

## Labour Market Profile South Somerset

The profile brings together data from several sources. Details about these and related terminology are given in the definitions section.



## RESIDENT POPULATION

### Total population (2012)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South West (numbers)	Great Britain (numbers)
All people	163,000	5,339,600	61,881,400
Males	80,100	2,619,900	30,420,500
Females	83,000	2,719,700	31,460,900

Source: ONS mid-year population estimates

### Population aged 16-64 (2012)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
All people aged 16-64	97,500	59.8	62.1	64.2
Males aged 16-64	48,700	60.8	63.1	65.0
Females aged 16-64	48,700	58.7	61.2	63.4

Source: ONS mid-year population estimates

Notes: % is a proportion of total population

## LABOUR SUPPLY

### Employment and unemployment (Oct 2012-Sep 2013)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
<b>All people</b>				
Economically active <sup>†</sup>	80,500	81.2	79.4	77.4
In employment <sup>†</sup>	76,000	76.3	74.5	71.2
Employees <sup>†</sup>	61,500	62.8	62.8	61.1
Self employed <sup>†</sup>	13,300	12.3	11.0	9.5
Unemployed (model-based) <sup>§</sup>	3,900	4.9	6.0	7.7
<b>Males</b>				
Economically active <sup>†</sup>	41,800	84.8	84.6	83.2
In employment <sup>†</sup>	39,700	80.1	79.0	76.2
Employees <sup>†</sup>	30,800	64.1	63.7	62.5
Self employed <sup>†</sup>	8,100	14.4	14.7	13.1
Unemployed <sup>§</sup>	#	#	6.4	8.2
<b>Females</b>				
Economically active <sup>†</sup>	38,600	77.6	74.2	71.5
In employment <sup>†</sup>	36,300	72.7	70.0	66.2
Employees <sup>†</sup>	30,700	61.7	62.0	59.7
Self employed <sup>†</sup>	5,200	10.2	7.5	6.0
Unemployed <sup>§</sup>	#	#	5.5	7.2

Source: ONS annual population survey

# Sample size too small for reliable estimate

† numbers are for those aged 16 and over, % are for those aged 16-64

§ numbers and % are for those aged 16 and over. % is a proportion of economically active

### Economic inactivity (Oct 2012-Sep 2013)

	South Somerset (level)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
<b>All people</b>				
Total	17,600	18.8	20.6	22.6
Student	#	#	24.5	25.8
looking after family/home	4,400	24.7	24.1	25.6
temporary sick	!	!	1.5	2.0
long-term sick	#	#	20.9	21.8
discouraged	!	!	0.6	0.6
retired	5,400	30.5	19.5	15.4
other	#	#	9.0	8.8
wants a job	4,500	25.3	24.4	24.5
does not want a job	13,200	74.7	75.6	75.5

Source: ONS annual population survey

# Sample size too small for reliable estimate

! Estimate is not available since sample size is disclosive

Notes: numbers are for those aged 16-64

% is a proportion of those economically inactive, except total, which is a proportion of those aged 16-64

## Employment by occupation (Oct 2012-Sep 2013)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
Soc 2010 major group 1-3	28,800	38.1	42.6	44.1
1 Managers, directors and senior officials	9,900	13.0	10.2	10.1
2 Professional occupations	7,500	9.9	18.6	19.7
3 Associate professional & technical	11,400	15.0	13.5	14.0
Soc 2010 major group 4-5	19,900	26.4	23.2	21.5
4 Administrative & secretarial	6,500	8.6	10.5	10.9
5 Skilled trades occupations	13,400	17.7	12.6	10.5
Soc 2010 major group 6-7	12,000	15.9	17.3	17.1
6 Caring, leisure and Other Service occupations	6,600	8.7	9.3	9.0
7 Sales and customer service occs	5,400	7.1	7.9	7.9
Soc 2010 major group 8-9	14,800	19.6	16.9	17.3
8 Process plant & machine operatives	5,600	7.4	5.7	6.3
9 Elementary occupations	9,200	12.2	11.2	10.8

