Summary statistics for South West Wales region

These reports have been updated to support the continuing development of the National Development Framework following consultation on the draft NDF in autumn 2019. The Mid and South West Wales region has been split into separate regions for Mid Wales and South West Wales to provide more detailed analysis on the key issues and trends in these areas. The South West Wales region comprises the local authorities of Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea. The aim of this release is to give a statistical breakdown of the region and to highlight differences that may exist across the region for the nine topics in question.

Key Points

- South West Wales is the second most densely populated of the four regions.
- The population in South West Wales ranged from 125,000 residents in Pembrokeshire to 246,500 in Swansea.
- South West Wales had a greater low-carbon energy capacity (MW) in 2018 than the other Welsh regions. 37 per cent of Wales’ onshore wind projects and 33 per cent of Wales’ sewage gas were based in the region.

About this release

This release is one of five statistical outputs summarising statistics on nine key topics for Wales and four Welsh regions (North Wales, Mid Wales, South West Wales and South East Wales). Together these releases have been prepared to inform regional planning, supporting the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales, the National Development Framework and the Economic Action Plan.

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Population

Figure 1: Population in South West Wales, by local authority, 2018

South West Wales had a population of approximately 702,000 persons in 2018.

The largest authority in this region, in terms of residents, was Swansea, with an estimated population of around 246,500 in 2018. The smallest, on the other hand, was Pembrokeshire with a population of around 125,000.

Note: These reports were produced ahead of the publication of provisional 2019 mid-year estimates on 6 May 2020.
South West Wales had a population density of 145.9 persons per square kilometre in 2018, the second highest of the four regions in Wales.

Swansea was the most densely populated authority at 649.2 persons per square kilometre. Despite containing Wales' second-largest city, it is only the fifth most densely populated authority in the country after Cardiff, Newport, Torfaen and Caerphilly. Furthermore, 2 of the 5 most sparsely populated authorities in Wales were in the region. The most sparsely populated authority in the region was Pembrokeshire, with a population density of 77.3 persons per square kilometre. Between 2008 and 2018, population density grew by 3.7 per cent in South West Wales. The authority with the greatest population density growth rate in the region over this period was Swansea, at 5.3 per cent. Neath Port Talbot saw the lowest rate in the region, with population density increasing by 2.5 per cent from 2008 to 2018.

Welsh Government analysis of 2011 Census data (unpublished) shows that in South West Wales, 45 per cent of residents were living in settlements with 25,000 or more residents. This is the second highest of the 4 regions. The region also has 16 per cent of its residents in areas classified as "sparsest", above the Wales average but below both North and Mid Wales.

Note: These reports were produced ahead of the publication of provisional 2019 mid-year estimates on 6 May 2020.
South West Wales shows clear signs of an *ageing population* in the region. Between 1998 and 2018, the proportion of the *population aged 65 and over* has increased from 18.7 per cent to 21.9 per cent, while the proportion of the population aged 15 and under has fallen from 19.7 per cent to 17.3 per cent.

Note: These reports were produced ahead of the publication of provisional 2019 mid-year estimates on 6 May 2020.
Swansea’s population grew by 5.3 per cent between 2008 and 2018, more than any other local authority in the region in this period. Neath Port Talbot has the lowest growth, at 2.5 per cent. Pembrokeshire has seen the greatest change in population growth between the 1998-2008 and 2008-2018 periods, going from a growth rate of 8.3 per cent to 3.2 per cent.

Note: These reports were produced ahead of the publication of provisional 2019 mid-year estimates on 6 May 2020.
Looking at data showing components of population change across South West Wales, we see that since the 2001-02 period, more population change is attributable to net migration and other changes than to natural change (births and deaths). Since the 1998-99 period, net migration and other changes have been strictly positive, meaning that more people have been moving into the region than have been moving out, while natural change has been almost entirely negative across the region, meaning that the birth rate has been lower than the death rate.

Looking at local authorities, Carmarthenshire saw the largest net change in population due to migration and other changes during the 2017-18 period. We also notice that population change due to net migration and other changes was positive in all authorities during this period. All 4 local authorities experienced negative natural change during this period, meaning the number of deaths was higher than the number of births. The highest level of negative natural change was in Carmarthenshire.

