



Regional economic & labour market profile – South West Wales – July 2017

27 Jul 2017
SB 35/2017

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

Compared to Wales; South West Wales has a higher employment rate, higher ILO unemployment rate and a lower economic inactivity rate. It also has lower GVA per head, GDHI per head and earnings.



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.

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Summary table: Latest data for South West Wales

	South West Wales				Wales	
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate (%)	Change on year	Rate (%)	Change on year
Employed ⁽¹⁾	313.9	5.5	71.5	1.5	71.4	0.4
ILO unemployed ⁽²⁾	15.5	-3.4	4.7	-1.1	4.4	-1.0
Economically Inactive ⁽³⁾	75.8	-12.3	20.2	-2.7	20.7	-0.1
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	.	.	67.1	0.1	71.0	0.5
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	.	.	84.0	-0.1	85.5	0.3
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	.	.	87.5	-1.6	91.4	0.6

- (1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to March 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 March 2017.
 (3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to March 2017.
 (4) Data relate to 2015 and are provisional. Index UK=100.
 (5) Data relate to 2015 and are provisional. Index UK=100.
 (6) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional. Index UK=100.

. Not applicable

Overall summary

South West Wales had total Gross Value Added of £15.5 billion in 2015. This translates as £17,004 per head or 67.1 per cent of the UK average, compared to 71.0 per cent 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 employment rates increased in South West Wales whilst the ILO unemployment rate and economic inactivity (excluding students) fell. Looking at the longer term, the labour market in South West Wales has seen an improvement compared to Wales since 2001.

Claimant Count has been removed from this bulletin because it may now be providing a misleading representation of the UK labour market. We continue to publish [Claimant Count data](#) on StatsWales. Further Information can be found in the key quality information.

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⁾	73.0	71.4	71.5	70.7	71.4	74.0
ILO unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	3.7	2.6	4.7	4.8	4.4	4.7
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	20.1	18.7	20.2	21.4	20.7	18.3
GVA per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁴⁾	72.8	66.9	67.1	73.1	71.0	100.0
GDHI per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁵⁾	89.0	90.7	84.0	84.3	85.5	100.0
Earnings, Index UK=100 ⁽⁶⁾	91.4	85.4	87.5	93.4	91.4	100.0
Change on year (%):						
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	-0.1	-1.5	1.5	0.3	0.4	0.5
ILO unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	-0.5	-1.3	-1.1	-1.2	-1.0	-0.4
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	0.5	1.8	-2.7	0.5	-0.1	-0.2
GVA per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁴⁾	0.8	1.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	.
GDHI per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁵⁾	0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.3	.
Earnings, Index UK=100 ⁽⁶⁾	0.6	3.6	-1.6	1.9	0.6	.
Change on 1999/2001 (%):						
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	3.4	0.7	6.8	4.1	4.3	1.8
ILO unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	-0.7	-1.8	-1.6	-0.8	-1.0	-0.3
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	-4.5	-2.0	-8.4	-5.5	-5.7	-3.1
GVA per head, Index UK=100 ⁽⁴⁾	0.5	-2.0	1.2	-3.5	-1.2	.
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 March 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 March 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 March 2017 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(4) Data relate to 2015 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 second highest employment, ILO unemployment and economic inactivity rate amongst the Welsh Economic regions. It had the second lowest GVA and the lowest GDHI per head, and the second lowest earnings amongst the economic regions.

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

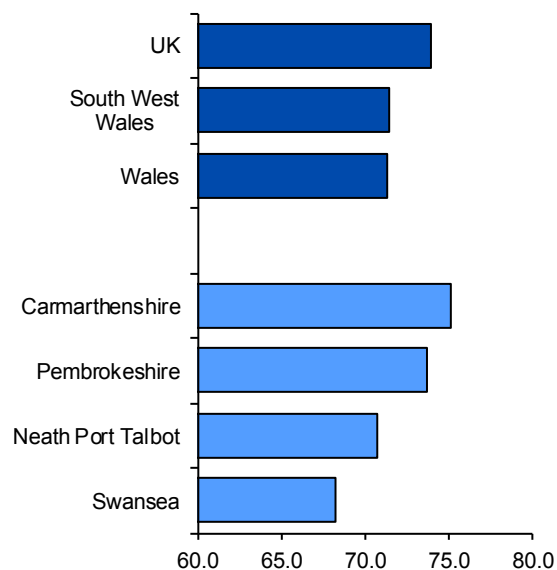
Looking over the longer term South West Wales had the largest increase in the employment rate and second largest fall in the ILO unemployment and the largest fall in economic inactivity rates. It had the largest increase in GVA per head (2 regions had falls) and the largest fall in GDHI per head.

