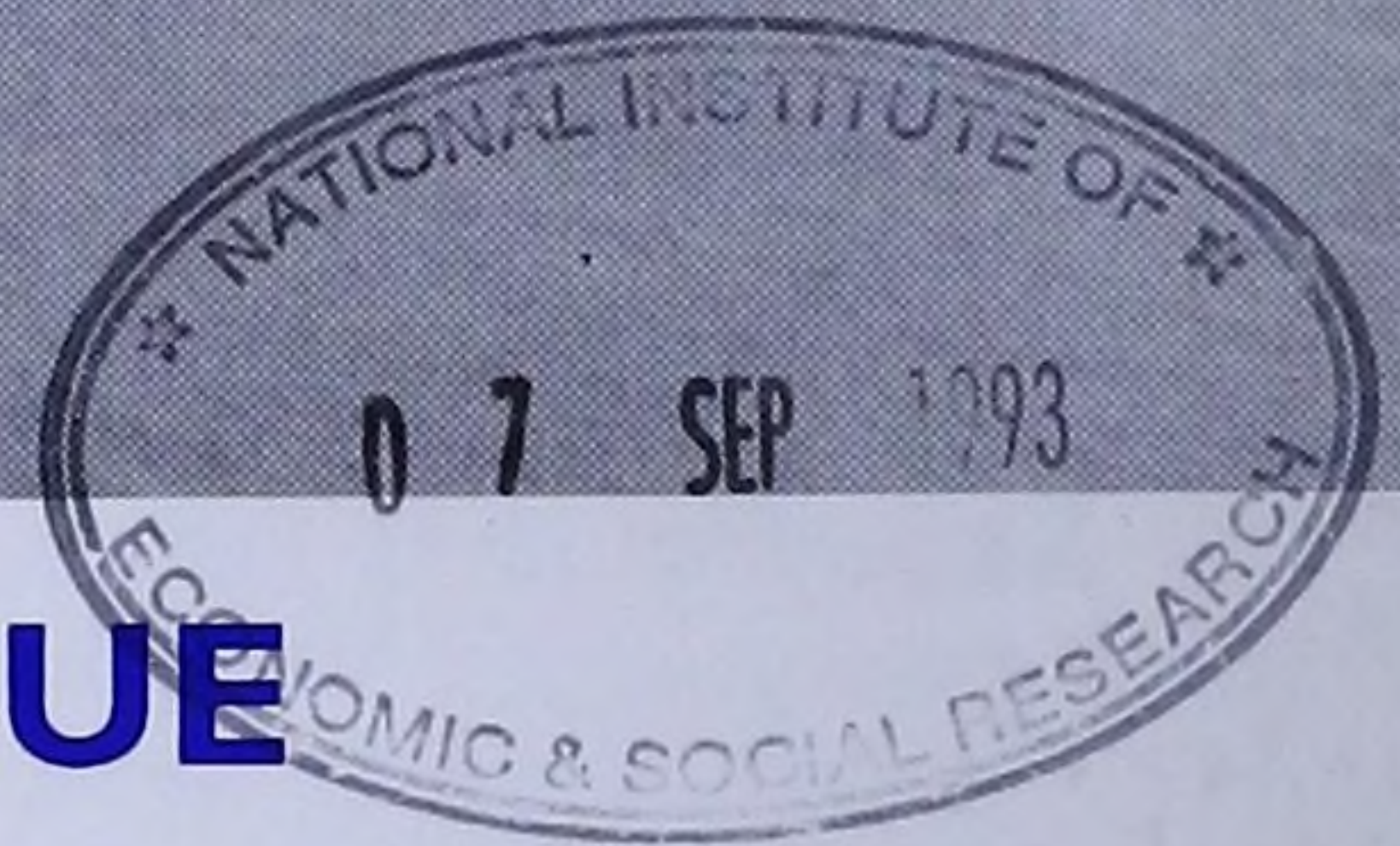


Statistical News



IN THIS ISSUE



The 1991 Survey of Origins, Destinations and Transport of UK International Trade



CSO's First Release Makes its Debut



The 1992 Statistics Users' Conference



Measuring Traffic Speeds in London



Households Below Average Income

Issue 101

Summer 1993
Central Statistical Office

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It is hoped that *Statistical News* will be of service and interest not only to professional statisticians but to everybody who uses statistics. I should 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 Wendy Kelly, Editor, *Statistical News*, 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
Official Statistics

No. 101
Summer 1993

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	Page
The 1991 Survey of Origins, Destinations and Transport of UK International Trade by Mike Collop and Jeremy Grove	101.4
CSO's First Release Makes its Debut by Ian Scott	101.9
The 1992 Statistics Users' Conference. The CSO - Economic and Business Statistics into the 1990s by Paul Cook, Martin Duckworth, Mike Prestwood and Debra Richards	101.12
Measuring Traffic Speeds in London by Neil Benn	101.16
Households Below Average Income by Nick Adkin and Martin Uglow	101.21

Government Publications

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Agriculture in the United Kingdom: 1992	101.24
Farm Incomes in the United Kingdom 1991/1992 Edition	101.24

Central Statistical Office

The Effects of Taxes and Benefits on Household Income 1990 and 1991	101.25
Statistical Units - European Regulation	101.26
Research and Development	101.27
Measuring the Contribution of Financial Institutions to Gross Domestic Product	101.27
Sector Classification for the National Accounts - Business Monitor MA 23 - Supplement	101.28
CSO One Day Seminar on Intrastat	101.28

Education

Departmental Bulletins	101.28
------------------------	--------

Employment

Labour Force Projections: 1993-2006	101.29
Results from the Autumn 1992 Quarterly Labour Force Survey	101.30
LFS Helpline	101.31
Employment - other	101.32

Environment

Land use Change in England No.8	101.33
---------------------------------	--------

Health

Data from Addicts Index, England - January to December 1991 (including tables for January - June and July - December)	101.33
In-patients Formally Detained in Hospitals under the Mental Health Act 1983 and other Legislation, England, 1984 -1989/90	101.33
NHS Hospital and Community Health Services Non-Medical Staff in England: 1981-1991	101.34

Home Office

Fire Statistics	101.34
Criminal Statistics England and Wales 1991	101.36
Time Intervals for Indictable Proceedings in Magistrates' Courts: October 1992	101.37
Criminal Appeals, England and Wales, 1991	101.37
Digest 2: Information on the Criminal Justice System	101.38
Statistics of Deaths Reported to Coroners, England & Wales 1992	101.38
Statistics of Drug Addicts Notified to the Home Office, United Kingdom, 1992	101.38
Prison Population in 1992	101.38
Projections of Long Term Trends in the Prison Population to 2001	101.39

Motoring Offences - England and Wales 1991	101.39
Statistics on the Operation of Prevention of Terrorism Legislation - 1992	101.40
Breath Test Statistics - England and Wales 1992	101.40
Liquor Licensing Statistics, England and Wales, July 1991 - June 1992	101.40

Northern Ireland

Department of Finance and Personnel

Continuous Household Survey Religion Report 1988-1990/91	101.40
The Northern Ireland Census 1991 - Religion Report	101.41
The Northern Ireland Census 1991 - Economic Activity Report	101.41

Department of Economic Development

Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey	101.41
---	--------

Office of Manpower Economics

Pay of Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors	101.41
Pay of Professions Allied to Medicine	101.42
School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service	101.42
Armed Forces Pay	101.43

OFTEL

International Comparisons of Telephone Charges	101.43
Cellular Telephone Drive Round Survey	101.43

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

International Migration in 1991	101.43
Population and Vital Statistics for Local Areas in England and Wales in 1991	101.44
Births in England and Wales in 1991	101.44
Cancer Statistics: Registration 1987	101.44
Mortality Statistics: Area 1991	101.45
Communicable Disease Statistics for 1991	101.45
Deaths by Cause in England and Wales in 1991	101.45

General Household Survey 1991	101.45
Publication of the 1992 General Household Survey	101.46
1991 Census Report: Sex, Age and Marital Status in Great Britain	101.46
Historical Census Statistics for Great Britain	101.46
Results from the 1991 Census	101.46
A Review of 1991	101.47

Scotland

Scottish Office Education Department

Scottish Education Statistics	101.47
School Leavers' Qualifications 1991-92	101.48

Scottish Office Environment Department

Scottish Abstract of Statistics No.21 1992 Edition	101.48
Scottish Statistics Factcard 1992	101.48
Statistical Publications: Information Leaflet	101.48
Quarterly Trends Bulletins	101.48

Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department

Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables 1991	101.49
---	--------

General Register Office for Scotland

1991 Census Results	101.49
Vital Statistics: Scotland	101.50
Department of Social Security	101.50

Transport

Port Statistics for 1992 (provisional)	101.50
Vehicle Statistics 1992: Great Britain	101.50

Government Statistical Service

Review of Regular Surveys	101.51
Appointments and Changes	101.51

Conferences and Training

University of Warwickshire	101.52
----------------------------	--------

The 1991 Survey of Origins, Destinations and Transport of UK International Trade



by *Mike Collop, Statistician, and Jeremy Grove, Assistant Statistician, Department of Transport*

Introduction

The Department of Transport (DOT) has completed a large sample survey of Origins, Destinations and Transport of UK International Trade (ODIT) in 1991. This was a major collaboration with the private sector, with funding provided by Eurotunnel in exchange for the use of the results for their forecasting and marketing activities and the right to sell tabulations to other private sector customers. A sample of items of trade was selected each month by HM Customs and Excise at Southend, and data to supplement information in the Customs declarations were collected by postal questionnaire from the traders involved. Similar surveys were carried out in 1978 and 1986-87, but the 1991 Survey incorporated several new features, relating to the co-operation and division of duties between DOT and HMCE as well as technical details of sampling and grossing the survey results.

Aims and Objectives

The 1991 survey, like its predecessors, was designed to give estimates of the transport flows of goods to and from the UK, in terms of both weight and value, by route and mode of transport, and the inland places of origin and destination. Although the survey covered all UK trade with the rest of the world (apart from some specified commodities), trade with Europe was covered in greatest detail.

As well as Eurotunnel's obvious interest in measuring trade flows between the UK and continental Europe, there are many potential users of the survey. Traders, international transport operators, freight forwarders, and port administrations all have

an interest in measuring particular segments of the market. For government, the data find application in several areas of transport policy. Some results have already been analysed by consultants to the Department of Transport, to assess the scope to attract freight off the roads and onto water transport. The survey also contributed to estimating statistical value adjustment factors for post-1992 intra-EC trade statistics.

Sources and Methods

The Tariff and Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise was responsible for selecting the sample, to the specification agreed with the Department of Transport in consultation with Eurotunnel. Port Statistics Branch of DOT carried out all subsequent stages of the survey, apart from queries from respondents that needed reference back to the original Customs declarations. For reasons of confidentiality, only Customs staff could access the declarations, but this did not prevent details of individual transactions, including traders' names and addresses, being passed to DOT as another Government Department. This contrasted with the 1978 and 1986 surveys, for which Customs handled all the survey administration, including despatch and receipt of questionnaires, up to the final production of processed and anonymised data.





The sample was selected from the monthly trade files throughout 1991, about 4 weeks after the end of each month. In total 53,526 items were selected, 25,080 imports and 28,446 exports. The sampling methodology did not allow the exact sample size to be specified in advance, and this depended on the composition of trade which changed from month to month.

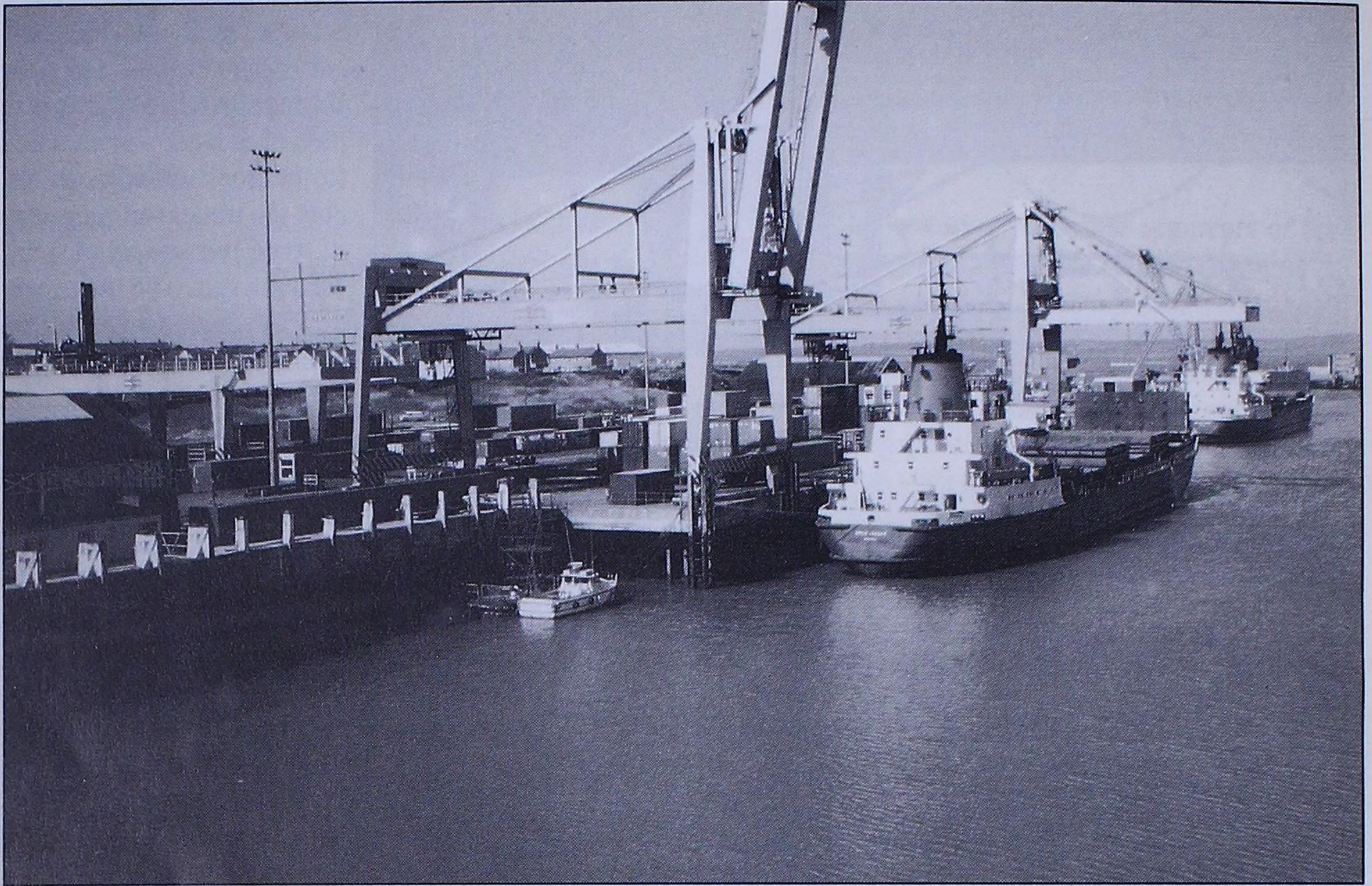
Each item of the sample corresponded to a single Customs entry. The Customs database gave details of commodity, net weight and value of the item, the UK port of entry or exit, and the country of consignment (imports) or destination (exports) of the goods. With each selected item, some further details from the

original Customs declaration were printed on a Customs 'extract document'. This was passed to DOT and attached to the questionnaire, to enable the trader (or his agent) to trace the specified item. This proved to be the aspect which caused most problems to traders and was probably the most important reason for non-response. Where the trader requested it, Customs and Excise put considerable resources into searching their microfilm copies of trade declarations to provide additional information, such as traders' reference numbers, not held on the Customs database. But once they had identified the items, traders appeared to have comparatively few difficulties in answering the questions.

The postal questionnaire, covering both sides of an A4 sheet, asked about places (nearest towns) of origin and destination, inland transport modes and routes (ports of loading and unloading), modes of appearance (types of cargo) on board ship, and details of container sizes,

loading, use of intermediate depots, and involvement of freight forwarders. Different questionnaires were prepared for imports (blue) and exports (pink), asking similar questions but in different orders. The questions roughly followed the order of journey of the goods from origin to destination in each case. To ensure that commercially confidential information was not released outside the Departments, questionnaires were anonymised by detaching the Customs documents before they were sent for coding and data keying.

The survey excluded some commodities which are transported as bulk cargoes, including most fuels. Experience with the 1986-87 Survey showed that for



these commodities, which are generally held in stockpiles at or near the port, questions on inland origins and destinations do not generally apply and the

information gained from questionnaires adds very little to what is already known from Customs data and other sources.

How existing customs data on items in the sample are supplemented by data from the survey:

From Customs

UK port
 Country of consignment or destination
 Country of origin (imports)
 Net weight
 Value
 Mode of transport at frontier
 Whether or not containerised

From Questionnaire

UK origin/destination
 Mode of transport in UK
 Mode of appearance on board ship (eg bulk, container, ro-ro vehicle)
 Intermediate depot (if any) in UK
 Use & type of containers
 First/last foreign port
 Second port in Europe (if any)
 Place of origin/destination (in main European countries only)
 Mode of transport in Europe
 Controlled temperature goods
 Dangerous goods
 Gross weight of goods
 Terms of trade (CIF/FOB)
 Who took the transport decisions?
 Full load or part load/groupage

Sampling

The sampling procedure used a form of stratified systematic sampling with probabilities proportional to size. Although most applications of the survey results for transport planning require weight estimates, some users are interested in values of trade. Therefore, for each item, a composite measure of its 'size' (w) was calculated as a weighted (in the ratio 2:1) average of the declared weight and value.

In the case of trade declared at airports, the 'size' was increased by a factor of 6 in order to achieve an adequate sample. This was necessary because items of air freight tend to be much lighter than sea-borne trade. Air freight comprised less than half per cent by weight, but 21 per cent by value of total UK trade.

Stratification was introduced to ensure representative coverage of the population. Each month, items were stratified into 32 commodity groups and within each commodity group, sorted by commodity, by overseas trading country (ie country of consignment for imports, and country of destination for exports), and by port of entry/exit.

For each stratum, a threshold size T was specified and a random start point. Sampling proceeded by systematic counting through the list of items, accumulating the item sizes, and selecting an item whenever the cumulative size had increased by at least T since the last selection. Thus, all items with size greater than T were selected, and smaller items were selected with probability w/T . Thresholds were set with reference to the distribution of trade in the previous year and adjusted after two trial runs in the first month.

Response

Usable data were received from 34,376 returned questionnaires, a response rate of 64 per cent. This was substantially higher than in the 1986 survey, and is regarded as a good response for a voluntary survey of

this type. The rate was lower for exports (60 per cent) than imports (69 per cent), probably because more detail was available from the Customs database for the



latter, helping traders to identify the items more easily in their records. Where possible, import questionnaires were sent to agents' addresses rather than the traders themselves. The agent was likely to have completed the original Customs declaration, so this also improved response. For exports this was not possible, and the questionnaire was sent to the exporter in all cases.