Note: These reports were produced ahead of the publication of provisional 2019 mid-year estimates on 6 May 2020.
Figure 6: Stated Welsh-speaking ability of persons aged three and over in South West Wales, by local authority, 2011

Source: 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics

According to census data, 147,864 persons aged three and over in the region said they could speak Welsh in 2011. Although the number of Welsh speakers may be similar in different areas, it’s important to also consider the percentage of Welsh speakers in each area as this may vary considerably due to different population sizes. Swansea, for example, had the second-highest number of Welsh speakers in the region, but the lowest proportion of Welsh speakers as a percentage of the population (11.4 per cent).

The census is the key source of information about the number of people who can speak Welsh. The National Survey for Wales (NSW) and the Annual Population Survey (APS) also collect information about respondents’ Welsh speaking ability and frequency of use (the NSW only collects information for those aged 16 or over while the APS collects information for those aged three and over like the census). Estimates of Welsh language ability from household surveys are historically higher than those produced by the census and it is not known exactly why this is the case. It’s likely that differences in how these surveys and the census are carried out affect the estimates. More information can be found in a blog post by the Chief Statistician discussing Welsh language data.

Meanwhile, data from the Annual Population Survey shows that an estimated 31.8 per cent of the region’s residents over the age of three reported being able to speak Welsh in the year ending September 2019. This represented approximately a 5.4 percentage point increase on data for the year ending September 2009, the highest proportional increase of the Welsh regions over this period. Carmarthenshire was the authority with the highest proportion of Welsh speakers in the region in September 2019, with a rate of approximately 52.3 per cent of persons over the age of three saying they could speak Welsh. Neath Port Talbot was the authority with lowest rate over the same period, standing at an estimated 22.6 per cent. Regional percentages have been calculated from published rounded data.
In 2018-19, there were 31,885 enrolments on Higher Education (HE) courses in South West Wales, representing 24.1 per cent of student enrolments in Wales. Swansea University saw the highest number of HE enrolments in the region, representing 64.7 per cent of total enrolments in the region.

In addition to these figures, there are 165 enrolments in NPTC group, but given that this provider is spread across multiple college campuses, it is not possible to split these between South West and Mid Wales. The NPTC group is a further education college which was formed following the merger of Neath Port Talbot College and Coleg Powys on 1 August 2013.
Health

Life expectancy is a measure of how long, on average, people can expect to live using estimates of the population and the number of deaths. Healthy life expectancy estimates the number of years spent in very good or good general health.

ONS data shows that for 2016-18 in South West Wales, life expectancy and health life expectancy for males and females were highest in Pembrokeshire and lowest in Neath Port Talbot.

Figure 8: Adults aged 16 and over showing 0 or 1 healthy lifestyle behaviours, by local authority, 2017-18 and 2018-19* (age standardised)

* The 2017-18 and 2018-19 periods have been combined for data quality purposes

Source: National Survey for Wales

The 5 healthy lifestyle behaviours are: not smoking, average weekly alcohol consumption 14 units or lower, eating at least 5 portions fruit & veg the previous day, having a healthy body mass index, and being physically active at least 150 minutes the previous week.

Across South West Wales in 2017-18 and 2018-19 combined, 10 per cent of adults reported fewer than 2 of the 5 healthy lifestyle behaviours. This ranged from 9 per cent in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire to 14 per cent in Neath Port Talbot, however the difference was not statistically significant.
* The 2017-18 and 2018-19 periods have been combined for data quality purposes

Source: National Survey for Wales

Across South West Wales in 2017-18 and 2018-19 combined, 69 per cent of adults reported being in good or very good general health. This ranged from 68 per cent in Carmarthenshire and Neath Port Talbot to 72 per cent in Pembrokeshire, however the difference was not statistically significant.
Employment

Employment rate (population aged 16-64) 71.9%  Unemployment rate (population aged 16 and over) 4.4%  Economic inactivity rate (excl. students) 21.1%

Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics. Data relates to year ending 30 September 2019

Figure 10: Employment rate in South West Wales, 1999-2019

Notes

Data for 1999 to 2003 is year ending 28 February. Data for 2004 is year ending 31 December 2004. Data from 2005 onwards is year ending 30 September. 1999 and 2000 data for this geography level were not considered sufficiently robust for publication

Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

The employment level is the total number of people (aged 16+) that are in employment and the employment rate is the percentage of the population (aged 16-64) that is in employment. Of the four regions, South West Wales had the lowest employment rate the year ending 30 September 2019.

