

E: Promoting economic vitality and employment

Since 1990, Gross Value Added (GVA) per head, a measure of economic activity, has been increasing relative to the UK average in the East of England, London, the South East and Northern Ireland, but decreasing in the rest of the UK.

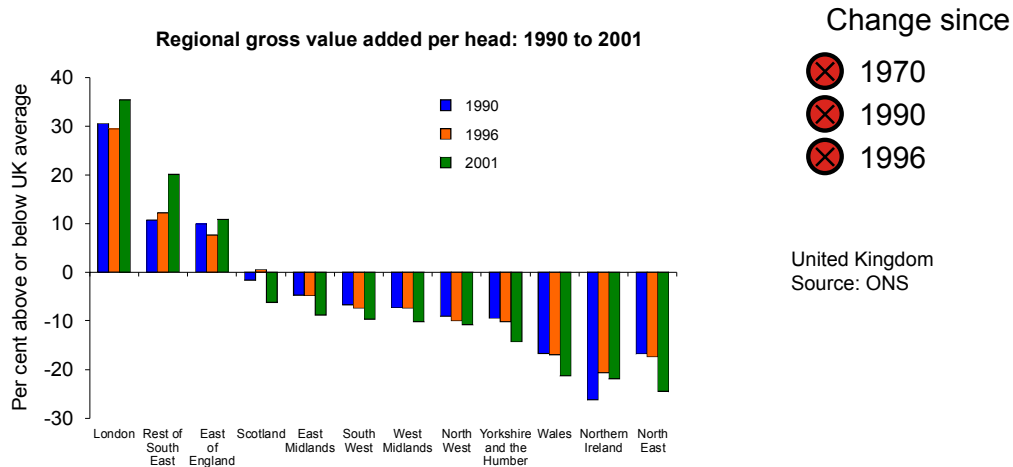
Between 1998 and 2001, growth in new businesses net of closures was strongest in London and the South East of England and weakest in Wales.

Between 1999 to 2003, the employment rate for ethnic minorities remained below the overall rate. However, over the last 10 years the unemployment rate for ethnic minorities has decreased by 7 percentage points.

Ref. no.	Indicator	QOLC 1999		QOLC Updated Assessment		
		Change since		Change since		
		1970	1990	1970	1990	Strategy
E1	Regional variations in GDP	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
E2	Index of local deprivation	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
H4	Poverty: Indicators of success in tackling poverty and social exclusion (headline)	✗	≈	✗	≈	✓
E3	Teenage pregnancies	✓	≈	✓	✓	✓
	Truancies and exclusions from school	☹	≈	☹	✓	✓
E4	New business start-ups net of closures	☹	✓	☹	✓	≈
E5	Ethnic minority employment and unemployment	☹	≈	☹	≈	≈

Indicator: Regional variations in GDP

E1

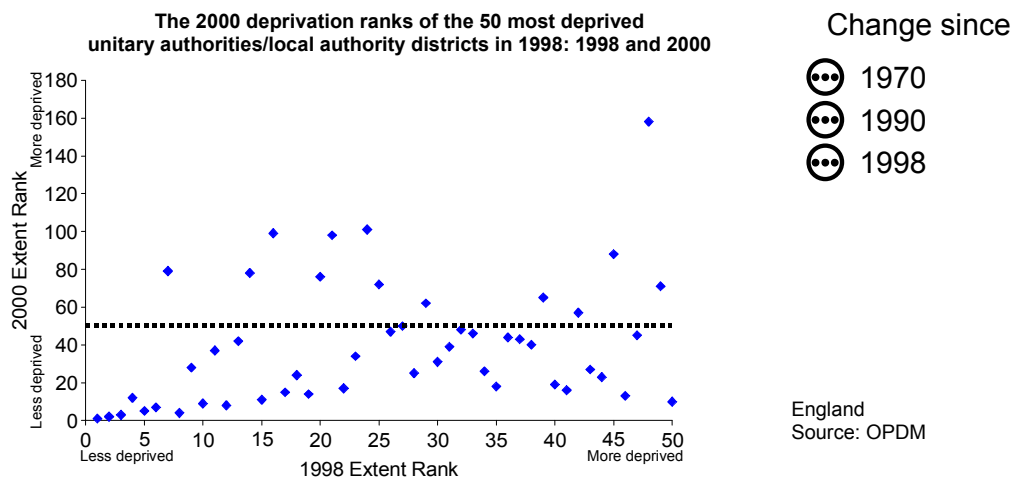


Objective: Improve economic performance and enhance regional competitiveness

- Since 1990, Gross Value Added (GVA) per head has been increasing relative to the UK average in the East of England, London, the South East and Northern Ireland, but decreasing in the rest of the UK.
- In 2001, the North East, Wales and Northern Ireland had per capita GVAs which were more than 20 per cent below the UK average while GVAs for the South East and London were more than 20 per cent above average.

