



Regional economic & labour market profile – South West Wales, January 2018

31 Jan 2018
SB 6/2018

The latest headline labour market statistics for South West Wales are generally weaker than Wales.

Compared to Wales; South West Wales has a lower employment rate and higher ILO unemployment and economic inactivity rates. GVA per head and GDHI per head are both lower, however earnings are the same.



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About this bulletin

This quarterly statistical bulletin summarises information on the economy and labour market for the South West Wales economic region along with comparisons to Wales and the UK.

It is one in a series of four which cover the four economic regions of Wales: North Wales, Mid Wales, South West Wales and South East Wales.

South West Wales is made up of the following four local authorities: Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

In this bulletin

Summary	2
Comparisons	3
Latest data	4
Data tables	11
Key quality information	22

Summary table: Latest data for South West Wales

	South West Wales			Wales		
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁷⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁷⁾
Employed ⁽¹⁾	306.7	-4.2	70.2%	-0.5	71.9%	0.8
ILO unemployed ⁽²⁾	16.4	-0.6	5.1%	-0.1	4.8%	0.1
Economically Inactive ⁽³⁾	80.4	-0.7	21.3%	-0.1	20.1%	-0.9
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	.	.	17,381	3.7	19,140	3.5
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	.	.	84.0%	-0.1	85.5%	0.3
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	.	.	90.6%	3.1	90.6%	-1.1

- (1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to September 2017
- (2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over, rates are a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to September 2017.
- (3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to September 2017.
- (4) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional.
- (5) Data relate to 2015 and are provisional. Index UK=100.
- (6) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional. Index UK=100.
- (7) Percentage point change for employed, ILO unemployed, economically inactive, GDHI per head and average earnings. Percentage change for GVA per head.

. Not applicable

Overall summary

South West Wales had total Gross Value Added of £12.1 billion in 2016 which translates as £17,381 per head. This compares to £59.6 billion (£19,140 per head) for Wales. This difference is largely due to job structure in the area which means that there is lower GVA per job in South West Wales than Wales overall.

Gross Disposable Household Income per head in South West Wales was £14,583 in 2015. This was 84.0 per cent of the UK average which was lower than the Wales average (85.5 per cent). Average full-time weekly earnings are lower than the Wales average in 2016. Relative to the UK, earnings in South West Wales were 87.5 per cent of the UK average in 2016; this was lower than the Wales average (91.4 per cent).

Over the latest year the employment rate, the economic inactivity and the ILO unemployment all decreased in South West Wales. Looking at the longer term, the labour market in South West Wales has seen an improvement compared to Wales since 2001.

The [key quality information section](#) includes a link to a data sources guide which gives information on the methodology, quality and metadata for the sources used in this output.

Please note 'next update' dates given throughout this bulletin relate to when new data for the dataset are next being released. The StatsWales datasets will be updated at that time and can be accessed via the links given under the tables in this bulletin.

Comparisons to Wales, UK & other Welsh economic regions

	North Wales	Mid Wales	South West Wales	South East Wales	Wales	UK
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	74.2	73.7	70.2	71.5	71.9	74.4
ILO unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	3.4	3.2	5.1	5.6	4.8	4.5
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	19.4	17.5	21.3	20.3	20.1	18.0
GVA per head	19,573	17,137	17,381	20,021	19,140	20,226
GDHI per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁵⁾	89.0	90.7	84.0	84.3	85.5	100.0
Earnings, Index UK=100 ⁽⁶⁾	88.0	84.8	90.6	92.3	90.6	100.0
Change on year (%):						
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	0.8	0.3	-0.5	1.5	0.8	0.7
ILO unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	-0.6	0.3	-0.1	0.5	0.1	-0.5
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	0.1	0.3	-0.1	-1.8	-0.9	-0.4
GVA per head	2.8	1.9	3.7	3.9	3.5	2.8
GDHI per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁵⁾	0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.3	.
Earnings, Index UK=100 ⁽⁶⁾	-4.1	-0.6	3.1	-1.2	-1.1	.
Change on 1999/2001 (%):						
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	4.6	3.1	5.5	4.9	4.8	2.1
ILO unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	-1.0	-1.2	-1.2	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	-5.2	-3.3	-7.3	-6.7	-6.2	-3.4
GVA per head	70.5	61.5	70.4	67.8	68.6	70.2
GDHI per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁵⁾	-0.2	5.2	-2.0	-1.7	-1.2	.
Earnings, Index UK=100 ⁽⁶⁾

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to September 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over. The rate is a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to September 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to September 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(4) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(5) Data relate to 2015 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(6) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year. Comparisons to 1999 are not available.

South West Wales had the lowest employment rate, second highest ILO unemployment rate and highest economic inactivity rate amongst the Welsh Economic regions. It had the second lowest GVA, the lowest GDHI per head and the second highest earnings amongst the economic regions.

Over the latest year South West Wales was the only region to have a decrease in the employment rate, but had the second largest decrease in both the ILO unemployment and the economic inactivity rates. It was the only region to have a decrease in GDHI per head, the second largest increase in GVA per head and the only increase in earnings (3 regions had a fall).

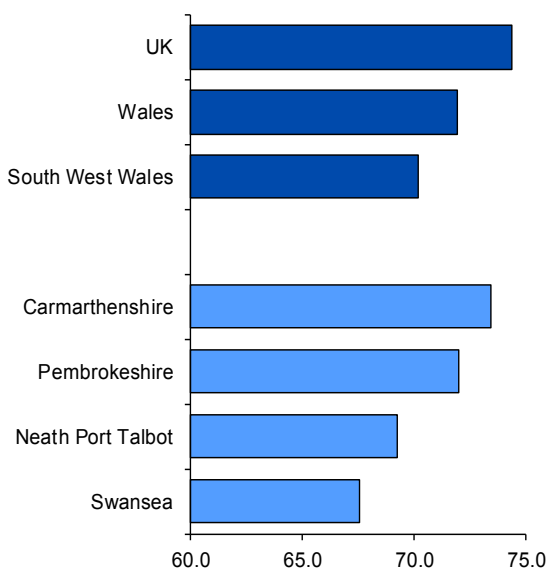
Looking over the longer term South West Wales had the largest increase in the employment rate, the joint largest decrease in the ILO unemployment rate and the largest fall in the economic inactivity rate. It had the second largest increase in GVA per head and the largest fall in GDHI per head.

