



Workplace employment by industry in Wales, 2001 to 2015

27 October 2016
SB 48/2016

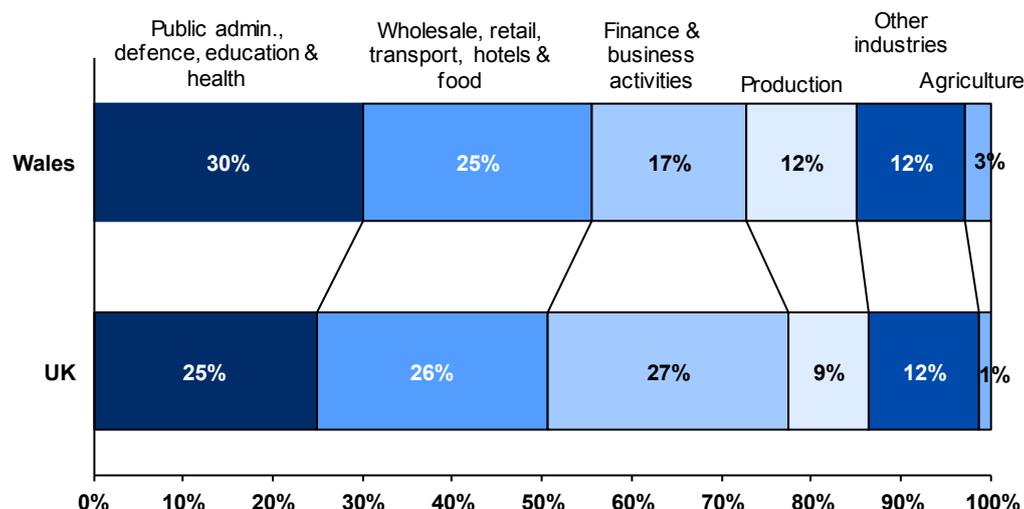
Key points

- In 2015 workplace employment in Wales was 1.406 million. This is the highest level since the series began.
- Between 2014 and 2015 total workplace employment in Wales increased by 11 thousand, or 1 per cent. The corresponding UK figure increased by 2 per cent (Table 1).

Chart 1 below shows that compared to the UK:

- Employment in Wales was proportionately higher in the *public administration, defence, education & health* sector (which is not the same as the public sector); the *production* sector; and the *agriculture, forestry & fishing* sector.
- The proportion of employment was equal in the *other industries* sector; and
- Employment in Wales was a proportionately lower in the *wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food* sector and the *finance & business activities* sector.

Chart 1: Share of workplace employment by industry, Wales and the UK, 2015



About this bulletin

This statistical bulletin uses a range of data sources to estimate workplace employment, or total jobs, by industry sector for UK, Wales and local areas within Wales up to the year ending December 2015.

In this bulletin

This bulletin contains new data on:

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Welsh local authorities	16

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Introduction

This statistical bulletin shows the distribution and trends of workplace employment by industry in the UK, Wales, and areas within Wales between 2001 and 2015. It shows the impact of the recession across the UK during 2008 and 2009 and the subsequent recovery up to the end of 2015.

These were the only official estimates of total employment by industry in Wales, i.e. including employees and the self-employed, until July 2010 when the ONS released improved workforce jobs estimates. These improved estimates include workforce jobs by industry (rather than employee jobs by industry). A comparison between this Welsh Government workplace employment publication and ONS' workforce jobs series is given in the 'Key quality information: coherence with other sources' section on page 19.

This bulletin remains the only official source of workplace employment by industry and local authority in Wales.

Throughout the bulletin the symbol “-” indicates that the figure is between 0 and 500 (or 0 and -500). This is used to differentiate between a low number and a true zero as figures are rounded to the nearest 1,000.

The industrial sectors 'Public administration, education & health' overlap, but should **not** be regarded as identical to the public sector. This is because these industry sectors include private sector education and health (and social services) and don't include public sector activity in other industrial sectors (e.g. finance). The official estimates of public sector employment can be found on the [ONS website](#).

Methodology and sources

Reference should be made to the key quality information section when interpreting these estimates which starts on page 21 and includes:

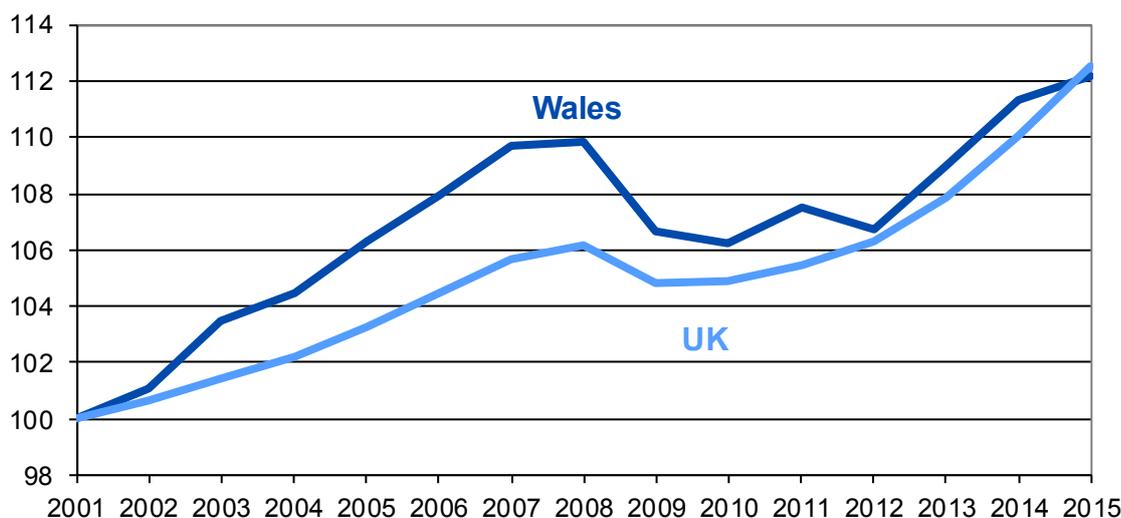
- Details of the differences between the UK estimates presented here and ONS workforce jobs estimates
- Details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates
- A description of the differences in these estimates and other estimates of employment and workforce jobs.
- Details of the coverage of these estimates

These workplace employment estimates are derived using data from the following three sources:

- Employee jobs data, together with self-employed jobs and government supported trainees data from the Annual Population Survey (APS);
- Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES);
- Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture.

Section 1: Workplace employment for Wales and the UK

Chart 2: Workplace employment between 2001 and 2015, Wales and the UK^{1,(r)} (2001=100)



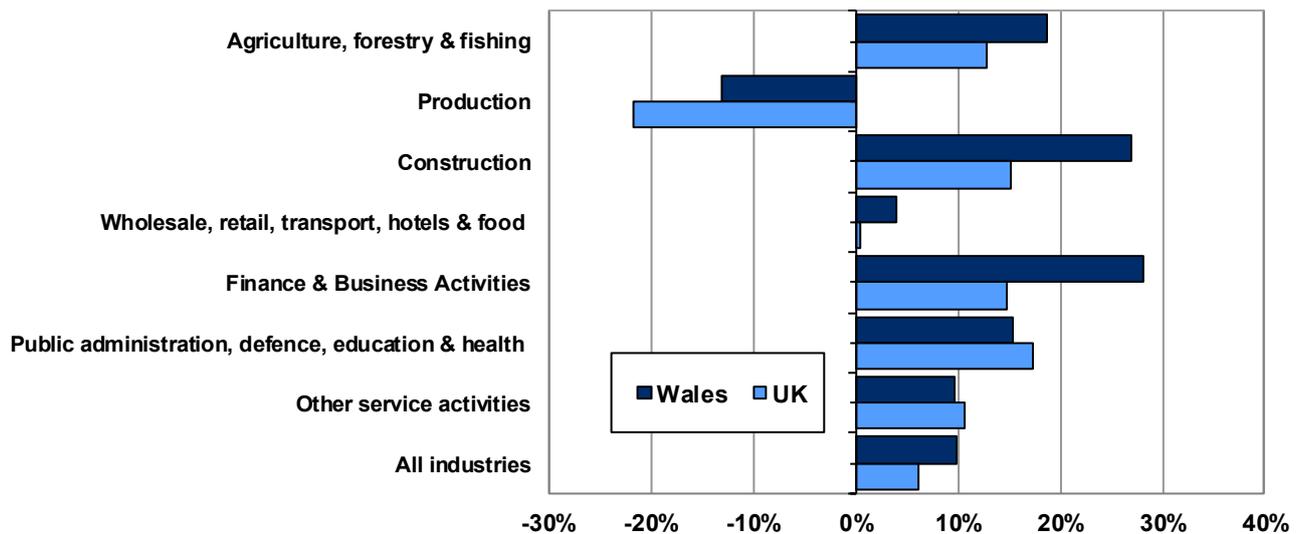
1. See key quality information for details of the differences between the UK estimates presented here and ONS workforce jobs estimates. Also see key quality information for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and details of the coverage of these estimates.

