

LOCAL AUTHORITIES HEALTH AND SAFETY STATISTICS BULLETIN 2000/01 & 2001/02

INTRODUCTION

This bulletin provides the latest top-level statistics on workplace safety, inspection and enforcement activity in local authority enforced sectors. Statistics of fatalities in 2001/02 along with detailed statistics on injuries, inspection, enforcement and ill-health for 2000/01 have been released in the HELA National Picture 2002, available via: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/books.htm>.

WORKPLACE INJURIES

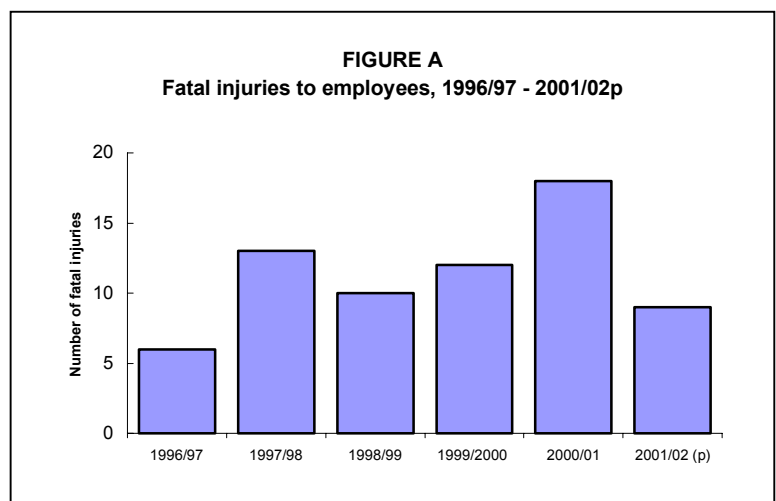
This is the first release of non-fatal injury figures for 2001/02 reported under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR 95). They are provisional figures based on reports received so far.

Reportable fatal injuries include deaths up to one year after the date of injury; provisional figures are based on the information available at the time the figures were compiled.

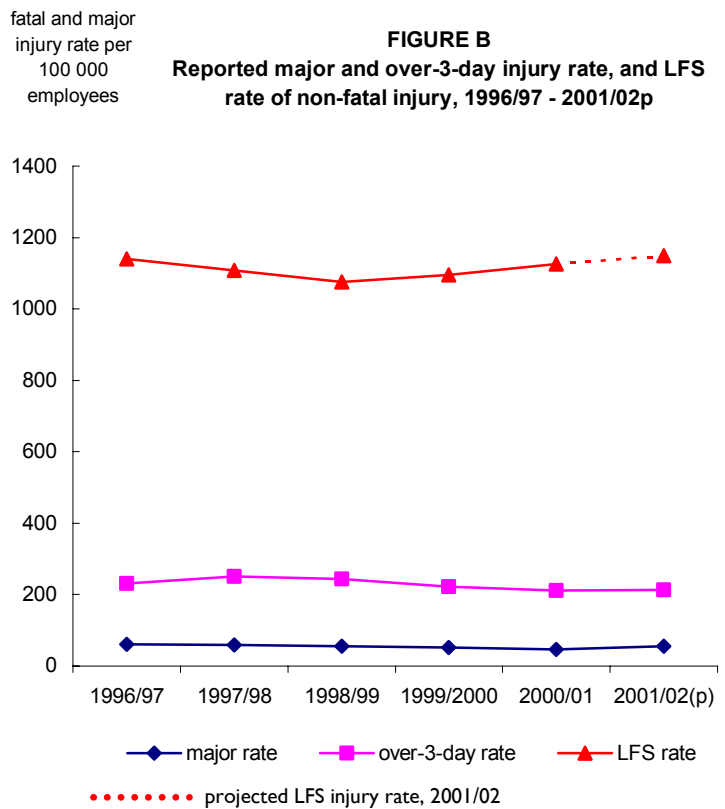
Numbers of injuries are as reported to LAs, whereas injury rates are calculated from injuries reported to LAs and some injuries reported to HSE, since employment data cannot distinguish between the enforcing authorities. Further detailed non-fatal injury statistics are available in the appendix tables at the end of this document.

