

Classifying and Targeting Businesses



The Inter Departmental Business Register -
Sources and Uses

John Perry, ONS

IDBR - What is it?

- The IDBR (Inter Departmental Business Register)
- Statistical business register
- Complies with EU standards
- 2 million enterprises (businesses)
- 2.5 million local units (sites)
- 98-99% of UK economic activity

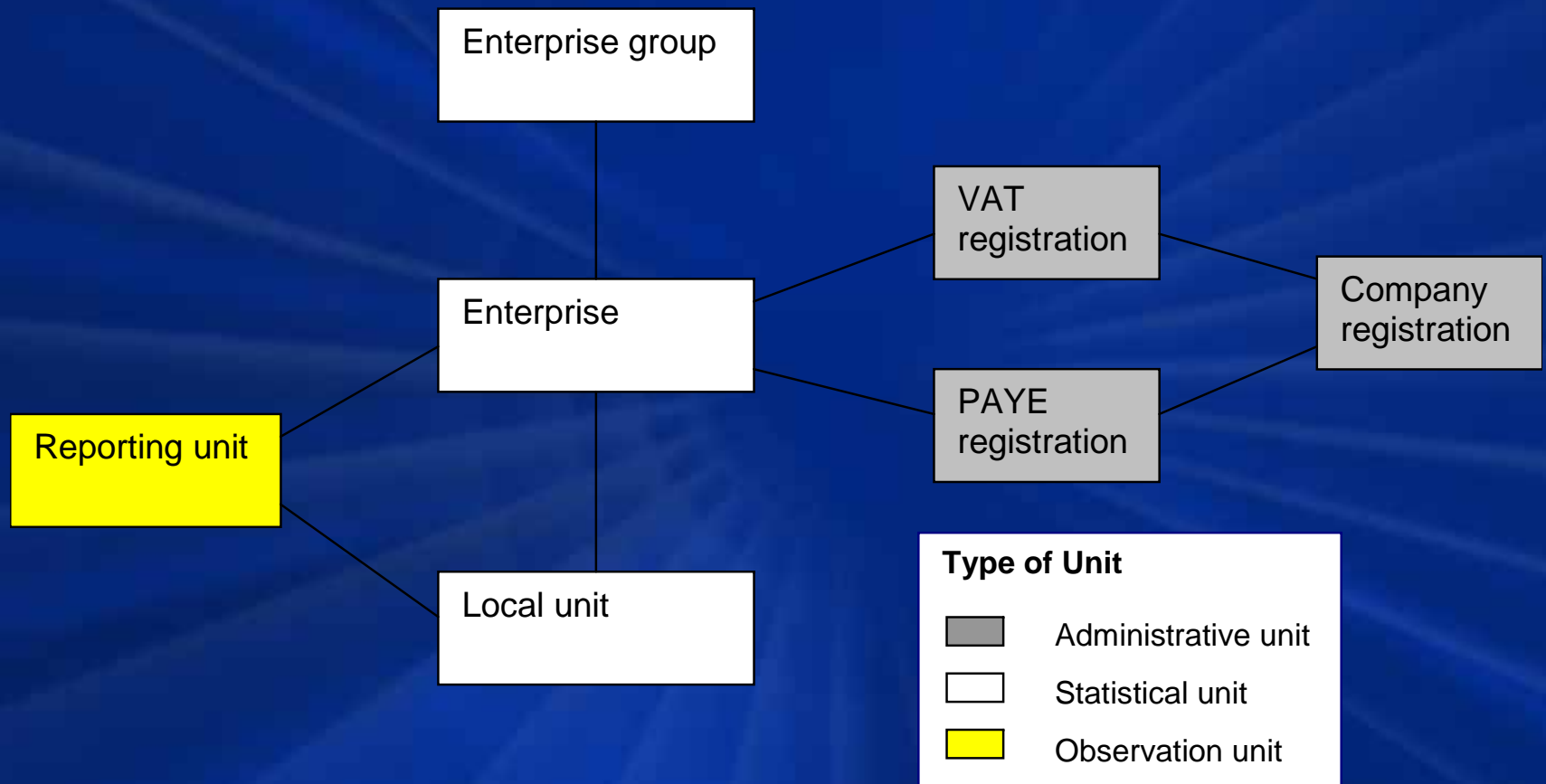
IDBR – Sources and Uses

- Sources
- Use as a survey and analysis tool
- Current developments - improving sources and outputs

