

The Annual Business Inquiry: Employee change 1998 to 2008

ECN5/10 – August 2010

The information in this bulletin is taken from the latest Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) which was released in December 2009 and relates to the latest survey data available (September 2008). It provides an analysis of employee data, by broad industrial sector, between 1998 and 2008 at local authority level for Kent County Council area, with comparative figures for the South East region and Great Britain.

Introduction

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) introduced the ABI in 1998). ONS use this survey to collect financial and employment information each year using a sample of businesses drawn from their Inter-departmental Business Register. The employment numbers from this survey are used by ONS to calculate an estimate of total employment. The data is compared to the latest database of companies across the country in order to distribute the numbers locally.

These figures represent an estimate of employee jobs as opposed to an actual count of employed persons.

The United Kingdom Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (SIC) is used to classify businesses by the type of industrial activity in which they are involved. This allows for consistent collection, tabulation, presentation and analysis of data. It can be used for administrative purposes and by non-government bodies as a convenient way of classifying industrial activities into a common structure. Due to constant changes in types of industry over time the SIC is itself subject to change. The latest SIC is from 2007. However, this is not available for years prior to 2007 so for compatibility the SIC from 2003 has been used in this bulletin.

From 2006 the date when the ABI survey is conducted changed from December to September. Due to the seasonal nature of some industries, this has resulted in higher figures for the agricultural employees (within the Primary Industries sector) and lower figures for retail employees (within the Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants sector). This change is part of the first phase of the transition to the Business Register Employment Survey (BRES) which will replace the ABI from 2009.

The 2008 ABI data release includes revisions to data previously released for 2007.

For more information about the Annual Business Inquiry please see the Office for National Statistics website <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/abi/>

Total employee change 1998-2008

- Data from the Annual Business Inquiry (1998-2008) shows that at 14.5%, employee growth from in the KCC area has been faster than in the South East region, which saw 9.7% growth and the average of 9.5% growth for Great Britain as a whole.
- Looking at the percentage change in employees, nine Kent districts showed growth above both the national and regional average.
- Dartford district showed the most growth in the county at 39.2%. This strong growth is due to employee increases in Distribution, Hotels & Restaurants (121.3%), Banking, Finance & Insurance (70.2%) and Construction (126.5%).
- Only one district in Kent showed an overall net decline in employees and that was Tunbridge Wells, showing a decline in four industries; Primary Industries, Manufacturing, Transport & Communications and Construction. The biggest decline was in Transport & Communications (-53.8%).

Table 1 shows employee change for all KCC districts and Medway from 1998-2008. Regional and national change is also shown for comparison.

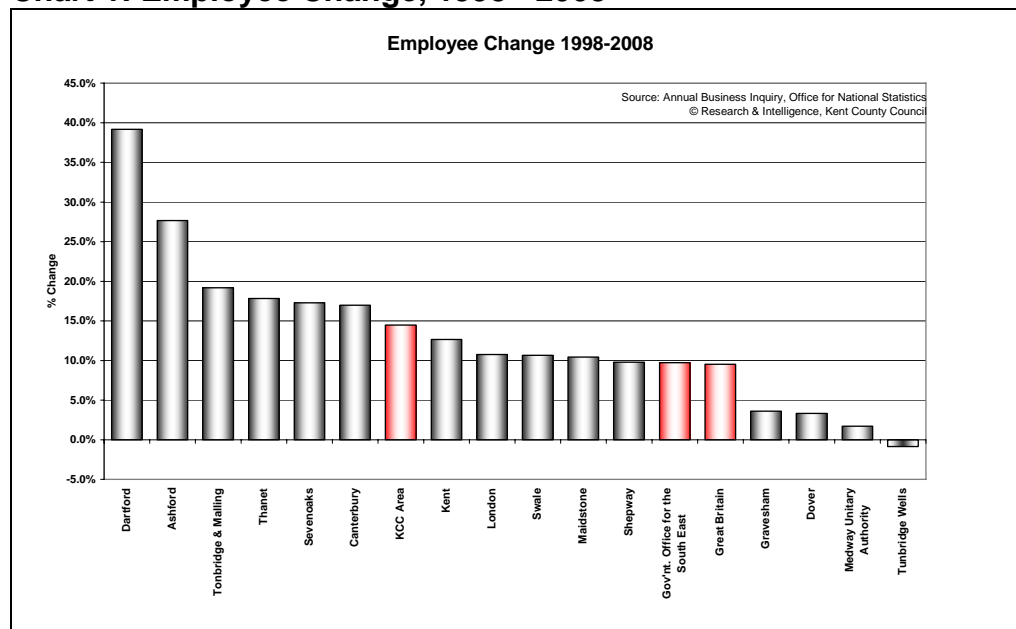
Table 1: Total Employee change 1998 - 2008

