



Regional economic & labour market profile – Mid Wales, October 2018

11 October 2018
SB 61/2018

The latest headline labour market statistics for Mid Wales are generally more positive than for Wales.

Compared to Wales; Mid Wales has a higher employment rate and lower unemployment and economic inactivity rates. GVA per head and average earnings are both lower in Mid Wales but GDHI per head is higher.



About this bulletin

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

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

Mid Wales consists of the following two local authorities: Powys and Ceredigion.

Summary table: Latest data for Mid Wales

	Mid Wales				Wales	
	Level (000s)	Change on year	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁷⁾	Rate	Change on year ⁽⁷⁾
Employed ⁽¹⁾	98.0	2.8 ↑	75.1%	2.9 ↑	72.6%	1.0 ↑
Unemployed ⁽²⁾	2.2	-1.0 ↓	2.2%	-1.0 ↓	4.8%	0.1 ↑
Economically Inactive ⁽³⁾	18.3	-0.4 ↓	17.2%	-0.6 ↓	20.1%	-0.3 ↓
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	.	.	£17,137	1.9 ↑	£19,140	3.5 ↑
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	.	.	£16,303	-0.9 ↓	£15,835	0.7 ↑
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	.	.	£467.00	1.5 ↑	£498.40	1.0 ↑

(1) Levels are for those aged 16 and over, rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2018.

(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 2018.

(3) Levels and rates exclude students and are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2018.

(4) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional.

(5) Data relate to 2016 and are provisional.

(6) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2017 and are provisional.

(7) Percentage point change for employed, ILO unemployed and economically inactive. Percentage change for GVA per head, GDHI per head and average earnings.

. Not applicable

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Overall summary

Mid Wales had total Gross Value Added of £3.5 billion in 2016, which translates as £17,137 per head. This compares to £59.6 billion (£19,140 per head) for Wales. This difference is mostly down to job structure, with Powys having a lower GVA per job than Wales, but also net commuting out from the region and a higher proportion of elderly residents; these are partly offset by higher activity rates.

The headline economic statistics of Gross Disposable Household Income are only available for Powys, not for the whole of Mid Wales. Annual Gross Disposable Household Income per head in Powys was £16,303 in 2016, lower than the UK average (£19,432) and higher than the Wales average (£15,835). Average full-time weekly earnings in Mid Wales were £467.00 in 2017, lower than the Wales average (£498.40) and the UK average (£550.40).

Over the latest year, the employment rate increased in Mid Wales, whilst the unemployment rate and the economic inactivity (excluding students) rate both fell. The average for Mid Wales generally hides differences between Ceredigion and Powys, partly because Ceredigion is affected by the large number of economically inactive students. Looking over the longer term, Mid Wales has seen a bigger improvement in unemployment compared to Wales since 2001, but has not improved by as much in employment or economic inactivity.

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 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.

Comparisons to Wales, UK & other Welsh economic regions

	North Wales	Mid Wales	South West Wales	South East Wales	Wales	UK
Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	75.7%	75.1%	70.1%	71.9%	72.6%	74.9%
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	3.6%	2.2%	4.8%	5.7%	4.8%	4.2%
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	18.1%	17.2%	22.1%	20.4%	20.1%	17.8%
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	£19,573	£17,136.76	£17,381	£20,021	£19,140	£26,339
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	£16,502	£16,303	£15,467	£15,696	£15,835	£19,432
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	£484.10	£467.00	£498.90	£507.80	£498.40	£550.40

Change on year ⁽⁷⁾:

Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	2.0	2.9	-0.4	1.0	1.0 	0.7
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	0.0	-1.0	-0.3	0.4	0.1 	-0.4
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	-1.5	-0.6	1.3	-0.4	-0.3 	-0.3
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	2.8	1.9	3.7	3.9	3.5 	2.8
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	0.8	-0.9	0.4	1.1	0.7 	0.7
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	-2.4	1.5	5.8	0.9	1.0 	2.2