Grossing

Grossing refers to the process by which the weights and values of items in the returns were scaled to give estimates of weight and value for the whole population. Grossing was carried out separately for imports and exports, and for weight and value. Tests in 1986 showed that simply grossing to the population totals for each of 32 strata, defined by commodity group, left significant discrepancies between the estimated and actual trade totals for trade flows by port or country group. Therefore, an iterative process was developed which grossed successively to population totals for the 32 commodity strata, 25 country groups, and 12 port groups. (This is essentially the RAS process, developed in another context for balancing Input/Output tables to 'known' marginal totals.) About 5 iterations proved to be sufficient for this scheme to converge. The method was repeated for the 1991 survey, but extended to a much longer list of

commodities including all the most important commodities (at 5-digit SITC level) for non-fuel unitised trade. Thus the commodity classification used for grossing was more detailed than that in the original stratification for sample selection. Slightly different lists of commodities were used for grossing imports (142 groups) and exports (141 groups), and it was found that the estimates converged after at most 3 further iterations.

Computing

Computing systems design and processing for the survey was contracted out to the private consultancy Forvus Computer Services. This included subcontracting data coding and keying for the questionnaires. Two databases were constructed using the database management system SIR. One, mounted on a 486-SX PC, was used as a management system for recording the despatch and receipt of questionnaires, generating management summaries, and printing lists and address labels for reminder letters to non-respondents. The main database, held on the Department's VAX mainframe, was used to store data for the sample from the monthly Customs tapes, and later merging of the data from returned questionnaires. On receipt of the Customs tapes, these were read into the VAX database, and then the data for selected variables were extracted onto a file and down-loaded to the management database on the PC. All these processes were automated and controlled by menu commands written by Forvus.

Much of the work in DOT was done by students on industrial placements as part of their degree courses, who thereby gained valuable insights into the practicalities of managing a real survey.

Availability of Results and Future Plans

The survey confirmed that most goods in international trade are transported by road to or from the port. Apart from bulk fuels and goods that started or remained within the port, 91 per cent by weight (94 per cent of imports in 1991 and 88 per cent of exports) moved by road in the United Kingdom. Rail transport accounted for 6 per cent, and water transport (mainly by sea) for 3 per cent of movements.

Road transport was also the most important mode for the foreign inland transport movement. Three-quarters (75 per cent overall, 71 per cent of imports and 81 per cent of exports) of goods to or from continental Europe moved by road to or from the European port of loading or unloading. Water transport accounted for 13 per cent, about a quarter of which was by inland waterway. Rail accounted for 12 per cent.

In terms of value, about a third of United Kingdom non-fuel trade in 1991 was transported to or from London or the South East of England. In terms of weight, however, these areas together accounted for only 22 per cent of imports and 13 per cent of exports.

by Ian Scott
Acting Head of Information
Central Statistical Office

At the beginning of April, the Central Statistical Office gave its press notices a new name. They are now known as *First Releases*, in acknowledgment of the fact that the figures they feature are as eagerly awaited in the City as in Fleet Street.

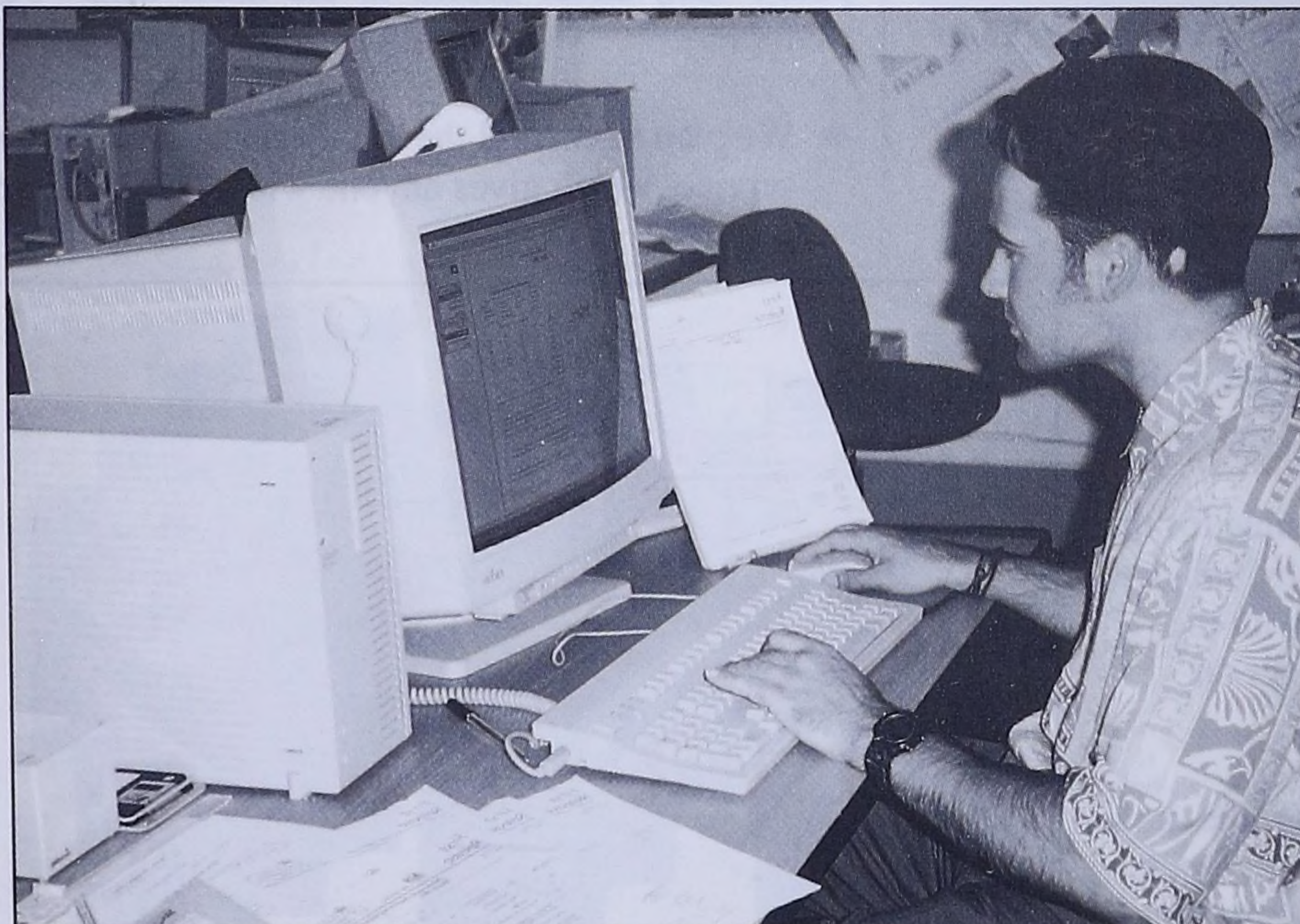
The term speaks of immediacy and impact, and stresses the statistical press notice's role as a means of publishing market-moving data. It is not too much to say that the *First Release* marks the start of a new era in the dissemination of CSO statistics.

Since the CSO was expanded to become a separate department four years ago, much of the dissemination effort has been focused upon the press. Our statisticians regularly brief journalists face to face. Most of the world's leading financial news agencies use the latest technology to file detailed macro-economic data live from our press office - direct to thousands of subscribers worldwide within seconds of release.

However, the sale of press notices to the public and to companies produces a substantial income, and it has always been recognised that in terms of data delivery the press is simply an intermediary in reaching CSO's customers in the City and elsewhere.

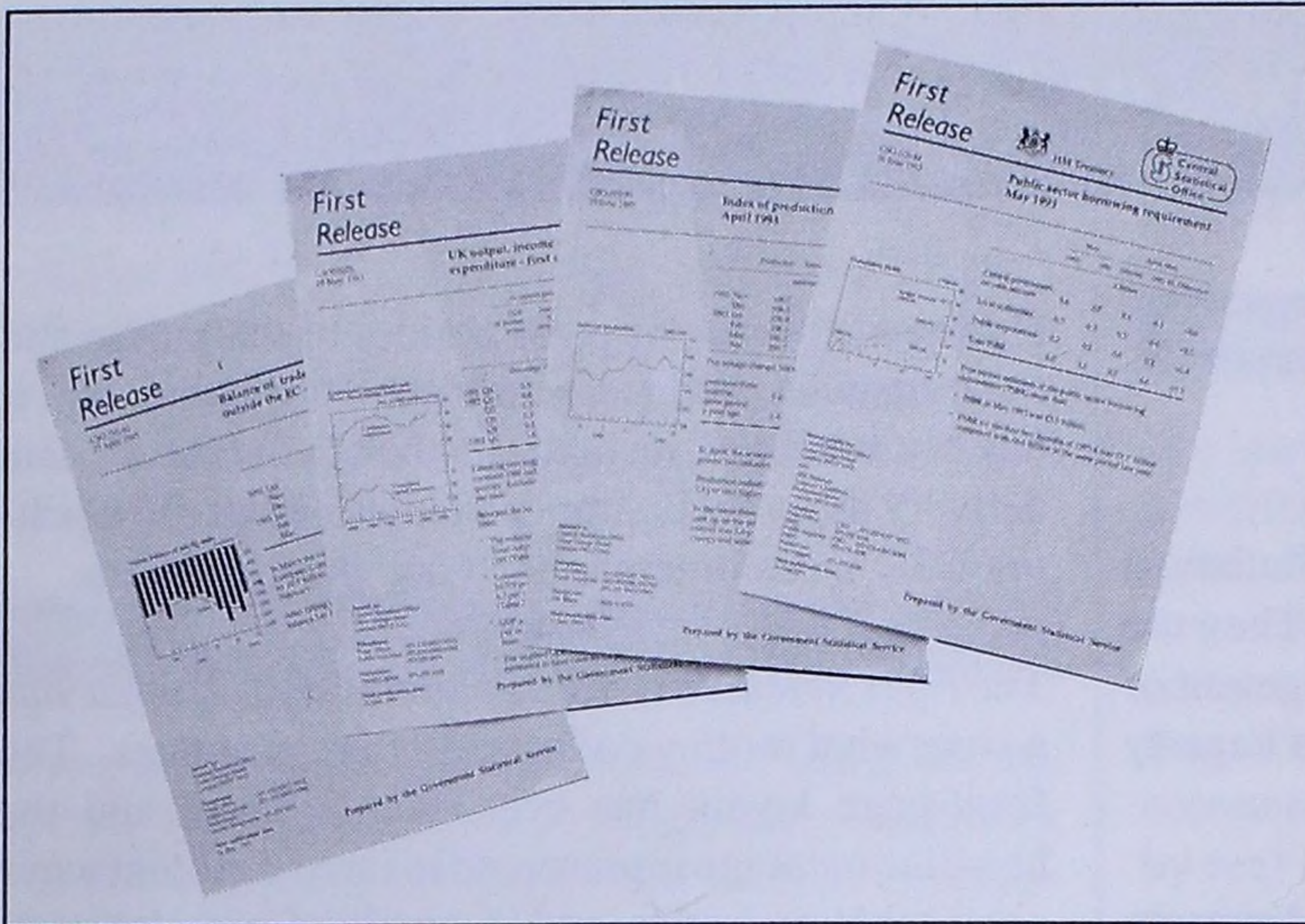
The *First Releases* bring a common style to what was a somewhat motley collection of press notices. The front-page layout has been standardised, and the headline message is presented in three different ways - as a table, in words, and in graphic form. Interestingly, and perhaps appropriately, the numbers come first, with the title of the *First Release* forming the heading for the table. The graph, like the front page as a whole, is simple and uncluttered, and makes possible an at-a-glance assessment of the current situation.

But the change is much more than cosmetic. A primary objective is to include material that previously was made available only at the press briefings, and so reached some of CSO's customers on a hit-and-miss basis. *The Retail Prices Index* release, for example, now contains much more detail - and a positive galaxy of graphs.



Another innovation is the inclusion of trend statements, with CSO's statisticians drawing a line through the last year's data to indicate the current trend. So far only *Balance of Payments First Releases* have been given this treatment, but others will follow.

CSO's Grade 7 statisticians, although used to meeting the press, now find themselves thrust further into the limelight. For the front page of each *First Release* bears the name -



economic decision-making, enhance the reputation of government statistics, and promote public confidence in their integrity.”

Some statistical series are being released earlier. Most dramatically, the initial estimate of GDP is now published three weeks after the end of the quarter - four weeks earlier than before.

Both press and public have responded in a positive way to these innovations. Journalists have described the *First Releases* as “much better” and “very smart”, while one wrote: “The opening commentaries

and phone number - of the statistician responsible for the series. He or she must be prepared to field press inquiries and, as has happened already, to be quoted by name in the national press.

The launch of the *First Release*, of course, is only one of a range of measures designed to improve the procedures for the release of CSO statistics. The new release practices, which came into effect at the beginning of April, are designed to reinforce three basic principles:

- The CSO publishes data as early as possible and always on pre-announced release dates at a stated time. In a related move, the CSO has begun to announce the publication dates of macro-economic statistics three months in advance.
- Data are available to all users at the same time with limited exceptions only on a strict need-to-know basis. A list of advance recipients has been published.
- The CSO is solely responsible for the content of its *First Releases*, subject to advance consultation with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on changes in format.

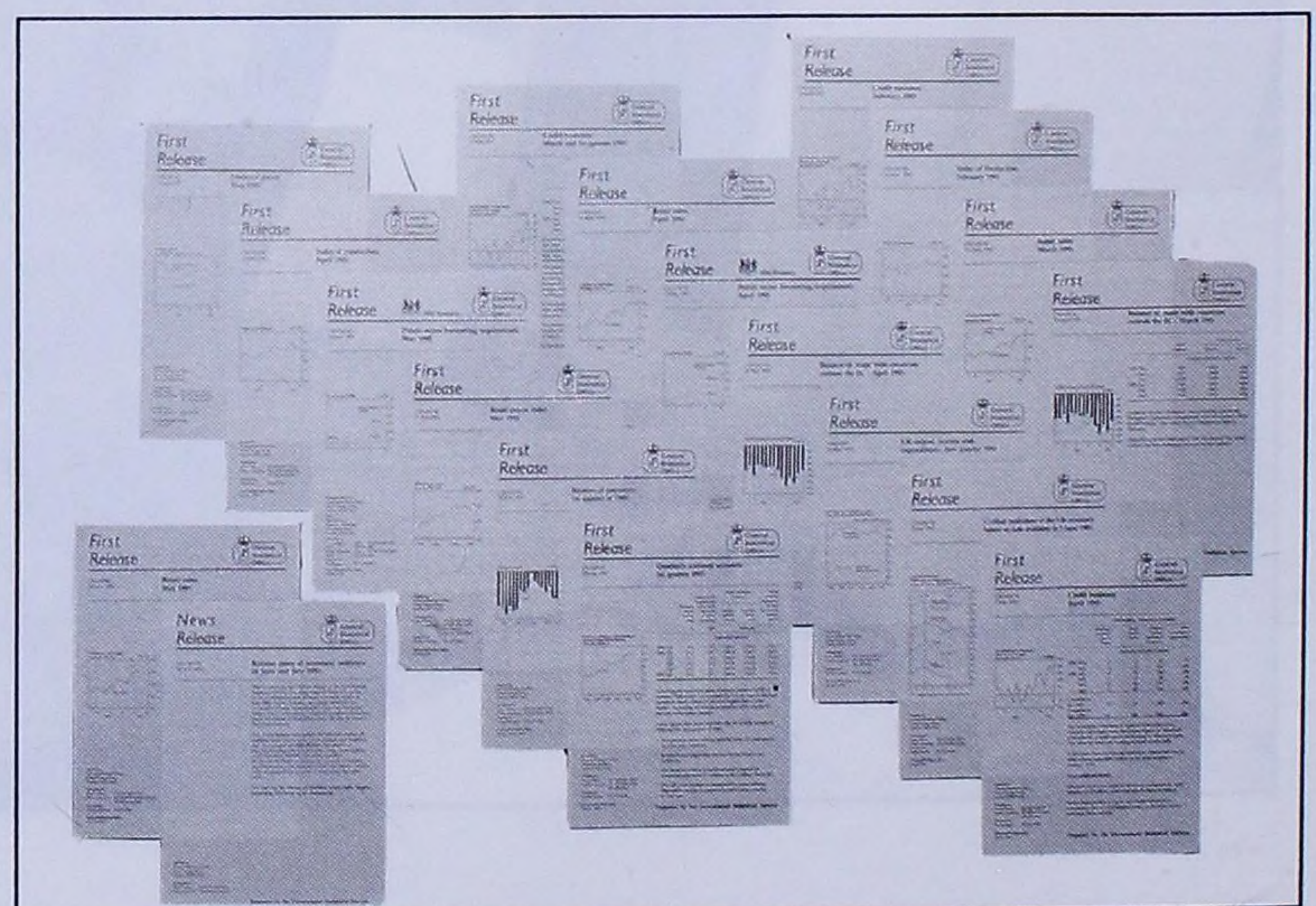
The Chancellor, announcing the new measures, said: “These changes emphasise my determination to promote openness and transparency in the Government’s

are much more useful than they used to be”. Preliminary soundings in the City show subscribers well pleased with the *First Releases*: one analyst actually described them as “wonderful”.

A Bournemouth stockbroker wrote to compliment the CSO on the “excellent new layouts”. And distinguished economics commentator Samuel Brittan wrote in the *Financial Times* of the CSO’s “brave experiment” in publishing preliminary GDP figures so soon after the end of the quarter.

Future developments are likely to focus on giving the public fast, direct access to the latest data. For example:

- We plan to expand the highly successful Statfax service, which gives anyone with a fax machine



access to macro-economic statistics within minutes of publication at 11.30 am. *First Release* subscribers will be offered the option of automatically receiving the latest data by fax rather than by first class mail.

- In due course, we aim to make data available on line when *First Releases* are published. At present, the public can access the CSO Databank only through designated host bureaux or by buying computer discs or tapes.
- In the longer term, we are looking to deliver the concept of the Datashop, which would make customised statistics readily available to inquirers, either electronically or in hard copy.

Over the next few years the CSO's entire range of printed publications will be reviewed to improve their

content and presentation in the light of customers' views. That process began with the transformation of the press notices into *First Releases*, and will continue with a review of the *CSO Bulletins*. The Bulletin series, introduced as a temporary measure when *British Business* ceased publication four years ago, provides a fast means of publishing a variety of data, and in fact the product is a compromise between a press notice and a periodical.

In developing CSO's printed and electronic outputs, the primary aim is to give our customers ready access to the statistics they need in easy-to-use form. The process of improvement, it need hardly be said, will be continuous. As time goes on the output will evolve to match the changing needs of data users.



The 1992 Statistics Users' Conference

The CSO - Economic and Business Statistics into the 1990s



by Paul Cook, Martin Duckworth, Mike Prestwood and Debra Richards
Central Statistical Office

Introduction

On 7 December last year, over 250 delegates were welcomed to the 1992 Statistics Users' Conference. The conference is organised annually by the Statistics Users' Council. It provides a forum where users of statistics can meet and exchange views with the Government Statistical Service.

Each conference has a theme and previous subjects have included Law and Order statistics, Transport statistics and Health statistics. The title of the 1992 conference, The CSO - Economic and Business statistics, was particularly relevant considering the recent re-organisation of the CSO, its move to Agency status and the appointment of a new director.