Sources

- HM Revenue and Customs
 - VAT traders
 - Intrastat traders (identified by VAT reference)
 - PAYE traders
- Companies House
 - Company registrations
- Dun and Bradstreet (D & B)
 - Worldbase linkages
- ONS and Northern Ireland Dept surveys
- DTI Construction surveys

IDBR Units Model



Data Held

- Name, address, geographic codes
- Size (employment / turnover)
- Economic activity (SIC2003)
- Legal status
- Demographic data (birth / death dates)
- Survey selection / response history

Outputs

- Annual structural publication (UK Business)
- Small area statistics being developed through Neighbourhood Statistics (NeSS) programme
- Business births and deaths, published by the DTI Small Business Service
- New business demography outputs being piloted by Eurostat
- Service for samples and analysis to other government bodies
- Tabulations available on demand

Legal issues

- Data protected by legislation
- Disclosure-free outputs produced
- Statistical use of disclosive and micro data permitted by:
 - Government departments
 - Local authorities
 - Some other bodies
 - Contractors

Browse by theme

Select Theme

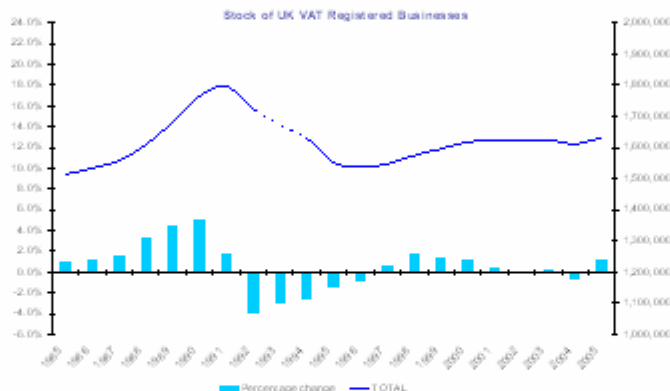
COMMERCE, ENERGY & INDUSTRY

[printer-friendly](#)

Related Links

Economy

Stock of UK business increases by 1.2% from 2004



The growth in businesses registered for VAT averaged in excess of 2 per cent per year from 1984 to 1991. This was followed by an average reduction of 2.4 per cent between 1992 and 1996. The late 1990s saw a return to growth in the stock with this trend continuing into 2005 with a stock increase of 1.2 per cent. This is mainly attributable to an increase in VAT registrations, a trend reported by HM Revenue & Customs.

Nearly half (49 per cent) of VAT based enterprises were corporate businesses (i.e. companies and public corporations) in 2005. Company registrations have seen large growth since the mid 1990s balanced by a decrease in sole proprietors and partnerships. This reflects the trend reported by Companies House.

The distribution of businesses by activity shows that Property and Business Services account for the largest number of businesses with 28 per cent of all units registered, followed by Construction (12 per cent) and Retail (11 per cent).

Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR), Office for National Statistics

Votes:

- [UK Business: Activity, Size & Location](#)
- [Guide to the IDBR](#)

External Links

- [Neighbourhood Statistics Service](#)
- [Small Business Service](#)
- [Companies House](#)
- [HM Revenue & Customs](#)