Change on 1999/2001 ⁽⁷⁾:

Employment rate ⁽¹⁾	6.1	4.4	5.5	5.4	5.4 	2.6
Unemployment rate ⁽²⁾	-0.8	-2.2	-1.4	0.0	-0.6 	-0.8
Economic Inactivity rate ⁽³⁾	-6.5	-3.6	-6.5	-6.6	-6.3 	-3.6
GVA per head ⁽⁴⁾	70.5	61.5	70.4	67.8	68.6 	70.2
GDHI per head ⁽⁵⁾	60.8	65.2	56.5	58.8	58.8 	67.4
Average earnings ⁽⁶⁾	.	.	.	.	.	.

(1) Rates are for those aged 16-64. Data relate to the year to June 2018 with comparisons over the latest year and 2001.

(2) Rates are for those aged 16 and over using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment and are proportions of the economically active. Data relate to the year to June 2018 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 2018 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 2016 and are provisional. Comparisons are over the latest year and 1999.

(6) Average (median) gross weekly earnings. Data relate to 2017 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.

Mid Wales had the second highest employment rate and the lowest unemployment and economic inactivity rates amongst the 4 Welsh Economic Regions. GVA per head was the lowest amongst the 4 regions, GDHI per head was the second highest and average weekly earnings were the lowest.

Latest quarterly data

Employment – New data (next update Jan 2019)

Table 1: Employment levels, year to June 2018 (a)

					(levels in thousands)		
		Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
	Year to Jun 2018	Year to Jun 2017	Level Change	Percentage Change	2001	Level Change	Percentage Change
Mid Wales	98.0	95.2	2.8	2.9 ↑	91.2	6.8	7.4 ↑
Powys	64.6	63.2	1.4	2.2 ↑	59.2	5.4	9.2 ↑
Ceredigion	33.4	32.0	1.4	4.3 ↑	32.1	1.3	4.2 ↑
Wales	1,435.1	1,415.5	19.6	1.4 ↑	1,238.6	196.6	15.9 ↑
United Kingdom	32,053.3	31,663.0	390.3	1.2 ↑	27,433.1	4,620.2	16.8 ↑

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

(a) Employment levels for those aged 16 and over.

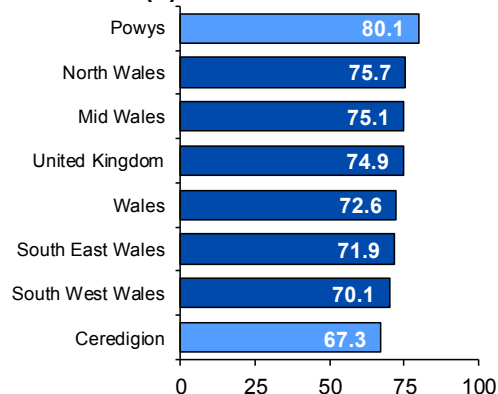
The employment level is the total number of people that are in employment and the employment rate is the percentage of the population that is in employment.

Table 1 shows the latest employment level figures and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2018, the number of people in employment in Mid Wales was 98,000, this is an increase of 2,800 people (2.9 per cent) compared to the same period the year before.

Chart 1 shows the latest employment rates for the economic regions and each authority within Mid Wales.

Within Mid Wales, both authorities had increases in the employment rate over the year. Since 2001, both authorities had increases, with Powys having the largest (up 5.1 percentage points).

Chart 1: Employment rates, year to June 2018 (a)



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

Unemployment – New data (next update Jan 2019)

Table 2: Unemployment levels, year to June 2018 (a)

(levels in thousands)

	Year to Jun 2018	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
		Year to Jun 2017	Level Change	Percentage Change	2001	Level Change	Percentage Change
Mid Wales	2.2	3.2	-1.0	-30.4 ↓	4.2	-2.0	-47.3 ↓
Powys	1.0	1.7	-0.7	-40.4 ↓	2.2	-1.2	-54.1 ↓
Ceredigion	1.2	1.5	-0.3	-18.8 ↓	2.0	-0.8	-39.7 ↓
Wales	72.1	70.3	1.8	2.5 ↑	71.0	1.1	1.5 ↑
United Kingdom	1,412.9	1,524.2	-111.3	-7.3 ↓	1,450.3	-37.4	-2.6 ↓

