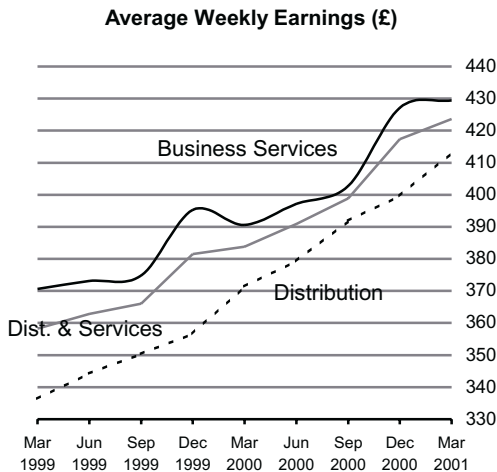




## Earnings in Distribution and Business Services

March 2001 First Estimates



### Average Full-Time Weekly Earnings

	Mar. 2000	Mar. 2001	Annual Change
	£	£	%
<b>Distribution &amp; Business Services</b>	383.84	423.64	+10.4
<b>Distribution</b>	371.42	413.10	+11.2
<b>Business Services</b>	390.62	429.40	+9.9

### Average weekly earnings up by 10.4% in March 2001

The average weekly earnings of full-time employees in enterprises with five or more persons engaged in the distribution and business services sectors were £423.64 in March 2001, compared with £383.84 in March 2000, an increase of 10.4% in the year. *See Table 1 & graph.*

Average weekly earnings in the distribution sector were £413.10 in March 2001, compared with a March 2000 level of £371.42, an increase of 11.2% in the year. *See Table 1.*

In the business services sector, average weekly earnings increased by 9.9% in the year, from £390.62 in March 2000 to £429.40 in March 2001. *See Table 1.*

The breakdown of earnings into the different sub-sectors shows:

- ◆ The highest average weekly earnings were recorded in the Post and Telecommunications sub-sector, with a level of £549.01 in March 2001.
- ◆ The lowest average weekly earnings were in the Accommodation and Catering sub-sector, at £267.02 in March 2001.

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Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

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**Table 1 Average Weekly Earnings for Full-time Employees in enterprises with 5 or more persons engaged -**

**Distribution and Business Services**

NACE Code	Sector	1998		1999			2000					2001	
		Year	March	June	Sept.	Dec.	Year	March	June	Sept.	Dec. <sup>1</sup>	Year	March
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
		<b>348.39</b>	<b>358.22</b>	<b>362.80</b>	<b>366.06</b>	<b>381.54</b>	<b>367.16</b>	<b>383.84</b>	<b>390.85</b>	<b>398.84</b>	<b>417.39</b>	<b>397.73</b>	<b>423.64</b>
		<b>329.04</b>	<b>336.35</b>	<b>344.23</b>	<b>350.37</b>	<b>356.61</b>	<b>346.89</b>	<b>371.42</b>	<b>379.32</b>	<b>391.87</b>	<b>399.70</b>	<b>385.58</b>	<b>413.10</b>
50	Motor Trade	288.87	298.21	306.23	312.40	315.92	308.19	330.38	339.31	341.51	344.98	339.05	360.79
51	Wholesale Trade	371.12	378.61	385.98	384.89	392.93	385.60	405.35	406.47	418.67	430.31	415.20	437.10
52	Retail Trade	315.54	323.06	333.10	342.62	349.17	336.99	364.58	377.07	392.38	400.31	383.59	416.37
		<b>359.80</b>	<b>370.64</b>	<b>373.08</b>	<b>374.80</b>	<b>395.30</b>	<b>378.46</b>	<b>390.62</b>	<b>397.21</b>	<b>402.77</b>	<b>427.11</b>	<b>404.43</b>	<b>429.40</b>
55	Accommodation & Catering	225.49	235.80	238.28	242.01	241.00	239.27	244.16	247.13	257.92	265.21	253.61	267.02
60	Land Transport	344.83	361.14	362.21	360.12	379.63	365.78	379.65	391.64	392.04	420.71	396.01	437.62
61-63	Other Transport activity	397.71	400.39	391.44	403.20	407.97	400.75	408.81	420.22	421.41	436.98	421.86	454.25
64	Post & Telecommunications	489.40	487.62	495.43	498.74	554.92	509.18	498.36	503.15	522.51	593.14	529.29	549.01
70-71	Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	335.89	347.41	353.18	358.31	363.62	355.63	367.19	380.25	393.43	395.36	384.06	406.17
72-73	Computing activity, R & D	418.84	430.96	437.96	443.93	462.67	443.88	473.72	481.02	485.94	493.35	483.51	506.46
74	Other Business activity	366.05	376.10	380.69	388.67	403.33	387.20	404.64	414.86	425.14	440.27	421.23	446.95

