

Statistics Wales quarterly update December 2023

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](#).

Contents

Well-being of Wales	3
Economy and labour market	3
Economy	3
Input Output tables.....	3
Labour market.....	3
Education	4
Schools	4
Attendance data	4
Statistical releases	4
Post-16 education	5
Higher education and student finance.....	5
Housing	5
Second Homes	6
Housing Conditions and Fuel Poverty	6
Health and social services.....	7
Population health	7
Primary and community care	7
Hospital statistics	7
NHS workforce and expenditure	8
Other health and social services statistics	8
National Survey for Wales.....	8
Publications.....	8
Social justice	9

Poverty.....	9
Cost of living	9
Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).....	9
Ukraine response.....	9
Community safety	10
Equality	10
Trade.....	11
Trade Survey for Wales	11
Welsh International Goods Trade	11
Transport.....	11
Wales National Travel Survey.....	11
Welsh language	12
Differences between estimates of Welsh language ability in Census 2021 and household surveys.....	12
Agriculture and environment	13
Decarbonisation and Climate Change	13
June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture.....	13
Administrative data research.....	13
Population and demography	14
Contacts for Welsh Government statistics.....	14
General statistics enquiries.....	14
Subject specific.....	14
Twitter/X.....	14
Welsh Government email newsletter and alert service	14
Admin queries.....	14

Well-being of Wales

[The annual Well-being of Wales report](#) was published on the 28 September. The report provides an update on whether we are making progress against the seven national well-being goals set by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The report draws on evidence from a wide range of topics, covering the 50 national [indicators](#), alongside a range of other relevant data.

This year we produced a separate [report on ethnicity and well-being](#) in Wales, focusing on the national indicators broken down by ethnicity where possible. This provides more granularity and depth than is possible in the main Well-being of Wales report and helps track progress towards becoming a more equal Wales.

For further information or to get in touch please email HighPriorityProjects.Stats@gov.wales

Economy and labour market

Economy

In November we published our [short-term output indicator release](#) covering April to June 2023. We have also continued to update our [Welsh economy in numbers dashboard](#).

If you would like to get in touch, please contact economic.stats@gov.wales

Input Output tables

Input Output tables was the main theme for the latest Welsh Economic Statistics User Group, held on September 26. The minutes and presentations from the session can be found [here](#).

If you would like to get in touch, please contact inputoutputtables@gov.wales.

Labour market

In September, we continued to publish our [monthly labour market overview release](#), which brings together a range of different labour market sources providing the most up to date picture of the impact different events have on the labour market. Alongside this we also published a [Chief Statistician's update on understanding and managing the impact of challenges with labour market data in Wales](#).

In October, because of increased uncertainty around the LFS estimates, the ONS published an alternative series of estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity as experimental statistics for the UK. This was to provide a more holistic view of the state of the labour market while the LFS estimates are uncertain. As the ONS publication did not include Wales level data, our October publication of the [monthly labour market overview release](#) was cancelled.

In November, ONS published the alternative series of estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity as experimental statistics for UK countries and English regions. Using this information, we published a [statistical headline providing a summary of the latest key statistics relating to the Welsh labour market](#).

[ONS have outlined the steps they are planning to take in order to address the current LFS challenges in their improvement plan](#), with the aim of reintroducing LFS estimates in December 2023.

In addition to the monthly labour market overview, we published the annual update to [Regional gross disposable household income](#) for 2021 in September which provides information on the amount of money that individuals in the household sector have available for spending or saving.

October was a busy month with a number of publications across different areas. We published our Annual Population Survey [labour market statistics data for July 2022 to June 2023](#) which includes data for UK countries and regions and also for local areas. Annual statistics on the [participation of young people in education and the labour market](#) were released alongside the annual statistical bulletin on [young people not in education, employment or training](#).

Latest data from the [Annual survey of hours and earnings](#) was also published in October, providing information on average hourly, weekly and annual earnings for 2023 and we also updated our [Business Register and Employment Survey](#) release for 2022, presenting employee and employment estimates.

If you would like to get in touch, please contact labourmarket.stats@gov.wales

Education

Schools

Attendance data

We continued to publish weekly data on [pupils' attendance in maintained schools](#) throughout the Autumn term with the first publication on 21 September. The release was weekly up until the October half term and then fortnightly up until Christmas.