INJURIES TO EMPLOYEES

- ◆ The provisional figure for reported fatal injuries to employees in 2001/02 is nine, a substantial decrease from the previous year.
- ◆ Overall, the number of reported fatal injuries to employees fluctuates year on year, although the longer term trend over the past ten years is downward.
- ◆ Of the nine provisional fatal injuries to employees reported in 2001/02, two resulted from being struck by a moving vehicle.

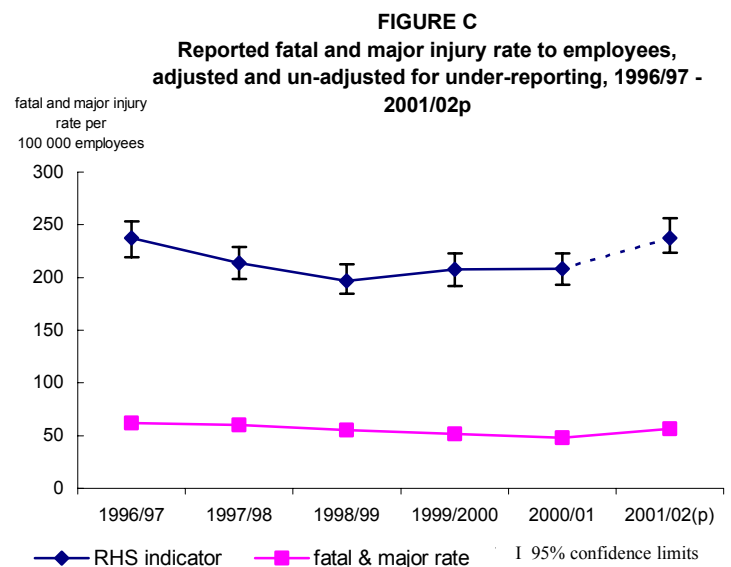


- ◆ The rate of reported major injury to employees fell by almost a quarter between 1996/97 and 2000/01 (61.7 to 47.5) but has increased by 18% in 2001/02 to 56.0 (based on provisional figures)
- ◆ There has also been a small increase (1%) in the rate of reported over-3-day injury to employees, from 211.4 per 100 000 in 2000/01 to 213.3 in 2001/02p. This follows a year on year decline from 1997/98.
- ◆ Major injury rates have increased in all main LA sectors (except consumer and leisure), with substantial increases in bars and offices. Over-3-day injury rates have declined in most LA sectors in 2001/02p, but increased in bars, offices and consumer services which led to the overall increase.
- ◆ The averaged LFS rate* of reportable injury fell in the 1990's until 1998/99, but has increased in the last two years, and is expected to increase again in 2001/02 (based on projecting the recent upward trend). There are early indications of improved reporting in offices and consumer services, with a small overall improvement in the LA sector – full judgement on reporting in 2001/02 will be provided when the next annual LFS results are available for 2002/03.



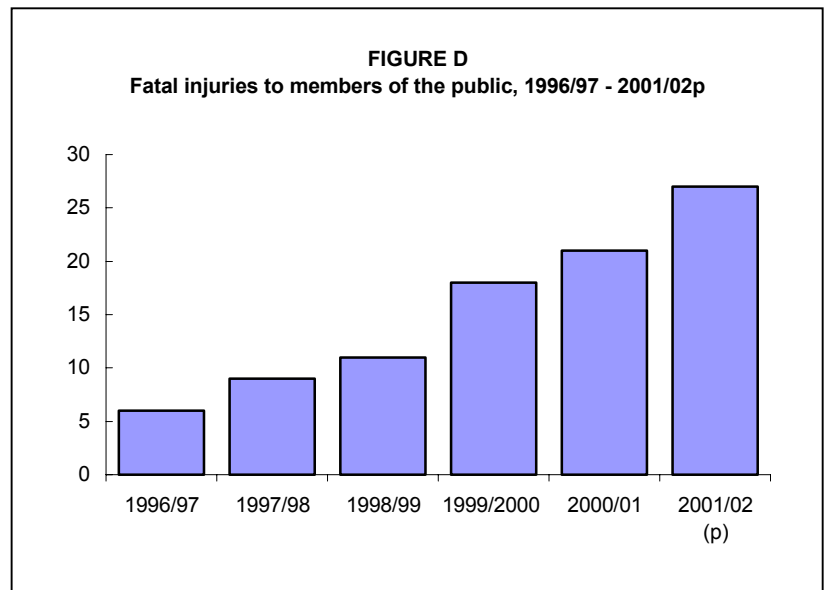
* 'Averaged LFS rate' combines 1999/2000 to 2001/02 single years, giving a smoothed 2000/01 rate with less sampling error. 'LFS rate' refers to workers (employees and self-employed combined).

