

Standard Report
on
Methods and Quality (v1)
for
National Employment Survey Oct 2006

This documentation applies to the reporting period:

Year ending 2006 and also reference period October 2006

Last edited: February 2009

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1. Overview

The National Employment Survey (NES) is a major work place survey conducted by the CSO. The first NES survey was conducted in 2003 and it became an annual survey in 2006 (see Section 2.4 below). It provides valuable information on the structure and distribution of employee earnings in both the public and private sectors, covering all sectors of the economy (NACE Rev1.1 economic sectors C to O (see Section 3.11 below)), except for Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing. The NES provides information on the factors which influence earnings such as economic sector of activity, occupation, educational attainment, age group, length of service and nationality, as well as other factors that go to explain differences in rates of hourly earnings.

Data is collected from a sample of employers and employees. Only employers with more than three employees were surveyed in NACE Economic sectors C to O. Employers were required to have been trading in the reference month applicable to the survey (i.e. October 2006).

The information required was divided into that most suitable to collect from employers (e.g.earnings, hours worked, etc.) and information best supplied by individual employees (educational attainment, duration of employment ,etc.). A sample of employers was selected initially and then, in a second stage, a sample of employees was selected from within these enterprises.

Employers facilitated this approach by selecting a systematic sample from their payrolls, using set criteria, and forwarding the selection to the CSO. This two-stage strategy was used for practical purposes to optimise the quality of the information collected. It also had the desirable effect of spreading the burden of response between employers and employees.

Employer Questionnaire --- This was distributed to the sample of employers. It requested information on earnings, hours worked and occupational details, for a sample of employees. There was also a set of questions at enterprise level on job vacancies and employee skills and enterprise training.

Employee Questionnaire --- This was distributed to the sample of employees chosen in the second stage of the sampling process. The employees were asked to supply information such as age, gender, educational attainment, nationality, length of time in paid employment and other job-related characteristics.

The NES Oct 2006 is a statutory survey carried out under European Communities (Statistics) (National Employment Survey) Regulations 2007 and Statistics (National Employment Survey) Order 2007 to meet EU requirements for Earnings and National statistical requirements.

Main use of Outputs:- The NES provides valuable information on the structure and distribution of employee earnings and on the factors which influence earnings. This information is used by researchers and policy-makers for analysis of aspects of Ireland's labour market. E.g. Research by ESRI (Kelly, E., McGuinness, S., & O'Connell, P.J. (2008). "Benchmarking, Social Partnership and Higher Remuneration: Wage Setting Institutions and the Public-Private Sector Wage Gap in Ireland" ESRI Working Paper 270).

2 General Information

2.1 Statistical Category

Primary Statistical Survey

2.2 Area of Activity

Earnings Sector

2.3 Organisational Unit Responsible:

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2.4 Objectives and Purpose; History

The National Employment Survey (NES) is a major work place survey conducted by the CSO. It provides valuable information on the structure and distribution of employee earnings in both the public and private sectors, covering all sectors of the economy (NACE C to O), except for Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing. The purpose of the NES is to provide more detailed structural information than before on workplace issues, including earnings and factors influencing earnings (age, occupation etc). The NES is carried out annually and has been designed as an integrated survey that addresses issues of national interest, while simultaneously fulfilling requirements under EU law. A novel feature of the NES is that information is collected in a linked and integrated way from a sample of employers and employees.

History:

The first NES survey conducted was the NES 2003 survey. Since the NES 2006 survey, it became an annual survey.

Surveys to date:

Name of survey	Reference year	Reference month
NES 2003	2002	March 2003
NES 2006	2005	March 2006
NES October 2006	2006	October 2006
NES October 2007 (Publication date mid 2009)	2007	October 2007

2.5 Periodicity

National Employment Survey is conducted on an annual basis.

2.6 Client

The NES October 2006 was carried out under European Communities (Statistics) (National Employment Survey) Regulations 2007 and Statistics (National Employment Survey) Order 2007 to meet EU requirements for Earnings and National statistical requirements.