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

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

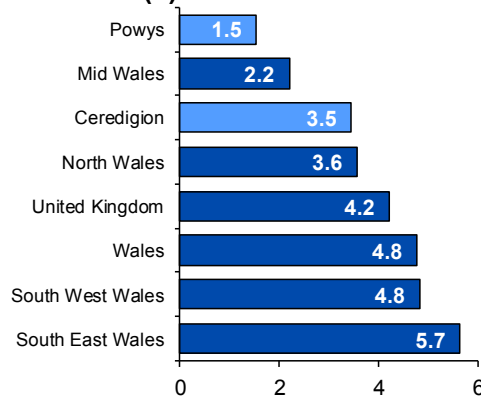
The unemployment level is the total number of people who are unemployed and the unemployment rate is the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed (using the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) definition of unemployment).

Table 2 shows the latest unemployment level figures and how these have changed over time. For the year ending June 2018, the number of people who were unemployed in Mid Wales was 2,200, this is a decrease of 1,000 people (30.4 per cent) compared to the same period the year before.

Chart 2 shows the latest unemployment rates for the economic regions and each authority within Mid Wales.

Within Mid Wales, the unemployment rate fell in both authorities over the year. Since 2001, both authorities had falls, with Ceredigion having the largest (down 2.4 percentage points).

Chart 2: Unemployment rates, year to June 2018 (a)



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

Economic inactivity – New data (next update Jan 2019)

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.

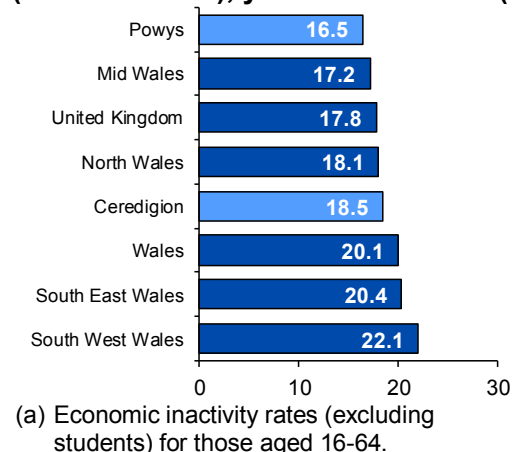
Chart 3 shows the latest economic inactivity rates (excluding students) for the economic regions and each authority within Mid Wales.

Within Mid Wales, Ceredigion had the only fall over the year (excluding students). Since 2001, both authorities had falls with Powys having the largest (down 3.7 percentage points).

Including students, the economic inactivity rate in Mid Wales was 23.2 per cent, down 2.1 percentage points over the year. This was lower than the rate for Wales (23.7 per cent) but higher than the rate for the UK (21.7 per cent).

Please note, claimant count is no longer seen as a reliable indicator of the UK labour market by ONS and it has therefore been removed from this publication. Please see [key quality information](#) for more information.

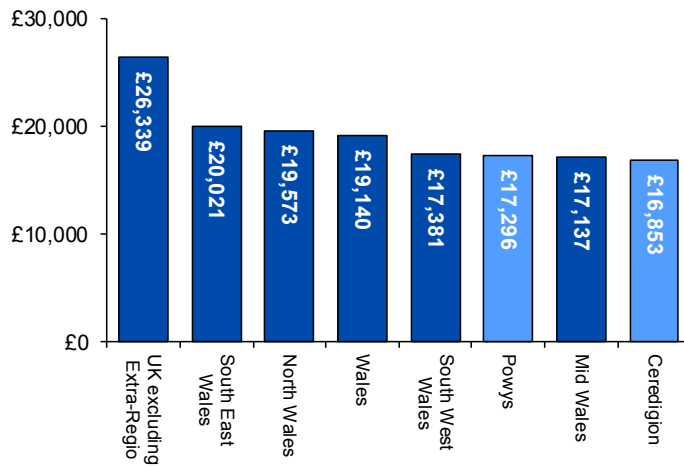
Chart 3: Economic inactivity rates (excl. students), year to June 2018 (a)



