



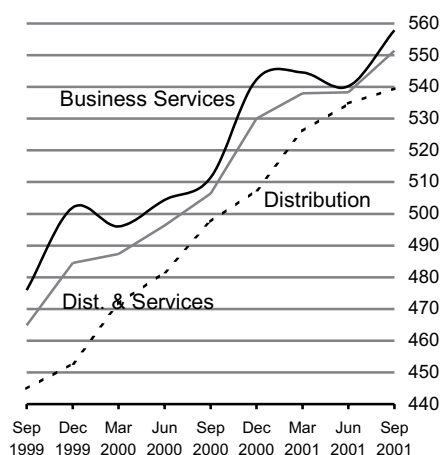
Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

29 January 2002

Earnings in Distribution and Business Services

September 2001 First Estimates

Average Weekly Earnings (€)



Average Full-Time Weekly Earnings

	September 2000	September 2001	Annual Change
	€	€	%
Distribution & Business Services	506.42	551.45	+8.9
Distribution	497.57	539.54	+8.4
Business Services	511.41	557.85	+9.1

Average weekly earnings up by 8.9% in September 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 €551.45 in September 2001, compared with €506.42 in September 2000, an increase of 8.9% in the year. *See Table 1 & graph.*

Average weekly earnings in the distribution sector were €539.54 in September 2001, compared with a September 2000 level of €497.57, an increase of 8.4% in the year. *See Table 1.*

In the business services sector, average weekly earnings increased by 9.1% in the year, from €511.41 in September 2000 to €557.85 in September 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 €738.04 in September 2001.
- The lowest average weekly earnings were in the Accommodation and Catering sub-sector, at €347.76 in September 2001.

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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	1999					2000					2001		
		March	June	Sept.	Dec.	Year	March	June	Sept.	Dec.	Year	March	June ¹	Sept.
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
	Distribution & Business Services:	454.85	460.66	464.80	484.46	466.20	487.38	496.28	506.42	529.98	505.01	538.00	538.29	551.45
	Distribution:	427.08	437.08	444.88	452.80	440.46	471.61	481.64	497.57	507.51	489.59	526.04	534.80	539.54
50	Motor Trade	378.65	388.83	396.67	401.14	391.32	419.50	430.83	433.63	438.03	430.50	456.20	470.62	467.64
51	Wholesale Trade	480.74	490.09	488.71	498.92	489.61	514.69	516.11	531.60	546.38	527.20	557.10	551.38	568.18
52	Retail Trade	410.20	422.95	435.04	443.35	427.89	462.92	478.78	498.22	508.29	487.06	530.98	545.48	545.79
	Business Services:	470.62	473.71	475.90	501.93	480.55	495.99	504.35	511.41	542.32	513.52	544.53	540.20	557.85
55	Accommodation & Catering	299.40	302.55	307.29	306.01	303.81	310.02	313.79	327.49	336.75	322.02	338.30	337.04	347.76
60	Land Transport	458.55	459.91	457.26	482.03	464.44	482.06	497.28	497.79	534.19	502.83	553.77	539.60	547.93
61-63	Other Transport Activity	508.39	497.03	511.96	518.02	508.85	519.08	533.57	535.08	554.85	535.65	575.01	565.06	623.61
64	Post & Telecommunications	619.15	629.07	633.27	704.60	646.53	632.79	638.87	663.45	753.13	672.06	697.10	701.39	738.04
70-71	Real Estate,Renting of Machinery	441.12	448.45	454.96	461.70	451.56	466.24	482.82	499.55	502.00	487.66	518.81	521.12	550.09
72-73	Computing Activity, R & D	547.21	556.09	563.67	587.47	563.61	601.50	610.77	617.02	626.43	613.93	643.03	625.26	651.90
74	Other Business Activity	477.55	483.38	493.51	512.12	491.64	513.79	526.76	539.82	559.03	534.84	566.80	567.54	580.67

¹ Revised

Table 2 Summary of Average Weekly Earnings in Distribution and Business Services

	Distribution & Business Services	Distribution	Business Services
	€	€	€
1998 Year	442.36	417.79	456.85
1999 Year	466.20	440.46	480.55
2000 Year	505.01	489.59	513.52
1998 1st quarter	433.20	404.84	450.57
2nd quarter	439.77	413.79	455.10
3rd quarter	443.48	422.39	455.71
4th quarter	453.02	430.14	466.01
1999 1st quarter	454.85	427.08	470.62
2nd quarter	460.66	437.08	473.71
3rd quarter	464.80	444.88	475.90
4th quarter	484.46	452.80	501.93
2000 1st quarter	487.38	471.61	495.99
2nd quarter	496.28	481.64	504.35
3rd quarter	506.42	497.57	511.41
4th quarter	529.98	507.51	542.32
2001 1st quarter	538.00	526.04	544.53
2nd quarter	538.29	534.80	540.20
3rd quarter	551.45	539.54	557.85

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.[†] 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, as well as holiday pay 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.

