KEY ECONOMIC STATISTICS – SEPTEMBER 2012

- The employment rate in Wales, as estimated by the Labour Force Survey, was 68.6 per cent of those aged 16-64 during May to July 2012, up from 67.6 per cent a year earlier.
- The UK rate for the same period was 71.2 per cent, up from 70.4 per cent a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate in Wales was 8.9 per cent of the economically active population during May to July 2012, up from 8.5 per cent a year ago.
- The UK rate for the same period was 8.1 per cent, up from 8.0 per cent a year ago.

Summary statistics: May to July 2012 (seasonally adjusted)

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Wales</th>
<th>UK</th>
<th>New data released this month:</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Claimant count (4)</td>
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</table>

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64.
(2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over. The rate is a proportion of the economically active.
(3) Levels and rates are for those aged 16-64.
(4) Data relate to August 2012 and are provisional.
New monthly information released this month is summarised below.

The Labour Force Survey estimates for the 3 months to July 2012 show:

- The employment rate of people aged 16 to 64 in Wales was 68.6 per cent, up from 67.6 per cent in the same period a year earlier. The UK average was 71.2 per cent.
- The ILO unemployment rate in Wales was 8.9 per cent of the economically active, up from 8.5 per cent in the same period a year earlier. For the UK as a whole it was 8.1 per cent.
- The economic inactivity rate of people aged 16 to 64 in Wales was 24.5 per cent, down from 26.0 per cent in the same period a year earlier. The UK average was 22.4 per cent.

The claimant count rate in August 2012 for Wales was 5.5 per cent of the workforce, up from 5.4 per cent in August 2011 (UK rate 4.8 per cent).

The claimant count rate in August 2012 for West Wales and the Valleys was 4.3 per cent of the resident population aged 16 to 64. The rate for East Wales stood at 4.0 per cent.

Other new information released this month is summarised below:

The public sector employment rate in 2012 quarter 2 for Wales was 10.9 per cent of the population, down 0.2 percentage points on the previous year (UK rate 9.1 per cent).

The Workforce Jobs series for the quarter ending June 2012 show that:

- Workforce jobs in Wales rose by 20,000 (1.5 per cent) over the year to stand at 1.387 million. UK workforce jobs rose by 2.3 per cent over the same period to stand at 31.9 million.
- Workforce jobs in manufacturing in Wales rose by 4,000 (2.5 per cent) over the year, whilst workforce jobs in manufacturing rose in the UK by 2.4 per cent.

The value of exports of goods for the four quarters up to and including 2012 quarter 2 from Wales rose by 0.6 per cent over the previous four quarters and rose by 106.0 per cent over 1999. Exports for the sum of UK countries and English regions rose by 4.8 per cent and 70.5 per cent over the same periods respectively.

Contents

The charts in this bulletin are arranged as follows:

- page 3: employment;
- page 4: unemployment;
- page 5: economic inactivity and out of work benefit claimant rates;
- page 6: labour market indicators for NUTS2 areas;
- page 7: employee and self employment jobs;
- page 8: Indices of Production; Index of Construction; and Index of Market Services
- page 9: exports, VAT/PAYE enterprise births and VAT/PAYE enterprises; and
- page 10: average earnings, gross value added and gross disposable household income per head.

Detailed background notes and key quality information are given on pages 11 to 15.
There were 1.357 million people in employment in Wales in May to July 2012, up 33,000 (2.5 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 68.6 per cent of those aged 16-64, up from 67.6 per cent in the same period a year earlier.

The total number in employment in the UK over the same period rose by 431,000 (1.5 per cent) to 29.6 million. This is a rate of 71.2 per cent of those aged 16-64, up from 70.4 per cent a year earlier.

There were 722,000 men in employment in Wales in May to July 2012, up 28,000 (4.1 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 73.4 per cent of those aged 16-64, up from 71.3 per cent from in the same period a year earlier.

The number of men in employment in the UK over the same period rose by 243,000 (1.6 per cent) to 15.8 million. This is a rate of 76.3 per cent of those aged 16-64, up from 75.4 per cent a year earlier.

There were 635,000 women in employment in Wales in May to July 2012, up 5,000 (0.8 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 63.9 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 64.0 per cent in the same period a year earlier.

The number of women in employment in the UK stood at 13.7 million, up 187,000 (1.4 per cent) over the year. This is a rate of 66.1 per cent of those aged 16-64, up from 65.4 per cent from a year earlier.