(r) 2013-2014 data has been revised since the previous publication following a reweighting of the APS.

- Between 2001 and 2008, Wales saw greater growth in workplace employment compared to the UK, growing by 10 per cent over the seven years compared with 6 per cent for the UK.
- With the onset of recession between 2008 and 2010, Wales saw greater falls relative to the UK; falling 3 per cent over the two years compared with 1 per cent for the UK.
- Between 2010 and 2015 Wales saw slightly less growth relative to the UK, growing by 6 per cent over the five years compared with 7 per cent for the UK.

Chart 2 above shows that the changes in workplace employment fell into three distinct periods: an overall growth in jobs between 2001 and 2008; recession and a fall in jobs between 2008 and 2010; then a period of recovery from 2010 onwards. Each period was associated with a different pattern of changes in workplace employment by broad industry sector. These patterns over the three periods are shown in Charts 3 to 5.

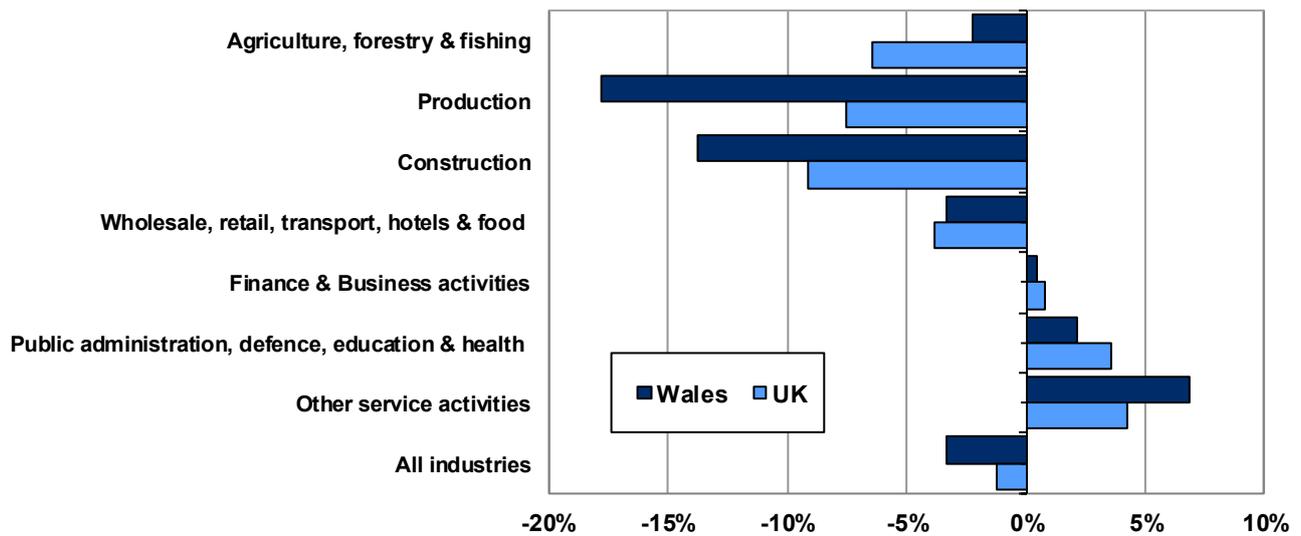
Chart 3: Percentage change in workplace employment by industry between 2001 and 2008



Between 2001 and 2008:

- In both Wales and the UK there were increases in employment in 6 of the 7 industry sectors with a fall in the remaining sector (*production*) which fell by 13 per cent in Wales and by 22 per cent in the UK.
- The *finance & business activities* sector had the largest percentage increase in employment in Wales (up 28 per cent), followed by the *construction* sector (up 27 per cent). These 2 industry sectors also grew in the UK, both up 15 per cent. The *public administration, defence, education & health* sector (which is *not* the same as the public sector) had the largest percentage increase (17 per cent) in the UK.
- Of the 6 sectors showing an increase in employment, 68 per cent of the increase in Wales and 79 per cent of the increase in the UK was accounted for by the *public administration, defence, education & health* and the *finance & business activities* sectors.

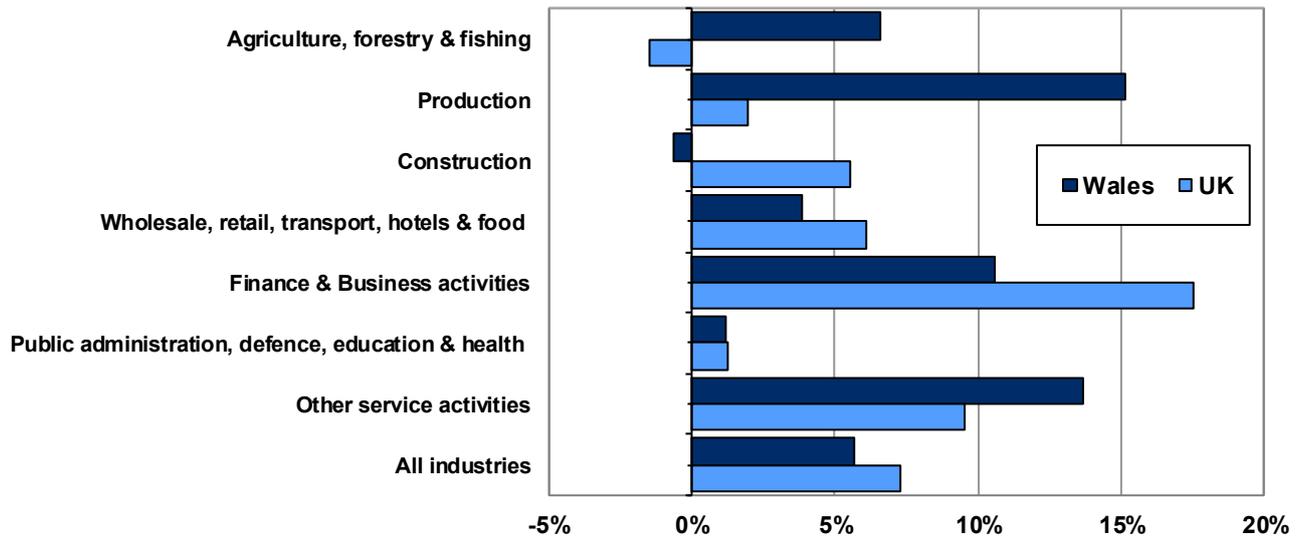
Chart 4: Percentage change in workplace employment by industry between 2008 and 2010



Between 2008 and 2010:

- In Wales there were falls in employment in 4 of the 7 industry sectors, increases in 2 sectors and there was little change in 1 sector. In the UK, 4 sectors had falls and 3 increased.
- In Wales the *production* sector had the largest fall in employment (down 32 thousand, or 18 per cent) followed by the *construction* sector (down 15 thousand, or 14 per cent) with these 2 sectors accounting for 79 per cent of the total fall. These same 2 sectors accounted for 56 per cent of the fall in the UK.
- Of the 3 sectors employment increased, the other service activities sector had the largest percentage increase in both Wales and the UK (up 7 per cent and up 4 per cent respectively).