Area	1998	2008	Change 1998-2008	
			No.	%
Ashford	38,700	49,500	10,700	27.7%
Canterbury	53,600	62,700	9,100	17.0%
Dartford	37,200	51,800	14,600	39.2%
Dover	35,500	36,700	1,200	3.3%
Gravesham	26,500	27,500	1,000	3.6%
Maidstone	65,500	72,300	6,800	10.4%
Sevenoaks	36,800	43,200	6,400	17.3%
Shepway	32,700	35,900	3,200	9.8%
Swale	38,700	42,800	4,100	10.6%
Thanet	34,200	40,200	6,100	17.8%
Tonbridge & Malling	46,800	55,700	9,000	19.2%
Tunbridge Wells	48,700	48,300	-400	-0.9%
KCC Area	495,100	566,700	71,700	14.5%
Medway Unitary Authority	83,200	84,600	1,400	1.7%
Kent	578,300	651,300	73,100	12.6%
Gov't. Office for the South East	3,425,100	3,757,700	332,600	9.7%
London	3,764,100	4,168,500	404,400	10.7%
Great Britain	24,355,000	26,677,200	2,322,200	9.5%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics
 All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers
 Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Chart 1 shows the total employee change for all KCC districts and Medway from 1998-2008. Regional and national change is also shown for comparison.

Chart 1: Employee Change, 1998 - 2008



Industrial Groups

The United Kingdom Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (SIC) is used to classify businesses by the type of industrial activity in which they are involved. There are eight broad categories and there are further sub categories within these.

This bulletin presents employee numbers by the eight broad industrial classifications as listed below:

- Primary industries which include: *Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry & Fishing and Energy & Water Supply.*
- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Distribution, Hotels & Restaurants which include: *Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and personal and household goods, hotels & restaurants*
- Transport & communications
- Banking, finance & insurance which include: *Financial intermediation, real estate, renting & business activities*
- Public administration, education & health
- Other Services which includes: *Community & Personal Services, Cultural, Recreational & Sporting Services.*

The percentage of employees in each industrial group as at 2008 are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Percentage of employees by broad industrial group 2008

	Total Employees - all industries	Primary Industries	Manufacturing	Construction	Distribution, hotels and restaurants	Transport and communications	Banking, finance and insurance, etc	Public administration, education & health	Other services
Ashford	49,500	3.1%	10.8%	5.3%	27.4%	8.0%	17.0%	24.2%	4.2%
Canterbury	62,700	3.4%	3.9%	3.9%	27.9%	3.7%	11.4%	40.3%	5.6%
Dartford	51,800	1.0%	8.8%	11.1%	32.8%	6.5%	17.5%	19.7%	2.5%
Dover	36,700	3.0%	10.4%	4.1%	21.4%	11.4%	14.8%	30.3%	4.6%
Gravesham	27,500	2.2%	7.9%	8.1%	25.0%	6.8%	14.7%	29.5%	5.7%
Maidstone	72,300	3.2%	5.8%	5.9%	23.9%	4.8%	18.7%	33.3%	4.4%
Sevenoaks	43,200	2.3%	8.2%	8.5%	27.0%	3.3%	24.2%	20.3%	6.1%
Shepway	35,900	3.7%	6.7%	4.0%	23.3%	9.4%	16.6%	31.8%	4.5%
Swale	42,800	4.4%	14.4%	5.3%	23.1%	7.8%	15.2%	25.8%	4.0%
Thanet	40,200	1.2%	9.3%	4.7%	27.7%	4.4%	12.7%	35.3%	4.7%
Tonbridge & Malling	55,700	3.1%	9.7%	6.3%	22.6%	10.7%	20.6%	21.9%	5.0%
Tunbridge Wells	48,300	2.3%	6.8%	3.7%	27.3%	3.4%	24.2%	26.6%	5.7%
KCC	566,700	2.8%	8.3%	5.9%	25.9%	6.5%	17.4%	28.4%	4.7%
Medway	84,600	1.8%	9.7%	5.6%	24.6%	5.7%	15.8%	30.8%	6.1%
Kent	651,300	2.6%	8.5%	5.9%	25.8%	6.4%	17.2%	28.7%	4.9%
South East	3,757,700	1.6%	8.1%	4.5%	24.6%	5.9%	24.0%	25.6%	5.6%
London	4,168,500	0.4%	4.3%	2.9%	21.0%	7.4%	34.7%	22.2%	7.2%
Great Britain	26,677,200	1.6%	10.2%	4.8%	23.4%	5.8%	22.0%	27.0%	5.3%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

