



UK Innovation Survey 2019: Headline findings covering the survey period 2016 - 2018

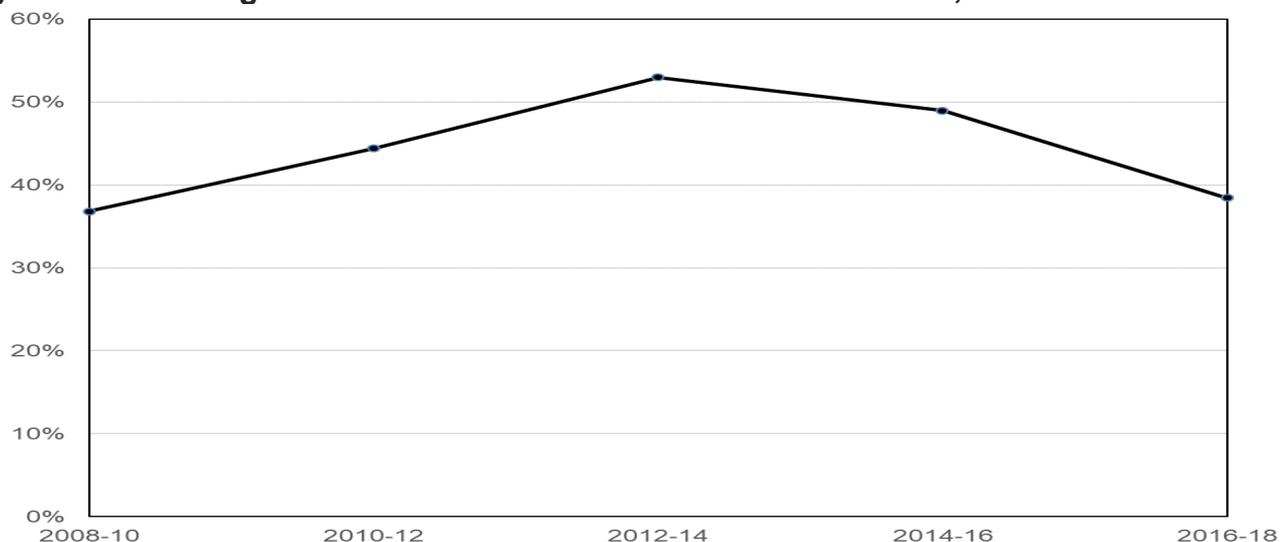
26th March 2020

Official Statistics

This release reports on innovation activity in UK businesses in 2016-18 and compares innovation activity to previous surveys.

- **In 2016-18, 38% of UK businesses were innovation active.** This is a decrease compared to 49% in 2014-16 and is the lowest level since 37% in 2008-10.
- **Large businesses were more likely to have innovated than small and medium businesses (SMEs).** In 2016-18, 49% of large businesses were innovation active, compared to 38% of SMEs.
- **Production and construction businesses tend to be more innovative than those in distribution and services.** The percentage of innovation active businesses was highest in manufacture of electrical and optical equipment (63%) and lowest in accommodation and food services (23%).

Figure 1: Percentage of businesses which were innovation active, 2008-10 to 2016-18



What you need to know about these statistics:

The UK Innovation Survey (UKIS) is the main data source for business innovation in the UK. It is used widely across Government to help improve policy and by the research community for understanding the innovation landscape.

UKIS 2019 sampled 30,492 UK businesses in 2016-18 with ten or more employees. It received a response from 14,040 businesses, giving a response rate of 45%.

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Introduction

Defining Innovation:

The UK definition of innovation is based on an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) definition adopted by Eurostat. This definition includes any of the following activities, if they occurred during the survey period:

1. The introduction of a new or significantly improved product (good or service) or process;
2. Engagement in innovation projects not yet complete, scaled back, or abandoned;
3. New and significantly improved forms of organisation, business structures or practices, and marketing concepts or strategies;
4. Investment activities in areas such as internal research and development, training, acquisition of external knowledge or machinery and equipment linked to innovation activities.

A business that had engaged in any of the activities described in points 1 to 3 is defined as being 'innovation active'. A business that had engaged in any of the activities described in points 1 to 4 is defined as a 'broader innovator'. Finally, any businesses that had engaged in the activity described in point 3 were classed as a 'wider innovator'.

About this release:

The UK Innovation Survey (UKIS) is the main data source for business innovation in the UK. It is used widely across Government to help improve policy and by the research community for understanding the innovation landscape.

Headline figures in this report are published to enable BEIS to meet European Union (EU) reporting requirements during the transition period. Information is derived from weights based on grouping the twenty five detailed sectors used for sampling into fourteen broader sectors.

Now we have left the EU, it is important that our statistics continue to be of high quality and are internationally comparable. During the transition period, UK statistics that align with EU practice and rules will continue to do so in the same way as before 31 January 2020. After the transition period, we will continue to produce statistics in line with the UK Statistics Authority's [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and in accordance with internationally agreed statistical guidance and standards.

This report presents the headline findings from the UK Innovation Survey 2019 (UKIS 2019), covering the three-year period from 2016 to 2018. Comparisons are made with previous UK innovation surveys, covering periods back to 2008-10 for headline figures. The period covering 2008-10 was the first survey data collected using a sample based on the Standard Industrial Classification 2007 (SIC 2007), This created a break in the time series, so comparisons to surveys prior to this are not included in this publication.

When comparing to previous UKIS surveys in this report, figures are compared to main reports rather than headline reports, where possible. The main report figures may have varied slightly from those in headline report, due to the application of revised weights to enable more detailed sectoral analysis.

Percentage point changes in this report are calculated from unrounded figures.

About this survey:

The survey is the UK contribution to the eleventh Europe-wide Community Innovation Survey (CIS). Because the questions in the CIS are harmonised across Europe, UK Innovation Survey data are directly comparable with responses from other countries. This provides useful international benchmarking for UK performance.

The survey focusses on firm adoption of innovation through new and improved products and services, investments in different types of innovation and changes in business structures, management, design and marketing innovations. The survey also asks businesses about the drivers which motivate and barriers to innovation. Although innovation is a strong predictor of higher productivity, wider research shows that it can be difficult to measure accurately, partly due to the changing nature of economic activity. Innovation value is fluid and travels easily across organisational boundaries so may be hard to recoup at the point of origin.

The sample selection was conducted by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and followed very similar sampling methodology to the previous surveys.

UKIS 2019 (covering the three-year period from 2016 to 2018) sampled 30,492 UK businesses with ten or more employees. The survey was voluntary and was conducted primarily through an electronic questionnaire. Businesses that did not complete an electronic response were contacted for a telephone interview. We received a response from 14,040 businesses, giving a response rate of 45%.