Source: ONS annual population survey

Notes: Numbers and % are for those of 16+

% is a proportion of all persons in employment

## Qualifications (Jan 2012-Dec 2012)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
NVQ4 and above	25,000	27.2	34.1	34.4
NVQ3 and above	50,100	54.5	57.1	55.1
NVQ2 and above	69,000	75.1	75.2	71.8
NVQ1 and above	83,800	91.1	88.1	84.0
Other qualifications	3,700	4.0	4.9	6.3
No qualifications	4,500	4.8	7.0	9.7

Source: ONS annual population survey

Notes: For an explanation of the qualification levels see the definitions section.

Numbers and % are for those of aged 16-64

% is a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64

## Earnings by residence (2013)

	South Somerset (pounds)	South West (pounds)	Great Britain (pounds)
<b>Gross weekly pay</b>			
Full-time workers	478.6	485.1	518.1
Male full-time workers	488.6	530.2	558.8
Female full-time workers	426.5	421.6	459.8
<b>Hourly pay</b>			
Full-time workers	11.74	12.29	13.18
Male full-time workers	11.99	13.07	13.80
Female full-time workers	11.26	11.24	12.27

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis

Note: Median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area.

## OUT-OF-WORK BENEFITS

The Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work of at least 40 hours a week.

### Total JSA claimants (February 2014)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
All people	1,312	1.3	2.0	3.0
Males	868	1.8	2.7	3.9
Females	444	0.9	1.4	2.1

Source: ONS claimant count with rates and proportions

Note: % is a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64 and gender

### JSA claimants by age duration (February 2014)

	South Somerset (level)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
<b>Aged 16 to 64</b>				
Total	1,310	1.3	2.0	3.0
Up to 6 months	940	1.0	1.3	1.7
Over 6 and up to 12 months	190	0.2	0.3	0.4
over 12 months	180	0.2	0.5	0.9
<b>Aged 18 to 24</b>				
Total	400	3.3	3.9	5.2
Up to 6 months	320	2.7	2.9	3.6
Over 6 and up to 12 months	45	0.4	0.4	0.7
over 12 months	35	0.3	0.5	0.9
<b>Aged 25 to 49</b>				
Total	650	1.3	2.1	3.1
Up to 6 months	460	1.0	1.3	1.7
Over 6 and up to 12 months	100	0.2	0.3	0.5
over 12 months	90	0.2	0.5	1.0
<b>Aged 50 to 64</b>				
Total	255	0.8	1.3	1.9
Up to 6 months	155	0.5	0.7	0.9
Over 6 and up to 12 months	45	0.1	0.2	0.3
over 12 months	55	0.2	0.4	0.7

Source: ONS claimant count - age duration with proportions

Note: % is number of persons claiming JSA as a proportion of resident population of the same age

### Working-age client group - key benefit claimants (August 2013)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
Total claimants	10,000	10.3	11.5	13.6
<b>By statistical group</b>				

Local authority profile for South Somerset

Job seekers	1,370	1.4	2.1	3.2
ESA and incapacity benefits	5,050	5.2	5.6	6.1
Lone parents	800	0.8	1.0	1.3
Carers	1,110	1.1	1.2	1.3
Others on income related benefits	300	0.3	0.3	0.4
Disabled	1,170	1.2	1.2	1.2
Bereaved	190	0.2	0.2	0.2
Key out-of-work benefits <sup>†</sup>	7,520	7.7	9.0	10.9

Source: DWP benefit claimants - working age client group

† Key out-of-work benefits includes the groups: job seekers, ESA and incapacity benefits, lone parents and others on income related benefits. See the Definitions and Explanations below for details

Note: % is a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64

## LABOUR DEMAND

### Jobs density (2011)

	South Somerset (jobs)	South Somerset (density)	South West (density)	Great Britain (density)
Jobs density	85,000	0.87	0.82	0.78

Source: ONS jobs density

Notes: The density figures represent the ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64.

