

Identified personal wealth¹: assets by year

Distribution of identified wealth from 2001-2003 to 2014-2016

"Identified wealth" is the wealth represented by estates passing on death each year that require a grant of representation. Not all estates require a grant of representation and figures in this table do not represent the entire population. The "identified wealth" population represents 27% of the annual UK adult population which is around 14.1 million people on average per year in 2014-16.

Numbers: thousands

Asset type		2001 to 2003		2005 to 2007		2008 to 2010		2011 to 2013		2014 to 2016	
		Number and amount	Proportion ¹ and average ²	Number and amount	Proportion ¹ and average ²	Number and amount	Proportion ¹ and average ²	Number and amount	Proportion ¹ and average ²	Number and amount	Proportion ¹ and average ²
Securities	Number and proportion of estates	7,798	48.8%	5,607	35.6%	5,123	33.9%	4,830	31.9%	4,526	32.2%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	345,659	44,300	458,564	81,800	468,930	91,500	552,404	114,400	643,529	142,200
Cash	Number and proportion of estates	13,606	85.1%	13,755	87.3%	13,395	88.7%	13,261	87.5%	12,549	89.2%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	363,632	26,700	515,996	37,500	621,771	46,400	686,878	51,800	711,531	56,700
Insurance policies	Number and proportion of estates	7,807	48.8%	6,453	41.0%	5,468	36.2%	4,848	32.0%	3,925	27.9%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	331,135	42,400	349,698	54,200	342,209	62,600	341,123	70,400	261,860	66,700
UK residential buildings	Number and proportion of estates	11,001	68.8%	10,797	68.5%	10,343	68.5%	10,876	71.8%	10,537	74.9%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	1,315,644	119,600	1,997,718	185,000	2,029,005	196,200	2,253,326	207,200	2,310,711	219,300
Other buildings and land	Number and proportion of estates	409	2.6%	567	3.6%	534	3.5%	568	3.7%	477	3.4%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	79,292	193,900	133,088	234,700	121,218	227,000	157,065	276,500	136,985	287,200
Loans and other assets	Number and proportion of estates	10,968	68.6%	11,095	70.4%	11,621	76.9%	11,387	75.1%	10,662	75.8%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	309,151	28,200	319,798	28,800	409,352	35,200	376,360	33,100	341,008	32,000
Total gross capital value	Number and proportion of estates	15,697	98.2%	15,680	99.5%	15,050	99.6%	15,068	99.4%	13,997	99.5%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	2,744,513	174,800	3,774,861	240,700	3,992,485	265,300	4,367,155	289,800	4,404,313	314,700
Liability type											
Mortgages	Number and proportion of estates	1,298	8.1%	4,172	26.5%	3,299	21.8%	4,033	26.6%	3,763	26.7%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	88,667	68,300	291,211	69,800	313,429	95,000	393,338	97,500	334,933	89,000
Other debts	Number and proportion of estates	8,482	53.1%	7,427	47.1%	6,749	44.7%	4,115	27.2%	4,811	34.2%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	190,490	22,500	122,568	16,500	159,374	23,600	115,831	28,100	87,197	18,100
Total net capital value	Number and proportion of estates ³	15,987	100.0%	15,758	100.0%	15,105	100.0%	15,153	100.0%	14,072	100.0%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	2,465,356	154,200	3,361,083	213,300	3,519,681	233,000	3,857,986	254,600	3,982,182	283,000
Net movable property ⁴	Number and proportion of estates	15,595	97.5%	15,548	98.7%	14,934	98.9%	14,928	98.5%	12,978	92.2%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	1,159,088	74,300	1,521,488	97,900	1,682,887	112,700	1,884,373	126,200	1,903,121	146,600
Net immovable property ⁴	Number and proportion of estates	11,086	69.3%	10,879	69.0%	10,375	68.7%	10,949	72.3%	10,536	74.9%
	Amount (£m) and average per estate (£s) ²	1,306,269	117,800	1,839,595	169,100	1,836,794	177,000	2,023,128	184,800	2,113,916	200,600
Adults not in identified wealth population		29,989	65%	31,039	66%	33,587	69%	35,450	70%	37,533	73%

¹ "Identified wealth" is the wealth represented by estates passing on death each year and requiring a grant of representation, grossed up to reflect the living population using mortality rates. Not all estates require a grant of representation, and hence the figures given in this table do not represent the entire population. For 2014-16, the "identified wealth" population was 27% of the total UK (adult) population.

² The proportion is the percentage of all estates with assets in this class. The average is calculated across all the estates owning that type of asset, so excluding the estates not holding wealth in that asset type.

³ To ensure consistency with previous years, numbers in this row are the numbers of all estates in the identified wealth population (including those with a negative net capital value). Numbers given for net movable property and net immovable property also include cases where the net value of assets is less than zero, again to ensure consistency with previous years.

⁴ Net immovable property includes land, buildings, and timber. Net moveable property consists of all assets not recorded as net immovable property.

For further details see the accompanying commentary.

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