Please note that in 2012Q2 the ONS reclassified some English education institutions to the private sector which affects the UK data. The notes section provides more information.

There were 329,000 people employed in the public sector in Wales in 2012 quarter 2, down 7,000 (2.1 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 10.9 per cent of the population, down from 11.2 per cent in the same period a year earlier.

Public sector employment in the UK over the same period fell by 393,000 (6.5 per cent) to 5.7 million. This is a rate of 9.1 per cent of the population, down from 9.7 per cent a year earlier.
There were 132,000 people who were ILO unemployed in Wales in May to July 2012, up 9,000 (7.6 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 8.9 per cent of the economically active population, up from 8.5 per cent a year earlier.

The number of ILO unemployed people in the UK over the same period rose by 61,000 (2.4 per cent) to 2.6 million. This is a rate of 8.1 per cent of the economically active population, up from 8.0 per cent a year earlier.

For the year ending 31 March 2012 the Annual Population Survey (APS) estimates that 38,800 people in Wales were long-term ILO unemployed (12 months or more), up 4.6 per cent over the year. This represented 32.2 per cent of all those unemployed in the year, 1.2 percentage points higher than the figure for the previous year. The equivalent UK rate was 32.6 per cent, 0.3 percentage points lower than the previous year.

For the year ending 31 March 2012 the APS estimates that 50,900 people aged 16-24 in Wales were ILO unemployed, up 2.0 per cent over the year. This represented 23.9 per cent of the economically active in this age group, up 1.5 percentage points over the figure for a year earlier. The equivalent UK rate was 21.2 per cent, 2.0 percentage points higher than the previous year.

The claimant count in Wales stood at 79,300 in August 2012, a rate of 5.5 per cent of the workforce. Over the 12 months to August 2012 it rose by 2,200 (2.9 per cent). The UK claimant count stood at 1,570,500 in August 2012, representing 4.8 per cent of the workforce. Over the 12 months to August 2012 it fell by 3,600 (0.2 per cent).
Economic Inactivity Rate: Persons
Percentage of those aged 16-64

There were 464,000 people who were economically inactive in Wales in May to July 2012, down 29,000 (5.9 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 24.5 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 26.0 per cent in the same period a year earlier.

The number who were economically inactive in the UK over the same period fell by 375,000 (4.0 per cent) to 9.0 million. This is a rate of 22.4 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 23.4 per cent a year earlier.

Economic Inactivity Rate: Men
Percentage of those aged 16-64

There were 176,000 economically inactive men in Wales in May to July 2012, down 10,000 (5.2 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 18.8 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 19.8 per cent a year earlier.

The number of economically inactive men in the UK over the same period fell by 196,000 (5.7 per cent) to 3.3 million. This is a rate of 16.3 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 17.3 per cent a year earlier.

Economic Inactivity Rate: Women
Percentage of those aged 16-64

There were 288,000 economically inactive women in Wales May to July 2012, down 19,000 (6.3 per cent) from a year earlier. This is a rate of 30.1 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 32.0 per cent a year earlier.

The number of economically inactive women in the UK over the same period fell by 178,000 (3.0 per cent) to 5.7 million. This is a rate of 28.5 per cent of those aged 16-64, down from 29.4 per cent a year earlier.

Out of Work Benefit Claimants*
Percentage of those aged 16-64

There were 297,400 people claiming out of work benefits in Wales in February 2012, down 100 from a year earlier. This is a rate of 15.7 per cent of those aged 16-64, unchanged from the same period a year earlier.

The number claiming out of work benefits in GB over the same period rose by 78,300 (1.6 per cent) to 4.9 million. This is a rate of 12.5 per cent of those aged 16-64, up from 12.3 per cent a year earlier.

WPLS – Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study
* not seasonally adjusted
NS = National Statistics
For the year ending 31 March 2012 the average employment level in West Wales and the Valleys was 3,000 (0.4 per cent) higher than the previous year. For East Wales the level was 11,000 (2.2 per cent) higher.

Over the same period, the employment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points in West Wales and the Valleys and increased by 1.0 percentage points in East Wales.

For the year ending 31 March 2012 the average unemployment level in West Wales and the Valleys was 5,000 (7.3 per cent) higher than the previous year. For East Wales the level was 4,000 (9.5 per cent) lower.

Over the same period, the unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage points in West Wales and the Valleys and fell by 0.9 percentage points in East Wales.

The claimant count in West Wales and the Valleys rose by 1,700 (3.5 per cent) over the year to stand at 50,500 in August 2012, a rate of 4.3 per cent of the resident population aged 16-64.

