

Statistics Wales quarterly update December 2020

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](#).

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 September we have also started producing new or more regular datasets and releases on:

- Daily NHS beds, admissions and hospitalisations [StatsWales tables](#)
- Pupils present in maintained schools
- The new phases of the Economic Resilience Fund (ERF)
- Homelessness accommodation provision and rough sleeping

We also published a one-off release on the [household composition of those on the shielded patient list](#) based on linked data in the Secure Anonymised Information Linkage (SAIL) Databank

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.

A number of our latest releases are beginning to show the impact the coronavirus pandemic is having on the economy in Wales, such as [Welsh exports of goods](#), [short term output indicators](#) and [regional gross domestic product](#) (GDP).

We have published a number of our other usual releases such as latest estimates of the labour market from the [Annual Population Survey](#), 2020 estimates from the [Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings](#) and 2019 estimates for [Business Register and Employment Survey](#).

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

Education

Schools

During September we worked with local authorities and colleagues in the Hwb team at Welsh Government to implement a new pupil level data collection on pupils who are present in schools. This collection of management information is unique in that it takes weekly extracts of data directly from school management information systems without the need for any action by either schools or local authorities. The first results of this collection on [pupils present in maintained schools](#) was published on 21 October and provides an up to date and reliable indicator of the extent to which the current pandemic has affected pupil attendance at school.

On 6 October we published a statistical release on [provisional examination results](#) for 2019/20 based on the best of either the centre assessed grade or the grade that was modelled by Qualifications Wales. For the first time ever this release includes a breakdown of these results by individual GCSE and A level grade as well as by ethnic background. Traditionally this data has only been available in December.

On 21 October we published the annual [permanent and fixed term exclusions from schools](#). The data in this release refers to the 2018/19 academic year and is therefore unaffected by the current pandemic.

Following the closure of schools in the Spring and Summer term, we have collected the necessary data to publish the following annual releases during September to December:

Academic achievement by pupil characteristics

Achievement and Entitlement to free school meals (KS1-3 only. KS4 data is published in the provisional examination results release linked above)

Absenteeism from primary schools

Absenteeism from secondary schools

Cross-cutting and Post-16 Education

We continue to publish monthly management information on [apprentices furloughed or made redundant during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic](#) which has also been expanded to include statistics based on the home local authority of apprentices. 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 October 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 ending 2019 quarter 2. 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](#).

We have also recently published our latest provisional quarterly update on [apprenticeship learning programmes started](#), covering quarter 3 of the 2019/20 academic year.

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 annual bulletins on [Education Maintenance Allowances](#) and [Welsh Government Learning Grants](#).

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

Housing

[Dwelling stock estimates](#), as at 31 March 2020, were published on 17 September 2020. This release provides a tenure breakdown of dwellings across Wales. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, two of the datasets which feed into the dwelling stock estimates were estimated. This means there is additional uncertainty surrounding the estimates, as at 31 March 2020.

The annual statutory homelessness release ([Homelessness: April 2019 to March 2020](#)) was published 5 November 2020. This release presents data on households applying to local authorities for housing assistance, local authority assessment outcomes and households in temporary accommodation at 31 March 2020. Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, data related to age and ethnicity was not collected and so these breakdowns have not been published for the 2019-20 year.

The first monthly homelessness and rough sleeping headline was also published 5 November 2020 ([Homelessness accommodation provision and rough sleeping; August 2020](#)). This headline presents management information on emergency and long-term accommodation provision for persons aged 16+ who are at risk of homelessness and have applied for local authority housing assistance. The data presented in this headline has not undergone the same level of quality assurance as official statistics and should be treated as

provisional. Currently, data is only published at the wales-level. The monthly collection replaces the [weekly gathering of intelligence](#) during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Welsh Housing Conditions Survey 2017-18 (WHCS)

We recommend you contact us via the [mailbox](#) with any queries or requests at this time given the fluctuation of staff available.

Health

Publications

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

For further information please email stats.healthinfo@gov.wales

GP workforce

New GP workforce data was published on 29 October, showing the number of GPs and wider practice staff employed as at 30 June 2020. Policy colleagues have used this data to workforce plan throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The next quarterly update is scheduled for January 2021.

Child Health

Quarterly updates of data supporting the Healthy Child Wales Programme have been postponed due to resources being reallocated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Breastfeeding data for April to June 2020 was published on 26 November

NHS activity

Publication of monthly NHS performance data resumed on 19 November. It included new performance data for unscheduled care services for all months between and including March and October 2020, and new performance data for scheduled care services for all months between and including February and September 2020.

The release sets out some upcoming changes to NHS performance statistics, which we would welcome feedback on.

Social Services

Welsh Government are currently processing individual level Looked After Children Census and Children Receiving Care and Support Census data from local authorities for 2019-20, and discussions are taking place with regards to data collection requirements for the 2020-21 reporting year. Groups have also been set-up to review the Children's Censuses and develop an Adults Receiving Care and Support Census for Wales.

Data Science and Administrative Data Research

The data science unit published its [first blog describing what work they have been doing and the aims of the unit](#).

A number of publications have been produced by administrative data research – Wales during the pandemic. Most recently looking at [household composition of those who were on the shielded patient list](#).

If you would like to get in touch please contact ADRUWales@gov.wales or DataScienceUnit@gov.wales

National Survey for Wales

2020 monthly telephone survey

The August and September results are now published in the form of [short releases](#) and results are included in the [monthly Results viewer](#). These will be the last results based on a monthly collection cycle after which we will switch to quarterly reporting, with the Oct – Dec results published in February 2021.

For any questions about the content of the quarterly surveys please contact heulwen.hudson@gov.wales.

More in-depth reporting on 2019-20 results

A statistical report on Volunteering using the 2019-20 survey data will be published on December 10th. A report on Loneliness will be published the following week and we plan further outputs covering Caring, Health information, and Internet skills & Online public sector services in the new year. 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)

We will not be updating any WIMD indicators in 2020 due to the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This has affected both capacity within Welsh Government and third party data suppliers, and the relevance of publishing new indicator data updated to pre-2020 reference dates. We will review WIMD indicator data in 2021 and decide which, if any, can be updated by the end of that year.

In the meantime, we continue to publish follow-on outputs for [WIMD 2019](#) and on 18 November we published an [analysis of protected characteristics by area deprivation](#). Please refer to our '[WIMD 2019 list of outputs](#)' for a full list of WIMD 2019 publications, including what is to come.

If you want to receive notification of publication updates for WIMD, please email 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 is now underway. 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

Transport

In October we published [police recorded road accidents for 2019](#). This release was scaled back in response to the pandemic. We published our [2019 air transport release](#) on 14 October and [2019 road traffic estimates](#) on 28 October.

Welsh language

The Welsh Government recently conducted a survey of Welsh language community groups in Wales with the aim of understanding the impact of Covid-19 on their activities. Survey findings will be published on the Welsh Government website on Thursday 10 December.

Population and demography

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

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