UK Classification of Workplaces

Daytime Population and Employment
UK Classification of Workplace Zones

The Geography of Employment

The Classification of Workplace Zones (COWZ-UK) is a UK-wide geodemographic classification of workplaces and the work that is undertaken in them. It was created by a team at the University of Southampton and the Office for National Statistics. This classification allows users to better understand the differing types of employment that characterise business districts and other localities.

This openly available dataset is built using 2011 Census data and identifies similar workplace zone areas according to a variety of employment-related characteristics. Locations are classified as belonging to one of 7 Supergroups and 29 constituent Groups.

The underpinning data are 504 employment and workplace-related Census variables, calculated for the 60,709 Workplace Zones that cover the UK.

Classifying Britain’s Workplaces

This classification of workplace zones across the UK provides insight into key characteristics of employees and employment. The indicator and accompanying detailed information about the defining features of each Group and Supergroup can be accessed on the CDRC website at data.cdrc.ac.uk. The classification provides an effective tool to enable better understanding and planning of vibrant employment centres, alongside examination of how they interact and align with local workforces.

Combined with additional CDRC products, the COWZ-UK indicator can be used to provide insights into changing patterns of employment in relation to resident populations across the UK.

Newcastle

Milton Keynes

Bristol

• 7 Supergroup Classifications
• 29 Group Classifications
Classified on 504 employment and workplace related Census characteristics.
Coverage for 60,709 Workplace Zones in the UK.

All data are openly available to download from data.cdrc.ac.uk and visible through our interactive web mapping tool: maps.cdrc.ac.uk