



Learning and Labour Market
Intelligence: Area Profile
Neath Port Talbot

June 2005

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Introduction

The Learning and Labour Market Intelligence Area Profiles sit alongside regional and national reports for Wales for 2005. The local area report provides information about labour market and learning provision at Unitary Authority level. Data have been sourced from several providers and these are acknowledged accordingly. In particular, extensive use has been made of Crown Copyright materials, which are reproduced here under licence.

The production of local intelligence is beset by greater reporting difficulties than at higher geographical levels. On this occasion, aside from the usual data gaps and discontinuities, various methodological and organisational changes have delayed the release of some data sets. What has been reproduced here is the most up-to-date and available data at the time of publication. However, revision of the reports is planned later in the year, when it is anticipated that additional information will be available.

The area reports are arranged into 5 sections. The first section is simply a one-page summary of relevant **key statistics** for the Unitary Authority area and should prove useful to those who require access to a quick data reference source. This is then followed by **commentary/analysis** based on a more thorough examination of specific learning and labour market data. As with the national and regional reports, links have been included in the narrative to specific **data exhibits** contained in a separate third section.

All of the themes identified in the local area reports are also discussed in the regional and national reports and periodic cross-referencing between area and regional report will aid the reader. With this in mind occasional references have been included to relevant sections of the appropriate regional/national reports. However in an effort to make the area reports “free standing” a fourth information section has been added. Containing material mostly in the form of annotated maps and tables, the purpose of this **supplementary data** section is to enable users to undertake a limited amount of inter-area comparison without having to resort excessively to other source documents.

The final section of the area report is a glossary of **terms and definitions**.

Key Statistics

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Population (mid 2003) | 135,300 |
| Working Age population | 80,700 |
| Non-white (% work age) | 0.9% |
| Welsh speakers (% age 3+) | 22.0% |
| Activity rate | 66.9% |
| Employment rate | 62.2% |
| ILO Unemployment (% ea) | 7.1% |
| DDA + Work limiting disability (% working age) | 22.2% |
| GVA per head (% UK average) | 68%¹ |
| Av. Weekly Full Time Earnings | £447² |
| Businesses stock | 5,065 |
| VAT Businesses | 2,205 |
| % NVQ 3+ | 34.0% |
| % No qualifications | 22.9% |
| School leavers (yr 11) w/o quals/not entering WBL/not continuing in educ. | 2.1% |
| Workforce based learners (WBL) | 3,268 |
| LFS Workforce development training | 10.3% |

¹ Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot NUTS 3 Area

² Workplace basis

Commentary/Analysis

Demographics

- Over the 10 years from 1993-2003, the population of Wales grew by a little under 2% although not all areas shared in this growth. Most areas in Wales can admit to some loss of population either naturally or through out-migration (or invariably a combination of both). More often than not this tendency to depopulation is offset by an inbound flow of people.
- Occasionally however, the inflow is insufficient to counter the tendency to depopulation and the outcome is a smaller or at best, a stagnating population base.
- Neath Port Talbot is a case in point. Like many other areas in Wales, its population has been declining naturally as deaths exceed births³. However, net in-migration has been unable to compensate for this with the result that the area's estimated population of 135,300 in 2003 was 2% less than a decade before ([Table 1](#)).
- As well as being smaller, the population of Neath Port Talbot is also older. Changes in the age profile show that in 2003 the county had 2,500 fewer children than in 1993. Although the number of people of retirement age also fell by 600, there has been a rise of 1,500 in the number of people aged 75 or over.

Labour Supply and Utilisation

- In spite of these demographic characteristics 60% of the area's population is of working age, the same as the average for Wales. However unlike Wales where 74% of working age people is economically active, the corresponding statistic for the local area is 7% lower (67%). This is also reflected in an equally low employment rate averaging 66% for men and 59% for women. ([Table 2](#)).
- The labour market in Neath Port Talbot is characterised by high levels of underachievement and inertia. More than 1 in 5 people of working age are disabled although in only a minority is this disability work limiting. Among the economically active, male unemployment (ILO basis) is 1½ times more than in Wales and the rate of self-employment is one half of that in Wales. More than 1 in 4 working age males are inactive and 1 in 5 are inactive and do not want work ([Table 3](#)).
- The claimants based (Job Seekers Allowance) measure presents a less stark but selective image of the labour market ([Table 4](#)) and is best deployed in exploring the characteristics of unemployed claimants. This suggests that claimant unemployment durations in Neath Port Talbot are in fact slightly shorter than average with 77% experiencing spells of 6 months or less (74% in Wales [Table 5](#)). At 8% long term unemployment (12 months or over) is also significantly less than the average for Welsh or Great Britain claimants. These results are slightly

³ [Digest of Welsh Local Area Statistics, 2004.](#)

puzzling though it need not follow that dynamics of unemployment are the same as the dynamics of JSA claimants.

Skills and Qualifications

- The occupational structure of the local area reveals a high concentration of manual workers - and in particular elementary occupations and plant and machine operatives. Occupations in SOC major groups 1 and 2 (managers, senior officials and professional occupations) are relatively scarce ([Table 6](#)).
- The qualifications profile of the workforce is consistent with the occupational structure with 55% qualified to NVQ 2 or above and 34% to level 3 or higher. At 23%, the proportion of the working age population with no qualifications is 5% higher than in Wales overall ([Table 7](#)).

Employment and earnings

- Jobs density figures show the ratio of total jobs to working-age population. The total number of jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employees, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces. At 0.6 jobs density in Neath Port Talbot is below the Wales (and Great Britain) average ([Table 8](#)).
- More than 70% of employed workforce in Neath Port Talbot is in full-time employment and this may be a product of the underlying industry mix. In this respect almost 1 in 3 jobs are in manufacturing with just 62% in services. The construction industry is a significant employer in Neath Port Talbot and in employment terms is twice as important locally as in Wales or Great Britain ([Table 9](#)).
- In spite of the relatively weaker labour market, average earnings in Neath Port Talbot are surprisingly good. Male full-time earnings are around £30 per week more than the Welsh average (workplace basis) though it is likely that women enjoy less of a premium. Unfortunately female earnings are not statistically robust and cannot be reported ([Table 10](#)).

The Business Stock

- There are around 5,000 businesses in Neath Port Talbot ([Table 11a](#)). Micro-enterprises (with 0-9 employees) and small businesses (10-49 employees) make up 94% of these and account for 40% of jobs. Just 4% of the business stock is comprised of large firms (250+ employees) but these account for almost one half jobs ([Table 11b](#)).
- Around 44% of businesses in Neath Port Talbot are VAT registered (2,205). Turnover of the VAT stock is high. In 2003 deregistration rates (a proxy for business failure) came to 9% while slightly more (11%) registered for VAT (a proxy for business start-ups) ([Table 12](#)).

Education and Training

School Leavers

- Longitudinal comparisons for the last five years (Careers Wales) show the establishment of a fairly stable pattern, whereby the majority of young people completing statutory education in Year 11 (~age 16), opt to continue in some form of learning. This pattern is repeated for year 12 and Year 13 cohorts (~17 and 18 year olds).
- Recorded pupil destinations following compulsory education indicate that 8 out of 10 children leaving full-time education in Neath Port Talbot will continue in some form of learning, including work based training ([Table 13](#)).
- 2.1% of pupils completing compulsory education in Neath Port Talbot do not achieve a recognised qualification *and* do not (either) enter work based learning or continue in full-time education.⁴ This is just less than the 2.3% average in Wales overall.
- In 2002/03 341 pupils over school leaving age attended LEA maintained schools in Neath Port Talbot. The number of pupils who entered two or more A/AS levels or the vocational equivalent was 97 in 2002/03 and 115 in 2003/04.
- 81% of the 2002/03 pupils achieved two or more A/AS levels at Grade A-C or the vocational equivalent and 98% achieved grades A-E (or the vocational equivalent).⁵ The corresponding figures for 2003/04 were 65% and 97% respectively.

