



## Regional economic & labour market profile – South East Wales, April 2018

26 Apr 2018  
SB 26/2018

The latest headline labour market statistics for South East Wales are generally weaker than those for Wales.

Compared to Wales; South East Wales has a lower employment rate and higher ILO unemployment and economic inactivity rates. GVA per head and average earnings are both higher in South East Wales whilst GDHI per head is lower.



### About this bulletin

This quarterly statistical bulletin summarises information on the economy and labour market for the South East Wales economic region along with comparisons to Wales and the UK.

It is one in a series of four which cover the four economic regions of Wales: North Wales, Mid Wales, South West Wales and South East Wales.

South East Wales is made up of the following 10 local authorities: Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Newport and Cardiff.

### Summary table: Latest data for South East Wales

	South East Wales				Wales	
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate	Change on year <sup>(7)</sup>	Rate	Change on year <sup>(7)</sup>
Employed <sup>(1)</sup>	699.8	12.3	71.7%	1.5	72.4%	1.2
ILO unemployed <sup>(2)</sup>	40.9	5.3	5.5%	0.6	4.8%	0.2
Economically Inactive <sup>(3)</sup>	172.7	-15.3	20.2%	-1.8	19.8%	-1.2
GVA per head <sup>(4)</sup>	.	.	£20,021	3.9	£19,140	3.5
GDHI per head <sup>(5)</sup>	.	.	£16,102	3.4	£16,341	3.3
Average earnings <sup>(6)</sup>	.	.	£507.80	0.9	£498.40	1.0

- (1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to December 2017.  
 (2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over, rates are a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to December 2017.  
 (3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to December 2017.  
 (4) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional.  
 (5) Data relate to 2015 and are provisional.  
 (6) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.  
 (7) Percentage point change for employed, ILO unemployed and economically inactive. Percentage change for GVA per head, GDHI per head and average earnings.

. Not applicable

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## Overall summary

South East Wales had total Gross Value Added of £30.3 billion in 2016 which translates as £20,021 per head. This compares to £59.6 billion (£19,140 per head) for Wales. The higher GVA per head figure for South East Wales largely reflects higher GVA per job than elsewhere in Wales.

Annual Gross Disposable Household Income per head in South East Wales was £16,102 in 2015, lower than both the UK average (£19,106) and the Wales average (£16,341). Average full-time weekly earnings in South East Wales were £507.80 in 2017, higher than the Wales average (£498.40) but lower than the UK average (£550.40).

Over the latest year the employment rate and the ILO unemployment rate increased in South East Wales whilst the economic inactivity (excluding students) rate fell. The labour market in South East Wales has generally seen similar changes to those for Wales since 2001.

The [key quality information](#) section includes a link to a data sources guide which gives information on the methodology, quality and metadata for the sources used in this output.

**Please note the 'next update' dates given throughout this bulletin relate to when new data for the dataset are next being released. The StatsWales datasets will be updated at that time and can be accessed via the links given under the tables in this bulletin.**

## Comparisons to Wales, UK & other Welsh economic regions

	North Wales	Mid Wales	South West Wales	South East Wales	<b>Wales</b>	UK
Employment rate <sup>(1)</sup>	75.4	74.3	70.2	71.7	<b>72.4</b>	74.7
ILO unemployment rate <sup>(2)</sup>	3.3	3.6	4.9	5.5	<b>4.8</b>	4.4
Economic Inactivity rate <sup>(3)</sup>	18.3	16.7	21.2	20.2	<b>19.8</b>	17.8
GVA per head	19,573	17,137	17,381	20,021	<b>19,140</b>	26,339
GDHI per head <sup>(5)</sup>	17,005	17,321	16,049	16,102	<b>16,341</b>	19,106
Average earnings <sup>(6)</sup>	484.10	467.00	498.90	507.80	<b>498.40</b>	550.40
<b>Change on year <sup>(7)</sup>:</b>						
Employment rate <sup>(1)</sup>	2.3	1.4	-0.7	1.5	<b>1.2</b>	0.9
ILO unemployment rate <sup>(2)</sup>	-0.6	0.9	-0.2	0.6	<b>0.2</b>	-0.5
Economic Inactivity rate <sup>(3)</sup>	-1.7	-1.1	0.3	-1.8	<b>-1.2</b>	-0.6
GVA per head	2.8	1.9	3.7	3.9	<b>3.5</b>	2.8
GDHI per head <sup>(5)</sup>	3.9	3.0	2.8	3.4	<b>3.3</b>	2.9
Average earnings <sup>(6)</sup>	-2.4	1.5	5.8	0.9	<b>1.0</b>	2.2
<b>Change on 1999/2001 <sup>(7)</sup>:</b>						
Employment rate <sup>(1)</sup>	5.8	3.7	5.5	5.1	<b>5.2</b>	2.5
ILO unemployment rate <sup>(2)</sup>	-1.1	-0.8	-1.4	-0.2	<b>-0.7</b>	-0.6
Economic Inactivity rate <sup>(3)</sup>	-6.3	-4.1	-7.3	-6.7	<b>-6.6</b>	-3.6
GVA per head	70.5	61.5	70.4	67.8	<b>68.6</b>	70.2
GDHI per head <sup>(5)</sup>	60.4	70.4	57.0	57.5	<b>58.5</b>	60.8
Average earnings <sup>(6)</sup>	.	.	.	.	.	.