Since 2001, the region’s employment rate has increased by 7.2 percentage points. All local authorities in South West Wales experienced an increase in the employment rate since 2001. Neath Port Talbot experienced the largest increase of all local authorities Wales, up by 14.1 percentage points. The smallest increase within South West Wales was in Swansea, up by 1.9 percentage points.
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 (ILO) definition of unemployment). For the year ending September 2019, the unemployment rate in South West Wales was 4.4 per cent, a decrease of 1.9 percentage points compared to 2001. Carmarthenshire’s unemployment rate saw the largest decrease in South West Wales, down by 2.6 percentage points since 2001. Whereas, Pembrokeshire had the joint highest unemployment rate of all local authorities in Wales at 6.4 per cent.

The economic inactivity rate is the percentage of the population who are not working and not seeking nor available to work. Economically inactive people include people looking after the family and/or home, retirees and people with a sickness or disability. For the year ending September 2019, the economic inactivity rate in South West Wales was 21.1 per cent, a decrease of 7.5 percentage points compared to 2001. This change was higher than the change across the whole of Wales. Neath Port Talbot’s economic inactivity rate saw the second largest decrease across Wales during this period, down by 13.6 percentage points since 2001.

More information on regional economic statistics can be found in the Welsh Government's regional economic and labour market profiles.
Workplace employment data is collected from businesses through the Business Register Employment Survey (BRES), and focuses on employment and employee data. This is in contrast to the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and Annual Population Survey (APS) data, which is taken from data mainly collected from residents of private households.

Workplace employment data shows that in 2018, approximately 311,400 people worked in South West Wales, nearly 40 per cent of which were based in Swansea. The average level of employment across the region’s four local authorities was approximately 77,900 persons, while this is the highest level among the four regions, it is positively skewed because of the high proportion of employment in Swansea.

The Real estate activities sector saw by far the highest percentage change in jobs over the 2008-2018 period, while the Agriculture, forestry and fishing sector saw the greatest percentage decrease. When considering the level of jobs however, it was the Public administration, defence, education and health sector that saw the greatest increase over this period, with the largest decrease in the Wholesale, retail, transport, hotels and food sector. Note that differences are based on published rounded data.
As a whole, the net change in workers across the region was -5,700, indicating that more people commute out of the region than into the region. Note that net changes and data for the regions have been calculated from published rounded data.

Data from 2018 indicates that the net worker population change was negative in half of the region’s local authorities, meaning that in these authorities, more people commute out of the authority to work than commute in from other authorities. Swansea, the most populous local authority in the region, had the greatest influx of workers from other local authorities while Neath Port Talbot saw the greatest outflow of workers.
2011 Census data shows that, on average, working residents aged 16-74 in all local authorities in the region, except in Neath Port Talbot and Swansea, had longer distances to commute to work than the Wales average. Pembrokeshire residents had the longest commutes to work in terms of distance.

As in the rest of the country, 2019 data shows that the vast majority of enterprises had fewer than 10 employees. The proportion of micro enterprises in South West Wales was the second lowest of the four regions, whereas South West Wales had the joint highest proportion of large enterprises.

Data for the year ending 31st December 2018 shows that in 3 of the 4 local authorities in the region the proportion of men and women aged 18-64 with no qualifications was higher than the Wales figure of 8.4 per cent. In Pembrokeshire and Swansea, the percentage of men and women aged 18-64 qualified to NQF level 2 or above was higher than the Wales level of 78.9 per cent.
South West Wales’ transport infrastructure includes the end of the M4 motorway, as well as 5 of the 9 ports in Wales – more than in any of the other Welsh regions. There are also 2 ferry ports (Fishguard and Pembroke Dock) in the region.

Milford Haven is the largest port in Wales and the fifth largest port in the UK by volume of freight, predominantly through oil and gas traffic. It handled 30.9 million tonnes of traffic which was 6.4 per cent of the UK total for 2018. Freight traffic at Milford Haven accounted for 63 per cent of all Welsh port traffic in 2018.

The second largest port in Wales is Port Talbot, which imports iron ore and coal mostly for the adjacent steelworks.