Further Education

- Wales has a total FE student population of almost 260,000 (2002/03). Its distribution on a regional basis roughly reflects that of the population generally – with: 42% attending institutions in South East Wales; 27% attending institutions in North Wales; 23% in South West Wales and 8% in Mid Wales.
- Standardised participation rates measure the proportion of the population engaged in further education taking into account the different age and sex profiles of the unitary authorities. These can be used to illustrate the degree of variation in participation in further education across Wales.
- The highest standardised participation rates for adults in FE (i.e. aged over 18) are in Conwy, Denbighshire and Neath Port Talbot and the lowest in the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff. In general, rates are higher in North and South West Wales than in Mid Wales or the East ([Figure 1](#)).

Work Based Learning

- The training sector comprises learners supported by ELWa through its work-based learning (WBL) funding to training providers.

⁴ Annual survey of schools in Wales (2003/04), <http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/content/schools-teach/2004/hdw200412161-e.htm>

⁵ See the South West Wales Regional Learning and Labour Market Intelligence report for comparisons with other Local Authority areas

- In 2002/03 just over half of all trainees were located in South East Wales with 6% in Mid-Wales. South West (23%) and North Wales (20%) had comparable numbers of trainees. There were also differences in the proportion of the population who were in training in the different parts of Wales.
- Regional participation rates for Welsh trainees in all regions are shown in [Figure 2](#). The highest rates are in the South East and especially in Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, The Vale of Glamorgan and slightly further west, in Neath Port Talbot. The lowest participation rates are in the east, in particular, in Flintshire, Monmouthshire and Cardiff.
- There were 3,268 Work-Based (WBL) training episodes in Neath Port Talbot⁶ in 2002/03. Of these:
 - 58% of trainees were male
 - 57% were aged 16-18; 28% were 19-24 and 13% were aged 25-49.
 - 13% of trainees achieved level 2 qualifications and 53% level 3 or above. Comparable percentages for Wales are 35% and 41%.

Total Participation in Post 16 Learning

- The standardised participation rate for all post 16 learning in Neath Port Talbot (including sixth forms, FE and WBL, but excluding Higher Education) is 108. This ranks as the 5th (highest) in Wales ([Table 14](#)).

Workforce Development

- Workforce development is a broader concept than education or training and encompasses those interventions (including education and training) that equip individuals with the knowledge and skills to participate more effectively in the workplace and in society. The most robust aggregate information relates to training received by those in employment and is provided by the Local Area Labour Force Survey.
- Estimates from the 2003 Labour Force Survey show that 10.3% of the employed workforce in Neath Port Talbot had received workforce development training (in the 4 weeks prior to survey). This compares with a 12.3% average for the region and 11.4% in Wales. Neath Port Talbot was ranked 15th in Wales for the proportion of the workforce receiving workforce development training ([Table 15](#)).

Adult and Continuing Education

- In 2002/03 there were 3,147 enrolments at 3 venues providing adult and continuing education in Neath Port Talbot. All ACE provision was on a “contracted in” basis ([Table 16](#)).

⁶ Source: ELWa and National Trainee Database.

The Welsh Language

- The demographics of the Welsh language vary considerably across Wales. Most recent data are from the Labour Force Survey and show that the highest proportions of Welsh speakers are in the North and West where they exceed 50% in 4 counties - Gwynedd (77%), Anglesey (65%), Ceredigion (59%), Carmarthenshire (52%). The lowest concentrations occur in South East Wales where in 7 (out of 10) Unitary Authorities the percentage of Welsh speakers is below 20% ([Table 17](#)).
- Linguistic diversity is reflected in the levels of Welsh language provision in schools. Welsh is available as a first language in the majority of schools in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire ([Table 18](#)). In the more densely populated districts to the east of the region, the situation is very different so that in Swansea and Neath Port Talbot the vast majority of maintained schools offer Welsh as second language only.

Key messages from the Future Skills Wales 2003 survey⁷

- Between February and July 2003 around 6,000 employers and 6,000 individuals were interviewed as part of the Future Skills Wales 2003 Generic Skills Survey. In Neath Port Talbot 257 households and 204 employers were interviewed. The aim of the survey was to audit the skills requirements of employers in Wales and the skills offered by the people who live there.
 - The skills with the greatest requirement at present (in terms of percentage of employers requiring them at high or advanced level) were understanding customer needs, ability to follow instructions, adaptability / flexibility, team working and communication. These were also the expected to be needed the most at high or advanced level in three years' time.
 - 60% of employers in Neath Port Talbot have provided off the job training in the last 12 months with 7% of employers experiencing difficulties in finding an appropriate training provider.
 - 67% of residents indicated that they would like to be involved in some form of learning however 68% experienced some type of barrier to learning. The main barriers to learning were practical or financial in nature, as identified by 43% of residents.
 - 57% of residents in the Neath Port Talbot area had been involved in training or learning in the past 12 months. The most popular forms were courses designed to help develop skills for work and keeping up to date with developments in work, e.g. reading or attending seminars.
 - Employers' attitudes were very positive to the importance of skills with 96% agreeing that skills are crucial to business success. However, a lower proportion, 83%, agreed that investment in skills brought business benefits. 15% of employers reported that there was a significant gap between the skills that their employees have now and the skills that they need to meet their current business objectives.

⁷ <http://www.futureskillswales.com/eng/content.php?cID=5&pID=1&zID=7>

Data Tables

Note: Unless otherwise specified all data have been sourced from National Statistics and can be accessed under the [Local Area Profiles](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk) wizard at www.nomisweb.co.uk.

Table 1. Population Change 1993-2003 – South West Wales Unitary Authorities (UAs)

| | Population Mid 2003 | % Change 1993-2003 | Absolute Change 1993-2003 | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | | All | 0-14 | 15-64 | 65-74 | 75+ |
| Carmarthenshire | 176,000 | 4.0% | 6,700 | 300 | 5,900 | -1,900 | 2,400 |
| Pembrokeshire | 116,300 | 3.0% | 3,400 | -600 | 1,400 | 400 | 2,100 |
| Neath Port Talbot | 135,300 | -2.1% | -2,900 | -2,500 | 200 | -2,100 | 1,500 |
| Swansea | 224,600 | -2.1% | -4,700 | -4,900 | -600 | -1,800 | 2,600 |
| All UAs | 652,200 | 0.4% | 2,500 | -7,700 | 6,900 | -5,400 | 8,600 |

Source: Midyear population estimates (2003): www.nomisweb.co.uk (population and migration theme)

Table 2. Economic Activity by Type of Employment and Gender

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|
| All people | | | | |
| Economically active | 53,000 | 66.9 | 74.2 | 78.2 |
| In employment | 50,000 | 62.2 | 70.5 | 74.3 |
| Employees | 46,000 | 57.1 | 61.6 | 64.8 |
| Self employed | 4,000 | 4.6 | 8.4 | 9.0 |
| Unemployed | 4,000 | 7.1 | 5.1 | 5.0 |
| Males | | | | |
| Economically active | 30,000 | 72.2 | 78.6 | 83.4 |
| In employment | 27,000 | 65.6 | 74.0 | 78.9 |
| Employees | 24,000 | 58.7 | 61.4 | 65.5 |
| Self employed | 3,000 | 6.5 | 12.0 | 13.0 |
| Unemployed | 3,000 | 9.2 | 5.9 | 5.4 |
| Females | | | | |
| Economically active | 24,000 | 61.2 | 69.6 | 72.8 |
| In employment | 23,000 | 58.5 | 66.7 | 69.5 |
| Employees | 21,000 | 55.3 | 61.7 | 64.2 |
| Self employed | 1,000 | 2.5 | 4.5 | 4.8 |
| Unemployed | 1,000 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4.5 |

Source: Local Area Labour Force Survey (Mar 2003-Feb 2004)

Percentages are based on working age population, except unemployed which is based on economically active.