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to December 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over. The rate is a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to December 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to December 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(4) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(5) Data relate to 2015 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(6) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2017 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year. Comparisons to 1999 are not available.

(7) Percentage point change for employment, ILO unemployment and economic inactivity rates. Percentage change for GVA per head, GDHI per head and average earnings.

South East Wales had the second lowest employment rate, the highest unemployment rate and the second highest economic inactivity rate amongst the 4 Welsh Economic Regions. GVA per head was the highest amongst the 4 regions, GDHI per head was the second lowest and average weekly earnings were the highest.

Over the latest year, South East Wales had the second largest increase in both the employment rate and the unemployment rate. The economic inactivity rate had the largest decrease. The region had the largest increase in GVA per head, the second largest increase in GDHI per head and the third largest increase in earnings.

Looking over the longer term (change on 1999/2001), South East Wales had the third highest increase in the employment rate and the smallest decrease in the unemployment rate. It had the second largest decrease in the economic inactivity rate. South East Wales had the third largest increase in GVA per head and had the third largest increase in GDHI per head.

## Latest quarterly data

### Employment – New data (next update June 2018)

**Table 1: Employment levels, year to December 2017 (a)**

	Year to Dec 2017	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
		Year to Dec 2016	Level Change	Percentage Change	2001	Level Change	Percentage Change
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>699.8</b>	<b>687.5</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>1.8</b> ↑	<b>592.9</b>	<b>107.0</b>	<b>18.0</b> ↑
Bridgend	62.1	63.7	-1.5	-2.4	56.1	6.1	10.8
Rhondda Cynon Taf	106.1	105.1	0.9	0.9	90.2	15.8	17.5
Merthyr Tydfil	27.1	26.5	0.6	2.4	20.5	6.6	32.5
Caerphilly	80.7	81.8	-1.1	-1.4	67.7	13.0	19.2
Blaenau Gwent	30.7	28.6	2.1	7.3	26.5	4.3	16.1
Torfaen	43.8	43.4	0.4	0.9	38.4	5.5	14.2
Vale of Glamorgan	60.2	58.7	1.6	2.7	54.5	5.7	10.4
Monmouthshire	44.6	44.4	0.3	0.6	39.6	5.1	12.8
Newport	71.3	67.0	4.2	6.3	60.3	11.0	18.3
Cardiff	173.2	168.3	4.9	2.9	139.3	34.0	24.4
<b>Wales</b>	<b>1,430.5</b>	<b>1,415.1</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>1.1</b> ↑	<b>1,238.6</b>	<b>191.9</b>	<b>15.5</b> ↑
United Kingdom	31,936.7	31,473.2	463.5	1.5	27,433.1	4,503.6	16.4

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

(a) Employment levels for those aged 16 and over (levels in thousands).

The employment level is the total number of people that are in employment and the employment rate is the percentage of the population that is in employment.

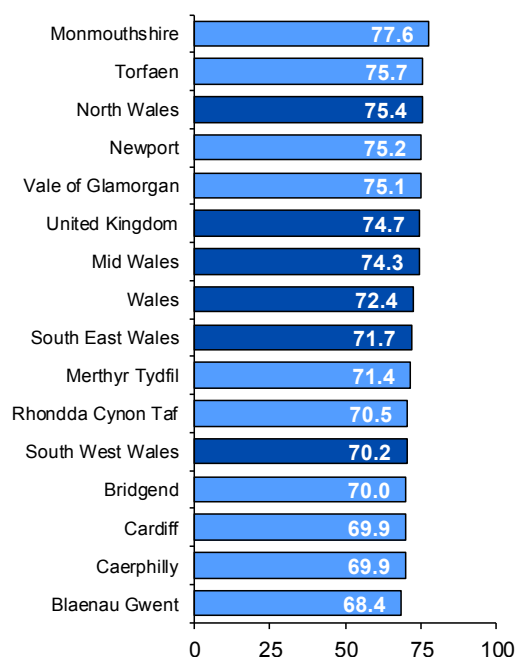
Table 1 shows the latest employment level figures and how these have changed over time. For the year ending December 2017, the number of people in employment in South East Wales was 699,800, this is an increase of 12,300 people (1.8 per cent) compared to the same period the year before.

Chart 1 shows the latest employment rates for the economic regions and each authority within South East Wales.

Within South East Wales, 8 of the 10 authorities had increases in the employment rate over the year. Since 2001, all 10 authorities had increases, with Merthyr Tydfil having the largest (up 13.4 percentage points).