Research into M4 average speeds shows that from April to June 2016, the M4 through Neath Port Talbot had the slowest average speeds in the region during peak times.
According to census data from 2011, 76.9 per cent of workers aged 16-74 living in South West Wales travelled to work by car, van, motorcycle, scooter or moped. This corresponded to around 228,000 persons across the region. 11.2 per cent (33,000 persons), travelled on foot or by bike. 4.8 per cent (14,000 persons) travelled by train, bus, minibus or coach.

In 2018-19 across South West Wales, adults aged 16 and over in Swansea were most likely to walk for more than 10 minutes as a means of transport, with 68.5 per cent doing so at least once a month. Carmarthenshire was the local authority where this was least likely in South West Wales (53.3 per cent).

In the same period, the local authority with the highest percentage of adults aged 16 and over using a bicycle as a means of transport at least once a month in the region was also Swansea (11.6 per cent). The lowest regular bicycle usage was in Neath Port Talbot (6.3 per cent).
Across the region, the number of train journeys made in 2017-18 was almost 2.3 million, an increase of almost 558,000 on 2007-08. The number of train journeys increased by 36.5 per cent in Swansea over this ten-year period, accounting for 40.8 per cent of the regional increase in train journeys. Both figures were greater than in any other local authority in the region.

In 2017-18, there were 42 rail stations in South West Wales. Two of these, Swansea and Neath stations were among the 20 busiest in Wales by station entries and exits.
In South West Wales, Gower, South Pembrokeshire, Marloes and Dale, St Brides Bay, St. David’s Peninsula, Dinas Head, St.Dogmaels and Moylgrove, have been designated as Heritage Coasts in order to protect them from insensitive developments. The region is also home to the Special Protection Areas (SPAs) of Ramsey and St David’s Peninsula Coast, Castlemartin Coast, Skomer, Skokholm and the Seas off Pembrokeshire, Grassholm, Carmarthen Bay, Burry Inlet and Elenydd-Mallaen. These serve to protect bird species which are either rare or vulnerable, or which, in the case of migratory birds, visit Welsh shores regularly.
South West Wales is home to the Pembrokeshire Coast and Brecon Beacons National Parks, as well as Gower, which has been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

**Air Quality**

Neath Port Talbot had the highest concentration of nitrogen dioxide in the air in the region in 2017 (10 µg/m³), and the lowest observed concentration was 5 µg/m³ in Carmarthenshire, as well as in Pembrokeshire. The observed concentration reduced in all local authorities across the region since 2007.

**Energy**

In South West Wales in 2018, there was 976 megawatts (MW) of low-carbon energy capacity, representing 25 per cent of the Wales total, more than any of the other Welsh regions. Swansea was the local authority with the lowest low-carbon energy capacity in the region (64 MW). Each of the other local authorities in this region had a low-carbon energy capacity between 250MW and 351MW. There were a total of approximately 15,500 low-carbon energy projects across the region in 2018. While a large proportion (85 per cent) were for solar energy (photovoltaic or thermal), 37 per cent of Wales’ onshore wind projects and 33 per cent of Wales’ sewage gas were based in the region.
In 2018-19, the amount of local authority municipal waste that was reused, recycled or composted was 61 per cent in South West Wales, compared to 50 per cent in 2012-13, the earliest year for which directly comparable data is available.

The reported reuse, recycling and composting rate varied across local authorities, from 59 per cent in Carmarthenshire, to 63 per cent in Swansea.

The amount of local authority municipal waste sent to landfill was 22 per cent in South West Wales in 2018-19, compared to 40 per cent in 2012-13.
The annual residual household waste generated across South West Wales in 2018-19 ranged from 130kg in Swansea to 237kg in Pembrokeshire. Swansea saw the greatest reported change in residual household waste generated per person since 2012-13, with a reported reduction of 36 per cent, or 74kg per person. Meanwhile, Carmarthenshire residents produced on average 27kg more residual household waste in 2018-19 than in 2012-13.
Prosperity

Gross Value Added (GVA) is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services. GVA per head is a useful way of comparing regions of different sizes. It is not, however, a measure of regional productivity.

It should be noted that regional GVA figures are subject to limitations, as they can be affected by the impact of factors such as commuting between regions, and differences between regions in demography and types of employment. Further information on this can be found in the following ONS blog post. In addition, note that the regional figures are apportioned from national totals based on regional indicators. The regional indicators, which include administrative and survey data, are regarded as the most appropriate sources, but may result in imperfect regional allocations.

