

Forestry Commission

National Statistics pre-release access

For briefing

In general, there is no pre-release access to the contents of FC National Statistics publications, for the purpose of briefing ministers or policy staff. Staff in FC Communications Branch have pre-release access to the statistics, but only to assist statistics staff in preparing news releases and for technical assistance in publishing.

For quality assurance

Members of the Expert Group on Timber and Trade Statistics (EGTTS) are given pre-release access to statistics on wood production and trade, for the purposes of quality assurance. Members are listed at <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-5rabtb>.

This access applies to the first release UK Wood Production and Trade and to the main publication giving more detailed results (chapters of Forestry Statistics from 2007, UK Timber Statistics in 2006 and 2005, British Timber Statistics in previous years). It also applies to statistics for international returns (not National Statistics). This access can be in the form of draft sections of the publication and/or underlying tables of non-disclosive data.

Where statistics for FC National Statistics publications come from FC administrative sources, the summary tables compiled for publication are often checked by those responsible for the administrative data. The same administrative sources may be used for management information, which may be used for operational and policy purposes before the publication of the related National Statistics outputs.

Simon Gillam
Economics & Statistics
Forestry Commission
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