

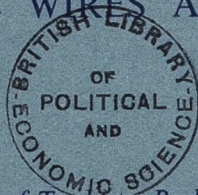
BOARD OF TRADE

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*The Report on the
Census of Production
for 1954*

Volume 4: Industry L

ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES



*Presented by the Board of Trade to Parliament in pursuance of the
Statistics of Trade Act, 1947 (10 & 11 Geo. 6 Ch. 39, Sec. 7)*

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The Report on the Census of Production for 1954

VOLUME 4 INDUSTRY L

ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES

THIS REPORT on the Electric Wires and Cables Industry relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of insulated electric wires and cables.

The decrease between 1948 and 1951 in the number of persons recorded as employed in this industry is due to the reclassification of certain establishments rather than to any decrease in the number of persons employed in the production of electric wires and cables.

There were no larger establishments in Northern Ireland in the register for this industry in 1951.

This industry corresponds to minimum list heading 71 in the Standard Industrial Classification.

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IMPORTANT NOTES and definitions appear on the next page. In interpreting the data in the tables, it is essential to bear these in mind.

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The following notes describe terms in general use in the tables of the report. More detailed explanations of the terms used and a description of the scope and method of taking the census are given in the separate booklet entitled 'The Report on the Census of Production for 1954 - Introductory Notes' (price 1s. 6d. net).

Industrial Classification: Establishments are classified to industries according to the nature of their output and, as far as possible, in conformity with the Standard Industrial Classification. Certain products are identified as the principal products of individual industries, the principal products for a given industry being of a similar nature or commonly associated in production. The principle of classification normally followed is that an establishment is classified to an industry if its output of the principal products of that industry accounted for a greater proportion of the value of its output than did its output of the principal products of any other industry.

Specialist producers normally comprise those establishments 50 per cent. or more of whose total output by value is accounted for by the characteristic products of the specialist group.

Intermediate products: For some industries figures are given showing the total quantities made during the year of intermediate products, i.e., products which may be further processed in the establishments in which they are produced.

Larger establishments: The information given in the report relates mainly to 'larger establishments', i.e., establishments of firms employing on the average more than 10 persons. In most cases an establishment comprises the whole of the premises under the same ownership or management at a particular address (e.g., a mine or factory). Offices, warehouses, laboratories and other ancillary places of business situated apart from the producing works are not regarded as separate establishments and are included in the return for the works.

Small firms are those employing on the average 10 or fewer persons.

The estimates for the industry as a whole given in Table 1 are normally obtained by increasing the other items shown in the same proportion as total employment.

Gross output (production) is the total value of goods made and other work done during the year; it is obtained by adjusting the value of sales and work done during the year for changes in the value of stocks of products on hand for sale and work in progress.

Net output is the amount left after deducting from the value of gross output the aggregate of the cost of materials and fuel used, the amount paid for work given out, and, for 1951 and 1954, any transport payments made. This represents the value added to materials by the process of production, and constitutes the fund from which wages, salaries, rents; rates and taxes, advertising and other selling expenses and all other similar charges have to be met, as well as depreciation and profits.

Sales means sales during the year of goods made in the establishment covered by the return or made on commission for it, whether produced in the year or not. The value of sales is the net selling value, i.e., the amount charged to customers, whether on an ex-works or delivered basis, and net of any trade discounts, agents' commissions, allowances for returnable cases, purchase tax, etc. For goods charged on a delivered basis to customers overseas, firms were required to give the f.o.b. value.

Materials and fuel: The total cost of materials and fuel purchased includes all purchases during the year of materials for use in production, and of fuel (includ-

ing oil, gas and electricity) for all purposes: packing materials, including the full cost of returnable cases when first purchased; workshop and office materials; water charges; materials for repairs to buildings, plant and vehicles when carried out by firms' own work-people included in their returns; consumable tools; and parts for machinery purchased as replacements. Purchases of goods for merchanting are excluded. The cost of materials and fuel used, given in Table 2, is obtained by adjusting purchases for changes during the year in the value of stocks.