2.7 Users

- Government
- European Union/Eurostat
- Other CSO sections
- Research institutes
- Professional Bodies
- The general public
- Trade Unions

2.8 Legal basis

The NES October 2006 was carried out under European Communities (Statistics) (National Employment Survey) Regulations 2007 and Statistics (National Employment Survey) Order 2007 to meet EU requirements and National statistical requirements.

3 Statistical Concepts, Methods

3.1 Subject of the Statistics

The subject of the statistics is the compilation of earnings data provided by employers and individual data collected directly from a sub-sample of employees across all economic sectors including the public and private sectors (NACE Sectors C to O). A module on the Questionnaire provides information on a work place topic. The NES Oct 2006 module covered employee skills, enterprise training and job vacancies within the surveyed enterprises.

3.2 Units of Observation/Collection Units/Units of Presentation

Employers (with 3 or more employees) and employees are both the units of observation and collection units.

The data for hourly earnings is published in € to two decimal places while weekly paid hours are given to 1 decimal place .

3.3 Data Sources

Data is collected from a sample of employers and employees. Only employers with more than three employees were surveyed in NACE Economic sectors C to O. Employers were required to have been trading in the reference month applicable to the survey (i.e. October 2006).

The information required was divided into that most suitable to collect from employers (e.g.earnings, hours worked, etc.)and information best supplied by individual employees (educational attainment, duration of employment ,etc.). A sample of employers was selected initially and then, in a second stage, a sample of employees was selected from within these enterprises.

Employers facilitated this approach by selecting a systematic sample from their payrolls, using set criteria, and forwarding the selection to the CSO. This two-stage strategy was used for practical purposes to optimise the quality of the information collected. It also had the desirable effect of spreading the burden of response between employers and employees.

Employer Questionnaire --- This was distributed to the sample of employers. It requested information on earnings, hours worked and occupational details, for a sample of employees. There was also a set of questions at enterprise level on job vacancies and employee skills and employer training.

Employee Questionnaire --- This was distributed to the sample of employees chosen in the second stage of the sampling process. The employees were asked to supply information such as age, gender, educational attainment, nationality, length of time in paid employment and other job-related characteristics.

3.4 Reporting Unit/Respondents

Reporting unit – Enterprises in all economic sectors employing 3+ persons in NACE Sectors (C to O) and a sample of employees from the selected enterprises.

3.5 Type of Survey/Process

Sample survey.

3.6 Characteristics of the Sample/Process

3.6.1 Population and Sampling Frame

The reference population is all employers and employees in enterprises with 3 + employees in NACE Sectors C to O, (it includes all employers and employees in the public and private sectors).

The sampling frame/register is the CSO's Central Business Register.

3.6.2 Sampling Design

The NES sample of employers was selected from the CSO Central Business Register (CBR). The sample was selected based on the proportion of companies in each economic sector and in each size class. The employers were asked to select a systematic sample of employees from their payrolls. The table below outlines the number of employers and employees sampled for each size group of business unit.

Size of Enterprise	No of employers sampled	No. Employees sampled
3 - 9	1 in 20	All
10 - 19	1 in 10	All
20 - 49	1 in 7	1 in 2
50 - 99	1 in 4	1 in 3
100 - 249	1 in 2	1 in 7
250 - 999	All	1 in 10
1000 +	All	1 in 20

The employer sample was also checked to make sure that there were at least 5 employers in each cell (if there were less than 5 employers in a cell then all were included in the sample). In addition, economic sectors where there was a high variance for earnings and/or had known low response rates had more employers included in the survey.

The respondent employers returned the employer questionnaire that contained a list of the names of sampled employees to the CSO, together with the employee PPS number. The names and PPS numbers were then pre-printed on the employee questionnaires and distributed via the employer address, or by other means where this was the most appropriate approach.