Suggested Links

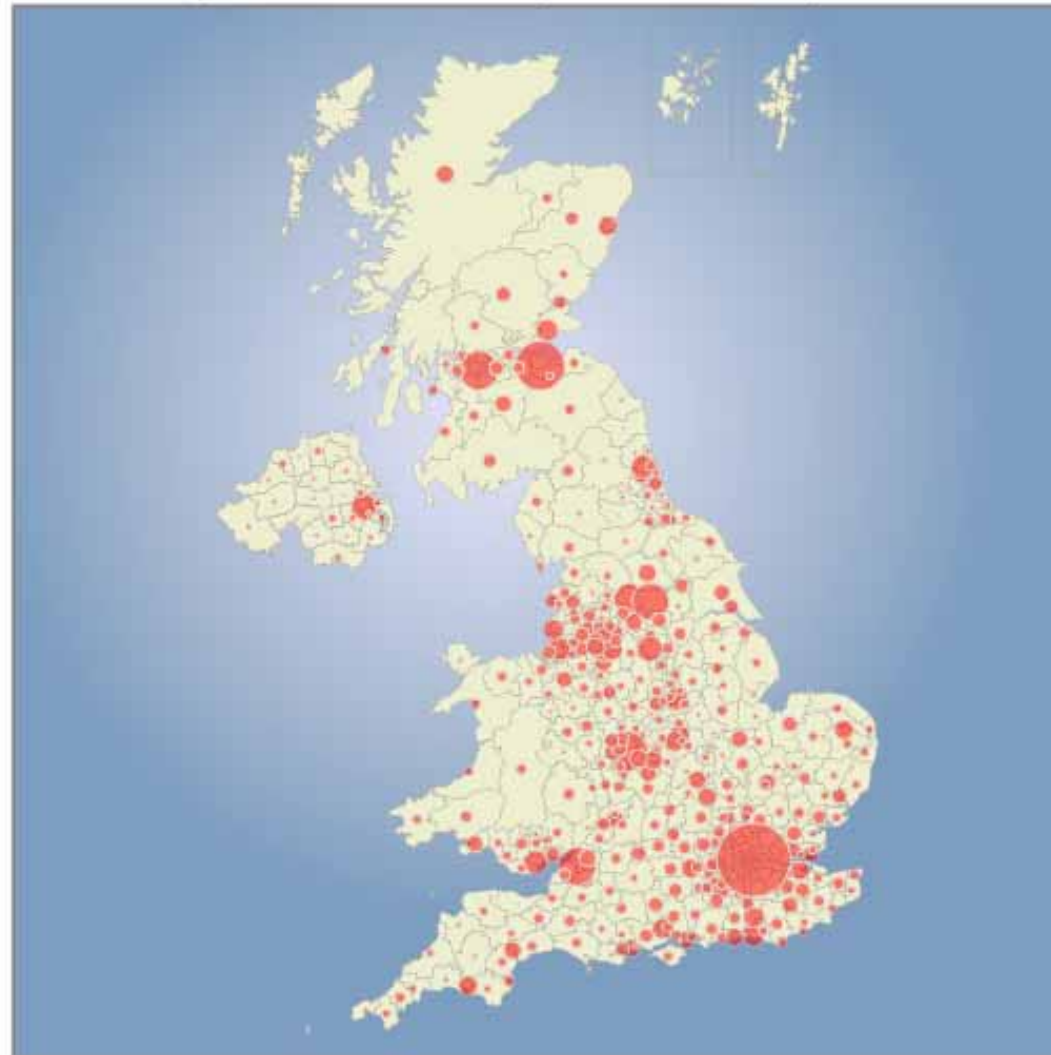
- [Commerce, Energy and Industry](#)