Stocks: Firms were required to give stocks of materials and fuel, products on hand for sale, and work in progress, at income tax values.

Customs and Excise Duty paid on materials purchased is normally included in the cost of materials. Finished goods are similarly valued as they were sold, duty-paid or duty-free. The net amount of any duty paid is deducted in arriving at net output.

Employment: Total employment includes working proprietors, administrative, technical and clerical employees, and operatives, but excludes outworkers, canteen employees and persons engaged in merchanting or any other activity not covered by a firm's return, who are shown separately as excluded employees. Employees are persons on the pay-roll (i.e., persons whose National Insurance cards were held by employers), whether employed full-time or part-time.

Working proprietors are proprietors of businesses other than limited companies, together with members of their families who worked in the business without receiving fixed wages or salaries. Any persons working less than half the normal hours are excluded. For Northern Ireland directors of limited companies (other than those paid by fee only) are also included.

Administrative, technical and clerical employees include directors, other than those paid by fee only (except in Northern Ireland); managers, superintendents and works foremen; research, experimental, development, technical and design employees (other than operatives); draughtsmen and tracers; travellers; and office (including works office) employees.

Operatives include all other classes of employees, i.e., broadly speaking, all manual workers.

Outworkers are persons employed by the firm who work on materials supplied by the firm in their own homes.

Wages and salaries include all overtime payments, bonuses and commissions without any deductions for income tax, insurances, contributory pensions etc. They exclude payments to working proprietors.

Capital expenditure includes expenditure on new building work, and on plant, machinery and vehicles, charged to capital account during the year, including any transport and installation costs involved. It includes expenditure in respect of establishments in Great Britain which had not begun production before the end of the year (which has not previously been included in the Census of Production reports for individual industries).

Symbols used:

.. for not available

- for nil or negligible (less than half the final digit shown).

Where figures are rounded, e.g., given to the nearest £ thousand, there may be apparent slight discrepancies between the sums of constituent items and the totals shown. In some cases, figures have been combined with others of a similar nature where publication of separate details might disclose information relating to an individual undertaking.

Industry summary
Estimates for the industry as a whole

TABLE 1

	United Kingdom			Scotland	Wales
	1948	1951	1954	1954 (a)	1954 (a)
	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
Gross output (production)	99.2	127.6	138.0	..	..
Net output	39.5	36.3	39.0	..	..
Total stocks and work in progress					
At beginning of year	24.4	27.3	27.3	..	..
Change during year	+ 4.9	+ 11.0	+ 5.9	..	..
Capital expenditure less disposals (b)	2.4	2.4	4.7	..	..
Wages and salaries	19.4	18.8	23.6	..	..
Total employment (including working proprietors)	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	63.7	50.1	49.5	..	..

(a) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars for Scotland and Wales cannot be given.

(b) Capital expenditure on new building work, plant, machinery and vehicles (including (except in 1948) that incurred for establishments not yet in production), less amounts received for plant, machinery and vehicles disposed of.

Summary of returns received

TABLE 2

	Unit	Great Britain	United Kingdom	
		1948	1951	1954
FIRMS EMPLOYING ON AVERAGE MORE THAN 10 PERSONS				
Number of establishments	No.	84	77	83
Total value of sales and work done	£'000	96,902	122,434	134,216
Products on hand for sale	"	13,102	14,543	16,585
and work in progress	"	+ 3,657	+ 5,109	+ 3,543
Gross output (production) (a)	"	99,194	127,543	137,759
Purchases of materials and fuel	"	60,689	93,451	97,092
Stocks of materials and fuel	"	11,278	12,732	10,681
at beginning of year	"	+ 1,250	+ 5,872	+ 2,349
change during year	"	59,438	87,579	94,744
Cost of materials and fuel used	"	284	2,293	2,370
Payment for work done on materials given out	"	1,365	1,398	1,715
Payment for transport (b)	"	39,471	36,273	38,930
Net output	"	49,332	36,993	35,338
Average number of employees	{ operatives	14,353 (c)	13,037	14,099
	{ others	63,685	50,030	49,442
Total employment (d)	"	620	725	787
Net output per person employed (d)	£	13,885	12,657	15,480
Wages and salaries	{ of operatives	5,493	6,184	8,055
	{ of others	648	577	1,032
Capital expenditure	"	1,667	1,711	3,548
New building work (e)	"	53	42	80
Plant and machinery	{ acquisitions (e)	134	208	283
	{ disposals	9	24	61
Vehicles	{ acquisitions (e)			
	{ disposals			
FIRMS EMPLOYING ON AVERAGE 10 OR FEWER PERSONS				
Number of returns	No.	3	3 (f)	2
Total employment, including working proprietors	"	20	22 (f)	18