During the late 1980s, CSO economic statistics were subject to considerable criticism. Since then, the CSO has been enlarged and there have been several packages of improvements announced by successive Chancellors. In a speech given at the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) annual dinner in May 1992, the Chancellor said that "official statistics are produced not just for the Government, but for the benefit of business and for the public at large". This reaffirms the CSO's commitment to producing statistics for an audience wider than government.

With this background, the conference aimed to examine the uses and users of official statistics, to assess recent changes in quality and timeliness and to address the issues of marketing and dissemination of statistics.

The CSO as an Executive Agency

Opening the session, **Bill McLennan** explained that Agency status had given the CSO a focus on quality

and service and provided a clear statement of Treasury's requirements. He described some of the recent organisational changes such as the setting up of a management board and advisory council including representatives from the private sector. The CSO was also developing a corporate plan and was emphasising the importance of publications and first releases of data. The unit developing statistical methodology within the CSO would also be strengthened.

Ian Maclean, chairman of the Statistics Users Council, felt that the United Kingdom had been out of step with other countries. The merger of the Business Statistics Office (BSO) with the CSO was a positive step but an enlarged CSO should cover all economic statistics including agriculture and energy. The creation of a National Statistics Authority was also needed. Most developed countries have a National Statistics Act and he felt that the United Kingdom should adopt this approach. He stressed that the CSO should have a more extensive range of outputs, although PRODCOM and INTRASTAT provided a good start. There should be greater use of advertising. Experimentation with direct computer links with businesses would also be welcomed. He felt that official statistics had improved since the mid-eighties but the Government Statistical Service (GSS) should orientate data to public needs.

Christopher Johnson of the Association for European Monetary Union, generally agreed with the views of Ian Maclean but praised the new work being done by the CSO. However, he stressed that the CSO was still focused towards production, rather than marketing, of statistics. He felt that the CSO should become autonomous and directly accountable to the House of Commons. In addition, the GSS should be centralised and concentrate on areas where statistics are needed most. At present, the CSO is producing economic statistics mainly for the Treasury and there ought to be greater commitment to the needs of others.

The discussion began with **Pam Walker** (CSO)

commenting that her branch had been in contact with companies to identify their requirements and to consider computer links with companies. **Jill Leyland**, an independent consultant, felt that there was a problem with the way the public perceived the CSO because it was responsible to the Treasury. **Jeremy Bray MP**, said that the GSS should pinpoint the statistics required and direct efforts towards these. In response to these points **Bill McLennan** said that although there was room for improvement, especially greater contact with users, he was pleased with the way the CSO was developing.

Business and Industrial Statistics

This session had a distinct European theme. It covered the new trade system INTRASTAT, introduced on 1 January 1993 with the abolition of customs controls within the European Community (EC), and the introduction in 1993 of PRODCOM, a product sales inquiry for all EC member states.

Graham Jenkinson (CSO) gave a description of INTRASTAT and described how this system should maintain the quality of the visible trade statistics. **Robin Lynch** (CSO) described the details of PRODCOM and explained how the CSO had established close links with data suppliers. He highlighted the one-day seminar informing users and providers about PRODCOM.

Andrew Sentance (CBI) emphasised the needs of business for timely, detailed and user-friendly statistics. It was suggested that a partnership between the CSO and the business community should be developed, perhaps undertaking joint ventures. **Eric Potts** from Sterling Fluid Systems AG spoke as a user of official economic statistics. He made the point that to be useful, information must be in the form required by its users.

The developments in economic statistics, such as the consistency of production and trade statistics under PRODCOM, were welcomed. Some concern was expressed about the timeliness of the 1993 trade data. In response to concern regarding product classifications under PRODCOM, **Robin Lynch** (CSO) explained that the balance had to be struck between maintaining consistency with the trade statistics and meeting users' needs.

The Chancellor's confirmation that economic statistics are produced for a wider audience than government was welcomed by users. However, there seemed to be some scepticism about whether the pendulum would swing back, and the compilation of statistics for government needs would once more become the prime objective. Throughout the session it was apparent that industry wanted more detail, more often. It was suggested that the load on businesses providing information should be considered alongside the value of the CSO's service.

During the session, a request was made for further coverage of the service sectors. It was felt that data collection by the CSO concentrated on the manufacturing and production sectors. **Roger Norton** (CSO) touched on the recent developments to improve coverage of the services, for example the Quarterly Turnover Inquiry set up as part of the initiatives backed by the Chancellor to improve economic statistics.

It was clear from discussions that there is a genuine desire by industry for timely and relevant statistics, and a willingness to co-operate with CSO in order to bring these about. There was a feeling that the atmosphere may now be right for developments to ensure effective use of official statistics.

Macro-Economic Statistics

The afternoon began with the session on macro-economic statistics exuberantly chaired by **Sam Brittan** (*Financial Times*). Under close supervision from the chair, **David Wroe** (CSO) gave a rapid overview of improvements to economic statistics. He highlighted the smaller revisions now being made, the reduction in sector balancing items and the increased coherence of national accounts estimates. Looking to the future, he discussed several changes to national accounts including new publications.

Mervyn King (Bank of England) suggested that statistics should be collected for users other than business and government such as scientists studying economic and social behaviour. He encouraged the CSO to examine further disaggregated data and perhaps to make more use of interest rate series and balance sheet information. He welcomed Bill

McLennan's statement that statistics should not be collected solely for government and stressed that, "statistics were too important for dry bureaucrats".

Alison Wright (British Invisibles) emphasised the recent growth of invisible trade and stressed its importance in the economy. She explored the problems of estimating invisible trade, particularly where quality of services had improved or the service had previously been done 'in-house'. She acknowledged the recent improvements to statistics following the Chancellors' Initiatives but hoped that the monthly projections of invisible trade would soon cease.

Brian Pearce (ITEM Club) described how economic analysts use statistics for economic modelling. They need timely and detailed data which allows them to evaluate the state of the economy today rather than last quarter. Such knowledge provides a sound basis for accurate forecasts. Discontinuities in data series cause additional problems and Mr Pearce implied that statisticians should assist users to make allowance for such discontinuities. He cited the example of the drop in consumers' expenditure following the introduction of the community charge.

David Kern (National Westminster Bank), agreed that there had been significant improvements to economic statistics and hoped that the CSO would take forward the work on balance sheets and chain-linking of accounts. He felt that figures on invisible trade were a 'black hole' and there was a need for more accurate data on them. Finally, he suggested that statisticians should popularise problems to ensure users were familiar with them and were aware of their impacts.

The discussion covered a wide range of issues such as revisions policy, modelling economies and several conceptual issues. The issue of data on trade in services was discussed in more detail. **David Wroe** agreed that there was a need for price indices for services and stressed the difficulty of producing such indices. In response to comments, he said that balance sheets up to 1992 would appear in the next *Blue Book* and thereafter annually. He confirmed that the Council Tax would be treated in the same way as the community charge in the national accounts, thereby avoiding any discontinuity. **Sam Brittan** pointed out that distortions in price indices as a result of changes in fiscal policy caused problems for analysts but

figures at factor cost avoided these problems. There was also a discussion of possible changes to international guidelines on the treatment of banks in the national accounts.

Dissemination and Marketing

Professor Douglas MacWilliams opened the session by remarking that ten years ago it was unlikely that the subject of marketing statistics would have been raised at a conference. It was refreshing to see a whole session being devoted to this topic.

Ian Scott, CSO's acting head of information, presented a paper written by Frank Martin (CSO). He said that the CSO's *Agency Framework Document* provides the rules under which the CSO can operate. These recognise the needs of the wider public and allow sufficient flexibility for the CSO to develop its products. In the short term, the CSO is looking to improve the presentation of the statistics it already publishes. The press notices, used by a range of customers, are being re-designed to meet users needs more closely. CSO is continuing to develop the use of other media, for example the Statfax service. It is also exploring the ways of using its own database for dissemination of statistics.

Denise Lievesly, the Director of the Economic and Social Research Council Data Archive, presented a paper on the dissemination of statistics from an academic user's perspective. Whilst she welcomed the recognition of the public's needs, she was concerned that there might still be barriers to the free flow of information; the principal barrier being charging. Unless a pricing policy took account of the ability to pay as well as the costs of producing the data, large numbers of users would not enjoy free access to data. More work was needed to formulate a sensible consistent charging policy for all data. Users also had a part to play in the dissemination of data by making sure their requests for data were clearly formulated and realistic.

Inge Feldbaek, of Danmarks Statistik, then spoke about the experience of the centralised statistical offices of the Nordic countries. The framework in which Danmarks Statistik operates changed under the 1966 Statistics Act with all users, both government departments and the wider public, being charged for the collection of statistics. Within certain limits there

is flexibility to collect any statistics for which a paying user can be found. The new framework necessitated a movement away from a producer culture towards a more market orientated approach.

Alain Chantraine, the Director responsible for dissemination at Eurostat then spoke on marketing statistics Europe-wide. Statistics were a powerful tool for democracy and should be disseminated as widely as possible. The marketing policy of Eurostat is based on segmenting the market and designing different products to suit each sector. Eurostat was also concerned with formulating a pricing policy which recognised this segmentation and promulgating a consistent pricing policy across the member states of the EC.

Gordon Regan of the Iron and Steel Statistics Bureau offered the Iron and Steel industry as an example of how providers, disseminators and users of data could work together. The CSO was relatively new to marketing statistics but had shown a willingness to listen and learn.

The discussion after the presentation of the papers concentrated on how a balance could be struck between the public right to data and the advantages of a 'user pays' system. Whilst there was general agreement that statistics should be disseminated and used as widely as possible, there was a range of views as to how this could be achieved.

Open Forum

The conference finished with an open forum, chaired by **Bill McLennan**, where the main topic of interest was charging policy. **Bill McLennan** felt that if the statistics were not used, then the statisticians were not doing their job. He said that charging would depend largely on the user and the product. Certain specialist services such as seminars could be charged for but major economic statistics ought to be supplied to the press free of charge.

Summary

There was a general consensus that the quality of official economic statistics had improved over recent years. The CSO's commitment to these improvements was recognised but it was made clear that there

were areas requiring further improvements. The Chancellor's confirmation that statistics should be collected for users in addition to government was welcomed widely. Users re-affirmed that there was a greater need for the CSO to seek their views and to recognise their needs. The conference raised some interesting issues and stimulated lengthy discussions.

CSO papers are available on request from
Paul Cook,
Central Statistical Office,
Great George Street,
LONDON SW1P 3AQ.

Conference proceedings are available priced
£50 from
Ian Maclean,
Secretary Statistics Users' Council,
Lancaster House,
More Lane,
Esher,
SURREY KT10 8AP.

Note:

Since the last issue of Statistical News was dedicated to international issues this article has had to appear several months after the event.

by Neil Benn, Department of Transport

Summary

Traffic speeds in London have been monitored regularly and consistently for the last 25 years. The overall results are taken as an indicator of the change in road congestion over the period. Disaggregated results point to the areas where congestion is greatest as a guide to targeting possible remedies. The method is being developed continuously and the survey coverage is due to be extended to include major urban areas outside London during 1993.

Introduction

The speed of traffic in London is a major indicator of the efficiency of the road network. It provides a measure of the level of congestion on the road network, which in turn indicates the ability of the network to meet the demand for road travel. This is increasingly important as the scope for the building of new roads becomes more and more limited.

surveys, between 1904 and 1966, were more limited in scope.

It is important to appreciate that these surveys measure overall 'journey' speeds and include delays due to congestion at junctions. They are therefore distinct from 'spot' speeds, which are vehicle speeds measured at a single point, usually a relatively free-flowing site.

Method

The method employed in these surveys is a derivation of the general approach developed by Wardrop and Charlesworth (1954). The theory behind this is explained in the APPENDIX.

The surveys are conducted on the whole of the London major road network plus certain minor roads in a cycle lasting about three years. Data are collected for each of four time periods within a 12-hour weekday: the morning peak period (0700 to 1000), the inter-peak periods (1000 to 1300 and 1300 to 1600) and the evening peak period (1600 to 1900).

The method involves a specially-equipped survey car touring the chosen road network in such a manner as to balance the number of vehicles which overtake it and the number of vehicles which it overtakes. By keeping pace with the traffic in this way, the vehicle travels at the speed of an 'average' vehicle on each road section ('link'). This speed of the survey car is, in fact, a direct estimate of the harmonic mean speed of the traffic on that link.

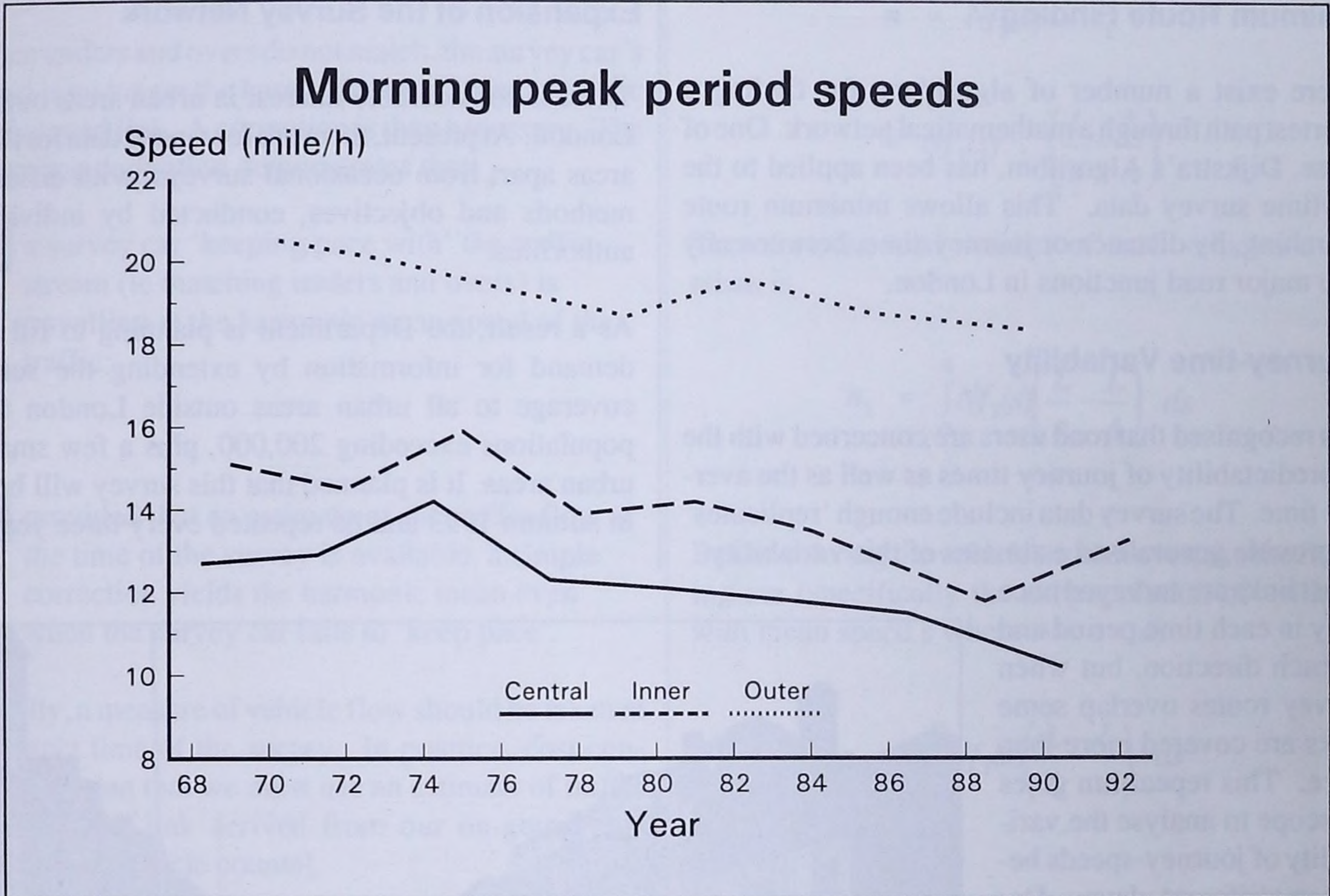
The main data collected are the time and distance elapsed along each link, defined as the section of road between successive light- or roundabout-controlled junctions. Recent surveys have also measured incidences of



Surveys have therefore been carried out regularly over the last twenty-five years, firstly by the GLC and, since 1986, by the Department of Transport. Earlier

vehicles overtaking or being overtaken by the survey vehicle. These counts, known as 'overs' and 'unders' respectively, are a useful check on the efficiency of the drivers in operating the technique described above, and allow us to correct time data on links where the number of unders and overs do not match.

The chart shows trends in morning peak speeds since the surveys began. Separate trends are shown for central, inner and outer London. The boundary of central London is within about two miles of Waterloo, and that of inner London between two and five miles of Waterloo. Outer London is the remaining area



The data are gathered from two sources. Distance data are collected from a precisely calibrated odometer (mileometer) attached to the car's wheels. This gives a cumulative distance reading in ten-thousandths of a mile every two seconds. In addition, an observer within the car notes the end of links and vehicles passing and being passed by the survey car. These data are fed into an in-vehicle computer which combines, summaries and adds appropriate timings. A clock, built into the computer as a standard feature, provides the time data.

Uses of the Data

General Monitoring

The main purpose of the surveys is to indicate overall trends in the 'ease of movement' around the network.

within the Greater London boundary. The chart shows that the general downward trend in speeds has been interrupted by the energy crisis of 1973/4 and the economic recessions of 1980/1 and 1991/2.

Congestion Levels

In 1991 the Department commissioned a survey of London traffic speeds during the night-time hours not normally covered. The main purpose of the survey was to estimate the speed at which vehicles could travel around the network in virtually free-flow conditions. By comparing these speeds with those achieved during the day, an estimate of the excess hours per vehicle due to congestion was derived. Throughout London, night-time speeds were about double those found during the morning peak period.

Clearly it is not realistic to expect that daytime traffic could ever travel at night-time speeds: in no sense, therefore, do these night-time speeds represent a 'target' for traffic engineers to achieve. Nevertheless, they give an objective basis for comparison with daytime speeds.

Minimum Route Finding

There exist a number of algorithms for finding a shortest path through a mathematical network. One of these, Dijkstra's Algorithm, has been applied to the daytime survey data. This allows minimum route searching, by distance or journey-time, between any two major road junctions in London.

Journey-time Variability

It is recognised that road users are concerned with the unpredictability of journey times as well as the average time. The survey data include enough 'replicates' to provide generalised estimates of this variability.

Most links are surveyed once only in each time period and in each direction, but when survey routes overlap some links are covered more than once. This repeat run gives us scope to analyse the variability of journey-speeds between different days. Detailed analysis of the data has produced estimates of journey-time variance for peak and off-peak periods, and for the central, inner and outer areas.

Somewhat surprisingly, there is generally little correlation between the journey-times on successive links: ie the fact that there is an above-average delay on one section does not imply that the next one will be unusually congested. It follows that the journey-time variability for 'long' journeys (ie comprising many links) is not as great as might be expected given the poor predictability of delays on specific sections. For example, a morning peak journey from the A22/M25 intersection to Trafalgar Square is estimated to take 75 minutes

with 5th and 95th percentiles of 68 and 84 minutes respectively.