Table 3. Analysis of Economic Inactivity by Gender and Desire to Work

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| All people | | | | |
| Economically inactive | 26,000 | 33.1 | 25.8 | 21.8 |
| Wanting a job | 8,000 | 10.6 | 6.1 | 5.7 |
| Not wanting a job | 18,000 | 22.5 | 19.6 | 16.1 |
| Males | | | | |
| Economically inactive | 11,000 | 27.8 | 21.4 | 16.6 |
| Wanting a job | 4,000 | 8.8 | 5.2 | 4.7 |
| Not wanting a job | 8,000 | 19.0 | 16.2 | 11.9 |
| Females | | | | |
| Economically inactive | 15,000 | 38.8 | 30.4 | 27.2 |
| Wanting a job | 5,000 | 12.5 | 7.1 | 6.7 |
| Not wanting a job | 10,000 | 26.3 | 23.3 | 20.5 |

Source: Local Area Labour Force Survey (Mar 2003-Feb 2004)
 Percentages are based on working age population

Table 4. Unemployment: Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants by Gender (2005)

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| All people | 2,222 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.4 |
| Males | 1,687 | 4.1 | 3.6 | 3.4 |
| Females | 535 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.3 |

Source: Claimant count (February 2005), National Statistics

Note: The percentage figures show the number of JSA claimants as a proportion of resident working-age people.

Table 5. JSA Claimants by Age and Duration

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| by age of claimant | | | | |
| Aged 18-24 | 805 | 36.4 | 34.1 | 28.8 |
| Aged 25-49 | 1,025 | 46.4 | 49.0 | 53.2 |
| Aged 50 and over | 350 | 15.8 | 15.5 | 16.4 |
| by duration of claim | | | | |
| Up to 6 months | 1,700 | 76.7 | 73.9 | 70.5 |
| Over 6 up to 12 months | 325 | 14.6 | 13.5 | 15.5 |
| Over 12 months | 190 | 8.6 | 12.6 | 14.0 |

Source: Claimant count - age and duration (February 2005), National Statistics

Note: The percentage figures represent the number of JSA claimants in a particular category as a percentage of all JSA claimants.

Table 6. Employment by Occupation

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|
| Soc 2000 major group 1-3 | 15,000 | 30.1 | 36.1 | 40.5 |
| 1 Managers and senior officials | 5,000 | 8.9 | 12.1 | 14.6 |
| 2 Professional occupations | 4,000 | 8.0 | 10.9 | 12.1 |
| 3 Associate professional & technical | 7,000 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 13.8 |
| Soc 2000 major group 4-5 | 14,000 | 27.2 | 25.3 | 24.4 |
| 4 Administrative & secretarial | 7,000 | 13.3 | 12.2 | 13.0 |
| 5 Skilled trades occupations | 7,000 | 13.9 | 13.0 | 11.4 |
| Soc 2000 major group 6-7 | 9,000 | 17.2 | 16.2 | 15.5 |
| 6 Personal service occupations | 4,000 | 7.6 | 7.9 | 7.5 |
| 7 Sales and customer service occs | 5,000 | 9.7 | 8.3 | 8.0 |
| Soc 2000 major group 8-9 | 13,000 | 25.4 | 22.3 | 19.6 |
| 8 Process plant & machine operatives | 6,000 | 11.7 | 9.7 | 7.7 |
| 9 Elementary occupations | 7,000 | 13.7 | 12.6 | 11.8 |

Source: Local Area Labour Force Survey (Mar 2003-Feb 2004)
Percentages are based on all persons in employment.

Table 7. Workforce Qualifications

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|
| NVQ4 and above | 13,000 | 16.6 | 22.5 | 25.2 |
| NVQ3 and above | 27,000 | 34.0 | 40.2 | 43.1 |
| NVQ2 and above | 44,000 | 54.6 | 60.3 | 61.5 |
| NVQ1 and above | 56,000 | 69.8 | 74.2 | 76.0 |
| Other Qualifications | 6,000 | 7.3 | 8.0 | 8.8 |
| No Qualifications | 18,000 | 22.9 | 17.8 | 15.1 |

Source: Local Area Labour Force Survey (Mar 2003-Feb 2004)
All figures are for working age. For an explanation of the qualification levels see the definitions section.

Table 8 Jobs density

| | Neath Port Talbot (jobs) | Neath Port Talbot (density) | Wales (density) | GB (density) |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Jobs Density | 48,000 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 |

Source: Jobs Density (2002), National Statistics

Jobs density is an indicator of employment demand and measures the number of jobs per resident of working age (16-59/64). For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident of working age.

Table 9. Employee Jobs

| | Neath Port Talbot (employee jobs) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Total employee jobs | 43,800 | - | - | - |
| Full-time | 31,400 | 71.7 | 66.2 | 68.1 |
| Part-time | 12,400 | 28.3 | 33.8 | 31.9 |
| Manufacturing | 12,600 | 28.9 | 16.1 | 12.6 |
| Construction | 3,400 | 7.8 | 4.2 | 4.4 |
| Services | 27,500 | 62.7 | 77.9 | 81.4 |
| Distribution, hotels & restaurants | 8,500 | 19.3 | 23.5 | 24.7 |
| Transport & communications | 1,900 | 4.2 | 4.6 | 6.0 |
| Finance, IT, other business activities | 4,100 | 9.3 | 11.9 | 19.8 |
| Public admin, education & health | 11,300 | 25.8 | 32.8 | 25.8 |
| Other services | 1,800 | 4.1 | 5.0 | 5.2 |
| Tourism-related | 2,900 | 6.7 | 8.1 | 8.1 |

Source: Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis (2003)

Employee jobs rounded to nearest 100. Percentages are based on total employee jobs.

Reporting restrictions apply to data for energy and water (SIC A,B) and these cannot be identified.

Limitations on coverage also prevent reporting of employees in agriculture and fishing (SIC C,E).

Table 10 Average Earnings

| Gross weekly pay | Neath Port Talbot (pounds) | Wales (pounds) | GB (pounds) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Residence basis | | | |
| Full-time workers | 416.6 | 416.0 | 475.8 |
| Male full-time workers | 464.1 | 449.8 | 525.0 |
| Female full-time workers | - | 358.4 | 396.0 |
| Workplace basis | | | |
| Full-time workers | 447.3 | 414.5 | 475.8 |
| Male full-time workers | 480.6 | 448.3 | 525.0 |
| Female full-time workers | - | 357.3 | 396.0 |

Source: New Earnings Survey by SOC 2000 occupation (2003)

- Statistically unreliable estimates are suppressed

Table 11a. Size band analysis of enterprises active in local authorities in Wales, 2003

| Local Authority | Percent | | | | All | Number |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----|--------|
| | Micro 0-9 | Small 10-49 | Med 50-249 | Large 250+ | | |
| Pembrokeshire | 94.5 | 3.2 | 0.6 | 1.7 | 100 | 10,385 |
| Carmarthenshire | 93.4 | 3.6 | 0.9 | 2.1 | 100 | 11,055 |
| Swansea | 90.4 | 4.5 | 1.4 | 3.7 | 100 | 12,285 |
| Neath Port Talbot | 87.9 | 6.3 | 1.7 | 4.1 | 100 | 5,065 |

Table 11b. Employment by Unitary Authority Area 2003

| Local Authority | Percent | | | | All | Number |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----|--------|
| | Micro 0-9 | Small 10-49 | Med 50-249 | Large 250+ | | |
| Pembrokeshire | 50.4 | 18.0 | 8.5 | 23.0 | 100 | 34,250 |
| Carmarthenshire | 42.7 | 16.1 | 11.3 | 29.9 | 100 | 44,450 |
| Swansea | 27.0 | 13.8 | 10.9 | 48.3 | 100 | 72,895 |
| Neath Port Talbot | 24.2 | 15.9 | 11.1 | 48.8 | 100 | 34,785 |

Source: National Statistics, Size analysis of Welsh business, Sept 2004

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/economy/2004/sdr69-2004/sdr69-2004.pdf>

Table 12. VAT Registered Businesses

| | Neath Port Talbot (numbers) | Neath Port Talbot (%) | Wales (%) | GB (%) |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Registrations | 240 | 10.9 | 8.7 | 10.6 |
| Deregistrations | 205 | 9.3 | 8.8 | 9.7 |
| Stock (at end of year) | 2,205 | - | - | - |

Source: VAT registrations/deregistrations by industry (2003)

Percentages are based on stock (at end of year).

