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Business Monitor

A publication of the Government Statistical Service

Report on the Census of Production

Electricity



Department of Trade and Industry

Business Statistics Office

HMSO

PA602

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A publication of the Government Statistical Service

Report on the Census of Production 1971

Electricity

Presented by the Department of Trade and Industry
to Parliament in pursuance of the Statistics of Trade Act 1947
(10 & 11 Geo. 6 Cha. 39 sec 7)

Department of Trade and Industry
Business Statistics Office

London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office 1973

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PA602 ELECTRICITY

The information in this report relates to undertakings classified to the Electricity industry, minimum list heading 602 in the Standard Industrial Classification (revised 1968). The activities of the industry include:-

The production and distribution of electricity for public supply. Construction work carried out by employees of electricity undertakings is included. Establishments producing electricity for railway and trolley-bus operation are also included, as are 'district heating' and electricity showrooms. Establishments (other than those of railway and trolley-bus undertakings) producing electricity primarily for their own use are excluded, and are included in the industries covering the major output of the parent works.

In this report separate particulars are given for the Electricity Boards and other undertakings which consisted of the generating stations of transport undertakings in Great Britain and electricity undertakings in Northern Ireland.

The tables have been compiled from returns made to the Department of Trade and Industry. The figures for 1970 relate to the year ended 31 March 1971 and those for 1971 to the year ended 31 March 1972.

In interpreting the data in the tables it is essential to bear in mind the notes and definitions which commence on page (iii).

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TABLE 1

PA602 3

Input and output, 1970 and 1971

All United Kingdom undertakings classified to the industry

	Unit	Electricity Boards		Other undertakings (a)		Total	
		1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971
Number of generating stations	Number	289	278	6	7	295	285
Electricity etc., sold and work done (b)	£'000	1,709,276	1,919,561	47,304	52,058	1,756,580	1,971,619
Services rendered to other organisations (c)	"	351	467	-	-	351	467
Goods merchanted	"	109,411	130,199	1,432	1,834	110,843	132,033
Canteen takings	"	2,269	2,376	29	33	2,298	2,409
Total sales and work done	"	1,821,307	2,052,603	48,766	53,925	1,870,072	2,106,528
Increase during the year, goods on hand for sale	"	3,741	37	107	13	3,848	50
Increase during the year, work in progress	"	- 16	720	141	159	125	879
Gross output	"	1,825,032	2,053,360	49,013	54,097	1,874,045	2,107,457
Cost of materials and fuel used and of merchanted goods	"	743,752	837,516	21,011	24,844	764,763	862,360
Payments to other organisations							
for renovation of appliances by other firms	"	4,647	5,020	35	23	4,682	5,043
for transport by road (d)	"	1,539	819	19	21	1,558	840
for transport by rail, water, air and Post Office parcel services (d)	"		558		-		558
Total costs	"	749,938	843,913	21,064	24,888	771,003	868,801
Net output	"	1,075,094	1,209,447	27,949	29,209	1,103,042	1,238,656
Net output per head	£	5,118	6,079	3,969	4,212	5,081	6,016
Total employment (e)	Number	210,063	198,963	7,042	6,934	217,105	205,897
Operatives	"	126,988	115,416	4,873	4,626	131,861	120,042
Others (f)	"	83,075	83,547	2,169	2,308	85,244	85,855
Wages and salaries							
Operatives	£'000	166,398	183,319	6,852	8,141	173,250	191,460
Others (f)	"	135,273	153,824	3,134	3,822	138,407	157,646
Wages and salaries per head							
Operatives	£	1,310	1,588	1,406	1,764	1,314 ^R	1,595
Others (f)	"	1,628	1,841	1,445	1,656	1,624	1,836

(a) Including generating stations of transport undertakings in Great Britain and electricity undertakings in Northern Ireland.

(b) Including sales of electricity, by-products and waste products, charges for work done, meter rents received and work of new construction.

(c) Amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery or for any technical or other services rendered.

(d) Payments for transport inwards are included in the cost of purchased materials and fuel used and excluded from payments for transport to other organisations.

(e) Average number of persons employed during the year.

(f) Administrative, technical and clerical employees.

