

**Background Quality Report: Non-domestic rating in England and Wales  
– Tables 17.1 to 17.6**

<b>Dimension</b>	<b>Assessment by the author</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<p data-bbox="544 338 1390 376"><b><i>Context for the quality report.</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="544 409 1390 745">'Non-domestic rating in England and Wales' – Tables 17.1 to 17.6 are annual and quinquennial publications by HM Revenue &amp; Customs (HMRC). They present estimates on the number of and rateable value of non-domestic properties in England and Wales, broken down by property type and country (T17.1); rateable value, by property type and value band (T17.2); government office region and property type (T17.3); percentage change in rateable value, by property type (T17.4); percentage change in rateable value, by government office region (T17.5) and changes in local and central lists, by property type (T17.6).</p>
<b>Relevance</b>	<p data-bbox="544 779 1390 846"><b><i>The degree to which the statistical product meets user needs in both coverage and content.</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="544 880 1390 1014">The publication is primarily used by analysts and other government departments to examine trends and the impact of policy decisions, economic conditions and the sustainability of non-domestic rates.</p> <p data-bbox="544 1048 1390 1115">The statistics are split into property type and by government office region.</p>
<b>Accuracy and Reliability</b>	<p data-bbox="544 1151 1390 1218"><b><i>The proximity between an estimate and the unknown true value.</i></b></p> <p data-bbox="544 1252 1390 1386">The statistics are derived from the non-domestic rating lists for England and Wales, compiled and maintained by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC).</p> <p data-bbox="544 1420 1390 1520">The data is based upon the rateable value of properties listed on local and central rating lists, as prepared by the Valuation Office Agency.</p> <p data-bbox="544 1554 1390 1688">The rateable value broadly represents the annual rent the property could have been let for on the open market on a particular date, on full repairing and insuring terms. For the current rating lists, this date was set as 1 April 2008.</p> <p data-bbox="544 1722 1390 1890">The Valuation Office Agency has a statutory duty to prepare local rating lists containing rateable values for all non domestic properties in England and Wales every five years. They then have a duty to maintain these lists until the next revaluation. The latest lists came into force on 1 April 2010.</p> <p data-bbox="544 1924 1390 1991">More information on non-domestic rates and rateable value can be found on VOA's website:</p>

	<a href="#">Non-domestic rates and rateable value</a>
<b>Timeliness and Punctuality</b>	<b><i>Timeliness refers to the time gap between publication and the reference period. Punctuality refers to the gap between planned and actual publication dates.</i></b>
	<p>The statistics are published annually according to a pre-announced timetable at 9:30am on the last working Tuesday to Friday (not published on a Monday) of June for tables 17.1, 17.2, 17.3 &amp; 17.6 and quinquennially for tables 17.4 &amp; 17.5 with data up to and as at the 1<sup>st</sup> of April that year.</p> <p>This represents a gap of three months between publication and the reference period, which is the shortest production time that enables reliable estimates to be made.</p>
<b>Accessibility and Clarity</b>	<b><i>Accessibility is the ease with which users are able to access the data, also reflecting the format in which the data are available and the availability of supporting information. Clarity refers to the quality and sufficiency of the metadata, illustrations and accompanying advice.</i></b>
	<p>The statistics are published free of charge on the HMRC website, which aims to be accessible to all its potential users. HMRC provides advice and information about accessibility here:</p> <p><a href="#">HMRC Accessibility</a></p> <p>The publication is available in both Excel and PDF.</p> <p>The publication includes contact details (both email and telephone) for sending queries and feedback to the production team.</p> <p>The statistics are taken directly from the source data that is collected for administrative purposes with little manipulation between source and publication. Our publications directly reflect the tax system definitions (of which users are aware) and therefore the administrative data are an accurate and relevant data source.</p>
<b>Coherence and Comparability</b>	<b><i>Coherence is the degree to which data that are derived from different sources or methods, but refer to the same topic, are similar. Comparability is the degree to which data can be compared over time and domain.</i></b>
	<p>All our geographic breakdowns are done according to standard units, so regional breakdowns will be comparable with other published statistics.</p>
<b>Trade-offs between Output Quality</b>	<b><i>Trade-offs are the extent to which different aspects of quality are balanced against each other.</i></b>

<b>Components</b>	<p>The statistics are produced and released according to a pre-announced timetable</p> <p><a href="#">Annual plan for 2012-13</a></p> <p>The timetable for publication is designed to provide users with the best balance of timeliness and accuracy.</p>
<b>Assessment of User Needs and Perceptions</b>	<p><b><i>The processes for finding out about users and uses, and their views on the statistical products.</i></b></p> <p>The publication includes contact details for sending feedback to the production team.</p> <p>HMRC conducts Informal consultations when appropriate, for example when changing the provision or coverage of the published data, or revising the methodology used. These will generally involve contacting known users of the published statistics to ask for specific questions or request feedback. These questions would also be published on the website adjacent/linked to the publication in order to capture users with whom we have had no previous contact.</p> <p>The results of user consultations would then be published on the website.</p>
<b>Performance, Cost and Respondent Burden</b>	<p><b><i>The effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the statistical output.</i></b></p> <p>All published tables use Valuation Office Agency (VOA) administrative data and the central rating lists for England and Wales, so there are no explicit costs of production.</p> <p>The data would be produced regardless of publication for internal monitoring and policy development purposes.</p> <p>Data is collated from the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) of Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) who is responsible for compiling and maintaining non-domestic rating lists for England and Wales.</p> <p>HMRC's pricing policy can be found here:</p> <p><a href="#">HMRC Pricing Policy</a></p>
<b>Confidentiality, Transparency and Security</b>	<p><b><i>The procedures and policy used to ensure sound confidentiality, security and transparent practices.</i></b></p> <p>This publication follows HMRC's policy in relation to confidentiality, details of which can be found here:</p> <p><a href="#">Confidentiality and Access</a></p>

All persons that have pre-release access to the published data (aside from the production team) are list on the HMRC website:

[Pre-Release Access](#)