Current Developments

These fall into two broad categories.

Expansion of the Survey Network

There is considerable interest in urban areas outside London. At present, there are few speed data for these areas apart from occasional surveys, with different methods and objectives, conducted by individual authorities.

As a result, the Department is planning to fill this demand for information by extending the survey coverage to all urban areas outside London with populations exceeding 200,000, plus a few smaller urban areas. It is planned that this survey will begin in autumn 1993 and be repeated every three years.



Collecting Additional Data

In addition to the standard requirements, the most recent survey collected data on the presence of parked vehicles on the road. Initial results show that, in inner London, parked vehicles occupy about one-tenth of kerb space. Future trends will be monitored.

Appendix, Theory of the Moving Vehicle Method

The data on the numbers of vehicles overtaking and being overtaken by the survey car ('overs' and 'unders' respectively) collected in the latest surveys allow us to adjust time data on individual road links.

When unders and overs do not match, the survey car's speed is no longer the harmonic mean speed of traffic on that road link. A correction is then necessary. The following derivation demonstrates that:

a a survey car 'keeping pace with' the traffic stream (ie matching unders and overs) is travelling at the harmonic mean speed of the traffic;

and

b provided that an estimate of the traffic flow at the time of the survey is available, a simple correction yields the harmonic mean even when the survey car fails to 'keep pace'.

[Ideally, a measure of vehicle flow should be taken at the exact time of the survey. In practice, cost constraints mean that we must use an estimate of traffic flow on that link derived from our on-going programme of vehicle counts].

Consider vehicles entering a link of length L at a rate of N vehicles per unit time. Let the distribution of their average speeds (s) over the link be $f_T(s)$ so that the probability that any vehicle has average speed in the interval $(s, s + \delta s)$ is $f_T(s)\delta s$.

The floating car covers the link at mean speed A . Then the only vehicles it can overtake are those with mean speed $s < A$. However, it will not be possible to overtake all such vehicles as some will have entered the link long before the floating car.

Consider the subpopulation of vehicles with mean speed s where $0 < s < A$.

The vehicles which the floating car will overtake are those which entered the link no more than t_1 time units before it, where

$$\frac{L}{s} - t_1 = \frac{L}{A}$$

The number of vehicles of mean speed s entering the link in time t_1 is

$$\begin{aligned} n &= Nf_T(s) \cdot t_1 \\ &= Nf_T(s) \cdot \left(\frac{L}{s} - \frac{L}{A} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the total number of such vehicles overtaken is

$$n_1 = \int_0^A Nf_T(s) \left(\frac{L}{s} - \frac{L}{A} \right) ds$$

By considering the vehicles which overtake the floating car (specifically the subpopulation of vehicles with mean speed s where $A < s < \infty$)

$$n_2 = \int_A^\infty Nf_T(s) \left(\frac{L}{A} - \frac{L}{s} \right) ds$$

The floating car method aims to equate n_1 and n_2 , but suppose there are Q more 'unders' than 'overs', so

$$\int_0^A f_T(s) \left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{A} \right) ds - \int_A^\infty f_T(s) \left(\frac{1}{A} - \frac{1}{s} \right) ds = \frac{Q}{NL}$$

therefore

$$\int_0^\infty f_T(s) \frac{1}{s} ds - \frac{1}{A} \int_0^\infty f_T(s) ds = \frac{Q}{NL}$$

so

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{f_T(s)}{s} ds = \frac{Q}{NL} + \frac{1}{A}$$

But, by definition,

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{f_T(s)}{s} ds = \frac{1}{h_T}$$

where h_T is the harmonic mean speed.

Therefore

$$\frac{L}{h_T} = \frac{Q}{N} + \frac{L}{A}$$

ie the time taken to cover the link, for a vehicle travelling at the harmonic mean speed of the traffic, differs from that taken by the survey car by an amount Q/N .

It is clear that when $Q=0$, A , the survey car's speed, equals h_T the harmonic mean speed of the traffic.

Reference

Wardrop J. G. and Charlesworth G. (1954), A Method of Estimating Speed and Flow of Traffic from a Moving Vehicle.
The Institute of Civil Engineers.

by Nick Adkin and Martin Uglow, Department of Social Security

Introduction

This article gives an introduction to the recently published *Households Below Average Income* (HBAI) figures. It describes what HBAI measures; gives some background to official low income statistics; and describes how these high profile official statistics are quality assured prior to publication - particularly important in this subject area where previous statistics have been prone to embarrassing errors. Finally it summarises the results of the 1993 publication.

This article is not an abridged version of the HBAI publication. It outlines some of the recent developments in low income statistics; and aims to shed light on the processes which have generated major improvements in timeliness and accuracy of HBAI statistics.

What is HBAI?

HBAI provides estimates of the patterns and levels of disposable income in the UK, and how they have changed over time. HBAI is based on an analysis of the *Family Expenditure Survey* (FES), supplemented by information on very high incomes from the *Survey of Personal Incomes* (SPI) run by the Inland Revenue. The income definition in HBAI uses current income, as opposed to income in the last full year which cannot reliably be estimated from the FES.

HBAI uses two measures of income before and after deducting housing costs - BHC and AHC respectively. Two measures are produced, and used in tandem, to reflect the distinctive nature of housing costs in the UK. Each measure has advantages and disadvantages, for example:

- BHC income includes Housing Benefit, hence any increase in housing costs is reflected in rising Housing Benefit which in turn will increase the BHC income, even though the household may be no better off;

- AHC income may also give a misleading impression of changes in living standards when increases in housing costs reflect improvements in quality of housing. In such cases AHC income may show a fall which does not indicate a falling standard of living, but reflects a choice to spend more income on better quality housing.

Despite such problems, consultation with external analysts confirmed that these two complementary income measures are the best available. HBAI practice is always to quote both, not preferring one to the other.

Limitations of HBAI

Income may not always be a reliable indicator of living standards. Other factors, such as the level of spending, savings or possession of consumer durables, may shed further light on the relative living standards of individuals. Therefore HBAI contains two additional analyses to aid interpretation of the HBAI. The first is an analysis of expenditure against income, which shows that expenditure amongst people in the lowest 10 per cent of the income distribution was higher than in the second lowest 10 per cent. This anomaly is greatest in the very lowest income groups, with people reporting zero or negative incomes After Housing Costs spending more, on average, than people in the population as a whole. The reasons for this are not clear, but factors such as people living off capital, and the self-employed reporting losses which may not accurately reflect their standard of living are two examples of why this discrepancy may occur. The second complementary analysis looks at possession of consumer durables - such as televisions, washing machines and cars - across the income distribution.

Finally, the data source for HBAI, the FES, covers only private households. Hence HBAI does not cover people living in institutions, in bed and breakfast accommodation or sleeping rough. These groups cannot be included in the HBAI analysis as there is no consistent reliable time-series information about them or their income levels.

Despite these imperfections, HBAI is the most comprehensive and up-to-date analysis of changing UK living standards currently available.

The Recent History of HBAI

HBAI is a relatively new statistical series, the current 1993 edition is only the fourth. HBAI's predecessor was a series called *Low Income Families* (LIF) which was replaced at the recommendation of an inter-departmental Technical Review¹. LIF attempted to relate a family's income to the prevailing supplementary benefit (now income support) level of the year being analysed. A family (or 'benefit unit') is defined as a single adult or couple together with any dependants aged under 16 or aged 16 to 18 and in secondary or non-advanced further education. The Review highlighted many interpretative as well as technical deficiencies in the LIF series, and judged that these drawbacks meant a new low income series should replace it: that series is HBAI.

HBAI differs from LIF in many areas, but the principal two are:

- it is based on the income of the household rather than the family; and
- it does not relate the recorded household income levels to supplementary benefit or income support levels.

The first of these changes reflects the assumption that income of the household (defined in the FES as sharing meals and having common housekeeping arrangements) is a better indicator of living standards than looking independently at each family within the household and assuming no sharing of income occurs. For instance, a young unemployed adult living at home with two working parents is assumed to share the standard of living of the household rather than have a level of income which reflects only his/her own income. Though it is likely the truth lies somewhere between the two, the Review concluded that household income was the fairer representation of real living standards.

The first edition of HBAI appeared in May 1988, the second in July 1990. During this period, interest in the methodology and construction of HBAI figures was increasing. In particular the Institute for Fiscal Stud-

ies (IFS), who were undertaking HBAI style analyses for the then Social Services Select Committee, attempted to reconstruct the published HBAI data from the source FES data. During their work the IFS identified a number of errors in the published HBAI series. In the course of reconciling the differences between the IFS analysis and the official results, broader issues concerning the existing methodology were considered. At the same time, DSS analysts became increasingly concerned about the ability of the existing data and methodology to provide reliable answers to the questions addressed in HBAI. It was therefore decided to review, as a stocktaking exercise, the methodology by which HBAI results were produced and presented.

Stocktaking

A Working Group was set up consisting principally of DSS analysts. During the stocktaking a wide range of external analysts were consulted and a Report was published in November 1991². The underlying aim of the exercise was to ensure all published data are as robust as possible, the methodology consistent, and the results presented clearly and helpfully; the philosophy was that any remaining weaknesses in the results be conveyed clearly to HBAI's readers. For instance, a recommendation was made that the sensitivity of the results to sampling error be indicated. As a result, the post-stocktaking editions of HBAI contain estimates of confidence intervals around key results; if a result has a confidence interval wider than a predetermined level then it is either bracketed or omitted from the main part of the publication, depending how far away the confidence interval is from the level deemed acceptable.

Equivalisation

Because HBAI uses household income it is necessary to adjust the level of income in a household to reflect its size and composition. It is clear that a household made up of a couple and two children does not have the same standard of living as a single person household with the same level of income. To allow meaningful comparisons between different households, their income is 'equivalised': that is scaled up (or down) to reflect the additional income needs generated by additional household members. No one set of equivalence scales is perfect. The main results in HBAI are therefore calculated using the

McClement's equivalence scale, then the results are tested against a number of alternative scales to assess their stability to changes in equivalence scale. As a result of this testing, any results which appear particularly sensitive to the choice of equivalence scale are bracketed in the publication.

Quality Assurance

Identification of errors in the earlier HBAI results led to a rigorous checking procedure being put in place for the post-stocktaking HBAI. Analysts in DSS produce results on two parallel systems: SPSS and an in-house data analysis package. In addition the IFS are contracted by DSS to cross-check the results using their own data analysis system. This checking procedure has contributed to a large step forward in the quality (in terms of accuracy) of the published results.

What Did the Latest HBAI Show?

The latest edition of *Households Below Average Income*³ (HBAI), covering the period 1979 to 1990/91, was published by the Department of Social Security on 30 June 1993. It marked a significant advance in timeliness of HBAI data; taking the series forward 2 years in the space of less than 12 months. The figures showed strong overall average growth in real incomes in the UK, combined with a marked widening of the income distribution and a fall in the average income in the bottom 10 per cent of the population in 1990/91 when compared with the average income of the bottom 10 per cent in 1979. The changes in the lower part of the income distribution are caused by many factors, but those having the most impact were: increasing unemployment and self-employment, real rises in housing costs as mortgage rates, house prices and rents rose; a widening of the earnings distribution for those in work; and a general improvement in the income position of pensioners.

Conclusion

HBAI is a high profile Government Statistical Service publication which has benefitted, in both timeliness and quality, from the improved working practices described here. A key to these improvements, and their acceptance in the non-government arena, has been a willingness on the part of government statisticians to be open when considering changes and

improvements. External analysts contributed useful new ideas to the stocktaking exercise, and acted as a valuable sounding board on methodological issues. Consultation with external experts has contributed to an improvement in the integrity of DSS official statistics.

References:

1. *Low Income Statistics: Report of a Technical Review*, DHSS, March 1988.
2. *HBAI Stocktaking: Report of a Working Group*, DSS, November 1991
3. *HBAI: A Statistical Analysis 1979 - 1990/91*, HMSO, June 1993

Government Publications

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

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Agriculture in the United Kingdom: 1992

Agriculture in the United Kingdom 1992, published on 18 March 1993, provides aggregate information on agricultural incomes in the United Kingdom and details of the underlying trends in agricultural commodities.

This fifth volume in the series has been extended to provide information that was previously included in *Farm Incomes in the United Kingdom*. In particular, additional details of the breakdown of agricultural incomes are presented at current prices and are accompanied by a breakdown at constant prices. Trends in the income indicators used by Eurostat to compare Member States are also presented for the first time.

In previous years *Agriculture in the United Kingdom* has been published in January, but this year publication was moved to March in order to allow the incorporation of more up-to-date data. This has improved the quality of the forecast information for the latest year.

Any questions on the report should be directed to:

Mr M A Cornish
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Telephone: 071-238 6356

Reference

Agriculture in the United Kingdom: 1992
HMSO, price £12.00 net
ISBN 0 11 2429386

Farm Incomes in the United Kingdom: 1991/92 Edition

Farm Incomes in the United Kingdom, published on 18 March 1993, provides detailed information on the incomes and structure of the United Kingdom agricultural industry.

The eighth edition in the series includes more data on each of the four home countries than in previous years. Some of the information on the United Kingdom as a whole has been omitted as this appears in the sister publication *Agriculture in the United Kingdom* (also published 18 March 1993).

A large part of the report covers the results of the 1991/92 *Farm Business Survey*, which provides information at the farm level on farm and off-farm income and assets and liabilities by country, farm type, tenure and business size. These results are supplemented by a forecast of incomes in 1992/93.

For the first time a section showing gross margins by the different agricultural sectors and how they have moved over time is included. Other new features are more detail on the structure of the industry and a summary of aggregate agricultural accounts by country, with forecasts for 1992.

Any questions on the report should be directed to:

Mr S M Speller
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Telephone: 071-270 8620

Reference

Farm Incomes in the United Kingdom: 1991/92 Edition
HMSO, price £22.50 net
ISBN 0 11 242939 4

The Effects of Taxes and Benefits on Household Income, 1990 and 1991

Two articles in this series have been published in *Economic Trends* this year: the 1990 articles in the January edition and the 1991 article in the May 1993 edition. They are largely based on the 1990 and 1991 *Family Expenditure Survey* (FES). The aim of the analysis is to examine how the distribution of income amongst households in the UK is modified as a result of government expenditure and taxation. The analysis uses five different income measures, and is unique in that it covers indirect taxes (eg VAT) as well as benefits-in-kind (eg from the education system).

The articles are the latest in an annual series published in *Economic Trends* since the early 1960s. Each year the article covers the same main ground. The 1990 article has a special section on company car benefit. This article is the first in which original income has included company car benefit, that is, the imputed value of the availability of a company owned car for private use by a household member.

Following the 1991 article, the Central Statistical Office intends to carry out a review of content of the article and the methodology underlying the analysis. The article includes an invitation to readers to participate in this review.

The analysis shows that the impact of taxes and benefits (including benefits-in-kind) is greatest for retired households and for those non-retired households containing no economically active people. Cash benefits play the largest part in reducing income differences. Trends in income distribution are given for the period from 1977, and these show that the distribution of household income has become more unequal.

The figures in each year's article are free standing and are not intended to be used as part of a time series with figures from earlier articles. However, two indicators (Gini coefficients and shares of income) are relatively robust and so can be used to gauge the trend of income distribution. The philosophy underlying these articles is to use a given year's FES to produce the most meaningful figures for that year (on the basis of the

definitions current for the FES at the time), rather than aim to produce figures on exactly the same basis from one year to the next. The major changes to the methodology in the 1987 article mean that the 1987 (and later) figures are completely incompatible with those already published for earlier years. The most important change was to introduce equivalisation (ie adjusting income to allow for household size and composition) into the ranking process that splits households up into quintile and decile groups.

The contents of the 1990 article are as follows:

Main article *Results for 1990 for all households, and for retired and non-retired households separately*

Special topic *Company car benefit*

Appendix 1 *Detailed tables for 1990 with fine breakdown of income components for quintile and decile groups, and results for different types of household*

Appendix 2 *Methodology and definitions*

Appendix 3 *Three tables for 1990, ranked using unadjusted disposable income*

Appendix 4 *Trends in income distribution, 1977-1990.*

The contents of the 1991 article are similar, except there is no special topic.

Enquiries about the contents of this article should be made to:

Effects of Taxes and Benefits Section
Social Regional Statistics and Household
Expenditure Branch
Room 1938
Central Statistical Office
Millbank Tower
LONDON SW1P 4QQ
Telephone: 071-217 4248

Reference

Economic Trends No.471, January 1993
Economic Trends No.475, May 1993
HMSO, price £12.75 net

Statistical Units - European Regulation

As part of the principle of subsidiarity where the creation of common statistical norms is seen as best taken at the Community level, the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) wishes to establish common definitions of statistical units to improve comparability of economic statistics among Member States and make reliable and comparable information available to enterprises, financial institutions, governments and all operators in the European Single Market.

Statistical Units are the basic business units used for the collection of statistics. The utilisation of the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Communities (NACE Rev 1) and the application of the European System of Integrated Accounts (ESA) require standard definitions of statistical units for registers, surveys and the presentation of an analysis of statistics.

On the 15 March 1993 the Council of the European Communities passed Council regulation (EEC) No.696/93 on the statistical units for the observation

and analysis of the production system in the Community. An EC regulation has the force of law in each member state. So, from 1 January 1994, the Regulation will make it obligatory to use the definitions referred to in the regulation for statistics subsequent to that date relating to European Community requirements. In special circumstances, but only with permission of the European Commission, member states may use other statistical units.

The list of agreed units is as follows:

- the enterprise
- the institutional unit
- the enterprise group
- the kind-of-activity unit (KAU)
- the unit of homogeneous production (UHP)
- the local unit
- the local kind-of-activity unit (local KAU)
- the local unit of homogeneous production (local UHP)

Each unit is defined in the regulation but the synoptic table by activity and location contained in the regulation gives a general indication as follows:

	One or more locations	A single location
One or more activities	Enterprise Institutional unit	Local Unit
One single activity	KAU UHP	Local KAU Local UHP

The regulation also contains some explanatory notes on defining statistical units within government and non-profit making bodies and on how to define ancillary activities.

For international comparability the statistical units are linked to the descriptions given in the introduction to the United Nations International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC Rev 3) and the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA).

Measures for implementing the regulation, including those for adaptation to economic and technical developments concerning in particular the statistical units of the production system, the criteria used and the definitions specified in the regulation will be the responsibility of an EC management committee of which the UK is a member with 10 votes out of a total of 76.

The NACE Rev 1 management committee has competence for the elaboration of guidelines for classifying statistical units in accordance with NACE Rev 1 but the units must be defined elsewhere. These rules will be set out in the introduction to the published version of NACE Rev 1, which is expected to be available a little later this year. NACE Rev 1 has been introduced into the United Kingdom as a revised Standard Industrial Classification of economic activity - SIC(92) - so that the rules of statistical units will need to be applied for SIC(92).