3.7 Survey Technique/Data Transfer

Employer Questionnaires:

Two types of survey forms are issued:

1. Paper Forms for companies with less than 250 employees

Survey forms for companies with less than 250 employees are printed in the Printing section of the CSO and posted out to respondents for self completion. On receipt, returns are put into batches of 15 forms these are then scrutinised, scanned and verified. Edits that arise are scrutinised by section staff and resolved where necessary.

2. Electronic Forms for companies with 250+employees

Companies with 250+ employees are dealt with electronically. These electronic questionnaires are dealt with in 2 stages. Firstly the NES section request the names and PPS numbers of all employees who were in employment for our survey year and reference period. On receipt of this a sample is then picked by size of enterprise (see table above), placed on an electronic form and sent to the company for completion. Enterprises return the completed electronic form via the secure deposit box. The electronic version of the employer questionnaire was in a customised spreadsheet format. Smaller employers availed of the facility to download, complete and return an electronic form by using a secure channel provided by the CSO (Secure Deposit Box). This information was transferred by the CSO directly into a database environment.

Non-respondents are issued with 1 to 3 reminders over a period of time encouraging them to submit their completed questionnaire.

Employee Questionnaires:

It was designed as a double-sided page "tick-box" questionnaire for ease of completion and to render it suitable for data capture using scanning technology. The employee questionnaire was available to download but could not be completed and returned electronically via the Secure Deposit Box.

A vital component of the data collection from employees, was the method of questionnaire return. Customised but otherwise blank questionnaires were distributed via the employer. Pre-paid envelopes were supplied to each employee in the sample and the questionnaires were thus returned directly to the CSO. This was to guarantee the confidentiality of information supplied by employees.

The overall response for employees represented 3% of all relevant employees. The respondent enterprises represented approximately 7% of all enterprises and 42% of all employees.

3.8 Questionnaire (including explanations)

There are 2 Questionnaires

1. Employer Questionnaire

The National Employment Survey is made up of four sections and gathers information on:

- Section A. General Information on the Enterprise
- Section B. Company Training for Staff
- Section C. Job Vacancies and Employee Skills
- Section D1 Individual Employee data for the Year 2006
- Section D2 Individual Employee data for the Reference period of October 2006

2. Employee Questionnaire

The Employee Questionnaire collects information on the employee such as age, occupation, gender, residence, education, employment history, workplace skills and training.

The survey forms may be accessed on the CSO website using the following link:

<http://www.cso.ie/surveysandmethodologies/surveyforms/nes.htm>

3.9 Participation in the Survey

Participation is compulsory. This is a statutory survey carried out under European Communities (Statistics) (National Employment Survey) Regulations 2007 and Statistics (National Employment Survey) Order 2007 to meet EU requirements for Earnings and National statistical requirements.

3.10 Characteristics of the Survey/Process and its Results

Data is collected at both enterprise and employee level in the NES. Once edit checks are complete survey responses to the NES were weighted to the population of employees recorded by the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS). The weights were calculated by calibrating the survey responses to the totals from QNHS by sector, occupation, full/part-time status, age group and sex. The weight is the product of a design-weight based on the stratification at the time of sample selection and a calibration-weight based on the post-stratification resulting from the survey responses. This approach takes into account as fully as possible the characteristics of the sample observations in terms of auxiliary variables and their known totals. The employee total and calibration totals are those as measured by the QNHS in quarter 4 of 2006 as illustrated in the following table:

Persons in employment (ILO¹) aged 15 years and over for NACE 2 digit classified by employment status, QNHS q4 2006

NACE economic activity	QNHS total	QNHS employees only (incl. schemes)	Employee totals within scope of NES
	000	000	000
A - B Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	114.7	27.0	*
C - E Other production industries	294.9	270.6	270.6
F Construction	284.7	214.9	214.9
G Wholesale and retail trade	287.8	250.0	250.0
H Hotels and restaurants	124.0	109.9	109.9
I Transport, storage and communication	116.8	92.8	92.8
J - K Financial & business services	276.2	236.8	236.8
L Public administration and defence	102.5	102.0	102.0
M Education	138.1	133.3	133.3
N Health	210.7	199.5	199.5
O Other services	121.8	101.1	85.6
Total in employment	2,072.1	1,737.7	1,694.9
Total unemployed	90.3		
Total labour force	2,162.4		
Not in labour force	1,255.8		
Population 15 years or over	3,418.2		

¹ILO (International labour Office)

*Outside scope of NES.

