and Dissemination

The policy on this has not yet been finalised, but the aim is to publish key results from each quarter's data

approximately 12 weeks after the end of the survey period. The feasibility of this timetable will be tested in the two 'build-up' quarters. Publication dates will be announced in advance.

Articles using ELFS data will also appear in the *Employment Gazette* as do those using the current LFS.

Data from each quarter's survey will be made available in a number of ways. The intention is to release the data via a bureau service, similar to that currently run by Quantime Limited for the annual LFS data. Customers will be able to request special tabulations, use their bureau service to run tabulations themselves or be able to purchase the quarterly database. It is also expected that the databases will be held at the ESRC Data Archive.

Further details of the policy on publication and dissemination will be announced at a later date.

Conclusion

The aim of this article is to inform readers of the existence of the ELFS and to outline developments to date. We are still some way away from full implementation of the survey and intend to publicise the development further as time proceeds. Any queries resulting from this article should, in the first instance, be addressed to Statistical Services Division, Branch C2a, Level 1, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NF.

¹Details of the design of the current LFS are given in Chapter 2 of *Labour Force Survey 1988 and 1989*, produced by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, published by HMSO.

by Tony Manners, *Office of Population Censuses and Surveys*

Introduction

Social Survey Division of OPCS has successfully implemented a system of data collection and editing in the field, using computer assisted interviewing (CAI), for one of Great Britain's major household surveys, the quarterly element of the Employment Department's Labour Force Survey (QLFS). Since September 1990, the QLFS has replaced pencil-and-paper interviewing (PAPI) methods of data collection, which it formerly used for both face-to-face and centralised telephone interviewing, with computer assisted 'personal' interviewing (CAPI) for face-to-face assignments using laptop computers and with computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) using networked desktop computers. The purpose of this paper is to describe the reasons for developing a CAI system for the QLFS and to discuss the main technical issues and performance indicators for the first seven months of CAI.

Successful implementation of CAI for the QLFS has been an important factor both financially and technically in development of the survey, the enhanced quarterly LFS, that is described in a companion paper in this issue.

Perception in OPCS of a need for CAI

Potential benefits

Advocates of CAI tend to identify the same three chief theoretical benefits over PAPI methods: better quality, improved speed and lower cost after the initial investment. There are sceptics in most organisations about each of these claims but doubts usually centre on whether the potential cost savings can be realised in practice. Findings from the QLFS will be presented below.

Better quality is to be obtained essentially from data editing taking place where it is most likely to be successful - in the interview. More specifically, it

follows from these features of CAI: (a) automatic routing through the questionnaire, so that missing values arise only from respondents being unable or unwilling to answer and not from interviewers' mistakes; (b) range and consistency errors being detected at a point where they can be checked with respondents as opposed to the reliance of PAPI methods on clerical or automatic imputation after the interview.

Improved speed arises from the omission of the time-consuming keying and clerical editing stages of PAPI processing. Data capture on computer also provides the opportunity to send data to the central location by telephone. Increased speed may also lead indirectly to better quality data if more up-to-date information allows for better field management.

The potentially lower cost of surveys using CAI instead of PAPI methods derives principally from the expectation of lower staff costs through omission of the most labour intensive parts of the post-collection processing: keying, clerical field management tasks inseparable from handling large volumes of paper questionnaires, and clerical editing. Savings in computing costs from no longer running edits will depend on the nature of those edits and an organisation's charging policy for computer usage or what it costs to buy these services from a bureau. Questionnaire software which translates a researcher's specifications into programs for running CAI can reduce or eliminate the need for specialist programmers.

Specific requirements at OPCS

At OPCS interest in CAI was limited until the mid 1980s by the absence of suitable hardware and software for an integrated survey system for CAPI and CATI. CATI had been available since at least the early 1970s for telephone interviewing from central offices where the requisite computing power could be provided by mainframes and minicomputers. For many surveys, of course, telephone interviewing was not the best method of data collection. Even amongst surveys for which the telephone was an appropriate medium, any advantages were often outweighed by the problems and costs associated with incomplete

telephone coverage of the population. In Great Britain some 13 per cent of households still do not have a telephone and among some sub-groups, such as the elderly, the unemployed and low income groups, the percentage is much higher. The appearance in the mid 1980s of hand-held and lap-top computers overcame this obstacle by making feasible CAPI for face-to-face interviewing. The gains in quality, speed and cost could be realised, particularly if telephone interviewing (with its own speed and cost efficiencies) could be combined with face-to-face interviewing in the survey design.

In 1986, when OPCS began to consider the implications of these developments, it was asked by the Employment Department, to investigate the feasibility of enhancing the Labour Force Survey by greatly increasing the sample size while maintaining or shortening the time from fieldwork to delivery of results. There was an over-riding requirement to keep the consequent rise in costs within very stringent limits. It was concluded that only a survey design using CAI could meet these requirements. Although enhancement of the LFS was not requested until some years later, the investigation revealed that CAI could potentially improve the cost-efficiency of

the existing survey. A review of the software available in 1987 concluded that one package, BLAISE from the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), had the potential to meet LFS design requirements immediately. BLAISE was made available by CBS as part of an existing agreement on software exchange with OPCS, which is most grateful for CBS's advice and assistance.

BLAISE is excellent for interviewing and editing in the interview but it has only recently begun to provide a case management system for a survey with complex requirements like the QLFS. As described below, the OPCS computing specialists who support Social Survey Division developed such a case management system; they also developed the necessary telecommunications system which ensures efficient return of data from the interviewers.

Technical description

Characteristics of the survey

The QLFS is a panel survey with sample rotation and a weekly placing pattern in which the residents at a sampled address are to be interviewed five times at



13-week intervals. In March to May each year there are additional questions. Information is collected about all members of sampled households. Proxy interviews are permitted, and account for about one-third of all responses for persons. Interviews last about 25 minutes per household. Virtually all the information from the previous interview is available in the current interview, and is used to check if any changes have occurred. The set sample yields over 15,000 responding households per quarter (about 40,000 persons per quarter). Some 20 per cent of the interviews are with households and persons being interviewed for the first time, and some 80 per cent are recall interviews. The response rate is about 83 per cent for first interviews and about 78 per cent (of the original sample) for fifth interviews.

The first interview at an address is always carried out face-to-face. Whenever respondents' agreement can be secured at the first interview, recall interviews are carried out by telephone. More than 55 per cent of all QLFS interviews (70 per cent of recall interviews) are carried out by telephone from a central installation. The questionnaires used are identical for face-to-face and telephone interviewing. The interviewing techniques are essentially the same for the two modes. At recall interviews, most of the information from the previous interview is available to the interviewer, who uses it to check if the situation has changed. The danger of under-estimation of change by this method is considered to be more than outweighed by the dangers of over-estimation of change through response variance and of adverse effects on response if all questions are asked afresh each time.

The CAI system for the QLFS

Much of the OPCS's development effort has gone into providing a reliable system for managing the data collected through CAI. Standard micro-computer packages have been used as far as possible. For each month the flow of data through the system is:

- i** a new address sample from the automated Post code Address File is moved to the LFS CAI database which already holds recall interview data (ie from the last interviews);
- ii** recall interview data is output from the data base and converted to BLAISE for telephone interviewing on up to 30 networked desktop

computers and, for face-to-face interviewing, organised in 100 interviewer workloads;

- iii** each face-to-face interviewer receives 2 diskettes by mail (an interviewing disk containing encrypted data, and a backup disk) for use with a laptop (currently Toshiba T1000se);
- iv** face-to-face interviewers contact households as suits them within the weekly placing pattern; telephone interviewers are allocated work manually by supervisors;
- v** for recall interviews any changes since the last interview overwrite the former answers (new routing is automatically calculated and redundant codes deleted);
- vi** after each day's work, face-to-face interviewers enter occupation and some other codes and administrative details on screen, then they back the data up;
- vii** at the end of the week, clean data which has not previously been transmitted is sent by telephone in encrypted form to OPCS via a system which is designed to protect the security of the Office as well as the data;
- viii** there is a similar pattern for the telephone interviewers, who use micro-computers networked to the database;
- ix** a field management system reports the current status of each sampled household;
- x** completed work for the month is sent to a more powerful database for such processes as automatic imputation, derived variable creation, weighting to population estimates, inter-wave linkage, final production and storage. There is no manual coding or editing.

Unit response

Quality indicators from the first 7 months of CAI

Table 1 shows that the mean monthly refusal rates for the first 7 months of CAI and the last 7 months of PAPI were identical on QLFS when all waves are aggregated. The difference in the overall response

rate is accounted for by the lower non-contact rate in the last 7 months of PAPI. This difference is not attributed by field managers to CAI: similar differences over the period considered can be seen in other surveys which used PAPI throughout.

Table 1. Mean monthly refusal rates for the first 7 months of CAI and the last 7 months of PAPI, by all waves and wave 1 only

Eligible households (per cent):

	Interviewed	Refused interview	Not contacted
All waves			
PAPI	89	6	5
CAI	87	6	7
Wave 1			
PAPI	83	11	6
CAI	83	11	6

The majority of the households in the analysis of CAI response rates by All Waves were initially approached before CAI was introduced and so have been interviewed in both modes if they responded. The households approached by CAI at Wave 1 have only been approached in that mode. Response rates for such households are identical with those for households approached for the first time during the last 7 months of PAPI.

OPCS regards these response rates as provisional confirmation of its findings during trials that introducing CAI would have no effect on unit response.

Item response

CAI has eliminated non-response which was due to the interviewers following incorrect routing, leaving only that due to 'Don't know' or 'Refusal' answers.

Distributions

Interpretation of the quarterly movement of the distributions on key variables for the QLFS is too complex for simple presentation: this is one reason for the enhancement of the survey mentioned in the introduction. However, OPCS and the customer for the QLFS, the Employment Department, are satisfied

that CAI has not led to any unaccountable movement in the estimates.

Implications and conclusions

Nine months production running of CAI for QLFS have demonstrated the viability of the data management system. Interviewers like working with CAI. Response rates are unaffected. Where data quality can be measured readily, as in the case of item non-response, it appears to have been improved as one would expect on logical grounds from routing control. No problems have been encountered which have threatened the survey's timetable for production of results, and the potential clearly exists for increased speed or, as will happen with the enhanced LFS, dealing with a sample four times the size in the same timetable. Cost savings have been achieved, principally through the elimination of clerical procedures such as keying and coding. CAI will be used for the enhanced LFS, which will begin building up its sample size from September 1991 to full size in March 1992. The LFS is the first of the surveys carried out by Social Survey Division of OPCS to use CAI. Extension of its proven systems to other surveys is now under active investigation.

Desk-Top Publishing Production of Statistical Publications in the Department of the Environment



by John Garnsworthy, Statistician, and
Stephen Peters, Executive Officer

Introduction

Although much has been written in the popular computing press and elsewhere about the advantages of Desk-Top Publishing (DTP), the key issues concerned with the publication of large volumes of statistical information have been largely neglected. In an attempt to redress the balance, this article describes the use of DTP in Land and General Statistics (LGS) Division, Department of the Environment, (DOE), for the preparation of the Department's statistical publications.

DTP - What is it?

DTP can be placed somewhere between word processing and typesetting/page makeup. Typical components of a DTP system are:

- Low cost micro-computers which offer sufficient processing power and storage space to support the demands of the applications;
- sophisticated software allowing the combination of text, graphs and images, and their manipulation via a user-friendly interface;
- inexpensive high quality laser printers allowing a document to be printed at near-typeset quality exactly as it appears on the computer's screen - known as WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get).

Whilst DTP software enables basic text editing to be undertaken, it generally does not allow the creation of text, charts and images. These components must be provided from outside the DTP package and additional software packages capable of creating them are therefore an essential part of any DTP system.

Several DTP software packages and even more supporting micro-computers and laser printers are now available. This article will not attempt to assess the relative merits of these systems as these have been well documented elsewhere. Instead, we limit our comments to the packages/systems we have used and our practical experiences of DTP in the preparation of DOE's statistical publications. Hopefully, our experiences will prove useful to readers considering or in the throes of introducing DTP to their areas of work.

Background

LGS is responsible for co-ordinating the publication of all DOE's statistical publications. Its main function is preparing Camera Ready Copy (CRC) of seventeen publications varying in periodicity and size from quarterly issues of around 20 A4 pages to one annual issue of about 150 A4 pages.

The main publications prepared are those in the *Housing and Construction Statistics* series. These comprise two separate quarterly issues (Part 1 and Part 2), and one annual volume of statistics on a variety of Housing and Construction topics. Other publications include the annual *Development Control Statistics*, *Land Use Change Bulletin* and *Rent Officer Statistics*. These publications mainly consist of full A4 page tables, although some narrative text and graphics are also included.

History of DTP in LGS

Prior to 1986, individual entries for a publication were supplied to LGS in manuscript by colleagues responsible for those entries - the Source Branch. All entries were then collated manually by LGS, and forwarded to external printers for preparation of first proofs. Once returned to LGS, first proofs were checked, recollated by LGS, and any amendments forwarded to the printer, who then prepared final proofs.

This process was not only time consuming but also cost in excess of £30,000 per annum in a professional typesetter's time alone. Delays and errors were more likely to occur because of the number of stages involved, the necessity to undertake all stages manually, and reliance on a third party not familiar with the material.

As a DTP system is designed to simplify and eliminate these labour intensive tasks, we felt that its introduction would be beneficial, provided it enabled statistical tables to be readily produced. Consequently, during 1987, a suitable system was purchased comprising one Apricot Xen-i 286, a Canon LPB-8 A2 laser printer and the Bookmachine DTP software.

Benefits arising from greater control and flexibility in publication production were quickly realised. We were able to control all stages of production in-house and then provide the printer with the final CRC.

Adapting to meet changing requirements

At the time this system was purchased, Bookmachine was the only software which could handle the production of statistical tables of up to sixteen columns.

Initially, CRC was produced by LGS retyping information provided by Source Branches. However, with the advent of more sophisticated hardware and software in LGS and Source Branches, we found it was possible to produce CRC from 'electronic' drafts. Initially, data were provided as tabulated ASCII text files, generated directly from applications running on the Department's VAX mainframe computer. Because we did not have to retype this information, the timeliness and accuracy of publications were greatly improved.

Unfortunately, there were several problems with Bookmachine and the accompanying hardware:

- i** Bookmachine was unable to import electronic drafts created in other software packages. Any electronic information required conversion via an external utility programme before it was accepted.
- ii** Tables were treated by Bookmachine as a series of columns separated by the Tab character. The electronic drafts provided by source branches

included spaces, not tabs, separating each column and significant manual reformatting of this information was therefore required to insert Tab characters between each column.

- iii** We were unable to directly include any charts or images in a document and these items had to be manually 'pasted' into the CRC. Bookmachine also offered poor typographic control (eg changing typefaces, drawing ruling lines under column headings etc was a cumbersome exercise).
- iv** The quality of printed output obtained from the system was unsatisfactory. This was entirely due to the laser printer, not the DTP software, since output quality is only as good as the printer on which it is produced. At the time, more suitable laser printers were either unavailable or too expensive.

Despite these difficulties, it was clear that in-house publishing using DTP provided greater flexibility and control and drastically reduced production costs. However, further improvements were required and we decided to upgrade the system. A new system was purchased during 1990.

Publishing statistics - a new approach?

Before purchasing the new system, we established a list of criteria against which 'candidate' systems were evaluated:

- i** The DTP software should allow preparation of statistical tables of up to 32 columns.
- ii** The DTP software should allow a common typographic 'style' to be easily imposed on a series of different publications.
- iii** The DTP software should allow incorporation of page components - text, charts etc - created in a variety of other software packages elsewhere in the Department.
- iv** The package should allow full typographic control over text, including complete flexibility in changing typefaces (style of lettering) and typesizes (size of lettering).

- v Printed output quality should be of a similar standard to other publications produced by the Department/GSS (primarily CSO 'flagship' publications such as *Social Trends* and *Regional Trends*).
- vi The system should be 'matched' with available resources ie equipment purchased should be compatible with equipment elsewhere in the Department.
- vii The system should be relatively easy to use. It is, after all, important not to 'over purchase' by installing equipment which is too complicated - there is little point in using a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

We studied various systems purporting to meet our criteria, drawing on the experience of other DTP users where appropriate. Particularly valuable advice was obtained from HMSO.

At the time of our appraisal, DTP software fell quite neatly into two distinct categories of publishing, although the past two years have seen a steady blurring of the divide between them:

With the first, termed electronic paste-up, the emphasis is on individual page design, with the designer cutting and pasting on screen as he or she would on paper.

With the second, termed batch pagination, the emphasis is on the overall document. This is achieved by designing a 'mould', into which text is 'poured', with each page assuming the layout, typefaces and typesizes defined in the mould.

Given the type of publications we produce and the need for a common style, any candidate system clearly fell into the batch pagination category. The DTP software considered most suitable was Ventura Publisher Version 2.0.

The hardware purchased to run Ventura comprises two Apricot Xen-s PCs with A4 paper white screens. It is obviously important that when preparing, for example, a full A4 page table, one is able to view the entire table on screen to ensure correct alignment. Also, small typesizes, used mainly in table footnotes, should be legible. For these reasons, we have

found that monitors of A4 size or more should be used when preparing complex tables.

