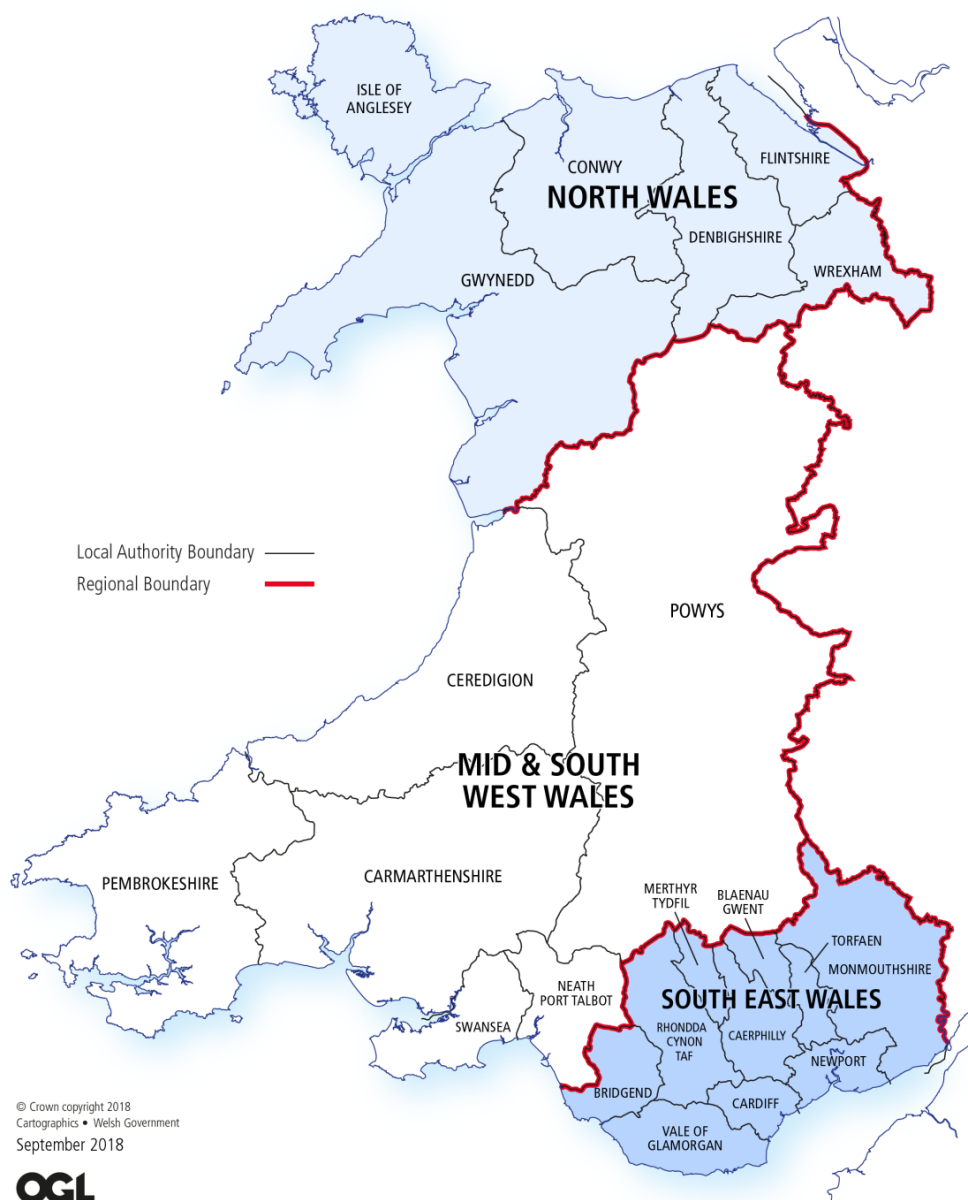




Regional economic and labour market profiles, October 2019

29 Oct 2019
SB 47/2019



About this bulletin

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

It covers the three economic regions of Wales: North Wales, South East Wales and Mid and South West Wales. It also includes data for the previous regions of Mid Wales and South West Wales.

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Historically, the regional economic and labour market profiles were published as four separate statistical bulletins. They have now been merged to provide all the regional data in one bulletin to enable comparisons to be made more easily.

[Links to all data available for the economic regions](#) (including additional data that aren't included in this bulletin) are provided on page 20.

Key indicators for the Welsh regions, Wales and the UK

	North Wales	South East Wales	Mid and South West Wales	Mid and South West		Wales	UK
				Mid Wales	South West Wales		
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	74.9%	73.5%	71.4%	72.4%	71.1%	73.2%	75.5%
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	3.9%	4.5%	4.0%	2.7%	4.4%	4.2%	4.0%
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	18.7%	19.6%	21.0%	18.7%	21.7%	19.8%	17.4%
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	£20,753	£20,863	£17,616	£17,637	£17,610	£19,899	£27,298
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	£16,447	£15,563	£15,541	£16,550	£15,224	£15,754	£19,514
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	£498.80	£520.00	£501.90	£478.40	£508.70	£509.00	£569.00
Change on year ⁽⁷⁾:							
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	-0.8 ↓	1.5 ↑	0.0 ●	-3.2 ↓	0.9 ↑	0.6 ↑	0.6 ↑
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	0.4 ↑	-1.2 ↓	-0.2 ↓	0.6 ↑	-0.5 ↓	-0.5 ↓	-0.2 ↓
Economic Inactivity rate	0.6 ↑	-0.8 ↓	0.0 ●	1.5 ↑	-0.4 ↓	-0.3 ↓	-0.5 ↓
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	4.4 ↑	2.8 ↑	1.2 ↑	-1.2 ↓	1.9 ↑	2.7 ↑	2.9 ↑
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	0.9 ↑	1.0 ↑	1.1 ↑	1.2 ↑	1.1 ↑	1.0 ↑	1.0 ↑
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	3.8 ↑	2.5 ↑	3.3 ↑	2.3 ↑	1.8 ↑	2.1 ↑	3.5 ↑
Change on 1999/2001 ⁽⁷⁾:							
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	5.3 ↑	6.9 ↑	5.3 ↑	1.7 ↑	6.4 ↑	6.1 ↑	3.2 ↑
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	-0.5 ↓	-1.2 ↓	-1.8 ↓	-1.7 ↓	-1.9 ↓	-1.2 ↓	-1.0 ↓
Economic Inactivity rate	-5.9 ↓	-7.4 ↓	-5.7 ↓	-2.1 ↓	-6.9 ↓	-6.6 ↓	-4.0 ↓
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	80.2 ↑	72.5 ↑	71.8 ↑	66.0 ↑	73.7 ↑	74.1 ↑	76.1 ↑
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	61.1 ↑	57.3 ↑	59.5 ↑	67.3 ↑	57.2 ↑	58.8 ↑	68.9 ↑
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾

(1) Rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

Rates are for those aged 16 and over using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment

(2) and are proportions of the economically active. Data relate to the year to June 2019 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(3) Rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(4) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(5) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(6) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2018 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year. Comparisons to 1999 are not available.

(7) Percentage point change for employment, ILO unemployment and economic inactivity rates. Percentage change for GVA per head, GDHI per head and average earnings.

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.

The [Welsh Economy in Numbers interactive dashboard](#) enables comparisons over time to be made between the regions, Wales and the UK as a whole.

The '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 at the end of this bulletin.

Section 1: North Wales

The North Wales economic region consists of the following six local authorities: Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham.

