**Data note – data verification**

**Local Government Settlement Data Verification - October 2023**

This data note has been produced in conjunction with the data to be verified as part of the 2024-25 RSG settlement process. The verification process will be carried out in one round, similar to last year. This document details the data sets that are part of the data verification.

The purpose of the data verification exercise is not to re-visit published estimates where the changes are minor. This process is to ensure that any significant errors or revisions to the non-financial data are identified prior to the publication of the Local Government Settlement.

Changes to published data will only be considered if the data repository agrees with the change to the data. Any changes to published data should be re-submitted via the process in which it was originally submitted. Once you have received confirmation from the data repository to update a data item, please then indicate the updated figure on your query form. The list of data repositories and associated contacts for enquiries are listed in [**Annex A**](#_Annex_A)**.**

Step-by-step guidance is provided in **Annex B** on how to download the benefits data.

# Planning applications

## **Number of planning applications received.**

The number of planning applications received in each of the quarters from **April to June 2022** to **January to March 2023**. These numbers are those reported to the Welsh Government by local authorities as part of the Development Management Quarterly Survey.

Click on the link below to retrieve data on planning applications.

Click on the January to March 2023 quarter of the Development Management Quarterly Survey and open the excel document.

The relevant data can be found in table 4, columns D-G – Received within quarter.

<https://gov.wales/development-management-quarterly-surveys>

# Land Areas

## **Land Area in Hectares**

The area of land above the high water mark in each authority in hectares (as at **1 May 2023)**. The data are calculated by the Welsh Government using the Ordnance Survey’s (O.S) Boundary Line.

O.S. calculate the low water mark area of each Local Authority, and provide a figure for the inter-tidal 'Non-inland' area. The cartographic team then subtracts the 'Non-inland' area figure from the low water mark area, to give the **Total Land Area for each Local Authority in hectares**.

# Environment Agency and Internal Drainage Board levies

## **Flood defence payments to Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)**

Special levies payable in 2023-24 to the IDBs areprovided to the Welsh Government by Natural Resources Wales. This data is not available on the internet. For contact details please see [Annex A](#_Annex_A).

# Food & Trading Premises

## **Trading Premises**

The number of trading premises as at **31 March 2023** supplied by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA). This is the number rateable trading properties (herediments). This means that these properties are liable to a non-domestic rating and thus appear in a local rating list. These include commercial, industrial and leisure properties. This data is rounded to the nearest 10 units.

* **Food Premises**

The number of food premises as at **31 March 2023** supplied by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA). This is the number rateable food properties (herediments). This means that these properties are liable to a non-domestic rating and thus appear in a local rating list. This data is rounded to the nearest 10 units.

This information is calculated using VOA data by Local Government Strategic Finance Division. This data is not available on the internet. For contact details please see [Annex A](#_Annex_A).

# For a breakdown of the food and trading premises included within the settlement calculations please see the attached spreadsheet in [Annex A](#lookup).

# Street Lighting Units

## **Total number of street lighting units**

The total number of street lighting units (as at **1 April 2023**) is defined as the number of “lanterns” i.e. the element containing the reflector and lamps as collected from local authorities by the Welsh Government Local Government Finance team.

This includes lights on all local authority adopted roads; streetlights mounted on other structures e.g. buildings, where the purpose of the lamp is to illuminate the highway/street and lamps in highway tunnels. The figures do not include illuminated traffic bollards or illuminated road signs.

This data is not available on the internet. For contact details please see Annex A.

**Mortality**

## **Number of registered deaths from all causes**

The numbers of deaths registered in **2022** from all causes (Table 2 Deaths by local authority of usual residence, numbers and standardised mortality ratios (SMRs) by sex, **2022 registrations**). The year in which a death is registered may not equate to the year of occurrence of that death. This has little effect on annual totals.

You can retrieve the data set from the ‘[Deaths registered in England & Wales](https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/deathsregisteredsummarystatisticsenglandandwales)’ page on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) website, and clicking on the spreadsheet beneath ‘2022 edition of this dataset’. Go to Sheet 2a: Numbers of deaths and age-standardised mortality rates (ASMRs) by sex and area of usual residence, registered 2022, starting from row 357 and column D.

**Council Tax Reduction Schemes** **(CTRS) Data**

This data was collected directly from Unitary Authorities during 2016 by the service director for operational finance at Rhondda Cynon Taf council. Please specify the figures as at **31 March 2023** as per **the “posting” year 2022/23**. The data we have used this year have been provided by the WLGA after an extensive validation exercise.

* **Council Tax Reduction Schemes Expenditure**

For sites operating the Capita system please return cell HB9646 - CTS Expenditure Report.