<sup>1</sup> Revised

**Table 2 Average Weekly Earnings (Euro currency)<sup>1</sup> for Full-time Employees in enterprises with 5 or more persons engaged -**

**Distribution and Business Services**

		Euro €											
NACE Code	Sector	1998		1999			2000					2001	
		Year	March	June	Sept.	Dec.	Year	March	June	Sept.	Dec. <sup>2</sup>	Year	March
		<b>442.36</b>	<b>454.85</b>	<b>460.66</b>	<b>464.80</b>	<b>484.46</b>	<b>466.20</b>	<b>487.38</b>	<b>496.28</b>	<b>506.42</b>	<b>529.98</b>	<b>505.01</b>	<b>537.91</b>
		<b>417.79</b>	<b>427.08</b>	<b>437.08</b>	<b>444.88</b>	<b>452.80</b>	<b>440.46</b>	<b>471.61</b>	<b>481.64</b>	<b>497.57</b>	<b>507.51</b>	<b>489.59</b>	<b>524.53</b>
50	Motor Trade	366.79	378.65	388.83	396.67	401.14	391.32	419.50	430.83	433.63	438.03	430.50	458.11
51	Wholesale Trade	471.23	480.74	490.09	488.71	498.92	489.61	514.69	516.11	531.60	546.38	527.20	555.00
52	Retail Trade	400.65	410.20	422.95	435.04	443.35	427.89	462.92	478.78	498.22	508.29	487.06	528.68
		<b>456.85</b>	<b>470.62</b>	<b>473.71</b>	<b>475.90</b>	<b>501.93</b>	<b>480.55</b>	<b>495.99</b>	<b>504.35</b>	<b>511.41</b>	<b>542.32</b>	<b>513.52</b>	<b>545.23</b>
55	Accommodation & Catering	286.31	299.40	302.55	307.29	306.01	303.81	310.02	313.79	327.49	336.75	322.02	339.05
60	Land Transport	437.84	458.55	459.91	457.26	482.03	464.44	482.06	497.28	497.79	534.19	502.83	555.66
61-63	Other Transport activity	504.99	508.39	497.03	511.96	518.02	508.85	519.08	533.57	535.08	554.85	535.65	576.78
64	Post & Telecommunications	621.41	619.15	629.07	633.27	704.60	646.53	632.79	638.87	663.45	753.13	672.06	697.10
70-71	Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	426.49	441.12	448.45	454.96	461.70	451.56	466.24	482.82	499.55	502.00	487.66	515.73
72-73	Computing activity, R & D	531.82	547.21	556.09	563.67	587.47	563.61	601.50	610.77	617.02	626.43	613.93	643.07
74	Other Business activity	464.79	477.55	483.38	493.51	512.12	491.64	513.79	526.76	539.82	559.03	534.85	567.51

<sup>1</sup> Converted at the EU official exchange rate conversion factor, fixed at 0.787564, effective from 1 January 1999

<sup>2</sup> Revised

## Background Notes

**Introduction** This Release details average weekly earnings of full-time employees in the Distribution and Business Services sectors. The series are derived from quarterly inquiries to enterprises, conducted under the Statistics (Business Accounts) Order, 2001, made under the Statistics Act 1993.