Labour market statistics

Table 1.1: Summary table for Labour market statistics

	North Wales				Wales			UK	
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	
Employed ⁽¹⁾	327.3	-1.6 ↓	74.9%	-0.8 ↓	73.2%	0.6 ↑	75.5%	0.6 ↑	
Unemployed ⁽²⁾	13.4	1.3 ↑	3.9%	0.4 ↑	4.2%	-0.5 ↓	4.0%	-0.2 ↓	
Economically Inactive ⁽³⁾	71.2	3.0 ↑	18.7%	0.6 ↑	19.8%	-0.3 ↓	17.4%	-0.5 ↓	

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment, rates are a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(4) Percentage point change for employed, ILO unemployed and economically inactive.

Employment – New data

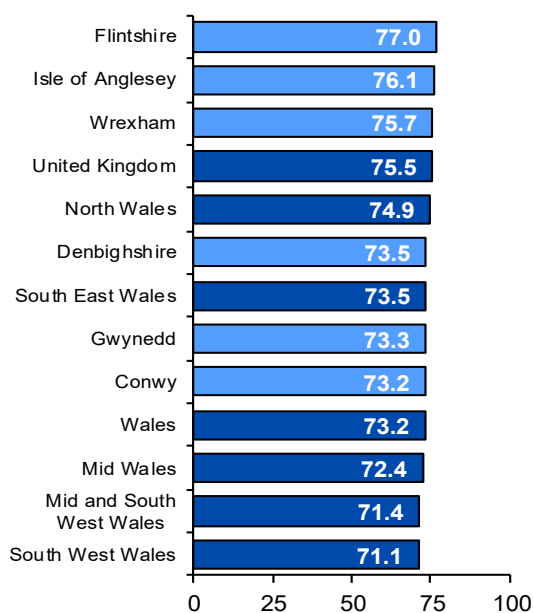
(next update Jan 2020)

The employment level is the total number of people that are in employment and the employment rate is the percentage of the population that is in employment.

Table 1.1 shows the latest employment estimates and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2019, the number of people in employment in North Wales was 327,300, a decrease of 1,600 people (0.5%) compared with the previous twelve months.

Chart 1.1 shows the latest employment rates for the economic regions and each authority in North Wales. For the year ending June 2019, the employment rate in North Wales was 74.9%. This was higher than the employment rate for Wales but lower than the UK as a whole.

Chart 1.1: Employment rates, year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Employment rates for those aged 16-64.

Unemployment – New data

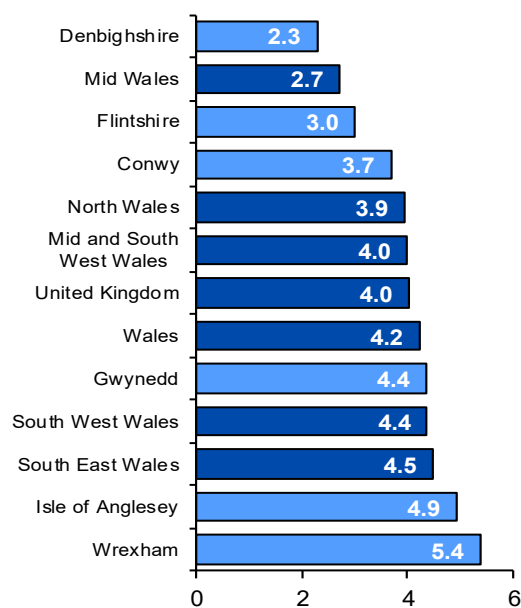
(next update Jan 2020)

The unemployment level is the total number of people who are unemployed and the unemployment rate is the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed (using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment).

[Table 1.1](#) shows the latest unemployment estimates and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2019, the number of people who were unemployed in North Wales was 13,400. This was an increase of 1,300 people (10.8%) compared with the previous twelve months.

Chart 1.2 shows the latest unemployment rates for the economic regions and North Wales local authorities. For the year ending June 2019, the unemployment rate in North Wales was 3.9%. This was lower than the unemployment rate in both Wales and the UK as a whole.

Chart 1.2: Unemployment rates, year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Unemployment rates for those aged 16 and over (ILO definition of unemployment).

Economic inactivity – New data

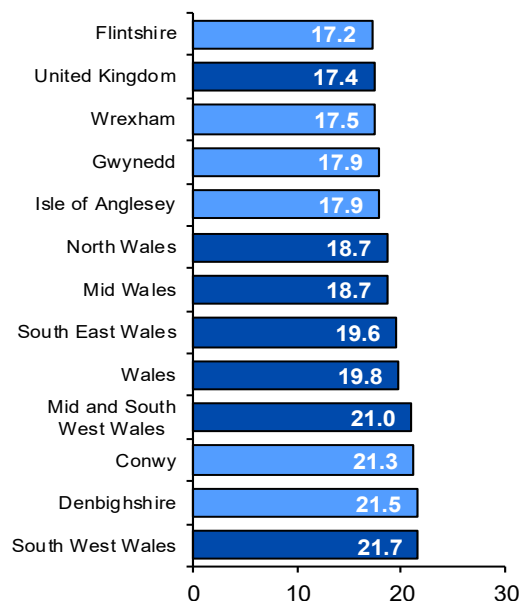
(next update Jan 2020)

The economic inactivity rate is the percentage of the population who are neither in employment or unemployed. Economically inactive people include people looking after the family and / or home, retirees and people with a sickness or disability.

Chart 1.3 shows the latest economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for the economic regions and each authority within North Wales.

Including students, the economic inactivity rate in North Wales was 21.9%, up 0.6 percentage points over the year. This was lower than the rate for Wales (23.5%) and higher than the rate for the UK (21.3%).

Chart 1.3: Inactivity rates (excl. students), year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for those aged 16-64.

Economy, earnings and businesses

Table 1.2: Summary table for economic and earnings statistics

	North Wales			Wales			UK		
	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)
GVA ⁽¹⁾	£14.5	.	4.4 ↑	£62.2	.	3.1 ↑	£1,802.7	.	3.5 ↑
GVA per head ⁽¹⁾	.	£20,800	4.4 ↑	.	£19,900	2.7 ↑	.	£27,300	2.9 ↑
GDHI per head ⁽²⁾	.	£16,400	0.9 ↑	.	£15,800	1.0 ↑	.	£19,500	1.0 ↑
Average earnings ⁽³⁾	.	£498.80	3.8 ↑	.	£509.00	2.1 ↑	.	£569.00	3.5 ↑

(1) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(2) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(3) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2018 and are provisional.

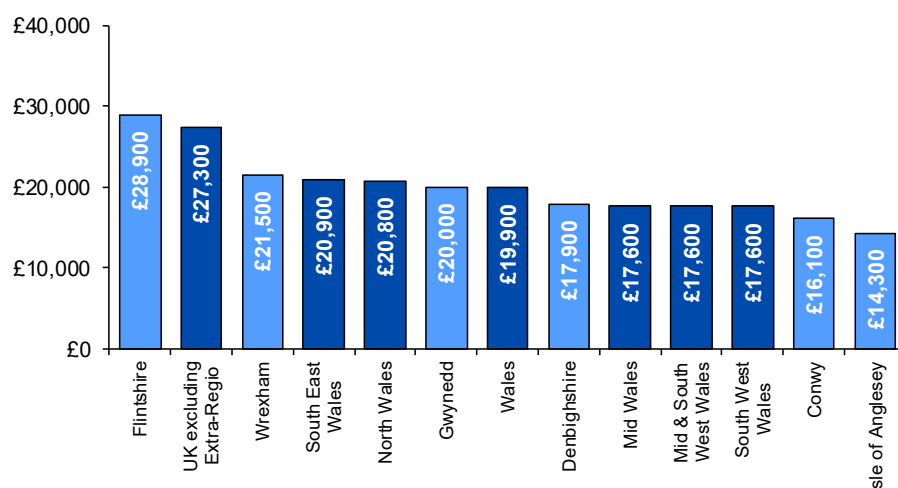
. Not applicable

Gross value added (GVA)

(next update Dec 2019)

GVA is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services.