Chart 5: Percentage change in workplace employment by industry between 2010 and 2015



Between 2010 and 2015:

- In both Wales and the UK there have been increases in employment in 6 of the 7 industry sectors. The only fall in Wales was in the *construction* sector (down 1 per cent) and the only fall in the UK was in the *agriculture, forestry & fishing* sector (down 1 per cent).
- The *production* sector had the largest percentage increase in employment in Wales (up 15 per cent) followed by the *other service activities* sector (up 14 per cent).
- In the UK the largest percentage increases were in the *finance & business activities* sector (up 17 per cent) and the *other service activities* sector (up 10 per cent).

Table 1: Workplace employment by industry for Wales and the UK^{1,2,(r)}

Area and industry	Numbers in thousands						
	2001	2014	2015	Change in latest levels since:		Percentage change in latest since:	
				2001	2014	2001	2014
Wales:							
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	33	43	41	8	-2	24%	-5%
Mining & quarrying	3	2	2	-1	-	-42%	-11%
Manufacturing	193	153	147	-46	-6	-24%	-4%
Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning	5	7	10	5	3	99%	40%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management & remediation activities	8	11	13	5	2	56%	22%
Construction	85	97	93	8	-4	9%	-4%
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles	210	194	207	-3	12	-1%	6%
Transportation & storage	49	48	50	2	2	4%	4%
Accommodation & food service activities	84	95	101	17	6	20%	6%
Information & communication	25	36	24	-1	-12	-3%	-33%
Financial & insurance activities	26	32	31	5	-2	17%	-5%
Real estate activities	12	22	19	7	-3	63%	-14%
Professional, scientific & technical activities	43	65	79	35	14	82%	21%
Administrative & support service activities	64	88	89	25	1	40%	1%
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	74	87	86	12	-1	16%	-1%
Education	114	132	133	18	1	16%	1%
Human health & social work activities	167	209	205	39	-4	23%	-2%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	30	39	44	15	6	51%	15%
Other industries	29	35	33	4	-2	15%	-5%
All industries	1,253	1,394	1,406	153	11	12%	1%
United Kingdom:							
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	388	414	404	16	-11	4%	-3%
Mining & quarrying	72	69	67	-4	-2	-6%	-3%
Manufacturing	3,519	2,451	2,464	-1,055	12	-30%	-
Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning	109	116	127	18	11	16%	10%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management & remediation activities	153	182	188	34	6	22%	3%
Construction	1,955	2,079	2,158	203	79	10%	4%
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles	4,925	4,623	4,650	-275	27	-6%	1%
Transportation & storage	1,406	1,462	1,542	136	80	10%	5%
Accommodation & food service activities	1,756	2,028	2,100	344	72	20%	4%
Information & communication	1,173	1,333	1,366	192	33	16%	2%
Financial & insurance activities	1,025	1,067	1,061	36	-6	3%	-1%
Real estate activities	418	519	551	134	32	32%	6%
Professional, scientific & technical activities	1,713	2,758	2,907	1,194	149	70%	5%
Administrative & support service activities	2,027	2,650	2,755	728	105	36%	4%
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	1,336	1,268	1,245	-91	-23	-7%	-2%
Education	2,217	2,730	2,782	565	52	25%	2%
Human health & social work activities	2,932	3,927	3,954	1,022	27	35%	1%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	752	912	943	191	31	25%	3%
Other industries	704	874	895	192	21	27%	2%
All industries	28,580	31,464	32,158	3,578	694	13%	2%

Source: Annual Population Survey, Business Register and Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture

1. See key quality information for details of the differences between the UK estimates presented here and ONS workforce jobs estimates. Also see key quality information for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and details of the coverage of these estimates. The full series can be found on [StatsWales](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-population-survey).

2. Data on levels is rounded to the nearest thousand; changes are based on unrounded data, then rounded to the nearest thousand, so may not sum.

(r) 2013-2014 data has been revised since the previous publication.

Table 1 shows that:

Between 2001 and 2015:

- Workplace employment in Wales increased by 12 per cent, with 15 of the 19 industry sectors increasing and 4 industry sectors falling. Workplace employment in the UK increased by 13 per cent, with increases in 15 of the 19 industry sectors and falls in 4 industry sectors. Of the 4 industry sectors which fell in Wales, 3 also fell in the UK.
- In Wales, the *human health & social work activities* sector had the largest absolute increase (up 39 thousand, or 23 per cent) followed by the *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector (up 35 thousand, or 82 per cent) and the *administrative & support service activities* sector (up 25 thousand or 40 per cent). The largest absolute falls were in the *manufacturing* sector (down 46 thousand or 24 per cent) and the *wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles* sector (down 3 thousand or 1 per cent).
- In the UK the *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector had the largest absolute increase (up 1,194 thousand or 70 per cent) followed by *human health and social work activities* sector (up 1,022 thousand or 35 per cent). The largest absolute fall was in the *manufacturing* sector (down 1,055 thousand or 30 per cent).
- The largest percentage difference between Wales and the UK was in the *electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply* sector which increased by 99 per cent in Wales compared to a 16 per cent increase in the UK.

Between 2014 and 2015:

- Workplace employment in Wales increased by 11 thousand or 1 per cent, with increases in 9 of the 19 industry sectors and decreases in 10 sectors. In the UK workplace employment increased by 694 thousand or 2 per cent, with increases in 14 of the 19 industry sectors, decreases in 4 sectors, while 1 sector had little change.
- The largest absolute increase in the number of jobs in Wales was in the *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector (up 14,000, or 21 per cent) followed by the *wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles* sector (up 12,000, or 6 per cent). The *information & communication* sector had the largest absolute fall, down 12,000 or 33 per cent, followed by the *manufacturing* sector which fell by 6,000 or 4 per cent.
- The *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector also had the largest absolute increase in the number of jobs in the UK (up 149,000, or 5 per cent) followed by the *administrative & support service activities* sector (up 105,000, or 4 per cent). The sector with the largest absolute fall across the UK was the *public administration & defence; compulsory social services* sector (which is **not** the same as the public sector), down 23,000 or 2 per cent.
- Please note that the year on year changes are highly volatile in some industry sectors due to low sample sizes.

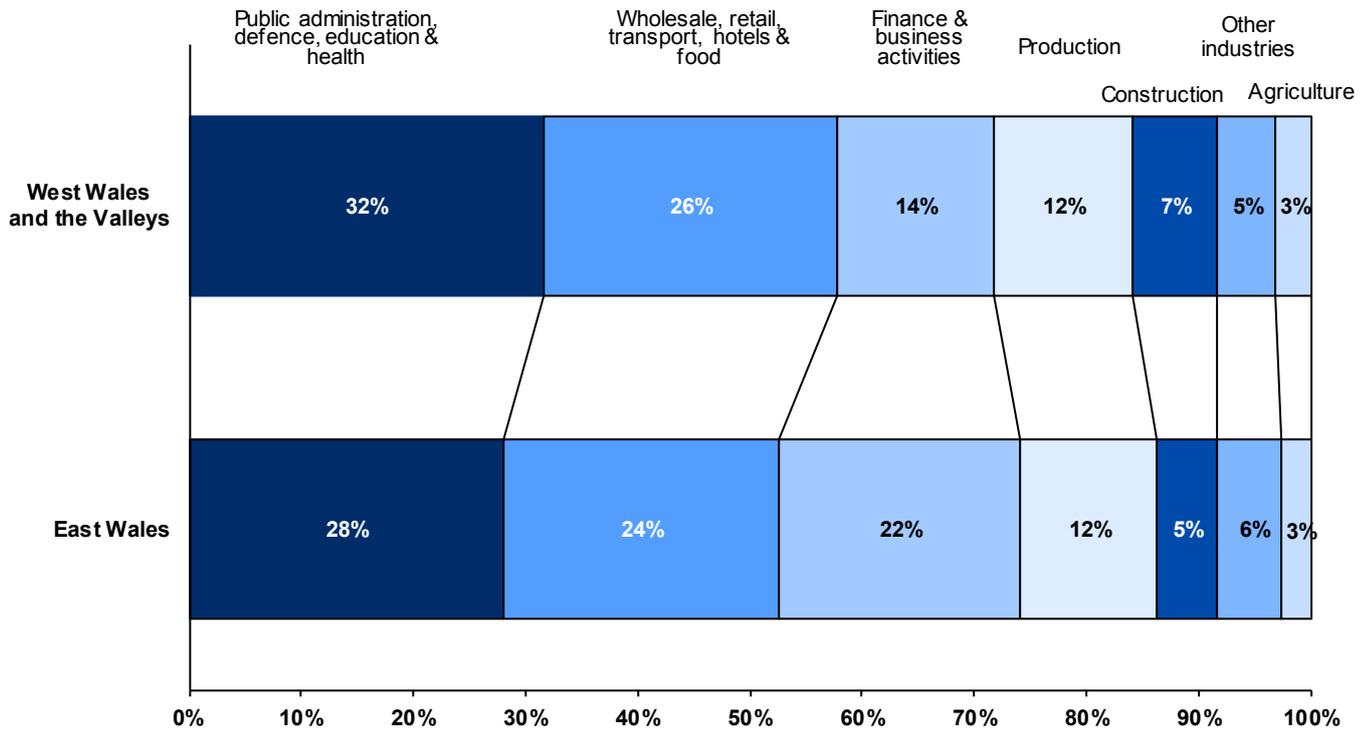
In 2015:

- In Wales the wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles sector was the largest industry sector in terms of workplace employment. The wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles sector was largest sector in Wales between 2001 and 2010, but fell behind the human health & social work activities sector (which includes the private sector) between 2011 and 2014.
- The human health & social work activities sector was the second largest sector in Wales followed by the manufacturing sector, the education sector and the accommodation & food service activities sector. These top 5 industry sectors accounted for over half of the total jobs in Wales (56 per cent).
- In the UK the wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles sector remains the largest sector followed by the human health & social work activities sector, the professional, scientific & technical activities sector, the education sector and the administrative & support service activities sector. These top 5 industry sectors accounted for over half of the total jobs in the UK (53 per cent).

Section 2: Workplace employment for Welsh NUTS2 areas

Chart 6 below shows the shares of workplace employment by industry groupings for the two NUTS2 areas of Wales.

Chart 6: Share of workplace employment by industry for Welsh NUTS2 areas, 2015^a



a. See key quality information for the definition of the NUTS2 areas in Wales. Also see key quality information for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and for details of the coverage of these estimates.

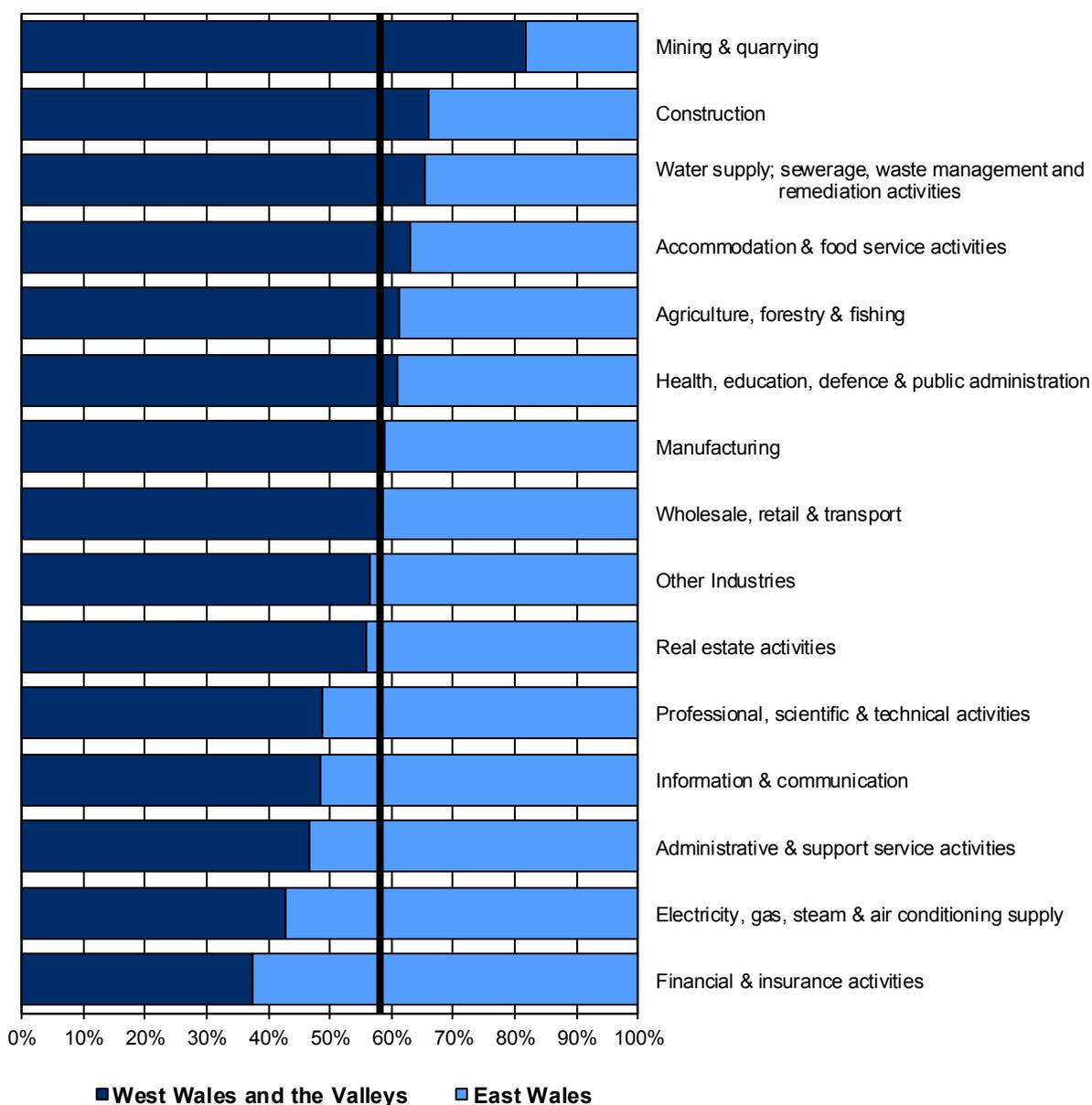
- In 2015, West Wales and the Valleys had a larger share of jobs in 3 of the 7 industry groupings, the *public administration, defence, education, & health* sector (which is **not** the same as the public sector); the *wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food* sector; and the *construction* sector.
- East Wales had a larger share of jobs in 2 industry groupings, the *finance & business activities* sector and the *other industries* sector.
- The share was equal in the remaining 2 industry groupings; the *production* sector and the *agriculture, forestry & fishing* sector.

An alternative and more detailed analysis of the differences between workplace employment in the different industry sectors and NUTS2 areas of Wales is given in Chart 7 below.

This chart looks at the share of jobs in each sector in 2015, located in the two NUTS2 areas of Wales. The line on the chart represents the share of total Welsh workplace employment in West Wales and the Valleys (58 per cent) and so reflects the all-industries average. Shares in excess of this line indicate industries that are more represented in West Wales and the Valleys than East Wales, and vice versa.

The chart shows significant variation by industry, ranging from 82 per cent of jobs in the *mining & quarrying* sector being located in West Wales and the Valleys, compared with just 37 per cent of jobs in the *financial & insurance activities* sector.

Chart 7: Share of workplace employment by Welsh NUTS2 areas and industry sector, 2015^a



a. See key quality information for the definition of the NUTS2 areas in Wales. Also see key quality information for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and for details of the coverage of these estimates.