### Unemployment – New data (next update June 2018)

**Chart 1: Employment rates, year to December 2017 (a)**



(a) Employment rates for those aged 16-64.

**Table 2: Unemployment levels, year to December 2017 (a)**

	Year to Dec 2017	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
		Year to Dec 2016	Level Change	Percentage Change	2001	Level Change	Percentage Change
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>14.7</b> ↑	<b>35.7</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>14.5</b> ↑
Bridgend	3.6	3.3	0.3	7.8	2.7	0.8	30.9
Rhondda Cynon Taf	6.2	7.2	-0.9	-13.0	5.6	0.6	10.7
Merthyr Tydfil	1.9	1.8	0.1	7.2	1.6	0.3	21.9
Caerphilly	6.1	4.3	1.8	42.0	6.3	-0.2	-3.4
Blaenau Gwent	1.5	2.0	-0.5	-24.6	2.2	-0.7	-30.6
Torfaen	1.8	1.2	0.6	52.4	2.4	-0.5	-22.9
Vale of Glamorgan	2.5	3.5	-1.0	-29.4	2.3	0.2	7.6
Monmouthshire	1.1	1.5	-0.4	-24.0	1.8	-0.7	-37.4
Newport	3.8	2.7	1.1	41.2	2.9	0.8	28.7
Cardiff	12.4	8.2	4.1	50.5	7.9	4.5	56.8
<b>Wales</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.9</b> ↑	<b>71.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.7</b> ↑
United Kingdom	1,463.5	1,606.1	-142.6	-8.9	1,450.3	13.2	0.9

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

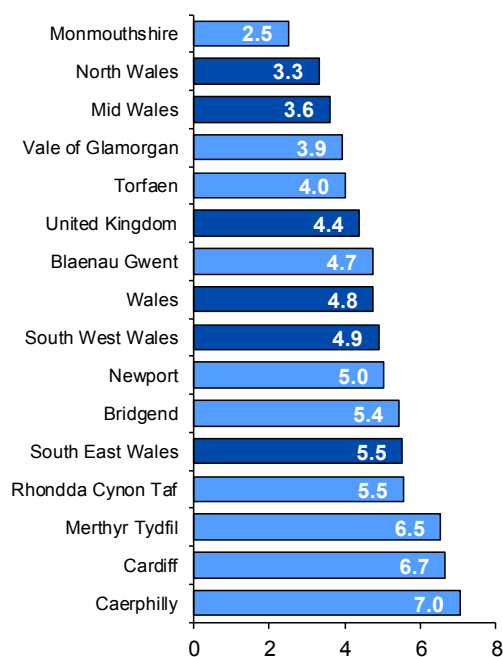
(a) Unemployment levels for those aged 16 and over (levels in thousands).

The unemployment level is the total number of people who are unemployed and the unemployment rate is the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed (using the International Labour Organisation's definition of unemployment).

Table 2 shows the latest unemployment level figures and how these have changed over time. For the year ending December 2017, the number of people who were unemployed in South East Wales was 40,900, this is an increase of 5,300 people (14.7 per cent) compared to the same period the year before.

Chart 2 shows the latest unemployment rates for the economic regions and each authority within South East Wales.

Within South East Wales, 4 of the 10 authorities had falls in the unemployment rate over the year. Since 2001, 7 of the 10 authorities had falls, with Blaenau Gwent having the largest (down 2.9 percentage points).

**Chart 2: Unemployment rates, year to December 2017 (a)**

(a) Unemployment rates for those aged 16 and over.

## Economic inactivity – New data (next update June 2018)

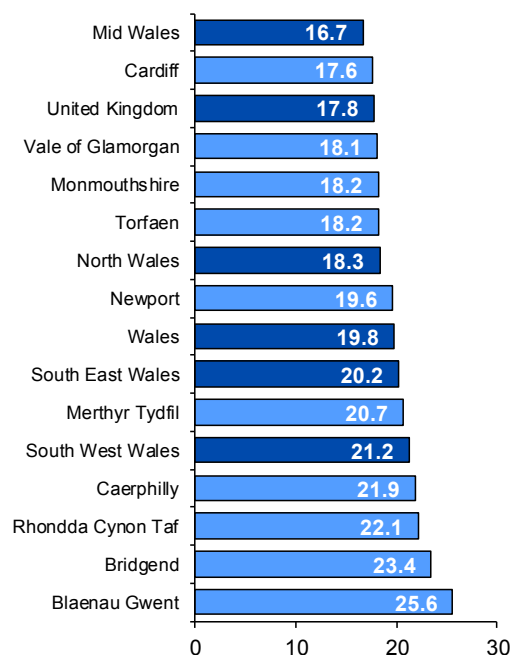
The economic inactivity rate is the percentage of the population who are neither in employment or ILO unemployed.

Chart 3 shows the latest economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for the economic regions and each authority within South East Wales.

Within South East Wales, 8 of the 10 authorities had falls over the year (excluding students). Since 2001, all 10 authorities had falls with Merthyr Tydfil having the largest (down 15.6 percentage points).

