

15 September 2006

Coverage
United Kingdom
Theme
Commerce, Energy
and Industry

Annual Business Inquiry 2004 provisional regional results

Provisional regional Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) results for 2004 for the English government office regions, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have been released today by the Office for National Statistics. Revised regional results for 2003 are also being issued as part of this release.

These regional estimates are consistent with United Kingdom (UK) national results for the ABI released on 15 June 2006. They do not cover the whole economy, omitting much of the public sector, finance and agriculture.

- In England, every region showed a rise between 2003 and 2004 in approximate gross value added (GVA) at basic prices for those parts of the economy covered by the ABI.
- In every English region except the North West and the East Midlands, businesses' purchases of goods, materials and services increased less rapidly between 2003 and 2004 than did turnover.
- London remains the region in England with the most substantial GVA. At £153 billion, this is around one quarter the approximate GVA for England as a whole. In contrast, the North East region accounts for the least, with slightly under 4 per cent of English GVA.
- Although the East of England saw the lowest rise in labour costs of any English region, at 2.0 per cent, this was marginally greater than the region's rise in turnover between 2003 and 2004. The North West was the only other English region where labour costs increased faster than turnover over the period.

No commentary has been made on results for Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland as the Scottish Executive and the National Assembly for Wales will be publishing their own results and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland has already published its results.

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Next publication date
To be announced

Revisions

In accordance with the usual revisions policy for the ABI, the period 2003 was open for revision for this release. Table R1 shows the revisions for turnover, purchases and approximate gross value added by country and government office region.

The revised results for 2003 are based on a more complete set of data following receipt of additional data and further analysis.

BACKGROUND NOTES

Annual Business Inquiry

1. This first release covers information collected as part of the Annual Business Inquiry (ABI). The ABI collects both employment and accounting information. This more efficient use of the sample helps to reduce the compliance burden on businesses while at the same time ensuring that these two sets of data are consistent. This inquiry replaced the various annual inquiries sent to businesses for 1997 and earlier.
2. Statistics for the English Government Office Regions, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are available at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/abi/regional.asp>.
3. The Scottish Executive publishes additional analyses for Scotland based on these ABI estimates. These will be available on 19 September 2006 on the Scottish Executive website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/16170/4363>.
4. Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment Northern Ireland - DETI(NI) - estimates for Northern Ireland are available on the DETI(NI) website. These estimates will differ from ONS Northern Ireland estimates due to differences in the methodology. The DETI(NI) methodology, while broadly comparable with that of the UK, is designed to give the best Northern Ireland estimate rather than an estimate which is consistent with the rest of the UK. Users who want to look at trends in results for Northern Ireland for 2001 to 2004 area advised to look at the Northern Ireland website at http://www.detini.gov.uk/cgi-bin/get_builder_page?page=2446&site=4&parent=57&prevpage=2589.

Coverage

5. The results in this first release cover approximately two thirds of the UK economy and cover agriculture (part), fishing, production, construction, distribution and service industries. The presentation is in line with the Standard Industrial Classification SIC(2003). The sectors covered are:

Agriculture, hunting and forestry	Section A, (Groups 01.4 and 01.5 and Division 02)
Fishing	Section B from 2000
Production Industries	Sections C-E
Construction Industry	Section F
Distribution Industries	Section G
Service Industries	Section H, Section I, Section K, Section M, Section N (except Industries 85.111, 85.12, 85.13 85.311 and 85.321) and Section O.

The main areas excluded are part of agriculture (Groups 01.1, 01.2 and 01.3), financial intermediation, public administration and defence.

Definitions

7. Approximate gross value added at basic prices represents the wealth created by businesses and is essentially the difference between income and expenditure on goods and services. Adjustments are made, where data is available, for changes in stock levels, own account capital expenditure, local authority and excise duties.

Estimates of approximate GVA shown here for regional data will not be exactly the same as Regional GVA published by ONS Regional Accounts. More information on this can be obtained from www.statistics.gov.uk/abi/variable_info.asp.

