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|  | **Characteristics of VAT and/or PAYE Registered Businesses in NI: Facts and Figures from the IDBR** | **BIS Business Population estimates** | **ONS UK Business Activity, Size and Location** | **ONS Business Demography** |
| Measure | *VAT and PAYE tables* - Population at the end of the financial year (end March).*Business Demography tables* - Business births, deaths and population ‘active’ at any point within the year.*Foreign ownership tables* - Population at the end of the financial year (end March). | Population at the start of the calendar year (1 January) together with their associated employment and turnover | Population at the end of the financial year (end March) | Business births, deaths and population ‘active’ at any point within the year. |
| Coverage | VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses. | VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses plus estimate of unregistered population | VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses and local units | VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses |
| Data Source | Inter-Departmental Business Register | Inter-Departmental Business Register, ONS Labour Force Survey and the HMRC self-assessment tax data | Inter-Departmental Business Register | Inter-Departmental Business Register |
| Definition of a business | *VAT and PAYE tables* 1.1 to 1.8 are Enterprise based; 1.9 to 1.22 are Enterprise Operating in Northern Ireland based*Business Demography tables* – all tables are Enterprise based *Foreign ownership tables* – all tables are Enterprise Operating in Northern Ireland based(Enterprise based tables only include businesses operating in Northern Ireland if their main or registered UK address is in Northern Ireland)Note: The definitions above are used from the February 2014 publication onwards. | Enterprise based | Enterprise based | Enterprise based |
| Timeliness | Released 10-13 months after reference point (e.g. data for March 2012 and calendar year 2011 published in January 2013). These dates are dependent on ONS release dates. | Released about 10 months after reference point (data for January published October) | Released about 6 months after reference point (data for March published September/October | Released about 11 months after reference period (data for 2011 published Dec 2012) |
| Geography | Data available at Northern Ireland level with district council breakdowns. Also includes country and regional data for the rest of the UK. | Data available at UK level with country and regional breakdowns | UK, down to county/district, parliamentary constituency. | UK, down to county district |
| Legal Status | Company, public sector, non profit, partnership, sole proprietors. | With exception of whole economy table, focus is on private sector – companies, public corporations, sole proprietorships and partnerships. | Company, public sector, non profit, partnership, sole proprietors | Company, public corporations, non profit, partnership, sole proprietors |
| Industry | Data available at the SIC 2007 4 digit level | Data available at the SIC 2007 3 digit level | Data available at the SIC 2007 4 digit level | Data available at SIC 2007 4 digit level |
| Other Disaggregation’s | Turnover and employment size band, public/private sector, legal status, survival of businesses and country of ownership. | Employee size band | Age of business, turnover and employment size band | Survival of businesses |
| Exclusions | *VAT and PAYE tables* Composite Management Service Companies*Business Demography tables* - Agriculture, public administration, Composite Management Service Companies.*Foreign ownership tables* – Composite Management Services  | a) Public administration, private household, extra-territorial businessesb) Composite Management Service Companies and businesses registered at an Official receivers address | a) Composite Management Service Companies  | a) Agriculture, public administrationb) Composite Management Service Companies. |

For further information on UK business population and demography please visit the website below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-business-statistics>