In East Wales, the claimant count rose by 500 (1.7 per cent) over the year to stand at 28,500 in August 2012, representing 4.0 per cent of the resident population aged 16-64.

For the year ending 31 March 2012 the economic inactivity level in West Wales and the Valleys was 7,000 (2.1 per cent) lower than the previous year. For East Wales the level was 1,000 (0.6 per cent) lower.

Over the same period, the economic inactivity rate fell by 0.6 percentage points in West Wales and the Valleys and fell by 0.3 percentage points in East Wales.
The number of workforce jobs in Wales rose by 20,000 (1.5 per cent) between June 2011 and June 2012 to stand at 1.387 million. Between June 1999 and June 2012 the number of workforce jobs in Wales rose by 158,700 (12.9 per cent).

The number of workforce jobs in the UK as a whole rose by 708,000 (2.3 per cent) to 31.9 million over the year and rose by 2.7 million (9.3 per cent) over 1999.

The number of workforce jobs in manufacturing in Wales rose by 4,000 (2.5 per cent) between June 2011 and June 2012 to stand at 149,000 (10.7 per cent of all workforce jobs compared to 17.1 per cent in June 1999).

Over the same period the number of workforce jobs in manufacturing in the UK as a whole rose by 60,000 (2.4 per cent) to 2.6 million (8.1 per cent of all workforce jobs compared to 14.1 per cent in June 1999).

The LFS estimate of the number of self-employment jobs in Wales fell by 6,000 (3.1 per cent) between June 2011 and June 2012 to 194,000 (14.0 per cent of workforce jobs compared to 13.3 per cent in June 1999).

Over the same period the estimate of the number of self-employment jobs in the UK stood at 4.6 million, up 268,000 (6.2 per cent) over the year (14.4 per cent of workforce jobs compared to 12.7 per cent in June 1999).

STES = Short Term Employment Surveys
NS = National Statistics
Production output in Wales for the four quarters ending 2012 quarter 1 fell by 3.4 per cent compared with the previous four quarters. The UK index fell by 2.0 per cent, over the same period.

Production output for 2012 quarter 1 rose by 4.3 per cent compared with the previous quarter. The UK index fell by 0.5 per cent over the same period.

Manufacturing output in Wales for the four quarters ending 2012 quarter 1 fell by 3.4 per cent compared with the previous four quarters. UK output rose by 0.6 per cent during this period.

Manufacturing output for 2012 quarter 1 rose by 3.6 per cent compared with the previous quarter. The UK index fell by 0.4 per cent over the same period.

Construction output for the four quarters ending 2012 quarter 1 fell by 2.3 per cent compared with the previous four quarters. UK output rose by 0.4 per cent over the same period.

Construction output for 2012 quarter 1 fell by 9.9 per cent compared with the previous quarter. The UK index fell by 4.9 per cent over the same period.

The Index of Market Services for Wales for the four quarters ending 2012 quarter 1 was 3.7 per cent higher than in the previous four quarters. The UK index rose by 1.3 per cent over the same period.

The Index of Market Services for 2012 quarter 1 rose by 3.2 per cent compared with the previous quarter. The UK rose by 0.2 per cent over the same period.

NS = National Statistics
For the four quarters up to and including 2012 quarter 2 the value of exports of goods from Wales rose by 0.6 per cent on the previous four quarters and rose by 106.0 per cent over 1999. Exports to EU countries accounted for 40 per cent of the total in the latest four quarters, down from 43 per cent in the previous four quarters.

The value of exports for the total of all UK countries and English regions for four quarters up to and including 2012 quarter 2 rose by 4.8 per cent on the previous four quarters and rose by 70.5 per cent over 1999. Exports to EU countries accounted for 47 per cent of the total in the latest four quarters, down from 49 per cent in the previous four quarters.

In Wales there were 39 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births per 10,000 people aged 16-64 in 2010, compared to 44 in 2009. The UK had 58 VAT/PAYE births per 10,000 people aged 16-64 in 2010, compared to 59 in 2009.

Registrations per head of 16-64 population peaked in 2004 in Wales and have fallen overall since.

Not all businesses are registered for VAT/PAYE. Many small businesses trading below the VAT/PAYE threshold will not be included.

In Wales there were 464 VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 people aged 16-64 in 2010, a fall of 15 over the year.

The UK had 570 VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 people aged 16-64 in 2010, down 13 over the year.

Not all businesses are registered for VAT/PAYE. Many small businesses trading below the VAT/PAYE threshold will not be included.