Including students, the economic inactivity rate in South East Wales was 24.0 per cent, down 2.0 percentage points over the year. This was the same as the rate for Wales and higher than the rate for the UK (21.8 per cent).

**Chart 3: Economic inactivity rates (excl. students), year to December 2017 (a)**



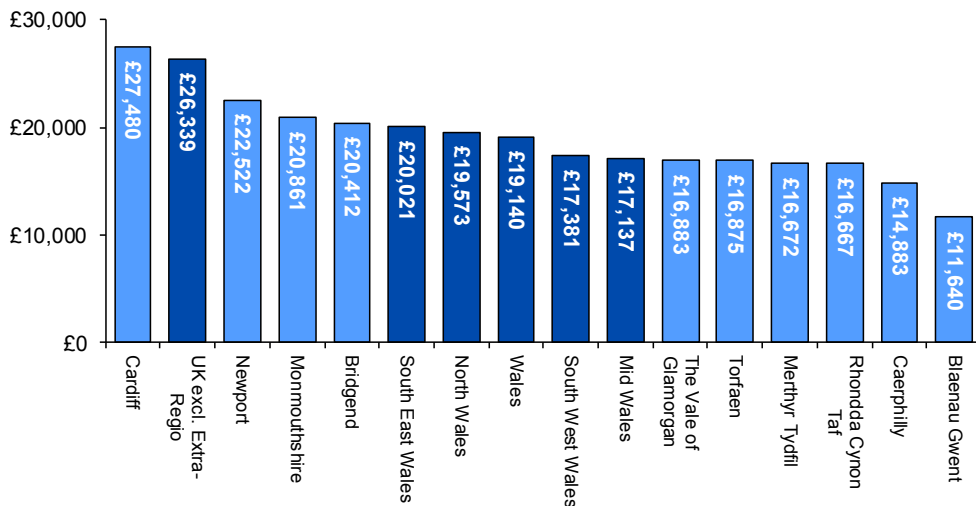
(a) Economically inactivity rates (excluding students) for those aged 16-64.

Please note the out of work benefit claimants dataset is no longer updated by the Department for Work and Pensions. See [key quality information](#) for more information.

## Latest annual data

### Gross value added (GVA) (next update Dec 2018)

Chart 4: GVA per head, 2016



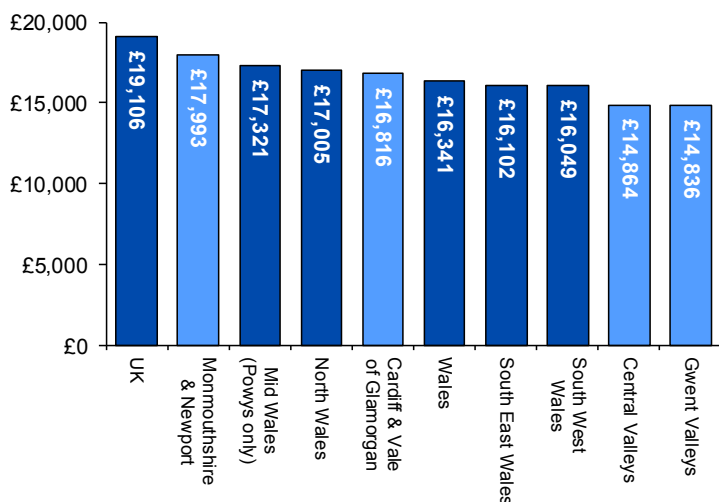
GVA is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services.

Total GVA in South East Wales in 2016 was £30.3 billion, up 4.6 per cent over the year and up 81.8 per cent since 1999. This compares to an increase of 4.0 per cent over the year and an increase of 80.9 per cent since 1999 for Wales.

Within South East Wales, 9 of the 10 authorities had increases in GVA per head over the year, with Caerphilly having the largest (up by 5.2 per cent). Since 1999, all 10 authorities had increases, with Rhondda Cynon Taf having the largest (up by 83.4 per cent).