The numbers of persons engaged in the Distribution and Services sectors, as estimated by the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS), are shown in Table A in the Appendix. Early analysis showed that it would not be possible to derive reliable earnings estimates for part-time employees or for small enterprises with less than 5 persons engaged<sup>†</sup>. These have been excluded from the current release.

The series, therefore, covers full-time employees in enterprises with 5 or more persons engaged. The survey collects details of the number of full-time employees (defined as persons working 30 or more hours per week) and their total wages. The number of hours worked was not sought, nor was any breakdown by gender or employment activity.

**Scope** The activity classification used is the NACE Rev. 1 classification. The survey relates to a week in the months of March, June, September and December. It covers a sample of enterprises in the Distribution sector (NACE divisions 50 to 52), and NACE divisions 55, 60 to 64, and 70 to 74 of the Business Services sector. The target sample size is approximately 25% of the total number of enterprises with 5 or more persons engaged.

**Methodology** Using the CSO Business Register, the sample in each quarter is classified into cells defined by NACE division and employment size. March 1998 was taken as the base period and average earnings per person per week were computed, from the survey returns, for each cell. These cell averages were then weighted by the corresponding estimated full-time employment to derive the average earnings at divisional and higher levels. The employment figures used for this weighting were the QNHS estimates for the December 1997 – February 1998 quarter, allocated to size classes using size-class details from the Business Register.

For each subsequent quarter, a matched sample of enterprises making returns in both the current quarter and the previous quarter was used. The average weekly earnings in each cell of the matched sample for both quarters were computed. The quarter-on-quarter matched sample change in average weekly earnings in each cell was then applied to the average weekly earnings for the cell in the previous quarter, to produce the average weekly earnings for the cell in the current quarter. These cell averages were then weighted by QNHS-based full-time employment estimates for the current quarter to produce average earnings at divisional and higher levels.

Tables B and C in the Appendix show the number of full-time employees and the number of enterprises, respectively, covered by returns used to compile the average weekly earnings figures in each period since March 1999.

### Definitions

#### Employee

An employee is defined as any person working in the enterprise who is paid a definite wage or salary. Full-time employees are employees who work 30 or more hours per week.

#### Earnings

Earnings represent the gross amount (before the deduction of tax, PRSI, superannuation, etc.) payable to employees. Earnings include normal wages and salaries and overtime, taxable allowances, regular bonuses and commissions and sick pay. Excluded from earnings are back-pay, redundancy pay, irregular bonuses (incl. annual bonuses), advances of pay, expenses, employers PRSI, and any earnings paid at irregular intervals.

#### Enterprise

An enterprise is defined as the smallest legally independent business unit. It may be comprised of one or more local units or branches.

<sup>†</sup> Initial indications were that including enterprises with less than 5 persons engaged would result in the overall average full-time weekly earnings figures being reduced by approximately £20.

Table A Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) Employment Estimates

NACE Code	Sector	Persons Engaged		Full-time Employees		Full-time Employees in Enterprises with 5+ Persons Engaged <sup>2</sup>	
		Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2000	Q1 2001
<b>Distribution &amp; Business Services:</b>		<b>581 500</b>	<b>607,500</b>	<b>363,200</b>	<b>382,300</b>	<b>288,300</b>	<b>303,300</b>
<b>Distribution:</b>		<b>233,400</b>	<b>246,500</b>	<b>135,900</b>	<b>142,900</b>	<b>101,800</b>	<b>107,100</b>
50	Motor Trade	34,600	38,900	22,200	25,700	15,900	18,400
51	Wholesale Trade	50,200	51,800	36,300	38,600	30,400	32,300
52	Retail Trade	148,600	155,800	77,400	78,600	55,600	56,400
<b>Business Services:</b>		<b>348,100</b>	<b>361,000</b>	<b>227,300</b>	<b>239,400</b>	<b>186,500</b>	<b>196,200</b>
55	Accommodation & Catering	105,400	106,600	52,800	56,300	40,300	43,000
60	Land Transport	37,900	42,900	22,700	26,000	18,300	20,900
61-63	Other Transport Activity	28,300	29,100	24,400	25,000	22,700	23,200
64	Post & Telecommunications	35,000	35,200	30,000	30,600	28,800	29,400
70-71	Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	12,100	12,800	7,300	7,500	4,100	4,200
72-73	Computing Activity, R & D	32,300	34,500	28,500	29,600	24,500	25,400
74	Other Business Activity	97,100	99,900	61,600	64,400	47,900	50,100