Indicator: Index of local deprivation

E2

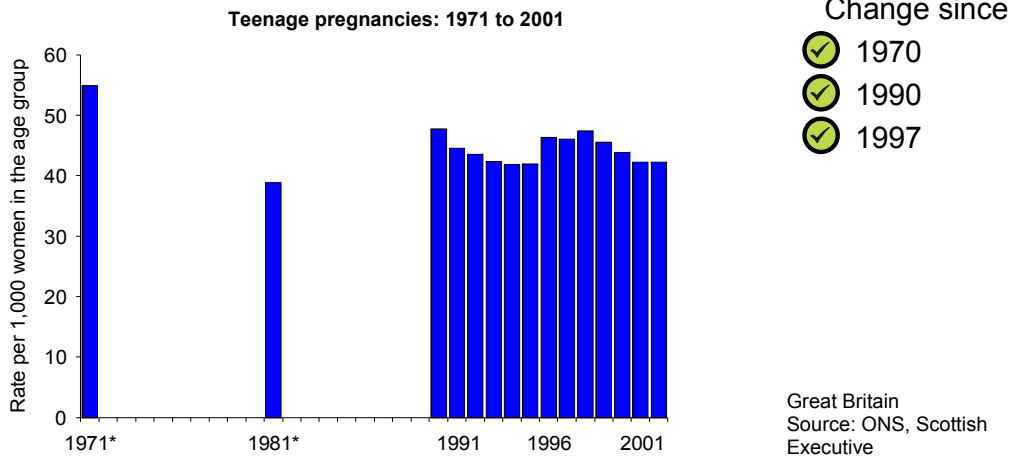


Objective: Closing the gap between the poorest communities and the rest

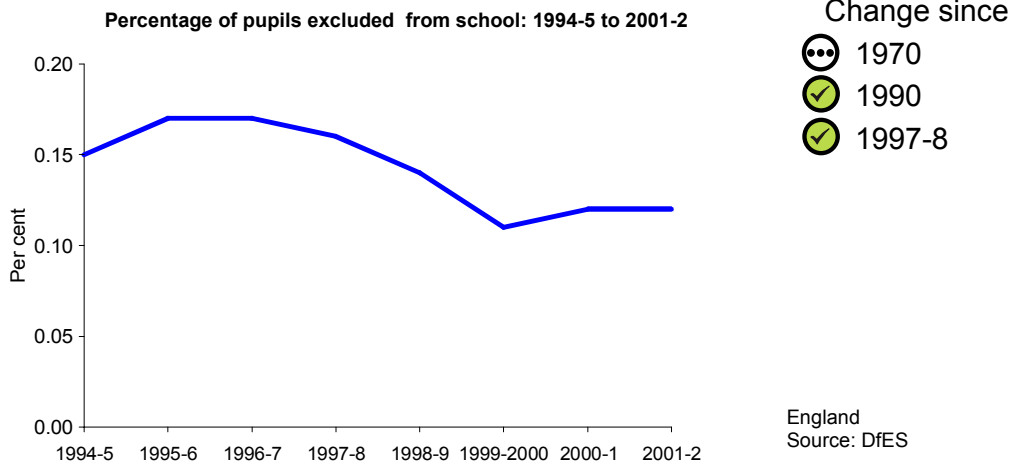
- Differences in data and formulation mean that the 1998 and 2000 indices of deprivation are not readily comparable.
- The chart indicates that only 13 (26 per cent) of the unitary authorities/local authority districts which were identified as being amongst the 50 most deprived in 1998 were no longer amongst the 50 most deprived in 2000. However, it is not clear whether the changes in status shown are due to better data or represent real changes in the status of authorities, and the extent rank measure shown here is only one way (of several) of measuring deprivation.

**Indicator: Truancies and exclusions from school;
Teenage pregnancies**

E3



Note: * Data for 1971 and 1981 are not strictly comparable with those for later years