Latest quarterly data

Employment **New data** (next update September 2017)

- There were 313,900 people in employment in South West Wales in the year to March 2017, up 5,500 (or 1.8 per cent) over the year. This compares to a 0.2 per cent increase for Wales and a 1.1 per cent increase for the UK.
- Within South West Wales, 3 of the 4 authorities had increases over the year and 1 authority had a fall.
- Compared to 2001, there were increases in all 4 authorities, with a total increase of 52,000 (or 19.9 per cent). This increase was larger than the increases for both Wales and the UK (up 14.4 percentage points and 15.1 percentage points, respectively).
- The employment rate in South West Wales for the year to March 2017 was 71.5 per cent, up 1.5 percentage points over the year. This was higher than the rates for Wales (71.4 per cent) and lower than the UK Rate (74.0 per cent).
- Within South West Wales the employment rate varied, from 68.2 per cent in Swansea to 75.1 per cent in Carmarthenshire.
- Compared to 2001 the employment rate in South West Wales increased by 6.8 percentage points, this increase was larger than the increases for both Wales and the UK. Within South West Wales, all 3 of the 4 authorities increased since 2001. Swansea was unchanged since 2001.

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



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

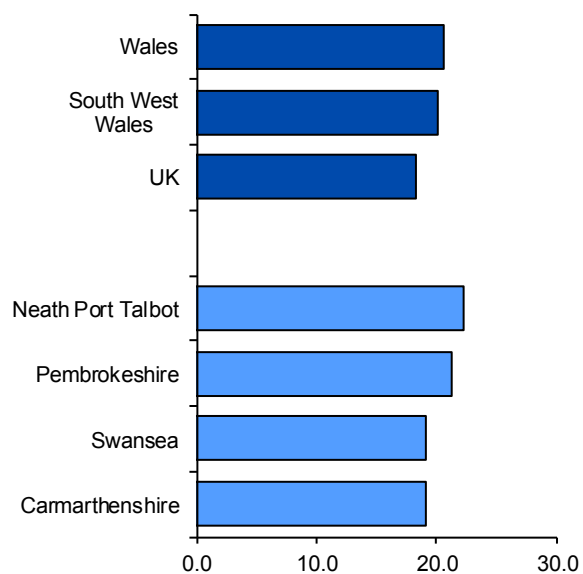
Unemployment New data
(next update September 2017)

- There were 15,500 unemployed people in South West Wales in the year to March 2017, down 3,400 (or 18.1 per cent) over the year. This fall was smaller than the fall for Wales and larger than that for the UK. Within South West Wales, all of the 4 authorities had falls.
- Compared to 2001, there was an overall fall of 11.6 per cent in South West Wales compared to a 7.8 per cent decrease for Wales and a 8.3 per cent increase for the UK. Within South West Wales 3 of the 4 authorities had falls, with Pembrokeshire having the largest fall (down 33.0 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot having the largest increase (up 12.0 per cent).
- The unemployment rate was 4.7 per cent in the year to March 2017, down 1.1 percentage points over the year. This was higher than the rate for Wales and the same as the UK rate (4.4 and 4.7 respectively). Within South West Wales the unemployment rate varied, from 3.6 per cent in Pembrokeshire to 5.5 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.
- Compared to 2001, the unemployment rate in South West Wales fell by 1.6 percentage points, this fall compares to a fall of 1.0 percentage points for Wales and a fall of 0.3 percentage points for the UK. Within South West Wales, all 4 authorities fell.

Economic inactivity New data
(next update September 2017)

- Excluding students, the economic inactivity rate in South West Wales decreased by 2.7 percentage points over the year to stand at 20.2 per cent in the year to March 2017. This was lower than the Wales rate (20.7 per cent) and higher than the UK rate (18.3 per cent).
- Within South West Wales, 3 of the 4 authorities had falls over the year, with Swansea the only authority to increase (up 3.0 percentage points). Since 2001, 3 of the 4 authorities had falls with Carmarthenshire having the largest fall, down 10.9 percentage points.
- Including students, the economic inactivity rate in South West Wales was 25.0 per cent, down 0.6 percentage points over the year. This was below the Wales rate (25.2 per cent) and above the UK rate (22.2 per cent).