The UKIS 2019 questionnaire can be viewed [here](#).

Businesses are self-reporting their innovation activities when responding to this survey. Businesses that have reported certain activities and therefore are classed as innovators by our definitions sometimes do not think of themselves as innovators.

UK Innovation Survey 2019 – main report:

This report will be published in Summer 2020 and will cover similar topics to those included in [UK Innovation Survey 2017 - main report](#). More detailed information will be made available than is included in this headline report.

The main report figures may vary slightly from those in this headline report, due to the application of revised weights to enable more detailed sectoral analysis. The headline figures in this report are based on weights using the fourteen broad industrial sectors, whilst the figures in the main report will be based on weights using the detailed twenty five sectors required by Eurostat to enable international comparisons.

Innovation activity

Innovation and type of activity

In 2016-18, 38% of UK businesses were innovation active. This is a decrease compared to 49% in 2014-16 and is the lowest level since 37% in 2008-10¹.

Table 1: Percentage of businesses engaging in innovation by activity, 2008-10 to 2016-18

Type of activity	2008-10	2010-12	2012-14	2014-16	2016-18
<i>Innovation active</i>	37	44	53	49	38
<i>Broader innovator</i>	39	45	54	50	40
<i>Wider innovator</i>	31	37	42	36	27
<i>Engaged in innovation activities</i>	33	39	44	44	35
<i>Product innovator</i>	19	18	19	24	18
<i>Process innovator</i>	10	10	13	16	13
<i>Abandoned activities</i>	4	4	4	4	2
<i>On-going activities</i>	7	15	17	17	11
<i>Scaled back activities</i>	*	*	*	5	2

Notes:

* Scaled back was a new option introduced in UKIS 2017 (2014-16 reporting period).

Unweighted base = 14,040 in 2016-18, 13,194 in 2014-16, 15,091 in 2012-14, 14,487 in 2010-12 and 14,342 in 2008-10.

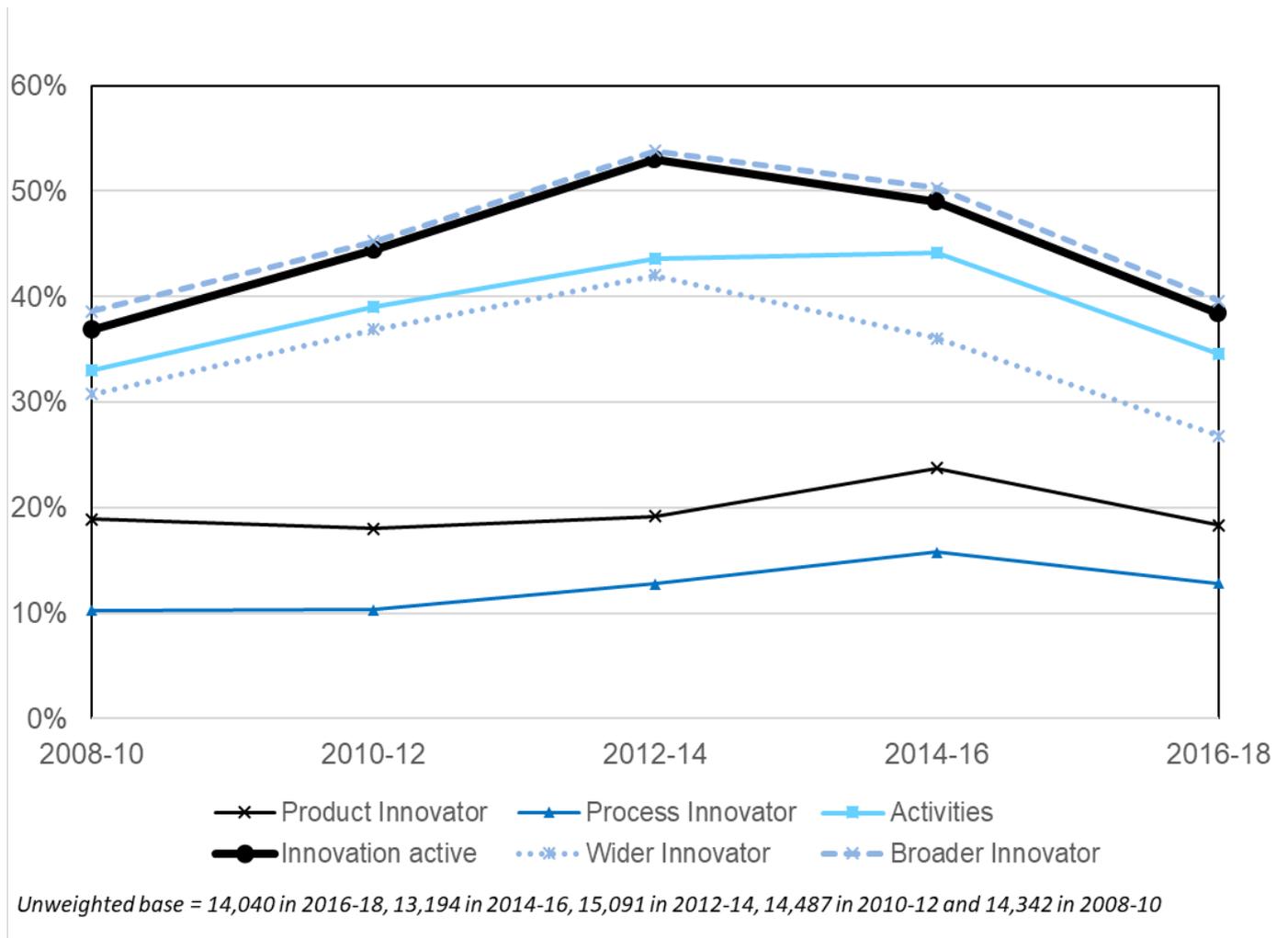
In 2016-18, 40% of businesses were broader innovators and 27% were wider innovators. The percentage of broader innovators was higher in 2016-18 than 39% of businesses in 2008-10, but has decreased from 50% of businesses in 2014-16.

Businesses were more likely to introduce new products than new processes. In 2016-18, 18% of businesses were product innovators and 13% were process innovators.

A lower percentage of businesses had abandoned or scaled back innovation activities in 2016-18 than 2014-16. There was also a decrease in businesses with on-going innovation activities in 2016-18 (11% of businesses) compared to 2014-16 (17% of businesses).

¹ The survey included information relating to the recession period in 2008-09.

Figure 2: Percentage of businesses engaging in innovation by activity, 2008-10 to 2016-18



Innovation activity varies by size of business

Large businesses were more likely to have innovated than SMEs. In 2016-18, 49% of large businesses were innovation active, compared to 38% of SMEs. This trend was true for every innovation activity.