Table 2: Workplace employment by industry and Welsh NUTS2 areas^{1,2,(r)}

Area and industry	Numbers in thousands						
	2001	2014	2015	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2001	2014	2001	2014
West Wales and the Valleys:							
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	22	27	25	3	-2	15%	-7%
Mining & quarrying	2	2	1	-1	-	-26%	-14%
Manufacturing	114	89	87	-27	-2	-24%	-2%
Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	2	3	4	3	2	141%	68%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management & remediation activities	5	7	8	4	2	76%	26%
Construction	53	63	61	8	-2	16%	-3%
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles	128	116	122	-6	6	-5%	5%
Transportation & storage	27	27	29	2	2	8%	7%
Accommodation & food service activities	53	58	63	10	5	18%	8%
Information & communication	11	18	12	1	-6	7%	-35%
Financial & insurance activities	10	12	12	2	-	15%	-1%
Real estate activities	6	13	11	5	-2	73%	-16%
Professional, scientific & technical activities	22	31	38	16	7	70%	23%
Administrative & support service activities	33	44	42	9	-3	27%	-6%
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	45	53	51	6	-2	14%	-5%
Education	71	81	82	12	1	16%	1%
Human health & social work activities	99	128	125	26	-3	26%	-2%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	17	21	24	7	3	40%	14%
Other industries	16	21	19	3	-1	19%	-6%
All industries	736	813	816	81	4	11%	-
East Wales:							
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	11	16	16	5	-	40%	-
Mining & quarrying	1	-	-	-1	-	-71%	3%
Manufacturing	79	64	60	-18	-4	-23%	-6%
Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	3	5	6	3	1	76%	25%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management & remediation activities	3	4	4	1	1	30%	14%
Construction	32	34	32	-1	-3	-3%	-8%
Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles	82	79	85	3	6	4%	8%
Transportation & storage	22	21	22	-	-	-2%	2%
Accommodation & food service activities	31	36	37	7	1	22%	3%
Information & communication	14	18	12	-2	-5	-12%	-31%
Financial & insurance activities	16	21	19	3	-2	19%	-7%
Real estate activities	6	10	8	3	-1	52%	-12%
Professional, scientific & technical activities	21	33	40	20	7	95%	20%
Administrative & support service activities	31	44	47	16	3	53%	8%
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	29	34	35	6	1	19%	4%
Education	44	50	50	7	-	15%	-
Human health & social work activities	67	81	80	13	-1	19%	-1%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	12	17	20	8	3	66%	16%
Other industries	12	14	14	1	-1	10%	-4%
All industries	517	581	589	72	8	14%	1%

Source: Annual Population Survey, Business Register and Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture

1. See key quality information for the definition of the NUTS2 areas in Wales. Also see key quality information for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and for details of the coverage of these estimates. The full series can be found on [StatsWales](#).

2. Data on levels is rounded to the nearest thousand; changes are based on unrounded data, then rounded to the nearest thousand, so may not sum.

(r) 2013-2014 data has been revised since the previous publication.

Between 2001 and 2015:

- Both of the Welsh NUTS2 areas had increases in workplace employment with West Wales and the Valleys having a larger absolute increase, up 81 thousand (11 per cent) compared to a 72 thousand increase (14 per cent) for East Wales
- West Wales and the Valleys had increases in workplace employment in 16 of the 19 industry sectors, with the remaining 3 sectors having falls. East Wales had increases in 14 of the 19 industry sectors and falls in the remaining 5 sectors.
- In West Wales and the Valleys the *human health & social work activities* sector had the largest absolute increase (up 26,000, or 26 per cent) followed by the *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector (up 16 thousand or 70 per cent) and the *education* sector (up 12 thousand or 16 per cent).
- In East Wales the *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector had the largest absolute increase (up 20,000, or 95 per cent) followed by the *administrative & support service activities* sector (up 16,000, or 53 per cent) and the *human health & social work activities* sector (up 13,000 or 19 per cent).
- The *manufacturing* sector had the largest fall in both of the Welsh NUTS 2 areas, falling by 27 thousand (or 24 per cent) in West Wales and the Valleys and down 18 thousand (or 23 per cent) in East Wales.
- When looking at the percentage differences in the changes over this period, in West Wales and the Valleys workplace employment in *electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply* increased by the largest amount (141 per cent).
- In East Wales the largest percentage increase in workplace employment was in *professional, scientific & technical activities*, with a 95 per cent increase.

Between 2014 and 2015:

- Workplace employment increased by 4,000 in West Wales and the Valleys, whilst East Wales increased by 8,000.
- Workplace employment increased in 8 of the 19 industry sectors in West Wales and the Valleys and fell in 11 sectors.
- In East Wales, 10 of the 19 industry sectors increased, 7 sectors had falls and 2 sectors were unchanged.
- The *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector had the largest absolute increase in West Wales and the Valleys (up 7 thousand or 23 per cent) followed by the *wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles* sector (up 6 thousand or 5 per cent). The largest absolute fall was in the *information & communication* sector (down 6 thousand or 35 per cent).
- In East Wales the largest absolute increase was also in the *professional, scientific & technical activities* sector (up 7 thousand or 20 per cent) followed by the *wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles & motorcycles* sector (up 6 thousand or 8 per cent). The

largest absolute fall was in the *information & communication* sector (down 5 thousand or 31 per cent).

- In West Wales and the Valleys, 7 of the 19 industry sectors had increases both over 2001 and over 2015. Of the remaining 12 industry sectors, 2 sectors had falls both over 2001 and over 2015.
- East Wales, 8 of the 19 industry sectors had increases both over 2001 and over 2015 (5 of these industry sectors also increasing over both periods in West Wales and the Valleys too). Of the remaining 11 industry sectors, 3 sectors had falls both over 2001 and over 2015.
- Please note that the year on year changes are highly volatile in some industry sectors due to low sample sizes.

Section 3: Workplace employment for Welsh local authorities

Table 3: Workplace employment by Welsh local authority^{1,2,(r)}

Local authority areas	Numbers in thousands						
	2001	2014	2015	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2001	2014	2001	2014
West Wales and the Valleys	736	813	816	81	4	11%	-
Isle of Anglesey	25	25	26	1	1	3%	5%
Gwynedd	57	63	64	7	1	11%	1%
Conwy	42	45	46	4	1	9%	3%
Denbighshire	41	41	44	3	2	6%	6%
Ceredigion	36	37	38	2	1	4%	4%
Pembrokeshire	49	54	57	7	3	15%	5%
Carmarthenshire	66	84	81	15	-3	23%	-3%
Swansea	107	124	119	12	-5	11%	-4%
Neath Port Talbot	43	50	51	8	-	18%	1%
Bridgend	56	63	64	8	1	13%	1%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	76	85	84	8	-1	11%	-1%
Merthyr Tydfil	22	24	25	3	1	15%	2%
Caerphilly	56	58	59	3	-	5%	1%
Blaenau Gwent	23	23	21	-2	-1	-8%	-6%
Torfaen	35	37	38	3	1	8%	4%
East Wales	517	581	589	72	8	14%	1%
Flintshire	56	64	60	4	-4	7%	-7%
Wrexham	64	67	75	10	8	16%	11%
Powys	56	64	64	8	-	15%	-
Vale of Glamorgan	41	41	44	4	4	9%	9%
Cardiff	183	223	225	42	3	23%	1%
Monmouthshire	43	45	46	3	-	6%	1%
Newport	74	77	75	1	-2	2%	-2%
<i>North Wales</i>	286	305	314	28	8	10%	3%
<i>Mid Wales</i>	92	101	102	10	1	11%	1%
<i>South West Wales</i>	266	312	308	42	-4	16%	-1%
<i>South East Wales</i>	609	676	682	73	6	12%	1%
Wales	1,253	1,394	1,406	153	11	12%	1%
United Kingdom	28,580	31,464	32,158	3,578	694	13%	2%

Source: Annual Population Survey, Business Register and Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture

1. See key quality information for details of the differences between the UK estimates presented here and ONS workforce jobs estimates. Also see key quality information for the definition of the NUTS2 areas in Wales, for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and for details of the coverage of these estimates. The full series can be found on [StatsWales](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/stats-wales).

2. Data on levels is rounded to the nearest thousand; changes are based on unrounded data, then rounded to the nearest thousand, so may not sum.

(r) 2013-2014 data has been revised since the previous publication.

