

Earnings data from the New Earnings Survey

General details	Earnings data derived from a sample of PAYE records
Area output	Local authority districts*
Time period	Annual (from 1999)
Source	Office for National Statistics, New Earnings Survey
Provider	NOMIS (Graham Lindsay, Kirklees MC, EDS)
Comments	

*data is available for Wards, but within Kirklees figures are either based on small sample sizes or their coefficient of variation exceeds 5%. They can only be used with caution and not released to a third party.

1 Introduction

1.1 The New Earnings Survey (NES) is an annual sample survey of the earnings of employees in Great Britain. The main purpose of the survey is to obtain information about the levels, distribution and make-up of earnings, and for the collective agreements which cover them.

1.2 The survey is based largely on a one per cent sample of employees who are members of pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) income tax schemes; it is designed to represent all categories of employees in businesses of all kinds and sizes.

1.3 The information is taken from PAYE records about a month before the beginning of the financial year and the survey pay-period.

1.4 The coverage of full-time adult employees is virtually complete but the coverage of part-time employees is not comprehensive. Many of those with earnings below the income tax threshold - in this survey equivalent to full-time earnings of £89.00 a week or £385.00 per month - are not covered, which excludes mainly women with part-time jobs and a small proportion of young people.

1.5 Information for those in the sample is obtained from employers and not from the employees. In 2003 239,000 questionnaires were issued, of which 210,000 were returned and 162,000 provided information

1.6 The 2003 New Earnings Survey is intended to be the last. Following a review, a new survey has been developed. The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) will collect broadly the same variables as the NES, but use a new methodology. It will have improved coverage of employees and weighting of earnings estimates. The questionnaire will also be improved. A back-series of ASHE data will be available from 1998.

2 National and Regional Figures

Table 1: Gross weekly pay of full-time workers: by workplace

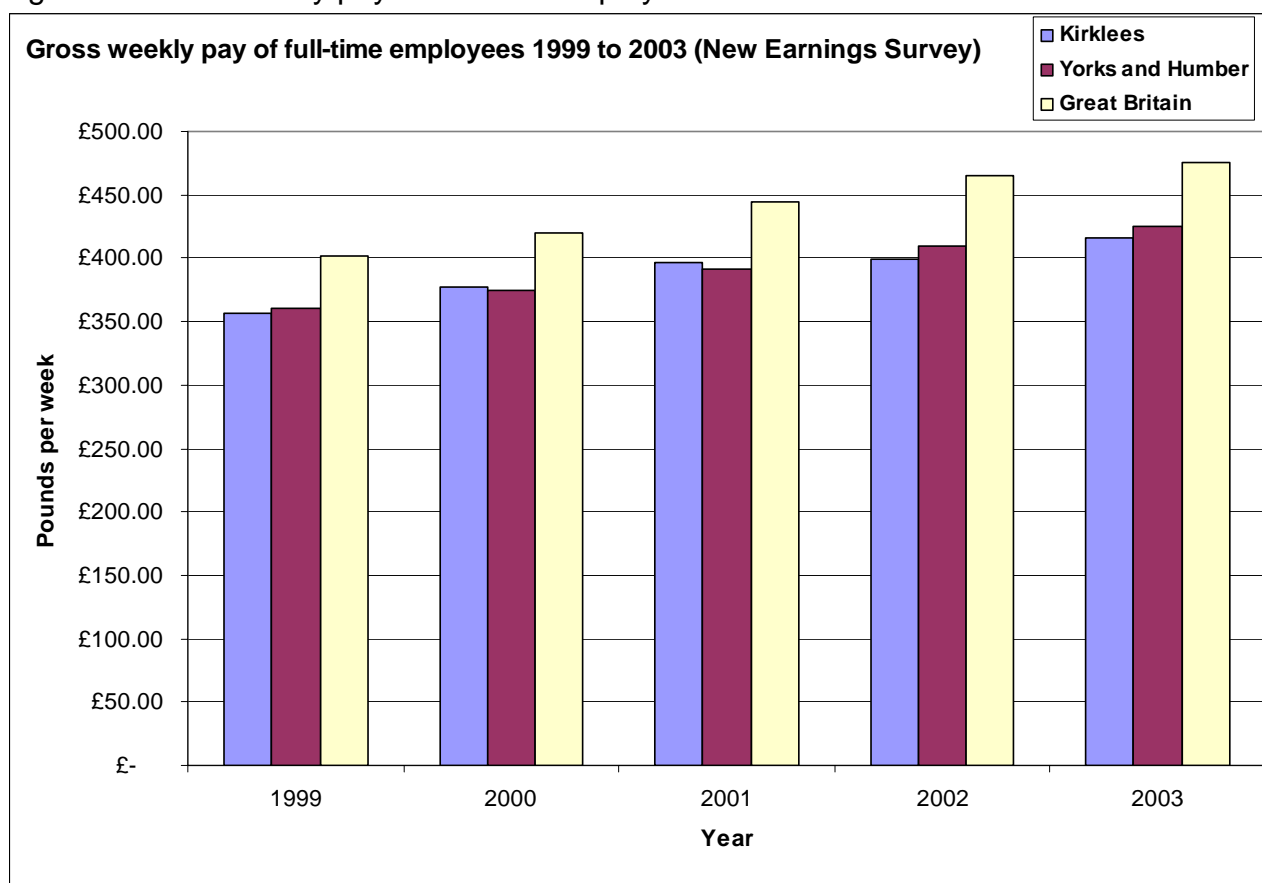
	GB	Y&H	Kirklees
2003	475.8	425.5	415.97
2002	464.75	409.83	399.58
2001	444.22	391.66	396.43
2000	419.71	375.08	377.28
1999	401.56	360.81	356.25

2.1 Over the five years to 2003, average weekly full-time earnings in Great Britain as measured by the New Earnings Survey, increased by 18.5% to £475.80. At £396, average gross weekly earnings of women were £129 less than those for men, although some of this difference was due to a smaller average number of working hours.

3 Kirklees Figures

3.1 Average weekly earnings in Kirklees were consistently between £45 and £50 less than average national earnings and for the years 2002 and 2003 were £10 less than those for Yorkshire and Humberside.

Figure 1: Gross weekly pay of full-time employees 1999 to 2003



3.2 The New Earnings Survey figures for Kirklees and Yorkshire and the Humber presented above are the earnings of people who work in Kirklees. Below are the comparative figures for people who live in Kirklees.

3.3 The difference in average gross weekly earnings in 2003 between the national figure and the figure for Kirklees residents was £26, reduced from about £40 in the previous year.

3.4 Average weekly full-time earnings for Kirklees residents in 2003 were 8% higher than the figure for those people who worked in Kirklees. The District has relatively high level of out-commuting, particularly amongst residents with higher level skills, many of whom work in neighbouring areas like Leeds and Manchester, where average rates of pay are higher.

Gross weekly pay of full-time workers: by residence

	GB	Y&H	Kirklees
2003	475.78	427.46	449.33
2002	464.57	411.9	424.37

4 Links and further information

Office for National Statistics

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/default.asp>

5 Indicator archive

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