Latest annual data

Gross value added (GVA) (next update Dec 2018)

Chart 4: GVA per head, 2016



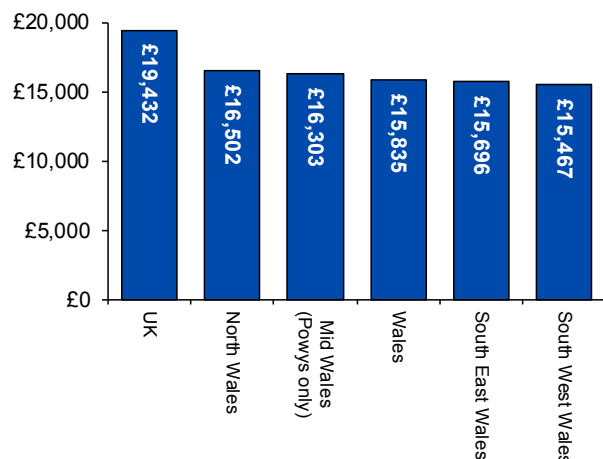
GVA is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services.

Total GVA in Mid Wales in 2016 was £3.5 billion, up 1.4 per cent over the year and up 66.9 per cent since 1999. This compares to an increase of 4.0 per cent over the year and an increase of 80.9 per cent since 1999 for Wales.

Within Mid Wales, both authorities had increases in GVA per head over the year (both up by 1.9 per cent). Since 1999, both authorities had increases, with Ceredigion having the largest (up by 69.1 per cent).

Gross disposable household income (GDHI) (next update May 2019)

Chart 5: Annual GDHI per head by NUTS3 level, 2016

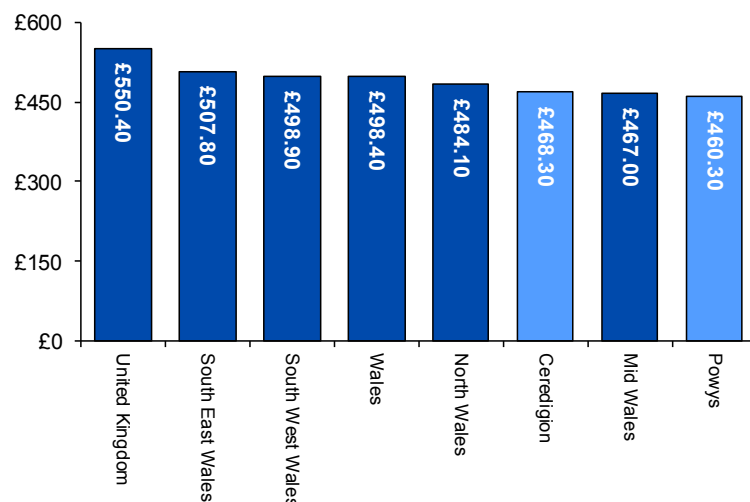


GDHI is an estimate of the amount of money that households have available for spending or saving. In Powys, GDHI per head has decreased by 0.9 per cent over the year, while Wales and the UK have both increased by 0.7 per cent.

Please note, these data are not available at the geographical level required to replicate the Wales economic regions, therefore the figures for some of the regions are regarded as approximations. In the chart above, Mid Wales includes Powys but excludes Ceredigion, South West Wales includes Ceredigion and Bridgend and South East Wales excludes Bridgend.

Average (median) full-time weekly earnings (next update Oct 2018)

Chart 6: Average full-time weekly earnings, 2017 (a)



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

Average weekly earnings in Mid Wales were up 1.5 per cent over the year compared to an increase of 1.0 per cent for Wales and an increase of 2.2 per cent for the UK.