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

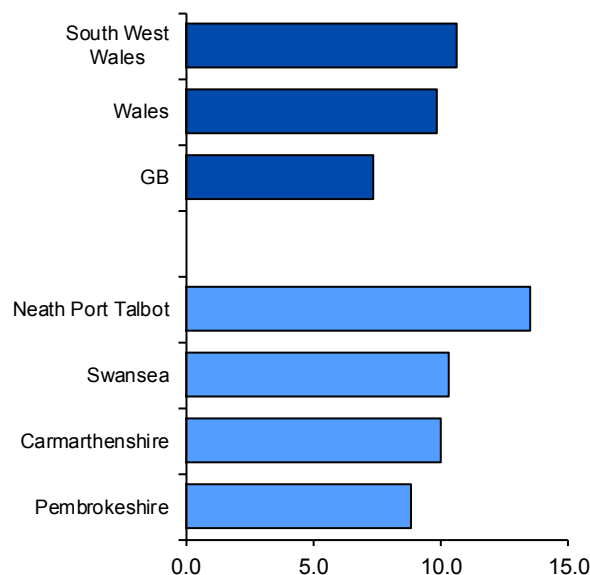


(a) People economically inactive (excluding students) as a percentage of the population aged 16-64.

Benefit claimants (excl. Jobseeker's Allowance claimants) New data
(next update Aug 2017)

- 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 for 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) (next update Dec 2017)

- GVA in South West Wales in 2015 was £15.5 billion, up 2.3 per cent over the year and up 80.5 per cent since 1999, compared to increases of 3.0 per cent and 73.8 per cent for Wales.
- GVA per head in South West Wales was 67.1 per cent of the UK average in 2015, up 0.1 percentage points over the year and up 1.2 percentage points since 1999 (Wales was 71.0 per cent of UK average).
- There were wide variations across South West Wales, from 62.0 per cent in the combined area of Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, and Ceredigion to 73.3 per cent in Swansea.

Gross disposable household income (GDHI) **New data** (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, index, difference from UK average, 2015 (UK = 100)

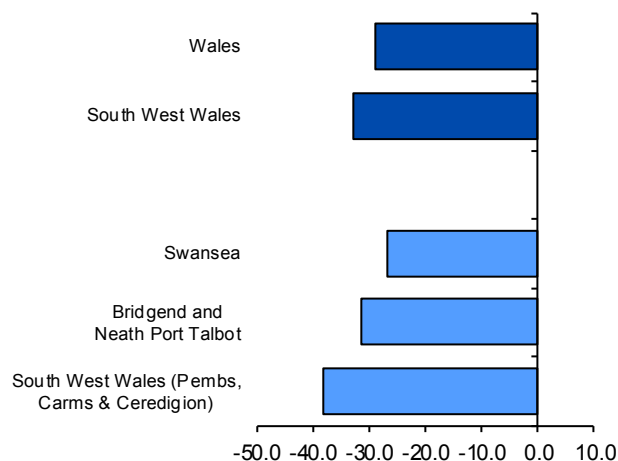
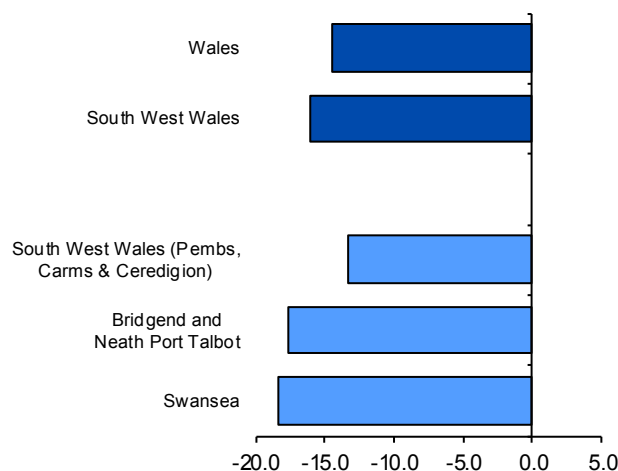


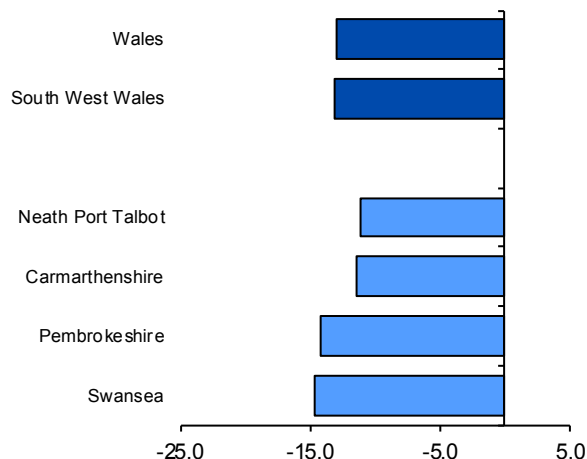
Chart 6: GDHI per head, index, difference from UK average, 2015 (UK = 100)



Average full-time weekly earnings (to be updated Nov 2017)

- Average earnings in South West Wales in 2016 were £471.4 per week; this was 87.5 per cent of the UK average (Wales was 91.4 per cent of the UK average).
- Average weekly earnings in South West Wales were up 0.4 percentage points, lower than that for Wales and the UK (2.9 and 2.2 percentage points respectively).
- Within South West Wales in 2016, average weekly earnings varied between 84.6 per cent of the UK average in Pembrokeshire to 98.2 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