- ◆ The Revitalising indicator for injuries in the mainly LA enforced sectors combines the rate of reported fatal injury to employees, with the employee rate of major injury, uprated by an estimate of under-reporting of non-fatal injuries (based on LFS results). Further information can be found in the HELA National Picture 2002.
- ◆ Following decreases in 1997/98 and 1998/99, the injury indicator increased in 1999/2000, remained stable in 2000/01, but (based on the projected LFS rate for 2001/02) is expected to increase to 239.3 per 100 000 workers – a similar level to 1996/97.
- ◆ The expected increase is due to a substantial increase in the reported major injury rate, but only a moderate increase expected in the non-fatal reporting level - that is, a small reduction in the uprating factor.
- ◆ Slip, trip or fall on the same level is the most common kind of reported major injury to employees, accounting for 44% in 2001/02 (provisional), a slight increase on 2000/01.

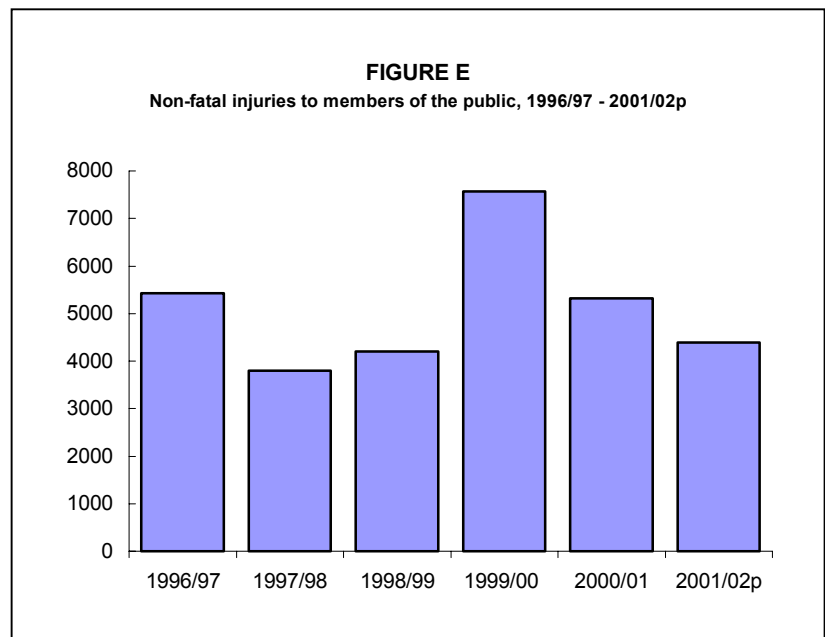


INJURIES TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- ◆ The number of reported fatal injuries to members of the public is provisionally 27 in 2001/02. This is an increase on the 2000/01 figure and continues a rising trend from 1996/97.
- ◆ There was a substantial increase in the number of fatal injuries in residential care homes, from 6 to 16, and a significant decrease in the leisure industry, from 8 to 1. However, figures for individual industry sectors fluctuate each year with no rising trend.
- ◆ Of the 27 fatalities to members of the public in 2001/02, 7 involved falls from height and 5 resulted from drowning or asphyxiation.



- ◆ The provisional number of non-fatal reported injuries to members of the public in 2001/02 is 4 396 compared with 5 315 in 2000/01.
- ◆ The number of reported non-fatal injuries to members of the public has fluctuated widely since the introduction of RIDDOR 95.
- ◆ Almost half (47%) of all reported non-fatal injuries in 2001/02 occurred in the retail sector, a slight increase compared to the previous year. This proportion has fluctuated slightly since 1996/97.
- ◆ Slip or trip on level ground is the most common kind (around half) of reported non-fatal accidents to the public.



INJURIES TO THE SELF-EMPLOYED.