Chart 1.4: GVA per head, 2017

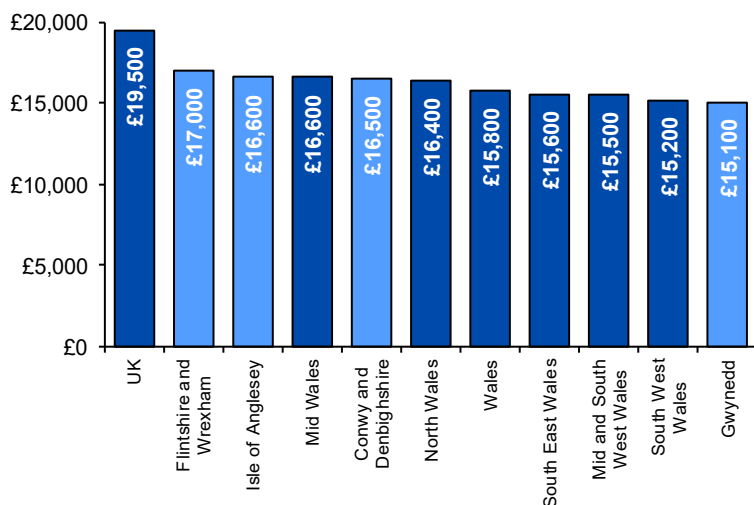


Total GVA in North Wales in 2017 was £14.5 billion, up 4.4% over the year and up 90.7% since 1999. In comparison, Wales saw an increase of 3.1% over the year and an increase of 87.6% since 1999.

GVA per head in North Wales was £20,800, up 4.4% over the year and up 80.2% since 1999. In comparison, Wales saw an increase of 2.7% over the year and increase of 74.1% since 1999.

Gross disposable household income (GDHI)
(next update May 2020)

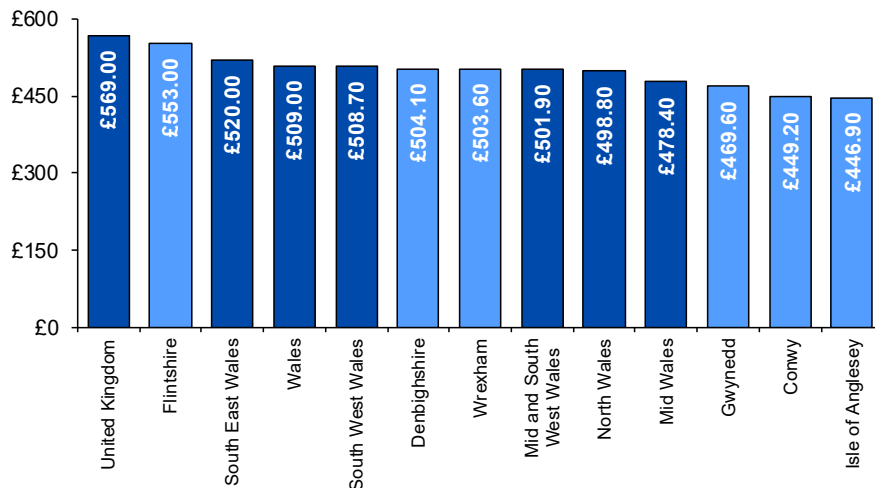
Chart 1.5: Annual GDHI per head by NUTS3 level, 2017



GDHI is an estimate of the amount of money that households have available for spending or saving. In North Wales, GDHI per head has increased by 0.9% over the year, while Wales and the UK have both increased by 1.0%.

Average (median) full-time weekly earnings
(next update Oct 2019)

Chart 1.6: Average full-time weekly earnings, 2018 (a)



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

Average weekly earnings in North Wales were up 3.8% over the year compared with an increase of 2.1% for Wales and an increase of 3.5% for the UK.

Within North Wales, 5 of the 6 authorities had an increase over the year, with Gwynedd having the largest increase of 12.2%.

VAT/PAYE registered enterprises

(next update Nov 2019)

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

Table 1.3: Total stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises, 2017 (a)

(levels rounded to nearest 5)

	Compared to previous year				Compared to earliest available		
	2017	2016	Level Change	Percentage Change	2002	Level Change	Percentage Change
North Wales	23,760	23,430	330	1.4 ↑	20,010	3,750	18.7 ↑
Wales	102,890	98,445	4,445	4.5 ↑	81,175	21,715	26.8 ↑
United Kingdom	2,925,600	2,833,510	92,090	3.3 ↑	2,115,915	809,685	38.3 ↑

Source: Business Demography, ONS

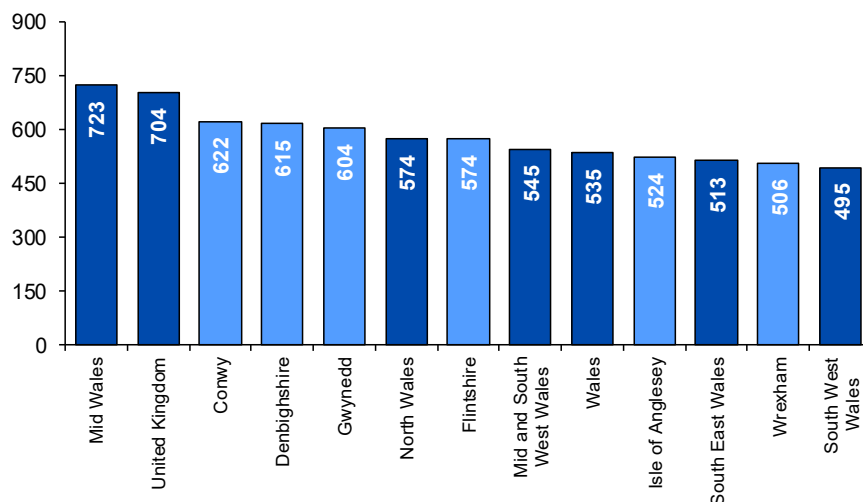
(a) Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in each year. Level and percentage changes are calculated using the published rounded figures.

In North Wales, there were 2,460 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births during 2017. This was a decrease from 2,515 enterprise births in 2016.

There were 2,280 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths in North Wales in 2017, which was an increase from 2,075 enterprise births in 2016.

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.

Chart 1.7: VAT/PAYE enterprises per 10,000 residents



Section 2: South east Wales

South East Wales consists of the following 10 local authorities: Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Vale of Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Newport and Cardiff.

Labour market statistics

Table 2.1: Summary table for Labour market statistics

	South East Wales				Wales		UK	
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾
Employed ⁽¹⁾	723.0	12.5 ↑	73.5%	1.5 ↑	73.2%	0.6 ↑	75.5%	0.6 ↑
Unemployed ⁽²⁾	33.9	-8.5 ↓	4.5%	-1.2 ↓	4.2%	-0.5 ↓	4.0%	-0.2 ↓
Economically Inactive ⁽³⁾	170.3	-6.4 ↓	19.6%	-0.8 ↓	19.8%	-0.3 ↓	17.4%	-0.5 ↓

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment, rates are a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(4) Percentage point change for employed, ILO unemployed and economically inactive.