Interact



Thematic Mapping
Key Statistics
for Local Authorities

United Kingdom: Local Units by Local Authority District and Broad Industry Group



Finance ▼

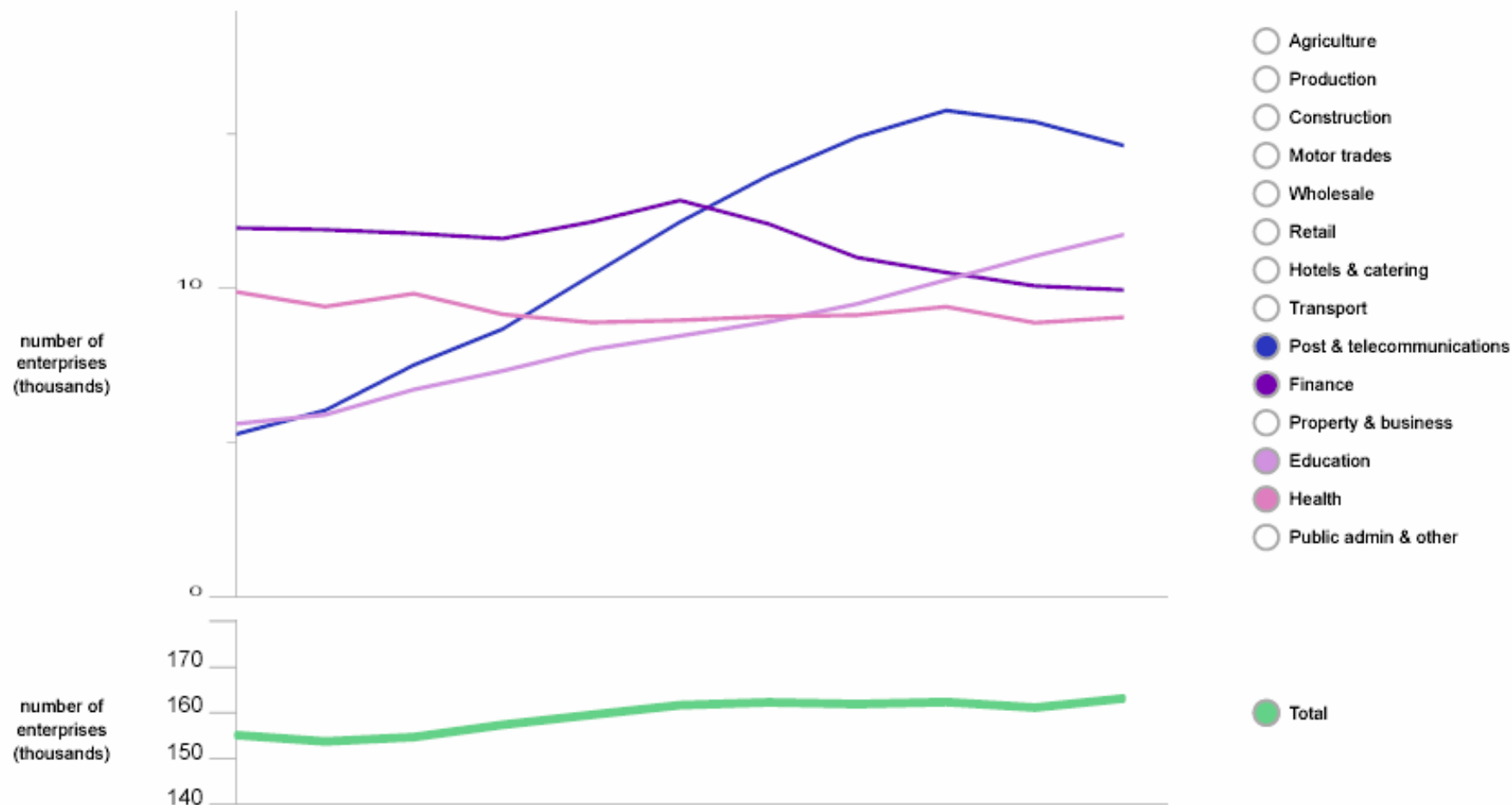
COUNT OF LOCAL UNITS



City of London

SECTOR	VALUE close table
Property and Business Services	7615
Finance	2300
Hotels and Catering	965
Public Admin and Other Services	620
Retail	565
Wholesale	405
Transport	235
Production	180
Post and Telecom	95
Construction	80
Education	70
Health	65
Agriculture	15
Motor Trades	15
TOTAL	13220