Latest quarterly data

Employment **New data** (next update January 2018)

- There were 306,700 people in employment in South West Wales in the year to September 2017, down 4,200 (or 1.3 per cent) over the year. This compares to a 0.8 per cent increase for Wales and a 1.2 per cent increase for the UK.
- Within South West Wales, 3 of the 4 authorities decreased over the year and 1 authority increased.
- Compared to 2001, there were increases in all 4 authorities, with a total increase of 44,900 (or 17.1 per cent). This increase was larger than the increases for both Wales and the UK (up 14.9 percentage points and 15.8 percentage points, respectively).
- The employment rate in South West Wales for the year to September 2017 was 70.2 per cent, down 0.5 percentage points over the year. This was lower than the rates for both Wales and the UK (71.9 per cent and 74.4 per cent respectively).
- Within South West Wales the employment rate varied from 67.6 per cent in Swansea to 73.4 per cent in Carmarthenshire.
- Compared to 2001 the employment rate in South West Wales increased by 5.5 percentage points, this increase was larger than the increases for both Wales and the UK. Within South West Wales, 3 of the 4 authorities increased since 2001. Swansea was the only authority to have decreased since 2001.

Chart 2: Employment rate, year to September 2017 (a)



(a) People in employment as a percentage of the population aged 16-64.

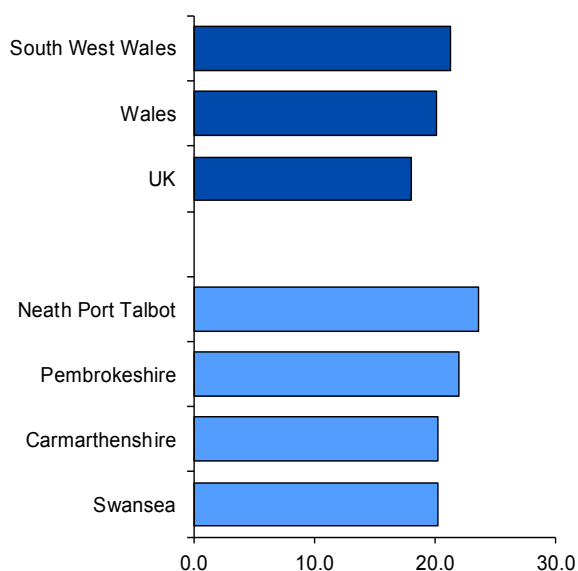
Unemployment **New data** (next update January 2018)

- There were 16,400 unemployed people in South West Wales in the year to September 2017, down 600 (or 3.8 per cent) over the year. This compares to a 3.7 per cent increase for Wales and a 9.2 per cent fall for the UK. Within South West Wales, 3 of the 4 authorities had increases over the year.
- Compared to 2001, there was an overall fall of 6.6 per cent in South West Wales compared to a 2.1 per cent increase for Wales and a 3.0 per cent increase for the UK. Within South West Wales 3 of the 4 authorities had falls, with Swansea having the largest fall (down 19.3 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot having the only increase (up 18.2 per cent).
- The unemployment rate was 5.1 per cent in the year to September 2017, down 0.1 percentage points over the year and higher than both the Wales and UK rates (4.8 per cent and 4.5 per cent respectively).
- Within South West Wales the unemployment rate varied, from 4.6 per cent in Swansea to 5.9 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.
- Compared to 2001, the unemployment rate in South West Wales fell by 1.2 percentage points, this fall compares to a fall of 0.6 percentage points for Wales and a fall of 0.5 percentage points for the UK. Within South West Wales, all 4 authorities fell when compared to 2001.

Economic inactivity **New data** (next update January 2018)

- Excluding students, the economic inactivity rate in South West Wales decreased by 0.1 percentage points over the year to stand at 21.3 per cent in the year to September 2017. This was higher than both the Wales and the UK rates (20.1 per cent and 18.0 per cent respectively).
- Within South West Wales, 3 of the 4 authorities had increases over the year. Since 2001, all four authorities had falls with Neath Port Talbot having the largest fall, down 10.4 percentage points.
- Including students, the economic inactivity rate in South West Wales was 26.0 per cent, up 0.6 percentage points over the year. This was above both the Wales rate (24.3 per cent) and the UK rate (22.0 per cent).

Chart 3: Inactivity rate (excl. students), year to September 2017 (a)



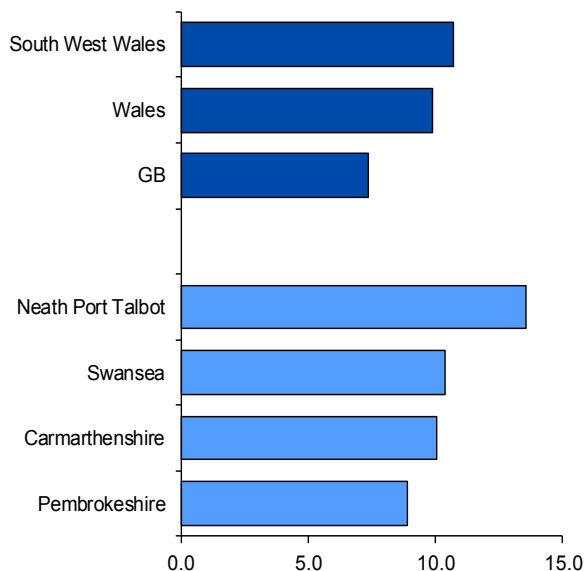
(a) People economically inactive (excluding students) as a percentage of the population aged 16-64.

**Benefit claimants (excl. Jobseeker's Allowance claimants)
(next update TBC)**

Please note the following dataset will no longer be updated by the Department for Work and Pensions. See Section 10 (Key quality information) for more information.

