

Statistics Wales quarterly update March 2024

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](#).

Well-being of Wales

[The annual Well-being of Wales report](#) was published on the 28 September 2023. 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 December we published the [size analysis of businesses release](#), which covered data for 2023. This annual release provides data on the structure of enterprises active in Wales, including estimates for the very smallest businesses that operate below the Value Added Tax (VAT) threshold.

The [business demography 2022](#) data was updated in January to include industry breakdowns on our StatsWales website.

In February we published our [short-term output indicator release](#) covering July to September 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

Labour market

Because of increased uncertainty around the LFS estimates, in January the Office for National Statistics (ONS) continued to publish their 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](#).

January also saw the publication of our Annual Population Survey [labour market statistics data for October 2022 to September 2023](#) which includes data for UK countries and regions and also for local areas.

In February, ONS published reweighted LFS estimates for Wales after pausing the LFS based estimates in September 2023. The return to LFS based estimates allowed us to reinstate the publication 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 an article titled [‘Impact of reweighting on Labour Force Survey key indicators in Wales’](#) which explores the full impact of this reweighting as well as a [Chief Statistician’s update on the improvements introduced to labour market estimates for Wales \(Digital and Data\)](#).

Other outputs include the annual update for our [Claimant count and jobseeker’s allowance StatsWales tables](#) which was published on the 1 February 2024 and the quarterly update on [young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\)](#) which covers data for the year to September 2023, published on the 8 February 2024.

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

Education

Schools

In January we updated [My Local School](#) with final KS4 outcomes for summer 2023, the first publication of school level outcomes since before the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. My Local School now also contains data from the January 2023 school census and the annual secondary school attendance collection.

We continued to publish fortnightly data on [pupils’ attendance in maintained schools](#) throughout the spring term.

In Autumn 2023 we restarted the statutory annual data collection on absence from primary schools and published data for [Absenteeism from primary schools: Sep 2022 to Aug 2023](#) on 7 February. This included the first published data on persistent absence based on absence for 10% or more sessions, a change in definition from 20% of sessions as outlined in new guidance on [improving school attendance](#). Equivalent data for secondary schools will be published on 5 March.

The School Census, EOTAS and independent school census data collections all went ahead in January, with results due to be published from May onwards.

[Counselling for children and young people: Sep 2022 to Aug 2023](#) will be published in March 2023.

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

Post-16 education

The latest quarterly update of [Jobs Growth Wales+ statistics](#), covering quarter 2 of the 2023-24 financial year, was published in December. We have also published quarterly data on [apprenticeship starts](#) via our interactive dashboard. The latest figures relate to quarter 4 of the 2022/23 academic year and also means full-year data for 2022/23 is now final. The dashboard itself has also been given a makeover with improvements to the look and feel and navigability.

We also recently published a one-off statistical article which uses experimental methods to look at the relationship between [apprenticeship earnings and outcomes](#).

Annual data for 2022/23 on [Further education, work-based learning and community learning](#) was published at the end of February and 2022/23 [Learner Outcome measures for work-based learning and adult learning](#) and [Consistent performance measures for post-16 learning \(achievement\)](#) are due out in March.

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

Higher education and student finance

We have published our latest annual releases on [Staff at higher education institutions](#), [Education Maintenance Allowances \(EMA\) awarded in Wales](#) and [Welsh Government Learning Grants \(WGLG\) for further education](#).

To note: the HESA student statistics products for 2024 will not be published on the normal schedule in January and February. This is due to HESA experiencing delays in collecting the 2022/23 Student Record from some providers. HESA expect to publish the final release of data sometime in June, and our releases will follow accordingly.

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

Housing

Homelessness

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 have published 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. In addition, data from April 2023 onwards has moved from the previous spreadsheet format to [StatsWales under the Homelessness section](#). A spreadsheet of data published prior to April 2023 is available to download from StatsWales. For January 2024 data onwards (published March 2024) we plan to further develop this publication and publish more data at the local authority level.

Private Sector Rents and House Prices

We have recently made data available on [private sector rents](#) for 2022 to 2023.

On 1 December the Office for National Statistics published an article looking at the [impact their improved methodology has on private rental statistics](#). From March 2024 this index will replace the Index of Private Housing Rental Prices (IPHRP) and the Private Rental Market Summary statistics in England (PRMS).

We are currently considering the private sector rents data publicly available and whether it meets user needs. We would like to hear from you about what private sector rents data you use and for what purposes.

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.

New House Building

This quarter we published our usual quarterly update to [New house building: July to September 2023](#).