Stock of UK VAT Registered Businesses 1995 - 2005 by Broad Industry Group



Reference: Table B7.2 - UK Business: Activity, Size and Location 2005

Useful links

The IDBR and its outputs:

www.statistics.gov.uk/idbr

Small Business Service:

www.sbs.gov.uk/sbsgov

Eurostat:

forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/dsis/Home/main

UNECE:

www.unece.org/stats

New initiatives (1)

- ONS modernisation programme
 - Re-engineered IDBR
 - Linkage of IDBR and Defra farms survey system
 - Better integration of external data (e.g. VOA, Yell)
 - Improved tools for industry coding, address cleaning, tabulation and dissemination
- Neighbourhood statistics
 - Improved small area outputs from the IDBR
 - Research on entrepreneurship/ social enterprises
 - Improved classification of administrative data

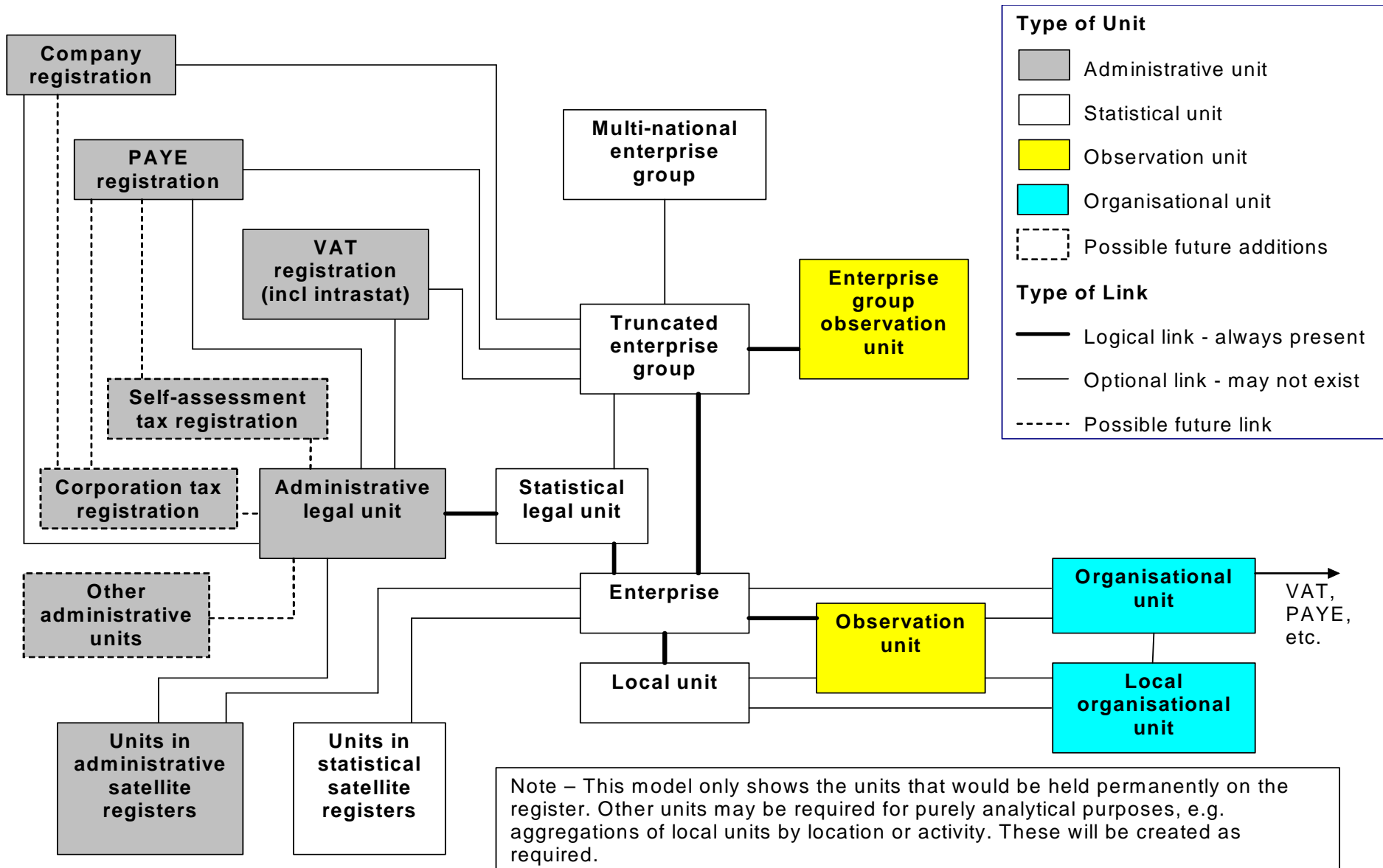
New initiatives (2)