Our requirement to improve printed output quality was met by purchasing an Apple Laser Writer printer, equipped with the Postscript Page Description Language. The Canon printer used with Bookmachine used outline fonts to generate printed output. Outline fonts store each typesize separately, thus restricting typesizes available to fixed increments. Any intermediate typesize is created by enlarging the nearest fixed typesize, producing a 'jagged edged' typeface. By contrast, Postscript uses a mathematical description of the characteristic lines and curves forming a typeface. This enables good clean edged typefaces of any size, not just set sizes, to be produced.

New system - Advantages

The main advantages of the new system lie in its approach to handling documents with many pages requiring a common page style and, more particularly, its handling of tables.

Enforced house style

Ventura achieves a common page style through the creation of a Style Sheet (the mould into which text is poured). Text is loaded directly into Ventura from files created in a variety of other packages (eg Wordperfect), and then formatted according to the definitions in the style sheet.

Changing attributes for individual paragraphs in a text file (eg right aligned, bold typeface, ruling line underneath) is achieved by defining a tag containing those attributes and then assigning the tag to the paragraph. Once a tag is established, all sub-headings, for example, will assume the same typeface, same typesize etc wherever they appear in the document.

In addition, individual tags are saved to a style sheet, and that style sheet can then be applied to other documents. A common house-style across a range of publications is therefore easily achieved.

Improved handling of tables

A fundamental requirement when publishing statistics is that the system should handle complex tables

of up to 32 columns. Ventura employs what was a unique way of handling tables, but is now present in varying degrees in other DTP and Word Processing packages.

Instead of treating a table as columns separated by tab characters, as Bookmachine did, Ventura treats it as a matrix of rows and columns. Where rows and columns intersect, individual items (figures, row headings etc) are placed in the resulting cell. Individual tags, described above, can then be applied to any cell, giving complete flexibility in the format of any element of the table. For example, it is easy to italicize a column of figures, embolden a row of figures etc by tagging that column or row.

This method offers many benefits over using Tab characters to separate columns. The major benefit we have found is that a table layout is far easier to control because Ventura handles the more labour intensive aspects (eg columns of figures can be automatically right or decimally aligned). This, together with improved typographic handling, has reduced the time taken to produce CRC from electronic drafts.

Greater compatibility with other software

Ventura allows text, charts and images to be combined from a variety of sources. Each element can be placed anywhere on a page and resized at will. We therefore have greater control over page layout and this has also contributed to improved timeliness by eliminating the need for cutting and pasting.

Ventura works from the original copy of a text file and does not save information to its own file format. This is extremely useful since it allows LGS to typeset, for example, tables created in Lotus or narrative text created in Wordperfect and the source branch to make last minute amendments to that file using the host software. These amendments can therefore be reflected in the final CRC without the source branch needing any knowledge of Ventura.

Any Lotus 123 print file or similar tabulated ASCII file is automatically converted by Ventura into the tabular format described above. In this way, we can now easily produce CRC from tabulated ASCII files created by applications on the Department's VAX Mainframe by downloading the ASCII output files from the VAX onto the micro-computer.

Improved output quality

We have achieved dramatic improvements in output quality by purchasing a Postscript compatible laser printer.

Postscript is now the industry standard Page Description Language and is installed on laser printers ranging from cheap desk-top models to state of the art typesetting machinery. It is also device independent, so that a Postscript file can be produced on any printer supporting it, fully exploiting the resolution of that printer. To further enhance the quality of our publications we intend to publish future issues from Postscript print files, rather than paper CRC, using sophisticated typesetting machinery operated by an external bureau. This will give photographic quality output at anything up to 2,400 dots per inch (dpi) - against the 300 dpi available on our current laserprinter - with only a marginal increase in production costs.

New system - Disadvantages

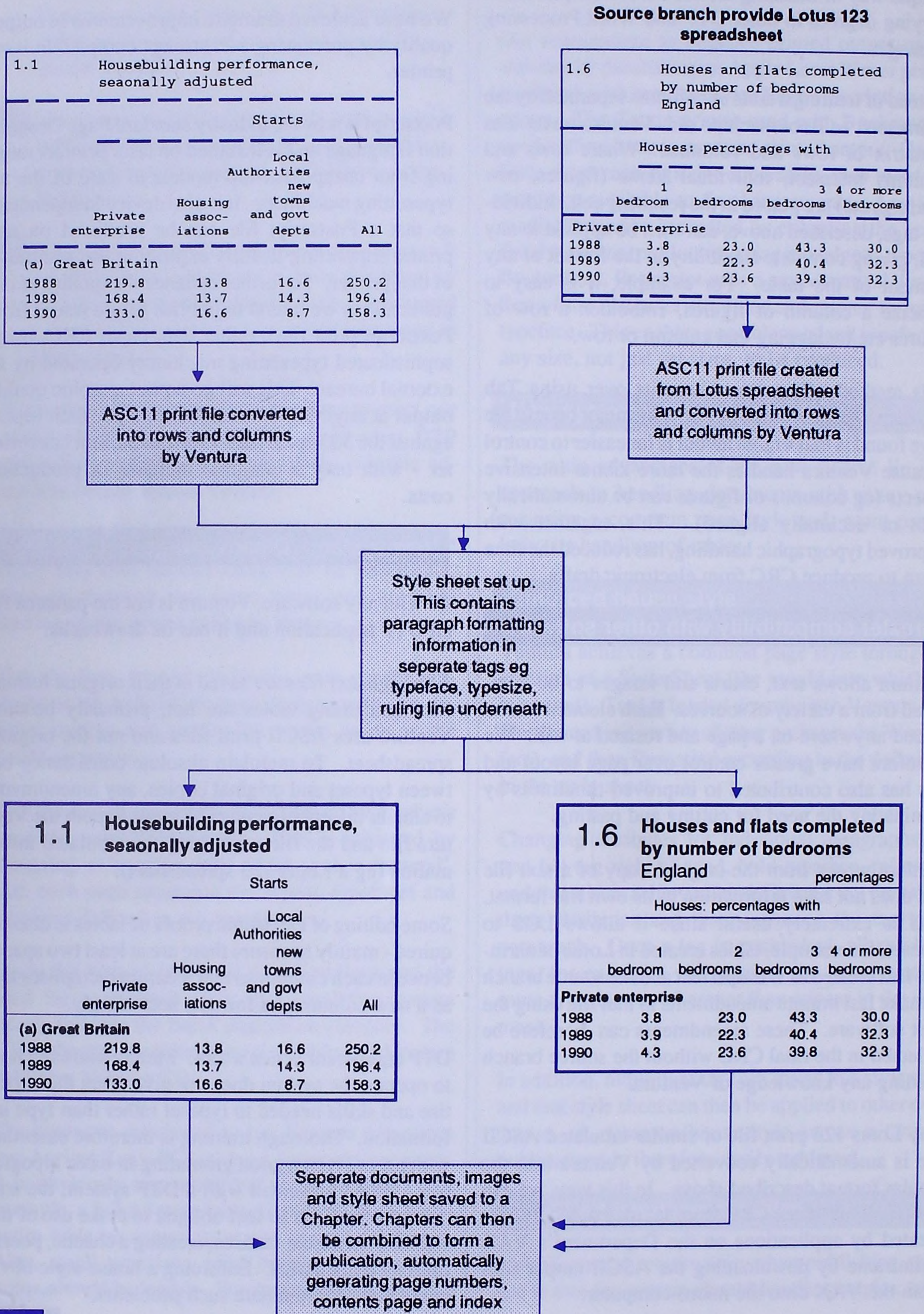
As with any software, Ventura is not the panacea for all DTP application and it has its drawbacks.

Although text files are saved in their original format, files containing tables are not, primarily because Ventura uses ASCII print files and not the original spreadsheet. To maintain absolute consistency between typeset and original copies, any amendments to tabular information must be made to both the Ventura file and the file containing the tabulated information (eg a Lotus 123 spreadsheet).

Some editing of electronic proofs of tables is also required - mainly to ensure there are at least two spaces between each column so that Ventura recognises this as a new column and formats accordingly.

DTP equipment is just a tool. Merely knowing how to operate the system does not give users the expertise and skills needed to typeset rather than type information. Thorough training is therefore essential, with users given a good grounding in basic typography. When presented with a DTP system, the tendency is for users to feel obliged to make use of the wealth of available features, creating a chaotic, poorly presented document. Enforcing a house-style obviously helps to eliminate such problems.

Example of Camera Ready Copy production from Electronic drafts.



Conclusion

We believe that DTP has satisfied demand for cost-effective production of high quality, accurate and timely camera ready copy within available resources. The current system allows LGS to produce CRC to a high specification without requiring an in-depth knowledge of publishing techniques, although an appreciation of these techniques has proved invaluable.

The ability to produce complex tables quickly and easily, coupled with the ability to include charts and images without cutting and pasting, has improved timeliness and accuracy without impinging on de-

clining resources. The need for proof reading, although perhaps not quite as intensive due to increased use of electronic drafts, is still paramount.

Preparation for introducing DTP is half the battle. Will the system allow me to produce exactly what I require? Who will be using the system, inputting information. Where is the information to be stored and how will it be updated? All of these questions should be addressed before purchasing DTP equipment. We have found that, by giving due consideration to these issues, and carefully matching our requirements to available systems, Desk Top Publishing has proved an invaluable tool for presenting DOE's statistical information.

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COMPANY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

desktop publishing

can we make the most of investment in DTP?

THE BLOGGS

TOP PUBLISHING has a habit to the desktop was the reverse of a printer a few

ME M- M+ +

- Simplicity ✓
- Standardisation ✓
- Corporate Style ✓
- Speed ✓
- Efficiency ✓
- Clarity ✓
- Versatility ✓
- Cost Effective

Software

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File
cip.cqm
dtp.wmt
dpl.wmt

New surveys notified to the Survey Control Unit

July to September 1991

For further information about the survey listed, the appropriate contact may be obtained from Miss J Dinehart (071-217 4340), Survey Control Unit, Central Statistical Office, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.

New Surveys July to September 1991

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
Evaluation of the national record of achievement	DEM	Employers	1360	GB	AH
Compacts employers survey	DEM	Employers	400	E	AH
Technical & vocational education initiative (TVEI) employers' survey	DEM	Employers	N/K	EW	AH
Evaluation of education business partnerships (EBP)	DEM	Employers	60	GB	AH
Skills monitoring survey III	DEM	Employers	6000	GB	AH
Education training: survey of national providers	DEM	Employers	30	GB	AH
TEC comparative area study	DEM	Employers	50	N/K	AH
ET control group study	DEM	Employers	850	GB	AH
Training and recruitment practices of Japanese firms in the UK	DEM	Employers	50	GB	AH
Employers audit of personal skills	DEM	Employers	700	NW	AH
Market research 'developing good practice in open learning'	DEM	Employers	300	GB	AH
Coherent data provision; survey of data providers -college focus	DEM	Colleges	2000	UK	AH
Employers' equal opportunities groups (EEOGs)	DEM	Employers	70	GB	AH
Attitude and behaviour survey for best practice programme	DEN	Industrial Sector	N/K	GB	AH
Measuring impact & effectiveness of renewal energy promotion & technology transfer	DEN ETSU	Industrialists & LA'S	4000	UK	AH
Data collection & consumption guide: small power loads in office buildings	DEN BRE	Occupiers	236	UK	AH
Energy efficiency in industrial buildings: investment decision making	DEN BRE	Manufacturers	40	UK	AH
Schools building book mailout evaluation	DEN COI	Headteachers	N/K	UK	AH
Teachers-renewables pack evaluation	DEN COI	Education Authorities	1600	UK	AH
Teacher recruitment campaign evaluation	DES COI	Teachers	750	EW	AH
Annual assessment of pupils at the end of keystage 1	DES	Education Authorities	119	E	A
Survey on funding of further education	DES	Education Authorities	30	E	AH
Register of recreational land	DES	Local Authorities	N/K	E	C
Survey of school capacity	DES	Education Authorities	23000	E	AH
Survey of provision for swimming in primary schools	DES	Education Authorities	1200	E	AH
Survey of school-based swimming pools	DES	Education Authorities	217	EW	AH
Access to Local Authority housing	DOE	Housing Authorities	366	E	AH
Complaints about sound insulation	DOE BRE	Environmental Health Departments	40	EW	AH
Development control & timescale of the development process: large scale developments	DOE	Local Planning Authorities	150	UK	AH
Vacant public sector land of possible use for housing	DOE	Landlords	100	SE	AH
Unused and underused land on public Sector owner's registers	DOE	Local Planning Authorities	N/K	E	A

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
Monitoring value for money in Local Authority Housing Association capital programmes	DOE	Housing Authorities	60	E	N/K
	DOE	Local Planning Authorities	N/K	E	AH
Financial incentives to Local Authority tenants	DOE	Housing Authorities	92	UK	AH
English house condition survey	DOE	Housing Authorities	415	E	AH
Information technology security survey	DTI	LA's & Commerce	5000	UK	AH
Performance measurement in manufacturing	DTI	Manufacturers	100	N/K	AH
Quality of information systems	DTI	IT Heads of Med/Large Companies	795	UK	AH
Underpinning research needs of DTI's environment unit	DTI		N/K	UK	AH
Nanotechnology awareness survey	DTI	Industrialists & Academics	650	ES	AH
Feasibility study-use of controls for ozone depleting substances	DTI	Manufacturers N/K	UK	AH	
Joint opto-electronics research scheme (JOERS): post-completion monitoring survey	DTI	Companies	30	UK	AH
Government enterprise and the environment	DTI COI		3000	GB	AH
Feasibility study for community economic development trust (CEDT)	DTI		200	YH	AH
Evaluation of consultancy initiatives: fourth stage	DTI	Industry & Commerce	420	GB	AH
Advanced robotics programme survey	DTI	Manufacturers	250	GB	AH
Evaluation study of the security assistance for enterprise (SAFE) scheme	DTI	Businesses	230	NW	AH
Review of users of the department's Export Intelligence Service(EIS)	DTI	Exporters	950	UK	AH
Market research study on overseas trade Services charged services	DTI	Exporters	N/K	UK	AH
Compulsory basic training (CBT) for motorcyclists	DTP TRRL	Motor-cyclist training Org	250	GB	AH
Survey of the operation of the heartbeat award scheme in Wales	HPAW WO	Catering Establishments	137	W	AH
National random rodent survey 1992	MAFF	Environmental Health Departments	320	E	AH
Socio-economic evaluation of the one year set-aside scheme	MAFF	Farms	16000	E	AH
Milk products survey	MAFF	Manufacturers	281	EW	A
Socio-economic evaluation of horticultural Elements of farm & conservation grant scheme	MAFF	Horticulturists	N/K	E	AH
Attitudes of farmers to new developments in the Somerset environmentally sensitive areas	MAFF	Farms	80	SW	AH
Evaluation of the 5-14 development programme	SOED	Local Education Authorities	390	S	AH
The new further education college councils	SOED	Local Education Authorities	220	SSS	AH
Adult education: Provision, guidance and progression (stage 3)	SOED	Local Education Authorities	220	S	AH
Adult education: Provision, guidance and progression (stage 4)	SOED	Local Education Authorities	960	S	AH
Review of residential childcare units	SOHH	Social services	12	S	AH
Liquor licensing statistics	SOHH	Licensing Boards 56	S	A	
Tourism multiplier study - business expenditure survey	SOID STB		1000	S	AH
Research and development in Scottish manufacturing industry	SOID SE	Manufacturers	2757	S	AH
Lorry spray and accident causation	TRRL DTP	Police Forces	N/K	E	AH
Accommodation operators views towards Wales Tourist Board verification scheme	WTB	Accommodation Operators	1000	W	AH

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
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Household and Individual Surveys