Employment – New data

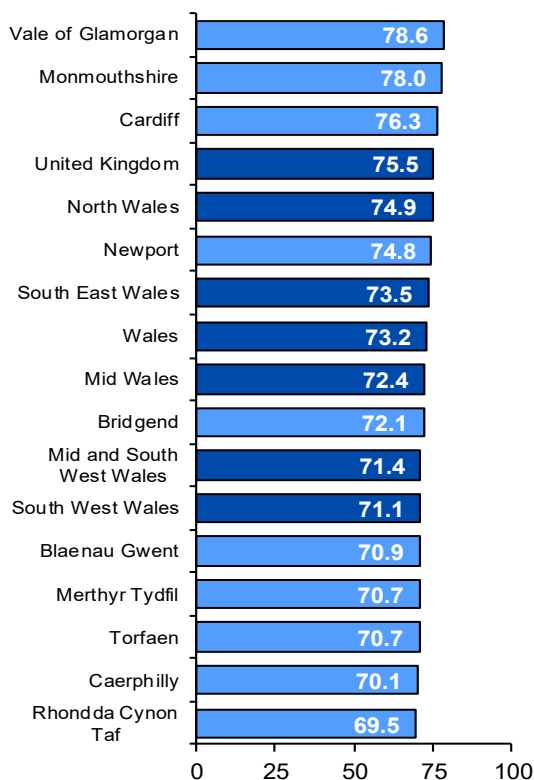
(next update Jan 2020)

The employment level is the total number of people that are in employment and the employment rate is the percentage of the population that is in employment.

Table 2.1 shows the latest employment estimates and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2019, the number of people in employment in South East Wales was 723,000. This was an increase of 12,500 people (1.8%) compared with the previous twelve months.

Chart 2.1 shows the latest employment rates for the economic regions and each authority within South East Wales. For the year ending June 2019, the employment rate in South East Wales was 73.5%. This was higher than the employment rate for Wales and lower than the rate for the UK as a whole.

Chart 2.1: Employment rates, year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Employment rates for those aged 16-64.

Unemployment – New data

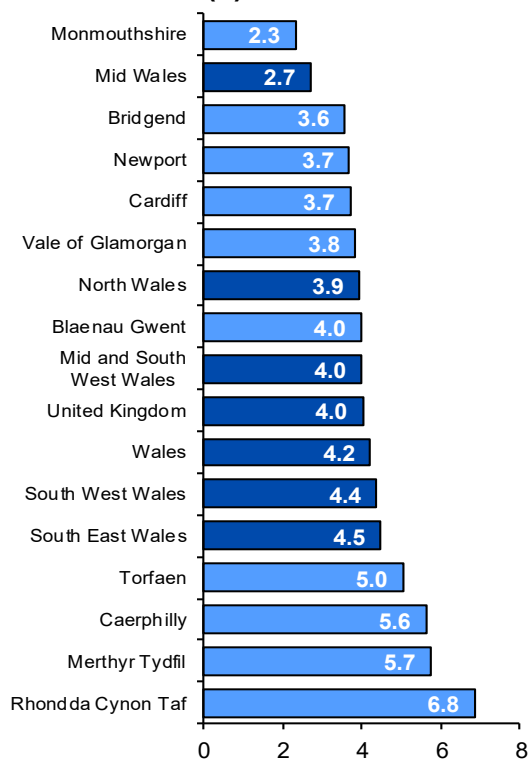
(next update Jan 2020)

The unemployment level is the total number of people who are unemployed and the unemployment rate is the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed (using the International Labour Organisation’s (ILO) definition of unemployment).

[Table 2.1](#) shows the latest unemployment estimates and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2019, the number of people who were unemployed in South East Wales was 33,900. This was a decrease of 8,500 people (20.1%) compared with the previous twelve months.

Chart 2.2 shows the latest unemployment rates for the economic regions and South East Wales local authorities. For the year ending June 2019, the unemployment rate in South East Wales was 4.5%. This was higher than the unemployment rates in both Wales and the UK.

Chart 2.2: Unemployment rates, year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Unemployment rates for those aged 16 and over (ILO definition of unemployment).

Economic inactivity – New data

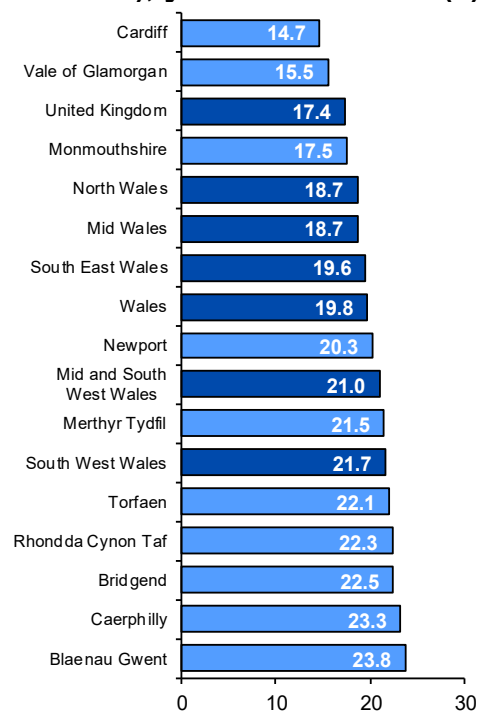
(next update Jan 2020)

The economic inactivity rate is the percentage of the population who are neither in employment or unemployed. Economically inactive people include people looking after the family and / or home, retirees and people with a sickness or disability.

Chart 2.3 shows the latest economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for the economic regions and each authority within South East Wales.

Including students, the economic inactivity rate in South East Wales was 23.0%, down 0.6 percentage points over the year. This was lower than the rate for Wales (23.5%), but higher than the rate for the UK as a whole (21.3%).

Chart 2.3: Inactivity rates (excl. students), year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for those aged 16-64.

Economy, earnings and businesses

Table 2.2: Summary table for economic and earnings statistics

	South East Wales			Wales			UK		
	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)
GVA ⁽¹⁾	£31.8	.	3.4 ↑	£62.2	.	3.1 ↑	£1,802.7	.	3.5 ↑
GVA per head ⁽¹⁾	.	£20,900	2.8 ↑	.	£19,900	2.7 ↑	.	£27,300	2.9 ↑
GDHI per head ⁽²⁾	.	£15,600	1.0 ↑	.	£15,800	1.0 ↑	.	£19,500	1.0 ↑
Average earnings ⁽³⁾	.	£520.00	2.5 ↑	.	£509.00	2.1 ↑	.	£569.00	3.5 ↑

(1) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(2) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(3) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2018 and are provisional.

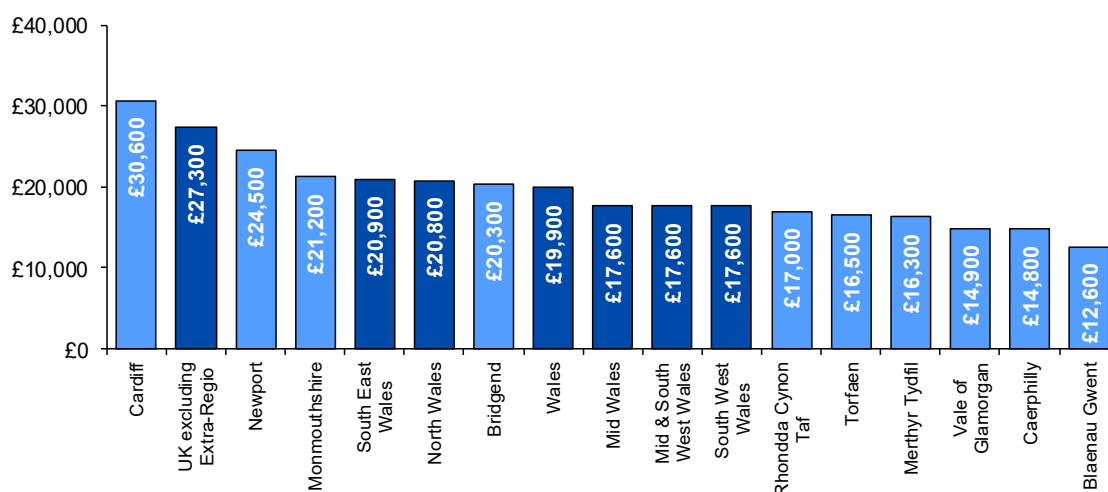
. Not applicable

Gross value added (GVA)

(next update Dec 2019)

GVA is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services.