TABLE 2

PA602 4

Capital expenditure and stocks, 1970 and 1971

All United Kingdom undertakings classified to the industry

	Unit	Electricity Boards		Other undertakings		Total	
		1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971
Capital expenditure (a)	£'000						
New building work	"	70,696	74,639	2,389	1,940	73,085	76,579
Land and existing buildings							
Acquisitions	"	2,651	5,270	44	59	2,695	5,329
Disposals	"	2,884	3,204	60	50	2,944	3,254
Plant and machinery							
Acquisitions (b)	"	375,980	365,339	16,316	19,838	392,296	385,177
Disposals	"	3,710	3,268	371	135	4,081	3,403
Vehicles							
Acquisitions	"	6,216	6,974	287	306	6,503	7,280
Disposals	"	648	1,060	30	66	678	1,126
Appliances for hire (c)							
Acquisitions	"	618	665	205	211	823	876
Disposals (d)	"	53	75	1	-	54	75
Vessels							
Acquisitions	"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	"	38	22	-	-	38	22
Nuclear fuel							
Acquisitions	"	19,714	21,044	-	-	19,714	21,044
Disposals	"	505	21	-	-	505	21
Total net capital expenditure (e)	"	468,037	466,281	18,779	22,103	486,816	488,384
Stocks and work in progress at end of year (f)							
Materials, stores and fuel	"	140,396	159,549	4,027	4,149	144,423	163,698
Work in progress	"	6,976	7,462	545	728	7,521	8,190
Goods on hand for sale	"	20,162	20,199	292	309	20,454	20,508
Total stocks	"	167,534	187,210	4,864	5,186	172,398	192,396

(a) Capital expenditure in respect of units where production had not commenced before the end of the year, is included.

(b) Including meters, mains and services, and railway sidings owned by electricity undertakings.

(c) Issued during year.

(d) Proceeds from disposals of appliances formerly on hire which were sold or scrapped during the year.

(e) Acquisitions less disposals.

(f) The stock changes in table 1, based on opening and closing values returned by firms, may be different from those obtained from end-year values. The differences are attributable to variation in valuation by firms between the years and to differences in respondents, and in total employment.

TABLE 3

PA602 5

Analysis of undertakings by size, 1971 - Undertakings classified to the industry

This table is not applicable to the industry

TABLE 4

PA602 6

Percentage analysis of employees, by full and part time employment and sex, 1971 (a)

All United Kingdom undertakings classified to the industry

Sex	Full time	Part time	All employees
	per cent	per cent	per cent
Male	84	-	84
Female	13	3	16
	97	3	100

Source : Department of Employment

(a) The percentages relate to the numbers employed (excluding working proprietors) at mid-June, 1971.

TABLE 5

PA602 7

Regional distribution of employment, net capital expenditure and net output, by country, 1971

All United Kingdom undertakings classified to the industry

Country	Average number employed		Net capital expenditure (a)		Net output	
	Number	per cent of United Kingdom	£'000	per cent of United Kingdom	£'000	per cent of United Kingdom
England	170,852	83.0	369,712	75.7	1,021,789	82.5
Wales	11,544	5.6	21,531	4.4	63,389	5.1
Scotland	17,724	8.6	76,994	15.8	128,785	10.4
Great Britain	200,120	97.2	468,237	95.9	1,213,963	98.0
Northern Ireland	5,777	2.8	20,147	4.1	24,693	2.0
United Kingdom	205,897	100.0	488,384	100.0	1,238,656	100.0

(a) New building work plus acquisitions less disposals of land and existing buildings, plant and machinery and vehicles: including capital expenditure at units not yet in production.

TABLE 6

PA602 8

Work of new construction and repair and maintenance carried out by employees of electricity undertakings, 1970 and 1971 (a)
United Kingdom undertakings classified to the industry

	Electricity Boards		Other undertakings		Total	
	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971
New construction	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
On depots, workshops, offices and other buildings	5,138	5,210	5,957	5,050	103,812	105,513
On plant and machinery	29,046	29,396				
On mains and services	62,708	65,051				
Work charged to other divisions and Area Boards	963	806				
Repair and maintenance						
On depots, workshops, offices and other buildings	11,023	12,225	3,687	4,194	104,957	118,501
On plant and machinery	68,814	80,099				
On mains and services	17,509	17,899				
Work charged to other divisions and Area Boards	3,924	4,084				
Total work of new construction and repair and maintenance	199,125	214,770	9,644	9,244	208,769	224,014
Less work of repair and maintenance	101,270	114,307	3,687	4,194	104,957	118,501
Total new construction	97,855	100,463	5,957	5,050	103,812	105,513

(a) The amount shown for work of new construction represents the sum chargeable to capital account. Repairs and maintenance are valued at the cost of labour and materials. Work done for other Divisions and Area Boards is valued at the amount charged.