Table 13. 2003 (Revised) Destinations of Year 11 pupils by Careers Wales Area

| Destination | Percent | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Cardiff & Vale | Gwent | Mid Glam | North East | North West | Powys | West |
| Continuing in Full Time Education | 73.9 | 72.1 | 71.9 | 68.0 | 75.6 | 82.4 | 76.4 |
| Work Based Training – non employed status | 4.6 | 7.2 | 7.4 | 3.5 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 7.4 |
| Work Based Training –employed status | 2.3 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 0.6 | 2.5 |
| Employed - other | 5.8 | 7.7 | 7.9 | 11.9 | 6.4 | 3.7 | 4.2 |
| Known not in education, employment or training | 8.0 | 7.2 | 5.2 | 6.2 | 4.9 | 3.6 | 6.6 |
| No response | 3.4 | 1.9 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 |
| Left Area | 2.1 | 2.3 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 2.1 | 4.7 | 1.2 |
| Total % | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Number in Cohort | 5,663 | 6,023 | 7,520 | 4,019 | 4,218 | 1,714 | 8,918 |

Source Careers Wales, 2004

http://www.careerswales.com/documents/2005215_2003_destinations_revised_english.pdf
<http://www.careerswales.com/professionals/documentlibrary.asp?language=English>

Careers Wales Company Areas

Cardiff and Vale – contains the unitary authority areas of the City and County of Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan

Gwent – refers to unitary authority areas of Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Monmouthshire, Newport and the eastern (former 'Islwyn') part of Caerphilly.

Mid Glamorgan - the company covers the unitary authority areas of the County Boroughs of Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taff and the western part of Caerphilly County Borough.

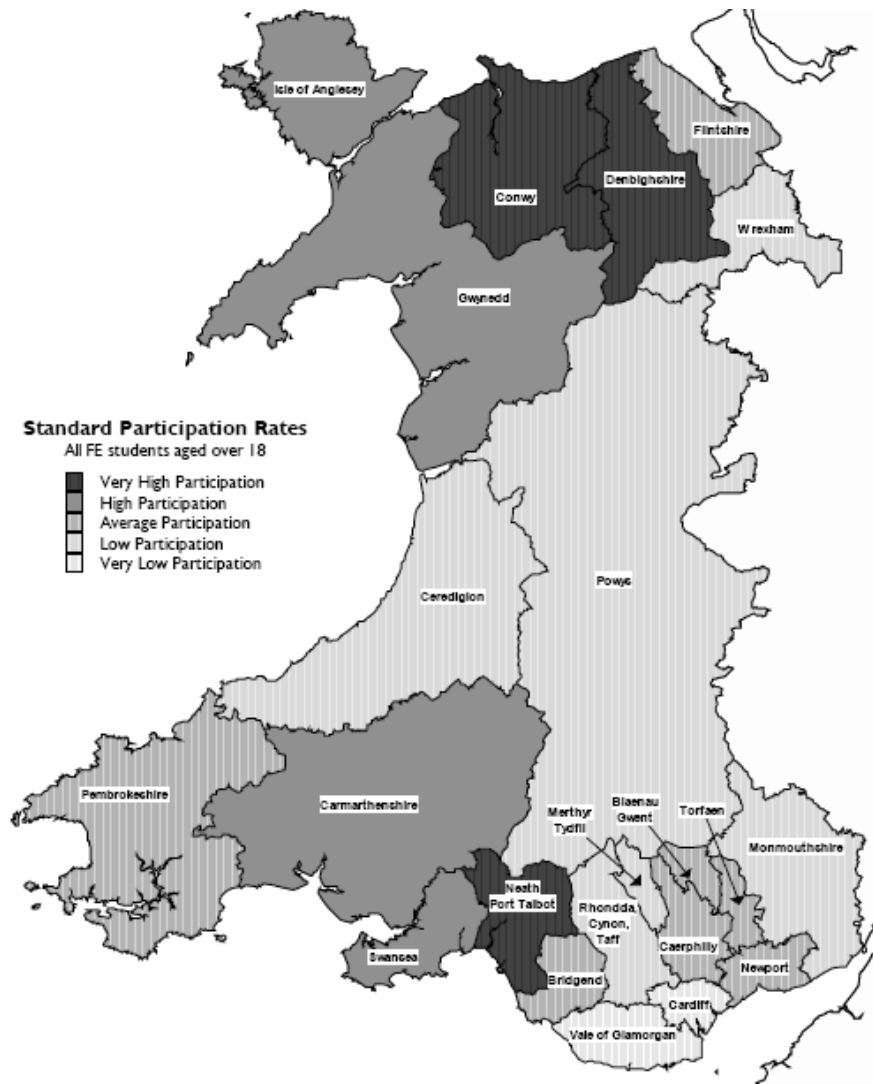
North East - the company covers the unitary authorities of Flintshire, Wrexham and the southern part of Denbighshire.

North West - The company operates in the unitary authorities of Gwynedd, Anglesey, Conwy and the Western part of Denbigh. It covers the rural areas of Meirionnydd and the Llyn in the west and the densely populated towns of Llandudno, Colwyn Bay and Rhyl to the east.

Powys - unitary authority area of Powys.

West covers the five unitary authority areas of Neath/ Port Talbot, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Swansea

Figure 1. Participation rates for Welsh domiciled, adult (aged over 18), Further Education students, studying at FE and HE institutions in the UK 1st December 2002



Notes

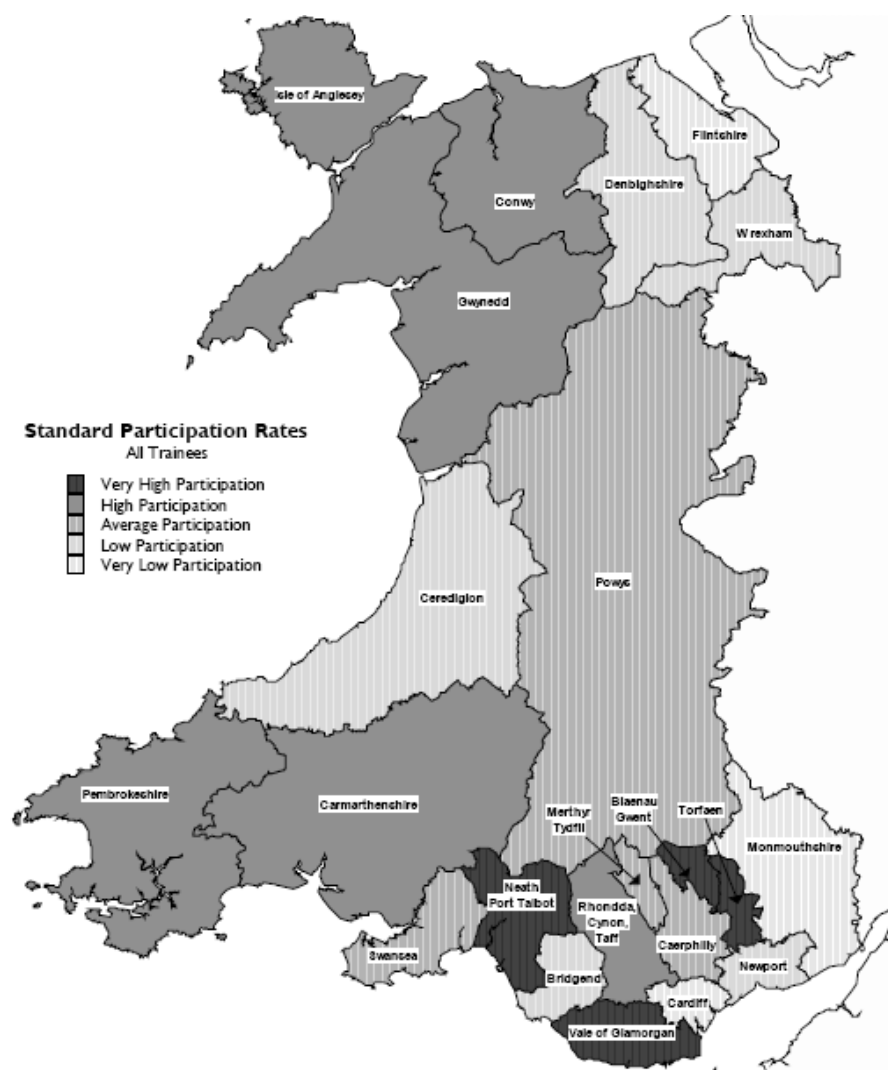
The Standard Participation Rate is defined as the number of FE (or HE, or WBL) learners domiciled in an area divided by the expected number of learners for that area and multiplied by 100. The higher the Standard Participation Rate (SPR) the greater the uptake of the population within the sector. If a particular region has a SPR of less than 100 then there were fewer learners (within FE or HE etc) living in that area than would be expected based on the Welsh national averages. Similarly, a SPR value above 100 indicates a region with a larger percentage of the population studying in the sector than would be expected from the national averages.