Whole numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

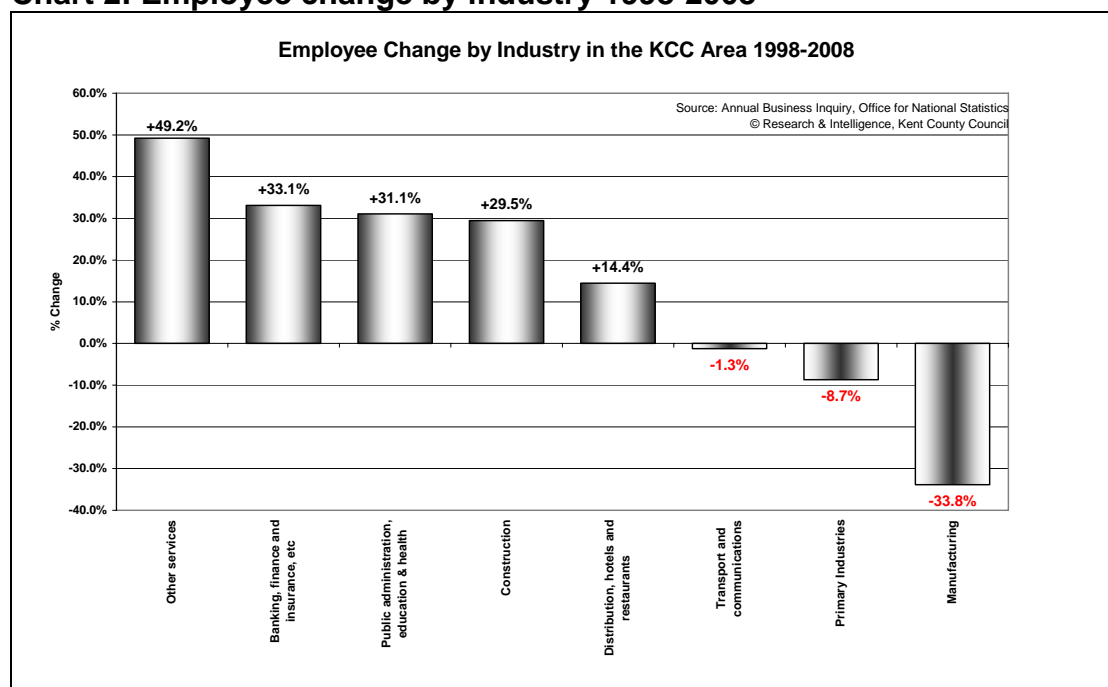
Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Employee change by broad industrial group

- Other Services, with a growth of 49.2% equivalent to 8,800 more employees, is the industrial group which has shown the largest percentage growth in the KCC area over the last ten years.
- The largest number growth since 1998 is in the Public administration, education & health industry with an increase of 38,200 employees. This industry has the biggest share of all employees in the KCC area accounting for 28.4% of all employees, equivalent to 161,200 employees. This reflects what is seen nationally (27.0%) and in the South East (25.6%).
- The greatest decline in employees since 1998 in the KCC area is in the Manufacturing industry which shows a change of -33.8%, this is a bigger decline than the South East average of -30.9% and the national average of -32.9%. This is the only industry to have seen a decline in employees in all twelve KCC local authority districts.
- The Primary Industries have the smallest proportion of the national, regional and county employees, with 421,400 employees (1.6%), 60,000 employees (1.6%) and 15,700 employees (2.8%) respectively.

The employee change in each industrial group since 1998 in the KCC area is shown in chart 2.

Chart 2: Employee change by industry 1998-2008



Further details of changes of employee numbers within each industrial group for all areas are presented in tables 3a to 3h. Figures in red indicate a decline in employees.