Note: Data may be subject to sampling or other survey errors, which are greater in respect of smaller values or estimates of change.

Reference period: q4=September to November

Source: Quarterly National Household Survey, Central Statistics Office.

The results are published showing comparisons of earnings across economic sectors, occupations, gender, age groups, educational qualifications, full-time and part-time employment, public and private sectors and other important individual employee circumstances.

Link to NES Oct 2006 Publication:

<http://www.cso.ie/Releases and Publications/Labour Market and Earnings/Earnings/National Employment Survey October 2006>

3.11 Classifications used

There are a number of different classifications used as outlined below.

NACE Rev1.1 is used for all economic sectors as follows:

C-D	Manufacturing, mining and quarrying
E	Electricity, gas and water supply
F	Construction
G	Wholesale and retail trade
H	Hotels and restaurants
I	Transport, storage and communication
J	Financial intermediation
K	Business services
L	Public administration and defence
M	Education
N	Health
O	Other services

The following is a link to the full listing of NACE categories

http://cmintra01/cso.ie/surveysandmethodologies/classification_indus_act.htm

Occupation: Occupational data was coded using International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88-COM) for EU purposes and United Kingdom Standard Occupational Classification 1990 (UKSOC1990) for national purposes.

Education: Educational qualification level is coded using the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED).

Age groups: 15-24, 25-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and over.

Total number of years in employment: Less than 5 years, 5 to 9 years, 10 to 19 years, 20 to 29 years and 30 years or more.

Nationality: Irish, United Kingdom, EU15 excl. Irl & UK, Accession states EU15 to EU27 and Other.

Region: Dublin, Rest of Leinster, Munster, Connaught and Ulster.

3.12 Regional Breakdown of Results

Tables referring to residence are broken down into the following headings;

Dublin
Rest of Leinster
Munster
Connaught
Ulster

Residence is based on where the respondent employee resided in October 2006. Those listed as resident in Ulster include employees living in Northern Ireland but working in the Republic of Ireland.

4 Production of the Statistics, Data Processing, Quality Assurance

4.1 Data Capture

The electronic version of the employer questionnaire was in a customised spreadsheet format, and some employers availed of the facility to download, complete and return an electronic copy using a secure channel provided by the CSO. This information was transferred by the CSO directly into a database environment. All large enterprises returned electronically. The majority of smaller enterprises returned employer questionnaires by paper format and these returns were electronically scanned, however some of the smaller enterprises returned electronically.

The employee questionnaire was available to download but could not be completed and returned electronically. It was designed as a double sided page “tick-box” questionnaire for ease of completion and to render it suitable for data capture using scanning technology. A vital component of the data collection from employees was the method of questionnaire return. While customised and otherwise blank questionnaires were distributed via the employer, the questionnaires were not returned via this route. Pre-paid envelopes were supplied to each employee in the sample and the questionnaires were thus returned directly to the CSO. This was to guarantee the confidentiality of information supplied by employees.

The overall response for employees was equivalent to 3% of all relevant employees. The respondent enterprises represented approximately 7% of all enterprises and 42% of all employees.

Returned survey forms are scrutinised by section staff, which in turn are then scanned and verified using teleform software. This data is then transferred to a database and edit programs are run using PC-SAS to clean the returns.

4.2 Coding

Coding for economic sector:

1. Employer form: When the barcode is scanned the CBR No. of the enterprise is captured and linked to the NACE codes on the CBR.
2. Employee form: When the barcode is scanned the CBR No. of each enterprise and PPS No. of the individual is captured

Coding for occupation, education, etc occurs automatically in the field.