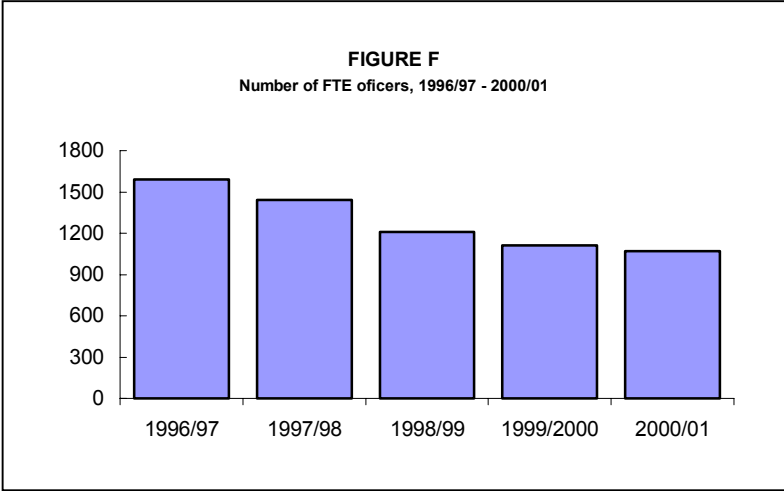
In 2001/02, the self-employed reported 177 injuries, compared with 83 in 2000/01.

- ◆ The figures are: 3 reported fatal injuries, 82 major injuries and 92 over-3-day injuries.
- ◆ The Labour Force Survey (LFS) results indicate that self-employed people report less than 3% of reportable non-fatal injuries. However, latest figures suggest a small improvement in reporting by the self-employed in 2001/02. This will be confirmed when the next annual LFS results are available for 2002/03.

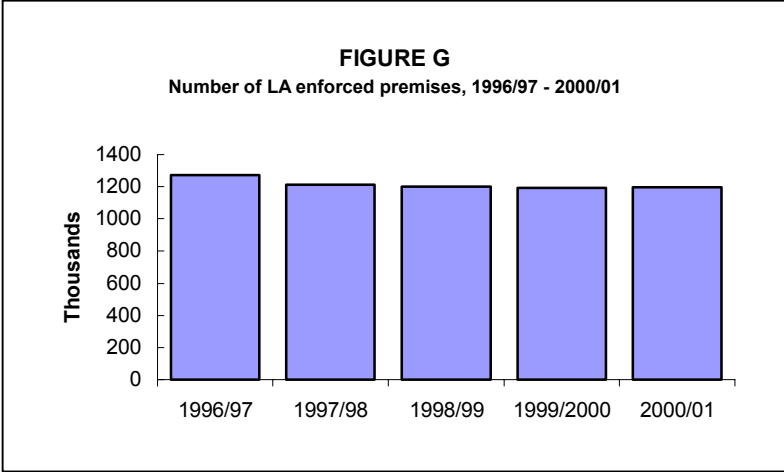
INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

This section presents inspection and enforcement estimates for local authorities for the five years to 2000/01. This information is supplied to HSE by LAs on an annual health and safety return (LAEI form).

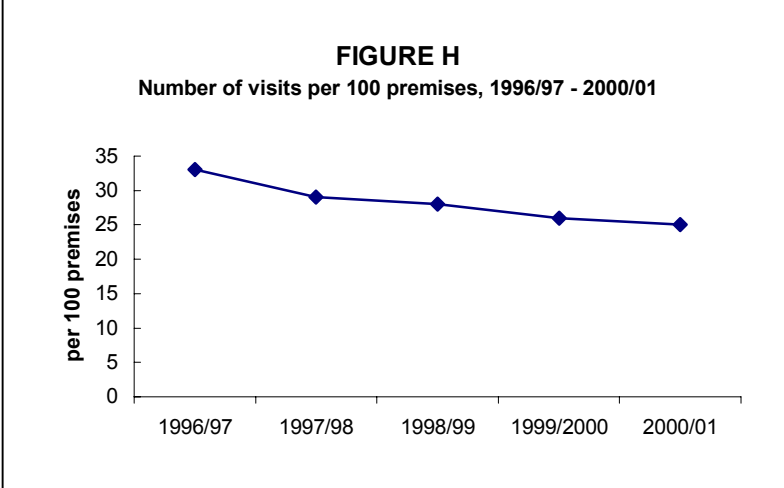
- ◆ In 2000/01 there were 1070 full-time equivalent (FTE) qualified staff undertaking health and safety duties (appointed under Section 19 of the HSW Act); 4% lower than the 1999/2000 figure and continuing the downward trend.
- ◆ Each full time equivalent officer is now responsible for enforcing health and safety in 1 118 premises on average, compared with 800 in 1996/97.