For sites operating the Northgate system please return cell RRV403 - Control Account Summary

* **Council Tax Reduction Schemes Caseloads**

For sites operating the Capita system please return cell HB9644 – CTS Caseload Report For sites operating the Northgate system please return cell CTR304 - CTR Caseload Extract.

**Ships**

## **Ship arrivals at ports in 2022.**

The data are supplied by the Department for Transport’s Maritime statistics team.

The arrivals recorded relate to movements of all sea-going vessels of 100 gross tonnes and over. They include repeated voyages by the same vessel arriving at a port, whether or not for the loading or unloading of cargo. They exclude vessels arriving at safe anchorages (because of bad weather or for instructions about the pick up or discharge of cargo elsewhere). They also exclude vessels moving within a port or an estuary, such as the Solent.

The following vessels are also excluded from the statistics:

* vessels of war and those carrying goods for government departments;
* tugs and other vessels employed within the limit of the port or estuary;
* other dredgers, supply and support ships, and research vessels;
* fishing vessels; pleasure yachts;
* vessels entering a port to land sick or injured crew members (where known).

Ships, which carry containers, are only recorded as container vessels if they are fully cellular. Other vessels that carry containers are recorded as ‘Other dry cargo vessels’ or ‘Ro-Ro vessels’ as appropriate. This data is available on the internet on the Gov Statistics website. Table PORT0602 on this [webpage](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/port-and-domestic-waterborne-freight-statistics-port) provides the data for all ports in the UK.

**Claimant Count**

## **Latest 11 month\* Claimant Count (October 2022 to August 2023)**

The Claimant Count measures the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. Further information can be found on [Nomisweb](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/default.asp).

[Annex B](#ClaimantCount) explains how to obtain latest 11 month Claimant Count data from NOMIS.

**Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Benefit Claimants**

**Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance, Pension Credit claimants and people on Universal Credit (not in employment)**

## **Number of Income Support Claimants, Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance Recipients, Pension Credit Claimants, aged 18-64**

Figures derived centrally by the DWP from a 100% sample of claimants' records for income support and pension credit and 5% sample for jobseeker’s allowance and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022** to **February 2023.** Data obtained via [Stat-Xplore](https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/).

## **Number of people on Universal Credit (not in Employment), aged 18-64**

Figures derived centrally by the DWP from a 100% sample of Universal Credit (not in employment) claimants' records and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022** to **February 2023.** Data obtained via Stat-Xplore.

## **Number of Pension Credit Claimants Aged 65+**

Figures derived centrally by the DWP from a 100% sample of claimants' records and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022** to **February 2023.** Data obtained via [Stat-Xplore](https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/).

## **Total Number of Income Support Claimants, Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance Recipients, Pension Credit Claimants or people on Universal Credit (not in Employment)**

Figures derived centrally by the DWP from a 100% sample of claimants' records for income support and pension credit and 5% sample for jobseeker’s allowance and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022 to February 2023.** Data obtained [Stat-Xplore](https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/).

## **Total number of people on Universal Credit (not in Employment)**

Figures derived centrally by the DWP from a 100% sample of Universal Credit (not in employment) claimants' records and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022** to **February 2023.** Data obtained via Stat-Xplore.

For details on how to retrieve DWP data from the data dissemination website [Stat-Xplore](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dwp-benefit-statistics-dissemination-tools), please see [Annex B](#_Annex_B).

**Severe Disablement Allowance or Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment Claimants**

## **Number of Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) or Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Claimants, aged 18-64**

Figures are collected and obtained by the DWP from a 100% sample of claimants' records and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022** to **February 2023.** Data obtained via [Stat-Xplore](https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/).

## **Number of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Claimants, aged 18-64**

Figures are collected and obtained by the DWP from a 100% sample of claimants' records and relate to the four quarters from **May 2022** to **February 2023.** Data obtained via Stat-Xplore.

For details on how to retrieve DWP data from the data dissemination website [Stat-Xplore](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dwp-benefit-statistics-dissemination-tools), please see [Annex B](#_Annex_B).

**Dwellings**

* **Total dwellings - Number of dwellings by Council Tax Band and administrative area in Wales**

### The number of domestic hereditaments supplied by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA). This data is rounded to the nearest 10 units and is available in [Table CTSOP1.0\_SUP: number of properties by Council Tax band and administrative area at 11 September 202](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/council-tax-stock-of-properties-2023)3.

# Road lengths

The length, **Oct March 2023**, in kilometres of*:*

* ***A county roads;***
* ***Built-up A county roads;***
* ***B and C roads;***
* ***Built-up B and C roads;***
* ***minor surfaced roads; and***
* ***Built-up minor surfaced roads within the area of the authority.***

Figures are taken from the statutory **TP1** return from each local authority and relate to the roads for which the local authority is responsible.