We also published the first data since Autumn 2019 from the statutory annual attendance data collection from secondary schools. The release [Absenteeism from secondary schools: September 2022 to August 2023](#) was published on 19 October.

Statistical releases

The following statistical releases were also published since September:

[School Census Results January 2023](#) on 19 September including revised data on free school meal entitlement

[Pupils educated other than at school: September 2022 to August 2023](#) on 20 September

[Academic achievement of pupils at Key Stage 3: September 2022 to August 2023](#) on 20 September

Provisional [Examination results](#) on 5 October

[Permanent and fixed-term exclusions from schools](#) on 9 November

Final [Examination results](#) will be published on 7 December.

If you have any questions or would like to provide feedback, you can contact us on school.stats@gov.wales.

Post-16 education

The first quarterly update of [Jobs Growth Wales+ statistics](#) for the 2023-24 financial year was published in September. October was a busy month which featured the publication of [youth work statistics](#) for 2022-23 and the annual update to the [post-16 learner destinations](#) measure, based on learners from the 2020/21 academic year. We also published a statistical article looking into the [use of free school meal history as an indicator of deprivation for apprenticeship and adult learning outcomes](#).

In November we published the latest update to the [apprenticeship starts dashboard](#), covering quarter 3 of the 2022/23 academic year (February to April 2023).

In order to provide feedback, or for any further information, please contact post16ed.stats@gov.wales

Higher education and student finance

We published our [Welsh language in higher education release](#), covering the 2021/22 academic year.

We will shortly be publishing our annual release on [Education Maintenance Allowances \(EMA\) awarded in Wales](#), covering the 2022/23 academic year.

In order to provide feedback, or for any further information, please contact us at highereducationandstudentfinance.stats@gov.wales.

Housing

Monthly management information on [homelessness accommodation provision and rough sleeping](#) continues to be published regularly, with roughly a two month time lag. Following user feedback, for October data onwards we will be publishing data on the number of

homeless individuals in temporary accommodation at the end of the month, by local authority as well as by accommodation type. This change will take place in January 2024.

Since the last update, the following regular housing statistics outputs have been published:

- [Dwelling stock estimates: as at 31 March 2022](#) (published 7 September)
- [Homelessness: April 2022 to March 2023](#) (published 5 September)
- [Help to Buy - Wales \(Shared Equity Loan Scheme\): April to June 2023 and July to September 2023](#) (published 14 September and 23 November)
- [National well-being indicators](#) (published 29 September)
- [Welsh Housing Quality Standard: as at 31 March 2023](#) (published 19 October)
- [Social landlord housing stock and rents: as at 31 March 2023](#) (published 24 October)
- [New house building: April to June 2023](#) (published 26 October)
- [Affordable housing provision: April 2022 to March 2023](#) (published 7 November)

The Office for National Statistics are currently redeveloping their [private housing rental price statistics](#), which they expect to be used in their measurement of consumer prices from 2024. On 1 December they will publish [impact analysis](#), and following this publication will be engaging with users.

Land Registry and the [Office for National Statistics](#) continue to publish monthly [UK House Price Index \(HM Land Registry\)](#) data for Wales and the rest of the UK.

Please contact us via the stats.housing@gov.wales mailbox with any queries or requests.

Second Homes

We published information on the number and rate of council tax chargeable second homes by Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) from local authority council tax billing data. This information relates to March 2023 and can be viewed on Data Map Wales:

- [Number of council tax chargeable second homes by middle layer super output area \(MSOA\), March 2023 | DataMapWales \(gov. wales\)](#)
- [Number of second homes per 1,000 council tax chargeable homes by middle layer super output area \(MSOA\), March 2023 | DataMapWales \(gov. wales\)](#)

The data can also be viewed in an ad-hoc statistical requests table:

- [Ad-hoc statistical requests: 25 September to 6 October 2023 | GOV.WALES](#)

Please contact us via the stats.housingconditions@gov.wales mailbox with any queries or requests.

Housing Conditions and Fuel Poverty

DLUHC have published the latest quarterly statistical release on [Energy Performance of Buildings Certificates \(EPC\) for Quarter 3 \(July to September\) 2023](#), which presents information about certificates on the energy efficiency of buildings in England and Wales.