Between 2001 and 2015:

- Within Wales workplace employment increased in 21 of the 22 Welsh local authorities with Cardiff having the largest absolute increase in jobs (up 42 thousand or 23 per cent) followed by Carmarthenshire (up 15 thousand, or 23 per cent) and Swansea (up 12 thousand, or 11 per cent).
- Blaenau Gwent was the only local authority which had a fall (down 2,000, or 8 per cent).
- All of the 4 economic regions in Wales had increases with South East Wales having the largest absolute increase (up 73 thousand, or 12 per cent) followed by South West Wales (up 42 thousand, or 16 per cent), North Wales (up 28 thousand, or 10 per cent) and Mid Wales (up 10 thousand, or 11 per cent).

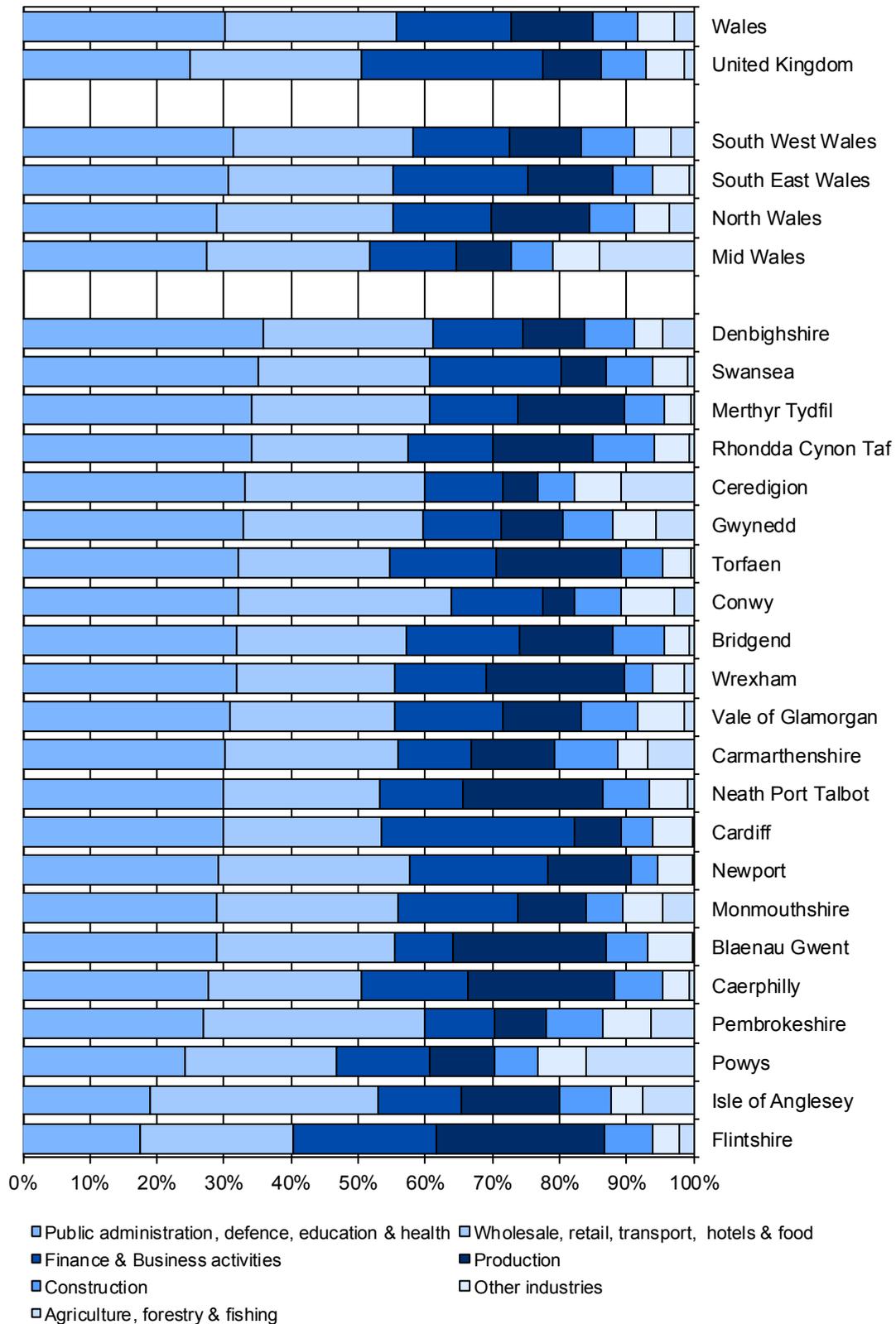
Between 2014 and 2015:

- Workplace employment increased in 15 of the 22 Welsh local authorities with Wrexham having the largest absolute increase in jobs (up 8 thousand, or 11 per cent), followed by Vale of Glamorgan (up 4 thousand, or 9 per cent).
- Of the remaining local authorities, 6 had falls in workplace employment and 1 was unchanged. Swansea and Flintshire had the largest absolute falls, down 5 thousand (4 per cent) and down 4 thousand (7 per cent) respectively.
- Three of the four Welsh economic regions had increases over the year, with North Wales having the largest absolute increase (up 8 thousand, or 3 per cent), followed by South East Wales (up 6 thousand or, 1 per cent) and Mid Wales (up 1 thousand, or 1 per cent). South West Wales had the only fall (down 4 thousand, or 1 per cent).
- Please note that the year on year changes are highly volatile in some local authorities due to low sample sizes.

There are clear differences in the profile of jobs in the different local authority areas, with higher proportions of jobs in the *agriculture, forestry and fishing* sector in the more rural areas, and higher proportions of jobs in the *production, construction and service* sectors in the more urban areas.

This is shown in Chart 8 over the page, which illustrates the shares of workplace employment in each of the 7 broad industry sectors for each of the Welsh local authority areas in 2015. Table 4, which follows Chart 8, gives the numbers of jobs used to produce Chart 8.

Chart 8: Percentage of workplace employment by industry and Welsh local authority, 2015^{a, b}



a. See key quality information for details of the differences between the UK estimates presented here and ONS workforce jobs estimates. Also see key quality information for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and for details of the coverage of these estimates.

b. Finance & Business activities includes Information & communication, financial & insurance activities, real estate activities, professional, scientific & technical activities and Administrative & support service activities.

Table 4: Workplace employment by industry and Welsh local authority 2015^a

Numbers in thousands

Local authority area	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	Production	Construction	Wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food	Information & communication	Financial & insurance activities	Real estate activities	Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative & support service activities	Public administration, defence, education & health	Other service activities	<i>All industries</i>
	West Wales and the Valleys	25	101	61	214	12	12	11	80	258	44
Isle of Anglesey	2	4	2	9	-	-	-	2	5	1	26
Gwynedd	4	6	5	17	1	1	1	4	21	4	64
Conwy	1	2	3	15	1	1	1	4	15	4	46
Denbighshire	2	4	3	11	1	-	1	4	16	2	44
Ceredigion	4	2	2	10	-	-	1	3	13	3	38
Pembrokeshire	4	4	5	19	-	-	-	5	15	4	57
Cardiganshire	5	10	8	21	1	1	1	6	24	4	81
Swansea	1	8	8	30	3	4	1	15	42	6	119
Neath Port Talbot	-	11	4	12	-	-	1	5	15	3	51
Bridgend	-	9	5	16	2	1	1	8	20	3	64
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1	13	8	20	1	1	1	8	29	4	84
Merthyr Tydfil	-	4	2	7	1	-	-	2	9	1	25
Caerphilly	-	13	4	13	-	1	-	8	16	2	59
Blaenau Gwent	-	5	1	6	-	-	-	1	6	1	21
Torfaen	-	7	2	9	1	1	1	4	12	2	38
East Wales	16	71	32	144	12	19	8	87	166	34	589
Flintshire	1	15	4	14	1	1	1	10	10	2	60
Wrexham	1	15	3	18	-	1	-	9	24	4	75
Powys	10	6	4	15	1	-	1	7	15	5	64
Vale of Glamorgan	1	5	4	11	1	1	1	5	14	3	44
Cardiff	-	15	10	53	6	13	3	43	67	14	225
Monmouthshire	2	5	2	12	1	1	1	6	13	3	46
Newport	-	9	3	21	2	3	2	9	22	4	75
<i>North Wales</i>	11	46	21	83	4	3	4	34	90	17	314
<i>Mid Wales</i>	14	8	6	25	1	1	1	10	28	7	102
<i>South West Wales</i>	10	33	24	82	4	6	4	31	97	17	308
<i>South East Wales</i>	5	85	42	168	14	21	10	93	208	37	682
Wales	41	172	93	358	24	31	19	167	423	77	1,406
United Kingdom	404	2,846	2,158	8,292	1,366	1,061	551	5,662	7,981	1,838	32,158

Source: Annual Population Survey, Business Register and Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture

a. See key quality information for details of the differences between the UK estimates presented here and ONS workforce jobs estimates. Also see key quality information for the definition of the NUTS2 areas in Wales, for details of the methodology used in deriving these estimates and for details of the coverage of these estimates.