Table 3a: Primary Industries

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	1,600	1,500	-100	-3.9%
Canterbury	1,500	2,100	600	40.5%
Dartford	800	500	-300	-33.8%
Dover	1,600	1,100	-500	-29.3%
Gravesham	600	600	0	3.9%
Maidstone	2,600	2,300	-400	-13.3%
Sevenoaks	900	1,000	100	7.1%
Shepway	2,000	1,300	-600	-32.0%
Swale	1,800	1,900	100	6.2%
Thanet	500	500	0	-6.9%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,800	1,700	-100	-6.6%
Tunbridge Wells	1,500	1,100	-400	-25.0%
KCC Area	17,200	15,700	-1,500	-8.7%
Medway Unitary Authority	1,200	1,500	300	23.4%
Kent	18,400	17,200	-1,200	-6.5%
South East	69,500	61,300	-8,200	-11.8%
London	16,500	14,700	-1,800	-10.9%
Great Britain	484,000	434,300	-49,700	-10.3%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Table 3b: Manufacturing

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	6,400	5,400	-1,000	-16.0%
Canterbury	4,200	2,500	-1,700	-41.0%
Dartford	6,900	4,600	-2,300	-33.7%
Dover	5,500	3,800	-1,700	-31.0%
Gravesham	4,400	2,200	-2,200	-50.1%
Maidstone	7,300	4,200	-3,100	-42.5%
Sevenoaks	4,700	3,600	-1,200	-24.9%
Shepway	3,200	2,400	-800	-25.7%
Swale	9,600	6,200	-3,500	-36.1%
Thanet	5,000	3,700	-1,300	-25.7%
Tonbridge & Malling	9,900	5,400	-4,500	-45.3%
Tunbridge Wells	4,100	3,300	-800	-19.7%
KCC Area	71,100	47,100	-24,100	-33.8%
Medway Unitary Authority	13,400	8,200	-5,200	-38.7%
Kent	84,500	55,200	-29,300	-34.6%
South East	442,400	305,900	-136,500	-30.9%
London	286,900	178,200	-108,700	-37.9%
Great Britain	4,039,500	2,709,100	-1,330,400	-32.9%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

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Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

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Table 3c: Construction

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	1,700	2,600	900	55.8%
Canterbury	2,200	2,500	200	10.6%
Dartford	2,600	5,800	3,200	121.3%
Dover	1,500	1,500	0	-2.3%
Gravesham	1,200	2,200	1,000	85.8%
Maidstone	3,800	4,300	400	11.6%
Sevenoaks	2,200	3,700	1,500	67.1%
Shepway	1,500	1,400	-100	-3.4%
Swale	2,000	2,300	300	16.5%
Thanet	2,700	1,900	-800	-30.1%
Tonbridge & Malling	2,500	3,500	1,000	40.4%
Tunbridge Wells	1,900	1,800	-100	-5.1%
KCC Area	25,800	33,400	7,600	29.5%
Medway Unitary Authority	3,000	4,700	1,800	58.7%
Kent	28,800	38,100	9,400	32.5%
South East	144,400	169,600	25,200	17.5%
London	134,000	122,500	-11,500	-8.6%
Great Britain	1,108,000	1,268,800	160,800	14.5%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Table 3d: Distribution, hotels & restaurants

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	10,100	13,500	3,400	33.7%
Canterbury	16,400	17,500	1,100	6.6%
Dartford	7,500	17,000	9,500	126.5%
Dover	7,800	7,900	0	0.3%
Gravesham	7,300	6,900	-400	-5.6%
Maidstone	16,100	17,300	1,200	7.7%
Sevenoaks	10,500	11,700	1,200	11.3%
Shepway	8,800	8,400	-400	-4.3%
Swale	9,200	9,900	700	7.8%
Thanet	9,300	11,100	1,800	19.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	12,800	12,600	-200	-1.6%
Tunbridge Wells	12,600	13,200	600	4.7%
KCC Area	128,400	147,000	18,500	14.4%
Medway Unitary Authority	19,700	20,800	1,100	5.4%
Kent	148,200	167,800	19,600	13.2%
South East	881,500	924,100	42,600	4.8%
London	834,000	874,000	40,000	4.8%
Great Britain	5,907,300	6,229,500	322,200	5.5%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

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Table 3e: Transport & communications

