

Employee Jobs: Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) and Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) estimates

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) is a new survey by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) which has replaced the Annual Business Inquiry/1 (ABI).

Until 2009 the **ABI** was used as the main source for sub-regional estimates of employee jobs by industry. The ABI data is on the standard industrial classification (SIC) 2003 basis and the data is available for 1998 – 2008. **These estimates are on StatsWales under the ABI (SIC2003) folder.**

From 2010 the **BRES** has replaced the ABI. The BRES is not directly comparable to the ABI and is also on a SIC2007 basis (which is an updated version of SIC2003 which includes many changes to the classifications). The BRES data is available from 2008 onwards. **These estimates are on StatsWales under the BRES (SIC2007) folder.**

The StatsWales folders have been split into ABI and BRES intentionally due to the discontinuity in the surveys and the changes in industrial classification.

Tourism Jobs – The ABI folder contains estimates of tourism jobs using the SIC2003 definition. The BRES folder contains estimates of tourism jobs under the SIC2007 definition. Please note that the two definitions are not directly comparable.

Comparing ABI and BRES estimates – As there is a discontinuity between the ABI and BRES datasets the ONS have provided guidance on assessing change over time. The ONS advises that a scaling factor should be used by comparing the 2008 ABI and BRES estimates. For example for Wales the ABI estimate is 1.183 million and the BRES estimate is 1.196, therefore a factor of 1.010587 should be applied to the ABI data prior to 2008. These factors may not be uniform across Local Authorities and industry.

Further Information on the differences between the ABI and BRES can be found at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=15374>