(a) For the year 1948 gross output excludes payments for transport services outwards on finished goods sold. For subsequent years gross output includes payments to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations for transport services.

(b) Payments to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations. For the year 1948 payments cover only transport outwards of finished goods sold. For subsequent years they cover payments for transport of both finished goods sold and materials and fuel purchased.

(c) Number in week ended September 25, 1948.

(d) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

(e) Excluding expenditure for establishments not yet in production.

(f) Excluding Northern Ireland. No information about small firms was collected in Northern Ireland for 1951.

ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES

Analysis by size, 1954

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 3

Average number employed (a)	Establishments	Gross output	Net output	Employees		Wages and salaries		Capital expenditure (b)	Net output per person employed (a)
				Operatives	Others	Operatives	Others		
	Number	£'000	£'000	Number	Number	£'000	£'000	£'000	£
11 - 24	5	220	49	76	12	24	8	6	552
25 - 49	11	1,436	326	319	82	157	57	1,211(c)	813
50 - 99	13	2,455	753	817	189	312	105		745
100 - 199	12	6,073	1,689	1,437	436	593	262		902
200 - 299	5	3,568	935	985	262	428	119	70	750
300 - 399	6	7,856	1,814	1,604	598	685	352	107	824
400 - 499	7	9,774	2,533	2,456	691	1,011	387	125	805
500 - 749	7	14,007	4,681	3,212	1,042	1,232	621	778	1,100
750 - 1,499	6	19,983	5,524	4,912	1,819	2,228	997	667	821
1,500 - 1,999	4	15,041	5,492	5,182	1,903	2,220	1,101	619	775
2,000 and over	7	57,345	15,133	14,338	7,065	6,591	4,047	1,280	707
Total	83	137,759	38,930	35,338	14,099	15,480	8,055	4,864	787

(a) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

(b) Capital expenditure on new building work and on acquisition of plant, machinery and vehicles. Excluding expenditure for establishments not yet in production.

(c) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars cannot be given.

Analysis according to specialisation within the industry, 1954

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 4

	Unit	Manufacturers drawing their own wire	Remainder of the industry	Total
Number of establishments	No.	36	47	83
Total value of sales and work done	£'000	95,081	39,135	134,216
Sales of characteristic products	"	56,098	35,245	
Products on hand for sale and work in progress	"	11,825	4,760	16,585
Gross output (production)	"	+ 2,718	+ 825	+ 3,543
	"	97,799	39,960	137,759
Purchases of materials and fuel	"	68,995	28,097	97,092
Stocks of materials and fuel	"	7,873	2,808	10,681
Cost of materials and fuel used	"	+ 1,882	+ 467	+ 2,349
Payment for work done on materials given out	"	67,113	27,630	94,744
Payment for transport	"	3,455(a)	631(a)	2,370
Net output	"	27,230	11,699	38,930
Average number of employees	No.	26,298	9,040	35,338
Total employment (b)	"	10,393	3,706	14,099
Net output per person employed (b)	£	36,691	12,751	49,442
Wages and salaries	£'000	742	918	787
Capital expenditure	"	11,532	3,948	15,480
New building work (c)	"	6,083	1,971	8,055
Plant and machinery	"	778	255	1,032
Vehicles	"	2,157	1,391	3,548
	"	47	32	80
	"	212	71	283
	"	51	10	61

(a) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, separate particulars cannot be given.