The road lengths that should be included are; those lengths classified by Formal Declaration or Trunk Road Order; only highways maintainable at public expense (as defined in Section 36 of the Highways Act 1980); only those road lengths physically inside the Local Authority boundary, i.e. not those lengths in a neighbouring authority maintained as part of an agreement with that authority.

The following should not be included; minor unsurfaced roads, separated surfaced footpaths (built-up areas), BOATs (Byways Open to All Traffic), bridleways, footpaths or purpose-built cycleways. If the information is available, then it should be entered separately in the allotted spaces. Any RUPPs (Roads Used as Public Paths) that have not yet been reclassified should be included with BOATs.

Dual carriageway road length should relate to the route length and not the carriageway length. A built-up road is a highway subject to a speed limit of either 30 mph or not exceeding 40 mph.

This data can be found on the Welsh Government (WG) Knowledge and Analytical Services (KAS) statistical dissemination tool, [Stats Wales](https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Transport/Roads/Lengths-and-Conditions/roadlength-by-typeofroad-localauthority-year)

# Annex A

**Data Repositories:**

Planning applications – [Planning.Directorate@gov.wales](mailto:Planning.Directorate@gov.wales)

Land Area – [David.Roberts10@Gov.wales](mailto:David.Roberts10@Gov.wales)

Land drainage precepts –[Hayley.MacDonald-Jones@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:Hayley.MacDonald-Jones@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

Coastline – [FloodCoastalRisk@gov.wales](mailto:FloodCoastalRisk@gov.wales)

Farms – [stats.agric@gov.wales](mailto:stats.agric@gov.wales)

Food and Trading premises - [LGFPSettlement@gov.wales](mailto:LGFPSettlement@gov.wales)

Street Lighting Units – [LGFPSettlement@gov.wales](mailto:LGFPSettlement@gov.wales)

Mortality Data – Office for National Statistics (ONS) - [mortality@ons.gov.uk](mailto:mortality@ons.gov.uk)

Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Ctrs) Data – Welsh Government Local Taxation Policy Division - [LocalTaxationPolicy@gov.wales](mailto:LocalTaxationPolicy@gov.wales)

Ships Arriving at Ports – Maritime Statistics Branch, Department for Transport - [MARITIME.STATS@dft.gov.uk](mailto:MARITIME.STATS@dft.gov.uk)

Claimant Count Data – NOMIS - official labour market statistics - <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

Benefits Claimants Data - 'Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)’ - <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/webapi/jsf/login.xhtml>

All Other Queries – [LGFPSettlement@Gov.wales](mailto:LGFPSettlement@Gov.wales)

**Breakdown of food and trading premises lookup spreadsheet:**



# Annex B

## **How to obtain DWP 11 month Claimant Count Data from NOMIS**

Go to the following web page: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk> and click on “Data Downloads” and ‘Query data’.

Select 'Claimant count', 'claimant count by sex and age’

* Geography:
* Click “geography” from the options menu on the left
* Then click “local authorities: county / unitary (as of April 2021)” and select “Wales” from the drop down menu and select ‘tick all’
* Check the box next to the authority you wish to view data for
* Date:
* Select “date” from the options menu on the left
* Select all dates from a start and end point. Select a start date of **October 2022** and end date of **August 2023**.
* Age:
* Click on user defined, select 16 plus

Download data and open to view your data

## **How to obtain Universal Credit (not in employment) data from** [**Stat-Xplore**](https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/)

# Firstly, go to the following web page: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/>, register an account and then log in. Alternatively, select ‘guest log in’.

# Click on ‘People on Universal Credit’ under the Universal Credit category and then select new table.

Select the following on the left hand panel:

1. Expand ‘Month’ and un-tick the months selected then tick the months ‘**May 2022**’. ‘**August 2022**’, ‘**November 2022**’ and ‘**February 2023**’ and click add to ‘column’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
2. Expand ‘geography (residence-based)’ then ‘National - Regional – LA - OAs’ click on each folder until you get to ‘Wales [22]’ and click on your local authority. Click add to ‘row’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
3. Expand ‘age (bands and single year)’ and select the appropriate age bands i.e. 18 to 64 or all ages. Click add to ‘Wafer’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side). A wafer dropdown will show above the month’s section, within this box select ‘Total’.
4. Expand ‘employment indicator’ and select ‘Not in employment’. Click add to ‘Filter’ (in the purple box at the top left hand side).

