

The
Royal
Mint

**Report on UK £1 counterfeit survey
May 2009**

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Executive Summary

A survey of UK £1 coinage has been conducted by [REDACTED] during May 2009. Attached is an analysis from his findings dated 14-27 May 09.

The survey was conducted on 14994 coins withdrawn from Post Office/Cash centres & revealed a counterfeit rate of 2.52%. Subsequent [REDACTED] spectrometry of all the 378 coins identified confirmed them as counterfeits.

Introduction

The survey was carried out on 30 bags of UK £1 coin withdrawn from regional centres. One bag from Birmingham could not be analysed as it consisted of mutilated coin. The geographical distribution of the findings by area is shown in table 1.

A total of 378 counterfeits was identified visually by [REDACTED] & separated in 30 regional bags for further examination as detailed below.

[REDACTED] Analysis

The surface of these 378 Counterfeits were analysed by [REDACTED] spectrometry in the MRB department. The results are shown in figure 1.

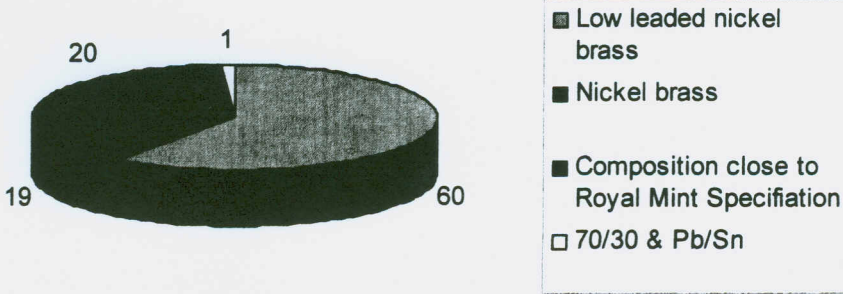
Results

This latest data is also used to update the trends as shown in figures 2 & 3 below for counterfeit surveys to date.

Table 1 on page 4 is included to show a breakdown of % counterfeits by area.

Figure 1 – Analysis of 378 counterfeits by Analysis

Materials (%) used to manufacture counterfeit coins - May 2009



The 20% segment of the chart above are lead free nickel brasses which approach the casting parameters of Royal Mint material.