(b) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

(c) Excluding expenditure for establishments not yet in production.

ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES

Sales of the principal products of the industry, including sales of these products by establishments classified to other industries: Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 5

	1951	1954	
	Value	Value	Entries
	£'000	£'000	Number
Electric cables, wires, strips and strands, insulated			
Telecommunication cables, including submarine	16,469(a)	18,153	19
Solid winding wires of less than 0.0148 in. diameter			
Enamel, glass or asbestos insulated	(b)	792	6
Other	(b)	846	13
Other winding wires, strips, etc., including bunched and stranded wires			
Enamel, glass or asbestos insulated	(b)	8,085	12
Other	(b)	4,290	22
Other descriptions			
Paper insulated	28,377	27,190	26
Rubber insulated	33,651	26,557	33
Enamel, glass or asbestos insulated	7,896	907	14
Plastic insulated	14,059	8,305	43
Other, including cotton, silk or rayon, nylon, etc. insulated			
Waste products other than scrap metals	86	88	25
Contract and other work			
Work done as main contractors on power stations (thermal and hydro-electric) and electric power and lighting lines and works (c) (d)	2,323(e)	3,658	15
Repair and maintenance work on customers' machinery and plant (f)	90(g)	215	4
Total	102,950	105,331	..
Sales in other industries (see Table 6)	10,576	11,316	..
Principal products of this industry sold by establishments in the industry	92,374	94,014	54

(a) Returned as telegraph and telephone wires and cables.

(b) Not recorded separately.

(c) Value of work done during the year, exclusive of the value of goods used by firms and recorded as their output. The total value of these goods is estimated at £2,260,000 for 1954 and £1,980,000 for 1951.

(d) Excluding work done in the Building and Contracting Industries (Volume 12, Industries A to E).

(e) Excluding power stations.

(f) Including a small amount of research and development work.

(g) Described as repair and maintenance work for customers.

Sales of principal products of the industry by establishments classified to other industries: Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 6

	1954		Principal industries in which produced (a)
	Value	Entries	
	£'000	Number	
Electric cables, wires, strips and strands, insulated			
Telecommunication cables, including submarine	5,421	6	4K, 4M
Other descriptions, including winding wires			
Rubber insulated	2,147	6	4K, 4M, 5D
Enamel, glass or asbestos insulated	48	5	4K
Plastic insulated	758	10	4K, 4M, 12A
Other, including cotton, silk or rayon, nylon, etc. and paper insulated	1,653	11	4K, 4M, 5D
Contract and other work			
Work done as main contractors on power stations (thermal and hydro-electric) and electric power and lighting lines and works (b) (c)	1,290	9	4K, 4M
Total	11,316	..	

(a) The volume number and industry references given are to the industries shown in the list at the back of this report.

(b) Value of work done during the year, exclusive of the value of goods used by firms and recorded as their output.

(c) Excluding work done in the Building and Contracting Industries (Volume 12, Industries A to E).

ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES

Sales in the industry of other than principal products
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 7

	1954	
	Quantity	Value
		£'000
Joint boxes	..	1,690
Cable jointing materials and accessories (except solder and insulating materials)	..	1,150
Electrical insulating materials	..	594
Electrical machinery, including fuses and fuse gear	..	3,700
Radio, telegraph and telephone apparatus	..	99
Other electrical goods and apparatus	..	3,244
Copper wire and wire rods, uninsulated	Th. tons	
Stranded wire	5.2	1,797
..	..	551
Other wire, and wire rods	49.4	13,811
..	..	708
Other manufactures of non-ferrous metals	..	4,349
Scrap metals sold		
Copper	17.4	3,874
Iron and steel	4.1	22
..	..	6
Brass	0.9	165
Other metals	..	407
Machinery and plant, and parts thereof, other than electrical machinery	..	1,444
Other goods	..	993
Electrical contract work done as main contractors, including work done on telecommunication lines and works, but excluding work done on power stations and electric power and lighting lines and works (a)		1,422
Other work done (excluding repair and maintenance work on customers' machinery and plant)		177
Total		40,202

(a) Value of work done during the year, exclusive of the value of goods used by firms and recorded as their output. The value of these goods is estimated at £818,000.