- Allsopp Review
 - Improved quality of local unit data
 - Better links with local authorities
 - Change to survey collection by linking the Business Register Survey and the Annual Business Inquiry
- Eurostat
 - New business registers Regulation
 - NACE Rev 2 (UK consultation ends November 2005)
 - Development of business demography
 - EU-wide business register of multinational groups

New Initiatives (3)

- Linking with the Labour Force Survey
 - Provides coherence of employment estimates through consistent classifications
- Population Census
 - Census test 2007
 - Getting business activity from business register?

IDBR – New units model



Current sampling process

- Stratification by industry, size and location
- But only one size variable allowed (turnover, employment or employees)
- High turnover, low employment enterprises included in some surveys
- Regular stratification pattern
- Non-consecutive groupings of industry (SIC) codes difficult to manage
- Can sample local units, reporting units or enterprise groups

Proposed sampling process

- Main sampling unit will be the enterprise
- Will permit enterprise group and local unit samples
- Use of two (or more) size variables, either individually or combined
- Permit alternative employment figures e.g. PAYE jobs
- Stratify based on complexity of business structure
- Reduction in small strata - balance between size, location and industry

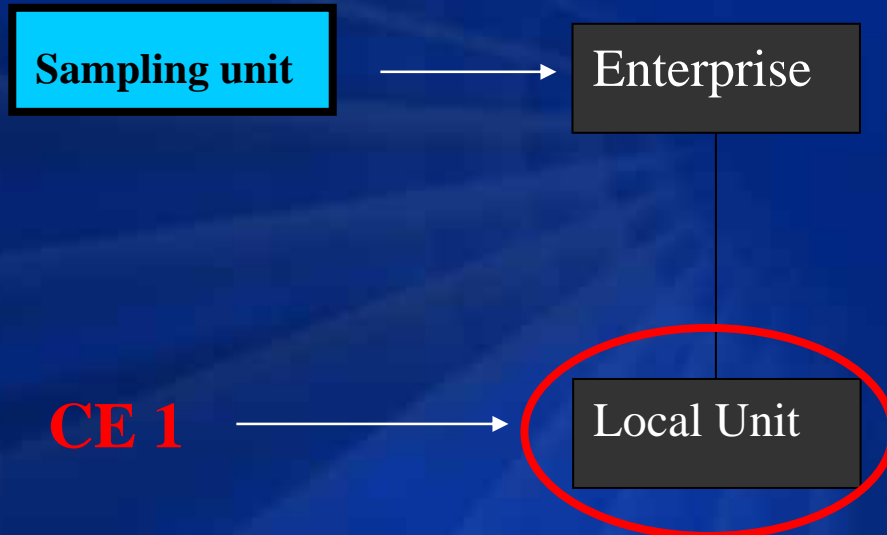
Distribution of Enterprises by Complexity

Number of Enterprises

Employment size	single region, single industry	multi region or multi industry	Total
1-19	1,723,727	10,560	1,734,287
20-49	62,963	6,722	69,685
50-99	16,005	3,965	19,970
100-249	7,429	4,308	11,737
250+	3,329	5,453	8,782
Total	1,813,453	31,008	1,844,461

