



Parliamentary Under
Secretary of State

Department of Employment

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Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
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22 January 1986

Any use?

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Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 8 January about the maps of regional employment growth and business starts and stops.

The regional estimates of civilian employment, on which two of the maps were based, have now been revised. The self employment estimates have been revised for the reasons set out in Mr Baty's minute which I believe Mrs McFarlane forwarded to you on 6 December. The slight revisions to the employees in employment estimates reflect the routine procedure of taking account of late data. I enclose maps using these revised figures. The maps dealing with business starts and stops have not been revised though they may need revision later as further information comes to hand.

You asked for a paragraph on the spread of employment growth across the regions. We would advise against emphasising the self employment figures, which you mention, because the growth between 1984 and 1985 is assumed on the basis of past trends rather than estimated from current data, and - while all regions show growth - there is quite considerable variation between the estimated growth rates of different regions.

I suggest something along the following lines. "It is not only in the South East that we have seen increasing employment opportunities. All regions in Great Britain saw an increase in the number of businesses in the four years 1980 to 1983 - by between 6 and 10 per cent. Between mid 1983 and mid 1985 only one region of Great Britain, (the Northern Region), did not show an increase in civilian employment; in the other regions there were increases ranging from 1½ to 6 per cent."



Alternatively, one might wish in some contexts to refer to the three northern English regions (the North, North West and Yorkshire and Humberside) as a single area. Despite the reduction in the Northern Region, these three regions together saw an estimated increase of 1.6 per cent in civilian employment between June 1983 and June 1985.

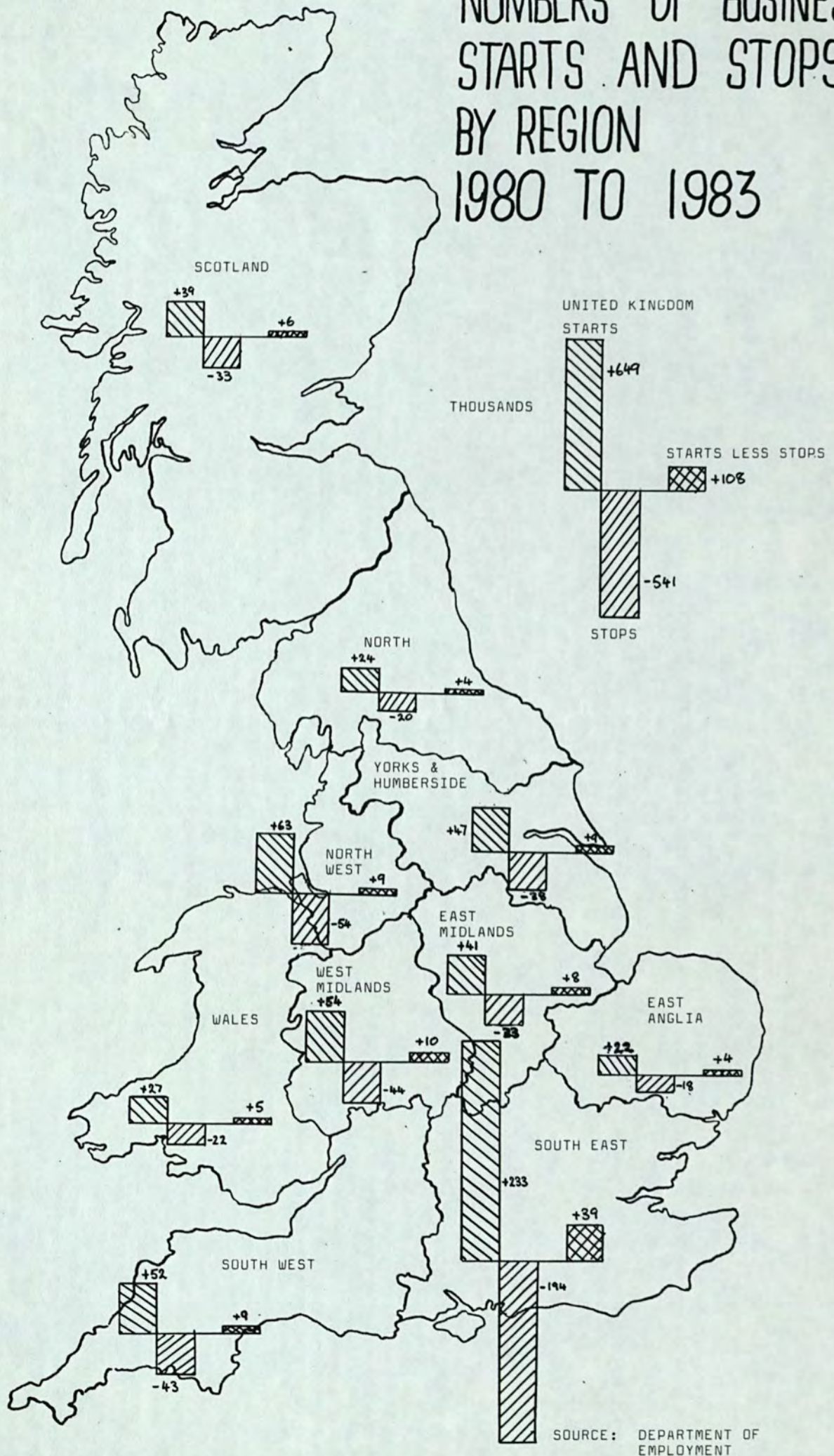
One would need to be careful not to deny the existence of any bias towards the South East. The South East and East Anglia show the highest percentage growth in employment and are among the regions with the highest growth in businesses.