Evaluation of the outcomes of graduate enterprise business workshops	DEM	Graduates	1005	GB	AH
Awareness of advertising for employing disabled	DEM COI	Adults	2000	E	AH
'Success 91' research	DEM COI	Applicants	500	GB	AH
Survey to establish the failure rate of retro-fit CWI by rain penetration	DEN BRE	Owner Occupiers	2000	GB	AH
Joint campaign-creative development research	DEN COI	Owner Occupiers	64	GB	AH
Joint campaign-creative development research - stage 2	DEN COI	Owner Occupiers	30	GB	AH
Joint campaign tracking	DEN COI	Adults	1200	GB	AH
School reports to parents	DES COI	Parents	550	E	AH
Nursing: TV communication check and creative development	DH COI	Adults	232	E	AH
Public perception of family doctor services	DH	Patients	2424	GB	AH
Blood donation campaign evaluation	DH COI	Adults	516	EE	AH
Nursing campaign monitor: Waves 1 & 2	DH COI	Adults	3750	E	AH
Anti-drugs misuse campaign 1991/92: Strategy	DH COI	Parents	124	GB	AH
Study of housing consumers	DOE	Occupiers	5500	E	AH
Monitoring value for money in LA/Housing Association Capital programmes	DOE	Tenants	1740	E	AH
English house condition survey	DOE	Owner Occupiers	25000	E	AH
Financial incentives to Local Authority tenants	DOE	Adults	850	UK	AH
1991 English house condition survey	DOE	Occupiers	12000	E	AH
Monitoring the new LA performance indicator regime	DOE	Tenants	1500	E	AH
1991 census follow-up of sharers	DOE OPCS	Occupiers	5000	E	AH
A national survey of attitudes towards environmental noise	DOE BRE	Adults	2500	GB	AH
Evaluation of the wake-up leaflet	DOE	Adults	3000	E	AH
Child support agency target market research	DSS COI	Adults	269	GB	AH
Family credit evaluation research stages 9 & 10	DSS COI	Parents	1000	GB	AH
Disability living allowance mailshots research	DSS COI	Disabled	30	GB	AH
Attendance allowance claim pack research	DSS COI	Disabled	30	E	AH
Access to service & benefit information needs of minority ethnic groups	DSS	Claimants	105	GB	AH
Disability Living Allowance Information Leaflets	DSS COI	Disabled	24	GB	AH
Staff charter packaging research	DSS COI	Adults	120	GB	AH
1991 London area transport survey: Intercity and coach survey	DTP	Commuters	12000	SE	AH
Road safety advert development on accidents involving children	DTP COI	Drivers	64	E	AH
Trainee rider survey	DTP TRRL	Adults	750	GB	AH
Drivers' comprehension of overhead direction signs on motorways	DTP TRRL	Drivers	1000	E	AH
Motability disabled drivers survey	DTP TRRL	Disabled	390	GB	AH
Traffic management for safety - further validation studies	DTP TRRL	Drivers	100000	GB	AH
A17 Sutterton to Sutton Bridge Lincolnshire	DTP	Drivers	4275	EM	AH
A57 East of M1 junction 31 origin and destination survey	DTP	Drivers	5600	YH	AH
M40 widening junctions 1A to 4 traffic modelling studies	DTP	Drivers	30000	SE	AH
A1237 York northern bypass - traffic survey roadside interviews surveys	DTP	Drivers	8000	YH	AH

Title	Department	Those approached	Approx. number approached each year	Location	Frequency
Tolpuddle and Puddletown bypass - A35	DTP	Drivers	3500	SW	AH
Chideock - Morcombelake bypass	DTP	Drivers	7000	SW	AH
Drink drive advertising development	DTP COI	Drivers	64	E	AH
Airport research	FCO COI	Adults	600	SE	AH
Special constables campaign evaluation	HOME COI	Adults	90	UK	AH
Electoral registration advertising monitor	HOME COI	Adults	2000	EW	AH
Modelling consumer reactions to risk in food consumption	MAFF	Consumers	300	SE	AH
MAFF exhibition research	MAFF COI	Adults	1000	E	AH
Food sense campaign creative development	MAFF COI	Adults	6	E	AH
Consumer information needs concerning food sold through catering outlets	MAFF	Consumers	1062	ES	AH
Foodsense' campaign evaluation	MAFF COI	Housewives	2550	GB	AH
Navy-creative development research	MOD COI	Youths	35	E	AH
Creative development	MOD COI	Youths	50	UK	AH
Royal Navy advertising monitor	MOD COI	Youths	1000	UK	AH
Fail to attends'	MOD COI	Applicants	800	UK	AH
Mature entrants to teaching	SOED	Students	500	S	AH
Evaluation of Scottish wider access programme: Consumer experience	SOED	Adults	300	S	AH
Adult education: Provision, guidance and progression (stage 1)	SOED	Students	60	S	AH
Evaluation of Scottish road safety year: ad hoc survey for children	SOEN	Children	500	S	AH
Practical information guide research	STB	Adults	1000	UK	AH
Marketing follow-up study	STB	Adults	1200	UK	AH
Pan-European survey	TRRL DTP	Drivers	1200	GB	AH
Social, economic & environmental factors in child pedestrian accidents	TRRL	Children	40	EW	AH
Roadside interview & stop line surveys for Cradlewell bypass 'before' study	TRRL DTP	Drivers	20000	N	AH
Aberystwyth feasibility study origin and destination traffic survey	WO	Drivers	N/K	W	AH
Modified consultation procedure for A5 Halfway bridge improvement	WO WOHD	Occupiers	1300	W	AH

List of Abbreviations

Departments

BRE	Building Research Establishment	OPCS	Office of Population, Censuses & Surveys
COI	Central Office of Information	SE	Scottish Enterprise
DEM	Department of Employment	SOED	The Scottish Office Education Department
DEN	Department of Energy	SOEN	The Scottish Office Environment Department
DES	Department of Education & Science	SOHH	The Scottish Office Home and Health Department
DH	Department of Health	SOID	The Scottish Office Industry Department
DOE	Department of the Environment	STB	Scottish Tourist Board
DSS	Department of Social Security	TRRL	Transport and Road Research Laboratory
DTI	Department of Trade & Industry	WO	Welsh Office
DTP	Department of Transport	WOHD	Welsh Office Highway Directorate
ETSU	Energy Technology Support Unit	WTB	Wales Tourist Board
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office		
HOME	Home Office		
HPAW	Health Promotion Authority for Wales		
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Foods		
MOD	Ministry of Defence		

Location

E	England
EM	East Midlands
ES	England and Scotland
EW	England and Wales
GB	Great Britain
N	North
NW	North West
S	Scotland
SE	South East
SW	South West
UK	United Kingdom
W	Wales
YH	Yorkshire & Humberside

Frequency

A	Annual
AH	Ad Hoc
C	Continuous

General

CWI	Cavity Wall Insulation
ET	Employment Training
N/K	Not Known
TEC	Training and Enterprise Council

CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

Economic Trends



Economic Trends brings together all the main economic indicators. The largest section gives time series and graphs over the last five years or so. It is preceded by details of the latest information and followed by an analysis of indicators in relation to the business cycle over the last 20 years. Other articles comment on and analyse economic statistics.

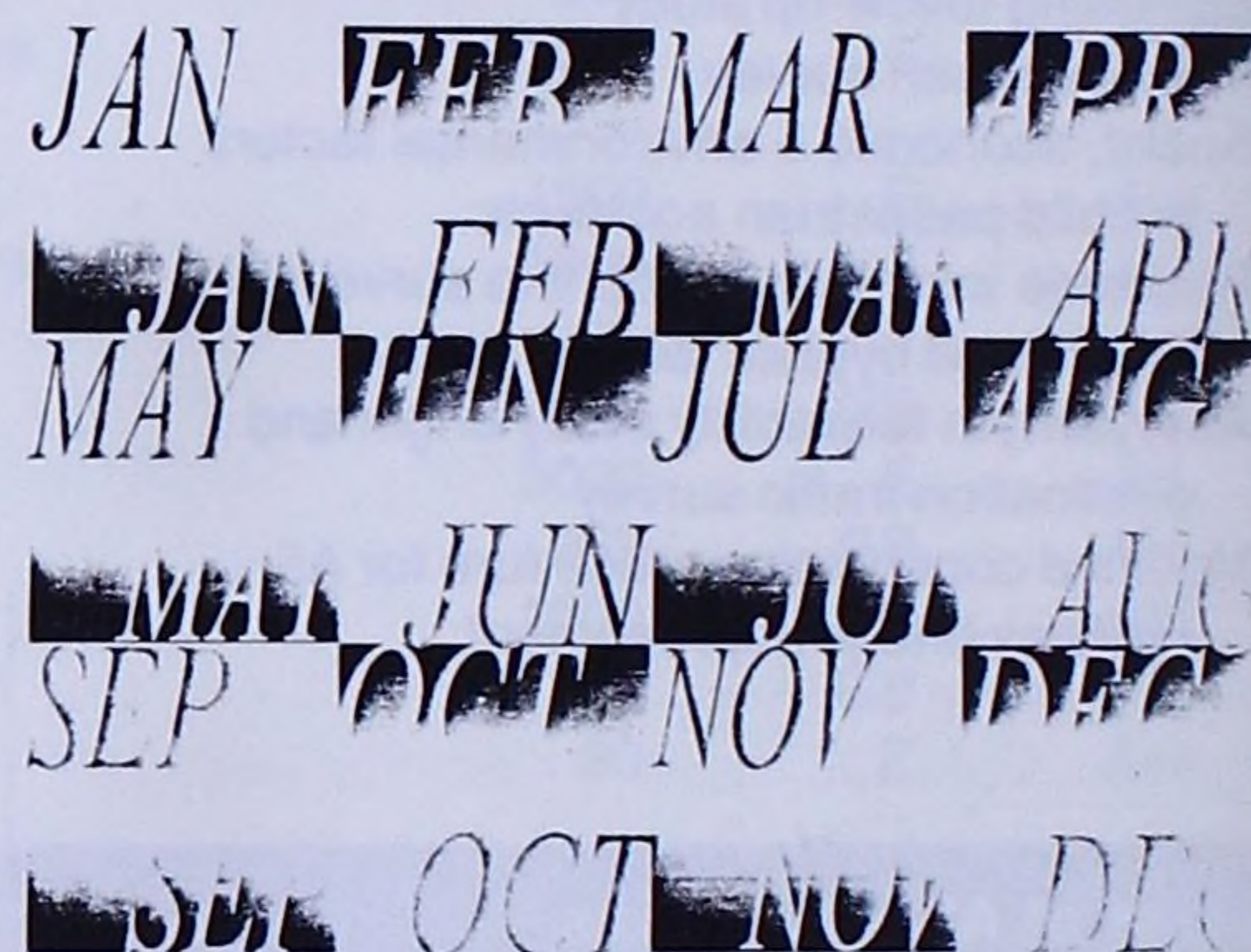
Economic Trends is the primary publication for the quarterly national accounts and balance of payments articles.

Price £11.00 net

Central Statistical Office publications are published by HMSO. They are obtainable from HMSO bookshops and through booksellers.

CENTRAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

Monthly Digest of Statistics



The Monthly Digest of Statistics provides basic information on 20 subjects including population, employment and prices, social services, production and output, energy, engineering, construction, transport, catering, national and overseas finance and the weather. It contains mostly runs of monthly and quarterly estimates for at least two years and annual figures for several more.

Price £6.50

Central Statistical Office publications are published by HMSO. They are obtainable from HMSO bookshops and through booksellers.

Departmental listings and contact points for recently available statistical series and publications

The following publications containing statistics have recently, or will soon become available. Unless otherwise specified, copies can be purchased from HMSO. A list of release dates of economic series is published monthly in *Economic Trends*.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

The following MAFF Statistical Notices are available free of charge:

- Cereals production survey, England and Wales September 1991* 175/91
December Glasshouse Census, England and Wales 1990 138/91
Earnings and hours of agricultural and horticultural workers: period ended June 1991, England & Wales 170/91
Irrigation of outdoor crops in 1990 Survey, England and Wales 157/91
June agricultural and horticultural census, England 1991 (prov) 150/91
June agricultural and horticultural census, United Kingdom 1991 (prov) 172/91
Pig Survey, August 1991, England, Wales and United Kingdom 176/91
Monthly sample survey of grain fed to livestock, England and Wales, June 1991 147/91, *July 1991* 164/91, *August 1991* 178/91
Monthly sample survey of cereals stocks, England and Wales, June 1991 149/91, *July 1991* 163/91
Oilseed Rape Survey, England 182/91

The above Statistical Notices are available from:

Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food
Statistics, Census & Prices
Branch B
Room A615
Epsom Road
GUILDFORD GU1 2LD
Telephone: 0483-68121 (Ext 3577)

Wheat milled and Flour production. United Kingdom
92/91, 121/91, 130/91

The above Statistical Notice is available from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Statistics, Agricultural Commodities
Branch A
Room 404A
Ergon House
17 Smith Square
LONDON SW1P 3JR

The following publications are available on a regular basis:

- Weekly:** *Agricultural Market Report: England and Wales.*
The report is published in 2 parts and contains prices, quantity and quality information on selected cereals, live-stock, homegrown horticultural produce and other agricultural products.
- Monthly:** *Agricultural Price Indices*
(in a Statistical Notice)

The above are available (on subscription for the Market Report) from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Statistics, Census & Prices
Branch A
Room 509A
Epsom Road
GUILDFORD GU1 2LD

Quarterly: *National Food Survey: Household Consumption*

Available from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Economics & Statistics (Food)
Branch C
Room 513
West Block
Whitehall Place
LONDON SW1A 2HN
Telephone: 071-270 8562

Annual: *Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables 1989*

The above publication, price £10.00 net, is available from:

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Fisheries Division 1
Fisheries Statistics Unit
Room 423
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
LONDON SW1P 3HX

Central Statistical Office

Key Data 1991-92 edition, HMSO, September 1991
price £3.95 net

Social Trends 20, HMSO, January 1991
price £23.50 net

Regional Trends 26, HMSO, July 1991
price £23.00 net

United Kingdom National Accounts 1991 edition,
HMSO, September 1991
price £13.95 net

Family expenditure survey 1989, HMSO,
December 1991
price £19.50 net

Annual abstract of statistics No 127, HMSO,
January 1991
price £19.95 net

United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1991 edition,
HMSO, September 1991
price £11.75 net

Guide to Official Statistics, HMSO, 1990
price £24.00 net

Retail Prices 1914-1990, HMSO, April 1991
price £10.95 net

Education and Science

The following free Statistical Bulletins are now available:

10/91 *Student Numbers in Higher Education - Great Britain 1979 to 1989*

11/91 *Survey of Information Technology in Schools*

12/91 *Survey of Information Technology in Initial Teacher Training*

13/91 *Educational & Economic Activity of Young People aged 16 to 18 years in England from 1974/75 to 1989/90*

14/91 *Participation in Education by Young People aged 16 and 17 in each Local Education Authority & Region; England 1985/86 to 1989/90*

15/91 *First Known Destination of First Degree Graduates from Institutions in Great Britain 1963-1989*

16/91 *Students in Higher Education in England excluding universities*

17/91 *Students on Initial Teacher Training Courses*

18/91 *Secondary School Staffing Survey - 1988*

19/91 *Statistics of Further Education Students in England 1970/1 - 1989/90*

20/91 *Students from Abroad in Great Britain 1980 to 1989*

21/91 *Education Expenditure from 1979-80*

The following are published annually:

Schools (England)

School Leavers, CSE and GCE (England)

Statistics of Education: School Examinations - GCSE and GCE, 1989

Further Education (England)

Further Education Student: Staff Ratios (England)

Teachers in Service (England and Wales)

Finance and Awards (England and Wales)

Copies, price £12.00 net

All the above listed publications are available from:

Department of Education and Science
Room 338
Mowden Hall
Staindrop Road
DARLINGTON DL3 9BG
Telephone: 0325-392683

The following publication is now available:

Education Statistics for the United Kingdom - 1990 edition

HMSO, price £11.50 net

Employment

Employment Gazette, which is published on a Thursday towards the beginning of each month, regularly contains recent data and time-series on employment, unemployment, earnings, prices, family expendi-

ture, tourism and other indicators. In recent months there were special features on:

Labour Mobility (August 1991)
Tourism and the Tourist Industry (September 1991)
People Leaving School (October 1991)

Employment Gazette is published monthly by HMSO, price £4.15 per issue, annual subscription, inclusive of postage, is £43.50. Available from:

HMSO Books
PO Box 276
LONDON SW8 5DT

Training Statistics 1990
HMSO, price £10.50 net, ISBN 011 361 3199

This new reference volume was designed to meet the need for an easily accessible source of reference on a wide range of training-related statistics. The statistics included have all been publicly available before but not previously collected in one place.

Environment

Housing and Construction Statistics, Great Britain 1980-90
Housing and Construction Statistics, Part 1 No 46 June Quarter 1991
Housing and Construction Statistics, Part 2 No 46 June Quarter 1991
Local Housing Statistics, England and Wales, No 97 April 1991 Housebuilding and Renovation figures for first half of 1990
Household Projections England 1989-2011
Local Government Financial Statistics England, No 2 1990
Housing Trailers to the 1981 and 1984 Labour Force Surveys
UK Blood Lead Monitoring Programme 1984-87: Results for 1986, (Pollution reports, No 26)
Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics, No 13 1990

The above publications are available from HMSO.