Chart 7: Average full-time weekly earnings, index, difference from UK, 2015 (UK = 100) (a)

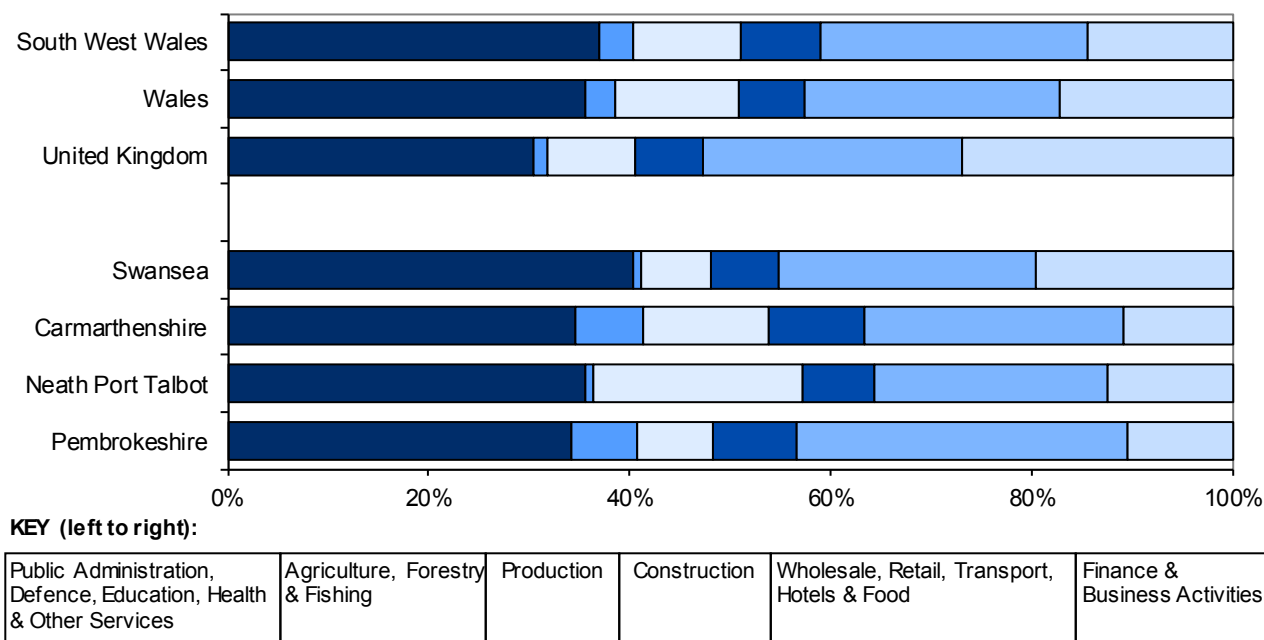


(a) Average gross weekly earnings (including overtime) for full time adults whose pay was unaffected by absence.

Workplace employment (next update Oct 2017)

- Total workplace employment in South West Wales in 2015 was down 4,200 or 1.4 per cent over the year, compared to an increase of 0.8 per cent for Wales and increase of 2.2 per cent for the UK. Since 2001 employment in South West Wales increased by 15.9 per cent, with this increase larger than the increases for both Wales and the UK.
- Within South West Wales there were increases in 2 of the 4 authorities over the year with Pembrokeshire having the largest percentage increase (up 5.0 per cent) and Swansea having the largest percentage fall (down 3.8 per cent).
- Compared to 2001 workplace employment increased in all 4 authorities within South West Wales, with Carmarthenshire having the largest percentage increase (up 22.8 per cent).
- In 2015 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 7 per cent in Swansea to 21 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

Chart 8: Workplace employment by industry, 2015



VAT/PAYE registered enterprises
(next update Nov 2017)