- The number of benefit claimants fell by 500 (or 1.1 per cent) over the year to stand at 45,500 in November 2016. This fall was larger than the falls for Wales and smaller than the fall of GB. Within South West Wales, all of the 3 of the 4 authorities had falls. One authority was unchanged.
- The benefit claimant rate in South West Wales was 10.7 per cent in November 2016. This was higher than the rates for both Wales and GB (9.9 per cent and 7.3 per cent respectively). Within South West Wales the rate varied, from 8.9 per cent in Pembrokeshire to 13.5 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.
- Compared to November 1999, the rate in South West Wales fell by 6.6 percentage points; this fall was larger than the falls for both Wales and GB (down 5.5 percentage points and down 3.1 percentage points respectively).
- Within South West Wales, the rate fell in all 4 authorities since 1999 with Neath Port Talbot having the largest fall (down 8.3 percentage points) and Pembrokeshire the smallest (down 5.0 percentage points).

Chart 4: Benefit claimant rate, November 2016 (a)



(a) Benefit claimants as a percentage of population aged 16-64. Data cover incapacity benefits, lone parents and other income related benefit claimants. Excludes Jobseeker's Allowance claimants.

Latest annual data

Gross value added (GVA) **New data** (next update Dec 2018)

- GVA in South West Wales in 2016 was £12.1 billion, up 4.3 per cent over the year and up 84.0 per cent since 1999, compared to increases of 4.0 per cent and 80.9 per cent for Wales.
- GVA per head was £17,381 in 2016, up 3.7 per cent over the year and up 70.4 per cent since 1999. This compares to £19,140 for Wales (up 3.5 per cent over the year and 68.6 per cent since 1999)
- There were wide variations in GVA per head across South West Wales, from £15,774 in Carmarthenshire to £18,892 in Swansea.

Gross disposable household income (GDHI) (next update Jul 2018)

- GDHI per head in South West Wales was 84.0 per cent of the UK average in 2015, down 0.1 percentage points over the year and down 2.0 percentage points since 1999 (Wales was 85.5 per cent of UK average).
- The variations in GDHI per head within South West Wales ranged from 81.7 per cent of the UK average in Swansea to 86.7 per cent in the combined area of South West Wales.

Chart 5: GVA per head, 2016

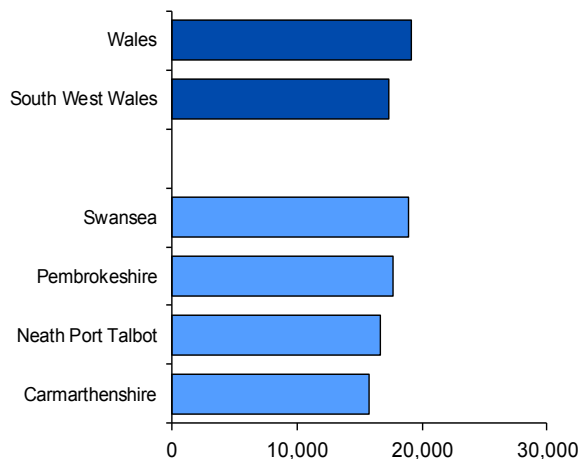
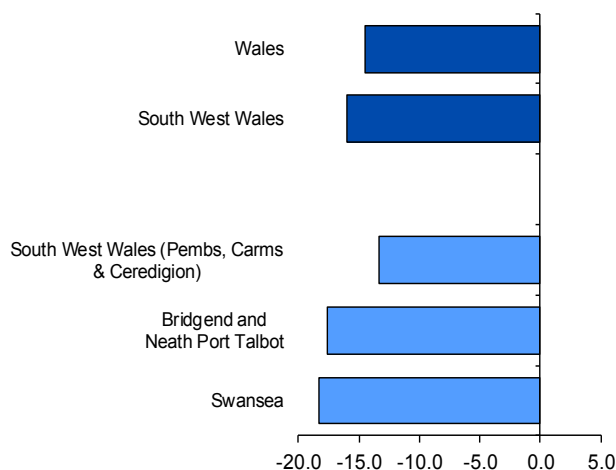


Chart 6: GDHI per head, index, difference from UK average, 2015 (UK = 100)

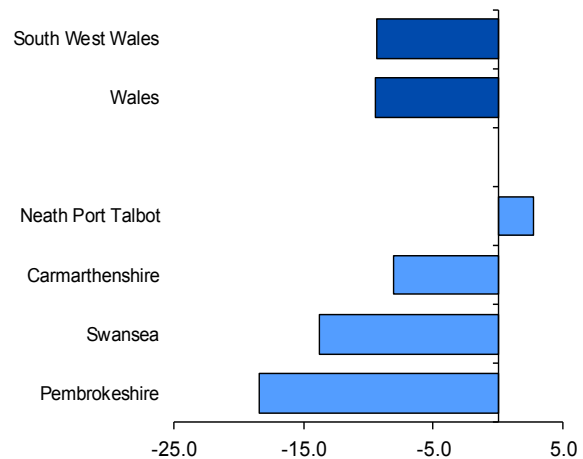


Average full-time weekly earnings **New data**

(next update Oct 2018)

- Average earnings in South West Wales in 2017 were £498.9 per week; this was 90.6 per cent of the UK average (Wales was also 90.6 per cent of the UK average).
- Average weekly earnings in South West Wales were up 5.8 percentage points compared with Wales increasing by 1.0 per cent and the UK 2.2 per cent.
- Within South West Wales in 2017, average weekly earnings varied between 81.6 per cent of the UK average in Pembrokeshire to 102.7 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

Chart 7: Average full-time weekly earnings, index, difference from UK, 2017 (UK = 100) (a)