[†] 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 €25.39.

Appendix

Table A Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) Employment Estimates¹ for Distribution and Services

NACE Code	Sector	Persons Engaged		Full-time Employees		Full-time Employees in Enterprises with 5+ Persons Engaged ²	
		Q3 2000	Q3 2001	Q3 2000	Q3 2001	Q3 2000	Q3 2001
	Distribution & Business Services:	624,900	640,200	402,300	409,500	318,300	324,000
	Distribution:	253,500	253,500	153,000	151,500	114,600	113,400
50	Motor Trade	39,300	39,000	26,100	25,500	18,600	18,000
51	Wholesale Trade	54,000	49,500	40,200	37,800	33,600	31,800
52	Retail Trade	160,200	165,000	86,700	88,200	62,400	63,300
	Business Services:	371,700	386,700	249,000	258,000	203,700	210,600
55	Accommodation & Catering	118,200	116,400	63,600	64,800	48,600	49,500
60	Land Transport	40,500	45,600	24,000	26,700	19,200	21,600
61-63	Other Transport Activity	30,300	30,900	26,700	26,400	24,900	24,600
64	Post & Telecommunications	35,100	36,300	30,600	30,600	29,400	29,400
70-71	Real Estate,Renting of Machinery	12,900	13,800	8,100	8,100	4,500	4,500
72-73	Computing Activity, R & D	35,100	37,200	30,900	31,500	26,400	27,300
74	Other Business Activity	99,600	106,800	65,400	69,900	50,700	54,300

¹ QNHS employment estimates for period June - August

² 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	2000				2001		
		Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun. ¹	Sept.
	Distribution & Business Services:	99,938	99,372	122,619	131,734	136,539	141,680	129,764
	Distribution:	26,847	25,082	35,249	39,277	41,297	41,498	38,447
50	Motor Trade	3,206	2,357	3,093	3,977	4,094	5,140	4,469
51	Wholesale Trade	10,306	10,260	11,787	13,385	14,397	14,867	13,322
52	Retail Trade	13,335	12,465	20,369	21,915	22,806	21,491	20,656
	Business Services:	73,091	74,290	87,370	92,457	95,242	100,182	91,317
55	Accommodation & Catering	11,087	8,391	13,162	13,732	13,916	15,960	13,076
60	Land Transport	11,002	11,040	11,636	12,199	12,697	13,176	11,498
61-63	Other Transport activity	10,039	11,956	14,232	13,682	14,486	15,204	13,806
64	Post & Telecommunications	21,608	20,811	21,507	22,967	23,800	23,511	22,078
70-71	Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	1,813	1,364	1,687	1,924	2,355	2,950	2,370
72-73	Computing activity, R & D	5,076	5,379	5,762	6,892	6,898	9,247	8,344
74	Other Business activity	12,466	15,349	19,384	21,061	21,090	20,134	20,145

¹
Revised

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

NACE Code	Sector	2000				2001		
		Mar.	Jun.	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.	Jun. ¹	Sept.
	Distribution & Business Services:	1,550	1,537	1,801	2,174	2,089	2,281	1,957
	Distribution:	764	643	769	971	928	1,014	890
50	Motor Trade	145	113	143	178	168	180	160
51	Wholesale Trade	275	242	277	340	336	357	303
52	Retail Trade	344	288	349	453	424	477	427
	Business Services:	786	894	1,032	1,203	1,161	1,267	1,067
55	Accommodation & Catering	304	348	418	462	432	447	364
60	Land Transport	42	43	50	68	64	69	63
61-63	Other Transport activity	50	53	59	63	73	78	68
64	Post & Telecommunications	17	16	13	17	19	25	21
70-71	Real Estate, Renting of Machinery	28	29	37	50	48	69	65
72-73	Computing activity, R & D	64	68	72	88	93	108	109
74	Other Business activity	281	337	383	455	432	471	377

¹ Revised