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Notes

These notes give the main information needed for interpreting the figures in the industry reports, (more detailed information about the census is given in a separate booklet - "Introductory Notes", Part PA1001 of the Report on the Census of Production for 1971).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Changes compared with 1970

The questions asked in the 1971 census were the same as those in the 1970 census with one main exception: for 1971 establishments were asked to include in capital expenditure, expenditure on units that were not in production in the year of return; for 1970 this expenditure was collected in a separate inquiry. This change of method of collection does not affect the results for 1970 and 1971 because capital expenditure for units not yet in production is included in the aggregates for both years.

Industrial classification

The Annual Censuses of Production are conducted on the Business Statistics Office's Production Register. Normally establishments on the Register are classified to industries on the basis of major activity in conformity with the third edition of the Standard Industrial Classification (revised 1968). Normally an establishment was classified to an industry if its sales of the principal products of that industry accounted for a greater proportion of its total sales than in its sales of the principal products of any other industry; classification is generally based on an establishment's returns to the quarterly production inquiry. Where this was not possible - for example where a quarterly production inquiry had not then been introduced - the classification of an establishment reflects its return to the Census of Production, 1968. Establishments for which information was not available either from the quarterly inquiries on the 1968 Census were classified on the basis of the description of the business given by the establishments to the Business Statistics Office, for instance, in the course of registration.

Coverage

Detailed census returns were generally sought only from establishments employing on average 25 or more persons, but in some industries where firms employing less than 25 persons account for a relatively high proportion of total employment and output the exemption limit was lowered to 11. Census returns were also sent to establishments whose employment was not known to the Business Statistics Office at the time of despatch.

TERMS USED IN THE CENSUS REPORT

Average number employed

Undertakings were required to state the number of persons on the payroll (i.e. whose national insurance cards were held by them) on the average during the year of return, whether full time or part time employees. Separate figures were required for (a) administrative, technical and clerical employees and (b) all other employees (operatives). Averages could be calculated from figures relating to the last week of each calendar month.

The figures include persons engaged on merchanting or factoring and canteen workers where particulars in respect of these activities could not be excluded from the return.

Employees

Administrative, technical and clerical employees include managing and other directors in receipt of a definite wage, salary or commission, managers, superintendents and works foremen; research, experimental development, technical and design employees (other than operatives); draughtsmen and tracers; editorial staff; travellers; and office (including works office) employees.

Operatives include all other classes of employees, that is, broadly speaking, all manual wage earners. They include those employed in and about the factory or works, operatives employed in power houses, transport

work (including roundsmen), stores, warehouses shops and canteens; inspectors, viewers and similar workers, maintenance workers, and cleaners. Operators engaged in outside work of erecting, fitting, etc. are also included.

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure during the year in respect of manufacturing units where production had not started before the end of the year is included in the figures for both 1970 and 1971.

(a) New building

This represents the cost incurred during the year of new building and other constructional work (including office buildings, canteens and the like used in connection with the business covered by the return, but not dwellinghouses for employees). The value is that charged to capital account during the year of return; it includes expenditure on new buildings or on the extension or reconstruction of old buildings, the value of works of a capital nature carried out by the undertaking's own staff and the cost of any newly constructed buildings purchased. Figures shown include any legal charges, stamp duties, agents' commissions, etc.

(b) Land and existing buildings

The items shown are the capital cost of freeholds purchased and the capital cost of premium payable for leaseholds acquired (excluding the value of any assets acquired in taking over an existing business), and the amounts receivable for any freeholds or leaseholds disposed of. The value is that charged to capital account during the year of return.

(c) Plant, machinery and vehicles

The items shown are the value of plant and machinery and of vehicles acquired, both new and second-hand, and the amount received for items disposed of during year. The value of plant and machinery acquired includes plant, etc., which firms produced for their own use in connection with the business covered by the return. The value of plant, etc., acquired is the expenditure charged to capital account during the year of return less any discounts received, but including the cost of transport and installation. No deduction is made for depreciation, amortization or obsolescence. The proceeds of items disposed of during the year exclude amounts written off for items scrapped.

Gross output

Gross output measures the total value of production (including work done) by undertakings during the year. It is calculated as follows:-

Value of sales and work done
Plus/Less: Increase/decrease in value of stocks of goods on hand for sale
Plus/Less: Increase/decrease in value of work in progress
= Gross output.

Net output

Net output represents the value added to materials by the process of production (including the margin on selling any merchanted or factored goods). It is calculated as follows:-

Gross output
Less: Purchases adjusted for change in value of stocks of fuel and raw materials
Less: Payments for work given to other establishments
Less: Payments for transport
= Net output.