And ONS have published the latest annual statistical release on [Energy efficiency of housing in England and Wales: 2023](#).

As a branch, we have welcomed a new member of staff to the team who will be working on the Welsh Housing Quality Standard 2023 and fuel poverty estimates.

Please contact us via the stats.housingconditions@gov.wales mailbox with any queries or requests.

Health and social services

This quarter we updated the [Healthier Wales chapter](#) of the [Wellbeing of Wales report](#) including [a sub report focusing on ethnicity \(PDF\)](#).

Population health

This quarter included an update to the [annual report on adult general health and illness](#) based on the recent published National survey for Wales and ad-hoc publication on [E-cigarette use](#).

Primary and community care

We continue to update and add additional insight to many of our outputs, including this quarter updating the annual reports on [NHS dental services](#) and [Prescriptions in Wales](#) containing new breakdowns and insight than was previously available.

There were also quarterly updates on the [Healthy Child Wales Programme](#), [Breastfeeding](#) and [General practice workforce](#) statistics.

Hospital statistics

We continue to improve our monthly updates on [NHS performance and activity](#) which includes data on unscheduled and scheduled care and this quarter have published an update to the number of [NHS beds](#) at Wales and Local Health Board level.

We continue to work closely with colleagues across the UK to better aid users' understanding of comparisons of NHS performance statistics and this quarter have produced the a new article on ambulance response times along with our UK collaborators: [Summary of ambulance response time data in the UK](#).

NHS workforce and expenditure

This quarter included the update of [experimental statistics on NHS vacancies](#), which now includes vacancies in by local health board in addition to NHS staff group level previously reported.

There were also quarterly updates on [staff employed by the NHS](#) and [NHS sickness absence](#).

Other health and social services statistics

This quarter has also seen regular updates to a range of mental health statistics including; [Detentions under Section 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act](#), [referrals and waiting times for Mental Health Support Services](#) and [specialist children and adolescent mental health service first appointment waiting times](#).

In addition to an array of other statistics on health and social services, including: [eye care measures](#) and [smoking cessation services](#) a number of other outputs are available from partner organisations including updates to [substance misuse](#) (from Digital Health and Care Wales) and the [Cancer survival](#) (from Public Health Wales).

All our statistical releases are available on the [Statistics and research website](#) and more detailed underlying data is available on the [health and social care area of StatsWales](#).

For further information or to get in touch please email stats.healthinfo@gov.wales.

National Survey for Wales

Publications

Following the [First Release](#) of 2022-23 results in July, we have now published the first in-depth, topic specific statistical bulletins using these results. Both bulletins were published in November.

- The [Loneliness statistical bulletin](#) examines the levels of loneliness within the population, and the factors associated with different levels of loneliness.
- The [Volunteering statistical bulletin](#) covers the people who have given their time for free to clubs or organisations, and factors associated with those who volunteer.

We revised [National Wellbeing Indicator 35](#), and the associated [Wellbeing of Wales](#) and [National Survey for Wales](#) reports, following the discovery of an error in the way that participation in the Arts, Culture and Heritage was calculated.

The data can be explored using our [National Survey for Wales: results viewer](#)

Please contact us at surveys@gov.wales if you have any questions or require further information.

Social justice

Poverty

In spring we published annual data summaries for Wales on [relative income poverty](#), [material deprivation](#) and [persistent poverty](#). The latest data in these reports relates to financial year ending 2022.

Cost of living

We continue to publish monthly updates to StatsWales data on [Emergency Assistance Payments made from the Discretionary Assistance Fund \(DAF\)](#), and provide updates to the [interactive dashboard presenting fuel poverty estimates and related data](#) for Wales. [These and other sources of data on the cost-of-living crisis are signposted in a blog](#) that we published in December 2022. We will continue to work with relevant organisations to ensure that Wales-level data on key cost-of-living metrics are made available wherever possible.

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD)

We have recently announced that we aim to publish the next WIMD in late 2025 or early 2026, and will firm up this timing when possible. Read our [blog for further background on timing of the next index, what we've published recently, and the change in small area boundaries](#).

We recently published a [bulletin exploring the likelihood of various population groups living in areas within each WIMD 2019 deprivation grouping](#). This analysis identifies where people from various groups, as recorded in the 2021 Census, are most likely to live in terms of small area (Lower Super Output Area or LSOA) relative deprivation and whether this varies across groups. Population groups considered include age groups, disability and health status, ethnic group, religion, sexual orientation and other protected characteristics.