## Gross disposable household income (GDHI) (next update May 2018)

Chart 5: Annual GDHI per head by NUTS3 level, 2015

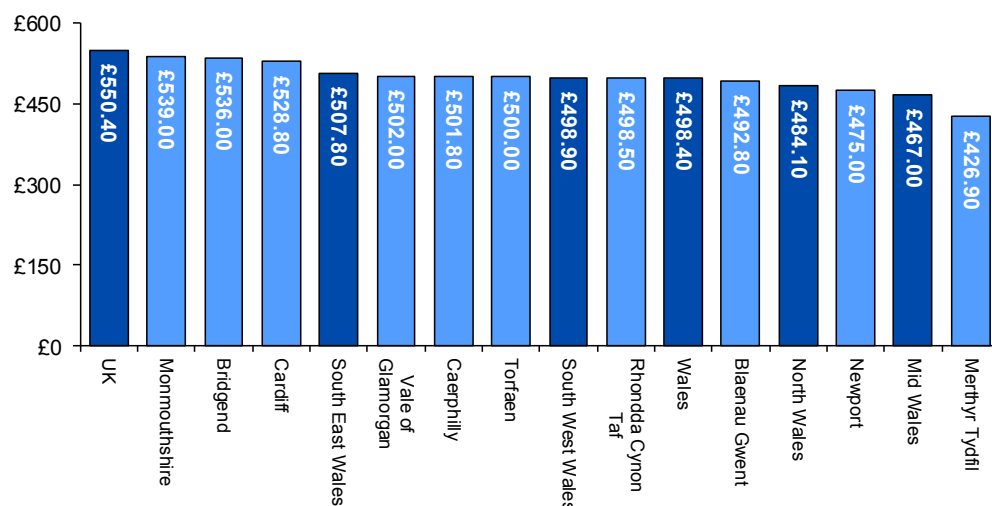


GDHI is an estimate of the amount of money that households have available for spending or saving.

Please note, these data are only available at NUTS3 level, therefore data for some economic regions are an approximation. In the chart above, Mid Wales only includes Powys, South West Wales includes Ceredigion and Bridgend and South East Wales excludes Bridgend.

## Average (median) full-time weekly earnings (next update Oct 2018)

Chart 6: Average full-time weekly earnings, 2017 (a)



(a) Average (median) gross weekly earnings (including overtime) for full time adults whose pay was unaffected by absence.

Average weekly earnings in South East Wales were up 0.9 per cent over the year compared to an increase of 1.0 per cent for Wales and an increase of 2.2 per cent for the UK.

Within South East Wales, 6 of the 10 authorities had increases over the year, with Blaenau Gwent having the largest increase of 20.5 per cent.



## Workplace employment (next update Oct 2018)

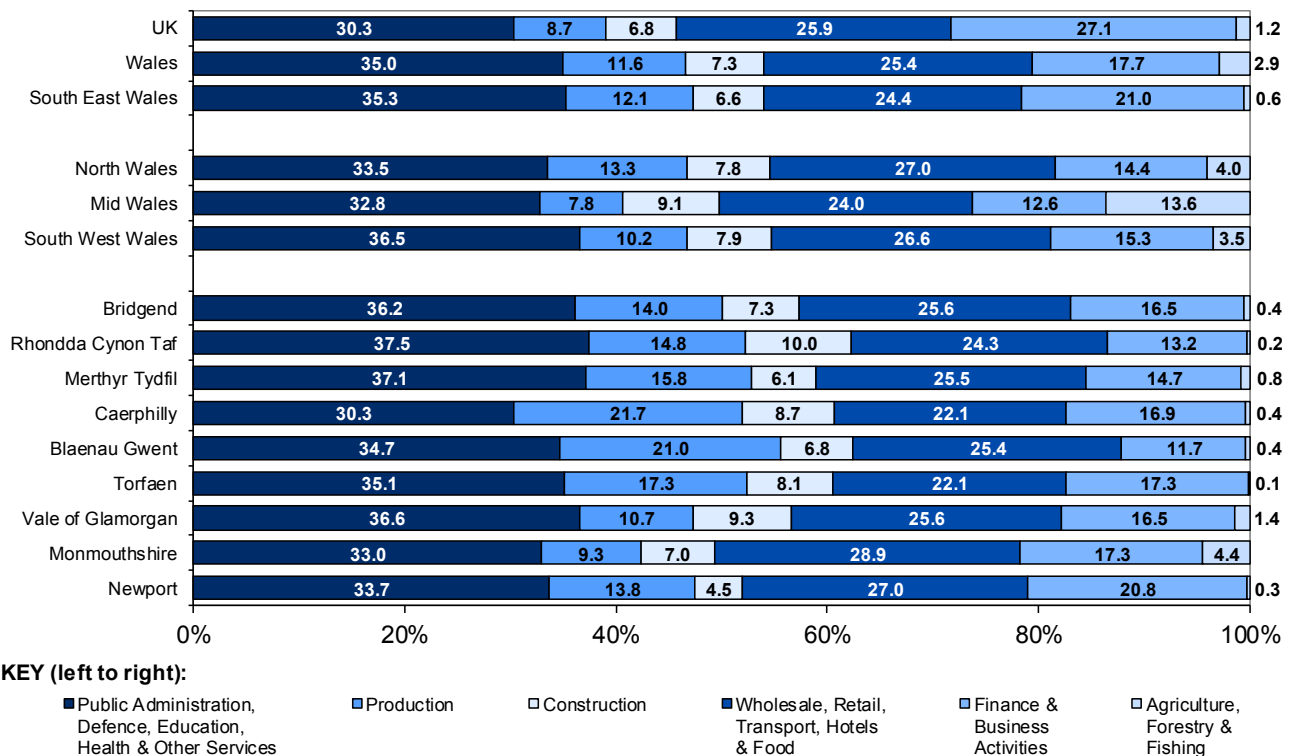
**Table 3: Total workplace employment, 2016 (a)**