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

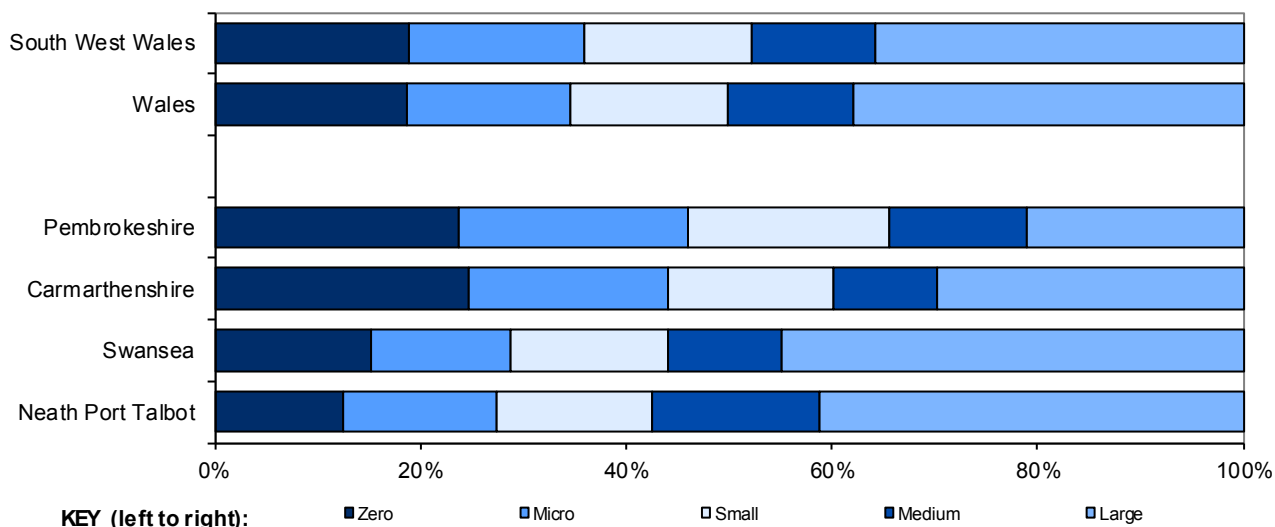
- There were 2,340 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births in South West Wales in 2015, and 1,860 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths. The stock¹ of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises increased by 405 during 2014 to stand at 20,335 in 2015.
- The stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in South West Wales increased by 2.0 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 15.0 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 Swansea and Neath Port Talbot having the largest percentage increase (both up 2.9 per cent). Since 2002, stock increased in all 4 authorities, with Swansea having the largest percentage increase (up 18.2 per cent).
- In 2015 the stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 resident population aged 16-64 in South West Wales stood at 480. This was lower than that for both Wales (495) and the UK (648).
- Within South West Wales, the stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 resident population aged 16-64 in 2015 ranged from 358 in Neath Port Talbot to 626 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
(next update Nov 2017)

- There were 54,500 enterprises active in South West Wales in 2016, of which 94.1 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 2016, 35.9 per cent of private sector employment in South West Wales was in the zero or micro size-bands and a further 35.7 per cent was in the large size-band (250 plus employees). In Wales these size-bands accounted for 34.6 and 38.0 per cent of private sector employment respectively.
- Within South West Wales, the percentage of private sector employment in the large size-band varied from 21.0 per cent in Pembrokeshire to 44.9 per cent in Swansea.
- In 2016, 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 2016, 11.6 per cent of private sector employment in South West Wales was in foreign owned enterprises, compared to 13.2 per cent for Wales. Within South West Wales, this percentage varied from 5.6 per cent in Pembrokeshire to 22.2 per cent in Neath Port Talbot.

Chart 9: Proportion of employment by enterprise size-band, 2015 (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 3 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 Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	261.9	308.4	313.9	52.0	5.5	19.9	1.8
Pembrokeshire	45.4	56.1	56.9	11.5	0.7	25.4	1.3
Carmarthenshire	69.0	80.7	85.9	16.9	5.2	24.5	6.4
Swansea	96.8	111.7	108.1	11.3	-3.6	11.7	-3.2
Neath Port Talbot	50.7	59.8	63.0	12.3	3.2	24.3	5.3
Wales	1,238.6	1,414.5	1,416.9	178.3	2.4	14.4	0.2
United Kingdom	27,433.1	31,227.7	31,571.1	4,138.0	343.4	15.1	1.1

Next update: Sep 2017

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 4 Employment rates

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>				
				<i>Change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	64.7	70.0	71.5	6.8	1.5
Pembrokeshire	64.5	72.1	73.7	9.2	1.6
Carmarthenshire	63.4	70.8	75.1	11.8	4.4
Swansea	68.2	70.2	68.2	0.0	-2.0
Neath Port Talbot	60.4	66.7	70.7	10.3	4.0
Wales	67.1	71.1	71.4	4.3	0.4
United Kingdom	72.3	73.5	74.0	1.8	0.5

Next update: Sep 2017

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 5 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 Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	17.5	18.9	15.5	-2.0	-3.4	-11.6	-18.1
Pembrokeshire	3.2	2.5	2.1	-1.0	-0.4	-33.0	-15.3
Carmarthenshire	4.6	4.5	3.7	-0.9	-0.8	-19.2	-16.8
Swansea	6.4	7.4	6.0	-0.5	-1.5	-7.6	-20.0
Neath Port Talbot	3.3	4.5	3.7	0.4	-0.8	12.0	-17.8
Wales	71.0	81.0	65.4	-5.5	-15.6	-7.8	-19.3
United Kingdom	1,450.3	1,696.8	1,571.1	120.8	-125.7	8.3	-7.4