In South West Wales, GVA per head was £19,382 in 2018 (data included is the balanced approach for GVA). Swansea was the only local authority across the region which had GVA per head levels higher than the Wales value and all of the local authorities across the region had GVA per head levels that were lower than the UK GVA per head values. Swansea had the highest GVA per head in the region (£21,910), and Carmarthenshire had the lowest (£16,751). Across the region, GVA per head grew by 3.5 per cent on the previous year, and 83.3 per cent since 1999. Swansea saw the largest percentage increase in GVA in South West Wales since 1999 (91.2 per cent), while Neath Port Talbot saw the largest increase across the whole of Wales compared with 2017, up 8.8 per cent.

In South West Wales, Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI) per head was £15,224 in 2017, the lowest of the four regions. Across the region, GDHI per head grew by 1.1 per cent on the previous year and 57.2 per cent since 1999.

In South West Wales, the median gross weekly earnings of full-time employees in 2019 was £532.20, with median earnings across local authorities ranging from £485.00 in Pembrokeshire to £613.40 in Neath Port Talbot. In 2019, median earnings grew in all local authorities across the region. Pembrokeshire saw the largest percentage increase in median earnings between 2018 and 2019, up 6.1 per cent (£27.80).

ONS data estimates the proportion of workers earning below the living wage (£9.00 in 2019, as defined by the Living Wage Foundation). In 2019, results show that across the region, there was a 8.4 percentage point range between local authorities, the lowest percentage being 20.9 per cent in Neath Port Talbot, and the highest being 29.3 per cent in Pembrokeshire. Please note that these local authority estimates vary in quality, mainly reflecting the size of the samples.
In South West Wales, 19.6 per cent of pupils aged 5-15 were eligible for free school meals in 2018/19, up 1.7 percentage points over the previous 10 years. The highest rate was in Neath Port Talbot (23.8 per cent), while the lowest was in Pembrokeshire (16.0 per cent). Neath Port Talbot saw a 2.2 percentage point increase in eligibility compared to 2008/09, more than elsewhere in the region.
Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) is the Welsh Government’s official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in Wales. It is designed to identify those small areas where there are the highest concentrations of several different types of deprivation. Deprivation is the lack of access to opportunities and resources which we might expect in our society. This can be in terms of material goods or the ability of an individual to participate in the normal social life of the community.

The South West Wales region contains 422 Lower Super Output Layers (LSOAs). This is 22 per cent of all the LSOAs within Wales.

Considering the 191 most deprived LSOAs across all of Wales in 2019 – i.e. the 10 per cent most deprived, 40 of them are within South West Wales. This is 9 per cent of all LSOAs within the region, and 21 per cent of the 10 per cent most deprived LSOAs across all of Wales.

WIMD was last updated in November 2019, and the interactive tool provides further statistical breakdowns by Welsh City Region / Growth Deal Area.

Enterprises

In South West Wales, 93.3 per cent of businesses founded in 2013 survived their first year, and 41.0 per cent were still operating after five years. Percentages have been calculated from published rounded figures.
Digital Infrastructure

Figure 22: Percentage of homes and businesses in South West Wales with superfast or ultrafast broadband availability, by local authority, September 2019

In South West Wales in September 2019, access to a superfast fixed broadband speed (30Mbit/s or higher) or an ultrafast fixed broadband speed (300 Mbit/s or higher) was 92 per cent, ranging from 86 per cent in Carmarthenshire to 97 per cent in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

In September 2019, 38 per cent of homes and businesses had access to an ultrafast fixed broadband speed (300Mbit/s or higher). This was 14 percentage points lower than the UK rate of 52 per cent in September 2019. Access ranged from 5 per cent in Pembrokeshire, to 64 per cent in Swansea.