NS = National Statistics
Workplace-based average gross weekly earnings of full-time employees in Wales rose by 0.7 per cent between April 2010 and April 2011, below that for the UK (1.2 per cent). Residence-based earnings in Wales increased by 0.4 per cent over the same period (UK up 1.2 per cent).

In April 2011, average workplace-based gross weekly earnings of full-time employees in Wales stood at £519, 85.8 per cent of the UK average. On a residence basis, average weekly earnings in Wales stood at £529, 87.3 per cent of the UK average.

In 2010, Gross Value Added (GVA) for Wales was £45.5 billion or £15,145 per head of population. This was 74.0 per cent of the average for the total of all UK regions, slightly higher than 2008 and 2009 but lower than previous years.

Wales had the lowest level of GVA per head in the UK regions, behind Northern Ireland and the North East, where GVA per head was 76.4 per cent and 76.9 per cent of the UK average respectively.

Gross disposable household income (GDHI) in 2010 for Wales was £41.4 billion or £13,783 per head of population. This represented 87.7 per cent of the UK figure, up from 87.5 per cent in 2009.

GDHI per head in Wales is closer to the UK average than GVA per head, and is higher than that for the North East, Northern Ireland and Yorkshire and the Humber.
Changes to this month’s bulletin and planned changes for future bulletins

This month’s bulletin

English Further Education Corporations and Sixth Form College Corporations have been reclassified from the public to the private sector from 2012Q2. Therefore between 2012Q1 and 2012Q2 public sector employment at a UK level is affected by this change and comparisons between Wales and the UK are also affected and need to be interpreted accordingly. For further information please see the notes section in the release found on the link below: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/september-2012/statistical-bulletin.html#tab-background-notes

Next month’s bulletin

There are no planned changes/revisions to next month’s bulletins.

Future bulletins

There are no planned changes/revisions to future bulletins.

Policy/Operational Context

This bulletin is a compendium publication used to bring together the latest key statistics relating to the Welsh economy and labour market, mainly in the context of the UK economy and labour market. The bulletin is updated each month, so that it is based on the latest version of each of the datasets it includes (see dates given in each of the charts for the next update dates). The headline LFS estimates in the bulletin are published by ONS in their Labour Market Statistical Bulletin (http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/taxonomy/index.html?nscl=Labour+Market) which includes headline figures for Wales as a whole. This bulletin produced by The Welsh Government provides a more detailed breakdown of the Wales data within the ONS bulletin and presents those estimates alongside other headline estimates for the economy and labour market for Wales. These statistics are used by the Welsh Government to monitor the headline statistics for the Welsh economy as well as providing comparisons to the UK economy. The bulletin includes some of the measures contained in the Programme for Government, namely the employment rate, Gross Value Added and Gross Disposable Household Income. This bulletin is also used by other public sector organisations, businesses, academia and private individuals as a means of identifying the key trends in the headline economic and labour market statistics for Wales. Our user consultation provides more information on how our outputs are used: http://www.wales.gov.uk/consultations/statistics/09economicstats/?lang=en&status=closed

The bulletin is the main vehicle for the publication of results for the Welsh labour market from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), as produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), regional public sector employment (page 3) and also for information from Jobcentre plus on the numbers of claimants of unemployment related benefits, or claimant count and out of work benefit claimants (pages 4 to 6). The bulletin also provides Welsh data on the numbers of employee and self-employment jobs as published by the ONS (see page 7). Further information on these datasets is given later in these notes.

In addition to these datasets, the bulletin brings together the further datasets, for which the Welsh Government produces separate publications, including short term output indices, exports data, earnings data, VAT/PAYE enterprises data and regional accounts data. Further information about these additional datasets can be found in the separate publications themselves, all available from the following page on the Welsh Government website: http://www.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/latest/latest-economy/.
Notes

Some of data given in this bulletin are presented as index numbers. Index numbers take the data for each time period and divide them by the figure for the reference period, and multiply the result by 100. A figure of above 100 for a given time period then indicates that the figure is higher than that for the reference period, whilst a figure of below 100 indicates that it is lower than that for the reference period. Data on workforce jobs, self-employment jobs and exports are presented as indices referenced to 1999 = 100. The indices of production, manufacturing and construction and the index of market services are each referenced to 2009 = 100.

For the series shown on pages 3 to 8, most are seasonally adjusted, and this is to be assumed unless stated otherwise. None of the data shown on pages 9 and 10 are seasonally adjusted.