4.3 Data Editing

Editing is done using SAS and Notepad applications. The edits are run using SAS for both Employer and Employee returns. Ranges for hourly earnings are used based on previous years' results. Earnings outside the allowed parameters are queried with the enterprise using email and/or telephone.

Other edits include missing Employer data relating to employment numbers, training budgets, job vacancies etc. All edits are corrected where possible following contact with the enterprise. Where enterprises cannot provide the missing/inaccurate data, or where the enterprise does not respond to our queries, the edit is left untouched. Then when the clean unit file is created, the edit is either corrected automatically where possible, or else that particular unit is excluded from the clean unit file.

Significant changes in employment numbers with the register are confirmed also to ensure accuracy.

4.4 Imputation (for Non-Response or Incomplete Data Sets)

As no imputation for missing wages data was carried out, the final tables contained only observations with both employer and employee data. Where employer data was returned but no corresponding employee data was received, the data could not be used in the final analysis. The same applied if employee data was returned and not the corresponding employer data.

4.5 Grossing and Weighting

Grossing is performed using SAS software. Results are aggregated to 2-digit NACE Economic Sector Level by size for both Employer and Employee.

Survey responses to the NES were weighted to the population of employees recorded by the Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS). The weights were calculated by calibrating the survey responses to the totals from QNHS by economic sector, occupation, full/part-time status, age group and sex. The weight is the product of a design-weight based on the stratification at the time of sample selection and a calibration-weight based on the post-stratification resulting from the survey responses. This approach takes into account as fully as possible the characteristics of the sample observations in terms of auxiliary variables and their known totals.

4.6 Computation of Outputs, Estimation Methods Used

See Section 4.5 above.

4.7 Other Quality Assurance Techniques Used

Employer Questionnaire --- This was distributed to the sample of employers. It requested information on earnings, hours worked and occupational details, for a sample of employees. There was also a set of questions at enterprise level on job vacancies and employee skills and employer training.

Employee Questionnaire --- This was distributed to the sample of employees chosen in the second stage of the sampling process. The employees were asked to supply information such as age, gender, educational attainment, nationality, length of time in paid employment and other job-related characteristics.

General:

The dataset is created from the latest version of the CBR of all companies in all NACE Economic Sectors. Companies that have been discovered to be non-relevant are removed by up-dating our section local register. Field staff visited our non-respondent companies twice yearly to assist with the completion of our survey forms. The field staff liaise with an appointed member of CSO staff. On completion, forms are returned to this individual for checking and up-dating. Results are also checked against other CSO earnings publications and external publications.

5 Quality

5.1 Relevance

The purpose of the NES is to provide more detailed structural information than before on workplace issues, including earnings and factors influencing earnings. The NES is carried out annually and has been designed as an integrated survey that addresses issues of national interest, while simultaneously fulfilling requirements under EU law. A novel feature of the NES is that information is collected in a linked and integrated way from a sample of employers and employees.

This survey is carried out under European Communities (Statistics) (National Employment Survey) Regulations 2007 and Statistics (National Employment Survey) Order 2007 to meet EU requirements for Earnings and National statistical requirements.

The main users of the NES survey are the following:

- Government
- European Union/Eurostat
- Other CSO sections
- Research institutes
- Professional Bodies
- The general public
- Trade Unions

5.2 Accuracy and Reliability

5.2.1. Sampling Effect & representivity

95% Confidence limits for National Employment Survey October 2006 (€):

	Earnings per hour €		Earnings per hour €
Total All	18.71	to	19.61
Total Fulltime	19.66	to	20.56
Total Part-time	13.57	to	15.95
Total Male	20.00	to	21.00
Male fulltime	20.32	to	21.34
Total Female	17.11	to	18.23
Female fulltime	18.50	to	19.58

e.g. Average earnings per hour for All employees is €19.16. The 95% confidence limits for this figure is between €18.71 and €19.61.

5.2.2. Non-Sampling Effects

5.2.2.1 Quality of the Data Sources used (other than survey register)

N/A.

5.2.2.2 Register Coverage

The sampling frame is the CBR. The NES samples all companies in the relevant NACE groups C to O with 3+ employees.