Total jobs includes employees, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces

### Employee jobs (2012)

	South Somerset (employee jobs)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
Total employee jobs	61,200	-	-	-
Full-time	40,100	65.4	62.8	67.2
Part-time	21,200	34.6	37.2	32.8
Employee jobs by industry				
Primary Services (A-B: agriculture and mining)	100	0.2	0.3	0.3
Energy and Water (D-E)	500	0.8	1.2	1.1
Manufacturing (C)	12,800	20.9	9.9	8.7
Construction (F)	3,100	5.1	4.6	4.5
Services (G-S)	44,700	73.0	84.0	85.5
Wholesale and retail, including motor trades (G)	10,800	17.7	17.3	16.1
Transport storage (H)	1,800	2.9	3.7	4.6
Accommodation and food services (I)	4,000	6.5	8.7	6.9
Information and communication (J)	1,400	2.3	2.9	3.9
Financial and other business services (K-N)	7,700	12.6	17.7	21.5
Public admin, education and health (O-Q)	16,500	26.9	29.4	28.1
Other Services (R-S)	2,500	4.0	4.3	4.5

Source: ONS business register and employment survey

- Data unavailable

Notes: % is a proportion of total employee jobs

Employee jobs excludes self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces

Data excludes farm-based agriculture

### Earnings by workplace (2013)

	South Somerset (pounds)	South West (pounds)	Great Britain (pounds)
Gross weekly pay			
Full-time workers	466.6	480.0	517.8
Male full-time workers	502.2	519.9	558.3
Female full-time workers	412.2	421.4	459.6
Hourly pay			
Full-time workers	11.57	12.13	13.17
Male full-time workers	12.07	12.93	13.80
Female full-time workers	10.80	11.15	12.27

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - workplace analysis

Note: Median earnings in pounds for employees working in the area.

## Jobcentre plus vacancies (November 2012)

	South Somerset	South West	Great Britain
Unfilled jobcentre vacancies (numbers)	829	33,192	389,889
Unfilled jobcentre vacancies per 10,000 population aged- <del>16</del> 14	-	100	98
JSA claimants per unfilled jobcentre vacancy	-	2.0	3.0

Warning: As the Jobcentre Plus vacancies series is no longer being updated and there are no suitable alternative sources available to us for this data, this table will be removed at the start of April 2014. Historic datasets will remain available through the query functions.

Source: Jobcentre Plus vacancies - summary analysis

## BUSINESSES

## VAT registered businesses (2007)

	South Somerset (numbers)	South Somerset (%)	South West (%)	Great Britain (%)
Registrations	515	8.2	8.9	10.2
Deregistrations	385	6.1	6.6	7.3
Stock (at end of year)	6,295	-	-	-

Warning: The VAT registrations data source used in this table is no longer being updated. It will shortly be replaced with a table based on the UK Business Counts source.

Source: BERR vat registrations/deregistrations by industry

Note: % is a proportion of stock (at end of year)

## Definitions and Explanations

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### RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated population of an area includes all those usually resident in the area, whatever their nationality. HM Forces stationed outside the United Kingdom are excluded but foreign forces stationed here are included. Students are taken to be resident at their term-time address.

### LABOUR SUPPLY

Labour supply consists of people who are employed, as well as those people defined as unemployed or economically inactive, who can be considered to be potential labour supply. Information in this section relates to the characteristics of people living in an area.

Most labour supply data comes from the Annual Population Survey (APS). The APS is the largest regular household survey in the United Kingdom. It includes data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), plus further sample boosts in England, Wales and Scotland. The survey includes data from a sample of around 256,000 people aged 16 and over.