Next update: Sep 2017 Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 6 ILO unemployment rates

	<i>Percentage of economically active people aged 16 and over</i>				
				<i>Change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	Year to Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	6.3	5.8	4.7	-1.6	-1.1
Pembrokeshire	6.5	4.3	3.6	-2.9	-0.7
Carmarthenshire	6.3	5.3	4.2	-2.1	-1.1
Swansea	6.2	6.2	5.2	-1.0	-1.0
Neath Port Talbot	6.1	6.9	5.5	-0.6	-1.4
Wales	5.4	5.4	4.4	-1.0	-1.0
United Kingdom	5.0	5.2	4.7	-0.3	-0.4

Next update: Sep 2017 Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 7 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 Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	105.2	88.1	75.8	-29.4	-12.3	-27.9	-14.0
Pembrokeshire	17.8	15.0	14.1	-3.7	-0.8	-20.7	-5.6
Carmarthenshire	29.3	22.6	19.3	-10.1	-3.4	-34.4	-14.9
Swansea	31.2	29.1	24.4	-6.8	-4.6	-21.7	-16.0
Neath Port Talbot	26.8	21.5	18.0	-8.8	-3.5	-32.9	-16.1
Wales	439.7	359.1	355.1	-84.5	-4.0	-19.2	-1.1
United Kingdom	7,401.3	6,868.2	6,830.1	-571.2	-38.1	-7.7	-0.6

Next update: Sep 2017 Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 8 Economic inactivity rates (excluding students)

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>				
	<i>Change in latest over:</i>				
	2001	Year to Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	28.6	22.9	20.2	-8.4	-2.7
Pembrokeshire	28.2	21.8	21.2	-7.0	-0.6
Carmarthenshire	29.9	22.8	19.1	-10.8	-3.7
Swansea	24.4	21.5	19.2	-5.2	-2.4
Neath Port Talbot	34.1	26.3	22.3	-11.8	-3.9
Wales	26.4	20.8	20.7	-5.7	-0.1
United Kingdom	21.4	18.5	18.3	-3.1	-0.2

Next update: Sep 2017

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 9 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 Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	122.9	108.0	105.1	-17.8	-2.9	-14.5	-2.7
Pembrokeshire	21.0	18.0	17.2	-3.8	-0.8	-18.0	-4.2
Carmarthenshire	34.2	27.1	23.0	-11.2	-4.0	-32.7	-14.9
Swansea	38.0	38.3	42.9	4.9	4.6	13.0	12.1
Neath Port Talbot	29.7	24.6	21.9	-7.8	-2.7	-26.3	-11.1
Wales	524.6	471.0	479.4	-45.2	8.3	-8.6	1.8
United Kingdom	8,921.4	9,140.0	9,100.3	178.9	-39.6	2.0	-0.4

Next update: Sep 2017

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

New data

Table 10 Economic inactivity rates (including students)

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>				
	<i>Change in latest over:</i>				
	2001	Year to Mar 2016	Year to Mar 2017	2001	Year to Mar 2016
South West Wales	30.9	25.6	25.0	-6.0	-0.6
Pembrokeshire	30.8	24.5	23.6	-7.2	-0.9
Carmarthenshire	32.3	25.1	21.4	-10.9	-3.7
Swansea	27.2	25.0	28.0	0.8	3.0
Neath Port Talbot	35.6	28.2	25.1	-10.5	-3.0
Wales	29.0	24.7	25.2	-3.8	0.5
United Kingdom	23.9	22.3	22.2	-1.7	-0.2

Next update: Sep 2017

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS)/Annual Population Survey (APS), ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 11 Benefit claimants (excluding JSA claimants) (a)

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>						
	Nov 1999	Nov 2015	Nov 2016	<i>Change in latest levels over:</i>		<i>Percentage change in latest over:</i>	
				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: Aug 2017 Source: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)

(a) Data cover ESA & incapacity benefits, lone parents and other income related benefit claimants. JSA claimants are shown in table 1.

New data

Table 12 Benefit claimants rates (excluding JSA claimants) (a)

	<i>Percentage of population aged 16-64</i>				
	Nov 1999	Nov 2015	Nov 2016	<i>Change in latest over:</i>	
				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: Aug 2017 Source: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP)

(a) Data cover ESA & incapacity benefits, lone parents and other income related benefit claimants. JSA claimant rates are shown in table 2.