Table 2: Percentage of businesses engaging in innovation by activity and size, 2008-10 to 2016-18

Type of activity	2008-10	2010-12	2012-14	2014-16	2016-18
SMEs (10-249 employees)					
Innovation active	37	44	53	49	38
Broader innovator	38	45	54	50	39
Wider innovator	31	37	42	36	27
Engaged in innovation activities	33	39	43	44	34
Product innovator	19	18	19	24	18
Process innovator	10	10	13	16	13
Abandoned activities	4	4	4	4	2
On-going activities	6	14	17	16	10
Scaled back activities	*	*	*	5	2
Large Businesses (250 plus employees)					
Innovation active	43	50	61	63	49
Broader innovator	44	51	62	65	51
Wider innovator	35	39	45	44	32
Engaged in innovation activities	39	43	50	58	44
Product innovator	24	24	27	29	21
Process innovator	18	15	20	23	17
Abandoned activities	7	5	7	7	2
On-going activities	9	19	24	28	18
Scaled back activities	*	*	*	7	3

Notes:

* Scaled back was a new option introduced in UKIS 2017 (2014-16 reporting period).

Unweighted base = 14,040 in 2016-18, 13,194 in 2014-16, 15,091 in 2012-14, 14,487 in 2010-12 and 14,342 in 2008-10

Larger businesses were more likely to introduce wider innovation

Compared to 2014-16, wider innovation fell by nine percentage points. The largest fall was in the percentage of businesses introducing new business practices (but this is likely to have been influenced by an increasing number of wider innovation options being added to the survey covering the period 2016-18 compared to the survey covering the period 2014-16).

Table 3: Percentage of businesses that introduced wider forms of innovation, 2014-16 and 2016-18

Forms of innovation	Size of business		
	SME (10-249 employees)	Large (250+ employees)	All (10+ employees)
UKIS 2016-18			
Wider innovator	27	32	27
New business practices	10	12	10
New method of organising work responsibilities	11	12	11
New method of organising external relationships	5	6	5
Changes to marketing concepts or strategies	7	6	7
New logistics, delivery or distribution methods*	4	5	4
New methods for information processing and Communication*	12	16	13
New methods for accounting and other administrative operations*	11	12	11
UKIS 2014-16			
Wider innovator	36	44	36
New business practices	23	31	23
New method of organising work responsibilities	19	24	19
New method of organising external relationships	10	13	10
Changes to marketing concepts or strategies	13	14	13

Notes:

* Three new forms of wider innovation were introduced in the survey questionnaire covering the period 2016-18

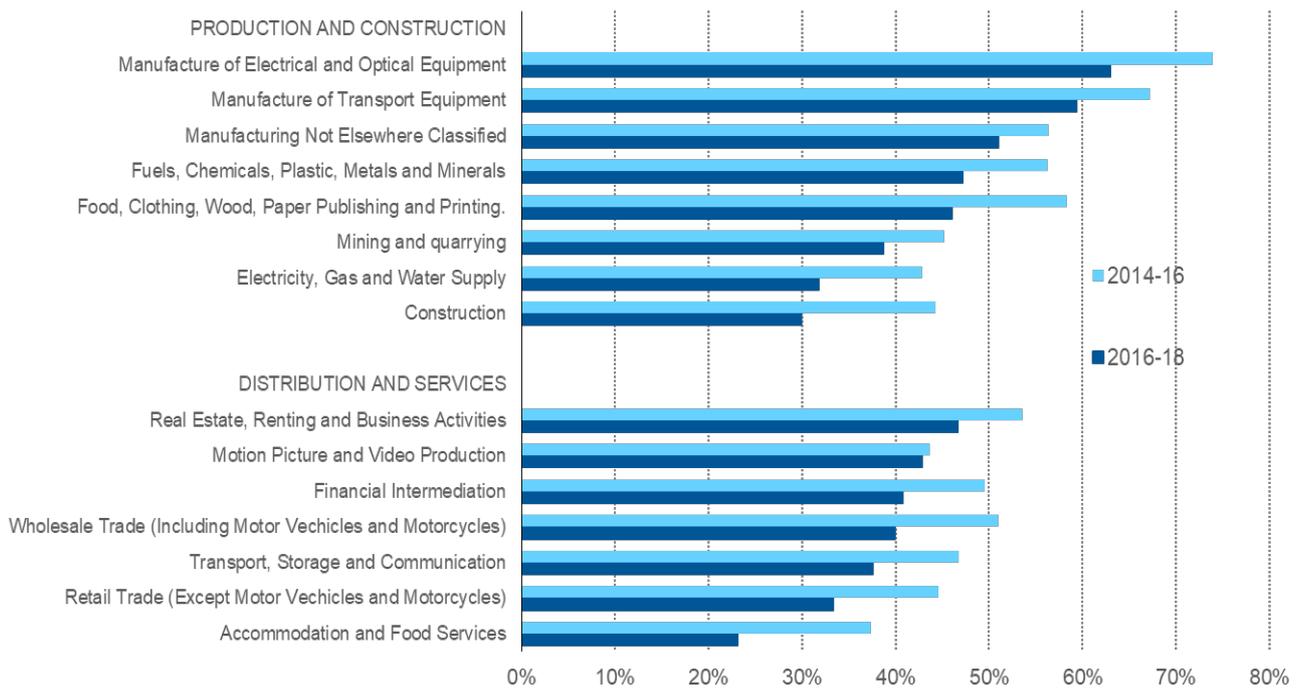
Unweighted base = 14,040 in 2016-18 and 13,194 in 2014-16

Innovation by industry

Production and construction more innovative than distribution and services

Innovation fell in most industries. Production and construction remained more innovative than distribution and services.

Figure 3: Percentage of innovation active businesses by industry, 2014-16 and 2016-18



Unweighted base = 14,040 in 2016-18 and 13,194 in 2014-16

The percentage of innovation active businesses has fallen in every industry. This mirrors the overall fall in innovation active businesses.

The two industries with the largest percentage point reduction in innovation activities of fourteen percentage points were construction, and accommodation and food services.

The relative order of industries in terms of their innovation activities was similar to the previous survey. In 2016-18, the manufacture of electrical and optical equipment and the manufacture of transport equipment remained the most innovative industries (63% and 59% of businesses respectively). Accommodation and food services had the lowest percentage of innovation active businesses (23%).

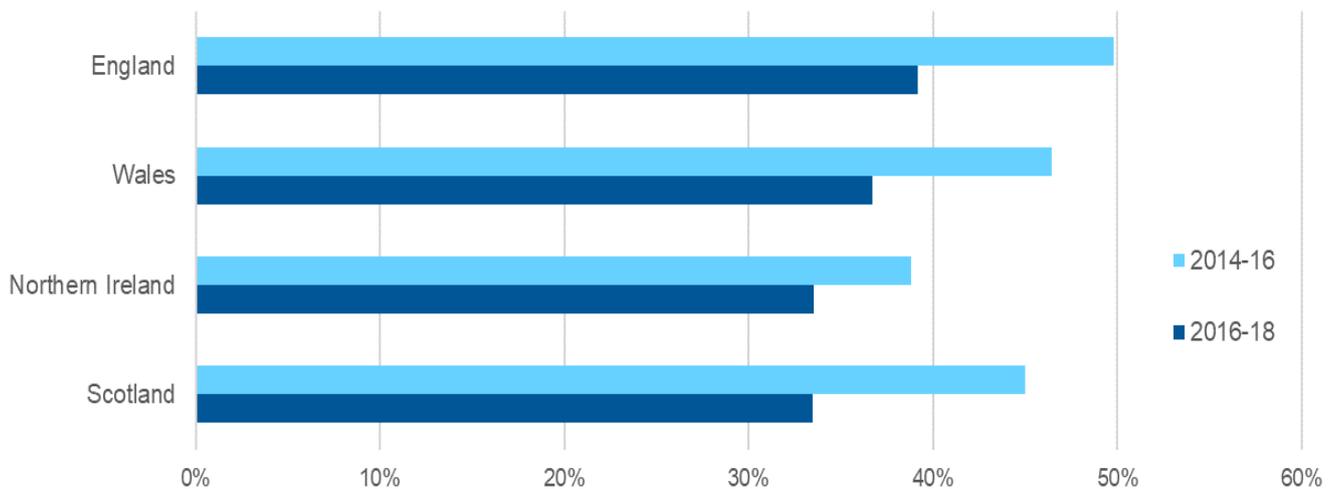
Geography of innovation

Innovation has decreased in all regions and countries

England had the highest percentage of innovation active businesses. The South East became the English region with the highest percentage of innovation active businesses in 2016-18, overtaking the South West, East of England, East Midlands, and West Midlands.

Country level differences

Figure 4: Percentage of innovation active businesses by country, 2014-16 and 2016-18

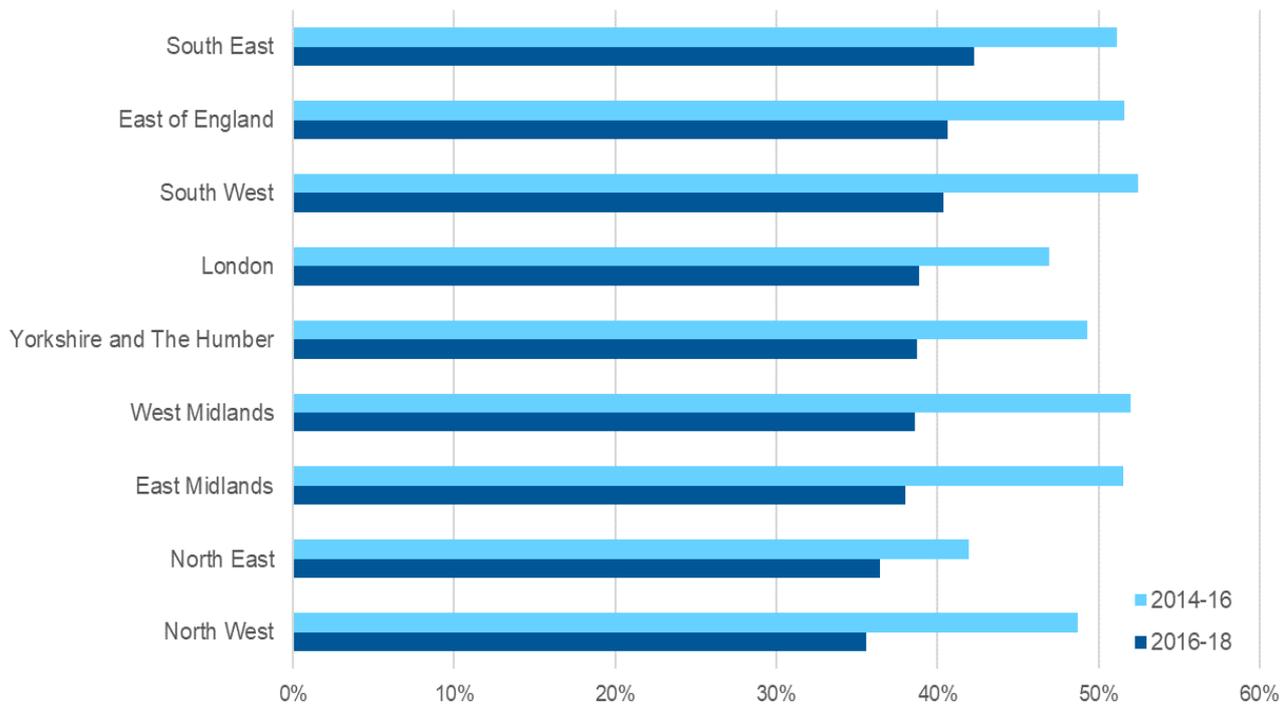


Unweighted base = 14,040 in 2016-18 and 13,194 in 2014-16

There were six percentage points between the most and least innovation active business percentages by country. England had the highest percentage (39%) and Scotland the lowest (33%). The percentages for all four countries were lower in 2016-18 than 2014-16. The largest percentage point drop was in Scotland, where percentage of innovation active businesses decreased from 45% in 2014-16 to 33% in 2016-18.

Regional level differences (England only)

Figure 5: Percentage of innovation active businesses by English region, 2014-16 and 2016-18



Unweighted base = 11,215 in 2016-18 and 10,331 in 2014-16

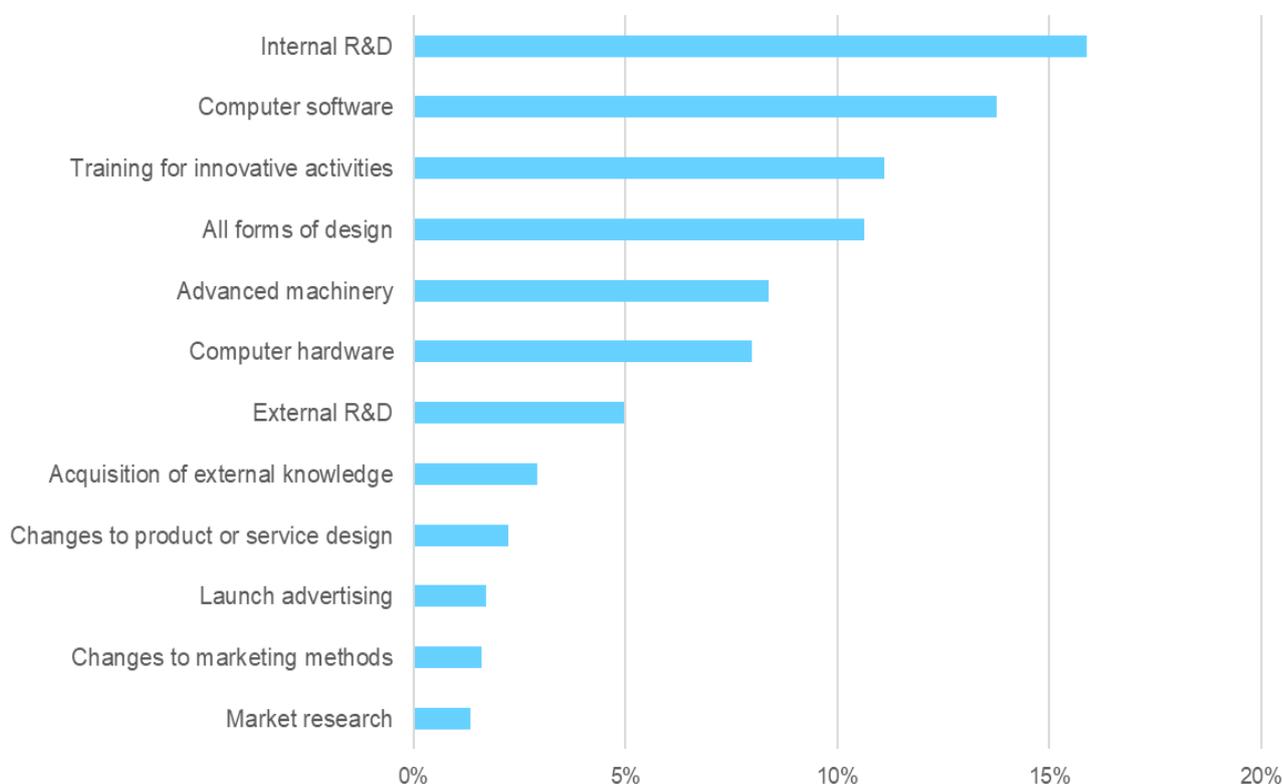
The South East was the most innovative English region, with 42% of businesses being innovation active in 2016-18. The percentage of innovation active businesses decreased in all regions between 2014-16 and 2016-18. The largest percentage point drop of 14 percentage points was in the East Midlands.

Breakdown of innovation activities

Businesses were most likely to invest in internal research and development (R&D)

The percentage of businesses investing in Internal R&D has decreased by 3 percentage points to 16% since the previous survey. There was a fall in the percentage of businesses investing in computers. Computer software fell from 19% to 14%, and computer hardware fell from 13% to 8%. There was also a six percentage point decrease in training for innovative activities, from 17% in 2016 to 11% in 2018.

Figure 6: Percentage of businesses investing in the following innovation related activities, in 2018



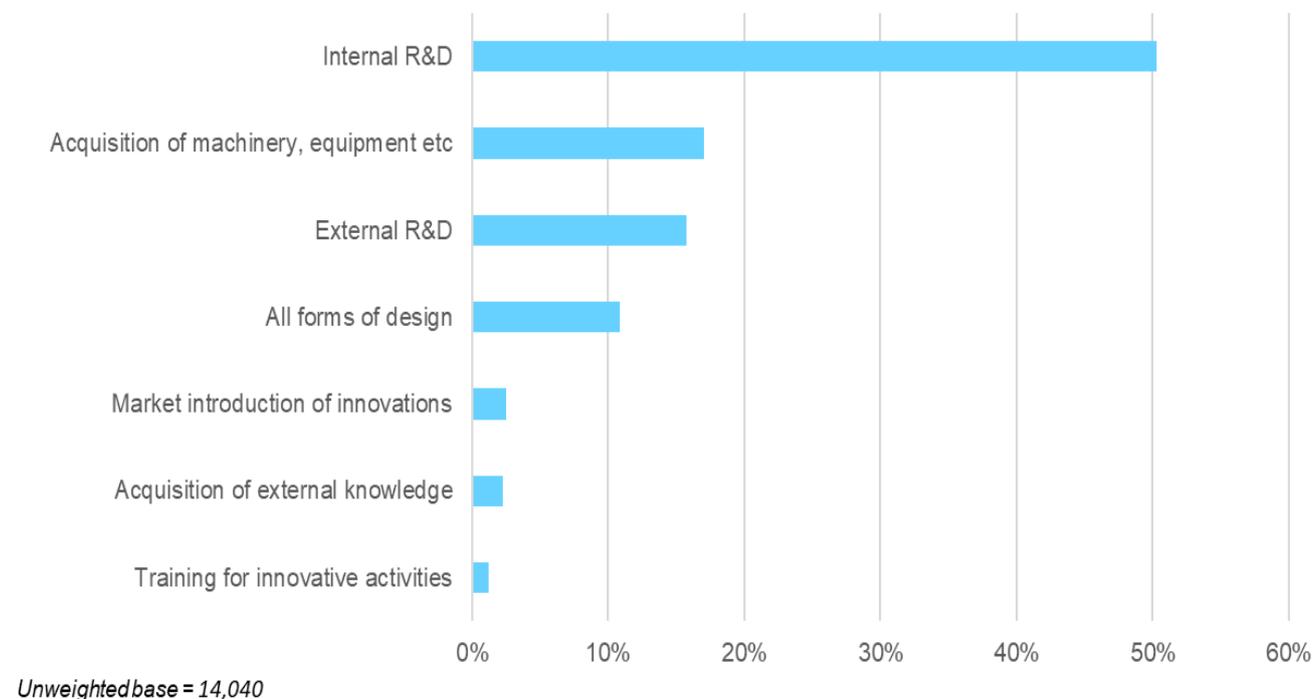
Unweighted base = 14,040

A theme from the comments given by businesses on the UKIS 2019 survey was that government research and development tax credits and government grants were both key factors, for businesses who innovated, in their decisions to invest in innovation.

Internal R&D dominated expenditure

Half of innovation expenditure was on internal R&D.

Figure 7: Innovation expenditure for the year 2018 only (percentage of total innovation expenditure)

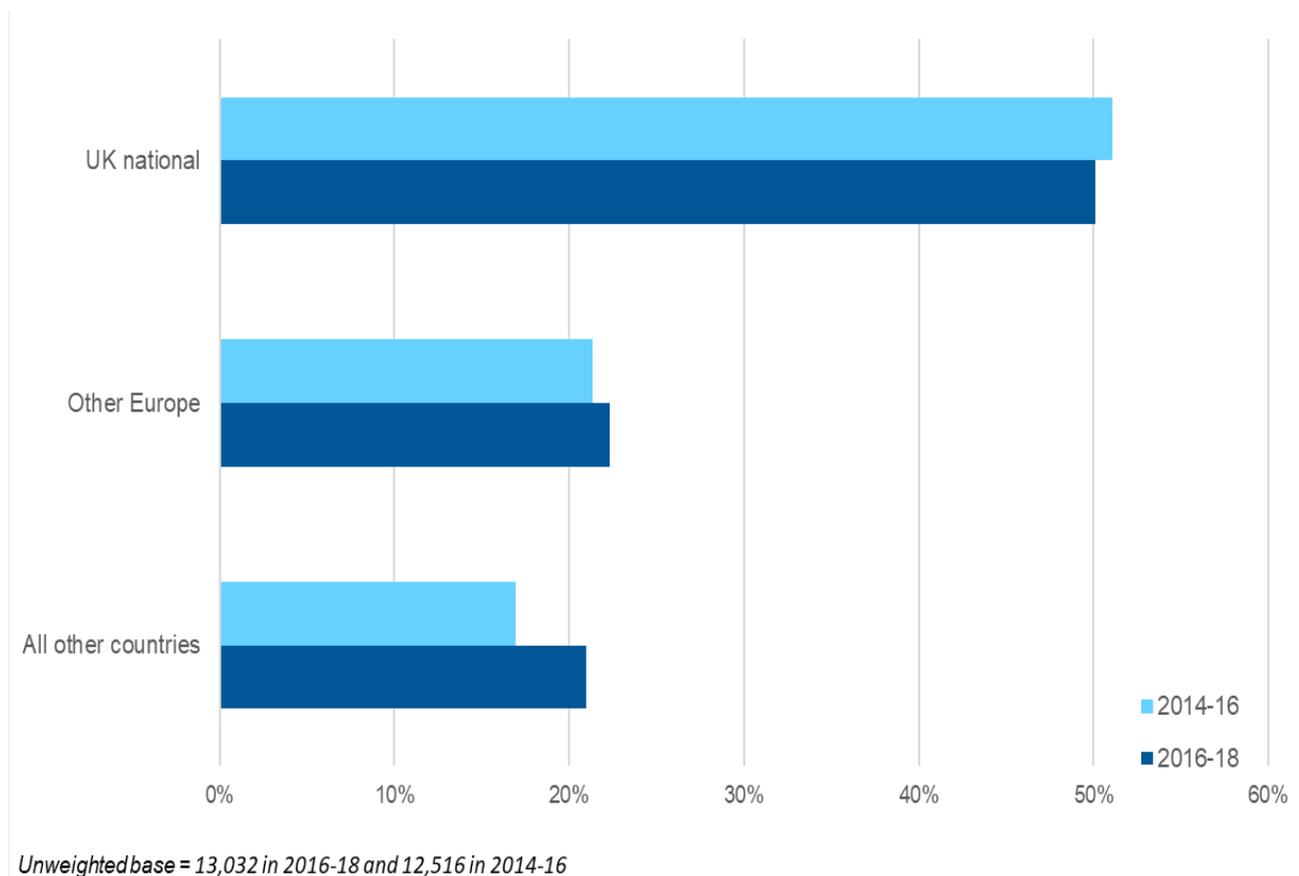


The percentage of innovation expenditure used for internal R&D was 50% and has remained stable since the previous survey. In 2018 the percentage of innovation expenditure used for external R&D was 16%, a seven percentage point increase compared to 9% in 2016. In 2018 the percentage of innovation expenditure used for acquisition of machinery, equipment etc was 17%, an 11 percentage point decrease compared to 28% in 2016.

Markets and exports

Geographical markets – most businesses only operate in the UK

Figure 8: Percentage of businesses operating in each geographical market (valid responses only)



Half of businesses (50%) operated throughout the UK, a slight decrease from the previous survey (52%). The percentage of businesses operating in Europe remained relatively stable at 22% in 2016-18, compared to 21% in 2014-16. There was a four percentage point increase in the percentage of businesses operating internationally, outside of Europe. This rose from 17% in 2014-16 to 21% in 2016-18.

Exports

In 2016-18, 22% of businesses exported, which was no change from the previous survey. This figure is broadly comparable to those in the ONS' [Annual Business Survey](#). Innovators were more likely to export than non-innovators. Just over a third (35%) of innovators exported goods or services in 2016-18; up from 31% in the previous survey. In comparison, 13% of non-innovators exported goods or services during the survey period.

Context for innovation

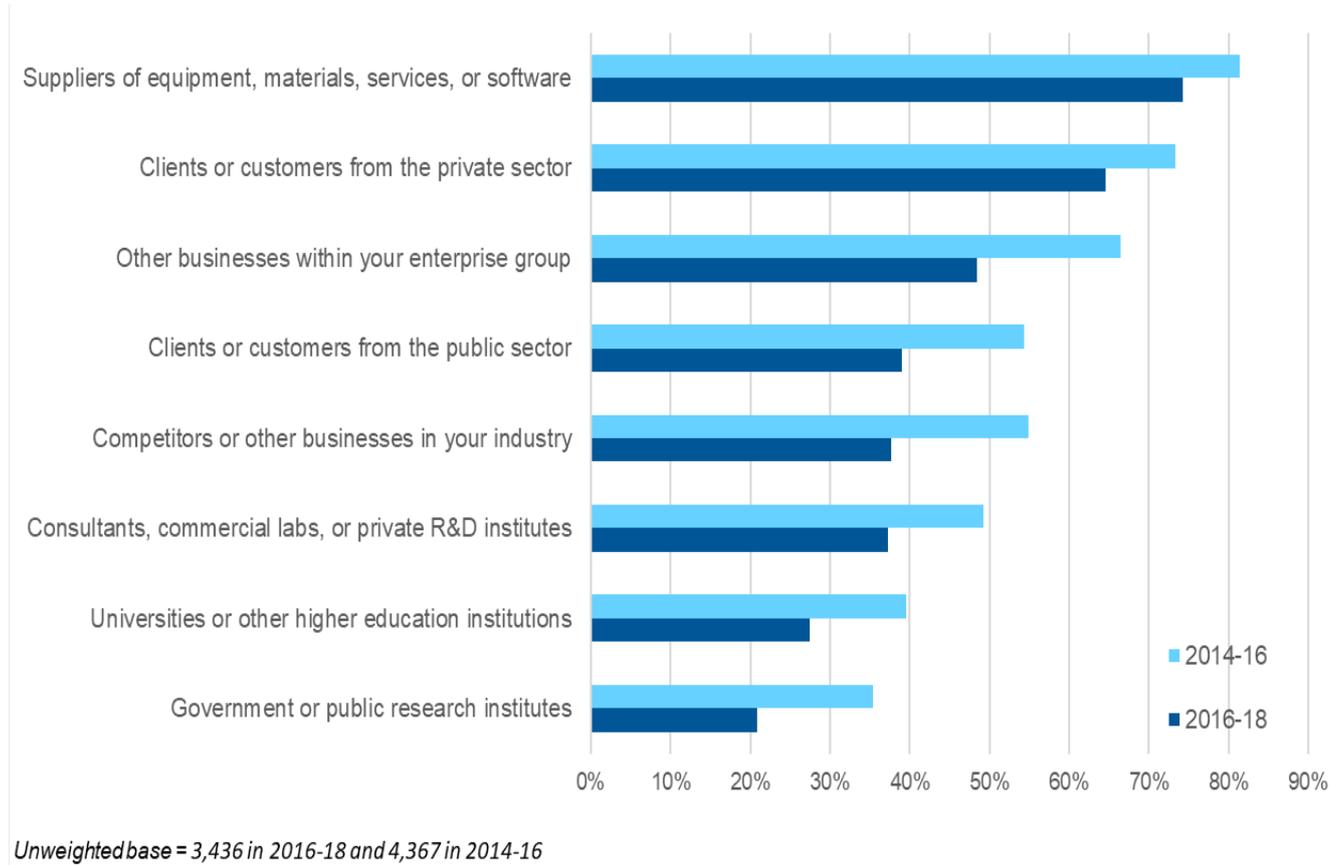
Half of innovation active businesses have co-operation arrangements

In 2016-18, 50% of innovation active businesses reported having co-operation arrangements, compared to 58% of businesses in the 2014-16. There was a lower co-operation across all partnering arrangements compared to the previous survey.

Co-operation arrangements

Co-operation occurs when two or more participants agree to take responsibility for a task or series of tasks and information is shared between the parties to facilitate the agreement. An innovation-active firm co-operates with another firm if it procures ideas or inputs from the other firm by providing it with a detailed specification of its needs.

Figure 9: Percentage of businesses with each type of cooperation arrangement (of innovation active businesses with any cooperation requirements only), 2014-16 and 2016-18



In 2016-18, 74% of the innovation active businesses with any cooperation arrangements businesses, reported partnering with their suppliers (compared to 81% of businesses in 2014-16). In 2016-18, 65% worked with clients and customers in the private sector, and 48% worked with other businesses in their enterprise group. Overall businesses were much more likely to work with private sector organisations than they were with public sector and government organisations. 21% reported working with government or public research institutes, and 27% with universities or other higher education institutions.

Sources of information

Internal sources were again rated as the most important source of information for innovation for innovation active businesses. Almost half (47%) of these businesses cited internal sources, which was similar to the previous survey.

Market sources remained the second largest source of information for broader innovators. The primary sources of information were from suppliers of equipment or from clients or customers from the private sector, with both sources rising two percentage points compared to 2014-16.

There were increases in both the use of institutional and other sources of information. The use of Government or public research institutes increased from 3% of broader innovators in 2014-16 to 5% in 2016-18. The use of universities or higher education institutes increased from 4% of broader innovators in 2014-16 to 5% in 2016-18.

Table 4: Sources of information (percentage of all broader innovators rating the source as of “high” importance to the business's innovation activities), 2016-18

<i>Source of information</i>	<i>Size of business</i>		
	<i>SME (10-249 employees)</i>	<i>Large (250+ employees)</i>	<i>All (10+ employees)</i>
<i>Internal</i>			
<i>Within the enterprise or enterprise group</i>	47	50	47
<i>Market</i>			
<i>Suppliers of equipment</i>	30	28	30
<i>Clients or customers from private sector</i>	29	29	29
<i>Clients or customers from public sector</i>	17	19	17
<i>Competitors or other enterprises in your industry</i>	18	21	18
<i>Consultants, commercial labs or private R&D institutes</i>	7	8	7
<i>Institutional</i>			
<i>Universities or other higher education institutes</i>	5	5	5
<i>Government or public research institutes</i>	5	6	5
<i>Other sources</i>			
<i>Conferences, trade fairs, exhibitions</i>	9	8	9
<i>Professional and industry associations</i>	10	12	10
<i>Technical, industry or service standards</i>	13	18	13
<i>Scientific journals and trade/technical publications</i>	5	4	5

Unweighted base = 6,389

Factors driving innovation

Businesses have a variety of reasons for innovating

Businesses cited a number of different reasons for innovating. 43% of businesses rated improving the quality of goods or services as highly important.

Table 5: Innovation factors (percentage of all broader innovators rating factor as of “high” importance to their decision to innovate) 2016-18

<i>Innovation factors</i>	<i>Size of business</i>		
	<i>SME (10-249 employees)</i>	<i>Large (250+ employees)</i>	<i>All (10+ employees)</i>
<i>Improve quality of goods or services</i>	43	45	43
<i>Replace outdated products or processes</i>	36	35	36
<i>Meet regulatory requirements</i>	32	37	32
<i>Increase value added</i>	32	34	32
<i>Increase range of goods or services</i>	30	29	30
<i>Increase market share</i>	29	31	29
<i>Reducing costs per unit produced or provided</i>	24	29	24
<i>Improve flexibility for producing goods or services</i>	24	25	24
<i>Entering new market</i>	23	18	23
<i>Increase capacity for produced goods or services</i>	23	26	23
<i>Improve health and safety</i>	22	26	22
<i>Reduce environmental impact</i>	20	24	21

Unweighted base = 6,389

As in the previous survey, businesses cited a number of important reasons for innovating.

Improving quality of goods or services and replacing outdated products or processes remained the top-rated factors, being cited by 43% and 36% of businesses respectively in 2016-18.

Meeting regulatory requirements and reducing environmental impact showed the highest increase in being cited by 32% and 21% of businesses in 2016-18 compared to the previous survey. Both innovation factors had a six percentage point increase.

Factors constraining innovation

Cost factors were the most important constraint for businesses

Table 6: Broader innovators' perception of potential barriers to innovation (businesses gave listed factors a rating of 'high' importance to constraining innovation activities), 2014-16 and 2016-18

<i>Potential barriers</i>	2014-16	2016-18
Cost factors		
<i>Availability of finance</i>	14	19
<i>Direct innovation cost too high</i>	14	19
<i>Cost of finance</i>	14	18
<i>Excessive perceived economic risks</i>	12	13
Knowledge factors		
<i>Lack of qualified personnel</i>	10	15
<i>Lack of information on technology</i>	3	7
<i>Lack of information on markets</i>	4	5
Market factors		
<i>Uncertain demand for innovative goods/services</i>	8	10
<i>Market dominated by established businesses</i>	9	9
Other factors		
<i>EU referendum</i>	9	16
<i>UK Government regulations</i>	9	12
<i>EU regulations</i>	7	9

Unweighted base = 7,274 in 2014-16 and 6,203 in 2016-18

Cost factors were still the highest rated barrier to innovation, as they had been for broader innovators in 2014-16. There was an increase in the percentage considering each cost factors a high rating of importance as a barrier to innovation, compared with 2014-16.

A lack of qualified personnel increased from a barrier to 10% of broader innovators in 2014-16, to 15% in 2016-18.

The EU referendum was cited as a barrier for 16% of broader innovators compared to 9% in 2014-16.

There were also a two percentage point increase in both the percentage of broader innovators who cited UK Government regulations and EU regulations as barriers to innovation.

Businesses who gave comments on the UKIS 2019 survey responded that EU exit uncertainty, lack of government support in their area, and lack of skilled personnel were the key barriers to investing in innovation.

Skills for innovation

Innovative businesses employed higher qualified staff

The average percentage of employees with a degree or higher qualification was higher for broader innovators than for non-innovators.

Table 7: Average percentage of employees who held a degree or higher qualification, in 2018

Held degree or higher qualification	Size of business		
	SME (10-249 employees)	Large (250+ employees)	All (10+ employees)
All			
Science or engineering subjects	10	10	10
All other subjects	14	14	14
Broader Innovators			
Science or engineering subjects	15	12	15
All other subjects	18	16	18
Non-innovators			
Science or engineering subjects	5	6	5
All other subjects	11	12	11

Unweighted base = 14,040

Amongst innovative businesses, in 2016-18, 15% of employees had a science or engineering qualification, and 18% had a qualification in a non-science subject. This is a slight increase compared with the previous survey, where the equivalent figures were 14% and 17% respectively. In 2016-18, 5% of staff employed by non-innovators had a science or engineering qualification, and 11% had a qualification in a non-science subject.

Overall, more than one in ten employees held a degree or higher qualification. 10% had a qualification in a science or engineering subject, and 14% in all other subjects.

Accompanying tables

There are no further tables available separately to this publication. Tables are embedded in the publication.

Technical information

This report presents the headline findings from the UK Innovation Survey 2019 (UKIS 2019), covering the three-year period from 2016 to 2018. The survey is the UK contribution to the eleventh Europe-wide Community Innovation Survey (CIS). Comparisons are made with the previous surveys.

UKIS 2019 sampled 30,942 UK businesses with ten or more employees. The survey was voluntary and was conducted primarily through an electronic questionnaire. Businesses that did not complete an electronic response were contacted for a telephone interview. We received a response from 14,040 businesses, giving a response rate of 45%.

Further details on UKIS methodology were previously published in a statistical annex to the main report for UKIS 2017 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-innovation-survey-2017-main-report>.

Methodology for UKIS 2019 was unchanged and will again be published in a statistical annex to the UKIS 2019 – Main Report, when this is published in summer 2020.

A copy of the UKIS 2019 questionnaire can be viewed [here](#).

Definitions

Defining Innovation

The UK definition of innovation is based on an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) definition adopted by Eurostat. This definition includes any of the following activities, if they occurred during the survey period:

1. The introduction of a new or significantly improved product (good or service) or process;
2. Engagement in innovation projects not yet complete, scaled back, or abandoned;
3. New and significantly improved forms of organisation, business structures or practices, and marketing concepts or strategies;
4. Investment activities in areas such as internal research and development, training, acquisition of external knowledge or machinery and equipment linked to innovation activities.

A business that had engaged in any of the activities described in points 1 to 3 is defined as being ‘innovation active’. A business that had engaged in any of the activities described in points 1 to 4 is defined as a ‘broader innovator’. Finally, any businesses that had engaged in the activity described in point 3 were classed as a ‘wider innovator’.

Further Definitions and Terminology

Co-operation Arrangements	<i>Co-operation occurs when two or more participants agree to take responsibility for a task or series of tasks and information is shared between the parties to facilitate the agreement. An innovation-active firm co-operates with another firm if it procures ideas or inputs from the other firm by providing it with a detailed specification of its needs.</i>
EU	<i>European Union.</i>
Large business	<i>A business with 250 or more employees.</i>
OECD	<i>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.</i>
R&D	<i>Research and Development.</i>
Small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs)	<i>Businesses with 0-249 employees. This survey does not include any businesses with less than 10 employees.</i>

Further information

Future updates to these statistics

More detailed findings from the innovation survey will be published in a separate report – UK Innovation Survey 2019 - Main Report. This will be published in Summer 2020.

This will be followed by a statistical annex with further data at this point.

Detailed microdata will be made available to accredited researchers through the ONS [Secure Research Service](#) and the [UK Data Service](#).

Related statistics

International comparisons

The UKIS data is used for international statistics on innovation:

- EU-wide statistics are published by Eurostat in the [Community Innovation Survey](#) and in the [European innovation scoreboard](#)
- Further international comparisons are published by the OECD in their [Innovation Indicators](#)

Research and development

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes detailed statistics on research and development:

- [Business enterprise research and development \(2018\)](#)
- [Gross domestic expenditure on research and development \(2017\)](#)
- [UK government expenditure on science, engineering and technology \(2017\)](#)

Business statistics

For more general business statistics, please see:

- [Business population estimates](#) for an estimate of the total number of registered and unregistered businesses in the UK
- [UK business: activity, size and location](#) for UK businesses by legal status, industry, region, employment and turnover size bands
- [Longitudinal Small Business Survey](#) for information on survey responses for businesses with employees and businesses with no employees on topics including innovation.

Revisions policy

The [BEIS statistical revisions policy](#) sets out the revisions policy for these statistics, which has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

Uses of these statistics

The UK Innovation Survey (UKIS) is the main data source for business innovation in the UK. It is used widely across government and by the research community (including the [Enterprise Research Centre](#)) for understanding the innovation landscape, drivers of business growth and productivity and to help the Government develop, improve, and evaluate policy.

Internationally, it is used by Eurostat and OECD for international comparison (see Related statistics section).

User engagement

Users are encouraged to provide comments and feedback on how these statistics are used and how well they meet user needs. Comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and should be sent to: business.statistics@beis.gov.uk

The BEIS statement on [statistical public engagement and data standards](#) sets out the department's commitments on public engagement and data standards as outlined by the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

Pre-release access to statistics

Some ministers and officials receive access to these statistics up to 24 hours before release. Details of the arrangements for doing this and a list of the ministers and officials that receive pre-release access to these statistics can be found in the [BEIS statement of compliance](#) with the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

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