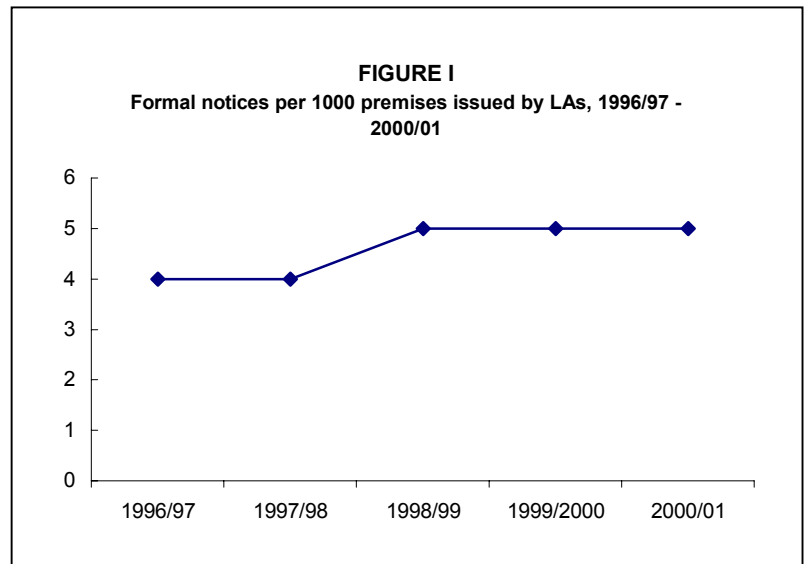
- ◆ In 2000/01 local authorities were responsible for enforcing health and safety in around 1 197 000 premises, a slight increase on the previous year.
- ◆ There has been a notable increase in the number of consumer/ leisure premises. The number of residential accommodation premises has remained similar to the previous year. There have been small decreases in other premise categories.



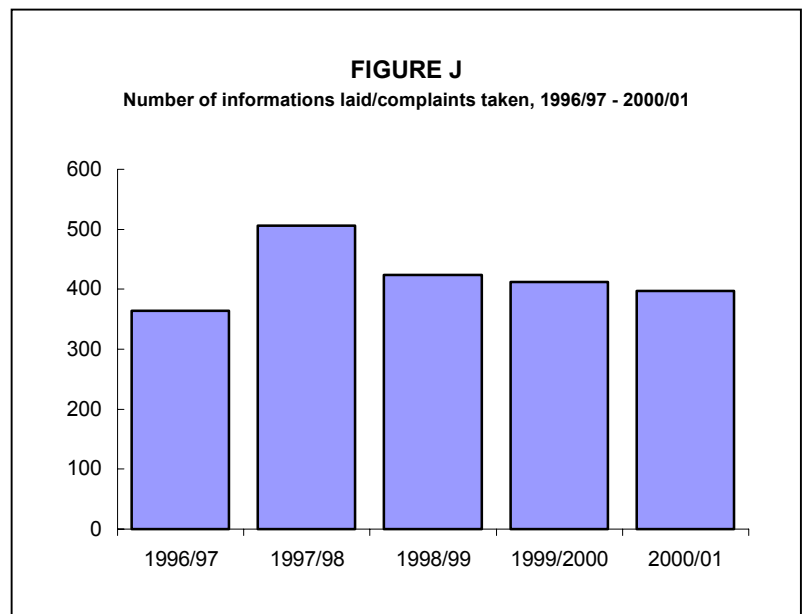
- ◆ During 2000/01 LA inspectors made 300 000 visits in connection with their health and safety duties, 4% (13 000) fewer than in 1999/2000.
- ◆ The overall rate of visiting has fallen by over a quarter, from 33 visits per 100 premises in 1996/97 to 25 in 2000/01.
- ◆ The proportion of proactive visits in 2000/01 is 62%, the same as the previous two years.