Further information

8. Revised 2004 UK national results at SIC(2003) 4 digit class level, together with results for 1995-2003, giving both analysis and tabular detail are available free of charge from the National Statistics website at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/abi>.

Additional standard extracts are available on request. Bespoke analyses are also available but there will be a charge for these. For more information about either of these services please e-mail abi2@ons.gov.uk or telephone +44(0)1633 812435 for standard extracts or +44(0)1633 812674 for bespoke analyses.

Articles describing the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), which provides the sampling frame, appeared in the November 1995 and February 1998 editions of *Economic Trends*, explaining the move of business surveys to the IDBR in more detail. The November 2000 edition of *Economic Trends* (no 564) contained an article detailing the development of the Annual Business Inquiry, together with methodological information. Further information on the IDBR can be found at <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/idbr>.

Information on SIC(92) is contained in the October 1992 and February 1993 editions of *Economic Trends* (nos 468, 472). Further information on SIC(92) and SIC (2003) can be found at http://www.statistics.gov.uk/methods_quality/sic/contents.asp

9. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available from the press office.
10. **National Statistics** are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. © Crown copyright 2006.

1 Whole Economy (Sections A-O) by Country and Government Office Region, 2003-2004

Government Office Region or Country	Year	Total turnover	Approximate gross value added at basic prices	Total purchases of goods, materials and services	Total employment costs
		£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
North East	2003	65,630	20,780	44,233	12,225
	2004	71,001	24,075	46,407	12,727
North West	2003	216,334	68,578	144,303	39,084
	2004	229,462	72,268	153,489	41,644
Yorkshire and The Humber	2003	149,573	47,249	102,330	27,722
	2004	157,755	50,757	107,510	29,147
East Midlands	2003	123,882	40,424	80,896	23,125
	2004	134,356	44,550	88,566	24,667
West Midlands	2003	174,477	51,781	121,680	31,210
	2004	186,455	57,996	126,783	32,679
East of England	2003	199,376	63,133	133,568	34,071
	2004	203,101	64,737	135,421	34,748
London	2003	495,766	142,904	349,664	79,799
	2004	523,749	153,032	368,477	83,219
South East	2003	346,102	109,072	234,160	60,889
	2004	355,184	110,769	239,830	62,319
South West	2003	138,792	47,064	91,033	26,009
	2004	149,016	51,565	96,009	27,833
England	2003	1,909,931	590,985	1,301,865	334,134
	2004	2,010,080	629,751	1,362,492	348,983
Wales	2003	67,526	19,672	46,873	11,869
	2004	72,417	21,648	49,324	12,890
Scotland	2003	154,793	59,019	95,330	29,001
	2004	170,216	67,197	103,352	30,344
Great Britain	2003	2,132,250	669,676	1,444,068	375,004
	2004	2,252,713	718,596	1,515,169	392,218
Northern Ireland	2003	44,872	14,164	28,353	6,798
	2004	47,063	15,196	29,550	7,270
United Kingdom	2003	2,177,124	683,840	1,472,423	381,802
	2004	2,299,776	733,793	1,544,719	399,488

R1 Whole Economy (Sections A-O) by Country and Government Office Region, 2003
Revisions to Data

Government Office Region or Country	Year	Total turnover	Approximate gross value added at basic prices	Total purchases of goods, materials and services	Total employment costs
		£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
North East	2003	-1,169	56	-1,269	-63
North West	2003	-460	79	-455	-338
Yorkshire and The Humber	2003	724	-458	1,174	-189
East Midlands	2003	-2,464	-1,154	-1,376	-445
West Midlands	2003	111	949	-888	-298
East of England	2003	-2,399	-391	-1,873	-687
London	2003	-2,502	-3,215	618	-1,409
South East	2003	1,752	760	1,381	-668
South West	2003	1,126	-890	2,067	-147
England	2003	-5,283	-4,256	-621	-4,245
Wales	2003	539	1	552	5
Scotland	2003	2,206	1,126	886	-85
Great Britain	2003	-2,538	-3,137	817	-4,325
Northern Ireland	2003	-519	-38	-395	-56
United Kingdom	2003	-3,055	-3,174	423	-4,380