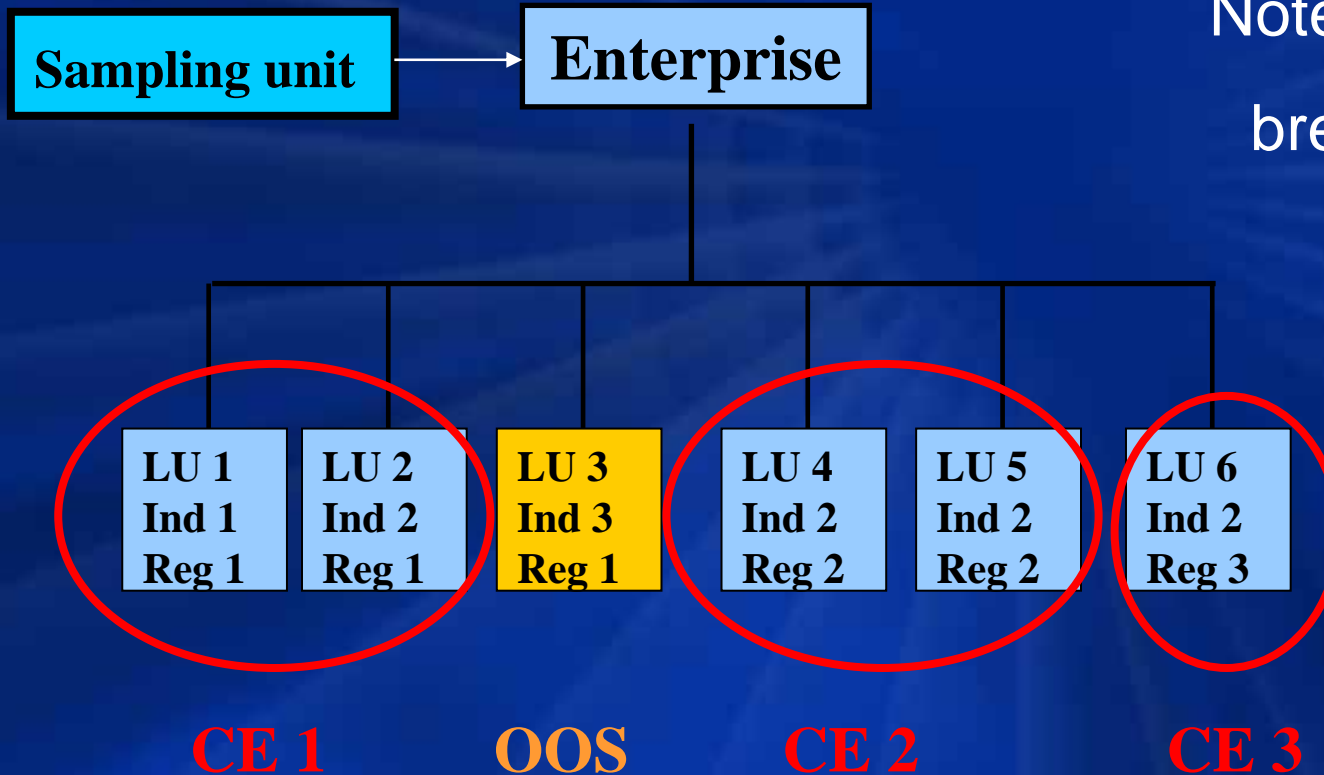
Data Collection Entities

- Example 1: Simple



Data Collection Entities

- Example 2: Complex (possible CEs)



Note: single CE if no breakout possible

Multinational Enterprise Groups

- IDBR holds linkages between enterprises
- Based on Worldbase (D&B) and VAT
- Defines a truncated UK group
- Holds linkages to immediate and ultimate owners
- Updated annually
- Permits analysis but quality limited

Development of global group data

- New EU business registers Regulation will include requirement for truncated enterprise groups
- Need to define the EU-wide enterprise group
- But business do not recognise the same geographic boundaries
- Need for data exchange to ensure consistency of treatment in all countries
- Limited by confidentiality