This autumn we also updated our lookup file from postcode to LSOA, local authority and WIMD rank. This is available on [StatsWales](#).

If you want to receive notification of publication updates for WIMD, please email stats.inclusion@gov.wales to subscribe.

Ukraine response

We continue to work with the ONS, Home Office, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) and the other devolved governments to produce statistics relating to the Ukraine crisis.

The [weekly statistics on visa applications, visas issued and arrivals to the UK with sponsors in Wales \(DLUHC\)](#) continue to be updated.

Community safety

[Fire and Rescue incident Statistics April 2022 to March 2023](#) was published 26 October.

[Grassland Fires April 2022 to March 2023](#) was published 30 November.

If you are a user of fire statistics and wish to contribute any feedback, please contact stats.inclusion@gov.wales.

Crime and Justice

Our Youth Justice interactive dashboard can be found [here](#). If you have any feedback about this dashboard or suggestions for future dashboards, please get in touch at stats.inclusion@gov.wales.

Equality

On 15 November 2023 we published:

- The [Gypsy and Traveller caravan count statistical release](#) for July 2023.
- Updated [ethnicity and national identity estimates](#) for the year ending June 2023, from the Annual Population Survey. These can be found on StatsWales (ethnicity and national identity)

Latest data from the [Annual survey of hours and earnings](#) was published in October, providing information on average hourly, weekly and annual earnings for 2023 and including gender pay differences in Wales and the UK.

Latest data on [disability and ethnicity pay differences in Wales were published in June from the Annual Population Survey](#), covering up to the year ending December 2022. This information is also presented in National Indicator 17: Pay difference for gender, ethnicity and disability.

Please contact stats.inclusion@gov.wales in relation to the above releases.

Further analysis and publication of Census 2021 data is currently being undertaken.

In particular, the statistical bulletin [Disabled people's outcomes in health, housing, education and economic status \(Census 2021\)](#) is due to be published on 6 December 2023. Further outputs focussing on sexual identity and disabled people's employment are planned for early 2024.

Please email equalityevidenceunit@gov.wales if you have any feedback.

Trade

Trade Survey for Wales

Analysis of the fourth Trade Survey for Wales (TSW), reference year 2021, was [published in October](#). New imputation processes to improve the sales estimates were introduced as part of the methodology which revised the back-series of sales estimates to 2018.

The fifth Trade Survey collecting 2022 data is in the field October to December 2023. The imputation methodology will be expanded to cover purchases estimates. It is anticipated that the 2022 data will be ready for publication by summer 2024.

Welsh International Goods Trade

Headline results from HMRC [Regional Trade Statistics for Wales's international goods trade](#) for year ending June 2023 were published 14 September 2023.

Alongside the above headline, the [interactive trade dashboard](#) will be kept updated to the latest quarter's data. Work is currently underway to update the dashboard, incorporating volumes data, and introducing accessibility improvements.

For further information contact: stats.trade@gov.wales

Transport

In October we published [2022 estimates of road traffic in Wales](#).

For feedback and comments please contact stats.transport@gov.wales

Wales National Travel Survey

Transport for Wales is working with Welsh Government to develop a National Travel Survey for Wales.

The survey will collect data on travel attitudes and behaviour from people living in Wales. It will comprise a survey questionnaire and a travel diary. The National Travel Survey will be representative of and accessible to the people of Wales and be delivered bilingually in Welsh and English.

The data collected will allow progress towards targets set out in Llwybr Newydd: The Wales Transport Strategy and Net Zero Wales to be tracked. It will inform decision making and improve the transport evidence base in Wales, enabling us to have a better understanding of our users' needs.

Transport for Wales has engaged the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) to provide support with survey design and development. Testing is due to start in Autumn 2023, with full data collection commencing in 2024.

If you would like to learn more about the National Travel Survey for Wales, please contact us at travelsurvey@tfw.wales.