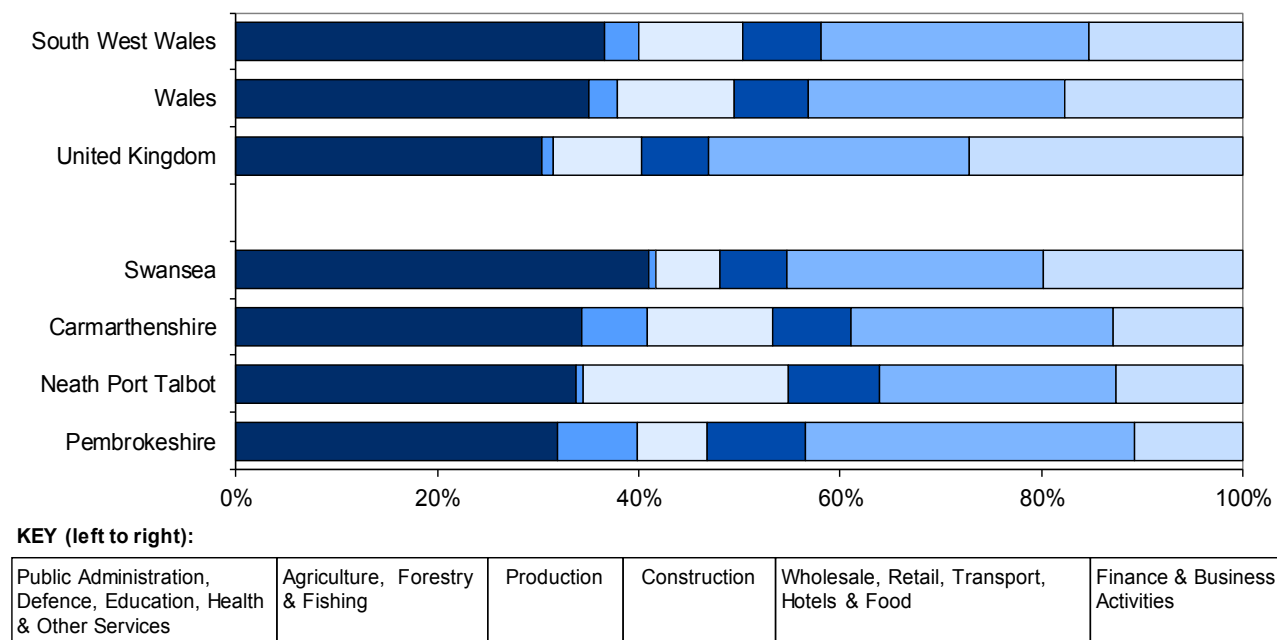
(a) Average gross weekly earnings (including overtime) for full time adults whose pay was unaffected by absence.

Workplace employment **New data**

(next update Oct 2018)

- Total workplace employment in South West Wales in 2016 was up 13,300 or 4.3 per cent over the year. Both Wales and the UK increased over this period (up 0.1 per cent and 0.8 per cent respectively). Since 2001 employment in South West Wales increased by 20.7 per cent, this was much larger than the increases for both Wales and the UK (up 12.1 per cent and 13.4 per cent respectively).
- Within South West Wales there were increases in 3 of the 4 authorities over the year with Swansea having the largest percentage increase (up 8.8 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot having the only percentage fall (down 2.3 per cent).
- Compared to 2001 workplace employment increased in all 4 authorities within South West Wales, with Carmarthenshire having the largest percentage increase (up 25.4 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot having the smallest percentage increase (up 15.3 per cent).
- In 2016 compared to Wales; South West Wales had a higher percentage of jobs in the, construction, wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food and the public administration, defence, education, health & other services sectors, the same percentage in the agriculture, forestry & fishing sector and a lower percentage in the production and finance and business activities sectors.
- Within South West Wales the share of workplace employment in the production sector ranged from 6 per cent in Swansea to 20 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

Chart 8: Workplace employment by industry, 2016



VAT/PAYE registered enterprises New data

(next update Nov 2018)

These data exclude those businesses below the VAT threshold and not registered for PAYE.

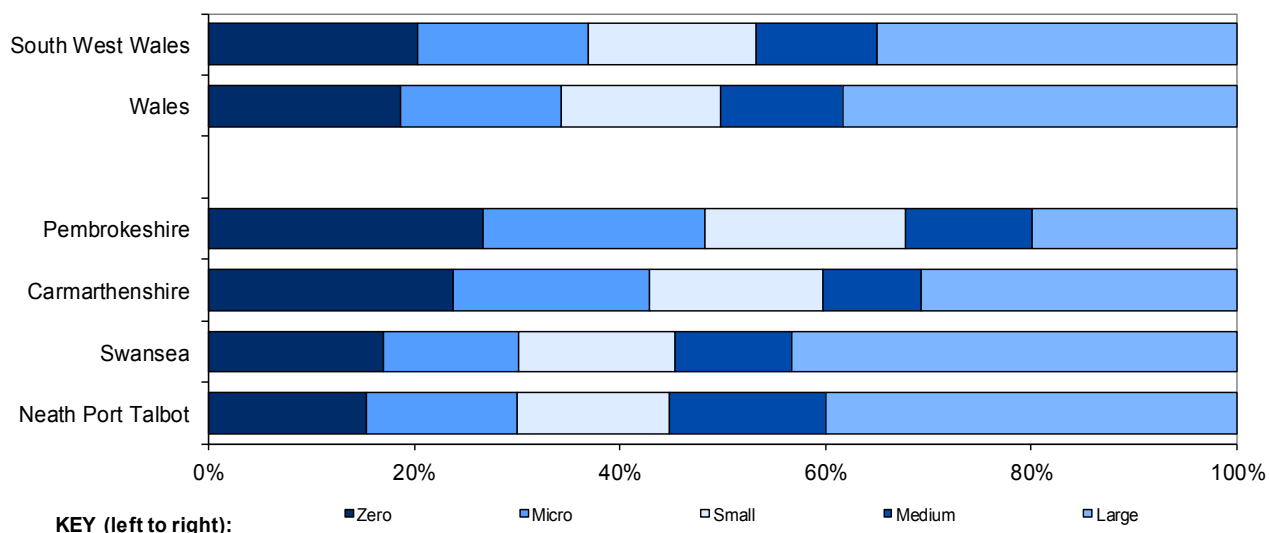
- There were 2,380 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births in South West Wales in 2016, and 2,220 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths. The stock¹ of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises increased by 520 during 2015 to stand at 20,855 in 2016.
- The stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in South West Wales increased by 2.6 per cent over the year, this increase was smaller than the increases for both Wales and the UK. Since 2002 the stock in South West Wales increased by 17.9 per cent, this increase was below that for both Wales and the UK.
- Within South West Wales, all 4 authorities had increases in the stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises over the year, with Neath Port Talbot having the largest percentage increase (up 3.0 per cent). Since 2002, stock increased in all 4 authorities, with both Swansea and Neath Port Talbot having the largest percentage increases (both up 21.1 per cent).
- In 2016 the stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 resident population aged 16-64 in South West Wales stood at 490. This was lower than that for both Wales (512) and the UK (684).
- Within South West Wales, the stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 resident population aged 16-64 in 2016 ranged from 368 in Neath Port Talbot to 639 in Pembrokeshire.