Statistical Bulletin (91) 1: Environmental Protection and Water Statistics: Supplement to the Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics, No 13 1990

Statistical Bulletin (89) 6: RIMNET - Gamma Radiation dose rates at monitoring sites throughout the United Kingdom, April 1989-September 1989

The above annual Bulletins provide additional detailed tables for most of the Chapter topics in the Department's *Digest of Environmental Protection and Water Statistics* published by HMSO

Land Use Change in England, Statistical Bulletin (90) 5 figures for 1989

Rent Officer Statistics: third and fourth quarters 1990, Statistical Bulletin (91) 2

Rent Officer Statistics: first quarter 1991 and financial year 1990/91, Statistical Bulletin (91) 3

Housebuilding in England by Local Authority Areas: 1980-1989

Development Control Statistics: England 1989-90

The above publications are available from:

Department of the Environment
Publications Sales Unit
Victoria Road
Ruislip
MIDDLESEX HA4 ONZ
Telephone: 081-841 3425

The following information is issued in press notices or Bulletins on a regular basis:

- Monthly:** *Housebuilding, construction new orders, building new orders, building materials and components, brick production, and new orders by type of work*
- Quarterly:** *Construction output and employment, planning applications and decisions, renovations and homeless households*
- Annually:** *Slum clearance*

Further information is available from:

Department of the Environment
LGS, Room P1/001
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3EB
Telephone: 071-276 4003

Health

The following Statistical publication is available:

Statistical Bulletin 4(4)91 Statistics for General Medical Practitioners in England and Wales 1979 to 1989

Health & Safety Executive

Local Authorities Report on Health and Safety in Service Industries 1989/90

price £3.50 net

ISBN 0 11 885656 1

Home Office

The following Home Office Statistical Bulletins, which are now issued free of charge, were published in the period May to October 1991

Issue	Title
7/91	<i>Statistics on Community service orders.</i>
8/91	<i>Statistics on the misuse of drugs, addicts notified to the Home Office, United Kingdom, 1990.</i>
9/91	<i>Prison population in 1990-1991.</i>
10/91	<i>Projections of long term trends in the prison population to 1999.</i>
11/91	<i>Statistics on the operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Legislation - 1st quarter 1991.</i>
12/91	<i>Statistics of police complaints and discipline, England and Wales.</i>
13/91	<i>Notifiable offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, April 1990-March 1991.</i>
14/91	<i>Statistics on the operation of certain police powers under the police and criminal evidence act, England and Wales, 1990.</i>
15/91	<i>Time intervals for indictable proceedings in magistrates' courts: February 1991.</i>
16/91	<i>Statistics of breath tests, England and Wales, 1990.</i>
17/91	<i>Statistics on the operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Legislation - 2nd quarter 1991.</i>
18/91	<i>Notifiable offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, July 1990 - June 1991.</i>

- 19/91 *Statistics of the misuse of drugs: seizures and offenders dealt with, United Kingdom, 1990.*
- 20/91 *Summary probation statistics, England and Wales 1990.*
- 21/91 *Life licensees and restricted offenders re-convictions: England and Wales 1989.*
- 22/91 *Statistics of domestic proceedings in magistrates' courts England and Wales 1990.*
- 23/91 *Statistics of the operation of the firearms acts, 1968 to 1988 - England and Wales 1990.*
- 24/91 *Betting Licensing statistics, Great Britain June 1990 - May 1991.*
- 25/91 *Control of immigration: statistics - 1st and 2nd quarters 1991.*

Copies of these Bulletins are available from:

Research and Statistics Department
Home Office
Room 1834
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
CROYDON CRO 9YD
Telephone: 081-760 2850

or by personal application to:

Home Office Library
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON SW1H 9AT

The following Home Office Statistical publications have also been issued:

Fire Statistics, United Kingdom, 1989
price £5.50 net

A digest of information on the Criminal Justice
price free

They are available from:

Mr D Harding
Home Office
Statistical Department Room 1834
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
CROYDON CRO 9YD

Cheques should be made payable to the 'Accounting Officer Home Office'.

Northern Ireland

A series of occasional Statistical Bulletins are available and include the following:

Re-offending by persons released from prison in 1986 1/91

Operation of the conditional release scheme 2/91

The above Bulletins are available free of charge from:

The Northern Ireland Office
Statistics Branch, Room 8
Dundonald House
BELFAST BT4 3SU
Telephone: 0232-763255 (Ext 4477)

*Hospital Statistics, year ending 31 March 1990
Inpatient and Outpatient data by speciality, hospital and Board*

Health and Personal Social Services Statistics, year ending 31 March 1991

Annual summary of data providing a broad picture of activity in NI HPSS

The above are available from:

Department of Health and Social Services
Regional Information Branch
Annexe 2, Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST BT4 3UD

1990 Labour Force Survey - Religion Report 3/91

Copies of this free publication may be obtained from:

Policy Planning and Research Unit
Statistics and Social Division
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3SW
Telephone: 0232-763210 (Ext 2473)

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

Population Trends 66-Winter 1991
HMSO, price £7.25 net

OPCS Monitors

available from:

OPCS Information Branch
St Catherines House,
10 Kingsway,
LONDON WC2B 6JP
Telephone: 071-242 0262 (Ext 2243)

Mid-1990 population estimates for England and Wales

(Series PP1 91)

Deaths by cause: 1990 registrations

(Series DH2 91/2)

Deaths from accidents and violence: 1990 registrations

(Series DH4 91/2)

1989-based population projections for health authority areas in England

(Series PP3 91/2)

General Household Survey: preliminary results for 1990

(Series SS 91/1)

Infant and perinatal mortality 1990: RHAs and DHAs

(Series DH3 91/2)

The 1990 Private Renters Survey: preliminary results

(Series SS 91/2)

Annual Reference Volumes

Mortality statistics surveillance: 1968-1985

(Series DH1 no.22)

Electoral statistics 1991

(Series EL no.18)

Cancer statistics, registrations 1986

(Series MB1 no.19)

Studies on Medical and Population Subjects

The geographical epidemiology of childhood leukaemia and non-Hodgkin lymphomas in Great Britain, 1966-83

(Series SMPS no.53)

Social Survey Reports

Drinking in England and Wales in the late 1980s
(Series SS 1292)

Smoking among secondary school children in 1990
(Series SS 1337)
General Household Survey 1989
(Series GHS no.20)
Labour Force Survey 1988 and 1989
(Series LFS no.8)

Social Survey research handbooks

A Handbook for Interviewers
Weighting for non-response: a survey researcher's guide

Scottish Office Education

The following Statistical Bulletins are available:

- Edn/B8/1991/3 *School Board Elections*
Edn/E2/1991/4 *School Leavers' Qualifications 1988-89*
Edn/B6/1991/5 *Teachers' Key Statistics on Demand and Supply*
Edn/B1/1991/6 *Pupils and Teachers in Education Authority Primary and Secondary Schools*
Edn/F6/1991/7 *First Destination Statistics of Graduates and Diplomates from Higher Education Courses: 1980/81 to 1988/89*
Edn/E1/1991/8 *School Leavers' Destinations*
Edn/E5/1991/9 *Truancy in Scotland 1985-89*

Copies of the above Bulletins may be purchased, price £1.25 net, from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

The Scottish Office Education Department also publishes Statistical Bulletins on the following subjects:

Primary Education
University Students
Scottish Higher Education Statistics
The National Certificate 1989-90
School Leavers

Scottish Office Environment

The following Housing series Statistical Bulletins are available:

- HSG/1991/5 *Housing Trends in Scotland - Quarter ended 31 March 1991*
(published August 1991)
HSG/1991/7 *Housing Trends in Scotland - Quarter ended 30 June 1991*
(published November 1991)

Topic Bulletins:

- HSG/1991/6 *Annual Estimates of Households in Scotland 1987-1990*
(published September 1991)

Copies of the above Bulletins may be purchased, price £1.25 net, from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrews House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

Scottish Office Home and Health

The following Statistical Bulletins are available:

- No 1/1990 *Criminal Proceedings in Scottish Courts, 1988*
No 2/1990 *Recorded Crime in Scotland 1989*
No 3/1990 *Children and Crime, Scotland 1988*
No 4/1990 *Recorded Crimes and Offences Involving Firearms, Scotland 1989*
No 5/1990 *Prison Statistics Scotland 1989*
CRJ/1/1991 *Recorded Crime in Scotland 1990*
CRJ/2/1991 *Recorded Crimes and Offences Involving Firearms, Scotland 1990*

Copies of the above Bulletins may be purchased, price £1.25 net, from:

The Scottish Office Library
Official Publication Sales
Room 1/44
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

Scottish Office Industry Department

The following Statistical Bulletins are available:

- No H1.1 *Components of change in Scottish Manufacturing Employment 1979-89*
(published June 1991)
- No C1.4 *The Electronics Industry in Scotland*
(published September 1991)

Offshore Employment in the Northern North Sea in 1990

Scottish Economic Bulletin No 43
published July 1991, price £10.00 net

Scotland: An Economic Profile
published July 1991, price £9.95 net

Copies of the above Bulletins, price £1.25 net, and publications may be purchased from:

The Library
Official Publication Sales
The Scottish Office
Room 1/44
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4806 (GTN 7188)

Social Security

The Department of Social Security produces regular monthly and quarterly statistical series on such topics as unemployment benefit, child benefit and sickness and invalidity benefits. Extracts and summaries for these series are published in *Social Security Statistics*. Further information can be obtained from:

Mr W J Graham
Department of Social Security
Room 31M
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE98 1YX
Telephone: 091-225 7373 (GTN 5222 x 57373)

Transport

Recent Statistical publications by the Department of Transport:

Central London bus and coach survey 1990
HMSO Annual
price £10.80 net

London traffic monitoring report 1990

HMSO Annual

price £13.60 net

Road lengths in Great Britain 1990

HMSO Annual

price £8.95 net

Road Accident Statistics English Regions 1989

HMSO Annual

price £9.00 net

International Comparisons of transport statistics 1970-1988

HMSO Ad-hoc

price £19.90 net

Transport Statistics Great Britain 1991

HMSO Annual

price £24.00 net

Transport Statistics for London 1980-1990

HMSO Annual

price £10.90 net

Road Accidents Great Britain 1990 The Casualty Report HMSO

price £9.95 net

The following publication is available from:

British Ports Federation
Victoria House
Vernon Place
LONDON WC1B 4LL
Telephone: 071-242 1200

Port Statistics Bulletin Provisional Traffic Statistics 1990

DTp/BPF

price £12.00 net

The following Department of Transport Statistical Bulletins are issued on a regular basis:

Monthly: *New Motor Vehicle Registrations, Great Britain*
price £3.00 per copy, annual
subscription £30.00

Quarterly: *Road Goods vehicles on Roll-on Roll-off ferries to Mainland Europe*
price £5.00 per copy

Road Casualties Great Britain
price £4.00 per copy

Quarterly Transport Statistics
price £5.00 per copy, annual

subscription £12.00
Traffic in Great Britain
price £8.00 per copy, annual subscrip-
tion £27.00

Department of Transport Statistical Bulletins are available from:

Publication Sales Unit
Building 1
Victoria Road
South Ruislip
MIDDLESEX HA4 ONZ
Telephone: 081-841 3425

Accident Fact Sheets

- No 1/90 *Road accidents 1988: The Facts*
No 2/90 *Pedestrian casualties in road accidents 1988: The Facts*
No 3/90 *Drinking and driving in injury road accidents: The Facts*

The above Fact Sheets are available free of charge and can be obtained by writing to:

Department of Transport
Room B648
Romney House
43 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3PY

The Department of Transport is often prepared to sell unpublished data. Further information can be obtained from:

Directorate of Statistics
Department of Transport
Romney House
43 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3PY
Telephone: 071-276 8513

Welsh Office

- Welsh Housing Statistics No 11 1991*
price £5.00 net
Road Accidents: Wales No 11 1990
price £4.00 net
Welsh Agricultural Statistics No 13 1991
price £5.00 net

Welsh Local Government Financial Statistics No 15 1991

price £7.00 net
Digest of Welsh Statistics No 37 1991
price £6.00 net

The above publications are available from:

Publications Unit
Economic and Statistical Services Division
Welsh Office
Cathays Park
CARDIFF CF1 3NQ
Telephone: 0222-825044 (GTN 1208)

Government Publications

The following section provides more detailed information on individual publications. Where no reference or price is shown please refer to the previous chapter covering Departmental listings for purchase details.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Irrigation Survey

This survey was conducted between February and April 1991 to determine the area of outdoor crops irrigated in 1990. Information was also gathered on volume of water and types of equipment used.

A Statistical Notice for England and Wales was published, (157/91). Publication of regional results will follow.

Central Statistical Office

United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1991 Edition

The CSO Pink Book

The 1991 edition of the CSO *Pink Book*, containing detailed balance of payments figures for the last eleven years and summary figures from 1969, was published on 11 September.

The Pink Book presents more detailed information than is published quarterly. It also gives estimates of United Kingdom transactions with the countries and institutions of the European Community, and of the levels of identified United Kingdom external assets and liabilities. The annual transactions data are consistent with the quarterly series published in the October issue of *Economic Trends*.

Since the 1990 *Pink Book*, the figures have been revised to reflect a number of new data sources and methods of deriving estimates including:

- The results of new initiatives on overseas services have been incorporated, including results of a quarterly inquiry begun in mid-1990 into royal

ties and miscellaneous services, new data on fund managers, export houses, commodity dealers and educational services.

- Use of final results of the share register survey for end-1989 and early results for end-1990 which indicate the level of overseas ownership of UK ordinary shares.
- Industrial and commercial companies' investment in overseas securities is now measured directly in a new inquiry.
- The results on an enlarged statutory quarterly inquiry into overseas direct investment are now reflected in the estimates.
- A reassessment of the sectoral allocation of certificates of deposit, Treasury Bills and commercial paper has identified additional overseas investment.
- Pension funds' statistics have been reassessed resulting in a higher level of holdings of overseas portfolio assets.

The data in the *Pink Book*, and where available those for earlier years are obtainable in computer-readable form as a CSO Databank Dataset. To help use this Dataset the appropriate CSO Databank identifiers are included in the *Pink Book* tables.

Reference

United Kingdom Balance of Payments, 1991 edition
HMSO, price £11.75 net
ISBN 0 11 620451 6

Business Monitor MA3, Company Finance, 1988-1990

The twenty-second issue of this Monitor covering accounting years 1988, 1989, and 1990 appeared in October 1991. As usual the Monitor contains standardised and aggregated balance sheets, income and appropriation accounts, statements of sources and uses of funds and main accounting ratios taken from

published accounts of a comprehensive sample of industrial and commercial company groups and independent companies of all sizes. This time however, the Monitor also includes two new tables for large companies, dealing with their research and development activity, audit fees, directors' emoluments, total staff costs, employment, political contributions and charitable donations. An illustrated commentary on results in the Monitor appeared in CSO Bulletin (73/91) *Company Finance, 1988-1990* on 25 October.

The CSO's present analysis of published accounts is now being phased out and consideration is being given to extracting a limited range of key statistics from published accounts. Views on what the list of key statistics should contain, as well as enquiries concerning the Monitor and Bulletin, should be addressed to:

Central Statistical Office
Branch 15B
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1XG
Telephone: 0633-812580
Fax: 0633-812581

References

Business Monitor MA3, Company Finance, Twenty Second Issue, 1988-1990
HMSO, price £10.00 net
ISBN 0 11 535168-x
CSO Bulletin, (73/91), *Company Finance, 1988-1990*
CSO, price £2.25 net

Research and Development (R&D) Expenditure and Employment in 1989

During 1990 the Central Statistical Office carried out a large scale benchmark survey of expenditure and employment on R & D performed in UK industry in 1989. This was the first survey in the series to distinguish between civil and defence R & D. Full results are given in the Central Statistical Office's *Business Monitor MO14*. Summary results were given in a Press Notice issued in June 1991. For this survey over 5,000 enterprises were approached. The published results are based on returns from 1,274 enterprises who carried out R & D during the period covered by the survey.

The results of the annual survey of government funded R & D for the financial year 1989/90 are published in the Cabinet Office *Annual Review of Government Funded Research and Development for 1991*. This review shows the government expenditure outturn for 1989/90 and plans for 1990/1991 to 1993/94. It shows the trends in government expenditure on R & D with longer time series than previously published. It also gives the results of the survey of R & D performed in industry, and provides an estimate of gross domestic expenditure on R & D in the UK by sectors of performance and sources of funding. It includes a selection of other national and international indicators drawn from EC, OECD and UK sources.

An article on Research and Development in the United Kingdom in 1989 appeared in the August 1991 edition of the Central Statistical Office's *Economic Trends*. It includes tables showing a time series of gross and net expenditure on R & D and employment in R & D using the results of the surveys of government funded R & D and of R & D performed in UK industry. Enquiries should be addressed to:

Central Statistical Office
Branch 15E
Government Offices
Great George Street
LONDON SW1P3AQ
Telephone: 071-270 6068

References

Business Monitor MO14
HMSO, price £9.50 net
ISBN 0 11 535163 9
Cabinet Office Annual Review of Government Funded Research and Development 1991
HMSO, price £25.00 net
Economic Trends
HMSO, price £11.00 net

Size Analysis Of United Kingdom Businesses 1991

The latest Business Monitor in the PA1003 series has been published for 1991. Based on the Business Register maintained by The Central Statistical Office, the publication provides counts of businesses as at Mid 1991.

Two sets of tables are included covering legal units (the businesses registered for VAT) for the whole economy and local units (factories or sites) within the manufacturing industries.

Legal unit analyses are by turnover and status (company, sole proprietor etc) with detailed analyses by VAT trade code except for the manufacturing industries where analyses are by Activity Heading of the Standard Industrial Classification (Revised 1980). Tables giving a regional breakdown of legal unit information are also included.

A table of legal units at district level within broad industry groups will be available at a cost of £30.00 from the CSO Library, telephone: 0633-812973.

The local unit tables provide estimates of employment as well as counts of units. The SIC Activity Heading is used as the classification and analyses are produced by employment and by region and county.

Three tables (1, 2 and 7A) were previewed in CSO Bulletin 58/91 on 2 September 1991.