[Link to data](#)

Annual data tables

Table 13 Headline Gross Value Added (GVA)

	1999	2014	2015 (p)	<i>Change in latest over (a):</i>	
				1999	2014
£ million:					
South West Wales (b)	8,560	15,101	15,451	80.5	2.3
South West Wales	3,380	5,904	6,027	78.3	2.1
Swansea	2,466	4,436	4,503	82.6	1.5
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	2,714	4,761	4,921	81.3	3.4
Wales	32,107	54,164	55,800	73.8	3.0
UK excluding Extra-Regio	900,099	1,604,162	1,650,600	83.4	2.9
£ per head:					
South West Wales (b)	10,105	16,649	17,004	68.3	2.1
South West Wales	9,440	15,375	15,728	66.6	2.3
Swansea	10,955	18,383	18,577	69.6	1.1
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	10,281	16,901	17,384	69.1	2.9
Wales	11,069	17,517	18,002	62.6	2.8
UK excluding Extra-Regio	15,338	24,833	25,351	65.3	2.1
Index (£ per head UK excluding extra-regio=100):					
South West Wales (b)	65.9	67.0	67.1	1.2	0.1
South West Wales	61.5	61.9	62.0	0.5	0.1
Swansea	71.4	74.0	73.3	1.9	-0.7
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	67.0	68.1	68.6	1.6	0.5
Wales	72.2	70.5	71.0	-1.2	0.5
UK excluding Extra-Regio	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Next update: Dec 2017

Source: Regional Accounts, ONS

[Link to data](#)

New data

Table 14 Headline Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI)

	1999	2014	2015 (p)	Change in latest over (a):	
				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.

[Link to data](#)

Table 15 Average gross weekly earnings (a)

	2015	2016 (p)	<i>Change over:</i> 2015
Average earnings (£s):			
South West Wales	469.5	471.4	0.4
Pembrokeshire	434.2	455.8	5.0
Carmarthenshire	461.9	459.5	-0.5
Swansea	460.4	461.1	0.2
Neath Port Talbot	550.6	529.1	-3.9
Wales	478.6	492.4	2.9
United Kingdom	527.1	538.7	2.2
Index (UK=100):			
South West Wales	89.1	87.5	-1.6
Pembrokeshire	82.4	84.6	2.2
Carmarthenshire	87.6	85.3	-2.3
Swansea	87.3	85.6	-1.8
Neath Port Talbot	104.5	98.2	-6.2
Wales	90.8	91.4	0.6
United Kingdom	100.0	100.0	

Next update: Nov 2017

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](#)

Table 16 Total workplace employment

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>						
				<i>Change in latest levels over:</i>		<i>Percentage change in latest over:</i>	
	2001	2014	2015	2001	2014	2001	2014
South West Wales	265.8	312.3	308.0	42.2	-4.2	15.9	-1.4
Pembrokeshire	49.2	53.9	56.7	7.4	2.7	15.1	5.0
Carmarthenshire	66.1	83.7	81.1	15.1	-2.6	22.8	-3.1
Swansea	107.4	124.2	119.5	12.1	-4.7	11.3	-3.8
Neath Port Talbot	43.1	50.5	50.8	7.6	0.3	17.7	0.6
Wales	1,252.7	1,394.4	1,405.6	152.9	11.2	12.2	0.8
United Kingdom	28,580.0	31,463.8	32,158.2	3,578.1	694.4	12.5	2.2

Next update: Oct 2017 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](#)

Table 17 Workplace employment by industry, 2015

	Percentage of total employment:						
	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	Production	Construction	Wholesale, retail, transport, hotels & food	Finance & business activities	Public admin., defence, education, health & other services	All industries (<i>thousands</i>)
South West Wales	3	11	8	27	14	37	308.0
Pembrokeshire	6	8	8	33	11	34	56.7
Carmarthenshire	7	13	9	26	11	35	81.1
Swansea	1	7	7	25	20	40	119.5
Neath Port Talbot	1	21	7	23	12	36	50.8
Wales	3	12	7	25	17	36	1,405.6
United Kingdom	1	9	7	26	27	31	32,158.2

Next update: Oct 2017 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](#)

Table 18 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births (a)

	2002	2014	2015	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2002	2014	2002	2014
Number:							
South West Wales	1,975	2,235	2,340	365	105	18.5	4.7
Pembrokeshire	430	395	415	-15	20	-3.5	5.1
Carmarthenshire	615	600	635	20	35	3.3	5.8
Swansea	645	875	890	245	15	38.0	1.7
Neath Port Talbot	285	365	400	115	35	40.4	9.6
Wales	8,970	11,345	11,525	2,555	180	28.5	1.6
United Kingdom	242,540	350,585	383,075	140,535	32,490	57.9	9.3
VAT/PAYE births per 10,000 population aged 16-64:							
South West Wales	49	53	55	6	2	12.2	3.8
Pembrokeshire	62	54	58	-4	4	-6.5	7.4
Carmarthenshire	58	54	58	0	4	0.0	7.4
Swansea	45	57	58	13	1	28.9	1.8
Neath Port Talbot	34	42	46	12	4	35.3	9.5
Wales	49	59	60	11	1	22.4	1.7
United Kingdom	64	85	93	29	8	45.3	9.4