Chart 2.4: GVA per head, 2017

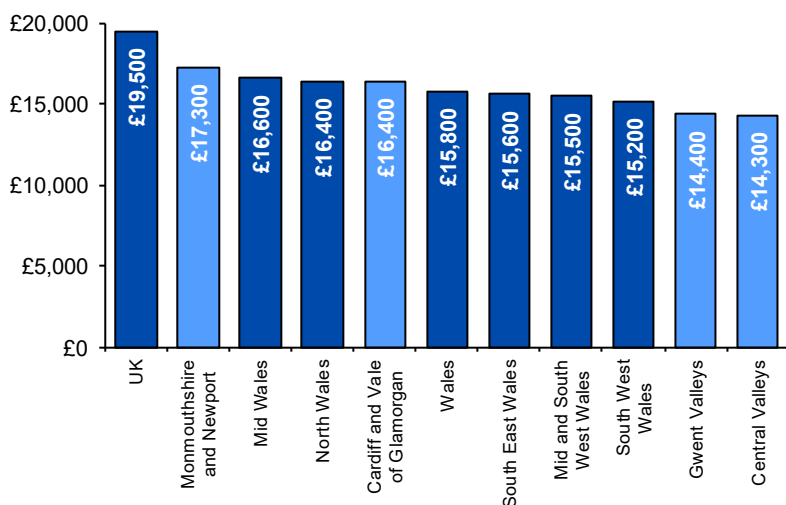


Total GVA in South East Wales in 2017 was £31.8 billion, up 3.4% over the year and up 88.0% since 1999. In comparison, Wales saw an increase of 3.1% over the year and an increase of 87.6% since 1999.

GVA per head in South East Wales was £20,900, up 2.8% over the year and up 72.5% since 1999. Wales saw an increase of 2.7% over the year and an increase of 74.1% since 1999.

Gross disposable household income (GDHI) (next update May 2020)

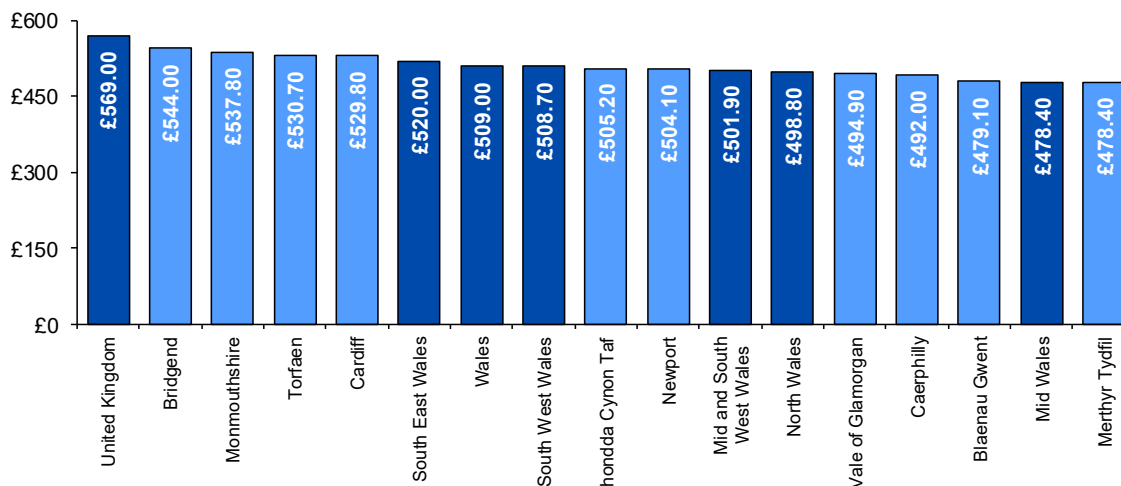
Chart 2.5: Annual GDHI per head by NUTS3 level, 2017



GDHI is an estimate of the amount of money that households have available for spending or saving. In South East Wales, GDHI per head has increased by 1.0% over the year, which is the same percentage increase as both Wales and the UK.

Average (median) full-time weekly earnings (next update Oct 2019)

Chart 2.6: Average full-time weekly earnings, 2018 (a)



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

Average weekly earnings in South East Wales were up 2.5% over the year compared with an increase of 2.1% for Wales and an increase of 3.5% for the UK.

Within South East Wales, 5 of the 10 authorities had increases over the year, with Merthyr Tydfil having the largest increase of 12.0%.

VAT/PAYE registered enterprises (next update Nov 2019)

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

Table 2.3: Total stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises, 2017 (a)

	<i>(levels rounded to nearest 5)</i>						
	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available			
	2017	2016	Level Change	Percentage Change	2002	Level Change	Percentage Change
South East Wales	49,360	45,480	3,880	8.5 ↑	35,490	13,870	39.1 ↑
Wales	102,890	98,445	4,445	4.5 ↑	81,175	21,715	26.8 ↑
United Kingdom	2,925,600	2,833,510	92,090	3.3 ↑	2,115,915	809,685	38.3 ↑

Source: Business Demography, ONS

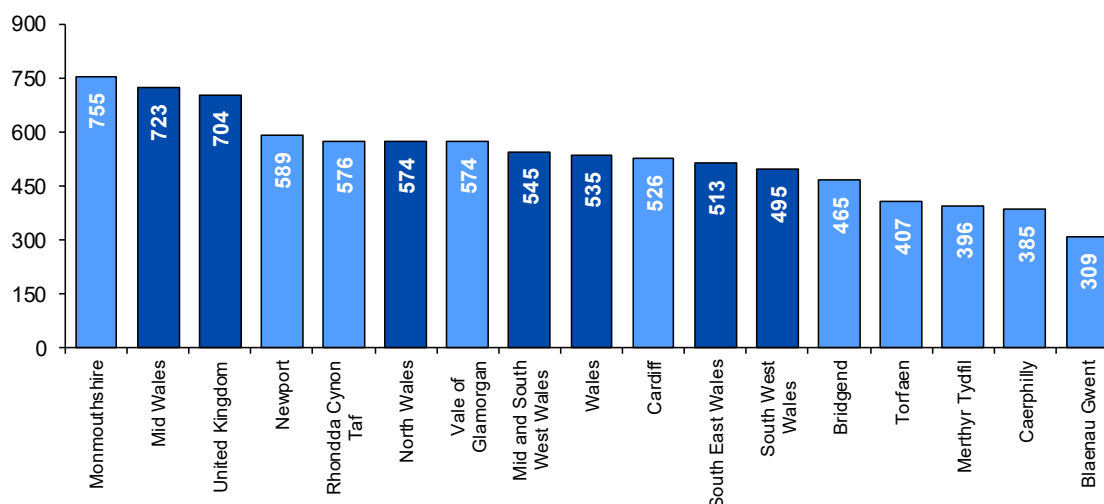
(a) Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in each year. Level and percentage changes are calculated using the published rounded figures.

In South East Wales, there were 8,765 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births during 2017. This was an increase from 6,525 enterprise births in 2016.