Further details can be obtained from:

Central Statistical Office
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT, NP9 1XG
Telephone: 0633-812105 (GTN 1211 2105)

UK Directory Of Manufacturing Businesses 1991 Supplement

A second supplement to the 1989 edition of the *UK Directory of Manufacturing Businesses* (Business Monitor P01007) has been published for 1991. It has been compiled from the register of businesses in the United Kingdom, which is maintained by the Central Statistical Office primarily for conducting statistical inquiries.

The supplement (Business Monitor P01007A), which supersedes the 1990 publication, is based on consents collected in 1989 Annual Census of Production and earlier consents received too late for the 1989 publication.

As in the main directory, the supplement lists individual local units (factories or sites) in manufacturing by

activity heading. Non-manufacturing units, in particular units which are offices, are omitted from the supplement: this means that the head office of a business may not be included.

The supplement is also available on 3.5" floppy disks at a cost of £99.00 plus VAT from the CSO Library, telephone: 0633-812973.

Special analyses can be provided by the Central Statistical Office subject to the availability of resources.

Information can be obtained from:

Central Statistical Office
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1XG
Telephone: 0633-812105 (GTN 1211 2105)

Product Classifications

The May 1989 issue of *Statistical News* (No.85) referred to developments by the United Nations Statistical Office in producing a new international product classification, the Central Product Classification (CPC).

CPC correlates with the UN economic activity classification, the International Standard Industrial Classification Revision 3 (ISIC Rev 3). CPC's structure is based partly on industrial origin and partly on the physical properties of goods. CPC has not, at the time of writing, been published by United Nations but it is expected very shortly when it will be described as the Provisional CPC.

The Directors of the European Community National Statistical Offices agreed that there should be a European version of CPC, to be called CPCCOM and for practical purposes this has been done by subdividing CPC, as necessary, to match the extra breakdowns in the European activity classification NACE Rev 1 over ISIC Rev 3. It is not proposed to publish CPCCOM.

However, the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), with much support, felt that a separate product classification was not really required. What was wanted was a product classification that was first categorised by activity and only then by product types. It was considered that the

structure of the CPC was interesting for comparisons by nature of products (i.e. goods and services), but such comparisons were considered to be relatively rare. On the other hand many users needed a structure more closely based on industrial origin. There was also a strong feeling against a classification with a different numerical structure. Thus Eurostat and most Member States considered it essential to have a product classification explicitly linked to activities.

So the Classification of Products by Activity (the CPA) is being devised. CPA will probably relate directly to the classification structure in NACE Rev 1 (i.e. the first four digits will be the same) and have links to CPC (at the 5th and 6th digits). Provision is also being made in CPA so that PRODCOM, the European list of products on which statistics are to be collected, can be coded by a 7th digit.

There have been several European meetings to discuss the details of CPA and more are proposed. The aim is to produce an EC regulation, in due course, that will make CPA the central product classification for Europe from 1 January 1993.

CSO Bulletins

The following is a list of recent publications in the CSO Bulletin series. Only the latest in a series is mentioned.

	Issue No	Frequency
Overseas transactions of the Film and TV Industry	70/91	A
Profitability of UK Companies	71/91	A
Company Finance	73/91	A
Overseas Travel and Tourism	75/91	M
Acquisitions and Mergers with the UK	76/91	Q
Credit Business	77/91	M
Overseas earnings from royalties	78/91	A
Machine tools	79/91	M
Capital expenditure and stock-building (provisional results)	80/91	Q
Engineering sales and orders	81/91	M

Key to frequency of issue

A/H = Ad-Hoc
A = Annual

B = Bi-annual
M = Monthly
Q = Quarterly

CSO Bulletins are available individually, price £2.50 net, or on subscription annually depending on the service required. The price for a complete set offers a substantial discount on the sum of subscriptions to individual titles. Further information can be obtained from:

The Librarian
Central Statistical Office
Government Buildings
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1XG
Telephone: 0633-812973 (GTN 1211 2973)

Education

Students From Abroad In Great Britain 1980 to 1989 (Bulletin 20/91)

This Bulletin updates Statistical Bulletin 11/89 showing trends in the numbers of students from abroad since 1980. It covers universities, polytechnics, Scottish Central Institutions and all other colleges which were maintained or assisted by local authorities or grant-aided by one of the Education Departments during the period covered by this Bulletin. Cranfield Institute of Technology and the Royal College of Art are included but not the University of Buckingham, or private sector colleges such as language schools.

For all tables the coverage is institutions in Great Britain. Some information for the United Kingdom as a whole is included in Table A.

Education Expenditure From 1979-80 (Bulletin 21/91)

This Bulletin presents comparisons of education expenditure between 1979-80 and 1988-89 in real terms and provides supplementary analyses. It gives details of expenditure within the Department of Education and Science programme, including expenditure on universities in Great Britain, polytechnics and colleges in England, and local authority spending on schools and colleges in England. The Bulletin outlines expenditure on education initiatives made by Employment Department through its Training Enter-

prise and Education Directorate and shows cost per pupil or student (the unit cost) information for the different sectors of education.

Statistics Of Education School Examinations - GCSE and GCE - 1989

This annual volume (previously entitled School Leavers) contains tabulations covering the numbers of school leavers from maintained and independent schools according to age and sex; examination attainments at O level, CSE, A level and, latterly, GCSE; subject of examination; and intended destination. The majority of tables include data from independent schools, and some information about students in further education establishments is once again included after a one year absence. For the first time information about the examination attainments of 15 year olds as a cohort is also provided.

Scottish Education Statistics

The following Statistical Bulletins are available, price £1.25 net.

Student Awards

This Bulletin gives information on the trends in the number of Scottish students, including postgraduates, in receipt of awards made by the Scottish Office Education Department (SOED) over sessions 1985/86 to 1989/90, and the cost of these awards.

Published November 1991

Pupil Projections

This Bulletin contains projections of numbers of pupils in education authority primary, secondary and special schools in Scotland over the period September 1991 to September 2015. Also shown are projections of the total numbers of pupils aged 5 years and over receiving school education.

Published November 1991

Students Registered in Vocational Further Education in Scotland 1985/86-1989/90

This Bulletin contains information on student registrations in vocational further education (excluding higher education) previously referred to as non-advanced further education (NAFE) for the session 1989/90 and comparative figures for 1985/86 to 1989/90.

Published November 1991

The Curriculum in Education Authority Secondary Schools in Scotland in September 1989

This Bulletin provides information on the timetabled curriculum offered by education authority secondary schools at September 1989. Details are provided of the curriculum followed by pupils, class sizes, the ability ranges of pupils in classes and the number of teaching groups formed in each subject and stage.

To be published December 1991

Graduates and Diplomates from Higher Education Courses and Their First Destinations 1980/81-1989/90

This Bulletin contains information about students successfully completing full-time and sandwich higher education courses at universities and grant-aided or local authority colleges in Scotland.

To be published December 1991

Adults in Schools and Colleges

This Bulletin presents a range of information about adults who, after experiencing some break in full-time education, continue their studies at education establishments in Scotland to improve their vocational education.

To be published December 1991

Employment

New Earnings Survey 1991

The results of the *New Earnings Survey* are, as in previous years, being published in a series of six parts (A to F). Part A was published on 26 September 1991, with subsequent parts following at fortnightly intervals.

Information for the survey was again obtained from employers about the earnings and hours of a one per cent sample of employees for a pay period in April.

There have been two main changes in the 1991 publication. Firstly, the publishing criteria have been relaxed. The maximum standard error allowed has been increased from 4 to 5 per cent, and it is no longer necessary for data that have failed the criteria in any one year to have to satisfy more stringent criteria in order to be published in the subsequent year. (Previously such figures had to be based on 100 or more in

the sample instead of the normal 50, and with a standard error of 2 per cent or less).

The other change is in the occupational classification. Up to and including 1990, occupations were coded using the 'List of Key Occupations for Statistical purposes' (KOS) but from this year Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) has been implemented. A selection of 1990 occupation tables coded under SOC has been made available to aid comparisons over time.

One effect of these changes is that the publication contains about 30 per cent more data than in previous years.

The main contents of the six parts of the report and their publication dates are:

- Part A** Streamlined analyses of key results by collective agreement, industry, occupation, age, and region; summary analyses of distributions of earnings; and a description of the survey.
(26 September 1991)
- Part B** Analyses of earnings and hours by collective agreement.
(10 October 1991)
- Part C** Analyses of earnings and hours by industry
(24 October 1991)
- Part D** Analyses of earnings and hours by occupation.
(7 November 1991)
- Part E** Analyses of earnings and hours by region and county, and by age group.
(21 November 1991)
- Part F** Distribution of hours of work; earnings and hours of part time women employees.
(5 December 1991)

Reference

New Earnings Survey 1991

HMSO, printed in six parts, price £11.00 net per part or £63.00 net for the complete set.

National Vocational Qualifications Information System (NVQIS)

A new source of statistics on vocational qualifications is being developed by the Employment Depart-

ment in conjunction with the Department of Education and Science, the Welsh Office, the Training and Employment Agency Northern Ireland, Scottish Enterprise, the National Council for Vocational Qualifications and SCOTVEC.

A study was recently undertaken to investigate the feasibility of collecting statistical information on the volume and nature of vocational qualifications gained by pulling together information already held by awarding bodies.

The study found that the suggested approach was viable and work is now proceeding on the development of the National Vocational Qualifications Information System (NVQIS). In the early stages the inter-departmental group will be working with a number of the larger bodies that award vocational qualifications but it is hoped that the survey will be extended over time to include smaller awarding bodies too.

The information held will include details of the qualification gained, whether or not it is a National or Scottish Vocational Qualification, level, Standard Occupational Classification code etc, details about the centre where the candidate took the qualification and a limited amount of information about the candidates themselves.

Because it is a census of all qualifications awarded by the participating awarding bodies there is enormous potential for local analysis including Training and Enterprise Council (TEC)/local enterprise company (lec) level data.

When established, the NVQIS will provide valuable information for evaluation, informing the work of our department and, more widely, informing the public and other institutions concerned with education and training. The first results are expected around mid 1992.

Further details are available from:

Mrs S Scott
Statistical Services Division
Employment Department
B4 Porterbrook House
Moorfoot
SHEFFIELD S1 4PQ.

VAT Registrations and Deregistrations 1990 Employment Gazette November 1991

*by Michael Daly, Statistical Services Division,
Employment Department.*

This is the latest in a series of articles using VAT information to monitor changes in the size of the UK business population from 1980 onwards. The latest estimates for numbers of registrations and deregistrations, covering the period to the end of 1990, were released on 11 September 1991. This article gives more detail of those figures, and presents some new analyses of trends since the end of 1979.

The rapid rise in the number of businesses registered for VAT continued in 1990, at an average rate of nearly 1,000 per week. While slower than the record 1,600 a week in 1989, it is still substantially higher than the average for the 1980s as a whole. The comprehensive picture shown by the VAT figures illustrates the continuing resilience of the small firms sector. The number of businesses leaving the VAT register rose by less than ten per cent between 1989 and 1990, in marked contrast to the widely reported, and much greater increases in insolvencies, which present only a partial picture.

Job Creation 1987-89: The Contribution of Large and Small Firms

Employment Gazette November 1991

by Michael Daly and Martin Campbell, Statistical Services Division, Employment Department and Geoffrey Robson and Colin Gallagher, School of Business Management, Newcastle University.

This is the latest of a series of studies which have examined the job generation behaviour of British firms. The previous one, covering 1985-87, was published in the February 1990 *Employment Gazette*.

Small firms are known to account for a substantial, and growing, proportion of total employment in the United Kingdom. This study revealed that firms employing fewer than ten people created more than half a million jobs between 1987 and 1989, roughly half of the total net growth, despite employing less than one fifth of all people. Overall job growth was due to the contributions of a large number of firms, and was not concentrated in a few cases of rapid expansion. In the latest period, unlike those covered by earlier studies, there was a positive contribution to net growth from all size bands.

Further information on these two articles can be obtained from:

Employment Department
Statistical Services C4
Room W626
Moorfoot
SHEFFIELD S1 4PQ
Telephone: 0742-594089/594420
(GTN 5301 4089/4420)

Training Statistics 1991

Training Statistics 1991 is the second in an annual series. The 1990 edition brought together a wide range of training-related data which had previously been scattered amongst many different reports, journals and other sources. *Training Statistics 1991* builds on its predecessor and extends its coverage to include more regional data and information on particular groups of individuals such as the self-employed, those with health problems and people from ethnic minorities.

The volume is divided into 5 sections. The contents of each section are:

Section A Training Activity - Inputs

This section gives tables and charts of the non-financial resources put into training, such as the time spent on training and the number of people trained. Information covers individuals, employers, government and intermediaries.

Section B Financing of Training

Includes tables and charts on flows of funds through the training system; including employers and government expenditure, intermediaries income and expenditure, and individuals training costs.

Section C Training Activity - Outputs

Includes tables and charts on the qualifications held, new ones obtained and students registered for qualifications. Also, school leavers and graduates from other educational and training providers.

Section D International Comparisons

Section E Sources of Statistics on Training

A list of sources and a description of each source, with references to publications.

Reference

Training Statistics 1991
HMSO, price £11.25 net

The following articles are taken from special features which appeared in the *Labour Market Quarterly Report for August 1991*, a publication of the Training Agency of the Employment Department.

British workforce in employment

The GB workforce in employment stood at 25,773,000 (seasonally adjusted) in March 1991. This figure includes employees in employment, self-employed, HM Forces and participants in work-related government training programmes.

This represents a fall of 250,000 during the first quarter of the year, and a decrease of 441,000 since the first quarter of 1990. The number of women in employment decreased by 90,000 in the year to March 1991, and the number of men in employment fell by 351,000. Employment is now 2.8 million higher than when the upward trend began in March 1983.

Service sector employment is falling. In the year to March 1991 employees in employment in service industries decreased by 123,000 (seasonally adjusted). The increase of 85,000 between March and June 1990 was offset by decreases of 28,000 and 73,000 in the third and fourth quarter of 1990 and 107,000 in the first quarter of 1991.

Manufacturing employment continues to fall. During the twelve months to March 1991 the number of employees in employment in manufacturing industries fell by 209,000 to 4,872,000 (seasonally adjusted). From March to May 1991 there was a further fall of 62,000.

In June 1990 there were 3,222,000 self-employed people in Great Britain (2,449,000 men and 773,000 women). Later estimates are not available.

In March 1991 there were 11.3 million women (44 per cent of the total) in the workforce in employment (seasonally adjusted) in Great Britain. Of these, 45

per cent worked part-time, compared with 10 per cent of men.

Assistance for Small Firms

In the Autumn edition a range of statistics was presented charting the rapid growth in the small firms sector over the past decade. This article builds on that and outlines the range of Government assistance designed to encourage self-employment and the development of small firms.

The growth of the small firms sector

During the period 1979-1989, the number of firms registered for VAT rose by 373 thousand (29 per cent), which is equivalent to 100 additional businesses each day for ten years. Some of the fastest rates of increase were experienced in finance and professional services (86 per cent) and other services (101 per cent).

Over the same period, the number of self-employed people rose by over 70 per cent, from just under 2 million to around 3¼ million.

The contribution of small firms to employment in the economy is growing significantly. When last measured in 1986, firms with fewer than 20 employees accounted for 36 per cent of non-government employment, up from 27 per cent in 1979. More recent research has shown that small firms employing fewer than 20 people created around one million jobs, twice as many jobs as larger firms, over the period 1985-1989.

Small firms have shown some resilience in the face of the general economic slowdown. Despite reports of rising business failures, growth in the number of businesses registered for VAT was maintained. Early indications are that the number of businesses increased by an average of 800 per week in 1990. Although down on the record 1,700 per week in 1989, this still represents a greater increase than average during 1980s.

Government policy towards small firms

A host of factors go towards explaining the rapid growth of the small firms sector. Economic growth, changes in the economic and industrial structure and increased sub-contracting by larger firms have all contributed to this growth. One key factor which has

helped to encourage and sustain growth is the impact of Government policies and initiatives.

Broadly speaking, there are two strands to Government support to the small firms sector. First, Government policy aims to influence the general business and regulatory environment. Second, it offers a number of specific direct assistance measures. The remainder of the article will focus on the second element of Government support, namely direct assistance to small firms.

Specific forms of assistance

Assistance is aimed at improving the access of small firms to finance, information, professional advice, training and premises. Most government support for small businesses is now being channelled through the network of Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs) and Local Enterprise Companies (LECs), organisations which are locally based and private sector led.

Business and Enterprise Training evolved out of the Business Growth Training programme which has helped 200,000 businesses since April 1989. It offers a wide range of business training to help meet the needs of small businesses and owner/managers. The range is vast and includes tailored packages of advice, consultancy and business skills training, for new and growing businesses.

One of the initiatives now led by the TECs and LECs is Enterprise Allowance (EA). This is designed to help unemployed people wishing to set up in business. By March 1991, over 560,000 unemployed people had joined the scheme. Over 65 per cent of these were still trading after three years. TECs and LECs now have freedom to tailor the scheme to meet local needs.

