

Enterprise

Figure 1 below shows that there were 53 new business starts in Stirling per 10,000 population in 2007, significantly higher than the average of 49 for Scotland as a whole.

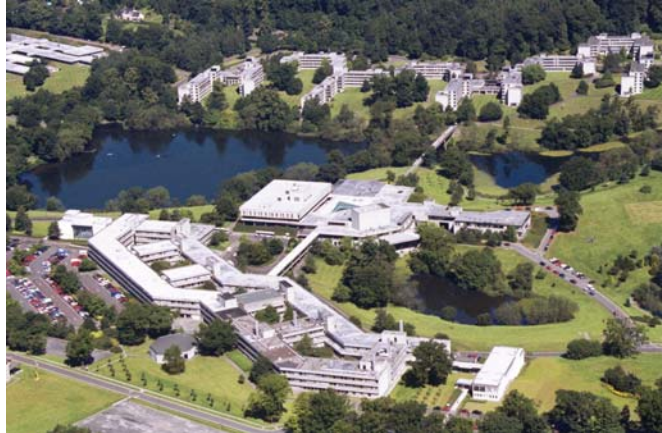


Figure 1: New Business Starts, 2007

	New business starts	New starts per 10,000 population
Stirling	480	53
Scotland	25,041	49

Source: Business Starts - The Committee of Scottish Clearing Bankers,
Population – General Register for Scotland, 2006 Mid Year Population
Estimates (Nomis)

Figure 2 shows that Stirling has a higher than average three-year survival rate for VAT registered enterprises. Stirling's high business start up rate and high business survival rate demonstrates the hospitable business environment that Stirling offers. As a result, Stirling's business base grew by eleven per cent between 2000 and 2006, more than double the five per cent average rate of growth for Scotland's business base as a whole.

Figure 2: Three-Year Business Survival Rates – VAT Registered Enterprises



Source: The Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform

Figure 3 shows the number of VAT registrations, de-registrations and stock in Stirling and Scotland in 2006. The table shows that Stirling’s VAT registration rate was slightly higher than the Scotland average in 2006, while the VAT de-registration was the same.

Figure 3: VAT Registered Businesses in 2006 – Percentages based on stock of VAT registered businesses

	Stirling – Number	Stirling - %	Scotland - %
VAT Registrations	280	8.7%	8.6%
VAT De-registrations	215	6.7%	6.7%
Stock at start of year	3,210	-	-

Source: VAT Registrations and De-Registrations (Nomis)

Figure 4 shows that the number of jobs in Stirling increased by around 5,800 between 2000 and 2006. This 14 per cent rate of growth was more than double the six per cent average rate of growth for Scotland as a whole, demonstrating how high levels of business start up and expansion of local businesses is driving economic growth in Stirling.

Figure 4: Number of Employees

	2000	2006	2000-2006 Change	2000-2006 % Change
Stirling	40,600	46,400	5,800	14%
Scotland	2,234,300	2,370,600	136,300	6%

Source: Annual Business Inquiry – Employee Analysis (Nomis)