Within Mid Wales, both authorities had increases over the year, with Ceredigion having the largest increase of 2.7 per cent.

Workplace employment (next update Oct 2018)

Table 3: Total workplace employment, 2016 (a)

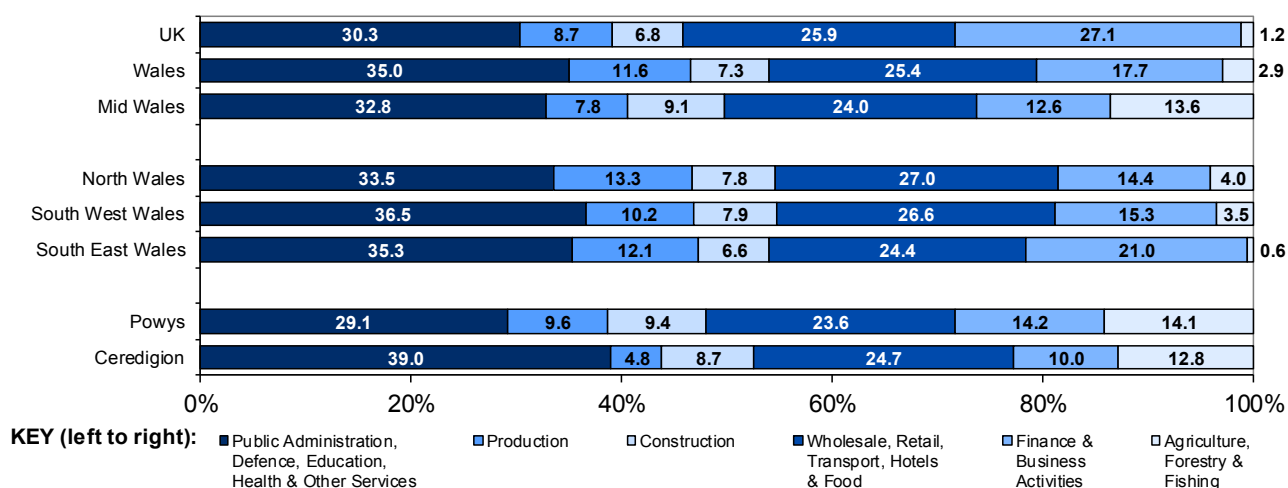
(levels in thousands)

	2016	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
		2015	Level Change	Percentage Change	2001	Level Change	Percentage Change
Mid Wales	97.9	101.7	-3.9	-3.8 ↓	92.4	5.5	5.9 ↑
Powys	60.9	64.2	-3.3	-5.2 ↓	56.0	4.9	8.8 ↑
Ceredigion	37.0	37.5	-0.5	-1.4 ↓	36.4	0.6	1.6 ↑
Wales	1,404.3	1,403.4	0.9	0.1 ↑	1,252.7	151.6	12.1 ↑
United Kingdom	32,412.6	32,145.2	267.4	0.8 ↑	28,580.0	3,832.6	13.4 ↑

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.

Chart 7: Percentage of workplace employment by industry, 2016



VAT/PAYE registered enterprises (next update Nov 2018)

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

Table 4: Total stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises, 2016 (a)

(levels rounded to nearest 5)

	2016	Compared to previous year			Compared to earliest available		
		2015	Level Change	Percentage Change	2002	Level Change	Percentage Change
Mid Wales	8,680	8,670	10	0.1 ↑	7,985	695	8.7 ↑
Powys	5,830	5,805	25	0.4	5,335	495	9.3
Ceredigion	2,850	2,865	-15	-0.5	2,650	200	7.5
Wales	98,445	95,010	3,435	3.6 ↑	81,175	17,270	21.3 ↑
United Kingdom	2,833,965	2,672,025	161,940	6.1	2,115,915	718,050	33.9