9 per cent of homes and businesses across the region had access to full fibre services in September 2019, this was lower than the UK and Wales averages. Full-fibre broadband uses fibre-optic cables to connect homes and businesses to the street cabinet, replacing copper connections. Full-fibre connections provide a better and more reliable service that can deliver speeds of up to one gigabit per second.
Around 3,900 homes and businesses across the region, or 1.1 per cent, did not meet the Universal Service Obligation minimum in September 2019, meaning that they were unable to access a download speed of 10Mbit/s and an upload speed of 1Mbit/s. This proportion was above the UK average (0.5 per cent) and slightly above the Wales average (1.0 per cent).
Looking at 4G services, the percentage of homes and businesses in South West Wales that had indoor coverage from all four operators in September 2019 ranged from 59 per cent in Carmarthenshire to 81 per cent in Swansea. The UK average was 80 per cent and the Wales average was 72 per cent.

In terms of geographic coverage, 8 per cent of Carmarthenshire's area was not covered by any operator, more than in any other local authority in the region. However, in Swansea and Pembrokeshire, geographic area not covered was 2 per cent.
Figure 25: Percentage of homes and businesses in South West Wales with indoor voice call coverage from all four network providers, by local authority, September 2019

Source: Connected Nations Report, the Office of Communications

For telephone call services in South West Wales, the percentage of homes and businesses with indoor coverage from all four operators in September 2019, ranged from 80 per cent in Carmarthenshire to 95 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

In 3 of the 4 local authorities in the region (Pembrokeshire, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot), the percentage South West Wales’ geographic area not covered by any operator was 1 per cent or lower, though in Carmarthenshire this was 3 per cent.
Housing

Figure 26: Dwelling stock estimates in South West Wales over time (all tenures)

Source: Dwelling Stock Estimates, Welsh Government

The total number of dwellings in South West Wales continues to grow steadily with an estimated 328,400 dwellings at 31 March 2019. This represents an increase of 5 per cent over the last 10 years. Swansea was the local authority with the highest number of dwellings (111,900), and Pembrokeshire had the lowest number (62,700). 14 per cent of all dwellings across the region were privately rented, which is 1 percentage point higher than 5 years ago. 70 per cent were owner occupied, 1 percentage point lower than 5 years previously.

Figure 27: Number of new flats and houses in South West Wales completed over time

Source: New house building data collection, Welsh Government
The figures provided by local authorities and the National House-Building Council (NHBC) are from records kept for building control purposes. It is sometimes difficult for building control officers to identify whether a dwelling is being built for a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) or for a private developer, which may lead to an under-count of RSL new house building and an over-count for the private sector.

1,173 new dwellings were completed across South West Wales over the 2018-2019 period. This is 30 per cent fewer than ten years previously and 34 per cent fewer than 20 years previously. The highest number of new dwellings completed in the 2018-2019 period was in Swansea (349, or 30 per cent) and the lowest was in Neath Port Talbot (200, or 17 per cent).

Data from the UK House Price Index, shows that in South West Wales in September 2019, average house prices ranged from £122,400 in Neath Port Talbot to £182,400 in Pembrokeshire. Between September 2009 and September 2019, Pembrokeshire was also the local authority that saw the greatest increase in house prices, rising by £31,500 (or 20.9 per cent) while Swansea saw the smallest increase, at £19,000 (or 14.4 per cent). Data correct as of the January 2020 publication of the UK House Price Index (UK HPI). The UK HPI is a mix-adjusted index, which mean it is weighted to reflect the actual mix of properties sold in the previous year. The UK HPI is published monthly. All figures in the UK HPI are liable to revisions for up to 12 months.

Local authorities estimated that 66 persons were sleeping rough across South West Wales in the 2 weeks between 14th and 27th October 2019. This is an increase of 32 per cent (16 persons) compared with the exercise carried out in October 2018, though the increase may have been influenced by a number of factors, including improved mechanisms for identifying rough sleepers in some local authorities. Over a half (56 per cent) of persons sleeping rough across the region were located in Swansea.
Culture and Heritage

Figure 29: World Heritage Sites & Listed Buildings in South West Wales

Source: Cadw

South West Wales received 24 million Tourism Day Visits (TDVs) in 2018, resulting in a total expenditure of £884 million. TDVs in the region were most likely to be to a village or countryside.

The Wales Accommodation Occupancy Survey shows that South West Wales had a hotel room occupancy rate of 65 per cent, a 2 percentage point increase from 2017.

When considering the number of visits to tourist attractions in Wales in 2018, 2 of the top 10 paid attractions were in South West Wales: LC Waterpark & Leisure Complex, and Folly Farm. These attractions were also the top 2 in the country. Over the same period, 1 of the top 10 free attractions in Wales in 2018 was in South West Wales: Pembrey Country Park.