	2016	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
		2015	Level Change	Percentage Change	2001	Level Change	Percentage Change
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>679.3</b>	<b>681.4</b>	<b>-2.1</b>	<b>-0.3</b> ↓	<b>608.8</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>11.6</b> ↑
Bridgend	60.3	64.0	-3.7	-5.8 ↓	56.4	3.9	6.9 ↑
Rhondda Cynon Taf	76.3	84.2	-7.9	-9.4 ↓	75.9	0.5	0.6 ↑
Merthyr Tydfil	24.2	25.1	-0.9	-3.8 ↓	21.7	2.5	11.4 ↑
Caerphilly	60.9	58.4	2.6	4.4 ↑	55.7	5.2	9.3 ↑
Blaenau Gwent	19.1	21.2	-2.1	-9.9 ↓	23.0	-3.9	-17.1 ↓
Torfaen	37.3	38.5	-1.2	-3.0 ↓	35.5	1.8	5.1 ↑
Vale of Glamorgan	42.0	44.1	-2.1	-4.8 ↓	40.6	1.4	3.6 ↑
Monmouthshire	47.3	45.7	1.6	3.6 ↑	43.2	4.1	9.4 ↑
Newport	76.1	75.2	0.9	1.2 ↑	73.9	2.2	3.0 ↑
Cardiff	235.7	225.0	10.8	4.8 ↑	182.9	52.9	28.9 ↑
<b>Wales</b>	<b>1,404.3</b>	<b>1,403.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.1</b> ↑	<b>1,252.7</b>	<b>151.6</b>	<b>12.1</b> ↑
United Kingdom	32,412.6	32,145.2	267.4	0.8 ↑	28,580.0	3,832.6	13.4 ↑

Source: APS, Business Register & Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture & Horticulture

(a) These data show workplace employment (or total jobs) in each area, including self-employment jobs. The United Kingdom (UK) data presented here should not be used for any purpose other than as a comparator for the Wales data.

**Chart 7: Percentage of workplace employment by industry, 2016**



**VAT/PAYE registered enterprises**  
(next update Nov 2018)

These data exclude those businesses below the VAT threshold and not registered for PAYE.

**Table 4: Total stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises, 2016 (a)**

	Compared to previous year				Compared to earliest available		
	2016	2015	Level Change	Percentage Change	2002	Level Change	Percentage Change
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>45,480</b>	<b>43,235</b>	<b>2,245</b>	<b>5.2</b> ↑	<b>35,490</b>	<b>9,990</b>	<b>28.1</b> ↑
Bridgend	4,085	3,950	135	3.4	3,235	850	26.3
Rhondda Cynon Taf	6,355	5,745	610	10.6	4,715	1,640	34.8
Merthyr Tydfil	1,425	1,325	100	7.5	1,010	415	41.1
Caerphilly	4,265	4,105	160	3.9	3,370	895	26.6
Blaenau Gwent	1,340	1,315	25	1.9	1,195	145	12.1
Torfaen	2,295	2,220	75	3.4	1,935	360	18.6
Vale of Glamorgan	4,510	4,340	170	3.9	3,565	945	26.5
Monmouthshire	4,120	4,015	105	2.6	3,330	790	23.7
Newport	4,415	4,130	285	6.9	3,525	890	25.2
Cardiff	12,670	12,090	580	4.8	9,610	3,060	31.8
<b>Wales</b>	<b>98,445</b>	<b>95,010</b>	<b>3,435</b>	<b>3.6</b> ↑	<b>81,175</b>	<b>17,270</b>	<b>21.3</b> ↑
United Kingdom	2,833,965	2,672,025	161,940	6.1	2,115,915	718,050	33.9

Source: Business Demography, ONS

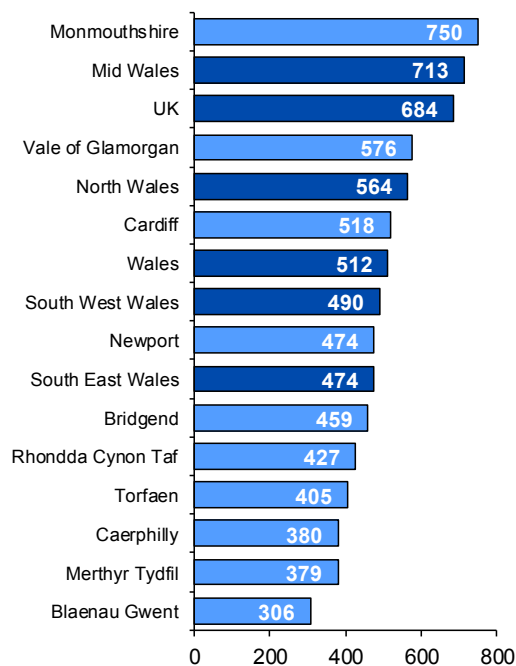
(a) Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in each year (numbers rounded to the nearest 5).