As APS estimates are based on samples, they are subject to sampling variability. This means that if another sample for the same period were drawn, a different estimate might be produced. In general, the larger the number of people in a sample, the smaller the variation between estimates. Estimates for smaller areas such as local authorities are therefore less reliable than those for larger areas such as regions. When the sample size is too small to produce reliable estimates, the estimates are replaced with a #.

### Economically Active

Economically active: People who are either in employment or unemployed.

Economic activity rate: People, who are economically active, expressed as a percentage of all people.

In employment: People who did some paid work in the reference week (whether as an employee or self employed); those who had a job that they were temporarily away from (eg, on holiday); those on government-supported training and employment programmes; and those doing unpaid family work.

Employment rate: The number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.

Employees and self employed: The division between employees and self employed is based on survey respondents' own assessment of their employment status. The percentages show the number in each category as a percentage of all people aged 16-64. The sum of employees and self employed will not equal the in employment figure due to the inclusion of those on government-supported training and employment programmes, and those doing unpaid family work in the latter.

Unemployed: Refers to people without a job who were available to start work in the two weeks following their interview and who had either looked for work in the four weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already obtained.

Model-based unemployed: As unemployed form a small percentage of the population, the APS unemployed estimates within local authorities are based on very small samples so for many areas would be unreliable. To overcome this ONS has developed a statistical model that provides better estimates of total unemployed for unitary authorities and local authority districts (unemployment estimates for counties are direct survey estimates). Model-based estimates are not produced for male or female unemployed.

The model-based estimate improves on the APS estimate by *borrowing strength* from the claimant count to produce an estimate that is more precise (i.e. has a smaller confidence interval). The claimant count is not itself a measure of unemployment but is strongly correlated with unemployment, and, as it is an administrative count, is known without sampling error. The gain in precision is greatest for areas with smaller sample sizes.

Unemployment rate: Unemployed as a percentage of the economically active population.

### Economically Inactive

Economically inactive: People who are neither in employment nor unemployed. This group includes, for example, all those who were looking after a home or retired.

Wanting a job: People not in employment who want a job but are not classed as unemployed because they have either not sought work in the last four weeks or are not available to start work.

Not wanting a job: People who are neither in employment nor unemployed and who do not want a job.

### Occupation

Occupations are classified according to the Standard Occupation Classification 2000. Descriptions of the job

titles included in each code are available in the SOC manuals which can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/archived-standard-classifications/standard-occupational-classification-2000/dissemination-media-and-availability/index.html>

## Qualifications

Qualifications data are only be available from the APS for calendar year periods, for example, Jan to Dec 2005. The variables show the total number of people who are qualified at a particular level and above, so data in this table are not additive. Separate figures for each NVQ level are available in the full Annual Population Survey data set (wizard/advanced query).

The trade apprenticeships are split 50/50 between NVQ level 2 and 3. This follows ONS policy for presenting qualifications data in publications. Separate counts for trade apprenticeships can be obtained from the full APS data set (wizard/advanced query).

No qualifications: No formal qualifications held

Other qualifications: includes foreign qualifications and some professional qualifications

NVQ 1 equivalent: e.g. fewer than 5 GCSEs at grades A-C, foundation GNVQ, NVQ 1, intermediate 1 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ 2 equivalent: e.g. 5 or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ 2, intermediate 2 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ 3 equivalent: e.g. 2 or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ 3, 2 or more higher or advanced higher national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ 4 equivalent and above: e.g. HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent

## Earnings by Residence

The figures show the median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area who are on adults rates of pay and whose pay was not affected by absence. Figures for earnings come from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE). The ASHE is based on a 1 per cent sample of employees, information on whose earnings and hours is obtained from employers. The survey does not cover self-employed. Information relates to a pay period in April.

The earnings information collected relates to gross pay before tax, national insurance or other deductions, and excludes payments in kind. It is restricted to earnings relating to the survey pay period and so excludes payments of arrears from another period made during the survey period; any payments due as a result of a pay settlement but not yet paid at the time of the survey will also be excluded.