Introduced back in 1981 and run centrally, the Loan Guarantee Scheme has helped to improve the access of small firms to bank finance. This has been achieved by encouraging lenders to place more emphasis on business prospects and less on availability of security. The scheme provides banks and other financial institutions with a Government guarantee on loans made to small firms. That the scheme is now a significant element in the range of options open to small firms is borne out by the figures. Up to December 1990, the scheme had guaranteed over 27,000 loan applications, amounting to a total of over £880 million.

Specific support for young people between the ages of 18 and 25 is channelled through the Prince's Youth Business Trust. This offers business help to young people in the form of grants and preferential loans, advice and counselling, training and, in certain areas, premises. Recent figures shown that since 1986 the Trust has helped over 10,000 small firms.

Source of further information

Further information on the sorts of assistance available for small firms can be found in *Your Guide to Government Help for Small Firms* which was re-launched in September this year. Copies available from your local TEC and LEC.

Energy

Bigger, Brighter, Energy Trends

The Department of Energy's monthly Statistical Bulletin *Energy Trends* has been given a face lift and expanded to include a number of new tables. The first issue appeared at the end of August.

The Bulletin, which first appeared in its old format in 1974, now comprises 16 pages and includes 29 tables additional commentary and analyses, with charts on the front page, and a special back-page article which varies each month. New tables provide information on:

- primary fuel production
- North Sea drilling activity
- North Sea income and investment
- prices of fuels purchased by the electricity industry and British Gas
- average temperatures and deviations from the long term mean.

Existing tables, giving data on electricity generation and fuels used in electricity generation, have been expanded to include data on small generators as well as on the major generating companies.

Energy Trends: a Statistical Bulletin is available on annual subscription from the Department of Energy. Full details of subscription rates, etc, can be obtained from:



David Clark
Department of Energy
Room 3.3.26
1 Palace Street
LONDON SW1E 5HE
Telephone: 071-238 3606.

Challenges in Energy Statistics

Statistical analysis is a crucial element in all aspects of energy planning, enabling long-term forecasts for supply, demand and utilisation to be prepared.

This one-day seminar was held in London on 12 November and was organised by the Institute of Energy in association with the Royal Statistical Society. It examined the complex issues now facing those involved in the energy business as a result of recent political and economic changes, both international and domestic. Following the opening by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Energy, the Hon. Colin Moynihan MP, a group of distinguished speakers discussed the challenge of privatisation in the United Kingdom, new challenges internationally, the statistical challenges of the greenhouse effect and new energy data services, methods and technologies.

A full report will be given in the next issue of *Statistical News*.

Environment

Land Use Change in England

The note about the Statistical Bulletin *Land Use Change in England* which appeared in the Autumn 1991 edition of *Statistical News* (page 94.44 of Issue 94) is incorrect. The sixth edition of this Bulletin has not yet been published and is to be replaced by a new, more detailed Bulletin.

For further information contact:

Land and General Statistics Division
Department of the Environment
Room P1/177B
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3EB
Telephone: 071-276 4171

Statistics of Planning Decisions by County Councils in 1989/90 and 1990/91

This is the first of a series of annual Bulletins based on a new Department of the Environment survey of County Council planning decisions carried out with the co-operation of the Association of County Councils. The Bulletin presents results for the two financial years 1989/90 and 1990/91 and supplements the Department's existing publications on District Council development control activities.

County Councils are responsible for determining planning applications for types of development known as 'county matters'. These are predominantly concerned with minerals and waste disposal developments.

Reference

Statistics of Planning Decisions by County Councils in 1989/90 and 1990/91

Department of the Environment Information Bulletin No 501, 9 August 1991.

Copies available free of charge from Mr J Chauhan, Department of the Environment.

Telephone: 071-276 4168.

Household Projections England 1989-2011

The latest in an occasional series of publications giving summary results of the Department of the Environment's (DOE) latest household projections was published in August. This contains projections of numbers of households of different compositions in metropolitan districts, London boroughs and counties of England up to 2011.

The projections are based on recent trends in household formation, the 1989 based OPCS projections of the population in each area and projections of marital status. Estimates are given for the years 1989 - 2011 and an appendix describes the method of calculation.

A household projection service is available, for example using DOE's methodology to make projections based on customer's own data. Enquiries about the service should be addressed to the DOE's Building Research Establishment telephone: 0923-664119.

Reference

Household Projections England 1989 - 2011
HMSO, price £30.00 net

Households found accommodation under the Homelessness Provisions of the 1985 Housing Act

The Department of the Environment Information Bulletin issued on 10 September 1991 gives statistics for the second quarter of 1991. These reflected a number of changes arising from a review of homelessness legislation.

Part III of the Housing Act 1985 gives local authorities the primary responsibility for dealing with homelessness. Their main duty is to secure accommodation on a permanent basis for those whom they accept as homeless, who are in priority need and who are not intentionally homeless. Those accepted by local authorities are provided with temporary accommodation if required, or may be helped to stay where they were on a temporary basis until permanent accommodation can be found.

In 1989 the Government's Review of the Homelessness Legislation identified a need to improve statistics on local authorities' activity and this was supported by the recommendations of the recent Parliamentary Accounts Committee report on homelessness. Following extensive consultations with local authority associations, the quarterly statistical returns were revised as from 1 April 1991, bringing the statistics more closely into line with the revised homelessness Code of Guidance.

The figures for households accepted as homeless now relate to those for whom local authorities have accepted responsibility to secure permanent accommodation as required by the legislation. Acceptances on the previous return included a number of households - those found to be intentionally homeless and provided with temporary accommodation - who did not meet the full criteria for acceptance under the legislation. To maintain comparability of the statistics over time, the figures for acceptances for previous quarters in the tables have been adjusted by subtracting estimates of intentionally homeless households provided with temporary accommodation.

Other changes to the published statistics include the classification of households accepted as homeless by the reason for the loss of their last settled home instead of the immediate reason for homelessness, and more detailed information on the use of temporary accommodation: leasing and licensing from the private sector and short-life dwellings are separately identified and a new category - homeless at home - shows the number of households who although accepted as homeless by the authority, have agreed to remain in existing accommodation until suitable permanent accommodation is secured. For the first time, the returns completed by local authorities include information on the type of permanent accommodation secured for homeless households (local authority, housing association or private), on the total number of applications made to homelessness offices and on the ethnic origin of applicants. Results will be made available in due course. Further information and copies of the September 1991 Information Bulletin can be obtained from:

Mr B Turk
Department of the Environment
Room N2/12
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3EB
Telephone: 071-276 3542

Reference

Department of the Environment Information Bulletin No 527, 10 September 1991

Scottish Office Environment

Housing Trends in Scotland - Quarter ended 31 March 1991

This Bulletin presents the standard quarterly analyses of housing stock by tenure, new housebuilding, council house sales and the improvement of existing dwellings. Annual tables cover energy conservation and give more detailed analyses of dwellings improved, by both the public sector and housing associations, and the private sector. Bulletins for earlier quarters, which provide other annual series, are also available.

Reference

HSG/1991/5, published August 1991

Housing Trends in Scotland - Quarter ended 30 June 1991

This Bulletin will present the standard quarterly analyses and annual information on energy conservation, public sector stock and vacant stock and housing for those with special needs.

Further issues: The Bulletin on housing trends for the quarter ended 30 September 1991 is scheduled for publication in March 1992. Annual tables will present statistics on the local authorities operation of the homeless persons legislation in 1990/91.

Reference

HSG/1991/7, published November 1991

Annual Estimates of Households in Scotland 1987-1990

This Bulletin presents estimates of the number of households at 30 June for each year in the period 1981-1990, for each Scottish region and district and updates the information given in Statistical Bulletin HSU No 16 published in November 1990. Notes on the methodology used in the preparation of the estimates are also available.

Reference

HSG/1991/6, published September 1991

General Register Office for Scotland

Vital Statistics: Scotland

Tables relating to the second quarter of 1991 were included in the Registrar General's *Vital Statistics Return*, Weeks 37 to 40.

Personal Names in Scotland

The booklet was published on 23 October. This booklet contains tables showing the top 100 forenames of boys and girls based on the 1990 birth registration. It also contains tables and maps showing the distribution of surnames based on the 1990 birth, death and marriage registrations. Copies of the booklet, price £2.95 net, are available from:



Vital Statistics Branch
General Register Office for Scotland
Ladywell House
Ladywell Road
EDINBURGH EH12 7TF

Health

NHS Day Care Facilities, England - Financial Year 1989/90

This booklet presents information on patients attending NHS Day Care facilities, numbers on register, and available place days in the facilities by District Health Authority. Requests for this publication, price £4.00 net, should be sent to:

DH Leaflets
PO Box 21
Stanmore
MIDDLESEX HA7 1AY

Electro-convulsive Therapy (ECT), England, Financial Year 1989/90

This booklet presents information on number of electro-convulsive therapy treatments administered and rates of treatments administered by District Health Authority. Requests for this publication should be sent to:

Mrs Susan Adams
Department of Health
Room 801, Hannibal House
Elephant and Castle
LONDON SE1 6TE

Home Office

Misuse of drugs: seizures and offenders dealt with

The annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin on seizures of controlled drugs and drug offenders dealt with in 1990 was published in September 1991. It covers seizures made by Customs and Police officers in the United Kingdom and persons dealt with as a result of these seizures.

In 1990 the number of seizures and the number of drug offenders showed further substantial increases. The number of seizures rose to 60,900, and increase of 15 per cent. Among class A drugs LSD seizures

almost doubled to nearly 2,000. The number of heroin and cocaine seizures fell but record quantities were seized. The number of seizures of cannabis, the class B drug involved in 90 per cent of seizures, continued to increase but the quantity seized fell from last year's record total. Amphetamine seizures rose by 40 per cent and the quantity seized nearly tripled.

The number of drug offenders rose by 15 per cent to 44,900. Almost 90 per cent were possession cases, usually cannabis. The number of drug offenders aged under 21 increased by 35 per cent. For the first time more people were cautioned (40 per cent) than fined (35 per cent). Less than 10 per cent were sentenced to immediate custody.

The Bulletin gives details of seizures by type of drug (in terms of number and weight), type of place and area. Offenders are analysed by age, sex, type of offence and drug, and action taken. Further information is given in separate area and supplementary tables which form annexes to the Bulletin.

Reference

Statistics of the misuse of drugs: seizures and offenders dealt with, United Kingdom, 1990
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 19/91

Statistics on the operation of the Firearms Acts 1968 to 1988 - England and Wales 1990

This annual Bulletin gives information on the issue of firearm and shot gun certificates under the Firearms Acts 1968 to 1988. Details are given of the number of new and renewal applications together with the number of certificates on issue at the end of 1990 (142,500 firearm certificates, 6,900 down on the previous year and 802,300 shot gun certificates, 62,800 down on the previous year). Details as to the number of firearms dealers who apply for registration, those granted and refused, removals from register etc. are also included. All these statistics are given by police force area.

For the first time information is provided on visitors' firearm and shot gun permits and reference is made to the number of weapons covered and to co-termi-

nous shot gun certificates (those having an expiry date coinciding with a holders' firearm certificate).

Reference

Statistics on the operation of the Firearms Acts 1968 to 1988 - England and Wales 1990
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, issue 23/91

Betting licensing

The annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin on betting licensing was published on 17 October. Although the number of bookmakers' permits has continued to fall, the prevailing decline in the number of betting office licences has been halted. At 31 May 1991 there were 5,250 permits and 10,250 licences; there has been a small rise in the number of renewals of betting office licences, but the numbers of both new applications and cessations continued to fall.

The Bulletin includes details of the number of bookmakers' permits and betting office licences in force, the number of applications for renewals or new permits or licences, and cessations, over the last ten years; the results of proceedings before the licensing authorities over the twelve months ended 31 May 1991 and a table of the number of betting office licences in force by local authority area.

Supplementary tables giving a breakdown of the progress of applications for each licensing district for the twelve months ended 31 May 1991, were published on 25 October.

Reference

Betting Licensing Statistics, Great Britain, June 1990 - May 1991
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, issue 24/91

Fire Statistics Research Paper 1

An occasional Home Office paper, *Fire Statistics Research Paper 1* on Accidental fires of electrical origin attended by local authority fire brigades in the United Kingdom, 1981-88 was published in October 1991. It presents information on these fires and probable causes as determined by fire brigades, and



examines trends in fire risks associated with the usage of electricity and of electrical equipment.

Electrical origin fires in 1988 accounted for:

- half the 56,100 accidental fires in dwellings attended by local authority fire brigades and for just under a third of the 30,100 attended in industrial and commercial buildings;
- 127 deaths in dwellings and 5 in industrial and commercial buildings, nearly a fifth and one fifteenth respectively of all accidental fire deaths.
- 3,600 non-fatal casualties in dwellings and 440 in industrial and commercial buildings, two fifths and one fifth respectively of all accidental fires.

In dwellings

- cooking appliances are the main source of electrical origin fires accounting in 1988 for over 60 per cent of fires and non-fatal casualties but for less than twenty per cent of deaths.
- misuse of equipment or placing articles too close to heat are thought to have accounted for around two-thirds of electrical origin fires and fatal casualties and for 80 per cent of non-fatal casualties. However most electric blanket and bed warmer fires are thought to be caused by faults in appliances.

Summary Fire Statistics United Kingdom, 1990

The Home Office statistical Bulletin presenting summary 1990 fire statistics was published in November 1991. This shows the number of fires attended by fire brigades in 1990 by location, cause, source of ignition etc. Similar information is also given in respect of fatal and non-fatal casualties resulting from those fires.

The following main points are described:

- Fire brigades attended 467,000 fires in 1990 in the United Kingdom, the highest since 1976 when 496,000 were attended.

- Over 60 per cent of fires were grassland, refuse and chimney fires.

Deliberate and possibly deliberate fires increased for:

- cars, by 45 per cent since 1989 to approach half of all car fires attended by brigades,
- dwellings, by 2 per cent,
- other occupied buildings, by 5 per cent,

Deaths in buildings fell:

- in dwellings to 627, the lowest since 1971,
- in other occupied buildings to 59, the lowest since 1961.
- However, deaths in fires in road vehicles, derelict buildings or outdoors rose to a record high of 212 in 1990, partly due to a further increase in deaths from car fires.
- Non-fatal casualties in total fell slightly due to a fall in the number of fire brigade casualties.

The main causes of death and injury in dwelling fires remained:

- smokers' materials 40 per cent of deaths
- cooking related, 40 per cent of injuries.

Fuller information will be published in spring 1992 in the annual publication *Fire Statistics United Kingdom 1990*

Both the above publications are available free from:

Research and Statistics Department
Home Office
Room 1834
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
CROYDON CRO 9YD
Telephone: 081-760 2850

Enquiries about fire statistics should be referred to:
Home Office, Fire Statistics Section
Room 218
Fire Research Station
Melrose Avenue
BOREHAMWOOD WD6 2BL
Telephone: 0923-66 5194/5196

Northern Ireland

1990 Labour Force Survey - Religion Report

This PPRU Monitor (3/91) is the first publication of religion results from the Northern Ireland Labour Force Survey. Some of the main findings are noted below:

- i** For both men and women the labour force participation rate of Protestants was higher than that of Catholics.
- ii** The overall breakdown of the economically active population was 60 per cent Protestant and 40 per cent Catholic.
- iii** While the highest level of qualification obtained by economically active Protestant and Catholic women was broadly similar, the proportion of economically active Protestant men with no qualifications (39 per cent) was markedly lower than the corresponding proportion of Catholic men (51 per cent).
- iv** Catholics constituted 56 per cent of unemployed.
- v** The rate of unemployment among Catholics (17 per cent) was substantially higher than that among Protestants (9 per cent). The difference in unemployment rates was greater among males (Protestants 11 per cent; Catholics 22 per cent) than among females (Protestants 7 per cent; Catholics 10 per cent).
- vi** Of the unemployed, 48 per cent of Protestants and 61 per cent of Catholics had been looking for work for at least a year.
- vii** The religious composition of employees was 63 per cent Protestant and 37 per cent Catholic. For the self-employed the figures were 60 per cent Protestant and 40 per cent Catholic. The reli

gious composition of all those in employment (employees plus self-employed) was 62 per cent Protestant and 38 per cent Catholic.

- viii** Catholic representation amongst employees in the main industrial sectors ranged from 31 per cent in manufacturing to 53 per cent in construction.
- ix** Amongst employees, the representation of Catholics was lowest in the 'Managerial' occupational group and highest in the 'Professional and related in education, welfare and health' group.

Other topics referred to in the report are: reasons for economic inactivity; changes in economic status over the course of a year; the main methods of job search used by the unemployed; employment composition by workplace size; hours worked per week; participation in training; and the job mobility of employees.

Copies of the Monitor can be obtained, free of charge, from:

Policy Planning and Research Unit
Statistics and Social Division
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
BELFAST BT4 3SW
Telephone: 0232-763210 (Ext 2473)

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

Population Trends

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

Birth Statistics 1990

by Clare Jones, *Demographic Analysis and Vital Statistics Division, OPCS.*

This article presents the latest annual statistics for live births (1990) and for conceptions (1989) in England and Wales with summary results for the United Kingdom, its constituent countries, and regions of England.

In 1990, there were 706 thousand live births in England and Wales, an increase of 18 thousand (3 per cent) compared with 1989. This was the highest annual total for 18 years.