Coverage errors – There may be some non relevant/duplicate companies taken from the CBR register. These are removed from the NES register when discovered.

All NACE sectors are covered with the exception of the Agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors.

5.2.2.3 Non-response (Unit and Item)

The response rate for the Employer Questionnaire for the October 2006 survey was 50% and 75% for the Employee Questionnaire.

The main reasons for Employer non-response are as follows:

1. Company gone-away from the address on the survey form – investigated and resolved by the section.
2. Duplicate – company receive two forms with different reference numbers – duplicate removed from the survey register.
3. Company has ceased trading – marked as ceased on local register and removed from future post out of survey form.
4. Hold – company request an extension on the due return date.
5. Company is inactive/dormant – company removed from the survey register.
6. Merger - taken over or change in structure of company – dealt with by our Business Register section.

Employee non-response.

The main reasons for employee non-response are as follows:

1. Employee ceased working for the employer and no forwarding address was available.
2. Forms were not delivered to the employee by the employer for completion.
3. Due to an increase of foreign national workers they did not understand the form. Along with the request for their selected language form, the original form was not returned therefore we were unable to re-issue form for completion.
4. Refusal by employee to complete the questionnaire.

Item non-response is not measured in the survey. Where part of a form is not completed the company is contacted by the section by telephone or email to resolve the issue.

5.2.2.4 Measurement Errors

(a) (i) Employer Questionnaire:

Questionnaire – The questions are phrased as clearly and concisely as possible. Instructions are provided to the employer and also provided on our website. A pilot survey is conducted before the questionnaire is finalised and feedback from the pilot survey is incorporated into the questionnaire and the survey. A consultation group was also established to take account of user needs at national level (e.g. government bodies, trade unions, research institutes etc. who use our statistics).

(a) (ii) Employee Questionnaire:

This form is designed as a tick box questionnaire which makes it very simple to understand. An information leaflet is also provided giving details about the NES.

(b) Data collection method – the large enterprises 250+ are emailed with an electronic version of the form while the smaller companies with less than 250 employees receive a posted paper copy of the survey form for completion. Paper copies are scanned, and any ambiguous data are verified by the NES staff after the scanning process.

(c) Field Officers call to non-respondents for 2 weeks each year to collect survey forms, and assist companies with their completion if necessary. We ensure that all field staff are well trained in the survey for any contact they may have with respondents.

(d) Respondent – survey data can contain sensitive and confidential information due to the fact that we require their PPS no's and their annual earnings etc. The survey only publishes aggregated data which preserves confidentiality of individual returns. Enterprises are contacted if initial checks of forms show inconsistency in information supplied or if edit checks are not met.

5.2.2.5 Processing Errors

(A) Data Capture Errors are likely to be a low risk as survey forms are scanned and verified.

(B) Data Editing - The edits are run using SAS for both Employer and Employee returns. Ranges for hourly earnings are used based on previous years' results. Earnings outside the allowed parameters are queried with the enterprise using email and/or telephone.

Other edits include missing Employer data relating to employment numbers, training budgets, job vacancies etc. All edits are corrected where possible following contact with the enterprise. Where enterprises cannot provide the missing/inaccurate data, or where the enterprise does not respond to our queries, the edit is left untouched. Then when the clean unit file is created, the edit is either corrected automatically where possible, or else that particular unit is excluded from the clean unit file.

(C) NACE – NACE economic sectors are linked to the enterprise number and are data captured when the enterprise number is scanned.

5.2.2.6 Model-related Effects

No assumptions are made. The weights were calculated by calibrating the survey responses to the totals from QNHS by sector, occupation, full/part-time status, age group and sex. The weight is the product of a design-weight based on the stratification at the time of sample selection and a calibration-weight based on the post-stratification resulting from the survey responses. This approach takes into account as fully as possible the characteristics of the sample observations in terms of auxiliary variables and their known totals.

5.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

5.3.1 Provisional Results

No preliminary outputs are produced.