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

Health and social services

Hospital statistics

This quarter we updated our usual monthly update to our [NHS activity and performance summary](#) and this quarter we have also published annual reports on [Trends in NHS planned care activity: as at March 2023](#) and [Trends in NHS urgent and emergency care activity: as at March 2023](#) which focus on providing greater insight on longer term trends on ambulance

services, emergency departments, waiting lists, diagnostics and therapies and cancer services.

NHS workforce and expenditure

This quarter saw updates to our suite of NHS workforce statistics including; the [General practice workforce](#), [Staff directly employed by the NHS](#), [Sickness absence in the NHS](#) and [NHS vacancy statistics: 30 September 2023](#).

Primary and community care

This quarter we updated annual reports on [Community pharmacy services](#) and [Flying Start](#). As well as quarterly updates to [NHS dental services](#), [Healthy Child Wales Programme](#) and [Breastfeeding data](#).

Population health

This quarter we published [Disabled people's outcomes in health, housing, education, and economic status \(Census 2021\)](#) looking at data on disability by various socio-economic outcomes for individuals and households who were usual residents of Wales at the time of the census.

Plus an [Ad hoc on Adults' physical activity, fruit and vegetable consumption, and body mass index, by Upper Super Output Area](#) and an update to [Mental well-being from the National Survey for Wales](#).

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: [Children looked after by local authorities](#), [eye care measures](#) and [smoking cessation services](#) a number of other outputs are available from partner organisations including updates to [Hospital admissions data online \(Digital Health and Care Wales\)](#) and the [Cancer mortality \(Public Health Wales\)](#).

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

We continue to publish topic specific analyses from the 2022-23 National Survey.

Mental Wellbeing

In February we published the [Mental Wellbeing bulletin](#). The bulletin examines the levels of mental wellbeing within the population, and the factors associated with different mental wellbeing scores.

Material Deprivation

We also published the Material Deprivation bulletin in February. This bulletin reports the levels of people living in material deprivation within the population, as well as the factors associated with those living in material deprivation. The bulletin covers material deprivation for four types of people:

- Adults
- Working-age adults
- Pensioners
- Children

Environmental Behaviours, Repair & Re-use

In March we expect to publish the Environmental Behaviours, Repair and Re-use bulletin. This bulletin will cover what factors were linked with people's environmentally friendly behaviours as well as their repair and re-use habits.

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

We expect to publish updates to annual data summaries for Wales on [relative income poverty](#), [material deprivation](#) and [persistent poverty](#) in spring (likely late March) 2024, when latest data will relate to financial year ending 2023.

On Thursday 18 January 2024 DWP published new Official Statistics in Development in the "[Below Average Resources: Developing a new poverty measure](#)" report. The report also contains consultation questions on the approach that map to a consultation questionnaire seeking feedback by 11 April 2024.

Cost of living

In December 2023 we published the last in a series of monthly updates to StatsWales tables on the Discretionary Assistance Fund. The previous series has now been replaced by a new [quarterly series of Discretionary Assistance Fund statistics](#), with more detailed breakdowns, the first of which was published on 25 January 2024. We will continue to 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 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](#).

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, crime and justice

In December 2023 we published [Fire and rescue authority performance: April 2022 to March 2023](#), an annual report which includes information on fires attended, casualties due to fires, false alarms, Special Service Incidents and contained dwelling fires.

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

Our [Youth Justice interactive dashboard](#) can be found online. We are working with Ministry of Justice and Home Office to consider the best way to make further data about crime and justice in Wales readily accessible to users.

The latest [Crime statistics for England and Wales was published by the Office for National Statistics \(ONS\) and Home Office](#) in January. A relatively new [Criminal Justice System \(CJS\) Delivery data dashboard is now available from the Ministry of Justice](#) bringing together a range of criminal justice data with data for the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) areas in Wales.

If you have any feedback about these dashboards or suggestions for future dashboards, please get in touch at stats.inclusion@gov.wales.

Equality

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

The statistical bulletin [Disabled people's outcomes in health, housing, education and economic status \(Census 2021\)](#) was published on 6 December 2023. A statistical bulletin on [sexual orientation and gender identity differences in health, education and economic status \(Census 2021\)](#) will be published on 6 March 2024.

Further outputs focussing on disabled people's employment and inequality from an intersectional lens are planned for later in 2024.