Deaths in Great Britain Associated with the Influenza Epidemic of 1989/90

by John Ashley, Tracey Smith and Karen Dunnell, Medical Statistics Division, OPCS

This article is based on detailed analysis of death records during the 1989/90 influenza epidemic and compares deaths during the same period of the preceding four years. It gives a precise picture of the timing of the epidemic; the types of illness responsible for the deaths; and the age, sex and places of death.

First Results from the 1991 Census

by Census Division, OPCS

This article summarises the preliminary figures for each local authority district in England and Wales, which were recently published in the *1991 Census Preliminary Report*.

Movement within England and Wales During the 1980s, as Measured by the NHS Central Register

by Margaret Rosenbaum and Jonathan Bailey, Population and Hospital Statistics Division, OPCS

This article reviews the trends in migration during the 1980s, both between and within the regions of England and Wales. The data used to estimate migration are derived from the National Health Service Central Register, which records all transfers from a doctor's list in one Family Health Services Authority (FHSA) to that in a different FHSA.

Estimated Numbers and Demographic Characteristics of One-Parent Families in Great Britain

by John Haskey, Demographic Analysis and Vital Statistics Division, OPCS

This article provides estimates of the numbers of one-parent families - and dependent children living in them - in Great Britain in 1987, 1988, and 1989. It also examines a number of characteristics of one-parent families: their family sizes, the ages and economic activity of lone parents; the durations of lone parenthood; and the numbers and family sizes of lone parents by their ethnic group. The article also includes a set of analyses which illustrate differ-

ent aspects of the living arrangements of one-parent families.

Cancer Statistics, Registrations 1986

This volume includes data for England and Wales and for each regional health authority on those patients who were first diagnosed with cancer in 1986, and who were registered at OPCS by 31 May 1991.

The most common site for new registrations of cancer for men was the trachea, bronchus and lung, with 24,365 or 24 per cent of all registrations. For women the most common site was the breast, with 22,757, or 22 per cent of all registrations.

Reference

Cancer statistics, registrations 1986

(Series MBI No. 19)

HMSO, price £11.60 net

ISBN 0 11 691349 5

Electoral Statistics 1991

Information on parliamentary and local government electors in the United Kingdom and its constituent countries is contained in *Electoral Statistics 1991*, published recently by OPCS.

There were 43,556,783 parliamentary electors on the new electoral register which came into use in the United Kingdom on 16 February 1991. This figure included 560,893 attainers, who will become eligible to vote during the period up to 15 February 1992, as they reach the age of 18. Separate figures for the four constituent countries were 36,302,099 electors in England, 2,207,283 in Wales, 3,914,590 in Scotland, and 1,132,811 in Northern Ireland.

Reference

Electoral statistics 1991

(Series EL No. 18)

HMSO, price £6.20 net

ISBN 0 11 691342 8

Mortality Statistics Surveillance: 1968-1985

Detailed statistics on mortality trends in England and Wales covering the period 1968 to 1985 are published by OPCS in a new statistical reference volume.

It contains, in 24 microfiche, statistics of deaths registered in England and Wales for each of the 18 years covered. Deaths and death rates per million population are analysed by sex, age and underlying or main cause of death. The classifications of cause of death used in this report are based on the Eighth (1968-78) and Ninth (from 1979) Revisions of the International Classification of Diseases.

Reference

Mortality statistics, surveillance 1968-1985 (microfiche)

(Series DH No. 22)

HMSO, price £10.90 net

ISBN 0 11 691321 5

1990 Population Estimates for England and Wales

The 1990 population statistics for England and Wales were published recently in an OPCS Monitor. It includes population numbers by single year of age for both England and Wales, and estimates the total resident populations for 1981, 1989 and 1990 for each local government and health authority area.

The resident population of England and Wales at mid-year 1990 was estimated to be 50.7 million, an increase of 156 thousand (0.3 per cent) since mid-1989, and 1.1 million (2.2 per cent) since mid 1981. Two thirds of the population growth between 1989 and 1990 was due to natural change (excess of births over deaths) and the remainder from net in-migration.

Reference

1990 Population Estimates for England and Wales

(Series PPI 91/1) OPCS Monitor

ISSN 0953 3419

Geographical Distribution of Childhood Leukaemia and Non-Hodgkin Lymphomas in Great Britain

A new study of the incidence of childhood leukaemia and related conditions, which affects about 450 children a year, has found evidence of some geographical variation in the rate of occurrence of the disease across the country, with indications of a limited degree of geographical clustering among certain age and disease groups.

These findings are based on a series of analyses of data on the place of residence of 9,411 children diagnosed between 1966 and 1983 as having leukaemia or non-Hodgkin lymphomas. It involved the development of new statistical and computing methods for the geographical analysis of the incidence of the diseases. The results of the study are contained in an OPCS report.

The study was initiated by the Childhood Cancer Research Group at the University of Oxford and carried out in collaboration with several other research groups. It is the most detailed investigation of this kind ever undertaken. The study was set up following reports of clusters of cases of childhood leukaemia, particularly in the vicinity of nuclear installations and is, in part, a response to recommendations contained in the second and third Reports of the Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE).

Further analyses of these data will be published in the future together with analyses of incidence in relation to the place of birth rather than place of diagnosis. Similar studies of other childhood cancers will also be carried out.

Reference

The geographical epidemiology of childhood leukaemia and non-Hodgkin lymphomas in Great Britain, 1966-83

(Series SMPS No. 53)

HMSO, price £16.60 net

ISBN 0 11 691357 6

Drinking in England and Wales in the Late 1980s

The results of a survey of drinking in England and Wales in the late 1980s, carried out by the Social Survey Division of OPCS on behalf of the Department of Health in association with the Home Office, have been published in an OPCS report.

A main aim of the survey, taken in the autumn of 1989, was to identify any immediate effect of the implementation of the 1988 Licensing Act on the drinking habits of the general population. The survey was exactly two years after the previous drinking survey carried out for the Home Office to provide a benchmark measure of alcohol consumption prior to the 1988 Licensing Act.

The surveys found that the change to all day opening of licensed premises as a result of the Act has had no appreciable effect on overall alcohol consumption. In 1989 the average weekly amount drunk was about 9 standard units (4.5 pints of beer or the equivalent in other types of drink), the same as in 1987.

The report covers drinking by sex and age group; and alcohol consumption in relation to various social characteristics such as marital status, employment status and social class based on occupation; the extent to which drinking is concentrated or spread out over the week; the proportion of people with various types of drinking related problems; amounts drunk of beer, lager and cider of different alcoholic strengths; the relationship between drinking and general health; and alcohol in the workplace.

Reference

Drinking in England and Wales in the late 1980s
(Series SS 1912)
HMSO, price £12.50 net
ISBN 0 11 691346 0

General Household Survey: Preliminary Results for 1990

Summary results from the 1990 General Household Survey were published recently in an OPCS Monitor.

Published in advance of the main report, it contains information on household size and composition; lone

parent families; family size; tenure; consumer durables; economic activity; pensions; and health.

The information covered by the survey is collected throughout the 12 month period April 1990 to March 1991, by personal interview. In 1990 interviews were obtained from 9,623 households in Great Britain and from 18,384 adults within them. The sample was drawn from postcode address files in a way which gives every household the same chance of selection.

Reference

General Household Survey: preliminary results for 1990

(Series SS 91/1)

OPCS Monitor, price £2.00 net

ISSN 0262-8392

General Household Survey 1989

Detailed results of the 1989 General Household Survey are now available in an OPCS report.

The report updates information collected each year on population characteristics, households and families, marriage, cohabitation and fertility, employment, health and housing. It also has information on occupational pension schemes, contraception and accidents - subjects which have been included in GHS in selected years only.

Also contained in the report are new or expanded sections on ethnic group, employment and young adults, marital and cohabiting unions, and the composition of the local authority and housing association sectors, here jointly labelled the social housing sector.

This is the latest in a series of annual reports for the GHS which started in 1971 and is carried out by Social Survey Division of OPCS. The data are anonymous and are obtained by interviewing everyone aged 16 or over in a random sample of private households in Great Britain. Interviews are achieved with about 10,000 households and 20,000 adults per year. For certain topic data on the 5,000 children in these households are also collected. In 1989, 84 per cent of the households sampled agreed to be interviewed.

Reference

General Household Survey 1989
(Series GHS No.20)
HMSO, price £18.50 net
ISBN 0 11 691356 8

Smoking among Secondary School Children in 1990

The results from the latest OPCS survey of teenage smoking in England, Wales and Scotland, are now published. Carried out in October 1990, among secondary school children in the first to fifth forms (first to fourth year in Scotland), it is the fifth national survey of teenage smoking since the series began in 1982. It was carried out by OPCS on behalf of the Department of Health, the Welsh Office and the Scottish Office Home and Health Department.

Results show little change in smoking prevalence since the mid 1980s. Although the survey findings show a small increase in smoking in England and Wales, they are not statistically significant.

In addition to the usual method of collecting information from pupils by self-completion questionnaires, saliva specimens were obtained from half the sample and analysed for the presence of cotinine, a metabolite of nicotine. This provided independent assessment of exposure to tobacco smoke, but appeared to have no effect on reported prevalence among boys or girls in any of the countries.

Reference

Smoking among secondary school children in 1990
HMSO, price £15.50 net
ISBN 0 11 691355 X

Labour Force Survey 1988 and 1989

Statistics from the Labour Force Survey, including data on economic activity, employment, unemployment and ethnic group are contained in a report published recently by OPCS.

The report also contains details of the survey's sample design, interviewing, field management and data processing procedures, and some key results.

The Labour Force Survey is a survey of private households carried out for the Employment Department by the Social Survey Division of OPCS in England and Wales, by the General Register Office for Scotland in Scotland, and by the Department of Economic Development in Northern Ireland. Interviews are obtained in over 62,000 households annually; the response rate for the 1989 survey was 84 per cent, similar to that achieved in recent years.

Preliminary results from the 1989 Labour Force Survey were published in the *Employment Gazette* in April 1990.

Reference

Labour Force Survey 1988 and 1989
(Series LFS No. 8)
HMSO, price £8.10 net
ISBN 0 11 691348 7

The 1990 Private Renters Survey: Preliminary Results

Preliminary results of the 1990 Private Renters Survey are now published in an OPCS Monitor. The survey was carried out by the Social Survey Division of OPCS, on behalf of the Department of the Environment.

It was designed to provide information about the characteristics of private lettings and their tenants and on any effects of the 1988 Housing Act. The Act ended the regulation of new private lettings with the aim of increasing the availability of this type of accommodation. Results are compared with those of a 1988 survey, which gave baseline figures against which to measure future changes.

There was a major change in tenancy types following deregulation of lettings which started after mid-January 1989. In England in mid-1990 there were 480 thousand new style deregulated tenancies, made up of approximately 350 thousand Assured and 140 thousand Assured Shorthold lettings. Together they accounted for 28 per cent of all private lettings. No new regulated tenancies could be created after January 1989 and their number decreased by 440 thousand, from 1,010 thousand in 1988 to 570 thousand in 1990, when they formed 33 per cent of lettings.

In mid-1990 there were 1.70 million tenancies in all in the privately rented sector in England, not significantly different from the number two years earlier (1.74 million).

Reference

The 1990 Private Renters Survey: Preliminary results

(Series SS 91/2)

OPCS Monitor, price £2.00 net

ISSN 0262-8392

A Handbook for Interviewers

A manual of social survey practice and procedures for structured interviewing is recently available from OPCS.

This volume, which supersedes the 1984 handbook, is intended for use by OPCS Social Survey Division interviewers in carrying out a wide range of surveys on behalf of government departments, other statutory bodies and Royal Commissions. Although concentrating on traditional paper and pencil methods, much of the information contained also applies both to telephone and computer assisted interviewing.

Reference

A handbook for interviewers

HMSO, price £6.75 net

ISBN 0 11 691344 4

Weighting for nonresponse - a survey researcher's guide

A survey researcher's guide to procedures aimed at correcting the effects of nonresponse during the analysis and presentation of survey results was published recently by OPCS.

The main concepts are introduced in Chapter 1, along with the main categories of method available to eliminate or reduce any consequent bias. The general conditions which must be met before any of these methods work are described, and appropriate criteria suggested for selecting the best method. The chapter ends with a brief revision of some results for unequal probability sampling.

Chapter 2 contains a summary of the literature describing the characteristics of survey non respondents, with particular emphasis on OPCS Social Survey Division's own checks on its continuous surveys, using data on nonrespondents from the 1971 and 1981 Censuses.

The next three chapters review three broad categories of procedures used in compensating for nonresponse as well as discussing some common problems in the application of the methods.

Chapter 6 looks at some specific issues that arise in estimating population totals; it discusses the implications for the precision of survey estimates of the methods described earlier for compensating for nonresponse; and ends by summarising the advantages and disadvantages of the different methods.

Reference

Weighting for non-response: a survey researcher's guide

HMSO, price £5.00 net

ISBN 0 904952 70 3

Scottish Office

Scottish Local Government Financial Statistics 1989-90

Scottish Local Government Financial Statistics 1989-90 was published by The Scottish Office on 27 October 1991. The volume covers transactions of local authorities and joint boards/committees as defined in the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. It contains both all-Scotland and Regional/Island analyses of local authority revenue and capital expenditure and income. These are broken down into separate sections covering general fund services, housing, trading services and other funds.

General Fund services revenue account transactions are also set out in separate tables showing total and net expenditure as well as information on employee costs, operating costs and loan charges on an individual service basis.

The publication also holds a table showing outstanding debt per head of population and appendices giving

details of local authority staffing, non-domestic rates, non-domestic rate income, community charges, community charge income and rateable values.

The publication is priced at £5 and is available from The Scottish Office Library.

Transport

Transport Statistics Great Britain 1991

The 17th edition of *Transport Statistics Great Britain* was published in September. As with previous years, the publication brings together a comprehensive range of statistics on all aspects of transport designed to stimulate informed discussion on transport developments and policies.

Although based on the usual format, this year's edition carries a new title to show the year of publication, and has been produced on a newly acquired desktop publishing system and laser printer. The difference in print style and quality of production is evident, and shows a great improvement on editions published in earlier years.

With over 300 pages and more than 180 statistical tables and charts in the publication, it shows, in the majority of cases, an eleven year cycle of changes in patterns, use and trends in transport by road, rail, sea, air and inland waterway. Commentary on the main changes, and notes and definitions make it a particularly useful volume for all those working or studying in various fields of transport.

Articles on investment in transport, road traffic growth in the postwar years, and international railway comparisons for 1989 are also included in the volume. The reproduction of Accident Fact sheets issued free by the Department of Transport since the series began in January 1990 have also been incorporated this year.

The statistics included are only a small proportion of those available, which appear in the more specialised reports and bulletins. The titles of these publications are listed on the inside front cover of *Transport Statistics Great Britain*. Further information can be obtained from:

The Department of Transport
Room A209
Romney House
43 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3PY
Telephone: 071-276 8513

Reference:

Transport Statistics Great Britain 1991
HMSO, price £24.00 net

Waterborne Freight in the United Kingdom 1990

The latest in this series of reports was published at the end of December jointly by the Department of Transport and MDS-Transmodal. This publication updates the 1989 survey statistics published in January 1991.

The statistics show the freight carried by coastwise and one-port shipping and inland waterways, giving tonnages of goods lifted and tonne-kilometres of goods moved in 1990. Also included are time series back to 1980. Coastwise traffic is analysed by main commodities, one-port traffic by type of movement, and inland waterway traffic by mode of appearance and waterway class. Port groups of origin and destination are given for coastwise and one-port traffic, and major river routes in the case of inland waterways. *Transport Statistics Great Britain 1991* (published in September 1990) included some provisional results for 1990.

The waterborne freight information continues the series begun with the first benchmark survey of 1980 (see *Statistical News* 59.41). A further benchmark survey was published in December 1986 (*Statistical News* 75.47) and this is now being updated. Results of the 1990 benchmark survey including inventories of waterways and inland craft, will be published separately in 1992.

Reference

Waterborne Freight in the United Kingdom 1990

Copies of the above publication, price £15.00 net, are available from:



MDS - Transmodal
28 City Road
CHESTER CH1 3AE
Telephone: 0244-348301

Enquiries may also be directed to:

Mr M J Collop
Department of Transport
Room A201
Romney House
43 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3PY
Telephone: 071-276 8520

Transport Statistics for London

The 1991 edition of *Transport Statistics for London* was published on 30 October. This report brings together a range of facts and figures on transport in the capital and looks in particular at changes that have taken place during the last ten years.

Points highlighted by the report include:

- Passenger traffic on Network SouthEast, London Underground, and London buses fell between 1988/89 and 1990/91, after increasing throughout most of the 1980s. This probably reflects the effect of the recession and higher real fares.
- Traffic levels on London's roads have increased by about one per cent per annum since the 1970s; traffic speeds have declined slowly except on primary roads.
- The number of people killed in road accidents in London has fallen steadily over the last ten years. The 1990 figure was 23 per cent below the average for the period 1981-85.
- In 1990, 2.2 million fixed penalty notices for parking were issued by the police in London, of which 163,000 involved wheel-clamping.
- In 1990/91, less mileage was lost on London buses, punctuality improved, and average waiting times fell. On the Underground, the number of trains operated during the peak period increased, and lift and escalator availability improved, but

scheduled mileage operated was 3 per cent below the target of 98 per cent.

