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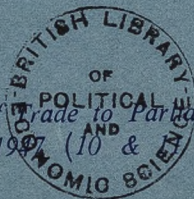
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*The Report on the  
Census of Production  
for 1954*

Volume 1: Industry D

SLATE QUARRIES AND MINES

Presented by the Board of Trade to Parliament in pursuance of the  
Statistics of Trade Act, 1907 (10 & 11 Geo. 6 Ch. 39, Sec. 7)



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# The Report on the Census of Production for 1954

VOLUME 1, INDUSTRY D

SLATE QUARRIES AND MINES INDUSTRY

THIS REPORT on Slate Quarries and Mines relates to establishments engaged wholly or mainly in the quarrying or mining of slate.

This industry corresponds to minimum list heading 13 in the Standard Industrial Classification. There were no larger establishments in Northern Ireland in the register for this industry.

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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

	Great Britain			Scotland 1954 (a)	Wales 1954
	1948	1951	1954		
Gross output (production)	£ million 2.1	£ million 2.4	£ million 2.5	£ million ..	£ million 2.00
Net output	1.9	2.1	2.1	..	1.75
Total stocks and work in progress					
At beginning of year	0.1	0.2	0.3	..	0.29
Change during year	-	-	-	..	-
Capital expenditure less disposals (b)	0.1	-	-	..	-
Wages and salaries	1.5	1.6	1.7	..	1.41
Total employment (including working proprietors)	Thousands 5.0	Thousands 4.8	Thousands 4.3	Thousands ..	Thousands 3.72

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

(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		
		1948	1951	1954
<b>FIRMS EMPLOYING ON AVERAGE MORE THAN 10 PERSONS</b>				
Number of establishments	No.	30	27	26
Total value of sales and work done (a)	£'000	2,089	2,212	2,264
Value of outward transport on goods sold carried out by outside transport organisations	..	..	81	126
Value of transport of quarry products carried out by establishments' own employees	..	10	45	60
Products on hand for sale	..	100	145	271
at beginning of year	..	..	..	..
change during year	..	-6	+17	+20
Gross output (production) (b)	..	2,094	2,355	2,471
Purchases of materials and fuel	..	163	221	255
Stocks of materials and fuel	..	44	50	57
at beginning of year	..	..	..	..
change during year	..	+5	+10	-1
Cost of materials and fuel used	..	158	211	256
Payment for work done on materials given out	..	-	-	18
Payment for transport (c)	..	-	90	127
Net output	..	1,936	2,054	2,070
Average number of employees	No.	4,780	4,530	4,011
operatives	..	..	243	240
others	..	236 (d)	..	..
Total employment (e)	..	5,017	4,774	4,251
Net output per person employed (e)	£	386	430	487
Wages and salaries	£'000	1,385	1,462	1,491
of operatives	..	..	114	148
of others	..	104	..	..
Capital expenditure	..	..	..	..
New building work (f)	..	4	1	2
Plant and machinery acquisitions (f)	..	63	37	55
Vehicles acquisitions (f)	..	13	7	7
Plant, machinery and vehicle disposals	..	4	8	21
<b>FIRMS EMPLOYING ON AVERAGE 10 OR FEWER PERSONS</b>				
Number of returns	No.	7	10	9
Total employment, including working proprietors	..	32	57	31

(a) Sales of products were collected at ex-quarry prices, and the cost of transport, whether carried out by firms' own employees or by other firms, was excluded and shown separately.

(b) For 1948 payments for outward transport carried out by outside transport organisations were excluded. For subsequent years gross output includes payments to other firms and undertakings for transport services, to firms' own separate transport organisations and the value of transport of quarry products carried out by the firms' own employees.

(c) For 1954 and 1951 the payments made to other firms and undertakings and to firms' own separate transport organisations cover the transport of both goods sold and materials and fuel purchased.

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

(e) Excluding outworkers and including working proprietors.