The SPRs ranges given in the above map are:

| | | |
|-----------|---|----------|
| Very high | = | 120 -200 |
| High | = | 105 -120 |
| Average | = | 95 -105 |
| Low | = | 80 - 95 |
| Very Low | = | 0 - 80 |

Source: ELWa/HEFCW (2004), *Higher Education, Further Education and Training Statistics 2002/03*

Figure 2. Participation rates for Welsh domiciled trainees funded by ELWa (December 2002)



Notes

The Standard Participation Rate is defined as the number of FE (or HE, or WBL) learners domiciled in an area divided by the expected number of learners for that area and multiplied by 100. The higher the Standard Participation Rate (SPR) the greater the uptake of the population within the sector. If a particular region has a SPR of less than 100 then there were fewer learners (within FE or HE etc) living in that area than would be expected based on the Welsh national averages. Similarly, a SPR value above 100 indicates a region with a larger percentage of the population studying in the sector than would be expected from the national averages.

The SPRs ranges given in the above map are:

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Very high | = 120 -200 |
| High | = 105 -120 |
| Average | = 95 -105 |
| Low | = 80 - 95 |
| Very Low | = 0 - 80 |

Source: ELWa/HEFCW (2004), *Higher Education, Further Education and Training Statistics 2002/03*

Table 14. Learner participation rates in FEIs, sixth forms, work-based learning and HEIs, December 2000

| Learner Participation Rates in FEIs, Sixth Forms, Work-Based Learning and HEIs - December 2000 | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | ELWa Region | Standard Participation Rate for all post-16 learning (including HE) | Numbers of learners - excluding HE | Standard Participation Rate for all post-16 learning (excluding HE) | Rank for learner participation - excluding HE (1=highest) | Proportion of learners studying at HE level |
| Anglesey | North Wales | 101 | 4,821 | 104 | 7 | 34% |
| Blaenau Gwent | South East Wales | 78 | 4,653 | 92 | 16 | 23% |
| Bridgend | South East Wales | 96 | 9,291 | 102 | 11 | 31% |
| Caerphilly | South East Wales | 87 | 11,421 | 97 | 14 | 28% |
| Cardiff | South East Wales | 90 | 16,551 | 81 | 22 | 43% |
| Carmarthenshire | South West Wales | 119 | 14,115 | 125 | 2 | 30% |
| Ceredigion | Mid Wales | 100 | 4,295 | 88 | 19 | 42% |
| Conwy | North Wales | 124 | 8,807 | 127 | 1 | 32% |
| Denbighshire | North Wales | 110 | 7,366 | 114 | 3 | 31% |
| Flintshire | North Wales | 102 | 9,402 | 90 | 18 | 42% |
| Gwynedd | North Wales and Mid Wales | 103 | 7,853 | 103 | 10 | 34% |
| Merthyr Tydfil | South East Wales | 93 | 4,058 | 102 | 11 | 29% |
| Monmouthshire | South East Wales | 115 | 5,736 | 100 | 13 | 42% |
| Neath Port Talbot | South West Wales | 98 | 9,895 | 108 | 5 | 27% |
| Newport | South East Wales | 100 | 9,565 | 107 | 6 | 31% |
| Pembrokeshire | South West Wales | 105 | 7,671 | 104 | 7 | 34% |
| Powys | Mid Wales | 110 | 7,433 | 91 | 17 | 44% |
| Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | South East Wales | 92 | 15,129 | 96 | 15 | 31% |
| Swansea | South West Wales | 109 | 16,065 | 110 | 4 | 33% |
| Torfaen | South East Wales | 94 | 6,520 | 104 | 7 | 28% |
| Vale of Glamorgan | South East Wales | 96 | 7,167 | 88 | 19 | 39% |
| Wrexham | North Wales | 91 | 7,929 | 87 | 21 | 38% |
| Source: | National Council - ELWa (extract from "Regional Analysis of Participation in FE and Training in Wales: 1999/2000, 2000/2001" circular) | | | | | |
| Notes: | 1) Includes all Welsh domiciled learners in UK FEIs, UK HEIs, School Sixth Forms in Wales as well as all Work-Based Learners funded by NC-ELWa. | | | | | |
| | 2) Data relates to learners enrolled in December 2000. | | | | | |
| | 3) Figures which "exclude HE" exclude all learners studying at HE level whichever type of provider they are enrolled at. | | | | | |
| | 4) Figures do <u>not</u> include learners in LEA provided Adult Continuing Education (except for contracted in learners studying at FEIs). | | | | | |
| | 5) Standard Participation Rates are normalised participation rates where 100 is the Welsh average and values greater than this have participation rates above the Welsh average. | | | | | |
| | 6) Further guidance relating to this table can be found in the "Regional Analysis of Participation in FE and Training in Wales: 1999/2000, 2000/2001" circular. | | | | | |

Table 15. Workforce development - Proportion of those in employment receiving training in the last 4 weeks – South West Wales Unitary Authorities

| | Percentage receiving job related training | Rank for proportion receiving job related training (highest=1) |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Pembrokeshire | 9.5 | 20 |
| Pembrokeshire | 10.5 | 13 |
| Neath Port Talbot | 10.3 | 15 |
| Swansea | 13.4 | 3 |
| South West Wales | 11.2 | |
| Wales | 11.4 | |

Source: Welsh Local Area Labour Force Survey, 2003

Note: All are working age

Table 16. Adult and Continuing Education Learners in 2002/2003 by Type of Provision and LEA.

| | Maintained | | Contracted In | | All | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| | Venues | Enrolments | Venues | Enrolments | Venues | Enrolments |
| Pembrokeshire | 40 | 1,941 | 36 | 1,375 | 76 | 3,316 |
| Carmarthenshire | 19 | 1,454 | 46 | 2,670 | 65 | 4,124 |
| Swansea | 68 | 1,485 | - | - | 68 | 1,485 |
| Neath Port Talbot | - | - | 3 | 3,147 | 3 | 3,147 |
| S. West Wales | 127 | 4,880 | 85 | 7,192 | 212 | 12,072 |

Source: ELWa ; NafW Statistical Bulletin SB52, 2003

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwalesheadline/content/post16education/2003/hdw200305292-e.htm>

Notes: There are 4 categories of provision:

Maintained: Courses controlled and managed by the local authority, or by a local authority maintained institution of Further Education for adults. This information is obtained on an individual learner basis.

Assisted: Courses controlled and managed by another organisation, but which the local authority supports either financially, or by providing premises or other facilities free of charge or at subsidised rates. This information is obtained as aggregate data from LEAs.

Contracted out: Provision that the local authority purchases under a formal contractual arrangement from another Further Education provider (e.g. a college).

Contracted In: Provision where the learner is enrolled at a further education institution but is taught at a local authority site under a third party arrangement.

