

29 November 2013

Welsh Language and the Labour Market

Key points

- The employment rate for people aged 16 to 64 who said they could speak Welsh was 72.0 per cent compared with 67.3 per cent for those who could not speak Welsh.
- People who said they could speak Welsh were most likely to work in education (16.2 per cent) and human health and social work activities (14.0 per cent). People who said they could not speak Welsh were most likely to work in the wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles (16.0 per cent) and also human health and social work activities (14.5 per cent).
- Although 16.6 per cent of people in employment were Welsh speakers, in the agriculture, energy and water sector 29.5 per cent of people spoke Welsh. There was a similar position in education, where 26.7 per cent of people spoke Welsh. Those in the manufacturing industry were less likely to speak Welsh (10 per cent of those in employment).
- 7.6 per cent of Welsh speakers are in Higher managerial administrative and professional occupations – this is the same proportion as for those who cannot speak Welsh. Those who can speak Welsh are more likely to be in lower managerial, administrative and professional occupations (23.0 per cent) compared with those who cannot speak Welsh (18.7 per cent). On the other hand, a higher proportion of non-Welsh speakers are in semi-routine or routine occupations – 30.3 per cent compared with 23.6 per cent.
- 22.9 per cent of full time students are able to speak Welsh.

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