5.3.2 Final Results

The NES October 2006 publication for reference year 2006 and reference period October 2006 was published in September 2008 (T+21). Employee Skills, Training and Job Vacancies Survey 2006 was published in February 2009 (T+ 26).

5.4 Coherence

Comparisons are made with other CSO quarterly surveys. Earnings for all sectors of the economy are not yet available (though they will be in the near future), therefore comparisons can only be done for certain sectors. These surveys are looked at to provide trends in earnings and are comparable with NES trends. However, the NES provides a more detailed analysis of earnings on individual sectors and therefore results are not directly comparable.

5.5 Comparability

Geographic comparability

National concepts have been defined as close as possible to European concepts, all classifications and definitions are as stated in the regulation.

Comparability over time

The first NES survey was conducted in 2003 (reference year 2002 and reference month March 2003). Since the NES March 2006 survey the NES became an annual survey (see Section 2.4 above). There has been minimal change from the first NES survey in March 2003, however the NES October 2006 survey introduced a new category referring to place of residence.

5.6 Accessibility and Clarity

5.6.1 Assistance to Users, Special Analyses

Information leaflets are sent to both employers and employees in the NES survey. Detailed instructions are sent to all employers surveyed. Further detailed information and survey forms can be downloaded from the CSO website. Electronic forms are sent to all large companies. The publication, questionnaire, instructions and information notes are available on the CSO website at the following links:

www.cso.ie/releasespublications/pr_earnings.htm

or

www.cso.ie/releasespublications/documents/earnings/nes2006/nesoct2006.pdf

Special analysis and data table are provided to both internal and external users. Research Microdata Files (RMFs) and associated metadata are provided for research purposes. All queries and requests for data are replied to promptly and satisfactorily.

5.6.2 Revisions

QNHS figures have been revised in line with revisions to the sub-annual population estimates, which are used as a grossing frame for the data. These population estimates are calculated on a quarterly basis using the Census of Population figures as a base. This revisions process has involved three separate elements:

- The population as reported for Census 2006 was used as a benchmark to recalculate quarterly population estimates from Quarter 2 2002 onwards.
- From Quarter 2 2006 onwards the concept underlying the population estimates was changed from de facto (all persons present in the state), to usually resident (all persons usually resident in the state) as the usually resident concept more closely aligns to the target population for employment statistics.
- An adjustment has been made to bring nationality estimates within the QNHS into line with Census. The QNHS data was revised from the second quarter of 2002 to the fourth quarter of 2007.

In addition to these changes, some data was amended in light of revised returns.

As a result of the above changes, the figures for March 2006 and the reference year 2005 were recalculated and included in the Appendix tables 2A and 2B. The data for March 2003 and reference year 2002 was not affected.

5.6.3 Publications

5.6.3.1 Releases, Regular Publications

There is an annual NES publication on core earnings data. A release is also published on the module in each NES survey.

5.6.3.2 Statistical Reports

Statistical Yearbook of Ireland 2008

http://www.cso.ie/releasespublications/statistical_yearbook_ireland_2008.htm

Women and Men in Ireland

http://www.cso.ie/releasespublications/women_and_men_in_ireland_2007.htm

Small Business in Ireland 2008 edition

http://www.cso.ie/releasespublications/documents/other_releases/smallbusiness.pdf

5.6.3.3 Internet

The publication, questionnaires, instructions and additional information are available on the CSO website at the following location

www.cso.ie/releasespublications/documents/earnings/nes2006/nesoct2006.pdf

5.6.4 Confidentiality

The confidentiality of all information provided to the CSO by individual respondents is guaranteed by law under the 1993 Statistics Acts. All CSO office and field personnel become "Officers of Statistics" on appointment and are liable to penalties under this Act if they divulge confidential information to any outside person or body. Data is only published in aggregate form to avoid the indirect identification of respondents.

6 Additional documentation and publications

www.cso.ie

The entry for this statistic under StatCentral (the portal to Ireland's official statistics) is at <http://www.statcentral.ie/viewStat.asp?id=171>