Table 17. Welsh Speakers by Unitary Authority Area

| Unitary Authority | ELWa Region | Percentage of population speaking Welsh | Percentage of population speaking Welsh, all Wales | Rank for proportion of population speaking Welsh (1=highest) |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---|--|--|
| Anglesey | North Wales | 64.5% | 28.4% | 2 |
| Blaenau Gwent | South East Wales | 16.0% | 28.4% | 21 |
| Bridgend | South East Wales | 13.9% | 28.4% | 22 |
| Caerphilly | South East Wales | 17.5% | 28.4% | 18 |
| Cardiff | South East Wales | 22.6% | 28.4% | 13 |
| Carmarthenshire | South West Wales | 52.2% | 28.4% | 4 |
| Ceredigion | Mid Wales | 58.6% | 28.4% | 3 |
| Conwy | North Wales | 39.9% | 28.4% | 5 |
| Denbighshire | North Wales | 37.5% | 28.4% | 6 |
| Flintshire | North Wales | 25.5% | 28.4% | 9 |
| Gwynedd | North Wales and Mid Wales | 77.1% | 28.4% | 1 |
| Merthyr Tydfil | South East Wales | 24.8% | 28.4% | 10 |
| Monmouthshire | South East Wales | 16.6% | 28.4% | 20 |
| Neath Port Talbot | South West Wales | 22.0% | 28.4% | 14 |
| Newport | South East Wales | 17.7% | 28.4% | 17 |
| Pembrokeshire | South West Wales | 28.1% | 28.4% | 7 |
| Powys | Mid Wales | 27.0% | 28.4% | 8 |
| Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | South East Wales | 23.1% | 28.4% | 11 |
| Swansea | South West Wales | 17.4% | 28.4% | 19 |
| Torfaen | South East Wales | 18.7% | 28.4% | 15 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | South East Wales | 18.5% | 28.4% | 16 |
| Wrexham | North Wales | 23.1% | 28.4% | 11 |

Source: Labour Force Survey March 2003-Feb 2004, National Statistics

Table 18. Maintained secondary schools teaching Welsh, 2002/03**Percent**

| | Welsh as both a first and second language | Welsh as a first language only | Welsh as a second language only | All schools |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Pembrokeshire | 50.0 | 12.5 | 37.5 | 100.0 |
| Carmarthenshire | 46.7 | 20.0 | 33.3 | 100.0 |
| Swansea | 0.0 | 7.1 | 92.9 | 100.0 |
| Neath Port Talbot | 18.2 | 0.0 | 81.8 | 100.0 |

Source: Digest of Welsh Local Area Statistics, 2004

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/compendia/2004/dwlas2004/dwlas2004-ch6/dwlas2004-t6-14.xls>

Supplementary Tables and Maps

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[S2. Economic Inactivity Rates – Over 50 to retirement age](#)

[S3. Employment in Unitary Authority Areas, 2005](#)

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[S10. Percentages of the adult population \(aged 16-60\) who have 'low', 'lower' and 'very low' literacy skills](#)

[S11. Percentages of the adult population \(aged 16-60\) who have low, lower and very low numeracy skills](#)

[S12. GVA per head by NUTS 3 area](#)

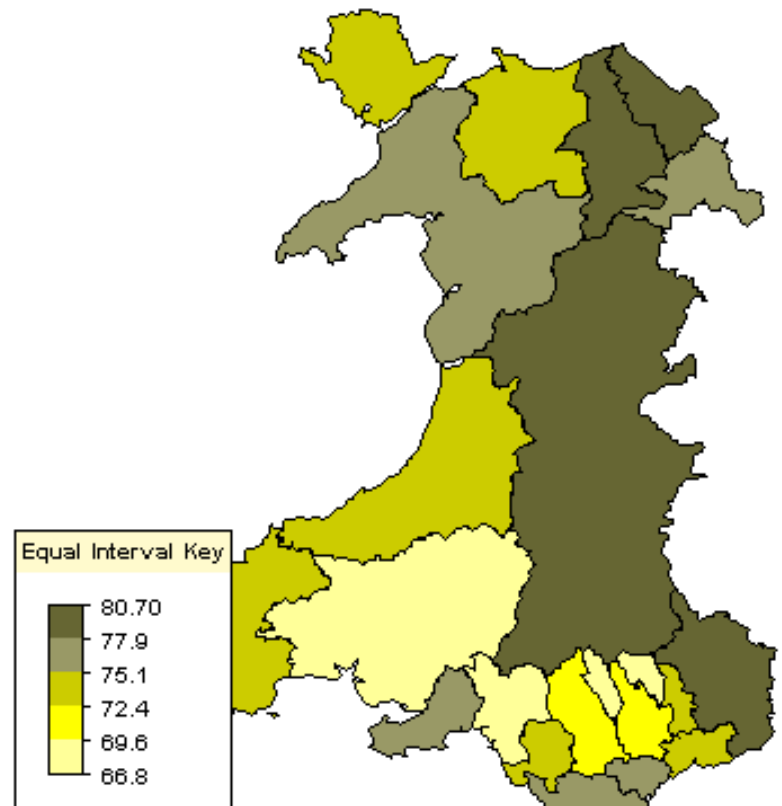
[S13. Qualification aims of FE students by subject and region in 2002/03](#)

S1. Economic Activity Rates – All of Working Age

The highest rates of participation in Wales are in Flintshire, Denbighshire, Powys and Monmouthshire.

Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent have the lowest activity rates in Wales.

Source: Labour Force Survey March 2003-Feb 2004, National Statistics

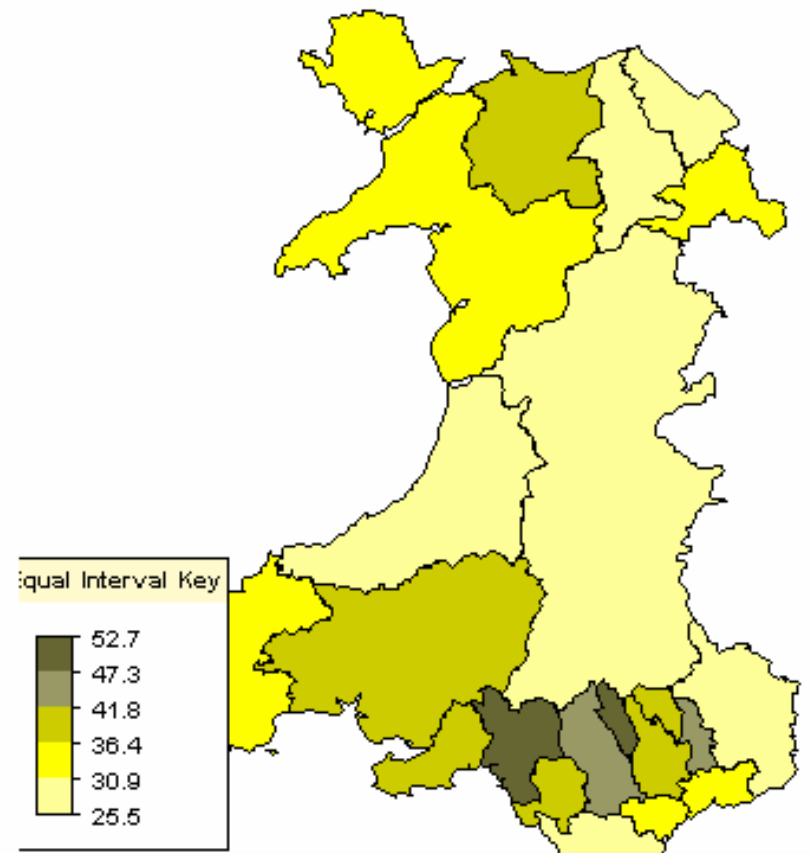


S2. Economic Inactivity Rates – Over 50 to retirement age

Disengagement from the labour market amongst those aged 50 to retirement age is highest in the South Eastern Valleys, particularly in Neath Port Talbot and Merthyr Tydfil.

Inactivity rates for those aged 50 to retirement age are predominantly low in Mid Wales.