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) data at both a regional and sub-regional level used in the charts on pages 3 to 6 are adjusted to take account of the results of the 2001 Census of Population. The seasonally adjusted LFS data used on pages 3 to 5 also take account of the latest mid-year population estimates as released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

95% confidence intervals for Labour Force Survey figures: Wales, May to July 2012

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<th>Estimates</th>
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Key quality information: Labour Force Survey and claimant count

The main LFS is a quarterly sample survey of around 60,000 households living at private addresses in the UK. Each quarter’s LFS sample of 60,000 private households is made up of 5 ‘waves’, each of approximately 12,000 households. Each wave is interviewed in 5 successive quarters, such that in any one quarter, one wave will be receiving their first interview, one wave their second, and so on, with one wave receiving their fifth and final interview. As a result, there is an 80 per cent overlap in the samples for successive quarters. Households are interviewed face-to-face when first included in the survey and by telephone thereafter. For the first wave in Wales the response rate in the main LFS is around 80 per cent, with around 80 per cent of these remaining by the fifth wave.

The main LFS is based on a detailed questionnaire and hence provides for a large dataset, although there are some limitations to its use, particularly at a sub-regional level due to sample size constraints. Its primary use is to provide labour market information for the UK, including levels and rates for employment, unemployment and economic activity / inactivity. The sample size is sufficient to provide estimates of reasonable quality at UK country and English region level within the UK, from which ONS publish a monthly set of releases for each UK country and English region (see http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/ons/rel/subnational-labour/regional-labour-market-statistics/september-2011/stb-regional-labour-market-september-2011.html#tab-Index-of-Tables).
It is the data from the Welsh release that is used to compare the Welsh labour market with that for the UK as a whole in this bulletin, on pages 3 to 5.

As the LFS is a sample survey, the results taken from it are subject to sampling variability. The ranges shown for the Labour Force Survey data (as set out in the table above) represent 95 per cent confidence intervals for the Wales data about the estimates for each given indicator. This means that in 95 per cent of samples, the range given would contain the exact value.

The Annual Local Labour Force Survey (LLFS) (or Welsh Local Labour Force Survey (WLLFS) in Wales) is an annual sample survey of households living at private addresses in the UK. The annual survey uses results from those sampled for the main quarterly LFS, but do not exactly match annual averages derived from the 4 quarterly datasets in each year due to differences in the sampling structure. Since 2001, additional persons have been sampled on an annual basis to provide a more robust (boosted) annual dataset across the UK, with estimates subject to much lower sampling variability. For Wales, the data are now based on an enhanced sample (around 350 per cent larger) compared to earlier years. Since 2004, the annual LFS data have been used to construct the Annual Population Survey (APS), which provides a four-quarter rolling average of labour market information, updated quarterly, based on these boosted samples. These data are used to produce the sub-regional estimates for Wales, as given on page 6 of this bulletin.

The additional persons sampled in the LLFS/APS are based on four waves, over four years of the survey. For the first wave, the response rate in Wales is around 75 per cent, with around 80 per cent of these remaining by the fourth wave.

There are some minor differences between the results from the LLFS/APS datasets and the main LFS datasets, probably arising from the different sampling structures employed in each element. The Office for National Statistics has now reweighted both the main LFS and the APS data to take account of the latest population estimates. This means that the detailed labour market statistics are now based on the same population estimates as the headline estimates in this bulletin.

There are two different measures of unemployment used in official UK statistics, namely the headline International Labour Organisation (ILO) measure recorded by the LFS and the claimant count measure. Each is subject to advantages and disadvantages.

The headline ILO measure is a count of those who are out of work and want a job, or have actively sought work in the last 4 weeks and are available to start work in the next two weeks; plus those who are out of work, have found a job and are waiting to start in the next 2 weeks. It is the broader measure of unemployment used around the world. However, being sourced from a survey, the results are sample-based estimates subject to sampling variability, i.e. the true value for any measure lies in a range about the estimated value. This range is wider as the detail in the data increases, for example Wales data are subject to higher variability than UK data (the variability around the Wales estimate is shown above).

The claimant count is a count of all those claiming unemployment related benefits (currently Jobseekers Allowance). As such it excludes those who are unemployed who are not eligible to claim, and those who do not wish to claim. However, the advantage of the claimant count measure is that it is a count of all claimants and is not subject to any sampling variability. It can therefore be disaggregated to very high levels of detail, and in particular, changes measured over the short term are more robust than for the headline unemployment measure.