Source: Business Demography, ONS

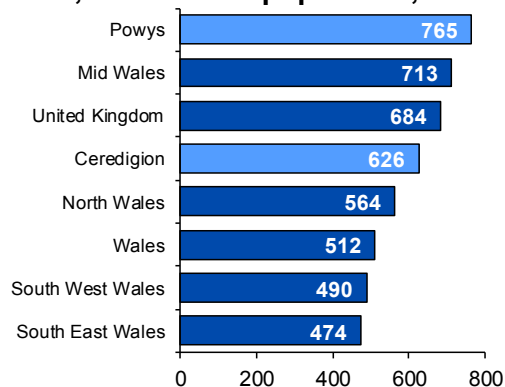
(a) Stock of VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in each year. Level and percentage changes are calculated using the published rounded figures.

In Mid Wales, there were 695 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise births during 2016. This was the same number as in 2015.

There were 690 VAT/PAYE registered enterprise deaths in Mid Wales in 2016, which was a decrease from 725 enterprise births in 2015.

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.

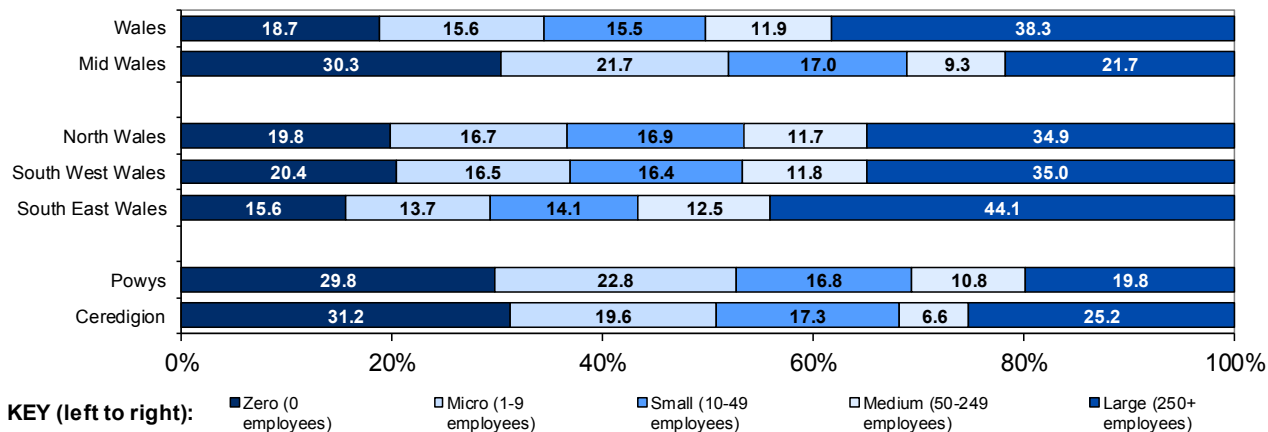
Chart 8: VAT/PAYE registered enterprises per 10,000 resident population, 2016



Business structure (next update Nov 2018)

There were 29,480 enterprises active in Mid Wales in 2017, of which 95.6 per cent were in the micro size band (0-9 employees), this was slightly larger than that for Wales (94.9 per cent).

Chart 9: Percentage 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.

Table 5: Foreign owned companies, 2017 (a)

(levels rounded to nearest 5)

	Enterprises			Employees		
	Total	Foreign Owned	Percentage	Total	Foreign Owned	Percentage
Mid Wales	29,480	95	0.3	87,865	4,415	5.0
Powys	19,100	65	0.3	56,585	3,250	5.7
Ceredigion	10,510	55	0.5	31,285	1,165	3.7
Wales	253,635	1,135	0.4	1,143,305	155,320	13.6

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.

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
Benefit claimants & benefit claimants rates	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
Total workplace employment	StatsWales	STATISTICS & RESEARCH
Workplace employment by industry	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

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).

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

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 former 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. We are currently looking into moving these bulletins to be in line with the new Economic Action Plan (EAP) 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 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.

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>

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

Next update

January 2019

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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