¹ The difference in births and deaths may not equal the difference in stock, because businesses may be born and die in the same period and the stock is taken at a single point in time.

Business structure New data
(next update Nov 2018)

- There were 58,400 enterprises active in South West Wales in 2017, of which 94.4 per cent were in the zero or micro size band (0-9 employees). The percentage in this size-band was similar to that for Wales (94.9 per cent).
- In 2017, 36.9 per cent of private sector employment in South West Wales was in the zero or micro size-bands and a further 35.0 per cent was in the large size-band (250 plus employees). In Wales these size-bands accounted for 34.4 per cent and 38.3 per cent of private sector employment respectively.
- Within South West Wales, the percentage of private sector employment in the large size-band varied from 20.0 per cent in Pembrokeshire to 43.2 per cent in Swansea.
- In 2017, 0.5 per cent of enterprises active in South West Wales were foreign-owned, slightly larger than the percentage for Wales (0.4 per cent).
- In 2017, 10.9 per cent of private sector employment in South West Wales was in foreign owned enterprises, compared to 13.6 per cent for Wales. Within South West Wales, this percentage varied from 4.8 per cent in Pembrokeshire to 21.6 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

Chart 9: Proportion of employment by enterprise size-band, 2017 (a)



(a) The size band is based upon the size of the UK enterprises and includes all enterprises that are active in Wales.

Quarterly data tables

New data

Table 1 Employment levels

	<i>People aged 16 and over (numbers in thousands)</i>						
				<i>Change in latest levels over:</i>		<i>Percentage change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016	2001	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	261.9	310.9	306.7	44.9	-4.2	17.1	-1.3
Pembrokeshire	45.4	55.4	54.9	9.5	-0.5	21.0	-0.9
Carmarthenshire	69.0	85.5	83.2	14.2	-2.2	20.6	-2.6
Swansea	96.8	109.1	107.1	10.3	-2.0	10.6	-1.9
Neath Port Talbot	50.7	60.9	61.5	10.8	0.6	21.4	1.0
Wales	1,238.6	1,412.8	1,423.4	184.8	10.6	14.9	0.8
United Kingdom	27,433.1	31,383.5	31,764.6	4,331.5	381.1	15.8	1.2

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 2 Employment rates

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>				
				<i>Change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	64.7	70.7	70.2	5.5	-0.5
Pembrokeshire	64.5	72.5	72.0	7.5	-0.5
Carmarthenshire	63.4	74.0	73.4	10.1	-0.6
Swansea	68.2	69.0	67.6	-0.7	-1.4
Neath Port Talbot	60.4	68.0	69.2	8.8	1.3
Wales	67.1	71.1	71.9	4.8	0.8
United Kingdom	72.3	73.7	74.4	2.1	0.7

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 3 ILO unemployment levels

	<i>People aged 16 and over (numbers in thousands)</i>						
				<i>Change in latest levels over:</i>		<i>Percentage change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016	2001	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	17.5	17.0	16.4	-1.1	-0.6	-6.6	-3.8
Pembrokeshire	3.2	2.0	2.9	-0.3	0.9	-9.0	47.5
Carmarthenshire	4.6	3.8	4.4	-0.2	0.6	-4.7	16.6
Swansea	6.4	7.7	5.2	-1.2	-2.5	-19.3	-32.4
Neath Port Talbot	3.3	3.6	3.9	0.6	0.3	18.2	8.1
Wales	71.0	69.9	72.4	1.5	2.6	2.1	3.7
United Kingdom	1,450.3	1,645.0	1,493.3	43.1	-151.7	3.0	-9.2

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 4 ILO unemployment rates

	<i>Percentage of economically active people aged 16 and over</i>				
				<i>Change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	6.3	5.2	5.1	-1.2	-0.1
Pembrokeshire	6.5	3.4	5.0	-1.5	1.6
Carmarthenshire	6.3	4.2	5.0	-1.2	0.8
Swansea	6.2	6.6	4.6	-1.6	-1.9
Neath Port Talbot	6.1	5.6	5.9	-0.1	0.4
Wales	5.4	4.7	4.8	-0.6	0.1
United Kingdom	5.0	5.0	4.5	-0.5	-0.5

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 5 Economic inactivity levels (excluding students)

	<i>People aged 16-64 (numbers in thousands)</i>						
				<i>Change in latest levels over:</i>		<i>Percentage change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016	2001	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	105.2	81.1	80.4	-24.8	-0.7	-23.6	-0.9
Pembrokeshire	17.8	14.4	14.8	-3.0	0.4	-17.0	2.7
Carmarthenshire	29.3	20.0	20.5	-8.8	0.5	-30.0	2.6
Swansea	31.2	26.3	25.8	-5.4	-0.5	-17.2	-2.0
Neath Port Talbot	26.8	20.3	19.2	-7.6	-1.1	-28.4	-5.5
Wales	439.7	362.2	345.5	-94.1	-16.6	-21.4	-4.6
United Kingdom	7,401.3	6,873.5	6,747.5	-653.9	-126.1	-8.8	-1.8

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 6 Economic inactivity rates (excluding students)

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>					
				<i>Change in latest over:</i>		
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	28.6	21.4	21.3	-7.3	-0.1	
Pembrokeshire	28.2	21.7	22.0	-6.2	0.3	
Carmarthenshire	29.9	20.1	20.3	-9.7	0.2	
Swansea	24.4	20.0	20.2	-4.1	0.2	
Neath Port Talbot	34.1	24.9	23.7	-10.4	-1.2	
Wales	26.4	21.0	20.1	-6.2	-0.9	
United Kingdom	21.4	18.4	18.0	-3.4	-0.4	

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 7 Economic inactivity levels (including students)