The Regulation does not empower the Commission to require the collection or transmission of information. The choice of statistical units for particular inquiries or analyses will be set out in the rules relating to such inquiries or analyses. For example as specified in the proposal *Regulation on the Harmonisation of Business Registers*, also expected to be published later this year.

Research and Development

Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research and Development Provisional Figures for 1991

At the end of March 1993, the Central Statistical Office issued a Press Notice giving a provisional estimate of the UK's *Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) in 1991*. This was the first time that an estimate of this indicator has been issued in a Press Notice.

GERD for 1991 was estimated as £11.9 bn, compared with £12.0 bn in 1990. This represents 2.1 percent of GDP, compared with 2.2 percent in 1990. The Press Notice included a civil/defence split of GERD and analyses by sector carrying out the work and by sector funding the R&D.

The Press Notice also included provisional results from the Central Statistical Office's survey of *UK Government-funded R&D*. These give gross central government expenditure as £5.4 bn in 1991-92, compared with £5.1 bn in 1990-91.

The estimate of GERD was based on the final results of the CSO's survey of *Business Enterprise R&D* (published in a Central Statistical Office Bulletin in

January 1993) and on the provisional results from the *Survey of Government-funded R&D*. The final figures for GERD and the final results of the *Survey of Government-funded R&D* will be in the *Cabinet Office Annual Review of Government-funded Science and Technology*, published this summer.

Enquiries should be addressed to:

Central Statistical Office,
PSFA Branch
Government Offices
Great George Street
LONDON SW1P 3AQ
Telephone: 071-270 6068

References

CSO Bulletin Issue 7/93 Business Enterprise - Research and Development (1991)
Price £3.00 net

CSO Press Notice CSO (93) 50 Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research and Development, Provisional Figures for 1991

Measuring the Contribution of Financial Institutions to Gross Domestic Product

Under the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA), banks and other financial institutions are assumed to make some of their profits from charging higher interest rates to borrowers and paying lower rates to depositors than they would need to if they charged explicitly for all their services. This 'hidden' charge is known as the 'imputed service charge' or 'imputation for financial intermediation service charges' (IFISC). In the revised version of SNA, IFISC should be allocated to sectors of the economy deemed to be paying the charge, in order to arrive at a measure of the contribution of intermediation services to final demand. The Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge University was commissioned by the Central Statistical Office to carry out a research project to devise a method for this allocation. An article by the Department of Applied Economics on their findings was published in *Economic Trends* No.475 (May 1993). A full report including estimates of quarterly data was also produced.

Copies available on request from:

Elizabeth Hofmann
Room 65C/1
Central Statistical Office
Great George Street
LONDON SW1P 3AQ

Sector Classification for the National Accounts - Business Monitor MA23 - Supplement

A 1993 Supplement to the *Business Monitor MA23, Sector Classification for the National Accounts* was released in March 1993, giving amendments in the form of additions, deletions and changes of name, since February 1992, in the following sectors: financial companies and institutions; public corporations; central government and local authorities

The Monitor was published for the first time last year, previously it had just been produced as an in-house document, available on request. It is expected that a full version will be published bi-annually with a Supplement in between.

Enquiries concerning the content of the Supplement or the *Business Monitor MA23* can be made to:

Mr D Harper or Miss J Kiernan
Central Statistical Office
Great George Street
LONDON SW1P 3AQ
Telephone: 071-270 6183

CSO One Day Seminar on Intrastat

As from 1st January 1993, a new system for the collection statistics on the trade in goods between member states of the European Community came into operation. The CSO will be holding a one-day seminar in London on 12 November 1993 to discuss the implementation of the system, the first results in the UK, problems industry are having and plans for future developments relating to the system. The seminar will also include an up-date on the implementation of PRODCOM in the UK as a follow up to the CSO seminar held on 14 October 1992.

Although primarily intended or provide a forum for Industry, other representatives will be welcome. The

seminar will be held in London, at the buildings of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1 Great George Street, London SW1. Refreshments will be provided morning and afternoon as well as a buffet lunch. Printed copies of the talks will be provided. A charge of £50.00 per delegate will be made.

For further information, please contact:

Mr K Williamson
Current Account Branch
Central Statistical Office
Government Offices
Great George Street
LONDON SW1P 3AQ
Telephone: 071-270 6073 / 071-270 6257

Education

Examination Results and First Destinations of Higher Education Graduates: 1983-1991 (Bulletin 7/93)

Updates Statistical Bulletin 4/92 showing, for the first time, trends in first degree, HND/DipHE, PGCE and other higher education examination results during 1983-1991, as well as first degree graduate first destinations during 1983-1991. Coverage on examination results relates to graduates from full-time and part-time courses from universities, the Open University, polytechnics (and central institutions in Scotland) and other publicly-funded colleges in Great Britain. Coverage on first destinations relates to full-time first degree graduates from universities, polytechnics and other publicly-funded colleges in Great Britain.

Student Loans (Bulletin 8/93)

Updates Statistical Bulletin 7/92 and provides statistics on loans to students in higher education in the United Kingdom. Begins by outlining the background to the student loan scheme and then analyses the take-up, and repayment, of loans in 1991/92, the second academic year of the loans scheme and makes some comparisons with the first year.

Student Awards in England and Wales 1990/91 (Bulletin 9/93)

Provides information on awards made by Local Education Authorities (LEAs) to students domiciled in England and Wales. Covers both mandatory and discretionary awards to students in higher and further

education. Tables give data for the academic year 1979/80 and 1987/88 through to 1990/91. Includes data by LEA for 1990/91.

School Business Links (Bulletin 10/93)

Summarises the results of a survey of schools-business links carried out in May 1992 covering the 1991/92 academic year, on a nationally representative sample of 865 primary and 554 secondary schools. The survey was concerned with both pupil and teacher involvement with local industry and the extent to which local industry had provided help or support to schools.

Pupils Under 5 Years of Age in Schools in England January 1992 (Bulletin 11/93)

This regular Bulletin shows information about pupils under compulsory school age in maintained nursery and primary schools at national level as well as in each local education authority and region. For the first time results are shown for independent and special schools. Tables include information on staffing levels in maintained nursery schools and nursery classes in maintained primary schools as well as information on nursery assistants in early admission classes in maintained primary schools.

Participation in Education by Young People Aged 16 and 17 in each Local Education Authority and Region of England: 1988/89 to 1991/92 (Bulletin 12/93)

This Bulletin provides information on participation in education by young people aged 16 and 17 in each local education authority (LEA) for two years after reaching the minimum school leaving age. It updates Bulletin 16/92. Includes information on both full-time and part-time pupils and distribution maps.

Education Expenditure from 1979-80 (Bulletin 13/93)

This Bulletin updates Bulletin 10/92 and provides further background to the Departmental Report *The Government's Expenditure Plans 1993-94 to 1995-96* (Cm2210) published in February 1993. Its purpose is to present comparisons of education expenditure in a larger detailed time-series than appears in Cm2210. The Bulletin also provides supplementary analyses where possible and shows greater detail about the content of certain local education authority (LEA) expenditure.

Statistics of Education: Further and Higher Education - Student Staff Ratios and Unit Costs 1990/91

This annual volume of statistics contains the results of the *1990/91 Annual Monitoring Survey* (AMS) and the *1990/91 Further Education Revenue Account Survey* (FERAS) and compares the results with those in previous years. The AMS collects, for the academic year, student and staff numbers and class contact hours in further and higher education establishments in England, other than universities and Polytechnic and Colleges Funding Council establishments. Data from AMS are used to derive performance indicators: student: staff ratio, average class size, average lecturer hours and average student hours. The FERAS collects, for the financial year expenditure and income for further and higher education establishments other than universities, grant-aided and Polytechnic and Colleges Funding Council establishments. Data from AMS and FERAS are used to derive unit costs ie expenditure per full-time equivalent student. The volume contains results for all establishments, for different types of establishments, levels of education and broad subject areas, as well as results for individual establishments.

Statistics of Education: Student Awards 1988/89, 1989/90 and 1990/91 - England and Wales

Provides information on awards made by Local Education Authorities (LEAs) to students domiciled in England and Wales. Covers both mandatory and discretionary awards to students in higher and further education. Tables include data for the academic years 1988/89, 1989/90 and 1990/91 and some tables repeat figures for earlier years to extend the time series. Includes data at LEA level for 1989/90 and 1990/91. Data are also given for postgraduate awards made by DFE and Research Councils.

Employment

Labour Force Projections: 1993-2006

An article in the April 1993 edition of *Employment Gazette* presents projections of the civilian labour force in Great Britain up to the year 2006. This is the first occasion on which the projections have been extended beyond 2001. They incorporate information from the spring (March-May) 1992 *Labour Force*

Survey and mid-1991-based population projections. Trends in the population and economic activity rates are explained and the new projections are compared with those published previously.

In the year 2006 the labour force is projected, on the conventional assumption of an unchanging level of unemployment, to reach a level of 1.7 million higher than its estimated mid-1992 level of 28.0 million. Four fifths of the projected net increase is among women, who are expected to make up 46 per cent of the labour force by 2006. The labour force in 2006 will be older on average than in 1992, a projected rise of 2.3 million people aged 35-54 and 0.7 million aged over 55 contrasts with the projected fall of 1.4 million people under 35 in the labour force. Projections by the Government Actuary's Department suggest that the population of working age will increase by 1.5 million between 1992 and 2006 compared with a rise of 2.1 million in the previous 14 years.

Reference

Employment Gazette, April 1993
Harrington Kilbride PLC,
price £4.70 net

Results from the Autumn 1992 Quarterly Labour Force Survey

The results from the Autumn (September to November) 1992 *Labour Force Survey* (LFS) were released on the 18th of March 1993 by the Employment Department (ED).

The LFS is the largest household survey carried out in GB, covering some 60,000 households and provides key information about the labour force using internationally agreed definitions.

The findings are presented in the *Labour Force Survey Quarterly Bulletin*; latest issue No.3 compares the Autumn 1992 results with Summer 1992 and with the earlier annual surveys 1984-1991. The main series are published on a seasonally adjusted basis.

The table below shows the distribution of the total population of Great Britain aged 16 and over by sex and economic activity in Autumn 1992.

LFS Great Britain, Autumn 1992

Seasonally adjusted	(Thousands)		
Economic activity	All persons	Men	Women
Employees	21,262	11,152	10,111
Self-employed	3,078	2,300	778
Government			
Employment & Training Programmes	331	216	115
Unpaid family Workers	179	55	124
All in employment	24,850	13,722	11,128
ILO unemployed	2,837	1,915	922
All economically active	27,687	15,637	12,050
Economically inactive	16,408	5,639	10,769
All aged 16 and over	44,096	21,277	22,819

Copies of the Labour Force Survey Quarterly Bulletin can be obtained from ED; if you wish to subscribe, please write to or telephone:

Chris Randall
SSD C2
Level 1 Caxton House
Tothill Street
LONDON SW1H 9NF
Telephone: 071-273 6110

LFS Helpline

Following the introduction of the quarterly LFS, a telephone helpline was set up to give advice on sources of labour market information and provide some LFS data on request. The *Employment Gazette* contains a monthly feature which describes some of the most frequent topics raised, the source of the enquiries and provides the information sought.

The topics covered in the following months are:

January 1993

- Redundancies by region
- Job related training
- Part-time workers
- Ethnic minority groups
- Temporary workers
- Sickness absences
- Second jobs
- Reasons for economic inactivity
- Hours worked
- ILO unemployed by occupation

February 1993

- Women in employment
- Job related training by region
- Housing tenure
- Sickness absences of managers
- Hotel and catering jobs
- Work restricted by ill-health or disability

March 1993

- Length of time with employer
- Population structure by sex, age and economic activity

- Ethnic minority groups by industry and occupation
- Job related training by age and sex
- Economic activity by nationality
- Employment in information technology

For further information about the *Labour Force Survey*, please telephone the LFS Helpline on: 071-273 5585.

Redundancy Statistics

The Employment Department compiles statistics on redundancies from the quarterly *Labour Force Survey*. These data are published each month in the *Employment Gazette* in tables 2.32, 2.33, 2.34, 2.35 and 2.36. The confirmed redundancies series was discontinued in June 1992 because it was understating the actual number of redundancies taking place.

Further details on these data can be obtained from:

Employment Department
SSD B3, Level 1
Caxton House
Tothill Street
LONDON SW1H 9NA
Telephone: 071-273-5530

Labour Disputes

Statistics on industrial stoppages, giving numbers of working days lost by industry and cause of stoppages are available from the *Employment Gazette*, tables 4.1 and 4.2. More information is available from:

Employment Department
SSD B2b, Room 212
East Lane
PO Box 12
RUNCORN WA7 2DN
Telephone: 0928-792051

Reference

Employment Gazette, May 1993
Harrington Kilbride PLC,
Price £4.70 net

Employment - other

'Meetings, Bloody Meetings'

At ANY given moment of the day in Britain there are some 400,000 meetings going on. Yet many of these suffer from failure to prepare, failure to inform, failure to plan the agenda, failure to control the discussion and failure to record decisions. It is to address this problem that Video Arts have updated their award-winning video 'Meetings, Bloody Meetings'.

The video takes the position that although meetings are important to an organisation if managed properly, they can cost a fortune if they are handled badly. Because personnel are experienced at meetings does not necessarily mean that they have the necessary skills. This video sets out to demonstrate this point. The lessons to be learnt from the video are the disciplines, techniques and attitudes required to make meetings shorter and more productive. Vital considerations in today's cost-conscious environment.

- *Meetings, Bloody Meetings* by:
Video Arts,
68 Oxford Street,
LONDON W1N 9LA
Telephone: 071-637 7288

Purchase price £895.00; rental two days £140.00 and seven days £195.00. The video is accompanied by a briefcase booklet and discussion guide priced at £3.45 and £2.15 respectively.

Employment Gazette, March 1993
Harrington Kilbride PLC,
price £4.70 net

Managing at Work - Euro Style

HOW DO European managers handle key human resource issues? And how do their approaches match or differ from the British experience? These are the questions discussed in a new book from the Cranfield School of Management.

Human Resource Management in Europe presents a series of in-depth studies of management styles in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK, and reveals cultural, institutional and political differences.

The challenge of competing internationally and how to develop an appropriate human resource strategy are discussed, as are the problems of industrial relations in the EC context.

- *Human Resource Management in Europe*
Edited by Tyson, Lawrence et al.
Published by Kogan Page,
120 Pentonville Road, LONDON N1 9JN
price £27.50 hbk
Telephone: 071-278 0433

Employment Gazette, April 1993,
Harrington Kilbride PLC,
price £4.70 net

More Mr Nice Guy

TAKING THE macho out of management aims to help change the working atmosphere in organisations and companies by offering an alternative to the 'school playground values' of the stereotypical 'macho' manager. Status games, bullying and hectoring management styles, and endurance tests to show who works the longest hours and takes the fewest days off are out, it says.

The chapter headings, such as 'Gut feelings' and 'Do as I do', give a taste of what is to come as the book explores the realities of office politics. It makes the point that overbearing behaviour and attitudes are not the sole preserves of certain men; women too can fall into the trap of using bullying tactics to get on or get their way.

Rather than dwell on examples of bad practice, the book puts forward ways (such as becoming more flexible and creative, learning to co-operate, and mentoring colleagues) in which management techniques can be improved in order to contribute to effective working.

- *Taking the Macho out of Management*
Published by Sheldon Press,
Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone Road,
LONDON NW1 4DU,
price £7.99 pbk
Telephone: 071-387 5282

Employment Gazette, May 1993
Harrington Kilbride PLC,
price £4.70 net

Environment

Land Use Change in England No.8

The latest edition of this series of Statistical Bulletins was published by the Department of the Environment in July 1993. The Bulletin presents the Department's statistics on changes in land use in England which took place in 1988. Details of changes in land use are recorded for the Department by Ordnance Survey (OS) as part of its map revision work throughout Great Britain.

The statistics relate to both the new use and previous use of land, and the gross and net changes between uses. Results are presented for ten land use groups, of which the vacant land group has been disaggregated to provide separate figures for previously developed and previously undeveloped vacant land. The land use groups can be divided broadly into 'rural' and 'urban' uses.

To examine changes to urban uses in a particular year, five years of data collection are necessary to provide reliable results. Hence the most recent year for which results can be presented is 1988, based on information collected between 1988 and 1992. Changes to residential use are recorded more quickly, and the Bulletin presents preliminary results for changes which occurred in 1989 and 1990, based on information collected between 1989 and 1992.

Early Bulletins in this series presented results for changes of use recorded by OS in the latest year. To enable comparison with previous Bulletins, results are also presented for changes recorded during 1992. A summary table has been included to compare key results presented by year of change and by year of recording. Definitions of the land use categories are given in the Bulletin.

Reference

Department of the Environment Statistical Bulletin (93)1

Land Use Change in England No.8

Price and copies of the Bulletin are available from:

Department of the Environment
Publications Sales Unit
Building 3, Spur 2, Room 1
Government Buildings
Lime Grove
Eastcote, Ruislip
MIDDLESEX HA4 8SE
Telephone: 081-429 5170

Health

Data from the Addicts Index, England - January to December 1991 (including tables for January - June and July - December)

This booklet presents information on drug addicts notified to the Home Office. The booklet includes information on the age and sex of addicts, the drug used, injecting behaviour etc. Information is shown mainly by RHA but some information at DHA level is included.

Department of Health, March 1993

In-Patients Formally Detained in Hospitals under the Mental Health Act 1983 and other Legislation, England, 1984-1989/90

This booklet presents information on the legal status of in-patients who are formally detained in hospitals for psychiatric care in England. The booklet includes information on the sex of formally detained patients. Information is shown by RHA for 1989/90 on formal admissions to and residents in hospitals according to the section of the Mental Health Act 1983 under which patients are detained.

Department of Health May 1993, price £2.50 net

Requests for these publications should be sent to:

Department of Health
Statistics Division 2C
Area 430B
Skipton House
80 London Road
Elephant and Castle
LONDON SE1 6LW

NHS Hospital and Community Health Services Non-Medical Staff in England: 1981 - 1991

This Statistical Bulletin presents information on staff employed in the hospital and community health services of the NHS. The most recent statistics relate to staff at 30 September 1991. Comparative information is presented over 10 years (1981-1991), five years (1986-1991) and one year (1990-91).

Requests for copies of this publication, price £2.00 net should be sent to:

Department of Health
Information Division
Distribution Centre
Manchester Road
Heywood
LANCASHIRE OL10 2PZ

Home Office

Fire Statistics

The Home Office statistical publication, *Fire Statistics United Kingdom 1991*, presenting the full 1991 fire statistics was published on 29th April 1993. It expands on the summary information previously published in October 1992 including historical tables of fires attended by fire brigades by location, cause, source of ignition etc and fatal and non fatal casualties resulting from those fires. The publication this year shows several new features and improvements over previous years, both in content and in style. The main change is that the text is ordered into chapters, with the bulk of the tables remaining at the end. A new section describes the incidence of false fire alarms and whether they were malicious, made with good intent or due to faulty apparatus. A new table for 1991 shows malicious fires by brigade area and location.