Note: Room occupancy is the number of bedrooms occupied over a given period as a proportion of total available bedrooms.
Key quality information

Relevance
This publication is a compendium of key statistics on nine different topics. As such, it brings together data that is already in the public domain at different geographical levels (e.g. Wales, local authority level). Where possible and appropriate, data has been made available at regional level to offer further context on regional differences that may exist in Wales. More information on specific data sources can be found within the links to individual releases.

This publication was initially prepared to support policy teams in Welsh Government in preparing and drafting the new National Development Framework. However, we anticipate that the scope of the usefulness of this publication is further-reaching. It is anticipated that this publication will be used by Welsh Government, local authorities, other public bodies with a regional interest, and the general public, to (i) gain an overview of data collected for Wales and its local authorities and regions on each of the subject areas and (ii) understand differences that may exist between the Welsh regions. Users with a specific interest in one or more of the topics in this report can find a wider range of statistics and data on StatsWales.

Accuracy
The statistics included within this release are taken from official statistics sources, though not all of these have been classified as National Statistics. More information about official statistics and National Statistics can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website. Information about the quality of each of the data sources used can be found within the individual releases, referenced in the footnotes, or within the quality reports that accompany these releases.

Due to the high number of sources included in this publication and the time taken to compile it, more recent data has been published for some sources. The majority of the data was known to be the most recently available as at 30/01/2020. Current data is accessible through the links to sources included in the commentary. Housing need estimates have not been included as the publication of this data which was also scheduled for 20 May has been postponed. On 18 May 2020, ONS stated that they have identified some processing errors affecting the 2018-based national population projections. This mainly affects the flows between England and Wales. The impact of this is major and the data will be revised. Therefore, population and household projections have not been included in these reports.

Although we don’t plan to regularly update these reports, they’ve been updated now to support the continuing development of the National Development Framework following consultation on the draft NDF in autumn 2019. The Mid and South West Wales region has been split into separate regions for Mid Wales and South West Wales to provide more detailed analysis on the key issues and trends in these areas. In future, data will be made available on StatsWales and in dashboards, and will be updated as new data is published, ensuring that users are always provided with the latest data.
Timeliness and punctuality

Due to the high number of sources included in this publication and the time taken to compile it, more recent data has been published for some sources. The majority of the data was known to be the most recently available as at 30/01/2020. Housing need estimates have not been included as the publication of this data which was also scheduled for 20 May has been postponed. On 18 May 2020, ONS stated that they have identified some processing errors affecting the 2018-based national population projections. This mainly affects the flows between England and Wales. The impact of this is major and the data will be revised. Therefore, population and household projections have not been included in these reports.

Accessibility and clarity

Users may access all data included in this release using the links included in the footnotes. The majority of the data underlying the report, including much more detailed breakdowns, are available on StatsWales and through the StatsWales open data services. Quality information and metadata for each of these sources is also available through these links.

This publication is currently available in printable PDF format, but in future, data will be made available as interactive online reports to maximise impact and efficiency using the Welsh Government open data services.

Comparability and coherence

Where different datasets have been used to discuss the same topic (for example in the section on statistics relating to the Welsh language), an explanation is offered as to the strengths and limitations of each of the sources, and the coherence between them, with further information provided in the sources and links.

Where possible, National Statistics have been used to ensure the data is of high quality and is consistent with statistics on the topics that may be used or other purposes. Further information on the comparability and coherence of each of the sources is available in the sources linked in the footnotes.

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 and this release includes 7 of the national indicators, namely the percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle indicators; levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) pollution in the air; the percentage of adults with qualifications at the different levels of the National Qualifications Framework; Gross Disposable Household Income per head; the capacity (in MW) of renewable energy equipment installed; the percentage of people in employment; and the percentage of people who can speak Welsh.
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.

As a national indicator under the Act they must be referred to in the analyses of local well-being produced by public services boards when they are analysing the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their areas.


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: https://gov.wales/summary-statistics-regions-wales-2020

Other related links
National Development Framework

Next update
This publication is a one-off release and will not be updated. However, future data will be made available in dashboard format and will be updated as new data becomes available.

We want your feedback
We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to Stats.Info.desk@gov.wales.

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