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	2,200	4,000	1,700	78.4%
Canterbury	2,800	2,300	-500	-18.4%
Dartford	4,200	3,400	-800	-18.8%
Dover	5,100	4,200	-900	-17.4%
Gravesham	2,000	1,900	-200	-7.4%
Maidstone	3,900	3,500	-400	-9.2%
Sevenoaks	1,800	1,400	-400	-21.8%
Shepway	3,200	3,400	200	5.8%
Swale	3,400	3,300	0	-0.5%
Thanet	1,400	1,800	400	28.9%
Tonbridge & Malling	3,700	6,000	2,200	59.6%
Tunbridge Wells	3,600	1,700	-1,900	-53.8%
KCC Area	37,300	36,800	-500	-1.3%
Medway Unitary Authority	4,200	4,800	600	15.5%
Kent	41,400	41,600	200	0.4%
South East	213,600	221,100	7,400	3.5%
London	303,100	307,400	4,300	1.4%
Great Britain	1,412,300	1,547,900	135,600	9.6%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

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Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Table 3f: Banking, Finance & Insurance etc.,

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	7,800	8,400	600	7.4%
Canterbury	5,700	7,100	1,400	24.7%
Dartford	5,300	9,100	3,700	70.2%
Dover	4,800	5,400	700	13.8%
Gravesham	2,900	4,000	1,100	37.3%
Maidstone	12,700	13,500	800	6.0%
Sevenoaks	7,000	10,500	3,500	50.1%
Shepway	4,500	6,000	1,400	31.6%
Swale	4,200	6,500	2,300	54.3%
Thanet	2,400	5,100	2,700	114.9%
Tonbridge & Malling	5,900	11,500	5,600	94.3%
Tunbridge Wells	10,900	11,700	800	7.2%
KCC Area	74,300	98,800	24,600	33.1%
Medway Unitary Authority	13,900	13,300	-600	-4.3%
Kent	88,200	112,200	24,000	27.2%
South East	726,700	903,100	176,400	24.3%
London	1,185,100	1,448,100	263,000	22.2%
Great Britain	4,518,100	5,870,800	1,352,700	29.9%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

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Table 3g: Public administration, education & health

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	7,900	11,900	4,100	51.6%
Canterbury	18,900	25,300	6,400	33.7%
Dartford	9,000	10,200	1,200	13.7%
Dover	8,000	11,100	3,100	38.5%
Gravesham	7,200	8,100	1,000	13.3%
Maidstone	16,700	24,100	7,400	44.3%
Sevenoaks	7,300	8,800	1,500	20.2%
Shepway	8,300	11,400	3,100	37.6%
Swale	7,500	11,100	3,600	47.3%
Thanet	11,400	14,200	2,700	24.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	8,500	12,200	3,700	43.1%
Tunbridge Wells	12,300	12,800	500	4.4%
KCC Area	123,000	161,200	38,200	31.1%
Medway Unitary Authority	23,200	26,000	2,800	12.1%
Kent	146,200	187,200	41,000	28.1%
South East	790,300	960,600	170,300	21.5%
London	765,700	923,400	157,700	20.6%
Great Britain	5,746,900	7,208,500	1,461,600	25.4%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Table 3h: Other

	1998	2008	Change	% change
Ashford	1,000	2,100	1,100	102.2%
Canterbury	1,900	3,500	1,600	87.1%
Dartford	1,000	1,300	300	33.8%
Dover	1,200	1,700	500	43.3%
Gravesham	1,000	1,600	600	62.6%
Maidstone	2,400	3,200	800	32.6%
Sevenoaks	2,400	2,600	200	10.3%
Shepway	1,300	1,600	300	27.4%
Swale	1,100	1,700	600	58.3%
Thanet	1,300	1,900	600	42.2%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,600	2,800	1,200	79.5%
Tunbridge Wells	1,900	2,700	900	46.7%
KCC Area	17,900	26,700	8,800	49.2%
Medway Unitary Authority	4,500	5,200	600	13.5%
Kent	22,500	31,900	9,400	42.0%
South East	156,600	212,000	55,400	35.4%
London	238,800	300,300	61,500	25.7%
Great Britain	1,138,900	1,408,300	269,500	23.7%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, Office for National Statistics

All numbers rounded to the nearest hundred. Percentages calculated using unrounded numbers

Table presented by Research & Intelligence, Kent County Council

Due to the size of the tables showing figures for each year between 1998 and 2008 we are unable to present them clearly within this bulletin. However they are available in Excel format upon request.

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