Net output per person employed

The figures of net output per person employed are derived by dividing the net output by the average number of persons employed (full time and part time) on all activities covered by the returns, including operatives, administrative, technical and clerical employees.

Purchases

Purchases include the cost of materials and components bought for use in production; of fuel and electricity for all purposes; of packaging materials including the

cost of returnable cases and containers when first purchased; of workshop materials, office materials and materials for repairs to undertaking's own buildings, plants and vehicles when carried out by their own work people included in the returns; of consumable tools; and of parts for machinery purchased during the year as replacements. Water charges are also included. In general, purchases of goods for merchandising or factoring and canteen supplies are included. Materials supplied by customers for processing are excluded, as are all purchases charged to capital account.

The values shown include any duty paid (less rebate, etc.) but exclude trade discounts allowed. The cost of transport is included only if included in the cost of materials as invoiced; amounts paid to transport organisations, including an undertaking's own separate transport organisations for delivery of materials and fuel are, therefore, excluded. Materials purchased overseas are included at the c.i.f. cost plus any duty payable if the cost of transport from the docks was not included in the invoiced price, but at their full delivery cost if invoiced "carriage paid home". Materials and fuel transferred from another department of the undertaking not covered by the return are included at the estimated selling value recorded by the other department.

Sales

Sales are in respect of goods made by the business covered by the return, or by other undertakings from materials given out to them (sometimes described as goods made on commission) and waste products. Any machinery or other capital items produced for use in the business covered by the return are included, the value being that adopted in the undertaking's asset accounts. Goods sold without being subjected to any manufacturing process (i.e. merchanted or factored) and canteen takings are included.

The value shown for sales is the net selling value, defined as the amount charged to customers whether on an ex-works or delivered basis excluding any trade discounts, agents' commissions, allowances for returnable cases, purchase tax, etc.; the net amount charged for packaging materials is included. Goods charged on a delivered basis to customers overseas are included at the f.o.b. value.

Goods produced in one establishment and transferred to another establishment of the same firm not covered by the return were treated as sales by the producing establishment and valued as far as possible as if they had been sold to an independent purchaser. Goods transferred to wholesale or retail selling organisations for which separate accounts were kept were valued on the same basis.

To the extent that sales of finished products of one undertaking constitute the materials purchased by another, total figures of the value of sales (and of materials and fuel purchased) include an element of duplication. In some industries, e.g. motor vehicle manufacturing, and woollen and worsted, this duplication is substantial; and aggregates of the figures for a number of industries contain significantly greater amounts of duplication. For work done on commission, sub-contract work, etc., the value shown is the total amount charged for the work, including the value of any materials bought and used in such work.

Services rendered

This represents the amounts charged for hiring out plant, machinery and other goods, providing transport, or for

any technical or other services rendered to other organisations.

Standard Industrial Classification

Industry classification is based on the Standard Industrial Classification (revised 1968). It is published by HM Stationery Office together with a separate index in the form of an alphabetical list of industries.

Stocks and work in progress

Values are given of stocks of goods on hand for sale, and of materials and fuel, at the end of the year of return, including any stocks of goods held for merchandising or factoring. Values of the change during the year are also shown.

The value of work in progress at the end of, and the change during, the year are also usually shown. This excludes any progress payments made to sub-contractors, and no deduction is made on account of progress payments received.

Transport payments

These represent the total amount paid or credited during the year for both outwards transport of finished goods sold and inwards transport of materials and fuel purchased. They include payment to other undertakings and to any separate transport organisation of the same undertaking not covered by the return, but exclude the value of transport services provided by the business covered by the return. The items included are payments for hired cartage and for inwards and outwards carriage by all forms of inland transport, i.e. railways, road haulage, canals, coastwise shipping, air, etc. Payments made for sea and air freight on goods sold to customers overseas and on materials and fuel purchased from overseas suppliers are excluded.

Wages and salaries

These are amounts paid during the year to operatives and to administrative, technical and clerical employees. The values shown include all overtime payments, bonuses and commissions, whether paid regularly or not, and no deduction is made for income tax, insurances, contributory pensions, etc. The value of any payments in kind, travelling expenses, lodging allowances, etc. and employers' contributions to national insurances and pension schemes is excluded.

Work given out

The figures shown represent the total amount paid for work done by other undertakings on materials supplied to them. They do not include payments for business and other services.

SYMBOLS USED

The following symbols are used throughout the report:

- .. not available.
- nil or less than half the final digit shown.
- R revised.

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