TABLE 8 - Total make of intermediate products

This table is not applicable to the industry.

Purchases of materials and fuel, 1954
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 9

	Quantity	Cost
	Th. tons	£'000
Materials		
Iron and steel		
Wrought tubes and fittings for wrought tubes	0.3	26
Wire and wire manufactures, including wire cables and ropes	35.3	1,943
Other iron (except finished parts), and ferro alloys	4.2	229
..	..	35
Other steel		
Ingots, blooms, billets and slabs, and sheet and tinfoil bars	0.1	9
Angles, shapes, sections, bars, rods (including wire rods) and girders, beams and joists (not fabricated)	2.7	128

(87705)

ELECTRIC WIRES AND CABLES

TABLE 9 (contd.)

	Quantity	Cost
	Th. tons	£'000
Materials (contd.)		
Iron and steel (contd.)		
Other steel (contd.)		
Castings and forgings (except drop forgings) in the rough or machined, except machined castings and forgings elsewhere specified	0.1	17
Plates and sheets, and hoop and strip (including tape)	14.9	711
..	..	75
Aluminium and aluminium alloys	Th. cwt.	
Plates, sheets, strip, circles, blanks and foil	6.1	128
Castings and forgings, rough dressed	1.7	30
Other descriptions (except finished parts, wire and scrap)	111.7	1,060
Brass and other alloys of copper, including nickel silver and cupro-nickel, but excluding other nickel alloys		
Plates, sheets and strip	20.4	391
Other descriptions (except finished parts, wire and scrap)	47.2	603
Copper		
Plates, sheets and strip	25.4	471
..	..	84
Wire rods	901.7	13,009
..	..	2,265
Wire, cables and flexibles, uninsulated	646.8	10,076
..	..	1,635
Other descriptions (except finished parts and scrap), and unclassified	2,112.7	28,254
Lead and alloys of lead in all forms (except solder, finished parts and scrap)	Th. tons	
..	73.3	7,734
Tin in all forms, except finished parts and scrap	Th. cwt.	
..	8.5	318
Zinc and alloys of zinc, except brass, in all forms (except finished parts and scrap)	0.8	3
Soft solder	5.6	91
Uninsulated wire, cables and flexibles of non-ferrous metals except copper	4.9	83
..	..	81
Bitumen and bitumastic compound	Th. tons	
..	8.5	150
Glass, and porcelain and other ceramics, in all forms	..	238
Insulating oils	Th. gal.	
..	1,624.2	393
..	..	57
Paint, enamel and varnish, including emulsion paints, cellulose-based paints and lacquers	192.0	238
..	..	76
Paper and paperboard, including press-board and paper yarn, tubes, etc. (excluding packaging material)	Th. cwt.	
..	133.3	1,210
Plastics materials		
Synthetic resins	79.1	1,080
..	..	321
Moulding powders	53.8	699
..	..	77
Sheet, foil, rods, tubes, film, etc., including laminated sheets	8.0	183

(87705)

TABLE 9 (contd.)