The following main points are described:

Fires (Chapter 1)

- Fire brigades attended 436,000 fires in 1991 in the United Kingdom, 7 per cent fewer than in 1990 because grassland and heathland fires fell by over 40 per cent

- There were 107,400 fires in occupied buildings, slightly fewer than in 1990.
- Accidental fires increased slightly in dwellings by 1 per cent, but decreased in other occupied buildings in 9 per cent.
- The number of fires in occupied buildings remained roughly constant throughout the year. The number of fires outdoors was more variable with a large peak in September, due to a large number of grassland fires.
- Most accidental fires in occupied buildings occurred during the day, with the majority of death occurring at night. In contrast, most malicious fires occurred in the evening.

Geographical Area (Chapter 2)

- Dwelling fires accounted for half of fires in Scotland (excluding secondary and chimney fires) compared to two fifths in Northern Ireland and one third in England and Wales. In Scotland there was a much greater proportion of fires in dwellings of multiple occupation.
- Cooking appliances were the source of one third of fires in occupied buildings in Scotland compared to a quarter in England and Wales and Northern Ireland.

Fire Casualties (Chapter 3)

- The number of fire deaths fell to 816, the lowest since 1967.
- Deaths in dwellings fell to 608, the lowest since 1971, but remained at the 1990 level of 59 in other occupied buildings.
- Deaths outdoors fell:
 - in road vehicles to 107, the third highest recorded figure.
 - in derelict buildings and other outdoor fires to 42.
- Non-fatal casualties increased to a record high of 14,700.

- The main causes of fatal and non-fatal casualties in dwelling fires remained:
 - smokers' materials, 30 per cent of deaths, a substantial decrease compared to 1990.
 - cooking appliances, 42 per cent of non-fatal casualties.

Fire Casualties by Country

- Death rates were higher overall in Scotland compared to the rest of the UK. This is probably due to a higher number of fires per million population where the source of ignition was smokers' materials and space heating appliances.

Age and Sex of Casualties

- The highest fatal casualty rates for males and females were aged 80 and over. High non-fatal (non-brigade) casualty rates occurred for those aged 80 or over and 17-24.
- Death rates for males were greater than for females although the rate for males had decreased more than for females in 1991.

Accidental Building Fires (Chapter 4)

- The main causes of accidental fires remained:
 - in dwellings, misuse of equipment (mainly cooking appliances) 50 per cent,
 - in other occupied buildings, faults in appliances, leads or fuel supplies, 30 per cent.

Malicious Fires (Chapter 5)

- Malicious fires increased overall by 30 per cent in 1991. They increased for:
 - cars, by two thirds since 1990 to exceed half of all car fires attended by brigades,
 - dwellings, by 2 per cent,
 - other occupied buildings, by 8 per cent.
- Malicious fires were less likely to result in casualties than accidental fires. Even so they

resulted in 117 deaths and 2,300 non-fatal casualties in 1991.

Accidental Car Fires (Chapter 6)

- Accidental fires increased slightly in cars by 1 per cent.
- Around 25,000 accidental car fires were recorded in 1991, similar to the number over the period 1986-90. 80 per cent of such fires were due to vehicle defects. Most of the deaths from car fires were due to crash collision fires.
- Only 3 per cent of car fires spread beyond the car in 1991, mostly these were crash collision fires.

Smoke Alarms (Chapter 7)

- The number of occupied building fires discovered by smoke alarms increased by 16 per cent to reach 6,000 in 1991. They were associated with faster discovery times, lower overall death rates and less damage.

Materials Involved in Fires (Chapter 8)

- Food fat was the material mainly responsible in around a quarter of dwelling fires in 1991 with textiles and upholstery being the material mainly responsible in a further fifth. However the main cause of deaths (over half) and non-fatal casualties (one third) were fires where the material mainly responsible was textiles, up holstery and furnishings.

False Fire Alarms

- The number of false fire alarms has been increasing every year since 1981, with the number of good intent false alarms rising fastest.

Enquiries about fire statistics should be referred to:

Home Office Fire Statistics Section
 Room 821
 Queen Anne's Gate
 LONDON, SW1H 9AT
 Telephone: 071-273 3508

Reference

Fire Statistics United Kingdom 1991
Home Office, price £6.00 net
ISBN 0 86252 982 4

The publication is available from:

Home Office Research and Statistics
Department, Room 1834B
Lunar House
Wellesley Road
Croydon
SURREY CR0 9YD
Telephone: 081-760 2850

Criminal Statistics England and Wales 1991

This annual reference volume includes detailed information on recorded crime, the use of firearms, homicides, court proceedings, sentencing as well as the use of remand. Time series, generally for 1981 to 1991 are provided together with more detailed data for the latest year. Several changes have been made to the format of the 1991 publication. These include a list of key points at the start of each chapter, a reduced amount of text and an additional appendix on procedures within the criminal justice system. In addition two wall charts covering recorded crime and sentencing and cautioning are enclosed. The number of volumes of supplementary tables has been reduced to four, by re-allocating tables to other volumes, dropping a small number of tables, which were only occasionally referred to or for which similar information was available in other publications eg Probation Statistics. The supplementary tables contain more detailed offence classification data by magistrates' courts and Crown Court and further breakdown by police force area and petty sessional division.

Recorded Crime

- Of the 5.3 million offences recorded by the police in 1991, 94 per cent were against property and 5 per cent were violent crimes.

Firearms

- In 1991, the police recorded 12,100 offences in which firearms were reported to have been

used. If air weapons are excluded, then in 88 per cent of offences, the weapon was not fired.

Homicide

- The number of offences initially recorded as homicide in 1991 was 726, an increase of nearly 10 per cent over the previous year.

Those Cautioned or Found Guilty

- The number of offenders found guilty or cautioned for indictable offences rose from 509,100 in 1990 to 517,500 in 1991.

Court Proceedings

- About 1.96 million persons were proceeded against at magistrates' courts in 1991, an increased of 3 per cent compared to 1990.

Sentencing

- In 1991, 1.50 million offenders were sentenced by the courts, virtually the same as 1990 (1.51 million).

Use of Police Bail and Court Remand

- About 63 per cent of persons proceeded against at magistrates' courts in 1991 were summoned and about 38 per cent were arrested and charged.

Telephone enquiries about these statistics should be made to:

071-273 2711	Recorded Crime
071-273 3531	Firearms
071-273 3531	Homicide
081-760 2730	Cautions and Found Guilty
081-760 2651	Court Proceedings
081-760 2325	Sentencing
081-760 2651	Use of Police Bail and Court Remand

References

Criminal Statistics England and Wales 1991
(Cm 2134)
HMSO, price £21.50 net (published February 1993)

Criminal Statistics England and Wales Supplementary Tables 1991:

Volume 1	<i>Proceedings in Magistrates' Courts,</i> price £12.00 net
Volume 2	<i>Proceedings in the Crown Court,</i> price £12.00 net
Volume 3	<i>Recorded Offences, Firearms Offences and Court Proceedings by Police Force Area, Cautions,</i> price £14.00 net
Volume 4	<i>Court Proceedings by Petty Sessional Division and Commission of the Peace Area,</i> price £14.00 net

The Supplementary volumes may be purchased from:

Home Office, Research and Statistics Department
Room 1834B
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
Croydon
SURREY CR0 9YD
Telephone: 081-760 2850

Time Intervals for Indictable Proceedings in Magistrates' Courts: October 1992

This Bulletin presents the results of the October 1992 survey of the time taken to process indictable (including either way) cases. It also contains more detailed analyses for 1992 as a whole, featuring breakdowns and by charge or summons, types of offences, proceedings and remand and area. The completed proceedings on which the information is provided includes cases committed to the Crown Court, those dismissed, discharged and cases adjourned sine die as well as those in which a sentence was passed.

The following main points are described:

- The average time taken to process indictable cases through the magistrates' courts in October 1992 was 130 days, 6 days longer than in October 1991.
- For 1992 as a whole, the average time from

offence to completion was 129 days, an increase of 1 day.

- The average interval between first listing and completion was 64 days in 1992 (similar to both 1990 and 1991). The average interval from offence to charge or summons has increased to 43 days.
- The percentage of cases completed at first appearance fell 1 percentage point to 20 per cent in 1992.
- In 1992 there were slight increases in the average time from offence to charge or summons for those defendants charged (116 days, up 1) and for those summonsed (213 days, up 2).

Reference

Time Intervals for Indictable Proceedings in Magistrates' Courts: October 1992

Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 8/93

Available free of charge

Criminal Appeals, England and Wales, 1991

This Bulletin presents details of criminal appeals against magistrates' sentences to the Crown Court and against Crown Court sentences to the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) in 1991 by result for appeals against convictions, against sentence and appeals against both conviction and sentence. The tables show figures for the year in which the appeal decision was made (the original court decision may have been made in an earlier year) and are based on returns made directly to the Home Office from the courts. Publication is normally in the annual Command paper *Criminal statistics England and Wales* but this was not possible for the 1991 volume due to delays with the production and checking of appeals data.

The following main points are described:

- The 'rate of appeal' against magistrates' sentences in 1991 is estimated at 0.7 per cent and against Crown Court sentences at 6 per cent.

- The success rate of appeals against sentence was 49 per cent at the Crown Court and 26 per cent at the Court of Appeal.
- The proportion of successful appellants to the Crown Court has increased from 25 per cent in 1985 to 38 per cent in 1991.
- In 1991, 13 per cent of appellants to the Court of Appeal had their conviction quashed - a slight rise over the average for the previous 4 years.

Reference

Criminal Appeals, England and Wales, 1991
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 13/93
Available free of charge

Digest 2: Information on the Criminal Justice System

The second edition of this annual Digest which brings together key statistics on the criminal justice system in England and Wales has been published by the Home Office. It contains facts and figures on the various processes of justice, from the notification of offences to the police, through the prosecution process, sentencing and appeals, to prison and the probation service.

The Digest is written and presented in an easy-to-read form, and should be of interest to members of the general public as well as criminal justice system, including judges, magistrates, voluntary organisations, the police, probation prison services and local authorities.

References

Digest 2: Information on the Criminal Justice System
Edited by Gordon C. Barclay with Cheryl Drew, Ralph Hatton and Clare Abbot
Available free of charge from:

Home Office Research and Statistics
Department, Room 1834B
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Road
Croydon
SURREY CR0 9YD

Statistics of Deaths Reported to Coroners, England and Wales 1992

The annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin was published on 22 April. The Bulletin records that the number of deaths reported to coroners fell slightly compared with the previous year, but this fall only reflects the fall in the total number of deaths registered. Of all deaths, the proportion which were reported to coroners remained steady at 32 per cent. Inquests were held on 21,000 deaths, representing 12 per cent of all those reported to Coroners. Verdicts of accident or misadventure accounted for just under 50 per cent, and suicide for about 20 per cent, of all verdicts returned in 1992.

Reference:

Statistics of Deaths Reported to Coroners, England and Wales, 1992 (Home Office Statistical Bulletin issue 10/93)

Statistics of Drug Addicts Notified to the Home Office, United Kingdom, 1992

The annual Home Office Statistical Bulletin was published on 27 May. The Bulletin records that the total number of notified drug addicts increased by 19 per cent on the previous year to just under 25,000. The number of new addicts now stands at just under 10,000. There is a slight fall in the proportion of notified addicts dependent on heroin, but this is balanced by a corresponding increase in the proportion addicted to methadone, a common substitute drug used in the treatment of heroin addiction. The proportion of all notified addicts who inject drugs continues to fall and now stands at 54 per cent. Drugs caused or were implicated in over 60 per cent of the deaths of notified addicts over the last ten years.

Reference:

Statistics of Drug Addicts Notified to the Home Office, United Kingdom, 1992
(Home Office Statistical Bulletin issue 15/93)

Prison Population in 1992

The annual Statistical Bulletin providing summary information on the prison population in England and

Wales was published on 30 March 1993. The Bulletin includes monthly data for 1992 by type of prisoner together with a breakdown of the sentenced population on the 30 June by offence group and ethnic origin. The population figures include prisoners held in police cells. Annual data is given for the period 1987 to 1992.

Although the average prison population in 1992 (45,800) was only 100 lower than in 1991, the population fell dramatically from a peak of 47,600 (seasonally adjusted) in April to 42,300 in December. The reduction was greatest for remand and short sentenced prisoners. It partly reflected the increase in releases on parole when some restrictions on paroling were lifted in June 1992, and the introduction of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 on 1 October 1992.

An increase in the amount of prison accommodation available together with the drop in the prison population led to a reduction in the number of prisoners held in police cells which fell from 1,900 in March 1992 to 300 in December. More detailed information on the prison population together with statistics on receptions and discharges will be published around the end of the year in the annual command paper *Prison Statistics 1992*.

Further information may be obtained from Billy Burns.
Telephone: 071-217 5073

Reference

The Prison Population in 1992
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 7/93
Available free by telephoning: 081-760 2850

Projections of Long Term Trends in the Prison Population to 2001

The annual Statistical Bulletin providing the results of the prison population projections exercise was published on 30 March 1993. The Bulletin gives the projected number of prisoners, by type of custody and sex, from 1993 to 2001.

The prison population is projected to increase over the next eight years, from 45,800 in 1992 to 51,600 by the year 2001. Approximately one quarter of prisoners are expected to be remand prisoners. This year's

projections are around 7,100 lower than the projection for 2000 published in last year's Bulletin. The main reasons for the revision are: a move to a fully demographic projection (-3,500); additional provision for community-based measures following the outcome of the Public Expenditure Survey 1992 (-2,200); a change in the baseline sentencing assumption (-1,700); revised estimates of Criminal Justice Act 1991 effects (+400) and general updating (-100). The projections take full account of the estimated effects of the Criminal Justice Act 1991, which came into effect in October 1992, and other policy and legislative initiatives. The methodology and assumptions underlying the projections are described in the Bulletin.

Further information may be obtained from Pauline Penneck or Jackie Orme.
Telephone: 071-217 5125/5240

Reference

Projections of Long Term Trends in the Prison Population to 2001
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 6/93
Available free by telephoning: 081-760 2850

Motoring Offences - England and Wales 1991

This annual Bulletin gives statistics on motoring offences dealt with by the police for the years 1981 - 1991, together with summary tables showing the years 1951, 1961 and 1971. The number of offences dealt with by court proceedings (2.3 million), fixed penalties (5.6 million), written warnings and VDRS schemes (0.2 million each) are separately shown with details as to court disposals, number of fixed penalties paid and VDRS notices complied with.

The associated supplementary tables give more detailed information, for 1991 only by type of offence, type of court, court disposal (including length of custodial sentence and amount of fine), and police force, for court proceedings, and include details of driving licence disqualifications. Offence type, result and police force are shown for fixed penalty notices.

Reference

Motoring Offences - England and Wales 1991
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 1/93,
(published 28 January 1993)

Offences Relating to Motor Vehicles, England and Wales 1991, Supplementary Tables
Home Office publication - ISBN 0 86252 915 X,
(published 28 January 1993)

Statistics on the Operation of Prevention of Terrorism Legislation - 1992

This annual Bulletin provides information on the number of persons detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 1989 in Great Britain, distinguishing between those detained in connection with Northern Irish terrorism and those detained in connection with international terrorism. The numbers of those whose detention leads to exclusion, deportation or criminal charges (together with the results of these charges are also shown as are the lengths of the detentions including any extensions. Similar information is also provided on those examined under the Act but not detained.

Reference

Statistics on the Operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Legislation - 1992
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 5/93
(published 25 February 1993)

Breath Test Statistics - England and Wales 1992

This annual Bulletin gives statistics on drivers required to supply breath for a screening breath test and those whose test was positive or refused. This is the first year for which information has been collected on a simplified monthly return from each police force, following a decision to collect less detailed information on breath tests from the police. The total number of screening tests (531, 300) was 5.5 per cent fewer than in 1991, and 16 per cent (the same proportion as 1991) were positive or refused.

Reference

Breath Test Statistics - England and Wales 1992
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 12/93,
(published 30 April 1993)

All the above mentioned publications are available, free of charge, from:

Home Research and Statistics Department
Dissemination Unit
Lunar House
Croydon
SURREY CR0 9YD

Liquor Licensing Statistics, England and Wales, July 1991-June 1992

The triennial Home Office Statistical Bulletin was published on 26 February. The Bulletin records that the number of both on and off-licences fell for the first time since the 1960s, and the number of applications for new on-licences has also fallen for the first time in over twenty years.

The Bulletin gives details of the number of licensed premises on 30 June 1992, applications and grants of new licences, special hours certificates and occasional permissions, and licences revoked, for the year ending 30 June 1992.

Reference:

Liquor Licensing Statistics, England and Wales, July 1991-June 1992
Home Office Statistical Bulletin, Issue 4/93

Northern Ireland

Department of Finance and Personnel

Continuous Household Survey Religion Report 1988-1990/91

Central Survey Unit of the Policy Planning and Research Unit (PPRU) published this Monitor in February 1993. The CHS began in 1983 and samples approximately 1 per cent of households in Northern Ireland each year. The aim of the survey is to provide accurate information, on an ongoing basis, about the social and economic conditions of the population of Northern Ireland.

Religion is a major social variable within Northern Ireland and much interest has focused on comparisons between religious groups. This Monitor presents information on the social and economic position of the two main religion groups within the Province.

The Monitor is available, free of charge, from:

Central Survey Unit
Policy Planning and Research Unit
Londonderry House
21-27 Chichester Street
BELFAST
BT1 4SX

Two reports from the Northern Ireland Census 1991 have been published:

The Northern Ireland Census 1991 - Religion Report

This report was published in February 1993 and contains information at Northern Ireland level and some to local government districts on the main religious denominations. The subjects covered include: population by age, sex, marital status, occupation, industry and other characteristics.

Price £19.25 net

ISBN 0 337 07751 7

The Northern Ireland Census 1991 - Economic Activity Report

This report was published in April 1993 and contains tables giving the figures for both the economically active and economically inactive population. The employed population is analysed by industry and occupation classifications and relates to age, marital status, employment status, socio-economic groupings, area of workplace etc. Most tables contain information at Northern Ireland level but some give details for local government districts.

Price £16.25 net

ISBN 0 337 077525

Both these reports are available from:

HMSO
16 Arthur Street
BELFAST
BT1 4GD

Department of Economic Development

Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey

An extended quarterly employment survey has been introduced in Northern Ireland in order to improve coverage and the accuracy of estimates. The new *Quarterly Employment Survey* (QES) commenced in December 1992 and covers all public sector establishments private sector firms with 25 or more employees and a representative sample of smaller firms stratified by employment size ranges 1-10 and 11-24.

The number of businesses covered in the QES has been increased to approximately 4,000, compared with around 1,800 covered in the previous quarterly survey. The sample selection is drawn from the prototype Inter-Departmental Business Register for Northern Ireland, developed by CSO in conjunction with the Department of Economic Development. New firms that open each quarter are also included in the QES on an ongoing basis following proving action on updates of PAYE and VAT records on the prototype register.

The survey produces estimates of numbers of employees in employment disaggregated by gender, industrial class and full-time and part-time working, together with an analysis of public sector employment. The first results from the survey were published in March 1993.

