

## Statistics Wales quarterly update February 2021

This is the latest in a series of quarterly updates, for users of Welsh statistics, on our latest developments, consultations and plans.

A full list of our most recent publications can be found on our [upcoming calendar](#).

### General

We're pleased to confirm that Stephanie Howarth has been appointed as Chief Statistician for Wales following a recent open recruitment exercise.

### Coronavirus (COVID-19) response

We continue to have adapted our usual operations to ensure we are able to support the government's response to the Coronavirus pandemic, as well as providing the necessary information when it is needed the most. We will continue to use the [Digital and Data blog](#) to provide information on our approach.

We continue to publish an expanded range new regular datasets and releases to inform the public during the pandemic. These are all gathered together on our [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) related statistics and research page](#). Since December we have also started producing new or more regular datasets and releases on:

- [Positive coronavirus cases reported to higher education institutions in Wales](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination programme \(stock and distribution\)](#)

We have also extended our release on [Notifications to Care Inspectorate Wales related to COVID-19 in adult care homes](#), with this including notifications of cases in addition to the information on deaths.

Public Health Wales also publish a comprehensive picture of new cases, deaths and now vaccinations reported in Wales at 12pm every day. These are published on the [Rapid COVID-19 surveillance dashboard](#). The Chief Statistician has also published a blog written jointly with Public Health Wales on [plans for COVID-19 vaccination statistics](#).

## **Economy and labour market**

We have continued to update [key economic statistics](#) monthly, bringing in a range of data sources to give the most up to date picture of the impact coronavirus is having on the labour market in Wales. We also publish a monthly headline on the [coronavirus job retention scheme \(CJRS\) and the self-employed income support scheme \(SEISS\)](#) as published by HMRC.

Other releases are beginning to show the impact the coronavirus pandemic is having on the economy in Wales, such as [regional gross domestic product](#) (GDP) covering April to June 2020 and [short-term output indicators](#) covering July to September 2020.

In January we published the [latest labour market data from the Annual Population Survey](#), covering the year ending September 2020 as well as 2019 estimates for [births and deaths of businesses in Wales](#).

If you would like to get in touch please contact [economic.stats@gov.wales](mailto:economic.stats@gov.wales)

## **Education**

### **Schools**

We continued to publish weekly data on [pupils present in maintained schools](#).

On 3 December 2020 we published final data on [examination results in summer 2020](#) which were primarily based on centre assessed grades.

Statutory data collections from schools were suspended following the announcement on 4 Jan that all schools would only be open for vulnerable learners and children of key workers. This means that there has been no January 2021 data collection for the Pupil Level Annual School Census, Educated Other Than At School Census, and the Independent School Census. No decisions have yet been made on when these collections will take place.

### **Cross-cutting and Post-16 Education**

At the beginning of the year we published a post on the Welsh Government's [Digital and Data blog](#) summarising the changes we've made to our statistical publications during the course of the Coronavirus pandemic. We also focused on performance reporting and outlined our plans for a statistical article on 'Outcomes for learners in post-16 education affected by the coronavirus pandemic' due to be published in March 2021.

During February and March we're also due to publish annual statistics on [further education, work-based learning and adult learning](#) for the 2019/20 academic year. We'll also update our quarterly [apprenticeship starts](#) dashboard with final data for the full 2019/20 academic year.

Our monthly publication of management information on [apprentices furloughed or made redundant during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic](#) continues. Whilst this data has not

undergone the same level of quality assurance as official statistics, it does provide a timely indication of the extent to which apprentices have been affected by the pandemic.

In January we published our quarterly statistical headline on [young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\)](#). This update includes data for our timelier, but less statistically robust, Annual Population Survey measure of NEETs as at the year to September 2020. Further information on our NEETs measures can be found in our guide to [understanding the different sources of statistics on young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\) in Wales](#).

In order to provide feedback, or for any further information, please contact [post16ed.stats@gov.wales](mailto:post16ed.stats@gov.wales)

## Higher Education and Student Finance

We have published our annual headlines on [Students in higher education](#) and [Staff at higher education institutions](#). We have also started a weekly publication of [Positive coronavirus cases reported to higher education institutions in Wales](#).

We would value any feedback you may have on our current publications or what you would like to see in the future. Please contact us via our [HE and Student Finance Stats mailbox](#).

## Housing

There was a well-attended and useful [meeting](#) of the **Housing Information Group** on 28 January. Colleagues from the ONS gave a variety of presentations about the 2021 Census and the wide-ranging discussions about Welsh data needs.

The 2019-20 **affordable housing statistics** were delayed from autumn 2020, due to the pandemic. However, on 3 February 2021, we published a [provisional headline statistics for 2019-20](#). These provisional statistics include high-level estimates of affordable housing provision for 2019-20. We will publish the final 2019-20 statistics on 11 March.

On 5 November 2020, we began publishing [monthly management information](#) on **rough sleeping and provision of accommodation for the homeless**. Initially, we published this data at the Wales-level only.

On 4 February 2021, we began publishing monthly estimates of rough sleeping by local authority for November 2020. These estimates may be of interest to users of the annual rough sleeper count (which was suspended for November 2020). Ahead of publishing these estimates, we informed local authorities of these plans and provided local authorities with an opportunity to comment.

Please note that these rough sleeping estimates are produced differently to the annual rough sleeper count. Therefore, we do not recommend direct comparisons between these estimates and the rough sleeper count.

On 25 February 2021, we will publish the next edition of the monthly management information (December 2020 data).

## **Welsh Housing Conditions Survey 2017-18 (WHCS)**

Our statistical releases can be found on our web pages <https://gov.wales/welsh-housing-conditions-survey>.

Please contact us via the [mailbox](#) with any queries or requests.