Figure 2- Counterfeit survey trend analysis by material

Counterfeit material by survey year

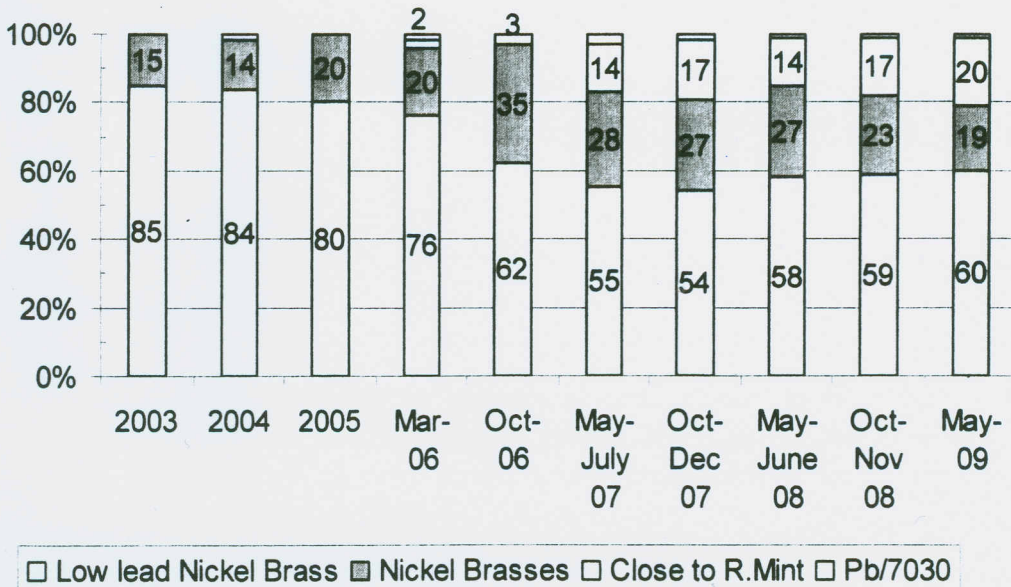


Figure 3 – UK £1 Counterfeit surveys to date *

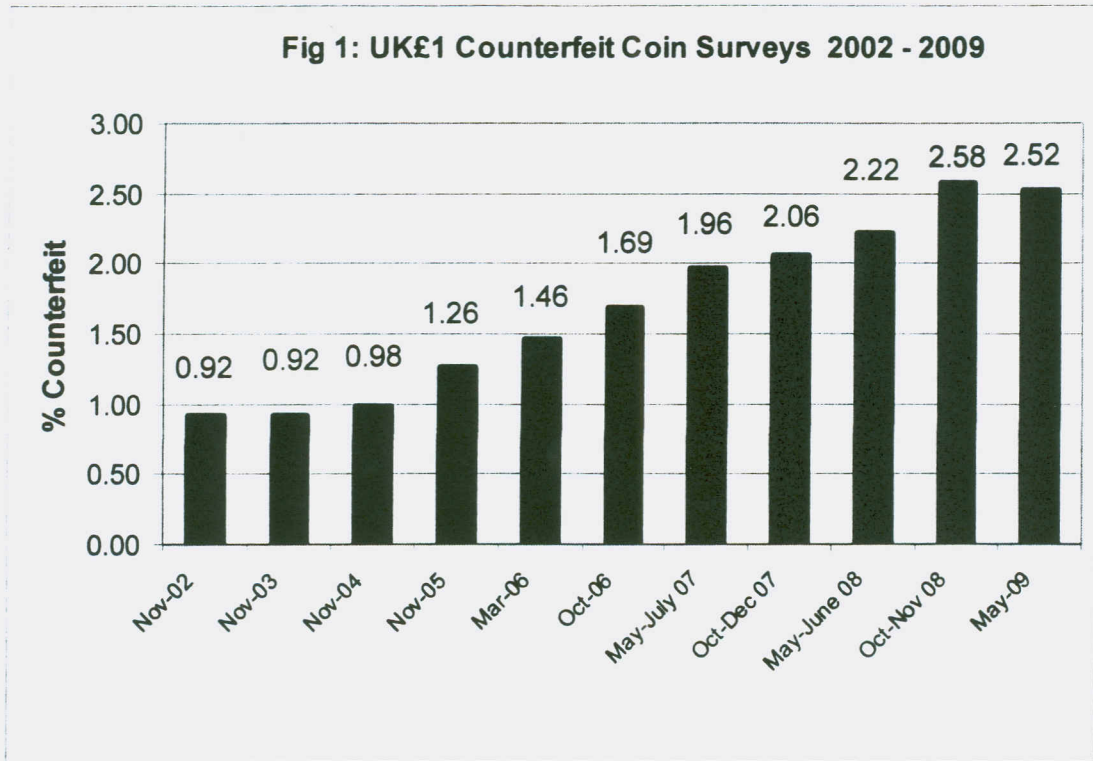


Table 1 – Counterfeit % Findings by area

Area	Number of Counterfeit	UK Circulation standard	Grand Total (includes other sterling area £1 & UK proof)	Counterfeit as % of Grand total
London & S. East	119	3363	3499	3.40
East	31	965	1000	3.10
Northern Ireland	15	480	500	3.00
East Midlands	29	967	1000	2.90
West Midlands	49	1945	2000	2.45
North West	24	975	1002	2.40
South West	32	1462	1500	2.13
Scotland	30	1465	1499	2.00
North East	35	1947	1994	1.76
Wales	14	982	1000	1.40
TOTALS	378	14551	14994	2.52