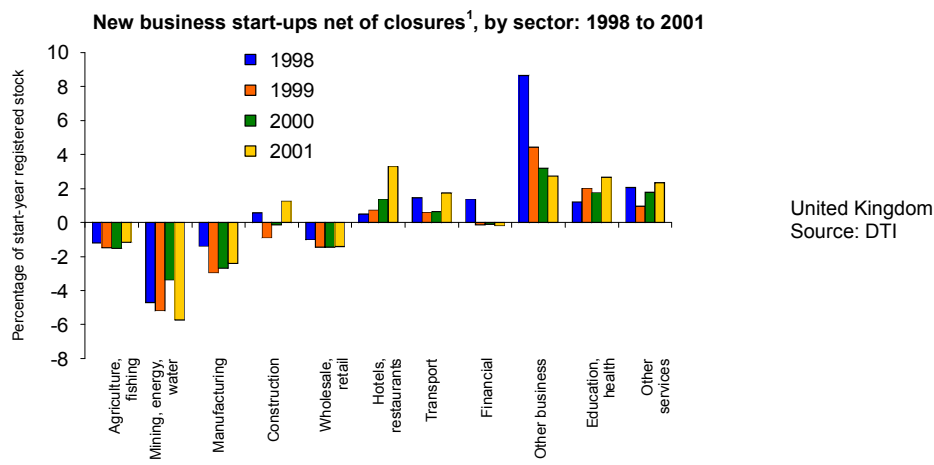
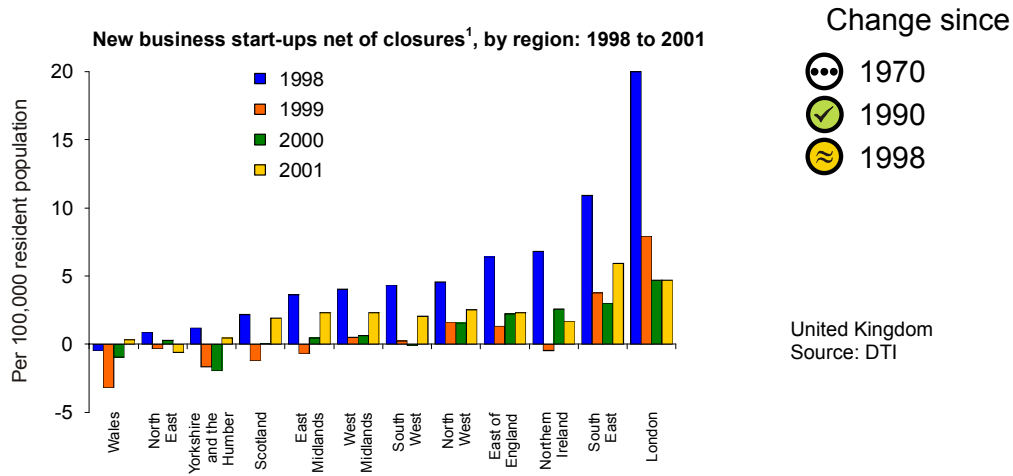


Objective: Tackling poverty and social exclusion

- In 2001 there were around 43 conceptions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 17, but around 4 fewer than in 1997 and 5 fewer than in 1990.
- The percentage of pupils excluded from school fell by a quarter (from 0.16 to 0.12 per cent) between 1997-8 and 2001-2.
- Truancies have been roughly stable since records began in the early 1980s at 0.7 per cent of half days missed per year through unauthorised pupil absence (not shown).

Indicator: New business start-ups net of closures

E4



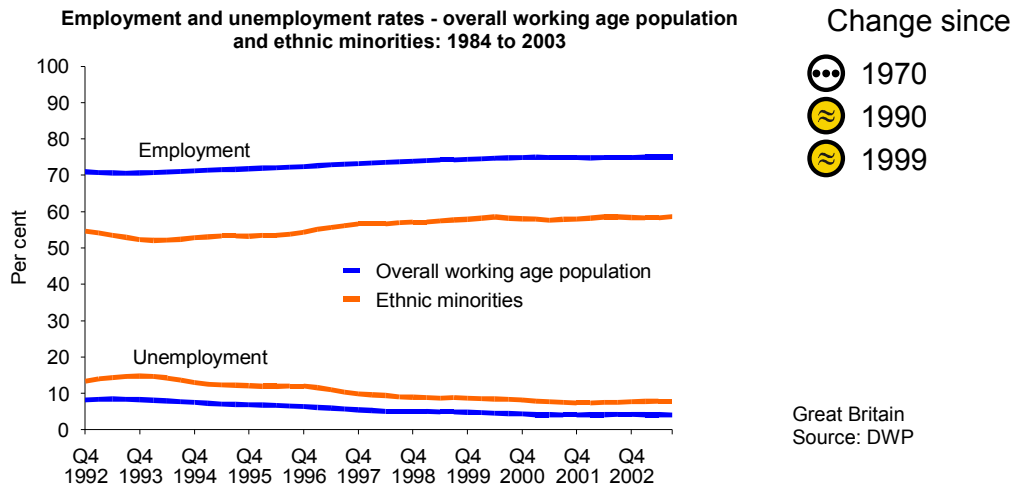
Note: 1. 2001 rates are based on the 2000 resident population

Objective: Promoting local business diversity

- Between 1998 and 2001, growth in new businesses net of closures was strongest in London and the South East of England and weakest in Wales. This compares with 1984 when all regions saw overall net closures (not shown).
- For the UK as a whole, growth was concentrated in the hotel, restaurant and other services sectors, with losses in the more industrial sectors and in retailing.

Indicator: Ethnic minority employment and unemployment

E5



Objective: Reducing disproportionate unemployment among ethnic minorities

- Between 1999 to 2003, the employment rate for ethnic minorities remained 17 percentage points below the overall rate. The unemployment gap has remained at 4 percentage points.
- Over the last 10 years the unemployment rates for ethnic minorities and the overall working age population have decreased by 7 and 4 percentage points respectively.