The full series can be found on [StatsWales](https://www.stats.gov.uk).

In 2015:

- At 36 per cent Denbighshire had the highest share of workplace employment in the *public administration, defence, education & health* sector (which is **not** the same as the public sector), followed by Swansea (35 per cent) and Merthyr Tydfil (34 per cent). Flintshire had the lowest share (17 per cent). For Wales the share was 30 per cent; the UK share was 25 per cent.
- The Isle of Anglesey (34 per cent), Pembrokeshire (33 per cent) and Conwy (32 per cent) had the highest shares of workplace employment in the *wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food* sector. Whilst Torfaen, Powys, Caerphilly, Flintshire, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Neath Port Talbot had the lowest share, all at 23 per cent. For Wales the share was 25 per cent; the UK share was 26 per cent.
- Cardiff had the highest share of workplace employment in the *finance & business activities* sector (29 per cent), followed by Flintshire and Newport (21 per cent). Blaenau Gwent had the lowest share (9 per cent). For Wales the share was 17 per cent; the UK share was 27 per cent.
- Flintshire had the highest share of workplace employment in the *production* sector at 25 per cent followed by Blaenau Gwent (23 per cent). Conwy and Ceredigion had the lowest share (5 per cent). For Wales the share was 12 per cent; the UK share was 9 per cent.
- Carmarthenshire, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Vale of Glamorgan had the highest share of workplace employment in the *construction* sector, all at 9 per cent. Newport and Wrexham had the lowest share (both 4 per cent). For both Wales and the UK, the share was 7 per cent.
- Conwy had the highest share of workplace employment in the *other service activities* sector at 8 per cent. Flintshire, Merthyr Tydfil, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Denbighshire, Torfaen and Carmarthenshire had the lowest share, all at 4 per cent. For Wales the share was 5 per cent; the UK share was 6 per cent.
- Powys had the highest share of workplace employment in the *agriculture, forestry & fishing* sector at 16 per cent, followed by Ceredigion at 11 per cent. This is in contrast with Cardiff, Newport, Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil and Torfaen which all had a share of 0 per cent. For Wales the share was 3 per cent; the UK share was 1 per cent.

Key quality information

Relevance

The main purpose of this bulletin is to provide workplace employment estimates, or estimates of total jobs, for Wales and its sub-regions, disaggregated by broad industry grouping. As well as this, the data in this bulletin also allows estimates of productivity to be produced as the industrial split is consistent with that of the regional accounts.

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES – formerly the Annual Business Inquiry (ABI)) conducted by the ONS has long provided the means for disaggregation of *employee* jobs into industry groupings and detailed geographical breakdowns. However, BRES is more suited to cross-sectional analysis than it is for comparisons over time, and it covers employee jobs and working proprietors only.

Like both BRES and the previous bulletins, this bulletin also allows for analysis at a sub-Wales level, down to local authority level. Thus, this bulletin provides estimates of total jobs over time by both industry and local authority in Wales, and therefore represents an improvement over BRES in analysing the labour market from an industrial perspective.

In deriving estimates of workplace employment by industry for Wales and its sub-regions, this bulletin makes use of a number of data sources, predominantly the APS (previously the Local Labour Force Survey or LLFS), and also BRES and the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture.

The Welsh sub-regional breakdowns of the data given in this bulletin are at NUTS2 and local authority levels. Nomenclature of Units for Territorial Statistics (NUTS) is an EU hierarchical geographic breakdown of member states. NUTS1 defines the regions of UK (of which Wales is one), whilst NUTS4 defines local authorities, with NUTS2 and NUTS3 representing successive hierarchical aggregations of local authorities. Within Wales, there are two NUTS2 areas, namely ‘West Wales and the Valleys’ and ‘East Wales’, the former being the area of Wales currently eligible for Convergence funding from the European Union. The local authorities which make-up the two NUTS2 areas in Wales are shown in Tables 3 and 4.

The industry breakdown applied to the data is based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) 2007. As the sub-Wales detail is increased, greater aggregation of the industry detail is performed, to ensure that the data presented are robust. The industry sectors used for Wales data are relatively detailed and self-explanatory, whilst at the local authority level, there are ten broad industry sectors, which cover agriculture, forestry and fishing (section A), production (sections B, C, D and E), construction (section F), wholesale, retail, transport, hotels and food (sections G, H and I), information and communication (section J), financial and insurance activities (section K), real estate activities (section L), professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities (sections M and N), public administration, defence, education and health (sections O, P and Q) and other service activities (sections R to U). Industry detail shown for the NUTS2 areas is at the same level of detail as that shown at the Wales level. As noted in SB 70/2011 “[Workplace employment by industry in Wales, 2001 to 2009](#)”, the back series of data prior to 2008 has been converted to SIC 2007 from SIC 2003.

The UK estimates of workplace employment by industry within this bulletin have been derived in the same way as the estimates for Wales and its sub-regions *purely* to provide a consistent comparator for the Wales estimates of jobs by industry. This means that they differ from the estimates of workforce jobs by industry in the UK and Wales as published by the ONS, which are derived from a different methodology, based mainly on employer sources.

Therefore, the UK estimates should not be used for any purpose other than to provide a comparison with the estimates for Wales presented here. The ONS' estimates of UK workforce jobs can be found in table 5 of the latest [ONS UK labour market release](#).

and should be used in preference to the UK estimates given here unless making comparisons with the estimates for Wales presented here.

The data given in this bulletin are rounded independently to the nearest thousand jobs and so the totals given may not add to the sum of their constituent parts.

Accuracy

As the APS is a survey of only private households, any jobs held by residents of communal establishments will be excluded. The main impact of this is that HM forces jobs where the job-holders are usually resident on a base or ship will be excluded, although forces jobs where the job-holders live in private households will be included. It is not possible to identify whether HM forces personnel live on bases or ships from the data readily available from the Ministry of Defence.

Although second jobs are covered by the estimates in this bulletin, no account is taken of third and any subsequent jobs that an individual may hold, as no such information is available from the APS.

The estimates of workplace employment jobs published here are generated from a number of sources, so it is difficult to calculate direct measures of the quality of the estimates. However, given that the results are heavily based on the annual APS datasets, which themselves are derived from a sample of approximately 18,000 people of working age across Wales, with a minimum of around 600 people aged 16-64 in most local authorities in Wales, then it is reasonable to conclude that the estimates presented here are fit for purpose in analysing the industrial structure of the workplace employment across Wales and its sub-regions.

The methodology used to derive workplace employment by industry for Wales and its sub-regions (and also the comparable UK estimates) can be listed as a series of distinct steps, as set out below.

- Data for the numbers of first and second employee jobs by Welsh local authority of workplace, and for the UK as a whole, are extracted from the annual LLFS/APS datasets for 2001 onwards. These are added together to give total employee jobs by Welsh local authority of workplace and for the UK as a whole.
- For each area, the employee jobs totals derived above are broken down into industry sections by pro-rating the totals using industry level data for each area from BRES (ABI prior to 2009). [Note that although agriculture data at a Wales level are complete within the

BRES dataset, agriculture data at a local authority level are not. Thus figures from the Survey of Agriculture and Horticulture for each year have been used to apportion the Wales agriculture data between Welsh local authorities to derive a complete BRES dataset by industry and local authority.]