Source: Labour Force Survey March 2003-Feb 2004, National Statistics



S3. Employment in Unitary Authority Areas, 2005

| CCET/Authority | ELWa Region | Number employed (including self-employed) | Employment rate (employment as % of working age population) | Employment rate in ELWa region | Employment rate in Wales | Rank for employment rate (1=highest) |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Anglesey | North Wales | 28,000 | 70.8% | 74.7% | 70.5% | 12 |
| Blaenau Gwent | South East Wales | 26,000 | 63.5% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 20 |
| Bridgend | South East Wales | 56,000 | 72.0% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 8 |
| Caerphilly | South East Wales | 69,000 | 67.1% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 17 |
| Cardiff | South East Wales | 136,000 | 70.7% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 13 |
| Carmarthenshire | South West Wales | 67,000 | 65.7% | 67.6% | 70.5% | 18 |
| Ceredigion | Mid Wales | 33,000 | 68.0% | 73.1% | 70.5% | 16 |
| Conwy | North Wales | 44,000 | 72.0% | 74.7% | 70.5% | 8 |
| Denbighshire | North Wales | 41,000 | 75.2% | 74.7% | 70.5% | 4 |
| Flintshire | North Wales | 73,000 | 78.3% | 74.7% | 70.5% | 1 |
| Gwynedd | North Wales and Mid Wales | 51,000 | 73.2% | 74.7% | 70.5% | 7 |
| Merthyr Tydfil | South East Wales | 21,000 | 63.3% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 21 |
| Monmouthshire | South East Wales | 39,000 | 76.4% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 3 |
| Neath Port Talbot | South West Wales | 50,000 | 62.2% | 67.6% | 70.5% | 22 |
| Newport | South East Wales | 58,000 | 71.4% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 10 |
| Pembrokeshire | South West Wales | 46,000 | 70.3% | 67.6% | 70.5% | 14 |
| Powys | Mid Wales | 57,000 | 76.5% | 73.1% | 70.5% | 2 |
| Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | South East Wales | 90,000 | 65.5% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 19 |
| Swansea | South West Wales | 94,000 | 71.0% | 67.6% | 70.5% | 11 |
| Torfaen | South East Wales | 38,000 | 69.5% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 15 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | South East Wales | 52,000 | 73.3% | 69.4% | 70.5% | 6 |
| Wrexham | North Wales | 60,000 | 75.0% | 74.7% | 70.5% | 5 |

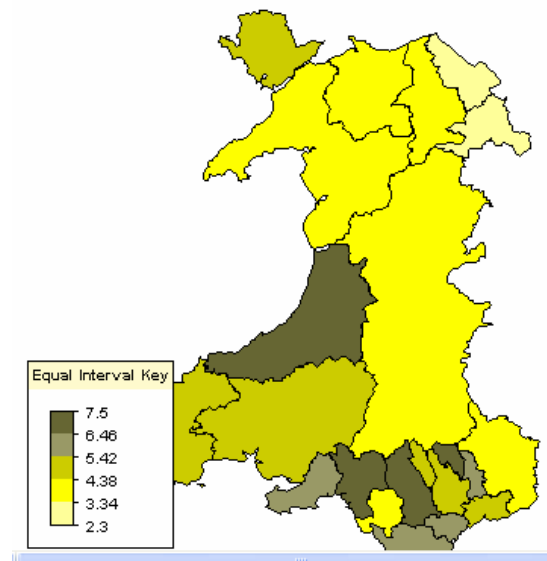
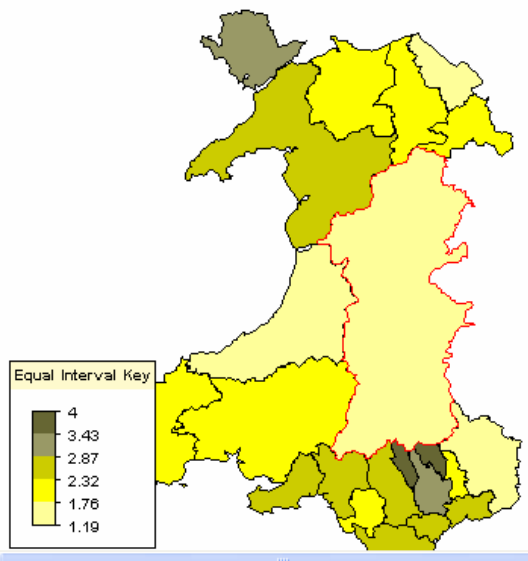
Source: Labour Force Survey March 2003-Feb 2004, National Statistics

Mid Wales and North Wales have higher employment rates than Wales overall. Flintshire has the highest employment rate. Employment rates are lowest in South West Wales, particularly in Neath Port Talbot.

S4. Unemployment in Unitary Authorities

% of Resident Working Age Population in receipt of JSA

% of Working Age Unemployed (ILO) Basis

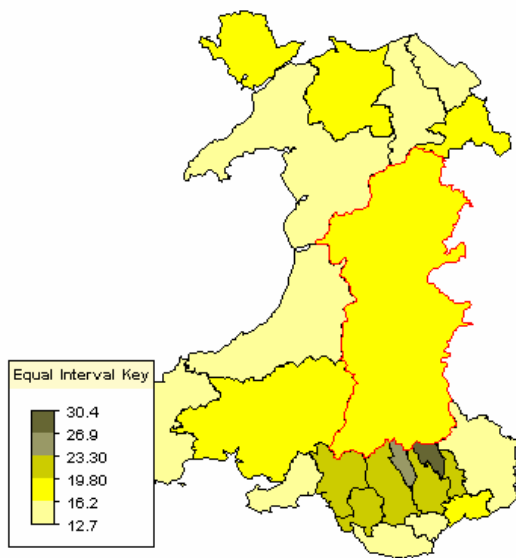


Unemployment rates are highest in the South Eastern Valleys, and lowest in North and Mid Wales.

Source: National Statistics, Local Area Labour Force Survey 2003-04

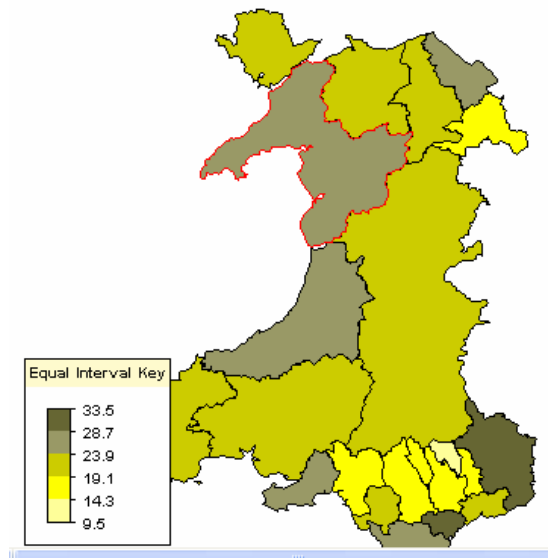
S5 Workforce Qualifications

% With No Qualifications - Working Age



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% Qualified to NVQ 4+ - Working Age



The South Eastern Valleys have the highest proportion of working age people without any qualifications, and the lowest proportion of working age people qualified to NVQ level 4 and above. The highest percentage of the working age population qualified to NVQ level 4 or above is found in Monmouthshire and Cardiff.

Source: National Statistics, Local Area Labour Force Survey 2003-04

S6. Numbers in Unitary Authorities with qualifications at NVQ level 2 and over

| Unitary Authority | ELWa Region | Number with NVQ level 2 and over | Percentage of working age population with NVQ level 2 and over | ELWa region percentage with NVQ level 2 and over | Wales percentage with NVQ level 2 and over | Rank for percentage with NVQ level 2 and over |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Anglesey | North Wales | 25,000 | 63.5% | 63.2% | 60.3% | 10 |
| Blaenau Gwent | South East Wales | 17,000 | 41.1% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 22 |
| Bridgend | South East Wales | 45,000 | 58.4% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 15 |
| Caerphilly | South East Wales | 53,000 | 51.5% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 20 |
| Cardiff | South East Wales | 128,000 | 66.6% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 3 |
| Carmarthenshire | South West Wales | 61,000 | 60.1% | 61.1% | 60.3% | 13 |
| Ceredigion | Mid Wales | 33,000 | 69.1% | 62.7% | 60.3% | 1 |
| Conwy | North Wales | 37,000 | 60.6% | 63.2% | 60.3% | 11 |
| Denbighshire | North Wales | 35,000 | 64.6% | 63.2% | 60.3% | 6 |
| Flintshire | North Wales | 59,000 | 63.7% | 63.2% | 60.3% | 8 |
| Gwynedd | North Wales and Mid Wales | 46,000 | 66.1% | 63.0% | 60.3% | 4 |
| Merthyr Tydfil | South East Wales | 17,000 | 49.4% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 21 |
| Monmouthshire | South East Wales | 34,000 | 68.3% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 2 |
| Neath Port Talbot | South West Wales | 44,000 | 54.6% | 61.1% | 60.3% | 17 |
| Newport | South East Wales | 46,000 | 56.2% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 16 |
| Pembrokeshire | South West Wales | 42,000 | 63.6% | 61.1% | 60.3% | 9 |
| Powys | Mid Wales | 44,000 | 59.1% | 62.7% | 60.3% | 14 |
| Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | South East Wales | 75,000 | 54.1% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 18 |
| Swansea | South West Wales | 86,000 | 64.5% | 61.1% | 60.3% | 7 |
| Torfaen | South East Wales | 29,000 | 53.9% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 19 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | South East Wales | 47,000 | 66.1% | 58.2% | 60.3% | 4 |
| Wrexham | North Wales | 48,000 | 60.2% | 63.2% | 60.3% | 12 |