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

We have recently made some changes to the [Equality and Diversity section of StatsWales](#) with the aim of improving access to the most recent data. The sections for each characteristic now include subsections for their respective sources (primarily the Annual Population Survey at present). This has been done in anticipation of adding Census 2021 data to StatsWales, which we plan to add in OpenDocument Spreadsheet (ODS) format in the coming months. You can find data tables from older sources on the Archive page. We welcome any feedback around how you use the Equality and Diversity section of StatsWales, or what you want from Census 2021 data, at stats.inclusion@gov.wales

Trade

Trade Survey for Wales

Fieldwork for the fifth annual Trade Survey for Wales, collecting 2022 data, closed in early January with a response rate of 15%. Data cleansing and validation is currently underway. Imputation across years will be undertaken for the first time on purchases data back to 2019, with sales data imputed back to 2021 only to allow for a comparison of 2022 with the previous year. It is hoped that the analysis will be ready for publication late summer 2024.

There will be a gap in data collection in 2024 due to budgetary pressures, but this will also allow the analytical team to conduct more in-depth analysis of previously collected data, and to revisit the business case for the continuation of the Trade Survey in future years.

Welsh International Goods Trade

Headline results from HMRC [Regional Trade Statistics for Wales's international goods trade](#) for year ending September 2023 were published 14 December 2023. The data for 2023 in its entirety will be available from 14 March 2024.

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 November 2023 we published [Road Freight](#) covering 2022 as well as [Sea Transport April 2022 to March 2023](#).

In February 2024 we published provisional road collisions data covering July 2023 to September 2023 and updated our [interactive dashboard](#), including breakdowns such as severity of injury, type of road user and collision location on a map.

In March 2024 [Rail Station Usage April 2022 to March 2023](#) was published looking at levels of public rail use in Wales.

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

Wales National Travel Survey: Stakeholder Engagement

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 started in Autumn 2023, with full data collection planned to commence in late 2024.

The National Travel Survey project team will be holding online stakeholder engagement sessions via Microsoft Teams during March 2024 where information will be provided on the survey development, data that will be collected and published and the project timetable.

These sessions will be aimed at stakeholders who have an interest in the development of the survey and the data that will be collected and ultimately published.

To register to attend one of these sessions please [click here and complete the short registration form](#).

Please feel free to share this invite with any other individuals or organisations who you think may be interested in attending.

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

Welsh language

Annual Population Survey

The latest [Welsh language data from the Annual Population Survey \(APS\)](#) was published on 31 January.

[The Office for National Statistics \(ONS\) is currently transforming the way labour market statistics are produced](#). A new, online-first survey, the [Transformed Labour Force Survey \(TLFS\)](#), has been running in parallel to the existing Labour Force Survey (LFS) (which is the basis for the APS) since February 2022. Eventually, this new survey is intended to replace the LFS as the lead survey measure for labour market and productivity outputs. We have been comparing the results of the two surveys and exploring the feasibility of linking TLFS data or its predecessor, the [Labour Market Survey \(LMS\)](#), with Census 2021. When the ONS makes this switch, we will make the appropriate adjustments to ensure that we can continue to publish data on the Welsh language regularly and advise users on how to interpret these statistics.

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.

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](#), [social use of the Welsh language](#) and [use of and attitudes towards the Welsh language in the workplace](#). The next and final statistical bulletin in the series will explore the use of the Welsh language when accessing services. We are planning to publish this bulletin in due course.

Data on the Welsh language by local authority

[Data on the Welsh language by local authority](#) to facilitate the preparation of Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs) by local authorities was published on 30 November.

Please email welshlanguagedata@gov.wales for further information.

Agriculture and environment

Decarbonisation and Climate Change

On 6 February 2024 the [Department for Energy Security and Net Zero \(DESNZ\) published statistics on Final Greenhouse Gas Emissions for 2022](#). These only cover the UK; Welsh specific data will be available in June 2024.

- UK territorial greenhouse gas emissions decreased between 2021 and 2022, largely due to a reduction in fuel use to heat buildings.
- In 2022, net territorial greenhouse gas emissions in the UK were estimated to be 406.2 million tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂e), a decrease of 3.5% from 2021 and 50.0% lower than they were in 1990.
- DESNZ has changed the way UK emissions sources are categorised, replacing the National Communication (NC) sectors with new 'Territorial Emissions Statistics' (TES) sectors.

Agriculture

Estimates for Welsh agricultural land and livestock, [Survey of agriculture and horticulture: June 2023](#), was published on 23 November 2023.

Annual farm incomes release, [Farm incomes April 2022 to March 2023](#), from Farm Business Survey was published on 23 January 2024.

Municipal waste

Annual municipal waste release, [Local authority municipal waste management: April 2022 to March 2023](#), showing progress against recycling targets was published on 7 Dec 2023.

For information or to get in touch please email stats.environment@gov.wales or stats.agric@gov.wales for further Information.

Administrative data research

For 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

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Admin queries

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