## OUT-OF-WORK BENEFITS

### JSA Claimant Count

JSA claimant count records the number of people claiming Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits at Jobcentre Plus local offices. People claiming JSA must declare that they are out of work, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which the claim is made.

The percentage figures express the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the population aged 16-64 resident in that area.

The count of total JSA claimants is mostly derived from the Jobcentre Plus computer records. For various reasons, e.g. a claimant's National Insurance number is not known, a few claims have to be dealt with manually. These clerical claims, which amount to less than 1 per cent of the total, are counted separately and not analysed in as much detail as the computerised claims. The count of total JSA claimants includes clerical claims, but only the computerised claims are analysed by age and duration.

### Introduction of Universal Credit

The Pathfinder for Universal Credit started on 29 April 2013 with the introduction of this new benefit in one Jobcentre Plus office (Ashton under Lyne). Three further offices will take claims from Summer 2013 and the roll out of Universal Credit across the rest of the UK will commence in October 2013. Universal Credit will replace a number of means-tested benefits including the means-tested element of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). It will not replace contributory based JSA.

The Claimant Count measures the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. Since October 1996 it has been a count of the number of people claiming JSA. Following a consultation in 2012 by ONS, it was agreed that, with the introduction of Universal Credit, the Claimant Count would include:

- people claiming contribution-based JSA (which is not affected by the introduction of Universal Credit),
- people claiming means-tested JSA during the transition period while this benefit is being gradually phased out, and
- people claiming Universal Credit who are not earning and who are subject to a full set of labour market

jobseeker requirements, that is required to be actively seeking work and available to start work.

The Claimant Count figures for May 2013 do not include claimants of Universal Credit. The absence of Universal Credit claimants is expected to have a very small effect on the Claimant Count for May 2013. This assessment reflects the small scale of the Pathfinder which initially only includes some of the new claims in Ashton under Lyne Jobcentre Plus office.

ONS is working with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to include jobseeker Universal Credit claims in the Claimant Count statistics as soon as possible. Universal Credit information will be collated and quality assured by DWP statisticians to ensure that they meet the necessary quality standards before being passed to ONS for inclusion in the Claimant Count estimates.

Some of the areas partially affected by the geographic coverage of the Pathfinder exercise as at May 2013 are:

- Region - E12000002 North West
- Local Authority: County/Unitary - E11000001 Greater Manchester
- Local Authority: Local/Unitary - E08000008 Tameside
- Parliamentary Constituencies 2010 - E14000537 Ashton-under-Lyne, E14000661 Denton and Reddish, E14000967 Stalybridge & Hyde

#### DWP Working-Age Client Group

The number of working-age people who are claiming one or more key DWP benefits. The key benefits are: bereavement benefit, carer's allowance, disability living allowance, ESA and incapacity benefit, severe disablement allowance, income support, jobseeker's allowance, and widow's benefit. The age at which women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing from 60 to 65 between April 2010 and April 2020. Throughout this period, only women below State Pension age are counted as working age benefit claimants."

The total count is broken down by statistical groups. These categorise each person according to the main reason why they are claiming benefit. Each client is classified to a single group.

Benefits are arranged hierarchically and claimants are assigned to a group according to the top most benefit they receive. Thus a person who is a lone parent and receives Incapacity Benefit would be classified as incapacity benefits. Consequently, the group lone parent will not contain all lone parents as some will be included in the incapacity benefits group and Job seekers groups.

Key out-of-work benefits consists of the groups: job seekers, ESA and incapacity benefits, lone parents and others on income related benefits.