<sup>1</sup> QNHS employment estimates for period December - February

<sup>2</sup> QNHS estimates, adjusted using size class details from the CSO Business Register

Table B The number of full-time employees covered by returns used in calculating the average weekly earnings

NACE Code Sector	1999				2000				2001
	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec. <sup>1</sup>	Mar.
<b>Distribution &amp; Business Services:</b>	<b>91,595</b>	<b>100,831</b>	<b>105,724</b>	<b>103,832</b>	<b>99,938</b>	<b>99,372</b>	<b>122,619</b>	<b>131,734</b>	<b>125,211</b>
<b>Distribution:</b>	<b>24,492</b>	<b>27,134</b>	<b>28,536</b>	<b>28,341</b>	<b>26,847</b>	<b>25,082</b>	<b>35,249</b>	<b>39,277</b>	<b>38,863</b>
50 Motor Trade	2,592	3,019	2,768	3,006	3,206	2,357	3,093	3,977	3,674
51 Wholesale Trade	10,452	11,566	11,471	11,572	10,306	10,260	11,787	13,385	13,323
52 Retail Trade	11,448	12,549	14,297	13,763	13,335	12,465	20,369	21,915	21,866
<b>Business Services:</b>	<b>67,103</b>	<b>73,697</b>	<b>77,188</b>	<b>75,491</b>	<b>73,091</b>	<b>74,290</b>	<b>87,370</b>	<b>92,457</b>	<b>86,348</b>
55 Accommodation & Catering	9,522	10,857	13,001	11,474	11,087	8,391	13,162	13,732	12,128
60 Land Transport	9,039	11,134	11,584	11,453	11,002	11,040	11,636	12,199	11,964
61-63 Other Transport activity	7,725	8,733	9,131	9,800	10,039	11,956	14,232	13,682	14,190
64 Post & Telecommunications	22,004	21,262	21,348	21,120	21,608	20,811	21,507	22,967	22,912
70-71 Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	1,965	2,212	2,389	2,245	1,813	1,364	1,687	1,924	2,270
72-73 Computing activity, R & D	3,295	4,207	4,807	5,159	5,076	5,379	5,762	6,892	6,325
74 Other Business activity	13,553	15,292	14,928	14,240	12,466	15,349	19,384	21,061	16,559

<sup>1</sup> Revised

Table C The number of enterprises covered by returns used in calculating the average weekly earnings

NACE Code	Sector	1999				2000				2001
		Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec. <sup>1</sup>	Mar.
	<b>Distribution &amp; Business Services:</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>1,857</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>1,801</b>	<b>2,174</b>	<b>1,896</b>
	<b>Distribution:</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>855</b>
50	Motor Trade	119	142	133	132	145	113	143	178	157
51	Wholesale Trade	215	260	271	287	275	242	277	340	308
52	Retail Trade	275	342	382	368	344	288	349	453	390
	<b>Business Services:</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>1,041</b>
55	Accommodation & Catering	375	419	404	391	304	348	418	462	373
60	Land Transport	52	61	77	70	42	43	50	68	61
61-63	Other Transport activity	64	74	63	63	50	53	59	63	67
64	Post & Telecommunications	18	22	19	19	17	16	13	17	17
70-71	Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	30	39	46	50	28	29	37	50	42
72-73	Computing activity, R & D	41	62	75	80	64	68	72	88	84
74	Other Business activity	323	359	398	397	281	337	383	455	397

<sup>1</sup> Revised