In South East Wales, there were 6,525 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births during 2016. This was an increase from 6,125 enterprise births in 2015.

There were 5,175 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths in South East Wales in 2016, which was an increase from 4,730 enterprise births in 2015.

The difference in births and deaths may not equal the difference in stock, because businesses may be born and die in the same period and the stock is taken at a single point in time.

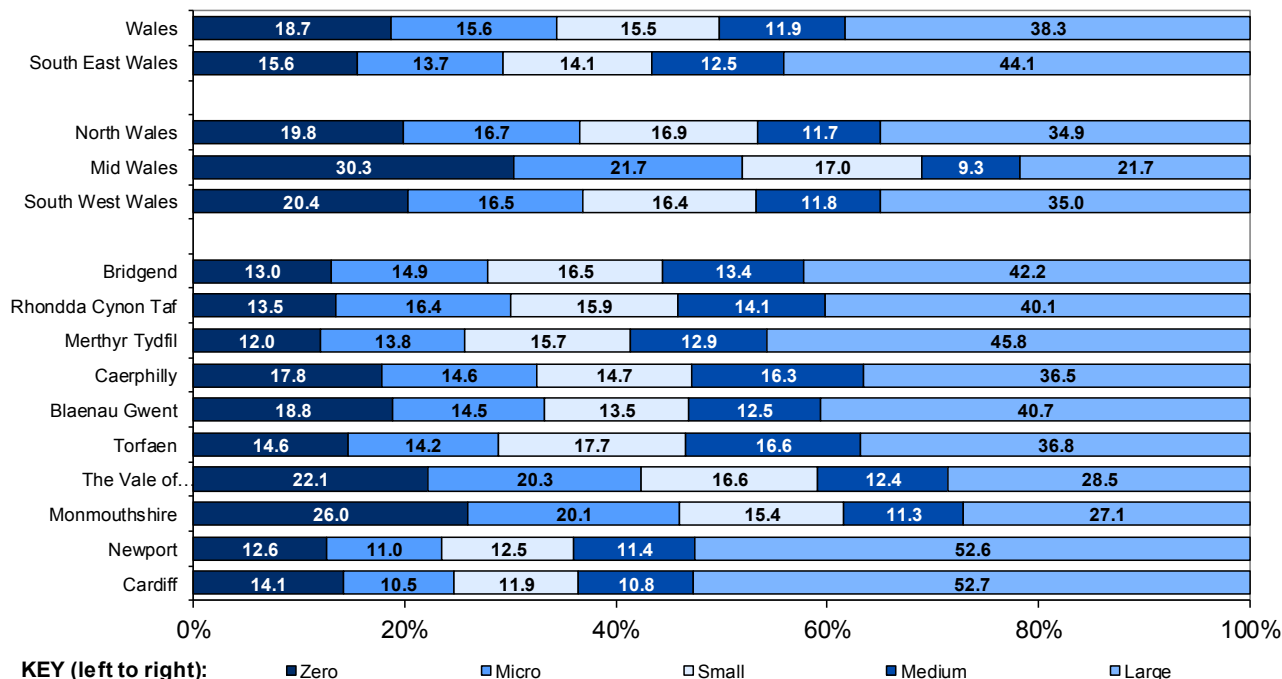
**Chart 8: VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 resident population, 2016 (a)**



## Business structure (next update Nov 2018)

There were 104,770 enterprises active in South East Wales in 2017, of which 93.7 per cent were in the zero or micro size-band (0-9 employees). The percentage in this size-band was similar to that for Wales (94.9 per cent).

**Chart 9: Percentage of employment by enterprise size-band, 2017 (a)**



(a) The size band is based upon the size of the UK enterprises and includes all enterprises that are active in Wales.

**Table 5: Foreign owned companies, 2017 (a)**

	Enterprises			Employees		
	Total	Foreign Owned	Percentage	Total	Foreign Owned	Percentage
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>104,770</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>544,250</b>	<b>85,765</b>	<b>15.8</b>
Bridgend	8,275	135	1.6	46,165	10,230	22.2
Vale of Glamorgan	10,205	85	0.8	36,915	4,630	12.5
Rhondda Cynon Taf	11,700	125	1.1	62,100	9,080	14.6
Merthyr Tydfil	2,855	50	1.8	17,030	2,690	15.8
Caerphilly	11,175	105	0.9	50,920	8,850	17.4
Blaenau Gwent	4,000	55	1.4	17,410	3,645	20.9
Torfaen	5,625	100	1.8	29,180	4,500	15.4
Monmouthshire	11,040	75	0.7	36,240	4,760	13.1
Newport	10,075	165	1.6	62,165	11,645	18.7
Cardiff	32,150	415	1.3	186,130	25,735	13.8
<b>Wales</b>	<b>253,635</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1,143,305</b>	<b>155,320</b>	<b>13.6</b>

Source: Size Analysis of Welsh Businesses

(a) Enterprises which are active in more than one local authority will be counted in each one, so the enterprises totals for the regions/Wales will not add up to the sum of the local authorities. The size band is based upon the size of the UK enterprises and includes all enterprises that are active in Wales (numbers rounded to the nearest 5).