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



## SLATE QUARRIES AND MINES INDUSTRY

Analysis by size, 1954

## Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 3

Average number employed (a)	Estab-lish-ments	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 - 49	12	169	136	246	19	101	10	28	513
50 - 199	11	882	705	1,212	107	477	59	23	534
300 and over	3	1,420	1,230	2,553	114	913	80	13	461
Total	26	2,471	2,070	4,011	240	1,491	148	64	487

(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.

TABLE 4 - Analysis according to specialisation within the industry, 1954

No specialisation within this industry was distinguished.

Sales of the principal products of the industry, including sales of these products by establishments classified to other industries

## Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 5

	1951		1954		
	Quantity	Value (a)	Quantity	Value (a)	Entries
	Tons	£'000	Tons	£'000	Number
Slates for roofing	98,074	2,075 (b)	78,945	1,988	26
Slates for damp courses			5,763	106	14
Slate slabs (including dressed or partially prepared slabs sold for further processing but excluding other finished slate goods)	2,283	41	2,131	64	9
Other products (including crude slate, slate granules and flour)	..	94	..	85	11
Waste products	..	2	-	-	-
Total		2,212		2,243	26
Sales in other industries		-		-	
Principal products of this industry sold by establishments in the industry		2,212		2,243	26

(a) Ex-quarry prices.

(b) The figures previously published for 1951 are believed to have understated the sales of slates for damp courses.

## SLATE QUARRIES AND MINES INDUSTRY

TABLE 6 - Sales of principal products of the industry by establishments classified to other industries.

## Larger establishments in Great Britain

No sales of the principal products of this industry by establishments classified to other industries were recorded in 1954.

TABLE 7 - Sales in the industry of other than principal products

## Larger establishments in Great Britain

The total value of sales of other than principal products in 1954 was £21,000.

TABLE 8 - Total quantity of slate quarried or mined

## Larger establishments in Great Britain

The total quantity of slate raised in 1954 was 110,000 tons.

## Purchases of materials and fuel, 1954

## Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 9

	Quantity	Cost
	Th.lb.	£'000
Materials		
Explosives for blasting	172.6	15
Replacement parts for own machinery, plant and vehicles and consumable tools bought as replacements	..	4
All other purchased materials (including packing materials)	..	78
Fuel and electricity		
Coal	Th.tons	66
Coke	3.8	17
Liquid fuels (including creosote/pitch mixtures)		
For use in internal combustion engines	Th.gal.	
Motor spirit (petrol) for use in road vehicles and derv. fuel	76	13
Other	59	5
For burning in furnaces, boilers, kilns, etc.	..	4
Gas purchased		
From Gas Boards	Th.therms	1
From other sources, including other departments of the same firms	-	-
Electricity purchased (a)		
From Electricity Boards	Th.kWh	
From other sources, including other departments of the same firms	9,381	52
All other purchased fuel		
Total Cost		255

(a) The total quantity of electricity generated in firms' own establishments in this industry in 1954 was 1,537 Th. kWh.



## SLATE QUARRIES AND MINES INDUSTRY

Average number of employees, and wages, salaries  
and superannuation payments

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 10

	1951	1954
	Number	Number
Average number of employees		
Operatives	4,530	4,011
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	243	240
Total	4,773	4,251
Wages and salaries paid to	£'000	£'000
Operatives	1,462	1,491
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	114	148
Total	1,576	1,639
Wages and salaries per head	£	£
Operatives	323	372
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	469	615
Superannuation and other pension funds for employees and dependents		£'000
Employers' contributions	..	7
Employees covered	..	Number 120 £'000
Pension, etc. payments to former employees and dependents	..	16

Employment in a specified week (a)

Larger establishments in Great Britain

TABLE 11

	1951			1954			Number
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
	Working proprietors	-	1	1	-	-	
Operatives	4,522	2	4,524	4,000	2	4,002	
Administrative, technical and clerical employees	221	22	243	212	27	239	
Total employees	4,743	24	4,767	4,212	29	4,241	

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

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