There were 5,485 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths in South East Wales in 2017, which was an increase from 4,765 enterprise deaths in 2016.

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.

Chart 2.7: VAT/PAYE enterprises per 10,000 residents



Section 3: Mid and south west Wales

Mid and South West Wales consists of the following six local authorities: Powys, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

Labour market statistics

Table 3.1: Summary table for Labour market statistics

	Mid and South West Wales				Wales		UK	
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁴⁾
Employed ⁽¹⁾	409.4	2.4 ↑	71.4%	0.0 ●	73.2%	0.6 ↑	75.5%	0.6 ↑
Unemployed ⁽²⁾	17.0	-0.8 ↓	4.0%	-0.2 ↓	4.2%	-0.5 ↓	4.0%	-0.2 ↓
Economically Inactive ⁽³⁾	102.4	0.2 ↑	21.0%	0.0 ●	19.8%	-0.3 ↓	17.4%	-0.5 ↓

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(2) Levels and rates are for those aged 16 and over using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment, rates are a proportion of the economically active. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2019.

(4) Percentage point change for employed, ILO unemployed and economically inactive.

Employment – New data

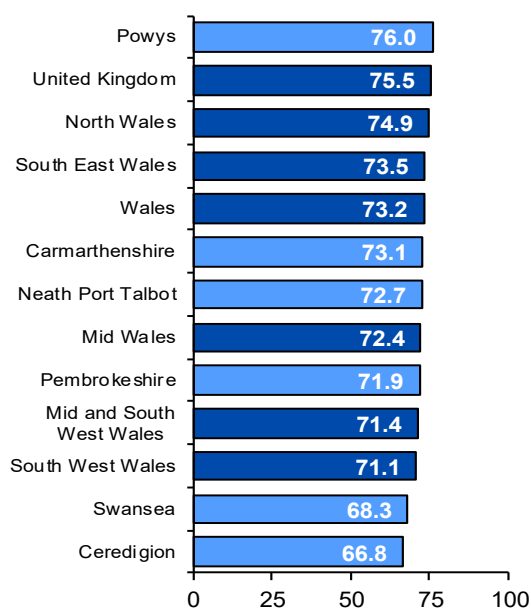
(next update Jan 2020)

The employment level is the total number of people that are in employment and the employment rate is the percentage of the population that is in employment.

Table 3.1 shows the latest employment estimates and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2019, the number of people in employment in Mid and South West Wales was 409,400, an increase of 2,400 people (0.6%) compared with the previous twelve months.

Chart 3.1 shows the latest employment rates for the economic regions and each authority within Mid and South West Wales. For the year ending June 2019, the employment rate in Mid and South West Wales was 71.4%. This was lower than the employment rates for both Wales and the UK as a whole.

Chart 3.1: Employment rates, year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Employment rates for those aged 16-64.

Unemployment – New data

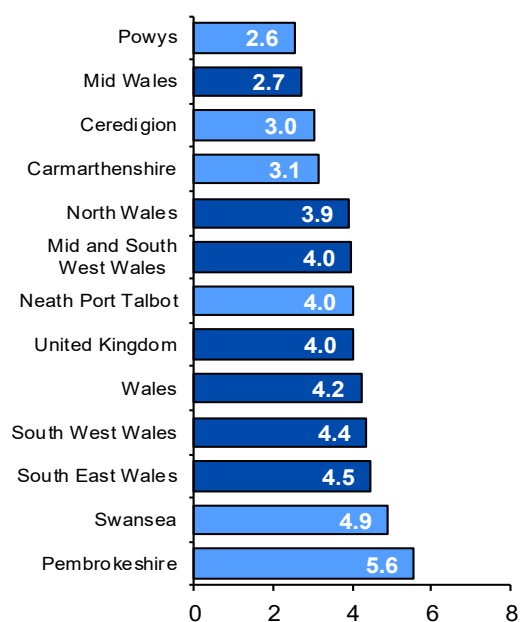
(next update Jan 2020)

The unemployment level is the total number of people who are unemployed and the unemployment rate is the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed (using the International Labour Organisation’s (ILO) definition of unemployment).

[Table 3.1](#) shows the latest unemployment estimates and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2019, the number of people who were unemployed in Mid and South West Wales was 17,000. This was a decrease of 800 people (4.5%) compared with the previous twelve months.

Chart 3.2 shows the latest unemployment rates for the economic regions and Mid and South West Wales local authorities. For the year ending June 2019, the unemployment rate in Mid and South West Wales was 4.0%. This was lower than the rate for Wales and the same as the rate for the UK.

Chart 3.2: Unemployment rates, year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Unemployment rates for those aged 16 and over (ILO definition of unemployment).

Economic inactivity – New data

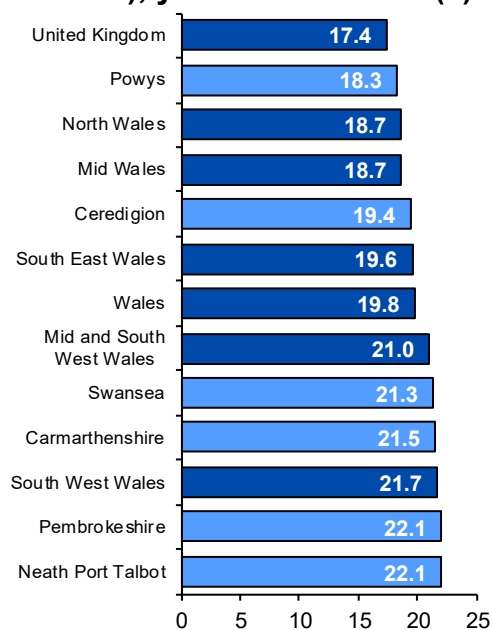
(next update Jan 2020)

The economic inactivity rate is the percentage of the population who are neither in employment or unemployed. Economically inactive people include people looking after the family and / or home, retirees and people with a sickness or disability.

Chart 3.3 shows the latest economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for the economic regions and each authority within Mid and South West Wales.

Including students, the economic inactivity rate in Mid and South West Wales was 25.5%, unchanged over the year. This was higher than the rates for both Wales (23.5%) and the UK (21.3%).

Chart 3.3: Inactivity rates (excl. students), year to June 2019 (a)



(a) Economic inactivity rates (excluding students)

Economy, earnings and businesses

Table 3.2: Summary table for economic and earnings statistics

	Mid and South West Wales			Wales			UK		
	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)	Level (£ bn)	Rate	Change on year (%)
GVA ⁽¹⁾	£15.9	.	1.5 ↑	£62.2	.	3.1 ↑	£1,802.7	.	3.5 ↑
GVA per head ⁽¹⁾	.	£17,600	1.2 ↑	.	£19,900	2.7 ↑	.	£27,300	2.9 ↑
GDHI per head ⁽²⁾	.	£15,500	1.1 ↑	.	£15,800	1.0 ↑	.	£19,500	1.0 ↑
Average earnings ⁽³⁾	.	£501.90	3.3 ↑	.	£509.00	2.1 ↑	.	£569.00	3.5 ↑

(1) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(2) Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(3) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2018 and are provisional.