	<i>People aged 16-64 (numbers in thousands)</i>						
				<i>Change in latest levels over:</i>		<i>Percentage change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016	2001	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	122.9	107.0	109.2	-13.7	2.2	-11.1	2.1
Pembrokeshire	21.0	18.0	17.8	-3.2	-0.2	-15.4	-1.4
Carmarthenshire	34.2	24.4	24.1	-10.1	-0.4	-29.6	-1.5
Swansea	38.0	40.0	44.6	6.6	4.6	17.4	11.4
Neath Port Talbot	29.7	24.5	22.8	-6.9	-1.7	-23.3	-7.0
Wales	524.6	480.8	461.7	-62.9	-19.1	-12.0	-4.0
United Kingdom	8,921.4	9,148.4	9,058.1	136.8	-90.3	1.5	-1.0

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 8 Economic inactivity rates (including students)

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>					
				<i>Change in latest over:</i>		
	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2017	2001	Year to Sep 2016	Year to Sep 2016
South West Wales	30.9	25.4	26.0	-4.9	0.6	0.6
Pembrokeshire	30.8	24.8	24.4	-6.5	-0.5	-0.5
Carmarthenshire	32.3	22.5	22.5	-9.8	-0.1	-0.1
Swansea	27.2	26.1	29.1	1.9	2.9	2.9
Neath Port Talbot	35.6	28.0	26.3	-9.4	-1.7	-1.7
Wales	29.0	25.3	24.3	-4.7	-1.0	-1.0
United Kingdom	23.9	22.3	22.0	-1.9	-0.3	-0.3

Next update: Apr 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

Table 9 Benefit claimants (excluding JSA claimants) (a)

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>						
	Nov 1999	Nov 2015	Nov 2016	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				Nov 1999	Nov 2015	Nov 1999	Nov 2015
South West Wales	68.7	46.0	45.5	-23.3	-0.5	-33.9	-1.1
Pembrokeshire	9.4	6.4	6.4	-3.0	-0.1	-32.0	-1.1
Carmarthenshire	17.9	11.3	11.1	-6.9	-0.2	-38.3	-1.9
Swansea	23.3	16.1	16.1	-7.2	0.0	-30.8	0.0
Neath Port Talbot	18.2	12.2	11.9	-6.3	-0.2	-34.4	-1.9
Wales	277.6	191.2	189.6	-88.1	-1.7	-31.7	-0.9
Great Britain	3,812.3	3,011.9	2,920.0	-892.3	-91.9	-23.4	-3.1
Next update: TBC	Source: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)						

(a) Data cover ESA & incapacity benefits, lone parents and other income related benefit claimants.

Table 10 Benefit claimants rates (excluding JSA claimants) (a)

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>				
	Nov 1999	Nov 2015	Nov 2016	Change in latest over:	
				Nov 1999	Nov 2015
South West Wales	17.3	10.8	10.7	-6.6	-0.2
Pembrokeshire	13.8	8.9	8.9	-5.0	-0.1
Carmarthenshire	17.1	10.2	10.1	-7.0	-0.2
Swansea	16.5	10.5	10.4	-6.2	-0.1
Neath Port Talbot	21.8	13.8	13.5	-8.3	-0.3
Wales	15.4	10.0	9.9	-5.5	-0.1
Great Britain	10.5	7.6	7.3	-3.1	-0.2
Next update: TBC	Source: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)				

(a) Data cover ESA & incapacity benefits, lone parents and other income related benefit claimants.

[Link to data](#)

Annual data tables

New data

Table 11 Headline Gross Value Added (GVA)

	1999	2015	2016 (p)	Change in latest over (a):	
				1999	2015
£ million:					
South West Wales	6,573	11,597	12,092	84.0	4.3
Pembrokeshire	1,252	2,118	2,186	74.6	3.2
Carmarthenshire	1,521	2,789	2,928	92.5	5.0
Swansea	2,499	4,411	4,619	84.8	4.7
Neath Port Talbot	1,301	2,279	2,359	81.3	3.5
Wales	32,934	57,316	59,585	80.9	4.0
UK excluding Extra-Regio	908,205	1,667,915	1,729,100	90.4	3.7
£ per head:					
South West Wales	10,201	16,761	17,381	70.4	3.7
Pembrokeshire	11,213	17,155	17,635	57.3	2.8
Carmarthenshire	8,827	15,067	15,774	78.7	4.7
Swansea	11,103	18,201	18,892	70.2	3.8
Neath Port Talbot	9,614	16,165	16,658	73.3	3.0
Wales	11,354	18,495	19,140	68.6	3.5
UK excluding Extra-Regio	15,476	25,617	26,339	70.2	2.8

Next update: Dec 2018

Source: Regional Accounts, ONS

(a) Percentage change for £ millions and £ per head; percentage point change for index.

[Link to data](#)

Table 12 Headline Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI)

	1999	2014	2015 (p)	<i>Change in latest over (a):</i>	
				1999	2014
£ million:					
South West Wales (b)	8,660	14,153	14,583	68.4	3.0
South West Wales	3,544	6,123	6,345	79.0	3.6
Swansea	2,350	3,690	3,782	60.9	2.5
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	2,766	4,340	4,456	61.1	2.7
Wales	29,898	48,902	50,642	69.4	3.6
UK	697,491	1,199,214	1,243,970	78.3	3.7
£ per head:					
South West Wales (b)	10,224	15,604	16,049	57.0	2.8
South West Wales	9,899	15,945	16,556	67.2	3.8
Swansea	10,442	15,293	15,604	49.4	2.0
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	10,480	15,406	15,742	50.2	2.2
Wales	10,308	15,815	16,341	58.5	3.3
UK	11,885	18,565	19,106	60.8	2.9
Index (£ per head UK=100)					
South West Wales (b)	86.0	84.1	84.0	-2.0	-0.1
South West Wales	83.3	85.9	86.7	3.4	0.8
Swansea	87.9	82.4	81.7	-6.2	-0.7
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	88.2	83.0	82.4	-5.8	-0.6
Wales	86.7	85.2	85.5	-1.2	0.3
UK	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Next update: Jul 2018

Source: Regional Accounts, ONS

(p) Data for the latest year are provisional.

(a) Percentage change for £ millions and £ per head; percentage point change for index.