## **Health**

### **Publications**

All our statistical releases are on the [Statistics and research website](#).

For further information please email [stats.healthinfo@gov.wales](mailto:stats.healthinfo@gov.wales)

### **NHS activity**

Publication of monthly NHS performance and activity data continues, and continues to show the impact coronavirus has had on waiting times within the NHS.

February saw the first publication of data from the new single cancer pathway collection. This change was made to align with the introduction of a new single cancer pathway target, which was introduced on the 18 November 2020, and effective from 1 December 2020.

This patient level data will be collected by NHS Wales Informatics Service through a new central data collection process and has been designated as experimental.

This change led to the retirement of the targets and associated data collection for patients newly diagnosed via the urgent and not via the urgent pathways.

### **Social Services**

Welsh Government are currently processing and preparing for publication of individual level Looked After Children Census and Children Receiving Care and Support Census data from local authorities for 2019-20. Data collection requirements and accompanying timetable for submitting data for the 2020-21 reporting year are currently being finalised. Groups have started reviewing the Children's Censuses and developing an Adults Receiving Care and Support Census for Wales.

## **Data Science and Administrative Data Research**

The data science unit will be publishing a series of blogs over the coming months, these will be published to the [Digital and Data blog site](#).

A number of publications have been produced by administrative data research – Wales during the pandemic. Most recently an update to the numbers of those on the [shielding patient list](#).

If you would like to get in touch please contact [ADRUWales@gov.wales](mailto:ADRUWales@gov.wales) or [DataScienceUnit@gov.wales](mailto:DataScienceUnit@gov.wales)

## National Survey for Wales

### 2020-21 quarterly telephone survey

We have now switched our 2020-21 telephone survey from monthly releases to quarterly, and our first quarterly results for October-December 2020 will be published on March 4<sup>th</sup>. Previous monthly releases from May to September 2020 are published in the form of [short releases](#) and results are included in the [monthly Results viewer](#).

For any questions about the content of the quarterly surveys please contact [heulwen.hudson@gov.wales](mailto:heulwen.hudson@gov.wales).

### More in-depth reporting on 2019-20 results

A statistical report on [Accessing information on health and wellbeing](#), using the 2019-20 survey data, was published on January 28<sup>th</sup>. A report on [Internet skills & online public sector services](#) was published on February 11<sup>th</sup> and we plan a further output covering Caring this spring. The team are continuing to work on combining data from multiple months and where possible with the 2019-20 and 2018-19 datasets which will allow for more in-depth analysis.

## Social justice and equality

### Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)

This year we will review WIMD indicator data and decide which, if any, can be updated by the end of the year. In the meantime, we continue to publish follow-on outputs for [WIMD 2019](#). Please refer to our '[WIMD 2019 list of outputs](#)' for a full list of WIMD 2019 publications, including what is to come. On the anniversary of publishing WIMD 2019, we released a [data blog](#) on how WIMD 2019 helps us highlight inequality, one year on.

On 10 December 2020, the National Statistics '[Indices of Deprivation 2019: income and employment domains combined for England and Wales](#)' were published on gov.uk. The outputs contain a spreadsheet of income and employment deprivation rates and ranks for small areas across England and Wales, as at 2015-16. The data are different and supplementary to the separate official measures of relative deprivation within England and Wales.

WIMD 2019 data on town's access to services, green space and broadband together with mental health statistics are amongst the new data which has been incorporated into the update to [Understanding Welsh Places \(UWP\)](#) launched by the Institute of Welsh Affairs (IWA) on 9 December 2020.

To find out more see the [news story on the IWA website](#)

If you want to receive notification of publication updates for WIMD, please email <mailto:stats.inclusion@gov.wales> to subscribe. We are also able to provide information sessions on WIMD 2019, if you are interested in arranging this for your organisation or network please contact us to discuss.

## Trade

The second year of the Trade Survey for Wales (data relating to 2019) is now complete and results will be published in the Spring. The aim of the survey is to improve understanding of trade flows into and out of businesses located in Wales. This includes goods and services that move within the UK as well as internationally. We are in the process of procuring another wave of the survey. This will collect data relating to 2020, which will include the early part of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as well as the lead up to EU exit.

ONS published a report on [Patterns of Welsh trade by destination, product and business characteristics: 2019](#) on 18 December. This was at the request of Welsh Government.

## Transport

In December we published our annual [motoring offences](#) release covering 2019, as well as estimates of [active travel](#) in Wales from April 2019 to March 2020. In January, we published 2019 estimates of [road freight](#) and [sea transport](#).

## Welsh language

From 14 September to 9 October 2020, the Welsh Government conducted a survey of Welsh language community groups in Wales with the aim of understanding the impact of COVID-19 on their activities since the first lockdown in March 2020. The [survey findings](#) were published on the Welsh Government website on 10 December.

On Tuesday 12 January, the [Annual Population Survey \(APS\) results on the Welsh language for the year from October 2019 to September 2020](#) were published. Due to a change in how the survey is being carried out since March 2020 (now over the phone only), the ONS has found that a slightly different type of respondent is participating in the survey. They have therefore changed how they weight the survey to account for this, and have revised their survey estimates for the previous two quarters, [July 2019 to June 2020](#) and [April 2019 to March 2020](#).

## Population and demography

A separate [Demography quarterly update](#) is published which includes all things population related.

## **Contacts for Welsh Government statistics**

### **General statistics enquiries**

Email: [stats.info.desk@gov.wales](mailto:stats.info.desk@gov.wales)

Tel: 03000 255050

### **Subject specific**

[Contacts for statistics](#)

**Twitter** 

[StatisticsWales](#)

### **Welsh Government email newsletter and alert service**

[News and alerts](#)

### **Admin queries**

Email [kasadmin@gov.wales](mailto:kasadmin@gov.wales)