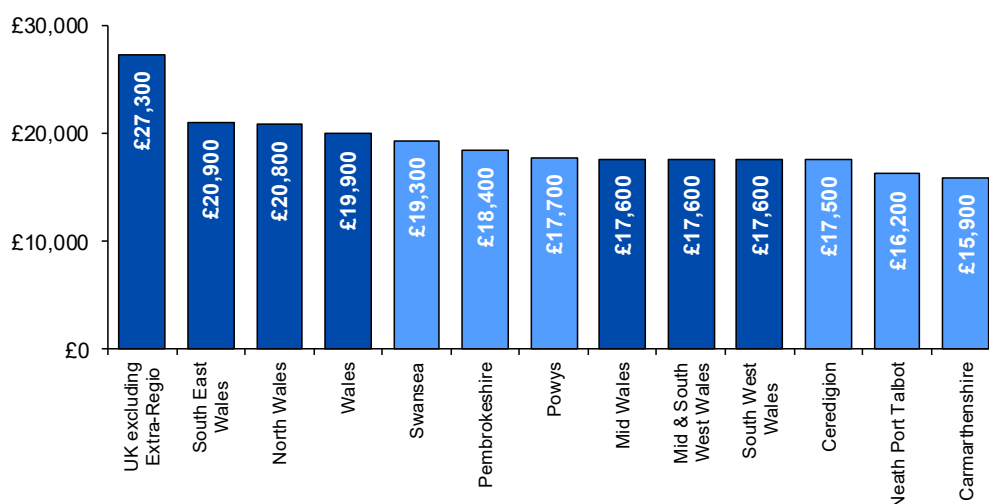
. Not applicable

Gross value added (GVA)

(next update Dec 2019)

GVA is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services.

Chart 3.4: GVA per head, 2017



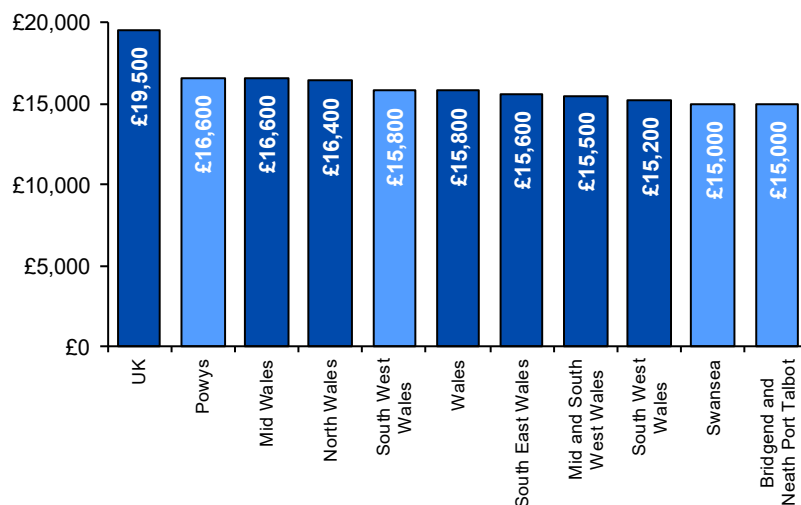
Total GVA in Mid and South West Wales in 2017 was £15.9 billion, up 1.5% over the year and up 84.1% since 1999. In comparison, Wales saw an increase of 3.1% over the year and an increase of 87.6% since 1999.

GVA per head in Mid and South West Wales was £17,616, up 1.2% over the year and up 71.8% since 1999. Wales saw an increase of 2.7% over the year and an increase of 74.1% since 1999.

Gross disposable household income (GDHI)

(next update May 2020)

Chart 3.5: Annual GDHI per head by NUTS3 level, 2017

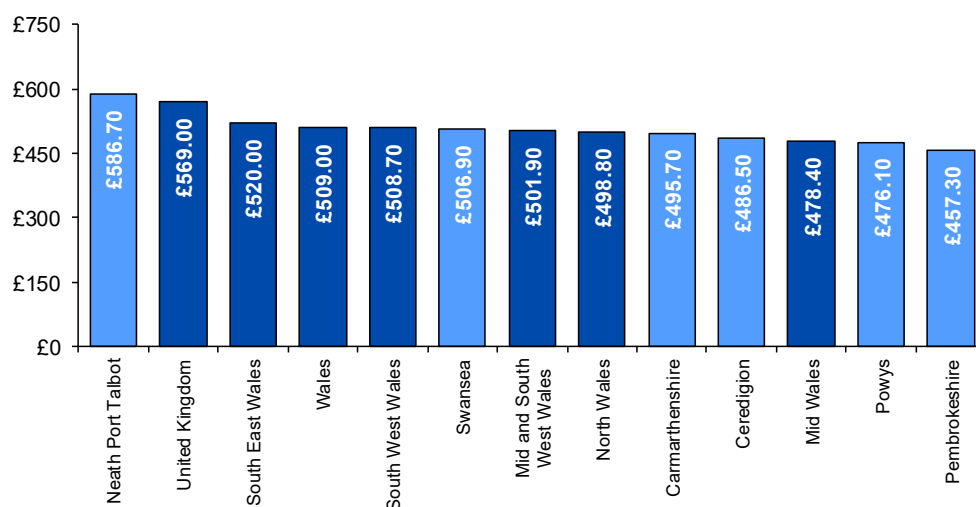


GDHI is an estimate of the amount of money that households have available for spending or saving. In Mid and South West Wales, GDHI per head has increased by 1.1% over the year, while Wales and the UK have both increased by 1.0%.

Average (median) full-time weekly earnings

(next update Oct 2019)

Chart 3.6: Average full-time weekly earnings, 2018 (a)



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

Average weekly earnings in Mid and South West Wales were up 3.3% over the year compared with an increase of 2.1% for Wales and an increase of 3.5% for the UK.

Within Mid and South West Wales, 5 of the 6 authorities had increases over the year, with Swansea having the largest increase of 6.9%.

VAT/PAYE registered enterprises (next update Nov 2019)

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

Table 3.3: Total stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises, 2017 (a)

(levels rounded to nearest 5)

	Compared to previous year				Compared to earliest available		
	2017	2016	Level Change	Percentage Change	2002	Level Change	Percentage Change
Mid and South West Wales	29,770	29,535	235	0.8 ↑	25,675	4,095	15.9 ↑
Wales	102,890	98,445	4,445	4.5 ↑	81,175	21,715	26.8 ↑
United Kingdom	2,925,600	2,833,510	92,090	3.3 ↑	2,115,915	809,685	38.3 ↑

Source: Business Demography, ONS

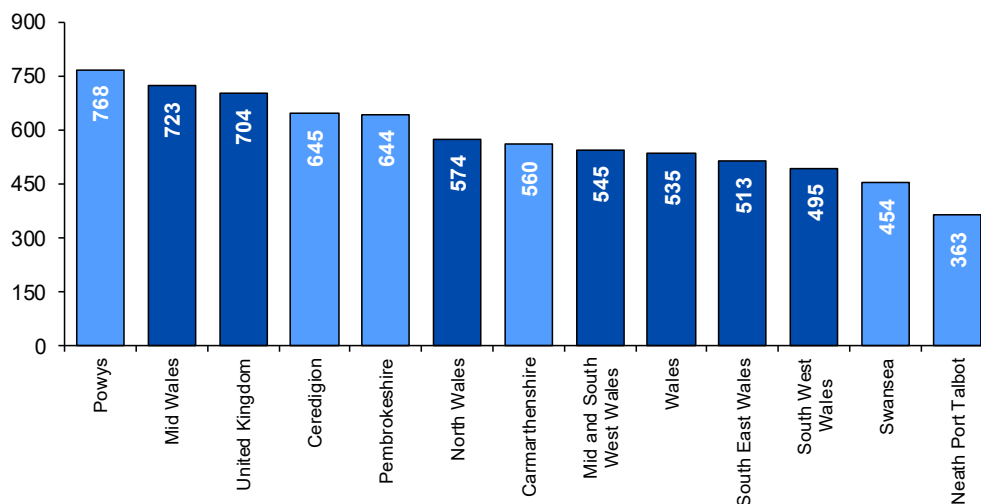
(a) Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in each year. Level and percentage changes are calculated using the published rounded figures.