	Quantity	Cost
	Th.cwt.	£'000
Materials (contd.)		
Rubber, including hard rubber, balata, gutta percha and synthetic rubber in all forms including finished parts	269.4	3,129
Timber (excluding timber for packing, i.e. for making into cases, drums, etc., or for repairing returnable cases, and veneers)		
Hardwood and softwood	Th.cu.ft. 151.5	78
Plywood, including block-board, batten-board and laminboard	Th.sq.ft. 472.5	23
Yarn, thread, tape and cloth, not oiled or otherwise coated or impregnated with insulating materials		
Of cotton	Th.lb.	
Yarn and thread	3,479.4	1,237
Tape and cloth	2,828.5	1,093
Of man-made fibres (rayon, nylon, etc.)	1,430.7	366
Of silk	93.4	111
Of jute	9,106.0	609
Electrical insulating materials not elsewhere specified	..	2,896
Insulated wires, cables, flexibles, strips and strands	..	790
Purchased components		
Ball and roller bearings and parts	..	6
Electrical machinery and parts thereof, and measuring and control instruments	..	248
Other purchased electrical components not elsewhere specified	..	17
Other finished parts not elsewhere specified		
Wholly or mainly of plastics materials	..	47
Other, except those of rubber and glass	..	412
Lubricating oils and greases, including cutting oils and emulsions	Th.gal. 192.5	26
Replacement parts for plant, machinery and vehicles, and accessories bought as replacement	..	1,157
Consumable tools, including engineers' small tools, jigs, fixtures and measuring instruments, bought as replacement	..	191
Packing materials	Th.cu.ft.	
Timber and wooden crates, packing cases, etc.	895.2	642
Paper, including transparent cellulose wrapping, and paperboard and containers made from these materials, including fibreboard packing cases	..	300
Jute piece goods, including hessian and jute sacks	..	47
Other packing materials	..	564
All other purchased materials	..	5,574

TABLE 9 (contd.)

	Quantity	Cost
	Th.tons	£'000
Fuel and electricity		
Coal	146.4	603
Coke	5.9	31
Liquid fuels (including creosote/pitch mixtures)	..	17
For use in internal combustion engines	Th.gal.	
Motor spirit (petrol) for use in road vehicles and deriv. fuel	767	151
Other	84	5
For burning in furnaces, boilers, kilns, etc.	4,518	193
Gas purchased (a)	Th.therms	
From Gas Boards	5,752	313
From other sources, including other departments of the same firms	..	-
Electricity purchased (a)	Th.kWh.	
From Electricity Boards	216,727	1,088
From other sources, including other departments of the same firms	3,024	21
All other purchased fuel		20
Total cost		97,092

(a) Owing to the risk of disclosure of information relating to individual firms, the total quantity of electricity generated, and gas produced at firms' own establishments, cannot be given.

Average number of employees, and wages, salaries and superannuation payments (a)

Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

TABLE 10

	1951	1954
	Number	Number
Average number of employees		
Operatives	36,993	35,338
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	13,037	14,099
Total	50,030	49,437
Wages and salaries paid to	£'000	£'000
Operatives	12,657	15,480
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	6,184	8,055
Total	18,841	23,535
Wages and salaries per head	£	£
Operatives	342	438
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	474	571

TABLE 10 (contd.)

	1951	1954
Superannuation and other pension funds for employees and dependents (b)		£'000
Employers contributions	..	477
Employees covered	..	Number 15,208
Pension, etc. payments to former employees and dependents (b)	..	£'000 121

(a) The following persons, not included above, were also employed by larger establishments in this industry ('other workers' includes, for example, employees engaged in merchanting). Payments to outworkers are also shown:

	1951	1954
Canteen workers	Number	Number
Males	17	20
Females	400	389
Total	417	409
Other workers		
Males	163	303
Females	39	9
Total	202	312
Total excluded employees	619	721
Outworkers		
Males	-	10
Females	196	50
Total	196	60
Payments to outworkers	£'000 17	£'000 8

(b) The figures given relate to larger establishments in Great Britain only.

Employment in a specified week (a)
Larger establishments in the United Kingdom

	1951			1954		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Working proprietors	-	-	-	5	-	5
Operatives	24,588	12,455	37,043	25,533	10,915	36,448
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	8,628	4,427	13,055	9,423	4,864	14,287
Total employees	33,216	16,882	50,098	34,956	15,779	50,735

(a) Week ended September 22, 1951, or October 30, 1954.

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- D. Slate Quarries and Mines
- E. Metalliferous Mines and Quarries
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