Go to ‘download table’ on the top right hand side of the screen, select ‘excel 2007’ then click ‘Go’ and ‘open’ your downloaded data. Once downloaded, a separate tab will be available for each age Wafer, you will only need to use the total value tab (the final tab).

## **How to obtain Personal Independence Payment data from** [**Stat-Xplore**](https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/)

# Firstly, go to the following web page: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/> and register an account and then log in. Alternatively, select ‘guest log in’.

# Click on ‘PIP Cases with Entitlement under the Personal Independence Payment category and then select new table.

Select the following on the left hand panel:

1. Expand ‘Month’ and un-tick the months selected then tick the months ‘**May 2022**’. ‘**August 2022**’, ‘**November 2022**’and ‘**February 2023**’ and click add to ‘column’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
2. Expand ‘geography (residence-based)’ then ‘Country – Region – Local Authority’ click on each folder until you get to ‘Wales [22]’ and click on your local authority. Click add to ‘row’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
3. Expand ‘age (bands and single year)’ and select the appropriate age bands. You will need to expand 16-19 and 60-65 bands to select age 18 to 64. Click add to ‘Wafer (in the blue box at the top left hand side).

Go to ‘download table’ on the top right hand side of the screen, select ‘excel 2007’ then click ‘Go’ and ‘open’ your downloaded data. Once downloaded, a separate tab will be available for each age Wafer, you will only need to use the total value tab (the final tab).

Once one of the datasets is selected, the data can be tailored to your needs by using the options on the left. Each of the indicator values is obtained by summing the figures from 2 or 3 datasets as outlined below.

**How to obtain DWP Claimant Data from Stat-xplore**

**Datasets Used:**

1. Income Support – income support
2. Pension Credit – pension credits from May 2018
3. Incapacity Benefits & Severe Disablement Allowance – incapacity benefit and severe disablement allowance
4. Disability Living Allowance – Disability Living Allowance: Entitled Cases – data from May 2018
5. Jobseekers Allowance

# Firstly, go to the following web page: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/> and register an account and then log in. Alternatively, select ‘guest log in’.

**Options:**

The following are options that are to be set the same when downloading all datasets:

1. Click on table name as specific above and then select new table.

Select the following on the left hand panel:

1. Expand ‘Month’ and un-tick the months selected then tick the months ‘**May 2022**’. ‘**August 2022**’, ‘**November 2022**’ and ‘**February 2023**’ and click add to ‘column’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
2. Expand ‘geography (residence-based)’ then ‘National – Regional – LA- OAs’ click on each folder until you get to ‘Wales [22]’ and click on your local authority. Click add to ‘row’ (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
3. Expand ‘age (bands and single year)’ and select the appropriate age bands. In some cases, you will need to expand 16-19 and 60-65 bands to select age 18 to 64. Click add to ‘Wafer (in the blue box at the top left hand side).
4. For the “Severe Disablement Allowance” table you will also need to expand ‘Benefit Combination’ and tick ‘SDA’ and add to the filter.

Go to ‘download table’ on the top right hand side of the screen, select ‘excel 2007’ then click ‘Go’ and ‘open’ your downloaded data. Once downloaded, a separate tab will be available for each age Wafer, you will only need to use the total value tab (the final tab).

**Summing Datasets to obtain the indicator figures:**

You should now have 10 sets of data as follows:

1. income support, 18-64 year olds
2. Income Support, all ages
3. Income Support, age 65+ (which is most likely to be zero or negligible)
4. Jobseeker’s Allowance, 18-64 year olds
5. Jobseeker’s Allowance, all ages
6. Pension Credit, 60-64 year olds
7. Pension Credit, all ages
8. Pension Credit, age 65+
9. Severe Disablement Allowance, 18-64 year olds
10. Disability Living Allowance, 18-64 year olds
11. Universal Credit (not in employment), 18-64 year olds
12. Universal Credit (not in employment), all ages
13. Personal Independence Payment, 18-64 year olds

The indicator values specified below are calculated by summing data you have downloaded above in the following ways:

* **Number of Income Support Claimants (MIG and Non-MIG), Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance Recipients or Pension Credit Claimants Aged 18-64**
* Add datasets 1, 4 and 6 together from above
* **Number of Income Support Claimants (MIG and Non-MIG) or Pension Credit Claimants Aged 65+**
* Add datasets 3 and 8 together from above
* **Total Number of Income Support Claimants (MIG and Non-MIG), Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance Recipients or Pension Credit Claimants**
* Add datasets 2, 5 and 7 together from above
* **Number of Severe Disablement Allowance or Disability Living Allowance Claimants Aged 18-64**
* Add datasets 9 and 10 together from above