yours sincerely

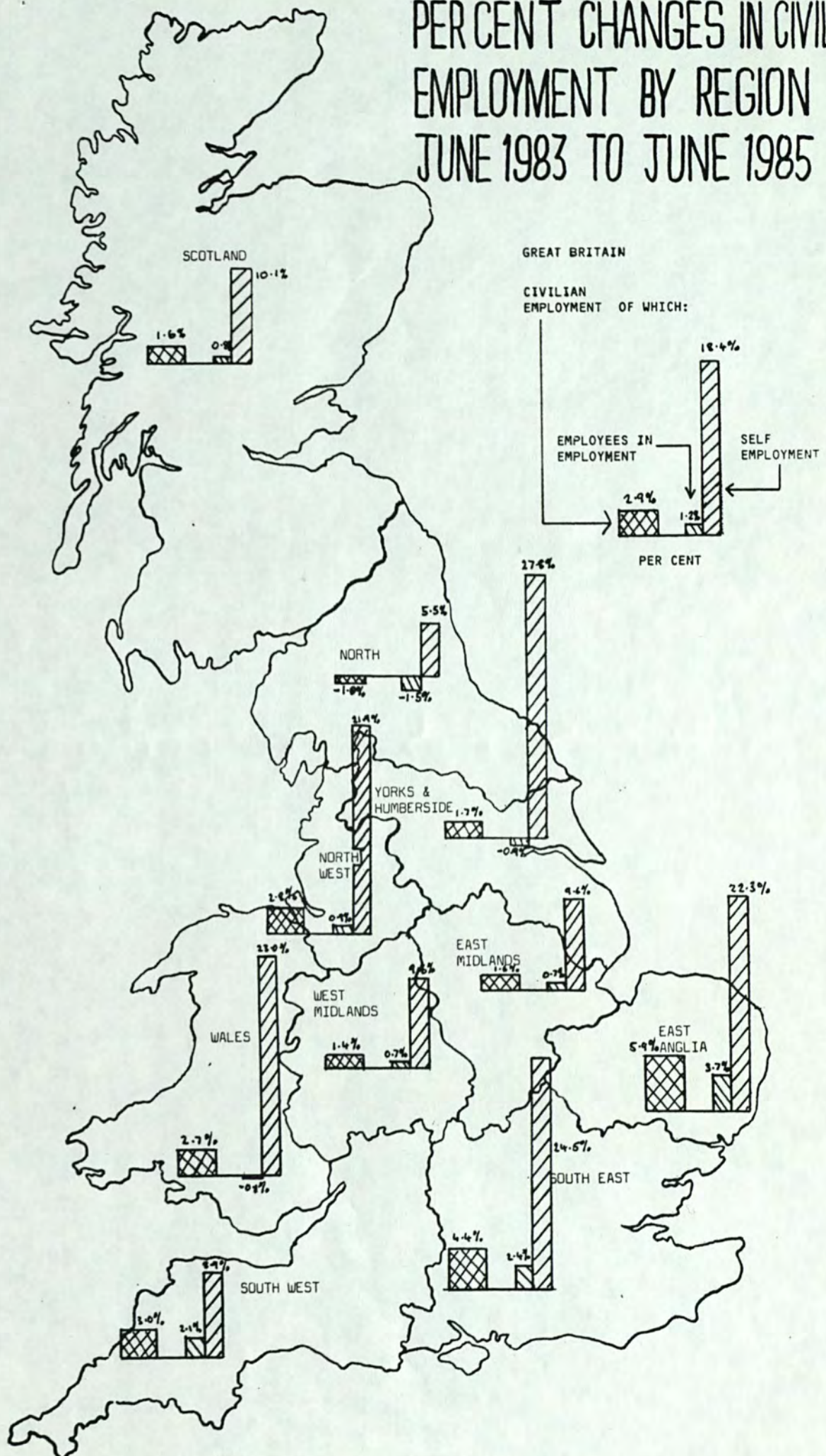
STEPHEN PALMER
Private Secretary

Apologies for the delay