Reference

Transport Statistics for London 1980-1990
HMSO, price £10.90 net
ISBN 0 11 551042 7

Treasury

Home Finance

Cash Limits

A White Paper, *Cash Limits 1990-91 Provisional Outturn (Cm 1587)*, was published in July 1991. It gives provisional outturn figures for cash limited expenditure, running costs and the external finance of nationalised industries and other public corporations in 1990-91. The White Paper also includes information on changes to cash limits and running costs in 1990-91 and revised outturn for cash limits and running costs in 1989-90. The original cash limits for central government voted expenditure in 1990-91 and the original running costs were published in the *Summary and Guide to the Supply Estimates, 1990-91 (Cm 980)*. The original cash limits relating to expenditure not voted in estimates were given in table 3.4 of the *Summary and Guide*.

Other Publications

The Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin

In addition to regular articles providing commentary on recent developments in the UK and world economies and on domestic and international financial markets, the August issue of the *Bank's Quarterly Bulletin* contains the following items.

Company profitability and finance

This article, which continues an annual series, reviews the performance of UK industrial and commercial companies during 1990. Profitability continued to decline, though it remained above the level reached in the two previous recessions, and the sector's financial deficit increased to £27 billion (5 per cent of GDP). As expected, companies attempted to curtail their expenditure, with evidence of adjustment first apparent in destocking and increasingly subdued merger and acquisition activity and thereafter in declining investment spending: most recently there have been encouraging signs of wage restraint.

World payment trends In 1990

This article examines the factors shaping developments in trade, current and capital account flows in 1990 and early 1991. The Gulf crisis and the subsequent rise in oil prices in the second half of 1990 exacerbated recessionary tendencies in a number of major economies and this in turn slowed trade growth. Current account imbalances in the G3 tended to reduce, reflecting relative demand conditions, while exchange rate movements improved the competitiveness of the United States and Japan at the expense of Europe. There was some turbulence in financial markets, particularly Japanese bond and equity markets, and the activities of international banks underwent changes as a result of pressures on banks' capital and widespread credit downgrading. These developments caused volatility in capital flows during 1990, particularly in Japan and the United States.

The development of pension funds - an international comparison

Pension funds - financial intermediaries which collect and invest funds on a pooled basis for eventual repayment to members in pensions - are of major importance in some major national financial markets

(eg the United States and the United Kingdom), but of lesser significance elsewhere. This article examines the economic reasons for these differences and their implications for financial markets. It describes the growth and status of pension funds in the US, the UK, Canada, Japan and Germany and compares portfolio distributions, relating them to asset returns, capital market structure, the nature of liabilities and regulation.

Other items

The August issue of the Bulletin also includes a paper on macroeconomic forecasting at the Bank of England, submitted by the Bank to the Treasury and Civil Service Committee in June, and a note on the latest half-yearly update of seasonal adjustments to the monetary aggregates.

The *Bank's Quarterly Bulletin* may be obtained, price £7.50 per copy or £27.00 for an annual subscription from:

Publications Group
Economics Division
Bank of England
Threadneedle Street
LONDON EC2R 8AH

Conferences and Training

International Association for Official Statistics

The Thirty-Ninth Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES),

Geneva, 17 - 21 June 1991

The CES is one of the subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), and its annual plenary session is possibly the single most important gathering of heads of national statistical offices outside the biennial meetings of the UN Statistical Commission.

The importance of the CES comes from (a) the frequency of its sessions: (b) the range of issues discussed by its various working parties, seminars and work sessions: and (c) the fact that all the chief statisticians of the countries in Europe and North America are members and wish to retain the CES as one of the central instruments for co-operation along with other international or supranational organisations eg ILO, WHO, OECD, EUROSTAT.

This commitment to the CES was renewed by the debate which followed the presentation of plans to strengthen the statistical capability and to improve statistical co-operation and co-ordination between the OECD, EUROSTAT and the CES, OECD and EUROSTAT will be invited to attend the Bureau meetings of the CES in the future.

The second major issue on the agenda for the plenary session was a resolution on the fundamental principles of official statistics in the region of the UNECE. The text adopted is reproduced below. It will be presented to the UN ECE for possible adoption also by the UN Statistical Commission.

One central feature of the work programme adopted by the CES is its continued concern with, and support for, the restructuring of the statistical systems in the transition countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

Another important feature is the CES's role in the development of environmental statistics.

Resolution on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the Region of the Economic Commission for Europe

Bearing in mind that official statistical information is an essential basis for development in the economic, demographic, social and environmental fields and for mutual knowledge and trade among the States and peoples of the region.

Bearing in mind that the essential trust of the public in official statistical information depends to a large extent on respect for the fundamental values and principles which are the basis of any democratic society which seeks to understand itself and to respect the rights of its members.

Bearing in mind that the quality of official statistics, and thus the quality of the information available to the government the economy and the public depends largely on the co-operation of citizens, enterprises and other respondents in providing appropriate data needed for necessary statistical compilations.

Recalling the general provisions and standards adopted to this end by the European Convention on Human Rights the Convention of the Council of Europe of 28 January 1981 for the Protection of Individuals with regard to automatic processing of personal data the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Final Declaration of the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe.

Recalling the efforts of governmental organizations active in statistics to establish standards and concepts to allow comparisons among countries;

Recalling also the International Statistical Institute Declaration on Professional Ethics;

Having taken cognizance of the consensus reached with the Conference of European Statisticians on the need to define the principles governing the activities of the official statistical agencies in the region and in the Members States:

Adopts the present resolution:

- I Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.
- II To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.
- III To facilitate a correct interpretation of the data, the statistical agencies are to present information according to scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of the statistics.
- IV The statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.
- V Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.
- VI Individual data collected by statistical agencies for statistical compilation, whether they refer to natural or legal persons, are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.
- VII The laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical systems operate are to be made public.
- VIII Co-ordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.

- IX The use by the statistical agencies in each country of international concepts, classifications and methods promotes the consistency and efficiency of statistical systems at all official levels.
- X Bilateral and multilateral co-operation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries.

The Conference of European Statisticians, at intervals of not more than three years, will discuss these principles, consider ways to contribute to their application and report to the Commission.

Economic Statistics for the Nineties

Date: Thursday 27 February 1992

Venue: The Library Association
7 Ridgmount Street
LONDON WC1E 7AE

As part of the policy of creating separate units to carry out the executive functions of government departments, the Central Statistical Office is now an Agency. At the end of 1992 the Single Market becomes a reality and increasingly our statistics will have to conform to a common European pattern. The message from the Prime Minister is that the Citizen's Charter is a testament to the government's belief in the people's right to be informed. At the above seminar senior members of the Government Statistical Service will bring together these different strands and a Member of Parliament will assess what will be their impact on economic statistics in the 1990s. The seminar will be chaired by Fred Smith, Professor of Statistics at the University of Southampton, and President of the Royal Statistical Society.

Sir Jack Hibbert, who retires immediately after the seminar after six and a half years as Director of the Central Statistical Office, will set the scene. What impact has the creation of the Agency had and will it have on the governments' collection and interpretation, and on the credibility, of economic statistics? How much weight will be given to the needs of industry and the public for statistical information under the new regime? These are among the questions he will address.

David Wroe, Deputy Director of the Central Statistical Office, will talk about developments in economic statistics which are in train and about the impact during the decade our membership of the European Community is likely to have on economic statistics.

Peter Stibbard, Director of Statistics, Department of Employment and John Wright of the Central Statistical Office will describe plans for the dissemination of the government's statistical information to the public in the 1990s.

Jeremy Bray MP will be the last speaker; he will outline how he sees the CSO as an Agency meeting the needs for economic statistics in the 1990s. He is the Labour Party's spokesman on science and technology and was chairman of the Estimates Committee of the House of Commons whose 1967 report led to the last major re-organisation of the Government Statistical Service with the formation of the Business Statistics Office and the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

The day is an opportunity for those concerned with economic statistics to hear from senior officials of the changes which have taken and are taking place in government statistical services and how these will affect the figures which are their stock-in-trade; and to hear from a Member of Parliament who specialises in this field his appraisal of the changes.

University of Warwick

One-day seminar on Sources of European Market and Business and Information.

Date: Wednesday 15 January 1992

Venue: University of Warwick
Radcliffe House Conference Centre

Cost: £140 for subscribers to the
Business Information Service
£150 for non-subscribers

By the end of 1992 the creation of the Single Market will be a reality. Together with the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe this heralds the emergence of Europe as one of the largest markets in the world. It has created a host of new opportunities for business but global competition has also increased.

To be able to take advantage of the opportunities and to respond to the challenges, business needs reliable, fast, up-to-date information. This seminar looks at the range of market information available and will cover information on companies production and trade for Western and Eastern Europe, including online sources.

One-day seminar on Sources of Statistical and Marketing Data on Local Areas.

Venue: University of Warwick
Radcliffe House Conference Centre

Date: Friday 14 February 1992

Cost: £140 for subscribers to the
Business Information Service
£150 for non-subscribers

A one-day seminar reviewing the wide range of marketing data and statistical sources, both officially and commercially produced, available on local areas such as Regions, Counties and Towns.

The seminar will start with a review of economic trends in the key regions and cities of Europe, and this will be followed by a session describing the major sources of local area information. Other speakers will concentrate on specific areas such as information from local authorities, geo-demographic services and local company information.

The seminar will be particularly useful to those involved in business planning and marketing but will also be of interest to those in the public sector such as corporate, business and local authority planners, commercial and local government librarians and information officers. For further information telephone or write to:

Mr Marcus Woolley
University of Warwick Library
Gibbet Hill Road
COVENTRY CV4 7AL
Telephone: 0203-524211

Government Statistical Service

Review of Regular Surveys

Most regular surveys to businesses and local authorities are subject to a quinquennial departmental review and a report which is monitored by the Survey Control Unit and cleared by Ministers. The following surveys have recently had a complete review. Any enquiries concerning a survey or its review should be made to the appropriate departmental contact point given below.

Surveys to Businesses

Building Societies Mortgages Survey

Mr R Laux
DOE
Room P1/179A
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 3EB

Review of Scientific Procedures Statistics

Mrs P Dowdeswell
Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON SW1H 9AT

Survey of Electricity Generated

Mr M R Vaughan
CSO
Room 1.365
Cardiff Road
NEWPORT NP9 1XG

Surveys to Local Authorities

School Transport Survey

Mr J Nimmo
The Scottish Office Education Department
43 Jeffrey Street
EDINBURGH EH1 1DN

Housing Statistics Return

Mr W O'Donnell
Housing Statistics Unit
The Scottish Office
Room 327
St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH EH1 3DE

Appointments and Changes

Changes within the Department of Social Security

Reorganisation of Social Security Forecasting

Economic statistics and social statistics are often seen as two separate domains of activity for government statisticians. But some posts bridge the two skills, and this is particularly evident of the work of a branch newly formed in the Department of Social Security as a result of an internal reorganisation. There is a strong element of social statistics, through measurement of the Government's support for the elderly, the sick and disabled, families and the unemployed.

But the economic element is evident too, for the main task of the branch is to forecast Government expenditure on benefits. The sums are large, around £65 billion, almost a third of Public Expenditure. Once Ministers have agreed the discretionary changes to the programme, the unit is responsible for preparing a full statement of the plans and submitting it to Treasury through the Financial Information System.

The models used for Public Expenditure forecasts are of a microsimulation type, based on samples of actual cases projected forward taking account of demographic, economic and policy factors. The branch also runs a black-box in-year expenditure forecasting

system, and through this system it is additionally responsible for a stage in the Department's accounting procedures, subject to certification audit. Forecasts for National Insurance and similar benefits are produced by the Government Actuary's Department.

The forecasting work was recently the subject of a study for the Public Accounts Committee, which said that the Department should continue to build on its investments in research, data, and modelling. The branch works closely with Treasury, and a Standing Committee which review progress is chaired by Norman Glass, Head of Analytical Services Division and Director of Statistics in DSS, and includes Treasury and GAD members.

The branch has three grade 7 sections, one of which was previously an administrative post. The unit's responsibilities, which include preparation of certain of the Department's statistics of benefits, are as follows:

- Public Expenditure Survey, forecasting co-ordination, current year monitoring- Eric Procter
- Housing benefit and community charge benefit and administration forecasts and statistics- Dev Virdee
- Income support and family credit forecasts, family credit statistics, and new model development- Joe Bosak

The branch is headed by Roger Boothroyd, on t/p to Grade 6, for more information, telephone: 071-9628511 (GTN 391-28511)

Staff Changes

Promotion

Mr P P Altobell, CSO on promotion to Grade 4 (Director of Statistics) at MOD on 1 August 1991

Mr B J Derry, HO on promotion to Grade 5 (Chief Statistician) at DH on 30 September 1991

Transfer

Mr J N Lithgow, Grade 5 (Chief Statistician) from DH to DOE on 5 August 1991

Retirement

Mr M C Wilde, Grade 4 (Director of Statistics) MOD on 31 July 1991

Mr F D Sando, Grade 5 (Chief Statistician) DOE on 31 July 1991.

Alphabetical Index

The index to *Statistical News* covers the last nine issues. Page numbers are prefixed by the issue number, eg 90.34 signifies number 90, page 34.

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

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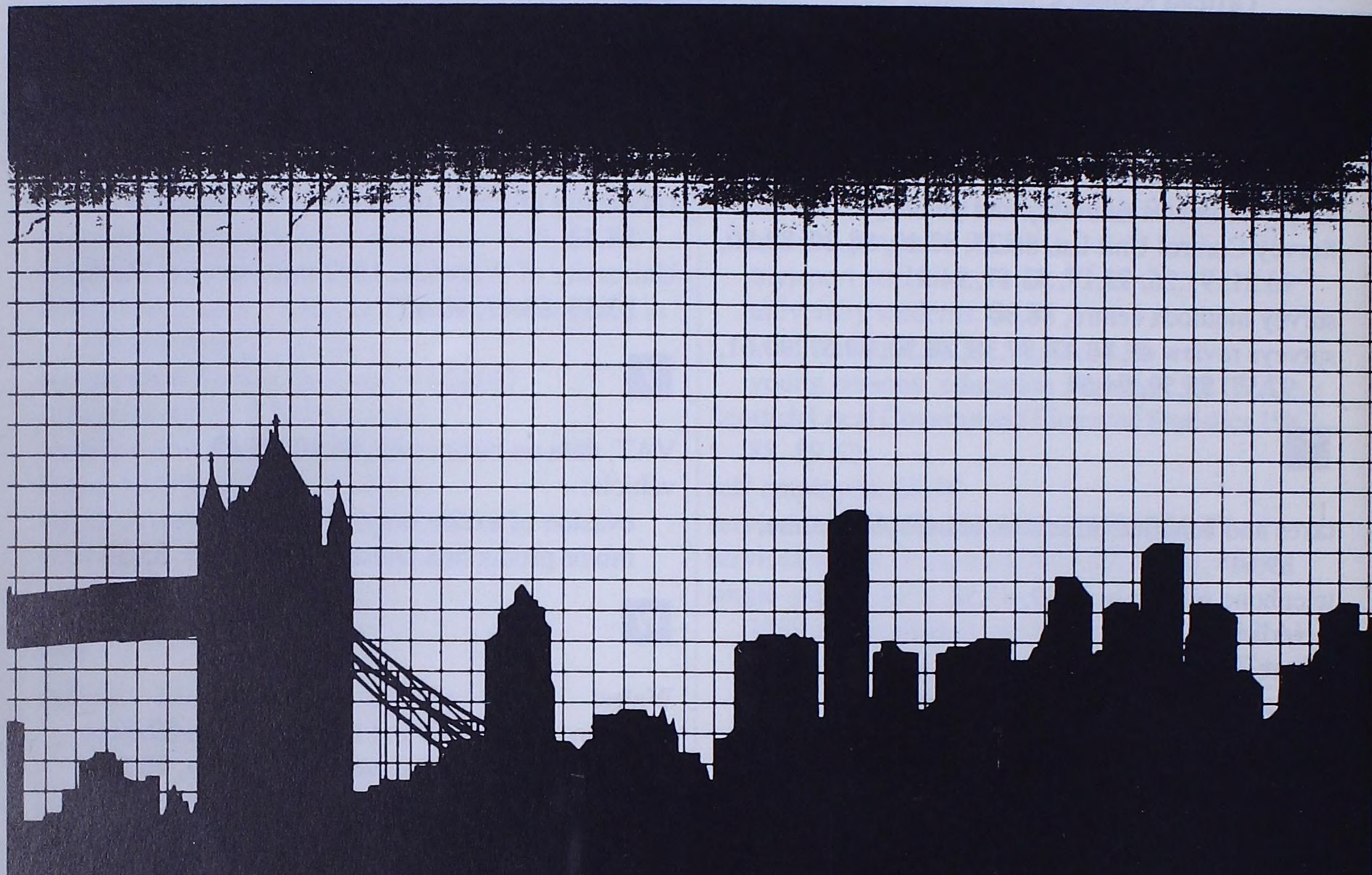
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