In Mid and South West Wales, there were 2,895 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births during 2017. This was a decrease from 3,075 enterprise births in 2016.

There were 2,960 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths in Mid and South West Wales in 2017, which was an increase from 2,735 enterprise deaths in 2016.

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.

Chart 3.7: VAT/PAYE enterprises per 10,000 residents



Section 4: Business structure and foreign owned companies

Business structure

(next update Nov 2019)

Table 4.1: Enterprises by employee size band, 2018

	<i>(levels rounded to nearest 5)</i>					
	Zero (0)	Micro (1-9)	Small (10-49)	Medium (50-249)	Large (250+)	Total
North Wales	47,765	11,660	2,410	540	680	63,055
South East Wales	85,225	20,240	4,155	1,235	1,310	112,170
Mid and South West Wales	65,660	15,500	3,000	675	905	85,740
Mid Wales	21,730	4,930	830	165	280	27,935
South West Wales	43,935	10,570	2,170	505	625	57,810
Wales	198,655	47,355	9,365	2,155	1,675	259,200

Source: Size Analysis of Welsh Businesses

The Business structure data are estimates of the number of enterprises active in Wales by size band (number of UK employees), and the aggregate employment in those enterprises. They also include estimates for the very smallest businesses that operate below the VAT threshold.

In 2018, there were 246,005 enterprises in the micro size band (0-9 employees) accounting for 94.9% of the total number of active enterprises in Wales. Despite this, micro businesses only accounted for 34.4% of total employment in Wales in 2018. A higher proportion of employment is accounted for by large businesses in South East Wales compared with North Wales and Mid & South West Wales.

Chart 4.1: Percentage of employment by enterprise size band, 2018

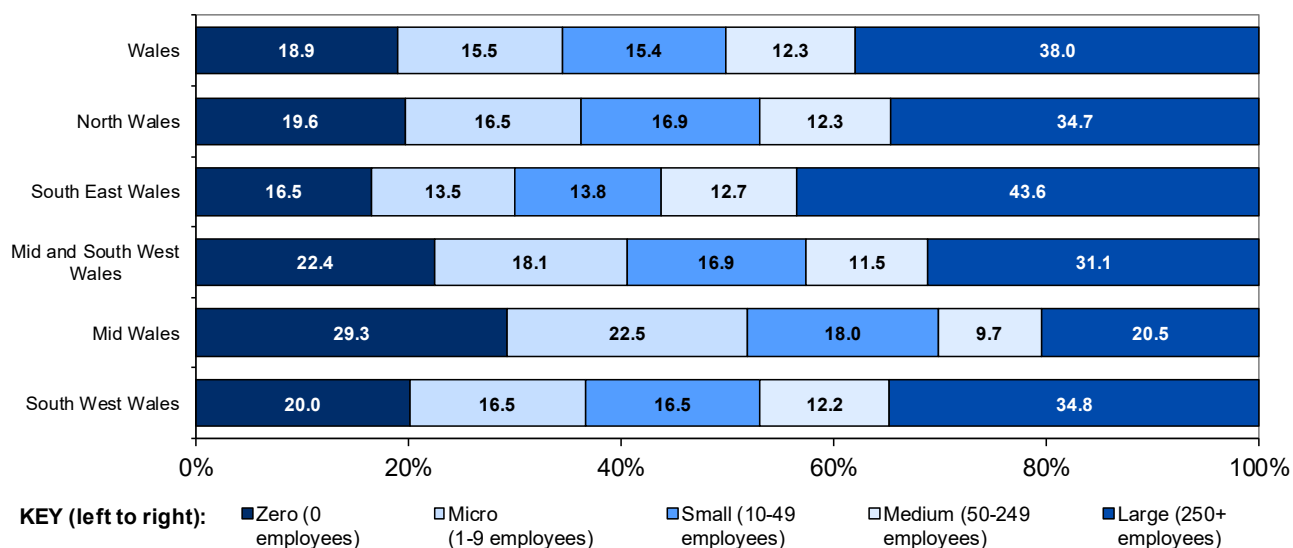


Table 4.2: Foreign owned companies, 2018 (a)*(levels rounded to nearest 5)*

	Enterprises			Employees		
	Total	Foreign Owned	Percentage	Total	Foreign Owned	Percentage
North Wales	63,055	395	0.6	270,120	39,775	14.7
South East Wales	112,170	885	0.8	560,660	89,920	16.0
Mid and South West Wales	85,740	400	0.5	329,165	32,110	9.8
Mid Wales	27,935	95	0.3	84,435	3,855	4.6
South West Wales	57,810	310	0.5	244,730	28,250	11.5
Wales	259,200	1,245	0.5	1,159,950	161,800	13.9

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.

In 2018, 0.5% of enterprises in Wales were foreign owned. Foreign owned businesses are larger on average than domestically owned businesses however, and they account for 13.9% of all employees in Wales. South East Wales had the highest percentage of foreign owned enterprises and the highest percentage of employees in foreign owned enterprises of the three economic regions.

Links to data

Measure	Data Link	WG Headline Link
Employment levels (aged 16 and over)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Employment rates (aged 16 to 64)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
ILO unemployment levels & rates (aged 16 and over)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Economic inactivity levels & rates (excluding students)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Economic inactivity levels & rates (including students)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Gross Value Added (GVA)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI)	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Average (median) gross weekly earnings	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Stock per 10,000 population of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Enterprise numbers by size-band	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Employment numbers by size-band	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Foreign owned companies	In development	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Total workplace employment	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Workplace employment by industry	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Benefit claimants & benefit claimants rates	StatsWales	No longer updated

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 complements the re-launched [Welsh Economy in Numbers](#) dashboard, which presents key economy and labour market indicators for Wales with comparisons against the other UK countries and regions.

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).

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](#).

Claimant Count has been removed from the ONS labour market release because it may now be providing a misleading representation of the UK labour market. From June 2015 the Claimant Count statistics were designated as experimental due to the impact of Universal Credit, which is designed so a broader span of claimants is required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance.

This means that once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, the Claimant Count is likely to be higher than it would otherwise be under Jobseeker's Allowance. The impact has increased as roll-out of Universal Credit has progressed and the seasonally-adjusted claimant count series has become more volatile. The Welsh Government will continue to publish Claimant Count data on StatsWales. The full [ONS statement](#) is available via their website.

This bulletin previously included statistics on working age benefits claimants by client group, based on Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) data. DWP no longer produces this series and the full statement is available via the [Nomis website](#).

DWP now publishes a Benefit Combinations dataset on their StatsXplore website which provides both Working Age and Pension Age statistics on the number of individuals claiming a DWP benefit in total and to show the key combinations of benefits claimed. We are in the process of assessing whether this new data source is appropriate for our uses and/or publication.

Accuracy

Definitions of regions

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

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

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

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

These definitions are based on the three regions set out in the Welsh Government's Economic Action Plan.

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 our [revisions 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 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 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. The designation of these statistics as National Statistics was confirmed in November 2011 [following a full assessment against the Code of Practice](#).

Since the latest review by the Office for Statistics Regulation, we have continued to comply with the Code of Practice for Statistics, and have made the following improvements:

- Combined four separate regional bulletins into a single bulletin to improve clarity and ease of access
- Improved visuals by de-cluttering and standardising charts and tables; included coloured indicators to tables to aid understanding
- Eliminated un-necessary tables from bulletin and replaced with links to where the data can be found online.

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:

<https://gov.wales/regional-economic-and-labour-market-profiles>

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

Next update

January 2020

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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