(b) South West Wales is an approximation, which includes Bridgend and Ceredigion

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 13 Average gross weekly earnings (a)

	2016	2017 (p)	<i>Change over:</i> 2016
Average earnings (£s):			
South West Wales	471.7	498.9	5.8
Pembrokeshire	454.6	449.1	-1.2
Carmarthenshire	458.9	505.8	10.2
Swansea	465.9	474.4	1.8
Neath Port Talbot	529.3	565.4	6.8
Wales	493.7	498.4	1.0
United Kingdom	538.6	550.4	2.2
Index (UK=100):			
South West Wales	87.6	90.6	3.1
Pembrokeshire	84.4	81.6	-2.8
Carmarthenshire	85.2	91.9	6.7
Swansea	86.5	86.2	-0.3
Neath Port Talbot	98.3	102.7	4.5
Wales	91.7	90.6	-1.1
United Kingdom	100.0	100.0	

Next update: Oct 2018

Source: Welsh Government analysis of Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), ONS

(a) Average gross weekly earnings (including overtime) for full time adults whose pay was unaffected by absence.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 14 Total workplace employment

Numbers in thousands

	2001	2015	2016	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2001	2015	2001	2015
				South West Wales	265.8	307.5	320.8
Pembrokeshire	49.2	56.3	58.1	8.9	1.9	18.1	3.3
Carmarthenshire	66.1	80.8	82.9	16.8	2.0	25.4	2.5
Swansea	107.4	119.5	130.1	22.7	10.5	21.1	8.8
Neath Port Talbot	43.1	50.9	49.8	6.6	-1.2	15.3	-2.3
Wales	1,252.7	1,403.4	1,404.3	151.6	0.9	12.1	0.1
United Kingdom	28,580.0	32,145.2	32,412.6	3,832.6	267.4	13.4	0.8

Next update: Oct 2018

Source: APS, Business Register & Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture & Horticulture

(a) These data show workplace employment (or total jobs) in each area, including self-employment jobs.

The United Kingdom (UK) data presented here should not be used for any purpose other than as a comparator for the Wales data.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 15 Workplace employment by industry, 2016

	Percentage of total employment:							All industries (thousands)
	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	Production	Construction	Wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food	Finance & business activities	Public admin., defence, education, health & other services		
South West Wales	3	10	8	27	15	37	320.8	
Pembrokeshire	8	7	10	33	11	32	58.1	
Carmarthenshire	6	12	8	26	13	34	82.9	
Swansea	1	6	7	25	20	41	130.1	
Neath Port Talbot	1	20	9	23	13	34	49.8	
Wales	3	12	7	25	18	35	1,404.3	
United Kingdom	1	9	7	26	27	30	32,412.6	

Next update: Oct 2018

Source: APS, Business Register & Employment Survey and Survey of Agriculture & Horticulture

(a) These data show workplace employment (or total jobs) in each area, including self-employment jobs. The United Kingdom (UK) data presented here should not be used for any purpose other than as a comparator for the Wales data.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 16 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births (a)

	2002	2015	2016	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2002	2015	2002	2015
Number:							
South West Wales	1,975	2,340	2,380	405	40	20.5	1.7
Pembrokeshire	430	415	455	25	40	5.8	9.6
Carmarthenshire	615	635	665	50	30	8.1	4.7
Swansea	645	890	840	195	-50	30.2	-5.6
Neath Port Talbot	285	400	420	135	20	47.4	5.0
Wales	8,970	11,525	12,115	3,145	590	35.1	5.1
United Kingdom	242,540	383,075	414,355	171,815	31,280	70.8	8.2
VAT/PAYE births per 10,000 population aged 16-64:							
South West Wales	49	55	56	7	1	14.3	1.8
Pembrokeshire	62	58	63	1	5	1.6	8.6
Carmarthenshire	58	58	60	2	2	3.4	3.4
Swansea	45	58	54	9	-4	20.0	-6.9
Neath Port Talbot	34	46	48	14	2	41.2	4.3
Wales	49	60	63	14	3	28.6	5.0
United Kingdom	64	93	100	36	7	56.3	7.5

Next update: Nov 2018

Source: Business Demography, ONS

(a) VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births that occurred in each year.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 17 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths (a)

	2002	2015	2016	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2002	2015	2002	2015
South West Wales	1,810	2,105	2,220	410	115	22.7	5.5
Pembrokeshire	375	390	405	30	15	8.0	3.8
Carmarthenshire	480	555	615	135	60	28.1	10.8
Swansea	675	840	845	170	5	25.2	0.6
Neath Port Talbot	280	320	355	75	35	26.8	10.9
Wales	7,890	9,655	10,335	2,445	680	31.0	7.0
United Kingdom	213,345	282,865	327,775	114,430	44,910	53.6	15.9

Next update: Nov 2018

Source: Business Demography, ONS

(a) VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths that occurred in each year.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 18 Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises (a)

	2002	2015	2016	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2002	2015	2002	2015
Number:							
South West Wales	17,690	20,335	20,855	3,165	520	17.9	2.6
Pembrokeshire	4,100	4,500	4,585	485	85	11.8	1.9
Carmarthenshire	5,220	5,960	6,135	915	175	17.5	2.9
Swansea	5,695	6,730	6,895	1200	165	21.1	2.5
Neath Port Talbot	2,675	3,145	3,240	565	95	21.1	3.0
Wales	81,175	95,010	98,445	17,270	3,435	21.3	3.6
United Kingdom	2,115,915	2,672,025	2,833,965	718,050	161,940	33.9	6.1
Stock per 10,000 population aged 16-64:							
South West Wales	440	480	490	50	10	11.4	2.1
Pembrokeshire	595	626	639	44	13	7.4	2.1
Carmarthenshire	489	540	557	68	17	13.9	3.1
Swansea	401	437	444	43	7	10.7	1.6
Neath Port Talbot	318	358	368	50	10	15.7	2.8
Wales	443	495	512	69	17	15.6	3.4
United Kingdom	555	648	684	129	36	23.2	5.6

Next update: Nov 2018

Source: Business Demography, ONS

(a) Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in each year.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 19 Enterprise numbers by size-band, 2017 (a)