- The NUTS2 totals and Wales totals for employee jobs by industry within the data are derived by summing up the estimates for the relevant local authorities.
- Data for the numbers of first and second self-employed jobs by industry and Welsh local authority of workplace (and for the UK as a whole) are extracted from the annual LLFS/APS datasets for 2001 onwards. These are added together to give total self-employed jobs by industry and Welsh local authority of workplace (and for the UK as a whole).
- Again the NUTS2 totals and Wales totals for self-employed jobs by industry within the data are derived by summing up the estimates for the relevant local authorities.
- Finally, the small number of government supported trainee figures are extracted from the annual LLFS/APS datasets for 2001 onwards for each area and apportioned between industries according to the estimates of employee jobs plus self-employment jobs by industry for each area. These estimates of government supported trainees are then added to the figures for employee jobs by industry and self-employment jobs by industry to give workplace employment by industry for each area represented in the data.

In summary, the methodology is based on results from the annual LLFS/APS to provide estimates of all jobs in the economy, broken down by local area in Wales, with mainly BRES data (ABI data prior to 2009) used to break down the employee element of these data by industry. This is consistent with Recommendation 1 in the National Statistics Quality Review of Employment and Jobs Statistics ([NSQR Series Report No.44](#)), published by ONS in January 2006, which sets out the appropriate sources to be used in measuring the structure of different aspects of the UK workforce.

Timeliness and punctuality

This is an annual statistical bulletin, published in October each year following publication of the BRES data in September.

Accessibility and clarity

Much of the data behind the tables and charts shown in this bulletin can be found on [StatsWales](#).

Comparability and coherence

i) Headline estimates of employment

There are four main reasons why the workplace employment data published here and the headline measure of persons in employment differ (the headline measure for Wales can be found in the latest [ONS labour market release for Wales](#)). These reasons are set out below.

- The data in this bulletin are measured on a workplace basis, that is, the data shows a count of jobs in workplaces located in each area, whereas the headline measure of employment is a count of employed residents in each area. A key difference between a count of jobs on a workplace basis in a given area and a count of employed residents of that area is the effect of commuting between areas. It is estimated that in 2015 around 86,300 Welsh residents work in jobs located outside Wales, and around 48,000 non-Welsh residents work in jobs located inside Wales. Thus Wales is a net exporter of employment, and there are many similar flows between the different local authorities within Wales.
- As some employed residents have more than one job, the headline measure of employment will be lower than the count of jobs. There were around 59,300 second jobs in Wales and around 1.2 million second jobs across the UK as a whole in 2015.
- The LLFS/APS data used in this bulletin are taken from the annual LLFS/APS datasets. For Wales, these are made up of the relevant quarterly Labour Force Survey datasets (from which the headline measure is taken), plus additional annual samples of households which allow for much more detailed analysis within Wales than would be available from the quarterly datasets alone. The analysis in this bulletin would not be possible without reference to these annual datasets. There are some small differences between estimates derived from the annual datasets and the quarterly datasets probably arising from their different wave structures. Nevertheless, the annual datasets are internally consistent and consistent over time so that comparisons drawn between the different domains within the data are appropriate.
- The headline measure of persons in employment includes around 7,000 unpaid family workers in the APS for 2015 across Wales and around 120,800 across the UK. These are not recorded when counting workplace employment.

ii) Workforce jobs estimates

The workforce jobs series by the ONS includes a full breakdown by industry (on SIC 2007) The workforce jobs series continues to only provide industry data at a Wales level, so this bulletin remains the only official source of jobs by industry and local authority for Wales.

- The ONS produce quarterly estimates of workforce jobs by industry (which can be found in the labour market regional bulletin, Tables 4 and 5). These estimates are based on employer's surveys and have self employment added to them based on the Labour Force

Survey (LFS) plus HM Forces and Government Support Trainees. These estimates are not available by industry below a Wales level and due to the methodology used show different levels than the estimates in this bulletin. [More information on the methodology](#).

Table A – Comparison of workplace employment (WPE) to workforce jobs (WFJ), 2015

<i>Thousands and Per cent</i>				
	Workplace Employment (000s)	Workforce Jobs (000s)	Difference WFJ- WPE (000s)	% Total difference (WFJ-WPE) as % of WFJ
	Welsh Government	ONS		
Wales				
Employees	1,176.0	1,240.3	64.3	5.2
Self-employed	220.9	205.7	-15.2	-7.4
Government-supported trainees	8.7	3.9	-4.8	-123.1
HM Forces	..	2.6	2.6	100.0
Total	1,405.6	1,452.5	46.9	3.2
UK				
Employees	27,002.5	29,369.7	2,367.2	8.1
Self-employed	5,064.3	4,399.5	-664.8	-15.1
Government-supported trainees	91.3	21.3	-70.0	-328.6
HM Forces	..	159.5	159.5	100.0
Total	32,158.2	33,950.0	1,791.8	5.3

.. Not Applicable

The key differences between the workforce jobs by industry series and the workplace employment series can be explained through differences in the underlying data sources and the methodology used. For example for self employment the workplace employment series uses the Annual Population Survey, whilst the workforce jobs series uses the Labour Force Survey. There is a difference between these two sources which could be accounted for by sampling variability.

The largest difference between the two data sources is in the employees' component. Whilst the estimates in this bulletin are constrained to the APS totals, the Workforce jobs series are not. The ONS publish in their labour market overview a [table comparing workforce jobs to the Labour Force Survey](#) investigating the differences between the two sources. This explains the differences in the employee components above.

The above link highlights the differences between the LFS and workforce jobs series at a UK level. The ONS identifies 30 reasons why this occurs, including sampling variability and timing of the datasets. Other key points to note are that:

- The workforce jobs series has some issues with double-counting due to over-reporting of self-employment.
- Workforce jobs data contains HM Forces data whilst the LFS only contains armed forces employee jobs living in private households.
- The LFS only captures those with first and second jobs, excluding those with third and subsequent employee jobs.

- The LFS contains information on unpaid family workers, and a greater number of government supported trainees than the workforce jobs data.

The ONS also publish total jobs in their jobs density estimates (which can be found in the labour market regional bulletin, table 12). These estimates differ from those shown in this bulletin as they are based on the same methodology as the quarterly estimates of workforce jobs and include HM Forces.

Table B – Comparison of workforce jobs (WFJ) workplace employment (WPE), by industry, 2015

	<i>Thousands</i>			
	Total	Employee Jobs	Self Employed	Government Supported Trainees
A:Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.1	3.3	-3.1	-0.2
B:Mining and quarrying	0.3	0.5	-0.2	0.0
C:Manufacturing	9.2	9.4	0.6	-0.8
D:Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	-1.8	-2.2	0.5	-0.1
E:Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-1.2	-1.4	0.3	-0.1
F:Construction	9.6	13.1	-3.1	-0.5
G:Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	-13.9	-11.1	-2.2	-0.6
H:Transportation and storage	2.6	1.4	1.4	-0.2
I:Accommodation and food service activities	4.1	2.8	1.6	-0.3
J:Information and communication	8.6	8.2	0.5	-0.1
K:Financial and insurance activities	2.4	2.6	0.0	-0.2
L:Real estate activities	0.1	1.7	-1.6	0.0
M:Professional, scientific and technical activities	8.6	14.1	-5.3	-0.2
N:Administrative and support service activities	7.1	8.5	-1.1	-0.4
O:Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	2.4	0.7	-0.4	-0.5
P:Education	-0.1	3.2	-2.8	-0.5
Q:Human health and social work activities	5.4	2.7	3.1	-0.4
R:Arts, entertainment and recreation	-2.6	-0.3	-2.4	0.1
STU: Other industries	6.3	7.2	-1.0	0.1
Total	46.9	64.3	-15.2	-4.8

A larger figure shows that workforce jobs estimates by the ONS are higher than workplace employment estimates by the WG. This table excludes HM Forces (which would fall under section O).

National Statistics status

The [United Kingdom Statistics Authority](#) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the UK Statistics Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is Welsh Government's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

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.

Information on indicators and associated technical information - [How do you measure a nation's progress? - National Indicators](#)

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

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:

<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/work-place-employment-industry/?lang=en>

Next update

October 2017

We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to economic.stats@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

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