Next update: Nov 2017

Source: Business Demography, ONS

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

[Link to data](#)

Table 19 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths (a)

	2002	2014	2015	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2002	2014	2002	2014
South West Wales	1,810	1,935	1,860	50	-75	2.8	-3.9
Pembrokeshire	375	400	350	-25	-50	-6.7	-12.5
Carmarthenshire	480	480	490	10	10	2.1	2.1
Swansea	675	745	740	65	-5	9.6	-0.7
Neath Port Talbot	280	310	280	0	-30	0.0	-9.7
Wales	7,890	8,550	8,620	730	70	9.3	0.8
United Kingdom	213,345	246,945	252,040	38,695	5,095	18.1	2.1

Next update: Nov 2017

Source: Business Demography, ONS

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

[Link to data](#)

Table 20 Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises (a)

	2002	2014	2015	Change in latest levels over:		Percentage change in latest over:	
				2002	2014	2002	2014
Number:							
South West Wales	17,690	19,930	20,335	2,645	405	15.0	2.0
Pembrokeshire	4,100	4,490	4,500	400	10	9.8	0.2
Carmarthenshire	5,220	5,845	5,960	740	115	14.2	2.0
Swansea	5,695	6,540	6,730	1035	190	18.2	2.9
Neath Port Talbot	2,675	3,055	3,145	470	90	17.6	2.9
Wales	81,175	92,445	95,010	13,835	2,565	17.0	2.8
United Kingdom	2,115,915	2,550,890	2,672,025	556,110	121,135	26.3	4.7
Stock per 10,000 population aged 16-64:							
South West Wales	440	469	480	40	11	9.1	2.3
Pembrokeshire	595	619	626	31	7	5.2	1.1
Carmarthenshire	489	528	540	51	12	10.4	2.3
Swansea	401	426	437	36	11	9.0	2.6
Neath Port Talbot	318	348	358	40	10	12.6	2.9
Wales	443	481	495	52	14	11.7	2.9
United Kingdom	555	622	648	93	26	16.8	4.2

Next update: Nov 2017

Source: Business Demography, ONS

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

[Link to data](#)

Table 21 Enterprise numbers by size-band, 2016 (a)

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>					
	Zero (0)	Micro (1-9)	Small (10-49)	Medium (50- 249)	Large (250 plus)	All
South West Wales	40.6	10.7	2.1	0.5	0.6	54.5
Pembrokeshire	9.7	2.6	0.5	0.1	0.2	13.1
Carmarthenshire	13.9	3.3	0.6	0.1	0.3	18.2
Swansea	12.2	3.2	0.7	0.2	0.4	16.8
Neath Port Talbot	4.8	1.6	0.4	0.1	0.2	7.2
Wales	190.0	47.2	9.1	2.1	1.7	250.1

Next update: Nov 2017

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](#)

Table 22 Employment numbers by size-band, 2016 (a)

	<i>Numbers in thousands</i>					
	Zero (0)	Micro (1-9)	Small (10-49)	Medium (50- 249)	Large (250 plus)	All
South West Wales	45.0	40.6	39.0	28.9	85.1	238.6
Pembrokeshire	10.7	10.1	8.9	6.0	9.5	45.3
Carmarthenshire	15.7	12.3	10.2	6.5	18.8	63.4
Swansea	13.4	12.0	13.5	9.6	39.6	88.2
Neath Port Talbot	5.2	6.2	6.3	6.8	17.1	41.7
Wales	210.2	179.4	172.7	136.9	427.7	1,126.8

Next update: Nov 2017

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](#)

Table 23 Foreign Owned Companies, 2016 (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	280	27.7	54,215	210.9	54,490	238.6
Pembrokeshire	70	2.5	13,065	42.8	13,135	45.3
Carmarthenshire	105	6.9	18,055	56.5	18,160	63.4
Swansea	175	9.0	16,630	79.2	16,800	88.2
Neath Port Talbot	75	9.3	7,090	32.4	7,165	41.7
Wales	1,105	148.7	248,975	978.1	250,080	1,126.8

Next update: Nov 2017

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 some of the measures contained in the *Programme for Government*, namely the employment rate, Gross Value Added and Gross Disposable Household Income. 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](#).

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, however, these regions split Gwynedd between Mid Wales and North Wales, with Meirionnydd being in Mid Wales and the rest in North. Due to data availability we have used whole Local Authorities rather than splitting Gwynedd.

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

Next update

We are considering alternative ways of disseminating the data in this publication but will ensure user needs are met.

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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