SP

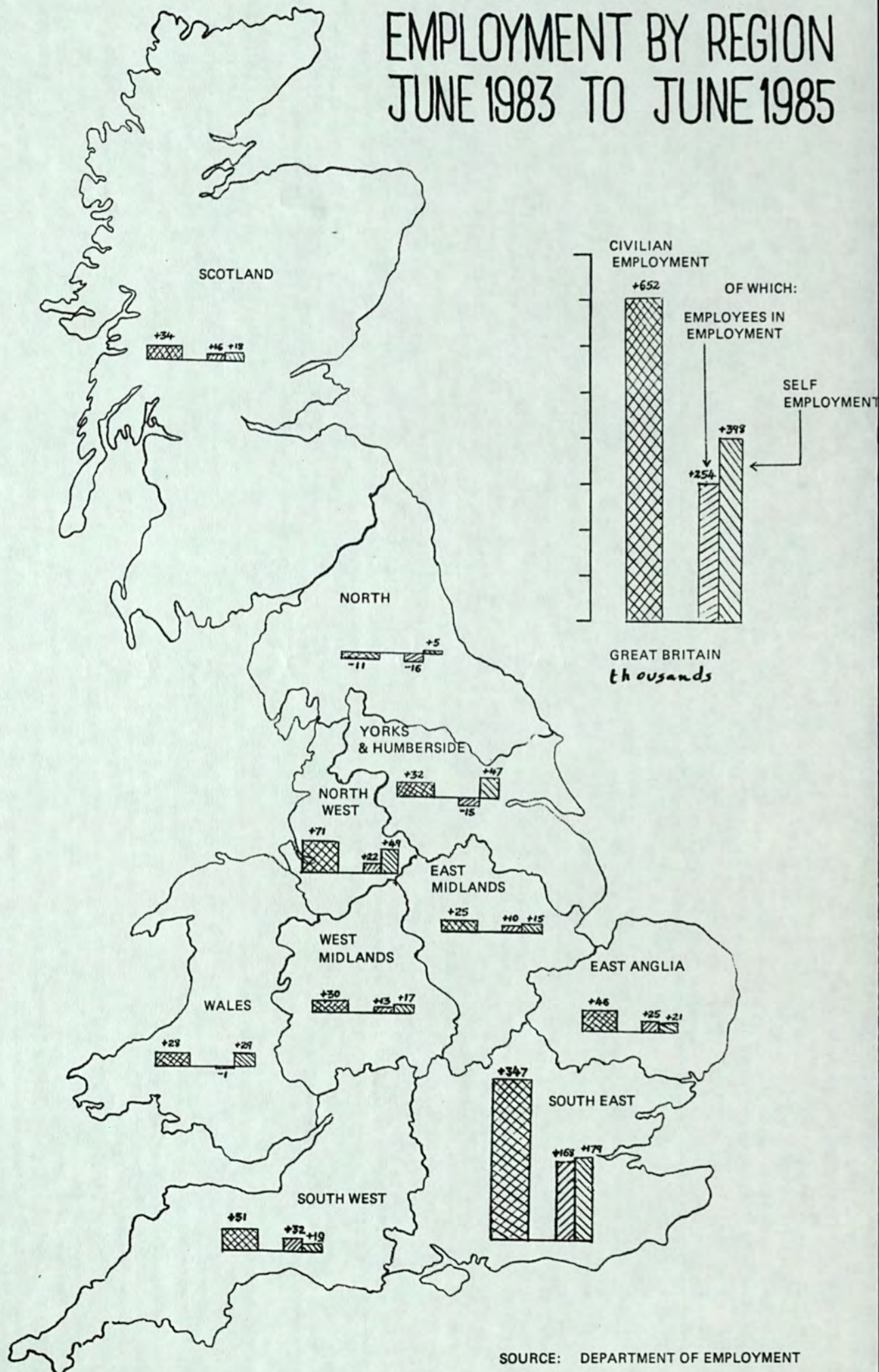
NUMBERS OF BUSINESS STARTS AND STOPS BY REGION 1980 TO 1983