- ◆ The number of formal enforcement notices issued by LA inspectors in 2000/01 fell by 5% to 5810. This follows a decrease of 6% in 1999/2000;
- ◆ The number of improvement notices fell by 3% in 2000/01, although they are around 22% higher than the level in 1996/97;
- ◆ The number of all prohibition notices fell by 13% in 2000/01 and has generally fluctuated over the last five years;
- ◆ The 5810 formal notices represent a rate of 5 per 1000 premises, the same rate as in the previous two years.



- ◆ A total of 401 informations laid/complaints taken were completed by LAs in 2000/01 with a conviction rate of 88%. Almost half of the informations laid/ complaints taken in 2000/01 were taken under the Health & Safety at Work Act.
- ◆ Overall conviction rates have varied between 78% and 89% during the last five years.
- ◆ In 2000/01, the average fine per conviction was £3903 (including a large fine of £150 000), this is 15% lower than in 1999/2000 (£4595). If the large fine is omitted, the average fine is £3476, 4% higher than 1999/2000 (excluding the three large fines), and 20% higher than in 1998/99 (£2889, excluding the large fine of £425 000).



Overall Picture

- ◆ The number of fatal injuries to workers fluctuates year on year, although the longer term trend over the past ten years is downward. The Revitalising indicator is expected to increase substantially in 2001/02 due to a sharp rise in the rate of reported major injury, but only a small improvement in reporting of non-fatal injuries overall (i.e. a small reduction in the uprating factor).
- ◆ Over the past five years there has been a rising trend in the number of reported fatal injuries to members of the public. Although there has been an increase in care homes in 2001/02, overall figures for individual industry sectors have fluctuated with no rising trend. The number of non-fatal injuries to members of the public has fluctuated substantially since the introduction of the new reporting regulations; over this period the services sector has continued to expand.
- ◆ LA health and safety resources continue to decline and there has been a corresponding reduction in overall enforcement activity. However, there is evidence of better targeting by LAs, to premises of highest risk, an increase in handling requests for service, and the rate of visiting per FTE inspector has remained relatively stable.

Appendix I: additional tables

Table A1: Rates of major injuries to employees¹ by industry 1996/97 – 2001/02(p)

Industry	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02(p) ²
Retail	121.8	85.2	73.8	71.7	67.3	74.5
Wholesale	55.9	70.7	63.7	52.6	50.8	59.7
Hotels	111.2	92.4	93.9	80.7	64.5	74.7
Catering	76.2	83.9	76.6	57.8	51.1	59.9
Bars	47.4	49.0	42.7	30.8	27.5	40.5
Office-based	33.3	21.4	21.2	23.1	19.9	33.4
Consumer	63.4	72.0	62.7	63.3	77.7	73.9
Leisure	123.7	121.3	127.0	114.1	98.0	85.6
All above	61.7	59.8	55.0	51.6	47.5	56.0

¹ Rate of injury expressed per 100 000 employees

² Provisional figures

Table A2: Rates of over-3-day injuries to employees¹ by industry 1996/97 – 2001/02(p)

Industry	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02(p) ²
Retail	397.8	412.0	392.1	370.7	348.9	332.6
Wholesale	188.9	341.0	327.6	262.8	266.2	218.3
Hotels	258.2	327.6	316.9	283.1	277.2	250.5
Catering	278.2	330.6	321.9	265.3	246.6	218.7
Bars	102.6	108.2	132.7	98.3	104.7	124.0
Office-based	77.1	76.8	76.4	74.4	66.9	101.4
Consumer	265.4	316.7	271.6	269.9	299.9	315.7
Leisure	294.7	294.2	329.9	265.6	247.2	211.2
All above	230.6	250.2	243.0	222.5	211.4	213.3

¹ Rate of injury expressed per 100 000 employees

² Provisional figures

Table A3: Non-fatal major injuries to members of the public, by industry 1996/97 – 2001/02(p)

Industry	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02(p) ¹
Retail	2211	1858	1999	3299	2432	2075
Wholesale	53	47	61	96	45	95
Hotels	646	322	305	594	461	367
Catering	107	154	181	331	200	158
Bars	238	194	189	346	242	246
Office-based	67	50	67	119	84	190
Residential homes	684	269	293	757	352	165
Consumer	49	14	30	91	41	82
Leisure	1049	630	795	1411	1121	652
Other	330	264	282	523	337	366
Total	5434	3802	4202	7567	5315	4396

¹ Provisional figures