
TUC briefing for Workwise UK

Homeworking - statistics from the Labour Force Survey (spring 2005)

Introduction

This briefing examines data from the Office of National Statistics Labour Force Survey spring 2005. This official survey, which reaches 100 thousand workers each quarter, asks a number of questions about homeworking.

Tables 1 to 4 look at those who usually work from home, breaking down the data by employment status, gender, occupation and industry.

Table 5 looks at those who sometimes work from home.

Table 6 examines whether those who usually work from home are teleworking - using both a phone and a computer for their work.

1: Usually work from home 2005 - employees and self-employed

	Own home	Same grounds or building	Different places with home as a base	Separate from home	Total
Employee	247,000	101,000	818,000	23,207,000	24,372,000
Self-employed	477,000	163,000	1,492,000	1,427,000	3,560,000

2: Usually work from home 2005 - male and female

	Own home	Same grounds or building	Different places with home as a base	Separate from home	Grand Total
Male	269,000	176,000	1,822,000	12,679,000	14,946,000
Female	455,000	88,000	488,000	11,955,000	12,986,000
Grand Total	723,000	264,000	2,310,000	24,634,000	27,932,000

3: Usually work from home 2005 - occupation

	Own home	Same grounds or building	Different places with home as a base	Separate from home	Grand Total
Managers	144,379	70,405	327,926	3,601,714	4,144,424
Professionals	105,179	16,794	278,095	3,131,575	3,531,643
Associate professionals	168,128	21,376	353,350	3,350,751	3,893,605
Administrative and Secretarial	140,220	11,634	49,751	3,294,126	3,495,731
Skilled Trades	39,975	94,614	792,536	2,240,459	3,167,584
Personal Services	94,218	24,435	109,412	1,929,573	2,157,638
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	12,616	-	63,798	2,133,915	2,213,021
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	13,629	-	174,020	1,916,880	2,110,341
Elementary Occupations	-	16,736	159,994	3,015,227	3,196,836
Grand Total	723,223	264,498	2,308,882	24,614,220	27,910,823

4: Usually work from home 2005 - industry

	Own home	Same grounds or building	Different places with home as a base	Separate from home	Grand Total
A: Agriculture, hunting & forestry	12,570	96,335	75,928	168,874	353,707
B: Fishing	-	-	-	-	11,330
C: Mining and quarrying	-	-	-	96,533	102,396
D: Manufacturing	77,806	18,158	192,600	3,418,065	3,706,629
E: Electricity gas & water supply	-	-	14,458	161,338	176,314
F: Construction	42,314	-	707,464	1,419,808	2,177,372
G: Wholesale, retail & motor trade	74,604	35,989	171,665	3,981,668	4,263,926
H: Hotels & restaurants	15,458	19,192	24,373	1,137,352	1,196,375
I: Transport, storage & communication	24,980	-	156,609	1,738,632	1,923,826
J: Financial intermediation	17,253	-	60,922	1,097,974	1,176,149
K: Real estate, renting & business active.	234,065	25,995	406,018	2,534,502	3,200,580
L: Public administration & defence	14,575	-	44,599	1,921,414	1,986,453
M: education	27,805	13,831	83,782	2,412,127	2,537,545
N: Health & social work	97,300	12,878	115,413	3,213,235	3,438,826
O: Other community, social & personal	71,338	20,905	195,528	1,241,971	1,529,742
Grand Total	711,377	261,590	2,257,879	24,550,324	27,781,170

5: Ever do any work from home?

	Yes	No	Grand Total
Employee	4,258,824	17,479,307	21,738,131
Self-employed	1,260,941	1,500,076	2,761,017
Grand Total	5,519,765	18,979,383	24,499,148

6: Teleworker - use both telephone *and* computer for homeworking?

	Yes	No	Grand Total
Employee	1,257,137	313,542	1,570,679
Self-employed	1,150,499	377,157	1,527,656
Grand Total	2,407,636	690,699	3,098,335

Base - those who usually work from home (see tables 1-5)

Technical note

Source - LFS Microdata Service Spring 2005.

The LFS is by far the biggest survey of its kind, but it should be noted that the margin of error in the tables above is +/- 40 thousand. Results of less than 10 thousand have been excluded altogether as they are not statistically significant.

All tables exclude 'don't knows' - largely proxy responses.

All data for employees and self-employed combined unless otherwise stated.