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>					
	Zero (0)	Micro (1-9)	Small (10-49)	Medium (50- 249)	Large (250 plus)	All
South West Wales	44.5	10.6	2.1	0.5	0.6	58.4
Pembrokeshire	10.9	2.6	0.5	0.1	0.2	14.4
Carmarthenshire	13.3	3.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	17.6
Swansea	14.2	3.2	0.8	0.2	0.4	18.8
Neath Port Talbot	6.0	1.7	0.4	0.1	0.2	8.4
Wales	193.4	47.2	9.3	2.1	1.7	253.6

Next update: Nov 2018

Source: Size Analysis of Welsh Businesses

(a) Enterprises which are active in more than one local authority will be counted in each one, so the enterprises totals for the regions/Wales will not add up to the sum of the local authorities. The size band is based upon the size of the UK enterprises and includes all enterprises that are active in Wales.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 20 Employment numbers by size-band, 2017 (a)

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>					
	Zero (0)	Micro (1-9)	Small (10-49)	Medium (50- 249)	Large (250 plus)	All
South West Wales	49.7	40.3	40.1	28.7	85.4	244.3
Pembrokeshire	12.4	10.0	9.1	5.7	9.3	46.6
Carmarthenshire	15.2	12.1	10.7	6.1	19.6	63.7
Swansea	15.6	11.9	13.9	10.4	39.5	91.3
Neath Port Talbot	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.5	17.1	42.7
Wales	214.1	178.7	176.7	136.4	437.5	1,143.3

Next update: Nov 2018

Source: Size Analysis of Welsh Businesses

(a) Enterprises which are active in more than one local authority will be counted in each one, so the enterprises totals for the regions/Wales will not add up to the sum of the local authorities. The size band is based upon the size of the UK enterprises and includes all enterprises that are active in Wales.

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 21 Foreign Owned Companies, 2017 (a)

	<i>Numbers (employees, thousands)</i>					
	<i>Foreign Owned</i>		<i>UK owned</i>		<i>All</i>	
	Enterprises	Employees	Enterprises	Employees	Enterprises	Employees
South West Wales	275	26.6	58,085	217.7	58,360	244.3
Pembrokeshire	70	2.2	14,280	44.3	14,350	46.6
Carmarthenshire	105	6.7	17,490	57.0	17,595	63.7
Swansea	170	8.4	18,625	82.8	18,795	91.3
Neath Port Talbot	85	9.2	8,300	33.5	8,385	42.7
Wales	1,135	155.3	252,495	988.0	253,635	1,143.3

Next update: Nov 2018

Source: Size Analysis of Welsh Businesses

(a) Enterprises which are active in more than one local authority will be counted in each one, so the enterprises totals for the regions/Wales will not add up to the sum of the local authorities. The size band is based upon the size of the UK enterprises and includes all enterprises that are active in Wales.

Key quality information

Relevance

This bulletin is a compendium publication used to bring together the latest key statistics relating to the economy and labour market for each of the four economic regions in Wales, in the context of the Welsh/UK economy and labour market.

This bulletin, produced by the Welsh Government, provides a summary of the sub-Wales data contained within a range of statistical bulletins and presents those estimates alongside other headline estimates for the economy and labour market for Wales and the UK. These statistics are used by the Welsh Government to monitor the headline statistics for the sub-Wales regions as well as providing comparisons to the UK and Welsh economy. The bulletin includes statistics relevant to the [Programme for Government](#) and [Prosperity for All: economic action plan](#). This bulletin was produced in response to growing user demand for more local area data which was identified in our user consultation. Our [user consultation](#) provides more information on how our outputs are used.

The bulletin is the main vehicle for the publication of results at economic region level for the Welsh labour market from the Annual Population Survey (APS), as produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). It also provides Welsh data from Jobcentre plus on the numbers of Jobseeker Allowance claimants and numbers of benefit claimants from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).

In addition to these datasets, the bulletin brings together the further datasets, for which the Welsh Government produces separate publications, including average weekly earnings, business demography, workplace employment, business structure and regional accounts data. Further information about these additional datasets can be found in the separate publications themselves, all available from the following page on the [Welsh Government website](#).

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) are no longer publishing working age benefits claimants by client group. The Welsh Government will no longer publish the Benefits data on StatsWales. The full DWP statement is available [here](#). We are in the process of identifying a new appropriate source for this data.

Accuracy

Guidance on the use of the bulletins

For further guidance on the use of this bulletin, including quality information and descriptions and comparisons of measures and sources, please refer to the [Regional Profile User Guide](#).

Data Sources and Quality

We have also published a [comprehensive data sources guide list](#) which provides a summary of all the main official data sources used by the Economic and Labour Market Statistics branch as well as useful links.

Definitions of regions

The four regions used in this set of bulletins are defined as:

North Wales: Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham.

Mid Wales: Powys and Ceredigion.

South West Wales: Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

South East Wales: Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Newport and Cardiff.

These definitions are based on the Department for Economy, Skills and Natural Resources economic regions.

Revisions

Where the data is not from the Welsh Government, we follow the revisions policy of the individual Government department. For data from our own outputs, we follow [Welsh Government policy](#).

Timeliness and punctuality

This is a quarterly bulletin, usually published in January, April, July and October. It is based on the latest version of each of the datasets it includes (see dates given in each of the headings for the next update dates).

Accessibility and clarity

Much of the data in this bulletin can be found on [StatsWales](#) which is a free-to-use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download tables from the most detailed official data on Wales. Links to specific data can be found under the relevant tables, above.

Comparability and coherence

Comparable measures for other UK countries for the data published in this bulletin are published on [StatsWales](#) where available. Links to specific data can be found under the relevant tables, above.

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 the indicators, along with narratives for each of the well-being goals and associated technical information is available in the [Well-being of Wales report](#).

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/regional-economic-labour-market-profiles/?lang=en>

Next update

We are considering the combination of this publication with the *Regional economic & labour market profile – Mid Wales* publication in order to align with the economic regions outlined in the [Prosperity for All: economic action plan](#). We will ensure user needs are met when developing any changes. We would welcome any feedback on this proposed change – please contact us via the e-mail address below.

We want your feedback

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

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