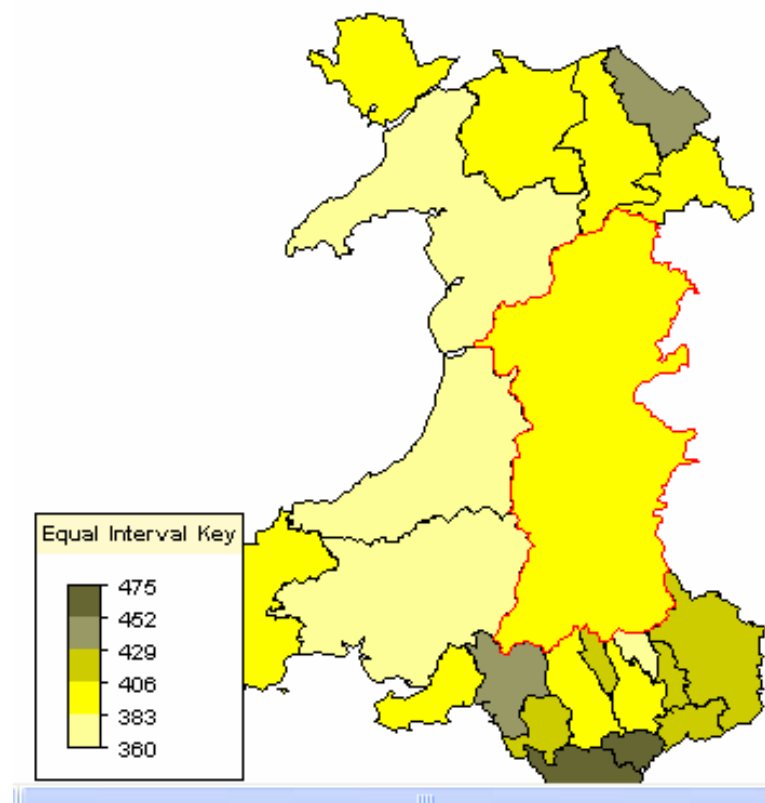
Source: National Statistics, Local Area Labour Force Survey 2003-04

The percentage of the working age population with NVQ level 2 and over in Ceredigion, Monmouthshire, Cardiff and Gwynedd is higher than the Welsh average. Blaenau Gwent has the lowest proportion of working age people with NVQ level 2 and over.

**S7. Average Gross Weekly Full-Time Earnings by UA
(Workplace Basis)**

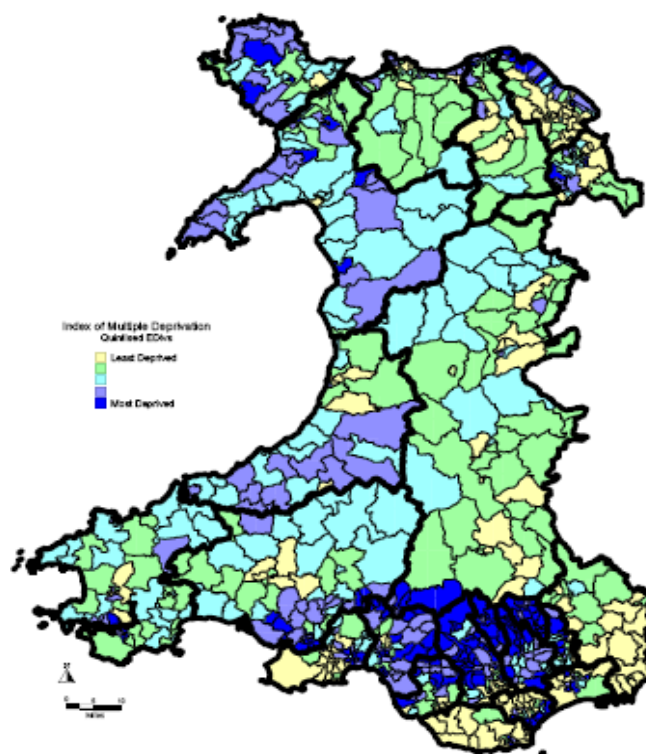
| Unitary Authority | Gross Full-Time Weekly Earnings | Rank |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|------|
| Anglesey | ! | 12 |
| Blaenau Gwent | ! | 20 |
| Bridgend | 408 | 8 |
| Caerphilly | 389 | 14 |
| Cardiff | 455 | 2 |
| Carmarthenshire | 379 | 19 |
| Ceredigion | ! | 21 |
| Conwy | 385 | 16 |
| Denbighshire | ! | 18 |
| Flintshire | 446 | 4 |
| Gwynedd | 360 | 22 |
| Merthyr Tydfil | ! | 5 |
| Monmouthshire | ! | 7 |
| Neath Port Talbot | 447 | 3 |
| Newport | 422 | 6 |
| Pembrokeshire | ! | 11 |
| Powys | 402 | 10 |
| Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | 398 | 13 |
| Swansea | 385 | 17 |
| Torfaen | 408 | 9 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | ! | 1 |
| Wrexham | 387 | 15 |

Source: New Earnings Survey 2003, National Statistics
! Earnings estimate suppressed



The Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff have the highest average gross weekly earnings in Wales, whereas Gwynedd has the lowest.

S8. Welsh Index of Deprivation Overall Index of Multiple Deprivation (Ward Level)



Source: http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/social/2000/deprivation/overall_IMD_e.pdf

The Indices of Deprivation 2000 (ID 2000) have been an important tool for identifying the most disadvantaged areas but had increasingly become out of date. In May 2004, ministerial approval was given to proceed with the update to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD). The Local Government Data Unit has been asked by the Welsh Assembly Government to project manage the WIMD for publication in 2005.

For information about the 2005 data and related papers follow the link below

<http://www.lgdu-wales.gov.uk/eng/WimdProject.asp?nc=DP1B&id=1755>

The 2000 data can be accessed at

http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubstatisticsforwales/content/publication/social/2000/deprivation/index_data.xls

S9. Notified Vacancies in Wales, May 2005

| ELWa Region | UA | Total | Vacancy Rate (%) |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--------|------------------|
| North Wales | Anglesey | 137 | 0.5 |
| South East Wales | Blaenau Gwent | 249 | 1.0 |
| South East Wales | Bridgend | 559 | 1.0 |
| South East Wales | Caerphilly | 653 | 0.9 |
| South East Wales | Cardiff | 2,084 | 1.5 |
| South West Wales | Carmarthenshire | 680 | 1.0 |
| Mid Wales | Ceredigion | 407 | 1.2 |
| North Wales | Conwy | 442 | 1.0 |
| North Wales | Denbighshire | 426 | 1.0 |
| North Wales | Flintshire | 662 | 0.9 |
| North Wales and Mid Wales | Gwynedd | 431 | 0.8 |
| South East Wales | Merthyr Tydfil | 407 | 1.9 |
| South East Wales | Monmouthshire | 372 | 1.0 |
| South West Wales | Neath Port Talbot | 551 | 1.1 |
| South East Wales | Newport | 612 | 1.1 |
| South West Wales | Pembrokeshire | 567 | 1.2 |
| Mid Wales | Powys | 515 | 0.9 |
| South East Wales | