Department for Business Innovation & Skills

STATISTICAL RELEASE

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English Business Survey – June 2013

This release presents the key messages from the English Business Survey (EBS) for June 2013. The EBS interviews 3,000 workplaces each month and provides timely intelligence on business conditions in England. The Survey provides an assessment of past, current and future conditions. The data refers to business conditions in June 2013, which is the reference month for the survey.

Terminology

What these statistics mean:

- The EBS is a survey of workplaces. A workplace can be a single business, or a workplace that is part of a larger enterprise, for example the local store of a large supermarket chain. Ninety-seven per cent of enterprises consist of a single workplace.¹ The term business will be used throughout this release.
- In order to reflect the relative importance or contribution of different sized workplaces to the local economy, the survey uses the number of people employed at each workplace as the measure of its contribution to the economy. Where the size of business is reported in the release, this refers to the number of people employed at each workplace.
- Where 'Balances' are presented, they are the difference between the 'higher' responses and the 'lower' responses. Balances provide a summary of the scores for businesses that report, or expect a variable to change. More detailed information on the terminology used is included in the Background Notes to the release.

¹ Source: UK Business: Activity, Size and Location, 2012

Key Points

- In June 2013, output performance was positive, recording a balance score of +29% for England. This shows little change compared to the month before (+32%), but is higher than the same period last year (+11%)
- Businesses' expectations of future output activity in England (balance score of +29%) has increased in June 2013 after seeing a steady but consistent decline each month from the beginning of 2013. This trend is reflected for most of the regions except the North East, West Midlands and South West which reported an increase in February with subsequent consistent decline although the North East spike again in April. too
- More businesses reported increases in employment levels than at any point in the Survey (22%); this helped to produce the highest balance score (+12%) since the survey began in October 2011.
- Looking ahead, the proportion of businesses expecting an increase in the level of employment in September was 21%, generating a balance of +11%. There was little change from previous month and since January 2013. On balance, London was the most optimistic region (+16%) while the North East was the least optimistic (+4%)
- The share of businesses reporting to have made new capital investment (28% in June 2013) has been steady since January 2013. The East Midlands however seems not only to have been the most active in making new capital investment (32%) but it is also the most optimistic region for investment in the next three months (32%).

Economic Context

This section provides contextual information on the economic performance over the survey period (June 2013) and in the preceding months to help the user to interpret the statistics.

Official statistics showed the value of the UK economy – Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – was estimated to have expanded in Quarter 2 2013 by 0.7% when compared with Quarter 1 2013.² According to Eurostat, GDP increased by 0.3% in both the Euro area and in the EU27 in Quarter 2 2013 compared to Quarter 1 2013. Compared with the same quarter of the previous year GDP in the Euro area contracted by 0.7%, and the EU27 by 0.2% while the UK expanded by 1.4%.³

² http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/gva/gross-domestic-product--preliminary-estimate/q2-2013/stb-gdp-preliminary-estimate--q2-2013.html

³ http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/2-14082013-AP/EN/2-14082013-AP-EN.PDF

Official business statistics paint a picture of an improving economy: in comparison to June 2012, retail sales increased⁴. Whilst construction output showed a fall when comparing June 2013 with May 2013, output in Q2 2013 was estimated to be 1.4% higher when compared with Q1 2013.⁵ In comparison to June 2012, production output increased as did manufacturing output⁶. Annual inflation was estimated to have grown by 2.8% in the year to July, down from 2.9% in the year to June.⁷ This remains above the Bank of England target rate of 2.0%.

The labour market conditions are favourable: comparing April to June with January to March, the employment rate increased by 0.1 percentage points to 71.5%; with the number employed increasing by 69,000 to 29.78 million. The unemployment rate stayed the same at 7.8%, for April to June; this was unchanged from January to March 2013, with 2.51 million unemployed. This remains some way adrift of the 7% unemployment rate that would trigger the Bank of England to increase its interest rate following its monetary policy forward guidance' announcement.

⁴ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/rsi/retail-sales/july-2013/index.html

⁵ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/construction/output-in-the-construction-industry/june-and-q2-2013/index.html

⁶ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/iop/index-of-production/june-2013/stb-iop-jun-2013.html

⁷ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/cpi/consumer-price-indices/july-2013/index.html

⁸ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/july-2013/index.html

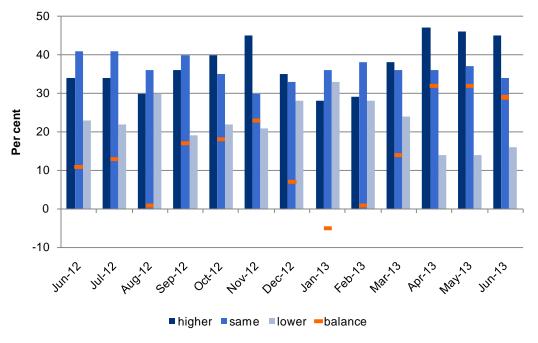
⁹ http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/news/2013/096.aspx

Latest EBS Results

Output

Output¹⁰ results were positive in June with the balance score (+29%) slightly lower than May 2013 (+32%), which had seen the highest results since the survey began in October 2011. This is however an improvement from the same period last year, when the balance was +11%. Regional results were unanimously positive.

Chart 1: Level of output in England, June 2012 to June 2013



Notes:

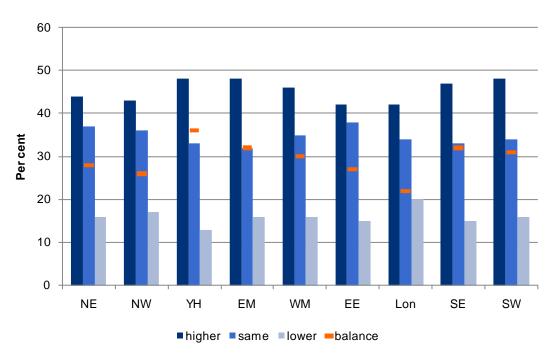
- 1. Workplaces were asked about the level of output in a month three months earlier when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June with March 2013.
- 2. Estimates are not seasonally adjusted.
- Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

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 $^{^{10}}$ Output can be thought of as the quantity of goods or services produced by a business

Chart 2: Level of output in England, by region, June 2013



- 1. Workplaces were asked about the level of output in a month three months earlier when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June with March 2013.
- Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

All regions reported positive output balance scores. Yorkshire and Humber recorded the strongest balance (+36%). London performed the weakest by a margin in comparison to the other regions between March and June with a balance of +22%. This is after it recorded one of the strongest performances in May 2013 with a balance of +36%.

When examining the survey results by the size of the business, ¹¹ small size businesses (10-49 employees) and medium size businesses (50-249 employees) performed the strongest with balance scores of +36% and +34% respectively. Micro businesses (1-9 employees) performed the weakest with balance score of +12%. Large businesses (250+ employees) had a balance score of +28%.

Expected output performance

Output expectation balance was positive for England and its regions with a balance of +29% in the period March to June 2013. This is a large increase, when compared to May (11%).

Nationally, 42% of businesses are expecting output to be higher in September compared with June, whilst 13% are expecting lower output: leading to a positive balance of +29%. This is a large increase from the same period last

¹¹ Business size is measured in terms of the number of employees at the workplace.

year (+12%) and also from the previous month (+11%) which ends the downward trend seen since January. This indicates a similar trend to the same period last year, although expectations picked up in July and not June; this may suggest seasonal variation in the statistics. ¹²

Chart 3: Expected level of output in England, June 2012 to June 2013

Notes:

- Workplaces were asked about their expectations for the level of output in a month three months into the future, when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June with September 2013.
- 2. Estimates are not seasonally adjusted.
- Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

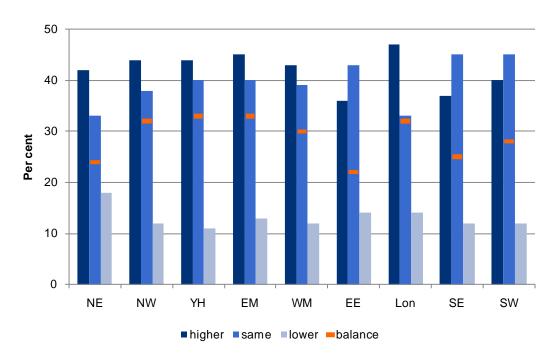
Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

At the regional level, the East of England (+22%) and North East (+24%) had the weakest balance scores. Yorkshire and The Humber (+33%) continues to have the highest score but now jointly with East Midlands (+33%) which jumped from +9% the previous month, the biggest increase across the regions.

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¹² Seasonal variation is a component of a time series which is defined as the repetitive and predictable movement around the trend line in one year or less.

Chart 4: Expected level of output in England, by region, June 2013



- Workplaces were asked about their expectations for the level of output in a month three months into the future, when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June with September 2013.
- Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

Looking at the results by workplace size, large businesses had the highest positive balance score of +37%; although large businesses were the least optimistic the previous month. In contrast, micro businesses were the least optimistic this month, posting a balance of +20%, with 36% of businesses expecting higher output, lower than all other business sizes. This pattern is similar to other measures like expected output activity, expected employment levels, performance of capital investment and expectations of capital investment by workplace sizes.

Employment

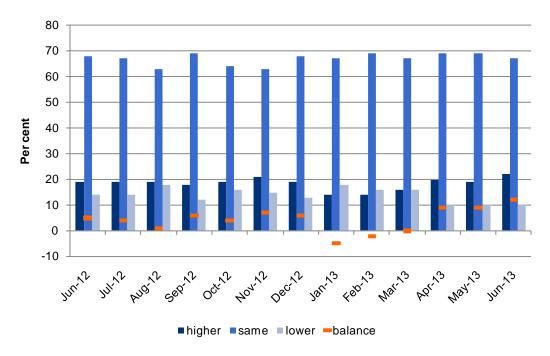
In June, the employment balance for England reached double figures for the first time since the survey began in October 2011. All regions reported positive balances.¹³

When comparing the level of employment in June to March 2013, more businesses (22%) reported an increase in employment than those reporting a decrease (10%). This resulted in the highest balance since the Survey began (+12%) and an increase on May's balance of +9%.

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¹³ Employment level is used to describe the average number of people working at a workplace.

Chart 5: Level of employment in England, June 2012 to June 2013



- 1. Workplaces were asked about the level of employment in a month three months earlier when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June with March 2013.
- 2. Estimates are not seasonally adjusted.
- 3. Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

All regions reported positive balance scores as more businesses reported higher employment than lower. The South East recorded the highest balance score of +18%, followed by the West Midlands with +14%. The West Midlands also had the highest proportion of businesses with higher employment at 25%. The South West in contrast recorded the lowest balance score of +4%.

Medium and Small sized businesses had the largest balance scores of +17% and +16% respectively. Micro and large businesses had the smallest balance scores for employment with balance scores of +2% and +8% respectively.

80 70 60 50 40 30 20

Chart 6: Level of employment in England, by region, June 2013

 Workplaces were asked about the level of employment in a month three months earlier when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June 2013 with March 2013.

■higher ■same ■lower —balance

ΕM

 Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

WM

ΕE

SE

SW

Lon

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

NW

NE

YΗ

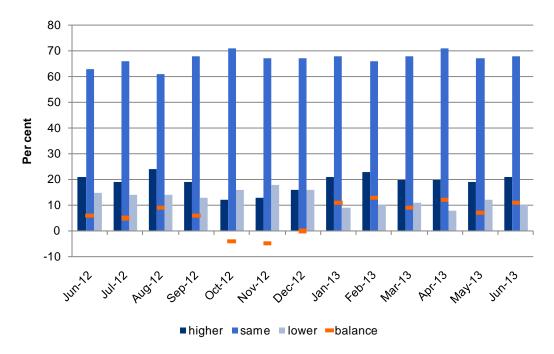
Expected employment performance

Expectations of future employment were less positive than performance (comparing June to March) in England. Historic data shows that this isn't always the case. In the regions all reported a positive result.

In England a positive balance score of +11% was recorded as more businesses (21%) expected higher employment than lower (10%). This month's balance score was higher than in May's (+7%) and higher than the same period last year (+6%).

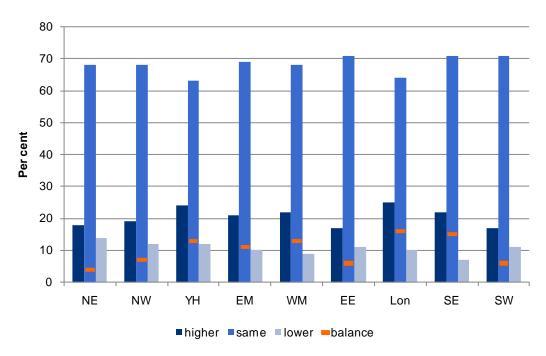
There were some regional variations with London being the most optimistic with a balance score of +16%, followed by the South East, +15%, matching its strong employment performance in June. Businesses in the North East were the least positive with a balance score of +4%.

Chart 7: Expected level of employment in England, June 2012 to June 2013



Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

Chart 8: Expected level of employment in England, by region, June 2013



Notes for charts 7 and 8:

- Workplaces were asked about their expectations for the level of employment in a month three months into the future, when compared to the reporting month, for example June 2013 results compare June with September 2013.
- 2. Estimates are not seasonally adjusted
- Survey results sum to 100%=(% Higher)+(% The same)+(% Lower)+(% Don't know). Estimates for 'Don't know' have been excluded from this chart, but are available in the tables that accompany the release.

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

Capital Investment

In England, the proportion of businesses making capital investments¹⁴ has remained the same in June's results as in May's and has been fairly stable since January 2013.

In England, 28% of businesses reported they had undertaken capital investment in the three months to June, unchanged from May. This was slightly down from the result in June 2012 (+31%).

The East Midlands recorded the strongest performance with 32% of businesses making capital investments. The South West reported the smallest proportion (23%) of businesses investing in capital; the difference between the South West result and the England average was statistically significant.

Medium sized businesses were the most likely to have invested in capital with 35% stating they made new investments in the three months to June. In contrast, micros continue to be the least likely to invest with only 18% of businesses stating they had invested, lower than May's results by two percentage points.

Chart 9: Capital investment in England, June 2012 to June 2013

Notes:

- Workplaces were asked whether they made any new capital investment in the previous three months, for example June 2013 results ask about the period April to June 2013.
- 2. Estimates are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

¹⁴ Capital Investment is used to describe buildings, plant and machinery, equipment, vehicles and computer hardware and software that has taken ownership of, or has started to use – these investments can be bought or leased; it does not include items that have been ordered but have not been used.

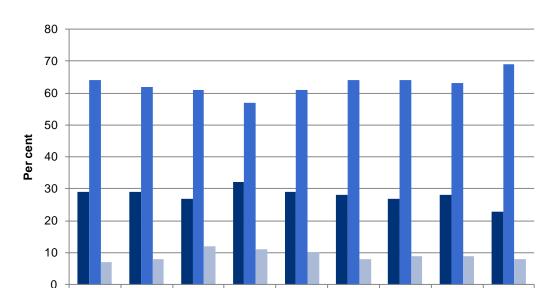


Chart 10: Capital investment in England, by region, June 2013

1. Workplaces were asked whether they made any new capital investment in the previous three months, for example June 2013 results ask about the period April to June 2013.

■Yes ■No ■Don't Know

ΕM

WM

ΕE

Lon

SE

SW

2. Estimates are not seasonally adjusted.

NE

Source: BIS - English Business Survey, June 2013

NW

YΗ

Expected capital investment

The proportion of businesses expecting to make capital investment over the next three months declined in June when compared to May's results in England. The expectations of businesses in all but two regions were weaker than their performance in the three months to June.

Twenty six per cent of businesses in England are planning to make capital investment between July and September 2013. This is a decrease from May's results; 30%, which was the strongest during the first half of 2013.

Regionally there were some variations with the East Midland being the most optimistic (32% of businesses expecting to make capital investment); equalling its performance in the three months to June. The South West's expectations for investing were also the same as the proportion of businesses making investments over the period April to June (23%). All other regions were less optimistic going forwards, with the lowest result reported in the North East (23%).

As was the case with the backward looking indicator, micro businesses continue to be the least likely to make capital investments (16%) in the next three months. Medium size businesses were the most likely to invest, with 34% stating that they intend to invest in the next three months. This was slightly higher than the proportion of large businesses.

Coherence with similar data

Other business surveys, conducted by both trade bodies and private companies, collect information across a range of variables. Although some of this information overlaps with that collected through the EBS, the EBS has the advantages that it: brings the data together in a single place; allows subregional analysis each quarter; and, covers all sectors of the economy, including the public/not-for-profit sectors.

Along with many other business surveys, data from the EBS is difficult to reconcile with official statistics, particularly output. The Confederation of British Industry's (CBI) *Industrial trend survey*¹⁵ reported an expansion in output volumes in the three months to July, a slightly stronger position than in April; this is roughly in line with the strong positive output results in the EBS reported in June comparing output in March. There is greater regional variation in the CBI survey compared to the EBS with a number of regions reporting negative balances. Expectations were generally more positive than past performance in both surveys; however, the regional variations are different.

In July, The monthly *Purchasing Manager's Index* (PMI)¹⁶ reached its highest level since the series began in 1997, indicating business activity is growing rapidly. This is similar to the positive EBS results for each month to June, although June is slightly lower than May. Regionally the PMI match the EBS with Yorkshire and The Humber having the strongest result in the three months to June. The British Chamber of Commerce's (BCC) *Quarterly Economic Survey*¹⁷ also found an increase in domestic sales over Quarter 2 2013.

The latest EBS results were generally consistent with the findings of other surveys for employment performance. The *Quarterly Economic Survey* indicated that employment grew strongly in Quarter 2 2013 and predicts that employment will continue to increase in Quarter 3 2013 while the *Industrial trends survey* also recorded a positive result for the three months to July. Official ONS statistics showed only a moderate increase in employment with the employment rate increasing by 0.1 percentage points in the three months to June compared to the three months to March.

¹⁵ http://www.cbi.org.uk/business-issues/economy/business-surveys/industrial-trends-survey/

¹⁶ http://www.markiteconomics.com/Survey/Page.mvc/AboutPMIData

¹⁷ <u>http://www.britishchambers.org.uk/policy-maker/policy-reports-and-publications/quarterly-economic-survey-q4-2012.html</u>

Background Notes

Product Development

The survey has undergone extensive development and testing, including pilot testing of the survey and cognitive testing of the survey questions. The Report on the EBS Questionnaire¹⁸ contains details of the development and testing of the questionnaire; the Technical Annex details the methods which underpin the survey. Both documents are available on the EBS webpage.¹⁹

EBS methods and questionnaire continue to be reviewed and analysed to ensure they remain the best possible. Should you have any comments on the statistics – including on the methods used and dissemination of the statistics – or would like to inform us how you use the statistics, please contact ebsurvey@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

Quality and use

The English Business Survey provides timely and robust information on a regular and geographically detailed basis, the survey enhances understanding of business perceptions and economic conditions throughout England and ultimately improves policy making through this understanding. The statistics are also useful to businesses, providing intelligence about local economic and business conditions.

These estimates are currently classified as experimental statistics as they are undergoing development and have not yet been assessed against the standards required for National Statistics. It is recommended that users exercise caution when interpreting time series data, as the data are likely to include seasonal patterns, which have not been removed through seasonal adjustment²⁰. It is expected that seasonal patterns will differ by industry, for example, all else being equal, some industries would expect output to be much lower in February compared to November due to seasonal patterns. It is recommended that until the statistics are assessed for seasonality that time series results are interpreted with caution.

Methodology

The English Business Survey is a monthly telephone survey that asks managers at sampled workplaces about their expectations and experiences on a range of measures such as output or sales. The data are weighted so that the weighted sample matches the population with respect to sub-region and employment²¹. This is designed to capture the importance of the

¹⁸ http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/statistics/docs/e/12-601-english-business-survey-report-questionnaire-development.pdf

¹⁹ http://www.bis.gov.uk/analysis/statistics/sub-national-statistics/ebsurvey

²⁰ The recommended approach for removing seasonality in UK Official Statistics requires three years of monthly data or 5 years of quarterly data.

²¹ The characteristics used for weighting include: location (NUTS2 Region) and employment size (0-49, 50-249 and 250+).

workplace to the economy; employment is used as a proxy for economic importance as a robust measure of turnover is not available for all workplaces. The use of employment means that the results effectively estimate: the proportion of employees whose manager believes a particular measure is positive/negative/the same.

To aid understanding and assist in the interpretation of the survey findings there are two documents aimed at different types of user: a non-technical User Guide²², which provides information about how to interpret results, and a Technical Annex²³, which contains detailed information about the methodology.

Strengths and Limitations

The EBS has a number of strengths:

- a relatively large monthly sample with the potential to provide timely sub-national statistics;
- a workplace focus, which will enable data on local conditions to be collected;
- an 'economic influence'-type weighting approach to try to better represent what is happening for sub-national economies;
- coverage of all sectors of the economy, including the public/not-forprofit sectors; and
- timely statistics, allowing policy makers and businesses to react promptly to issues as they arise in the current macroeconomic climate.

However, it also has some limitations:

the nature of data collection be

 the nature of data collection being at workplace level mean that statistics about region, employment size and industry all relate to that of the workplace, rather than for the enterprise. Accordingly, inferences about the enterprise-level business population are more limited; and

• due to the coverage of the sampling frame – the Inter-Departmental Business Register – the EBS does not cover non-registered²⁴ businesses. This is potentially important as such businesses make up a significant proportion of the overall business population (55% of businesses) although

http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/statistics/docs/e/12-598-english-business-survey-userguide.pdf

²³ http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/statistics/docs/e/12-602x-english-business-survey-technical-annex.pdf

²⁴ Non-registered businesses are not registered for either PAYE or VAT, which means they are generally, the very smallest non-employing businesses.

they account for a smaller share of employment (12%) and turnover (3%)²⁵.

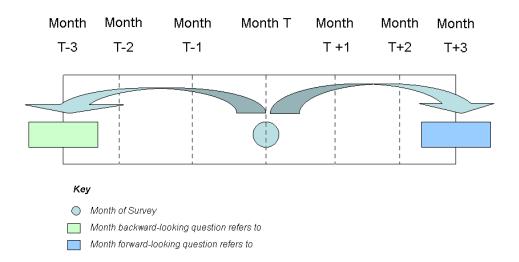
Interpreting the results

Workplace based survey

1. The main purpose of the EBS is to provide sub-national information. For this reason the EBS is a survey of workplaces and the region, employment size and industry all relate to that of the workplace.

Period covered

2. EBS Releases are labelled by the period which workplaces are asked about (the reference month). In most questions workplaces are asked to compare the reference month (month T) with the month three months previous and three months forward. For example, for the June 2013 EBS, most backward-looking questions compare June 2013 with March 2013 and forward-looking questions compare June 2013 with September 2013.



3. However, care should be taken, as for questions on capital investment, capacity constraints and annual output the question refers to a reference period of several months, not a single month. Periods being compared are clearly labelled on the tables. This is also explained in the EBS User Guide.

Balance Statistics

- 4. A balance can be achieved through a number of different scenarios in the underlying results, for example a balance of zero can be achieved from Higher and Lower both being 0% or both being 50%. It is therefore important to consider the underlying figures. All figures in this document and the underlying data can also be found in the supporting tables.
- 5. It is important to remember that these questions only ask workplaces whether output was higher or lower and this does not take into account the size of any

²⁵ Statistics on the non-registered businesses are taken from Business Population Estimates for the UK and Regions 2012

changes. Therefore a balance of 50% does not necessarily mean output growth will be higher than if the balance was 20%, as the growth rate seen by those contributing to the 20% positive balance may, in aggregate, outweigh the growth rates seen or expected by those contributing to the positive 50% balance. The difference in size between two higher percentages simply means that businesses accounting for a larger proportion of the economy, reported that output was higher.

Time Series Comparisons

6. Data from the EBS is still in its infancy and therefore it is not yet possible to seasonally adjust the data. The results presented in this release are not seasonally adjusted and users should be aware of this when interpreting the results, as it is likely that comparisons over time will show large changes for certain groups; these changes could be true changes, but they could be a result of seasonal patterns.

Accuracy

- 7. All estimates based on a sample of the population rather than a census are subject to sampling error. Calculation of these errors for the EBS is still being developed and will be released when available, however, provisional information on the likely size of these sampling errors is provided in the *Technical Annex*.
- 8. Like all statistics, the estimates in the EBS are subject to potential non-sampling errors for example biases; measurement errors; and calculation errors. However, attempts have been made to minimise these by, for example, rigorous testing of the questionnaires, monitoring the work of interviewers and response rates to the survey.
- 9. Provisional testing has been carried out to test for statistically significant differences between the England total results and the results from each subgroup. For example whether the higher percentage in the North East is significantly different to that in England. The results of these tests are marked on the accompanying tables. Due to additional complexities testing has not yet been done on the balances. A worked example of what this testing means and how it should be interpreted is in the *User Guide*.

Presentation

- 10. In the tables accompanying this release, the following conventions have been used:
 - 0 nil (none recorded in sample)
 - * Suppressed due to small cell sample size
 - Suppressed due to small column sample size
 - ... Balance score not available due to small sample counts
- 11. All figures and percentages in this release, including the accompanying tables, have been rounded. Unweighted counts have been rounded to the nearest 5 and percentages have been rounded to the nearest integer. Balances are calculated based on unrounded figures and rounded independently therefore

differences in the components may not equal the difference between the rounded figures.

Timeliness

12. Statistics from the EBS are published within two months of the period to which they refer. The date of publication will be announced at least four weeks in advance. We are working towards a regular publication cycle, however due to the experimental nature of the data; the publication date for each month may initially vary. Future publication dates will be added to the National Statistics Publication Hub²⁶.

Revisions

13. While every care has been taken to produce reliable statistics, EBS is still being developed and has been designated an Experimental Official Statistic. As the EBS develops statistics may be subject to revision if improvements in methodology are identified. All revisions will be pre-announced where practicable and all known users notified.

User Consultation

- 1. The Survey's statistics are published as Experimental Official Statistics by BIS and are undergoing evaluation to ensure they meet Users' needs. The Survey has been running for almost 3 years and BIS is in the process of reviewing the Survey to determine options for its future direction. To gather the Users' views on the Survey BIS has launched a User consultation to help gather views on:
 - who uses the current survey publications and why, and how we can make them more useful
 - users' future needs for the survey .
- 2. The Consultation closes on the 30 August 2013 and more information on the consultation and how to respond can be found on the GOV.UK consultation page https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/english-business-survey-user-review. We encourage all Users of the statistics to contribute their views.

Additional information

Sub-regional data

16. The English Business Survey Reporting Tool²⁷ allows users to access detailed EBS statistics for individual periods (months and quarters) as well as cumulative periods, starting in November 2011 for monthly statistics and Quarter 4 2011 for Quarterly statistics. The reporting tool includes a more extensive range of statistics than presented in the Statistical Release and the supporting tables.

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²⁶ http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html

²⁷ http://dservuk.tns-global.com/English-Business-Survey-Reporting-Tool/

17. The English Business Survey Interactive Map²⁸ allows users to determine how NUTS 2 areas are performing, relative to England, over time for a Output, Employment and levels of Stock.

Micro data

18. EBS Micro data are available to 'approved researchers' via ONS' Virtual Micro Laboratory²⁹ and an aggregated version of the dataset is available to academics from the UK Data Archive³⁰.

Contact details

For enquiries, or to give feedback on this publication, please use the details below:

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If you require this publication in an alternative format, email <u>enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk</u>, or call 020 7215 5000.

²⁸ http://aalookup.bis.gov.uk/ebs/map/

²⁹ http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/who-we-are/services/vml/index.html

³⁰ http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/