## Links to data

Measure	Data Link	WG Headline Link
Employment levels (aged 16 and over)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Employment rates (aged 16 to 64)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
ILO unemployment levels & rates (aged 16 and over)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Economic inactivity levels & rates (excluding students)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Economic inactivity levels & rates (including students)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Benefit claimants & benefit claimants rates	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Gross Value Added (GVA)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI)	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Average (median) gross weekly earnings	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Total workplace employment	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Workplace employment by industry	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Stock per 10,000 population of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Enterprise numbers by size-band	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Employment numbers by size-band	<a href="#">StatsWales</a>	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>
Foreign owned companies	In development	<a href="#">STATISTICS &amp; RESEARCH</a>

## Key quality information

### Relevance

This bulletin is a compendium publication used to bring together the latest key statistics relating to the economy and labour market for each of the four economic regions in Wales, in the context of the Welsh/UK economy and labour market.

This bulletin, produced by the Welsh Government, provides a summary of the sub-Wales data contained within a range of statistical bulletins and presents those estimates alongside other headline estimates for the economy and labour market for Wales and the UK. These statistics are used by the Welsh Government to monitor the headline statistics for the sub-Wales regions as well as providing comparisons to the UK and Welsh economy. The bulletin includes statistics relevant to the [Programme for Government](#) and [Prosperity for All: economic action plan](#). This bulletin was produced in response to growing user demand for more local area data which was identified in our user consultation. Our [user consultation](#) provides more information on how our outputs are used.

The bulletin is the main vehicle for the publication of results at economic region level for the Welsh labour market from the Annual Population Survey (APS), as produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). It also provides Welsh data from Jobcentre plus on the numbers of Jobseeker Allowance claimants and numbers of benefit claimants from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).

In addition to these datasets, the bulletin brings together the further datasets, for which the Welsh Government produces separate publications, including average weekly earnings, business demography, workplace employment, business structure and regional accounts data. Further information about these additional datasets can be found in the [separate publications themselves](#).

The [Department for Work and Pensions \(DWP\)](#) are no longer publishing working age benefits claimants by client group. The Welsh Government will no longer publish the Benefits data on StatsWales. We are in the process of identifying a new appropriate source for this data.

### Accuracy

#### Guidance on the use of the bulletins

For further guidance on the use of this bulletin, including quality information and descriptions and comparisons of measures and sources, please refer to the [Regional Profile User Guide](#).

#### Data Sources and Quality

We have also published a [comprehensive data sources guide list](#) 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.

## **Definitions of regions**

The four regions used in this set of bulletins are defined as:

North Wales: Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham.

Mid Wales: Powys and Ceredigion.

South West Wales: Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

South East Wales: Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Newport and Cardiff.

These definitions are based on the Department for Economy, Skills and Natural Resources economic regions, however, these regions split Gwynedd between Mid Wales and North Wales, with Meirionnydd being in Mid Wales and the rest in North. Due to data availability we have used whole Local Authorities rather than splitting Gwynedd.

## **Revisions**

Where the data is not from the Welsh Government, we follow the revisions policy of the individual Government department. For data from our own outputs, we follow our [revisions policy](#).

## **Timeliness and punctuality**

This is a quarterly bulletin, usually published in January, April, July and October. It is based on the latest version of each of the datasets it includes (see dates given in each of the headings for the next update dates).

## **Accessibility and clarity**

Much of the data in this bulletin can be found on [StatsWales](#) which is a free-to-use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download tables from the most detailed official data on Wales. Links to specific data can be found under the relevant tables, above.

## **Comparability and coherence**

Comparable measures for other UK countries for the data published in this bulletin are published on [StatsWales](#) where available. Links to specific data can be found under the relevant tables, above.

## **National Statistics status**

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 Statistics](#).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the UK Statistics Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is Welsh Government's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

## **Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG)**

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals for Wales. These are for a more equal, prosperous, resilient, healthier and globally responsible Wales, with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Under section (10)(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers must (a) publish indicators ("national indicators") that must be applied for the purpose of measuring progress towards the achievement of the Well-being goals, and (b) lay a copy of the national indicators before the National Assembly. The 46 national indicators were laid in March 2016.

Information on the indicators, along with narratives for each of the well-being goals and associated technical information is available in the [Well-being of Wales report](#).

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

The statistics included in this release could also provide supporting narrative to the national indicators and be used by public services boards in relation to their local well-being assessments and local well-being plans.

## Further details

The document is available at:

<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/regional-economic-labour-market-profiles/?lang=en>

## Next update

We are considering alternative ways of disseminating the data in this publication but will ensure user needs are met.

## We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to [economic.stats@gov.wales](mailto:economic.stats@gov.wales)

## Open Government Licence

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