Welsh language

Differences between estimates of Welsh language ability in Census 2021 and household surveys

We consider the census to be the authoritative source for the number of Welsh speakers in Wales, and this is how the Welsh Government measures progress against its ambition of having a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Following the publication of Census 2021 results, we have been [working closely with the ONS on a programme of work](#) which will look further at some of the differences we have seen between the census and some of our other data sources about the Welsh language, such as the Annual Population Survey. For example, the census has estimated that the number of people who can speak Welsh in Wales decreased between 2011 and 2021, while the Annual Population Survey estimates that the number increased significantly during the same period.

On 26 October, we published initial findings from research reviewing [differences between estimates of Welsh language ability in Census 2021 and the Labour Force Survey](#), upon which, the Annual Population Survey is based. This was the first output of our joint workplan with the ONS to improve our understanding of Welsh language statistics. This was also the first publication to use the [Integrated Data Service \(IDS\)](#), the new cross government platform led by the ONS that provides access to a wide range of secure, high-quality data.

Welsh Language Use Survey 2019 to 2020

The [Welsh Language Use Survey 2019 to 2020](#) was carried out as part of the National Survey for Wales to know how often, where, when and with whom Welsh speakers use Welsh, and to know more about their skills in the language.

On 14 September, we published a statistical bulletin which reports on the [use of and attitudes towards the Welsh language in the workplace](#).

We have previously published [Welsh language use in Wales initial findings](#) and topic summaries on the [use of Welsh in the home and in education](#) and [Social use of the Welsh language](#). The next and final statistical bulletin in the series will explore the use of the Welsh language when accessing services.

Annual Population Survey

The latest [Welsh language data from the Annual Population Survey](#) was published on 05 October.

Please email welshlanguagedata@gov.wales for further information.

Agriculture and environment

Decarbonisation and Climate Change

In August 2023 JNCC published a report on behalf of Welsh Government covering the [global environmental footprint and impacts of Welsh consumption](#). This is an estimate of “the total area of productive land and water ecosystems required to produce the resources that the population consumes and assimilate the waste that it produces, wherever on Earth that land and water may be located.” This is different to the [Consumption Emissions data](#) published by Welsh Government which covers the greenhouse gas emissions from Welsh consumption.

Fly-Tipping

The latest [local authority recorded fly-tipping](#) data was published 16 November.

Email stats.environment@gov.wales for further information.

June Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture

The results of the 2023 survey were published on November 23. This provides the latest estimates on land use, livestock numbers and workers on farms in Wales.

Email stats.agric@gov.wales for further Information.

Administrative data research

Work to deliver our Administrative Data Research (ADR) Wales [Strategy](#) and [Planned Programme of Work for 2022-2026](#) is on-going. A [project list](#) for each of our research themes has now been published on our new [ADR Wales website](#).

Our ADR Wales team had a strong presence at the [ADR UK Conference](#) 14-16 November in Birmingham, and delivered a range of workshops and presentations covering our [Administrative Data Agriculture Research Collection](#), [EU Settlement Scheme Data Linkage Project](#), [Housing and Homelessness projects](#), and much more. Recordings of some sessions should be available on the conference website soon.

The Welsh Government Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip, Jane Hutt, has [credited ADR Wales for its work to help Wales become an international leader in data sharing and evidence-based policy best practice](#). The Minister was speaking at the Wales Data Analysis Innovation and Improvement Network (WDAIIN) seminar, ‘Supporting evidence-based decision making for Community Safety’ and drew on the insights that data, when safely collected, stored and analysed could provide to support crime prevention.

ADR Wales is pleased to have been supporting the ONS to develop a new cross government [Integrated Data Service \(IDS\)](#) (bringing together ready-to-use data to enable

faster and wider collaborative analysis for public good). As noted in the section on Welsh Language above, on the 26 October we published initial findings from research reviewing [differences between estimates of Welsh language ability in Census 2021 and the Labour Force Survey](#). This is the first published output using the IDS. The publication is also a product of a joint workplan between the Welsh Government and ONS to improve the understanding of Welsh language statistics. In part the workplan aims to showcase the benefits and value of the IDS and [SAIL Databank](#).

For further information or to get in touch please email ADRWales@gov.wales.

Population and demography

For further information or to get in touch please email stats.popcensus@gov.wales

Contacts for Welsh Government statistics

General statistics enquiries

Email: stats.info.desk@gov.wales

Tel: 03000 255050

Subject specific

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Admin queries

Email kasadmin@gov.wales