These groups have been chosen to best represent a count of all those benefit recipients who cannot be in full-time employment as part of their condition of entitlement. Those claiming solely Bereavement Benefits or Disability Living Allowance (DLA) are not included as these are not out-of-work or income based benefits. DLA is paid to those needing help with personal care. These people can, and some will, be in full-time employment. If DLA claimants are also in receipt of JSA, IS, ESA or Incapacity Benefits in addition to DLA they will be counted under the relevant statistical group. In addition, we exclude those claiming solely carer's benefits or claiming carer's benefits alongside income support, as DWP does not pursue active labour market policies for this group. Carers benefits are paid to those with full time caring responsibilities. The group entitled to Carer's benefits alongside Income Support (IS) includes around 86,000 claimants and has been stable over time.

This Nomis series is different to that published in the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Labour Market Statistics Bulletin (table 25) and on the DWP website at [http://83.244.183.180/100pc/wa/tabtool\\_wa.html](http://83.244.183.180/100pc/wa/tabtool_wa.html) (against the link entitled "One-Click" Key Out-of-Work Benefits). This Nomis series uses DWP Jobseeker's Allowance numbers, whilst the other two series use the ONS claimant count for Jobseeker's Allowance. Details of the difference between these series can be found at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/differences.pdf>

## LABOUR DEMAND

Labour demand includes jobs and vacancies available within the area.

### Jobs Density

The numbers of jobs per resident aged 16-64. For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident aged 16-64.

The total number of jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employee jobs, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces. The number of residents aged 16-64 figures used to calculate jobs densities are based on the relevant mid-year population estimates.

### Employee Jobs

The number of jobs held by employees. Employee jobs excludes self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces, so this count will be smaller than the total jobs figure shown in the Jobs density table. The information comes from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) - an employer survey conducted in December of each year. The BRES records a job at the location of an employee's workplace (rather than at the location of the business's main office).

Full-time and part-time: In the BRES, part-time employees are those working for 30 or fewer hours per week.

Note All figures exclude farm-based agriculture

### Earnings by Workplace

The figures show the median earnings in pounds for employees working in the area who are on adults rates of pay and whose pay was not affected by absence. Figures for earnings come from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE). The ASHE is based on a 1 per cent sample of employees, information on whose earnings and hours is obtained from employers. The survey does not cover self-employed. In 2004 information related to the pay period which included 21 April.

The earnings information collected relates to gross pay before tax, national insurance or other deductions, and excludes payments in kind. It is restricted to earnings relating to the survey pay period and so excludes payments of arrears from another period made during the survey period; any payments due as a result of a pay settlement but not yet paid at the time of the survey will also be excluded.

### Jobcentre plus vacancies

The figures in the tables are based on the number of live unfilled vacancies handled by Jobcentre Plus. These are vacancies actively available to jobseekers on the count date and are derived as a by-product of administrative systems. Users should be aware of the following points when using and interpreting the series:

- Coverage relates just to vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus and as such represent a market share of vacancies throughout the whole economy. This proportion varies over time, according to the occupation of the vacancy and industry of the employer, and by local area.
- The time-series is susceptible to discontinuities arising from changes to vacancy taking and vacancy handling (e.g. 2006 changes to employer follow-up processes).
- Local area data can throw up spurious figures. For example, Lincoln local authority includes all national vacancies notified by the Ministry of Defence since these are recorded against a single central postcode irrespective of actual location.

For further details see: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/406.aspx>

## BUSINESSES

### VAT Registered Businesses

VAT registrations and de-registrations are the best official guide to the pattern of business start-ups and closures. They are an indicator of the level of entrepreneurship and of the health of the business population. As such they are used widely in regional and local economic planning.

These figures do not, however, give the complete picture of start-up and closure activity in the economy. Some VAT exempt sectors and businesses operating below the threshold for VAT registration are not covered. At the start of 2005, the VAT threshold was an annual turnover of £58,000, and 1.8 million of the estimated 4.3 million enterprises in the UK were VAT-registered.

However, some businesses do voluntarily register for VAT even though their turnover is below the threshold. Data for 2005 shows that around a fifth of all registrations have turnover below the VAT threshold.

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