Further information on the QES is available from:

Statistics Branch
Department of Economic Development
Netherleigh
Masse Avenue
BELFAST
BT4 2JP

Office of Manpower Economics

Pay of Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors

The Tenth Report on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine (Chairman, Michael Bett) was published in

February 1993. 1 April 1993 pay levels for the National Health Service (NHS) are shown in Appendix B (together with equivalent levels for 1 April 1992); equivalent information about certain allowances is in Appendix C. Numbers of staff covered are given, by grade, in Appendix D.

Appendix E contains the results of a survey of vacancies at 31 March 1992 amongst nursing staff employed in Trusts and directly managed units (DMUs) in the NHS in Great Britain. 83 per cent of the 54 'first wave' Trusts which employ nursing staff and 87 per cent of the 623 DMUs provided usable information. Results are given by grade and by area of work, in total and within country, region and London weighting zone. A matched sample comparison with the results of the previous year's survey is also included.

Reference

Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine, Tenth Report on Nursing Staff, Midwives and Health Visitors, 1993

Cmd 2148 HMSO February 1993,
price £7.35 net

Pay of Professions Allied to Medicine

The Tenth Report on Professions Allied to Medicine by the Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine (Chairman, Michael Bett) was published in February 1993. 1 April 1993 pay levels for chiropodists, dietitians, occupational therapists, orthoptists, physiotherapists, radiographers, and related grades in the National Health Service (NHS) are shown in Appendix B (together with equivalent levels for 1 April 1992); equivalent information about certain allowances is in Appendix C. Numbers of staff covered are given, by grade and profession, in Appendix D.

Appendix E contains results from a manpower survey, carried out by the NHS Management Executive in conjunction with the professions, of members of the professions and related grades employed in the NHS. Details of vacancies, leavers and joiners in Great Britain in the professions covered by the Review Body are given, together with a matched sample comparison with the results of the previous year's survey. The response rate varied by profession, but in

no case did less than 92 per cent of relevant units provide usable data. The sources of joiners and the destination/reason for leaving of leavers are analysed by profession; and details of vacancies are given by profession, and by grade, region/country and London weighting zone both in total and within each of the five largest professions.

Reference

Review Body for Nursing Staff, Midwives, Health Visitors and Professions Allied to Medicine, Tenth Report on Professions Allied to Medicine, 1993

Cm 2149 HMSO February 1993,
price £7.75 net

School Teachers' Pay and Conditions of Service

The Second Report by the School Teachers' Review Body (Chairman, Sir Graham Day) was published in February 1993. Recommended levels of remuneration for the year from 1 April 1993 for teachers in maintained schools in England and Wales are set out in Appendix C. An estimate of the teachers' paybill for 1993-94 is in Appendix E. The Government accepted the Review Body's main recommendations, with some adjustment to the pay rates, in a written Parliamentary Answer on 12 February 1993.

In the case of qualified teachers, other than heads and deputies, the Review Body recommends a new pay structure from September 1993 with a single spine in which placement is determined by point scores for: qualifications, experience, responsibilities, excellence, recruitment and retention factors, and for teaching pupils with special educational needs. The Report includes recommended assimilation arrangements from the current pay structure.

The Report also considers school funding and other economic factors, recruitment and retention, performance-related pay, and management and conditions of service. A wide selection of relevant statistics on teachers is in Appendix F.

Reference

School Teachers' Review Body, Second Report, 1993

Cm 2151, HMSO February 1993,
price £11.55 net

Armed Forces Pay

The Twenty-Second Report by the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay (Chairman, Sir Peter Cazalet) was published in February 1993. It shows pay rates, accommodation and food charges for Service ranks up to and including Brigadier (and equivalent), to apply from 1 April 1993.

Details of the military salary (using Army ranks), additional pay and allowances are in Appendices 4-8; accommodation and food charges are shown in Appendix 9.

Reference

Review Body on Armed Forces Pay, Twenty-Second Report, 1993

Cm 2150, HMSO February 1993,
price £6.65 net

OFTEL

International Comparisons of Telephone Charges

OFTEL published on 25 February 1993 the results of its latest comparison of the cost of two baskets of telephone services (residential and business) in each of four European countries - United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy. The UK figures refer to the costs of BT's services.

As in previous recent years, France emerged as the cheapest of the four countries for both residential and business customers. There was little difference between the other three countries in the cost of a residential basket, but Italy was found to be the most expensive for business users.

Compared with figures released in 1992, BT's position was slightly worse in respect of the residential basket but it had improved its position in terms of the business basket.

Copies of OFTEL's Statistical Note are available from

OFTEL's Press Office.

Telephone: 071-634 8842.

Cellular Telephone Drive Round Survey

The first set of results from a survey of the quality of service on cellular networks was published in an OFTEL Statement on 26 March 1993. The survey, which was commissioned by OFTEL and jointly sponsored by Cellnet and Vodafone, was carried out by Survey Research Associates (SRA) between late September 1992 and early February 1993.

SRA surveyed a total of 120 routes throughout mainland Britain chosen to reflect the typical pattern of cellular traffic. Call attempts, numbering around 33,000 in total, were made at intervals of 3 minutes in a ratio of 2 to 1 between mobile to fixed network calls and fixed network to mobile calls, employing call generating equipment manufactured by Rotadata Limited. Each successful call attempt was held for approximately 2 minutes to see whether or not it was dropped. If a call attempt was not successfully set-up, a second attempt was made 15 seconds after the failure of the first attempt.

Around 94 per cent of calls made from mobile cellular phones and 91 per cent of calls made to mobile cellular phones were both successfully set-up and completed. OFTEL's Statement identifies differences in performance between the two network operators, Cellnet and Vodafone.

Copies of OFTEL's Statement are available from
OFTEL's Press Office
Telephone: 071-634 8842

A full survey specification - *Specification for the Quality of Service Survey of the Cellular Telephone Networks* - can be obtained from OFTEL's Library, price £20.00 net.

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

International Migration in 1991

Statistics on the estimated numbers of migrants entering and leaving the UK in 1991, derived from the International Passenger Survey, were published in an OPCS report.

In 1991, 267,000 people migrated to the United Kingdom, the same number as in 1990. Of these,

117,000 (over 40 per cent) were British citizens. A total of 239,000 people left the UK during 1991, 8,000 more than the year before. Of these, 102,000 (over 40 per cent) were non-British citizens, leaving after a period of time in this country.

The definition of a migrant for demographic purposes, and for the International Passenger Survey, is a person leaving one country where he/she has been resident for at least a year, with the intention of residing in a new country for a year or more.

Reference

International Migration 1991
Series MN No.18
HMSO, price £7.50 net
ISBN 0 11 691451 3

Population and Vital Statistics for Local Areas in England and Wales in 1991

Details about the population in each local authority and health authority area in England and Wales in 1991 are published in OPCS's *Key Population and Vital Statistics*. It brings together in one publication a wealth of recent information for each local area on the size and age distribution of the population, the numbers of births and deaths, and the volume of migration.

The resident population of England and Wales was estimated to be 51.0 million in 1991, and increase of 1.3 million (2.7 per cent) since 1981. The South East continued to be the most populous region, with 17.6 million people, an increase since 1981 of half a million (3.2 per cent). East Anglia was the region with the highest population growth rate for 1981-91, from 1.9 million to 2.1 million (10.4 per cent).

Reference

Key Population and Vital Statistics: Local Land Health Authority Areas 1991 England and Wales
Series VS No.18/PP1 No.14
HMSO, price £10.60 net
ISBN 0 11 691530 7

Births in England and Wales in 1991

There were 699,200 live births in England and Wales

in 1991, a decrease of just under 7,000 (1.0 per cent) compared with 1990. This was a reversal of the general upward trend in the numbers of live births since 1982.

This and other information on births in England and Wales in 1991 and conceptions in 1990 is contained in an OPCS report published recently.

Information in births contained in the volume includes births inside and outside marriage, seasonality, age of parents, duration of marriage, multiple births, area of usual residence, birthweight, place of confinement, area of occurrence, country of birth of mother, and social class. Information on conceptions includes age of woman, occurrence inside or outside marriage and outcome.

Reference

Births Statistics 1991 England and Wales
Series FM1 No.20
HMSO, price £10.60 net
ISBN 0 11 691528 5

Cancer Statistics: Registration 1987

Information on cancer registration in England and Wales in 1987, including background information on many of the major cancer sites, a brief history of the cancer registration system, and estimated cancer registrations for 1988-91, were published recently by OPCS.

This 1987 volume contains an extended commentary, including detailed information, illustrated with charts, on individual selected cancer sites.

There were just over 108,000 new registrations of malignant neoplasms for males and just under 108,000 for females in England and Wales in 1987.

Reference

Cancer Statistics: Registrations 1987
Series MB1 No.20
HMSO, price £16.40 net
ISBN 0 11 691529 3

Mortality Statistics: Area 1991

Statistics of deaths in 1991 in England and Wales, by area of usual residence of the deceased and analysed by cause of death, sex and age are published by OPCS.

The volume contains tables on death rates by sex and ten year age groups, and standardised mortality ratios by cause of death for England, Wales, the standard regions of England, Greater London, metropolitan and non-metropolitan counties and regional health authorities. The table on deaths by cause, sex and age-group is presented on twelve microfiche and gives detailed statistics for each local authority and for each health area.

Reference

Mortality Statistics: Area 1991
Series DH5 No.18
HMSO, price £15.00 net
ISBN 0 11 691452 1

Communicable Disease Statistics for 1991

Statistics on the numbers of cases of infectious diseases notified in 1991 under the Public Health Act and Infectious Disease Regulations are published in an OPCS report.

Between 1990 and 1991 the number of notified cases of measles, mumps and rubella in England and Wales continued to decrease. There were 9,935 cases of dysentery notified, the highest annual total since 1971, and 5,436 cases of tuberculosis, an increase of 4 per cent compared with 1990. There was a small decrease in the number of notifications of meningococcal meningitis.

Reference

Communicable Disease Statistics 1991
Series MB2 No.18
HMSO, price £9.75 net
ISBN 0 11 691531 5

Deaths by Cause in England and Wales in 1991

Information on cause of death by sex and age group in England and Wales in 1991 is contained in a recently

published OPCS report.

There were 570,044 deaths registered in England and Wales in 1991. This was an increase of 1 per cent compared with 1990, but a decrease of 1 per cent compared with 1989. The four main causes of death were heart disease (31 per cent of all deaths), cancer (25 per cent), cerebrovascular disease (12 per cent), and respiratory diseases (11 per cent).

Reference

Mortality Statistics: Cause 1991
Series DH2 No.18
HMSO, price £11.90 net
ISBN 0 11 691534 X

General Household Survey 1991

The latest in a series of annual reports for the *General Household Survey*, which started in 1971 and is carried out by the Social Survey Division of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, is now available. The anonymous data are obtained from interviewing everyone aged 16 and over in a random sample of private households in Great Britain.

Interviews are achieved with just under 20,000 adults in about 10,000 households each year. For certain topics information is also collected on about some 5,000 children in these households.

The 1991 report updates information collected each year on population characteristics, households and families, marriage, cohabitation and fertility, economic activity, education, health, and housing. It also has information on burglary, occupational pensions, childcare (including costs), dental health, and contraception - subjects which have been included in GHS in selected years only.

The report also presents results from new questions about stepchildren; the purchase of local authority housing; divorce/remarriage and housing tenure' personal pensions; and sight tests.

Reference

General Household Survey 1991
GHS No.22
HMSO, price £20.70 net
ISBN 0 11 691533 1

Publication of the 1992 General Household Survey

It is now almost certain that an annual report volume of 1992 GHS data will be published, although it is likely to be less comprehensive than previous reports in the series. A preliminary results Monitor will not be published, and it is hoped that the time thus saved will enable the main report to be published at the turn of the year.

1991 Census Report: Sex, Age and Marital Status in Great Britain

Statistics on the population of Great Britain analysed by sex, age and marital status have been published by OPCS.

The volume contains four tables analysing the resident population by single year of age and marital status, by five year age-group and marital status, by single year of age and sex for the under 25 age-group, and by sex and year of birth.

All the tables cover Great Britain and its constituent countries (except sex and year of birth, which is presented for Great Britain only). Statistics for five year age-groups by marital status and for the under 25s are also given for the regions of England, counties of England and Wales, and Regions of Scotland and Islands Areas.

1991 Census. Sex, Age and Marital Status, Great Britain

CEN 91 SAM

HMSO, price £19.00 net

ISBN 0 11 691508 0

Historical Census Statistics for Great Britain

A volume of comparative statistics on the population of Great Britain from the 1991 Census and previous censuses is now available.

The volume contains six tables featuring statistics from selected censuses in the period 1801 to 1991. The tables, which refer to the population present on census night, cover population size and changes between censuses, the proportional distribution of population between areas and changes between cen-

suses, age and marital status, and the proportional distribution of the population by marital status.

All the tables give figures for Great Britain and for its constituent countries (except the age by marital status table which is presented for Great Britain only). Statistics on population size, proportional distribution, and proportional distribution by marital status are additionally given for regions of England, counties of England and Wales, and Regions of Scotland and Islands Areas.

1991 Census. Historical Tables, Great Britain

CEN 91 HT HMSO, price £7.60 net

ISBN 0 11 691509 9

Results from the 1991 Census

Update

Publication is now complete of *Parts 1 and 2 of all Census County Reports for England and Wales*. Part 1 includes statistics on demographic and economic characteristics; housing; households and household composition; and household spaces and dwellings. Part 2 contains statistics derived from a 10 per cent sample, covering such topics as employment by industry, travel to work, social class as defined by occupation, and socio-economic group. All these reports may be obtained from HMSO.

All Census County Monitors, containing summary results, are available, price £2.00 each, from:

OPCS Information Branch (Publications)
St Catherine's House
10 Kingsway
LONDON WC2B 6JP
Telephone: 071-396 2208 or 2243,
or from HMSO.

The full set of Monitors plus a binder, may be obtained, price £80.00, only from OPCS.

The first Census topic report, *Sex, Age and Marital Status*, has been published. It is the first of a series of publications containing statistics for a range of census subjects. They include People aged 60 and over; Housing and the availability of cars; Long-term illness; Communal establishments; Household composition; Ethnic group and country of birth; Gaelic and

Welsh language; Economic activity; Migration; Workplace and transport to work; Family composition; Children and young adults; and Qualified Manpower. A 1991 Census Topic Monitor will be published in advance of each main topic report. The reports will be published between Spring 1993 and Spring 1994.

General information on available Census data may be obtained from: OPCS Census Customer Services. Telephone: 0329-81 3800

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

A Review of 1991

The review summarises recent changes in the size and composition of the population of England and Wales in 1991, with particular emphasis on statistics for migration, fertility, conceptions, abortions, marriages and divorces, and deaths which provide the background to changes in the population.

How Complete was the 1991 Census?

by Population Statistics Division in collaboration with Census Division, OPCS

After each census of population a new set of 'base' mid-year population estimates for England and Wales is prepared by OPCS. In preparing these estimates checks on the reliability of the 1991 Census population counts were made. One of these checks compared the results of the 1991 Census with what was expected from the annual population estimates obtained by updating the results of the 1981 Census with the births, deaths, and migration which occurred in the period between the two censuses. This article presents the findings and the conclusions drawn.

Trends in the Numbers of One-Parent Families in Great Britain

by John Haskey of Population Statistics Division, OPCS

This article presents new estimates of the number of one-parent families, and dependent children living in them, in Great Britain in 1990, provisional estimates for 1991, and revised estimates for 1989. It also examines the trends in the numbers and composition of one-parent families over the last two decades.

Suicide Deaths in England and Wales: Trends in Factors Associated with Suicide Deaths

by John Charlton, Sue Kelly, and Karen Dunnell of Health Statistics, OPCS, Barry Evans of the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre, and Rachel Jenkins of the Department of Health

A previous article described trends in suicide rates among men and women and showed that for the first time since 1911, rates are increasing for men, particularly for the under 45 age group, while those for women have been decreasing. This article examines different factors known to be associated with suicide mortality in an attempt to gain better insight into the reasons for the changes.

Changes in suicide rates are related to a complex set of social, economic and other changes and it is extremely difficult to pinpoint clear relationships. However, in looking at some of the factors related to suicide it is suggested that the increasing numbers of young men (15-44) remaining single or becoming divorced, together with factors associated with these marital statuses, may explain up to one half of the increase in suicides observed between the early 1970s and the late 1980s.

Fertility Assumptions for the 1991-Based National Population Projections

by Jacqui Cooper of Population Statistics Division, OPCS, and Chris Shaw of the Government Actuary's Department

This article reviews the accuracy of the fertility assumptions used for the 1989-based projections and assesses the prospects for average family size in the United Kingdom, and the consequential changes in the fertility assumptions used for the 1991-based population projections.

Scotland

Scottish Office Education Department

Scottish Education Statistics

This Bulletin contains information on student registrations in vocational further education (excluding higher education) for the session 1990-91 and earlier sessions. Previously announced for December 1992 this Bulletin was published in June 1993.

School Leavers' Qualifications 1991-92

This Bulletin provides details of the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) qualifications held by pupils who left Scottish Schools in 1991-92 and some earlier sessions. Previously announced as being available in December 1992 this Bulletin was held back in order to publish the 1991-92 qualifications.

(Published in June 1993)

Scottish Office Environment Department

Scottish Abstract of Statistics No.21 1992 Edition

The latest edition of *The Scottish Abstract of Statistics* was published in April 1992. It is the most important single source of official and unofficial statistics covering social and economic life in Scotland. It contains over 200 pages of tables and charts, in 16 sections, complete with explanatory notes, covering topics such as population, leisure, personal income and the environment. Many of the tables show series for a number of years, others give information at region and district level.

Copies, price £22.00 net can be obtained from:

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

Scottish Statistics Factcard 1992

This pocket-sized card contains key information on many aspects of life in Scotland, with UK comparisons. Topics covered include population, transport, agriculture and employment for 1981, 1990 and 1991. The Factcard is an ideal reference source for the businessman, scholar or student.

Copies are available, free of charge, from:

The Scottish Office
Central Statistics Unit-2
Room 5/52
New St Andrew's House
EDINBURGH
EH1 3TG
Telephone: 031-244 4987

Statistical Publications: Information Leaflet

This leaflet lists all Scottish Office publications during the previous twelve months. It gives details of regularly produced volumes, such as *The Scottish Abstract of Statistics*, as well as all statistical Bulletins.

Copies are available, free of charge, from The Scottish Office, Central Statistics Unit-2, at the above address.

Quarterly Trends Bulletins

HSG/1993/1 *Housing Trends in Scotland - Quarter ended 30 September 1992* Published March 1993.

This Bulletin presents the standard quarterly analyses of housing stock by tenure, new housebuilding, council house sales and the improvement of existing dwellings.

HSG/1993/3 *Housing Trends in Scotland - Quarter ended 31 December 1992* Published May 1993

This Bulletin presents the standard quarterly analyses and annual information on local authority housing finance, capital payments and allocations.

The Bulletin on housing trends for the quarter ended 31 March 1993 is scheduled for publication in August 1993. Annual tables will present statistics on estimated age distribution of stock of dwellings, improvement grants to private owners and improvement of dwellings by public authorities and housing associations.