**Key quality information: Regional Public Sector Employment**

In 2005, ONS, in collaboration with other government departments and the devolved administrations implemented major improvements to public sector employment (PSE) estimates. Standard definitions for public sector employment across all departmental statistics were agreed and a single definitive set of quarterly PSE estimates introduced. A new Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey (QPSES) was
established. ONS publishes official PSE estimates each quarter, as National Statistics in the form of a Statistical Bulletin, approximately 11 weeks after the period to which they refer.

The public sector comprises central government, local government and public corporations as defined for the UK National Accounts. ONS produces the United Kingdom’s National Accounts. The National Accounts are an internationally comparable accounting framework that describes the activities in a national economy. The relevant international manuals are the System of National Accounts 1993 (SNA93) and the European System of Accounts 1995 (ESA95). As part of the process of producing the National Accounts, ONS decides on the classification of institutions and transactions within the economy.

The public sector employment estimates relate to the number of people employed according to returns from relevant organisations, but they include a number of workers with a second job in the public sector whose main job is in the private sector or in a separate public sector organisation.

**Key quality information: Out of Work Benefit Claimants**

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) produce a quarterly snapshot of benefit claimants at particular points in time based on 100% of claimants so the data are not subject to any sampling error. Data are for the number of people aged 16 to 64 who are claiming one or more key out of work benefits which is the total number of people assigned to the following statistical groups: Jobseeker’s Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parent and Other (which includes those claiming Other Income Support (including IS Disability Premium) or Pension Credit.

The aim of the Statistical Group typology is to present each person by the main reasons why they are claiming benefit. Each client is classified just once. Benefits are arranged hierarchically and claimants are assigned to the top most benefit which they receive. Thus a person who is a lone parent and receives Incapacity Benefit would be classified as incapacity benefits. For this reason the group lone parent, for example, will not contain all lone parents claiming Income Support. Some will be included in the incapacity benefits group instead. Data are not seasonally adjusted so any comparisons should be made year on year.

**Key quality information: ONS Workforce Jobs estimates**

The ONS produce estimates of workforce jobs by industry and UK country / English region sourced from their Short Term Employment Surveys (STES). The total numbers of employee jobs from this source can then be added to estimates of self-employed jobs sourced from the main LFS along with data on government supported trainees and HM forces to provide a count of all workforce jobs in each UK country / English region. ONS publish these data quarterly, with some of the elements of these series for Wales provided on page 7 of this bulletin.

Jobs information differ from the LFS employment estimates for a number of reasons, the most obvious being that the latter is a count of persons working, and the former the jobs they hold, and persons with two jobs will be counted once in the employment estimates but twice in the jobs estimates. There are other differences, such as the effect of commuting between areas and differences in the sources used and their coverage (the LFS is a household based survey, whilst the STES is an employer based survey).

Whilst the ONS workforce jobs series is available quarterly, the data are not broken down below UK country / English region level and so the series does not provide for sub-Wales estimates. Prior to the redevelopment of the series in July 2010 the ONS did not publish workforce jobs by industry and region either. To address this, the Welsh Government produces a separate bulletin based on LLFS/APS data and other sources, providing both industry and sub-Wales detail in respect of jobs in Wales. These estimates are only available on an annual basis and are thus not included in this bulletin to avoid confusion with the ONS estimates. However, as they are primarily based on LLFS/APS data, they are more consistent in terms of coverage with the headline measures of employment and can be found at: [http://www.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/latest/latest-economy](http://www.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/latest/latest-economy).
Revisions

Where the data is not from the Welsh Government, we follow the revisions policy of the individual Government department. As the majority of the data in this release is from the ONS, below is the ONS revisions policy for labour market statistics: http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/labour-market/articles-and-reports/labour-market-statistics-revisions-policy.pdf.

For data from our own outputs, we follow Welsh Government policy which can be found at: http://www.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/revisions/

Accessing the data

Much of the data behind the charts shown in this bulletin can be found on StatsWales (a free-to-use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download tables from the most detailed official data on Wales). Please select “Economy and Labour Market” at the navigation screen of the following site: http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/ReportFolders/ReportFolders.aspx?CS_referer=&CS_ChosenLang=en


We have published a summary report showing most of our data that is held on StatsWales at a Wales level. The report can be found here: http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/document.aspx?ReportId=10579

Data Sources and Quality

We have published a comprehensive data sources guide lists which provides a summary of all the main official data sources used by the Economic and Labour Market Statistics branch as well as useful links. The guide can be found at: http://www.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/about/reference/econsources/

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.