PER CENT CHANGES IN CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT BY REGION JUNE 1983 TO JUNE 1985

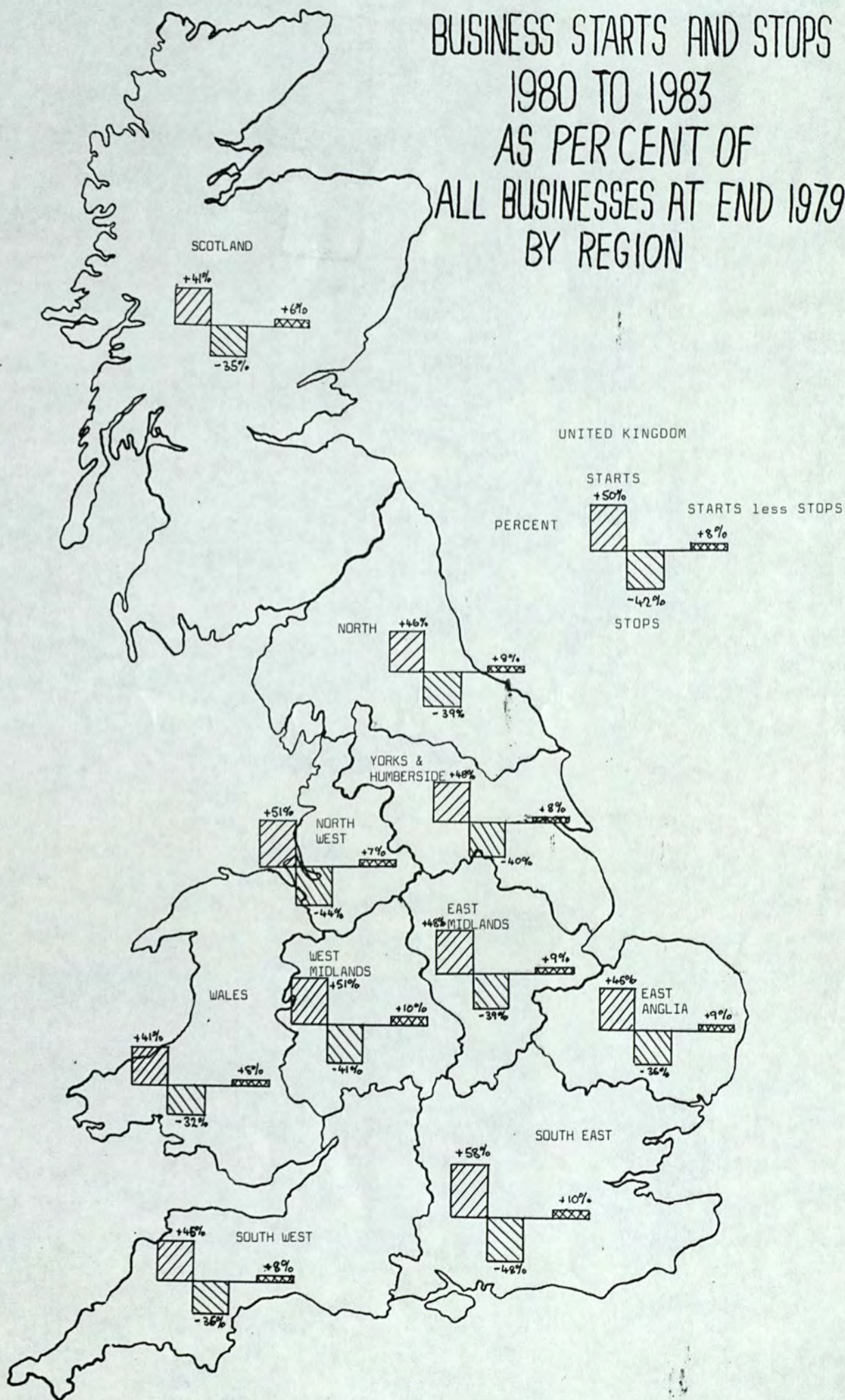


CHANGES IN CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT BY REGION JUNE 1983 TO JUNE 1985



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

BUSINESS STARTS AND STOPS 1980 TO 1983 AS PER CENT OF ALL BUSINESSES AT END 1979 BY REGION



S.E. M. S. MANPOWER

Pt 13.