HSG/1992/7 Dwellings Below the Tolerable Standard (BTS) in Scotland: Estimates by Local Authorities for March 1991 and 1992 and Details of Action on Such Dwellings. Published December 1992

This Bulletin gives estimates from local authorities of the number of dwellings in Scotland which failed to meet the Tolerable Standard for housing on 31 March 1991 and 1992 and of the number of BTS dwellings which lacked certain of the standard amenities. It also gives information on local authority action in dealing with such dwellings over the period 1979 to 1992.

HSG/1993/2 Operation of the Homeless Persons Legislation in Scotland 1980/81 to 1991/92: District Analyses Published May 1993

This Bulletin presents statistics, for each local authority, on how authorities assessed and dealt with applicant households under the homeless persons legislation in Scotland. Figures for 1991/92 are provisional and in order to facilitate comparisons between districts, most tables will be presented in the form of percentages.

HSG/1993/4 The 1991 Post Census Survey of Vacant Property (PCVS) Published June 1993

This Bulletin presents the findings of the 1991 Post Census Vacant Survey (PCVS). The PCVS is the most comprehensive source of data on vacant properties available and includes details of dwellings type, tenure, and reason for vacancy.

Scottish Office Agriculture and Fisheries Department

Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables 1991

The 1991 edition contains 33 tables covering fish landings (into Scotland and the UK) and details of the Scottish Fishing Fleet.

Different tables show weight and value of landings by species, by area of capture, by landing district and by size of vessel. Also covered are topics such as the

employment of fisherman, disposal of the pelagic catch and the production of fishery by-products.

Some tables show annual figures for 1987 to 1991 and others give monthly landing figures for 1991. A table shows the quotas allocated to the UK from the Total Allowable catch, and the level of uptake for each stock during 1987 to 1991.

A new table shows landings abroad by species during 1987 to 1991.

Reference

Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables 1991
Price £1.50 net
ISBN 0 7480 0623 0

Available 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)

General Register Office for Scotland

1991 Census Results

Reports for Scottish Regions and Islands Areas Parts 1 & 2

Part 1 of the Reports for the Regions and Islands Areas of Scotland were published between December 1992 and March 1993.

Part 1 of the reports contained 7 tables of results from the processing of all forms, covering demographic and economic characteristics, housing, households and household composition, household spaces and dwellings.

A similar volume containing the same tables at a national level was also published in late Spring 1993.

Publication of Part 2 of the reports, was completed in April 1993. These reports contain 29 tables based on the results from a one in ten sample.

Volumes dealing with particular topics from the 1991 Census started to appear in February, with *Sex, Age and Marital Status* followed by *Historical Tables*. The final report, *Qualified Manpower*, is expected to be published in April/May 1994.

Further details about reports and publication dates will continue to appear in future editions of *Statistical News* and can be obtained from the following addresses:

Census Customer Services
OPCS
Segensworth Road
Titchfield
HAMPSHIRE PO15 5RR

or

Census Customer Services
GRO(S)
Ladywell House
Ladywell Road
EDINBURGH EH12 7TF

Vital Statistics: Scotland

The *Vital Statistics Return*, Weeks 9 to 12 was published on the 11 May and included the Preliminary Return of the Registrar General for Scotland for 1992.

The 1992 Annual Report of the Registrar General for Scotland was published in June.

Department of Social Security

DSS launched a new survey - the *Family Resource Survey* (FRS) in October 1992. This survey, which aims to cover 25,000 households seeks to collect data on incomes, occupational pensions, savings and other areas of DSS interest. Its purpose is to enable better monitoring of the Social Security programme and improve the data used in forecasting benefit expenditure. The survey uses Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing and data is given to DSS quarterly in arrears, by the contractors OPCS/SCPR. Publications are being planned for when a complete years data becomes available.

Transport

Port Statistics for 1992 (provisional)

Provisional Port Statistics for 1992 were published in a Statistical Bulletin by the Department of Transport in May.

The Bulletin, which is published as early as possible after the end of the survey year, is compiled without waiting for complete returns for every port, using estimates where necessary for those missing. The Bulletin contains three tables, charts and a map, giving total foreign and domestic traffic by mode of appearance and principal bulk commodities, and tonnages, including those of bulk fuels, and container and ro/ro units, handled by the largest ports.

Full detailed statistics for 1992 will be published in *Port Statistics 1992* in September 1993.

Port Statistics Provisional 1992 Data is available from:

The Department's Publication Sales Unit
Room 1, Spur 2, Block 3
Government Buildings
Lime Grove
Eastcote
MIDDLESEX HA4 8SE
Telephone: 081-429 5170

Price £4.00 net including postage

Vehicle Statistics 1992: Great Britain

In May the Department of Transport published the first edition of a new publication *Vehicle Statistics 1992* intended to combine in a single volume information on vehicle stock and new registrations previously published in three publications (Annual Vehicle Census, monthly New Vehicle Registrations and Transport Statistics Great Britain). Since international comparisons, particularly within the EC, are becoming increasingly important two tables giving international comparisons of the vehicle stock have been included.

Vehicle Statistics 1992: Great Britain is published by HMSO, price to be announced.

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

Pig Survey - April and August

Cereals Stocks Surveys

Turkey Census

Farm Business Survey

Enterprise Cost Studies:

Survey of the Lowland Lamb Crop

Study on Alternative Crops to Cereals: Peas

Mr A A Bennett
Stats C&P, MAFF
Room 502B
Government Buildings
Epsom Road
GUILDFORD
GU1 2LD

Surveys to Local Authorities

Scottish Vacant Land Survey

Ms M Horn
The Scottish Office
New St Andrews House
St James Centre
EDINBURGH
EH1 35X

Census of School Meals and Milk

Placing Requests in Education Authority
Schools in Scotland

Miss C McKay
Scottish Office of Education Department
Room 208
43 Jeffrey Street
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DE

Appointments and Changes

Retirement

Mr N Harvey, Grade 3, CSO on 30 April 1993

Mr R M Allen, Grade 5, ODA on 23 April 1993

Promotion/transfer

Mr G S Charles, Grade 5, IR to OME on 1 January 1993

Miss J J Church, Grade 5, ODA to CSO (SRHE) on 1 February 1993

Promotion

Mr P J Capell, Grade 5, DTp on 18 January 1993

Mr A B Williams, Grade 5, ODA on 23 April 1993

On Secondment

Mr D J Sellwood, Grade 5, CSO to Eurostat on 15 April 1993

Conferences and Training

University of Warwickshire

The University of Warwick Business Information Service is holding a two-day seminar entitled 'European Marketing Data and Statistics in the 1990s: a practical course for business users'.

Date: 27-28 September 1993
Venue: Chesford Grange Hotel,
Kenilworth
Cost: £395 (incl accommodation,
refreshments and course notes)

This two-day residential course is aimed at market researchers, marketing staff, corporate planners and information staff. It will give an understanding of key marketing and statistical sources through a combination of lectures, practicals and demonstrations.

For further details contact:

**Christine Warburton at the
Business Information Service.
Telephone: 0203-523251,
Fax: 0203-524211**

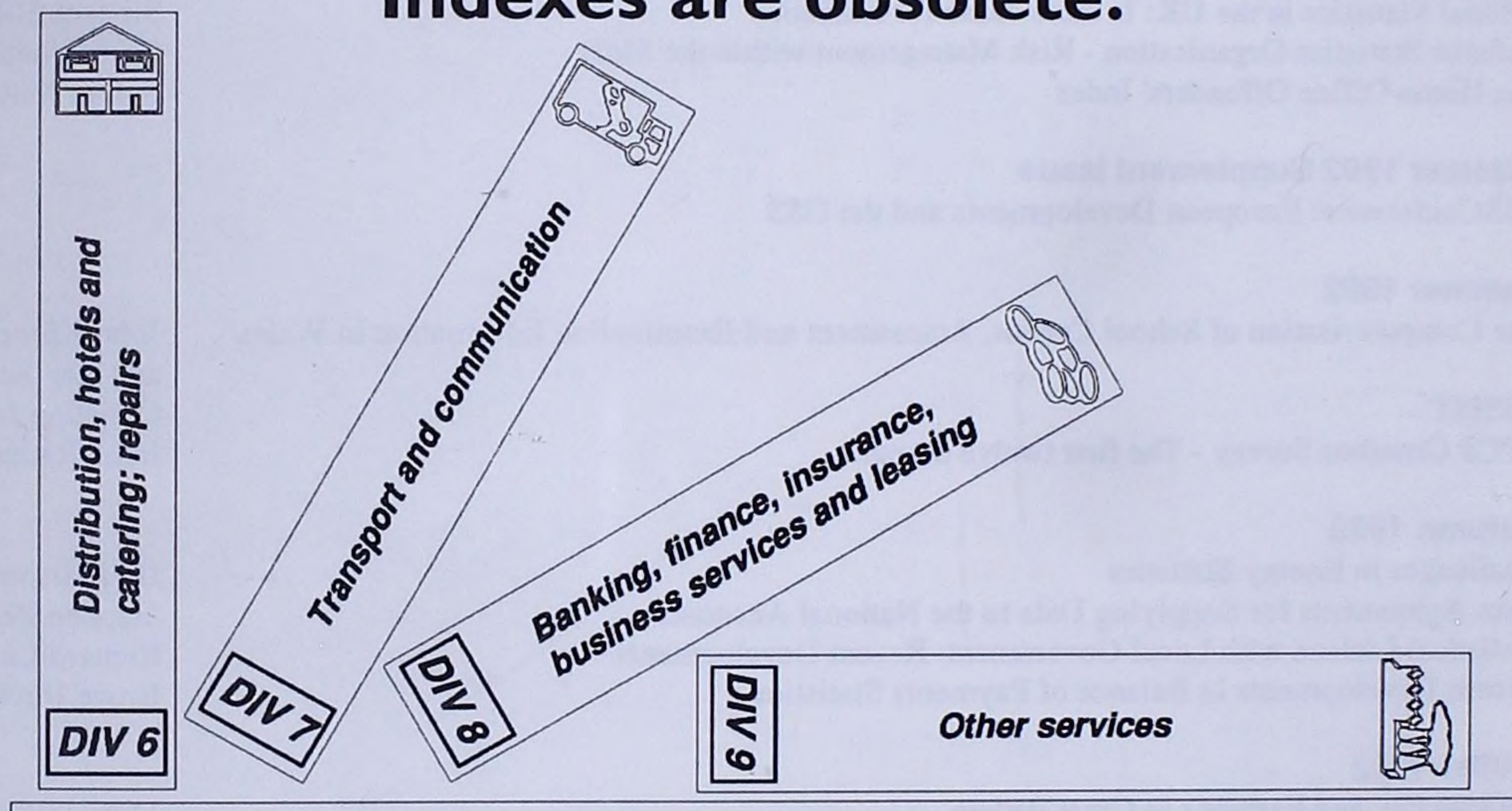
Articles in recent issues of Statistical News

- No 92 Spring 1991**
 The First Revision of the European Classification of Economic Activities: NACE REV 1
 Statistical and Research Services in the Northern Ireland Civil Service
 Developments in Statistical Computing in the Home Office
 Ken Mears
 Edgar Jardine
 Rodney Taylor
- No 93 Summer 1991**
 Regional Drug Misuse Databases
 Labour Market Statistics for the 1990's - The 1990 Statistics User's Conference
 The CSO Celebrates its 50th Birthday
 Marie Richards
 Paul Allin
 Reg Ward
- No 94 Autumn 1991**
 Improvements to Economic Statistics: A Progress Report
 General Medical Practitioners' Workload Survey 1989 - 90
 The National Food Survey 1940 - 1990
 David Daniel
 Michael Barker
 Carolyn Hamilton
 and Sheila Dixon
- No 95 Winter 1991**
 Central Statistical Office launched as Executive Agency
 A Classification of Local Housing Authorities Expenditure Characteristics
 and Imputation
 The Enhancement of the Labour Force Survey in Great Britain
 Richard Laux
 Elaine Chamberlain,
 Tony Manners and
 Michael Bradly
 Tony Manners
 Computer Assisted Interviewing for the Labour Force Survey
 Desk-Top Publishing: Production of Statistical Publications in the Department of the
 Environment
 John Gamsworthy
 and Stephen Peters
- No 96 Spring 1992**
 A New Head for the GSS
 Official Statistics in the UK: Is there cause for concern?
 Defence Statistics Organisation - Risk Management within the MoD
 The Home Office Offenders' Index
 Sir Jack Hibbert
 Sean Whellams
 Sylvia Keith
- No96A Summer 1992 Supplement Issue**
 GSSConference: European Developments and the GSS
- No 97 Summer 1992**
 The Computerisation of School Census, Assessment and Examination Information in Wales
 ASSIST
 OPCS Omnibus Survey - The first twelve months
 John Kinder
 and Reg Kilpatrick
 Christine Jeannette
 Irene Rauta
- No 98 Autumn 1992**
 Challenges in Energy Statistics
 Firm Agreements for Supplying Data to the National Accounts
 Statistical Liaison with Local Government: Recent Developments
 Recent Developments in Balance of Payments Statistics
 Jill Marson and Matt Semple
 Stephen Penneck
 Richard Laux
 Bruce Buckingham
- No 99 Winter 1992**
 Official Pay and Earnings in Great Britain
 Family Resources Survey
 Mike Janes and Alan Spence
 Sharon Blackburn and
 Sue Lincoln
- No 100 Spring 1993 - International Edition**
 Introduction
 Official Statistics: The International Dimension seen from the CSO
 ODA Assistance to Statistical Services in Developing Countries
 A Day in the Life of an ODA Statistician in Africa
 Sharing GSS 'Know How' with Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union
 UK - Hungary Workshop: November 1992 Looking to the Future
 Statistics and Developing Countries - Reflections Approaching Retirement
 Bill McLennan
 Alwyn Pritchard
 Tony Williams
 Richard Butchart
 Jenny Church
 Jenny Church
 Dick Allen

Copies of the above and earlier articles may be obtained from: Central Statistical Office, Government Buildings, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NP9 1XG, Library Room 1.001. The cost is £5.00 a copy, inclusive of postage and handling, for the articles listed, and for articles from earlier issues. The appropriate remittance should accompany each order. Cheques, etc., should be made payable to 'The Central Statistical Office'.

The Standard Industrial Classification

The Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) has changed as a result of the Single European Market. These changes are extensive and the 1980 SIC and Indexes are obsolete.



The latest editions are now available from HMSO and through good booksellers.

Standard Industrial Classification 1992

Price £18 net

ISBN 0 11 620550 4

Indexes to the Standard Industrial Classification 1992

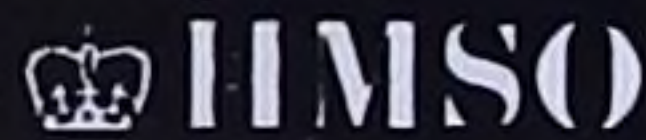
Price £17.50

ISBN 0 11 620551 2

Statistical News - a quarterly publication from CSO.

Statistical News provides a comprehensive account of current developments in British official statistics to help all who use or would like to use official statistics.

Every issue contains two or more articles dealing with a subject in depth. Shorter notes give news of the latest developments in many fields, including international statistics. Some reference is made to other work which, though not carried out by government organisations, is closely related to official statistics. Appointments and other changes in the Government Statistical Service are also given. A cumulative index in the winter edition provides a permanent and comprehensive guide to developments in all areas of official statistics.



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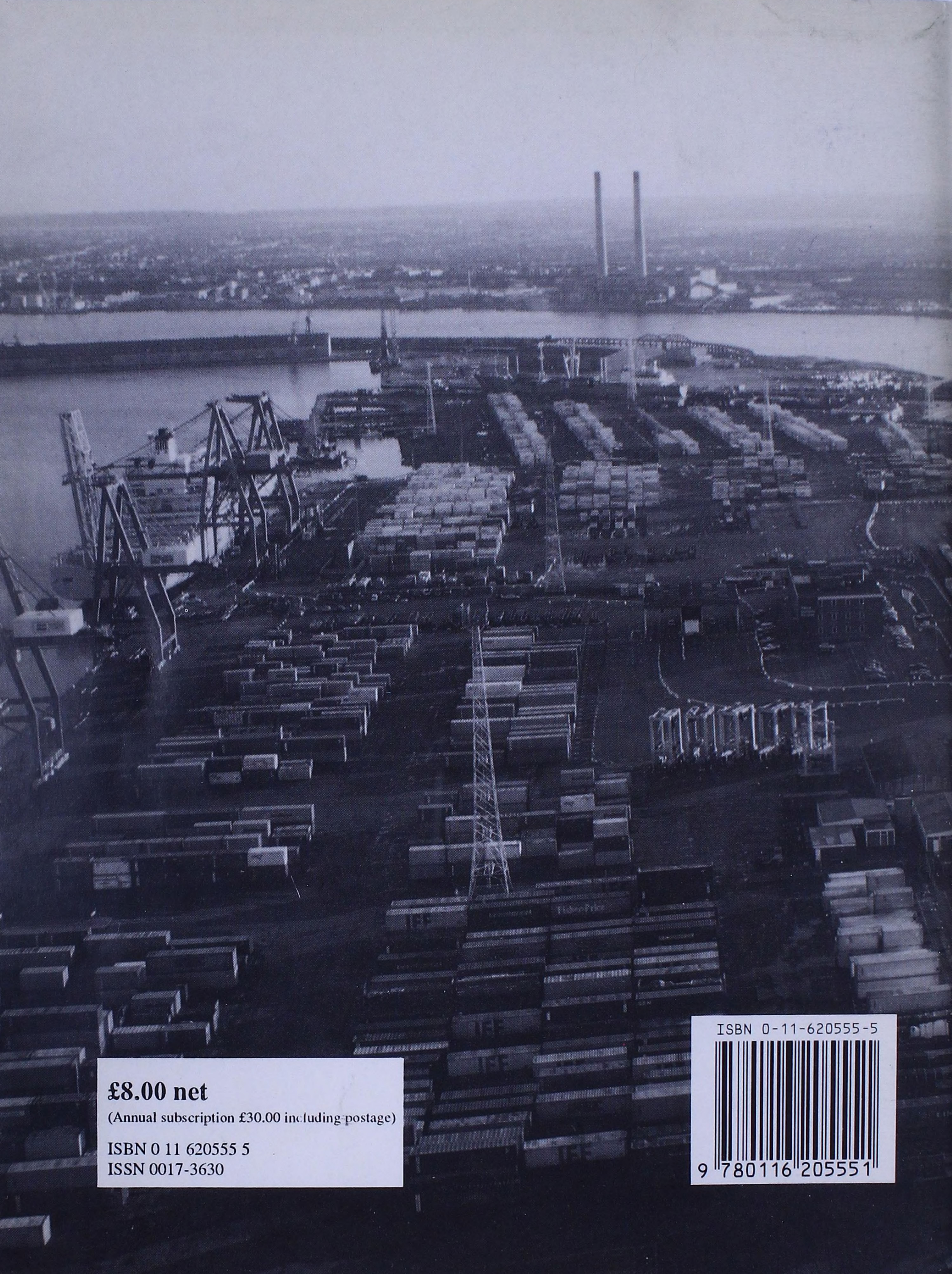
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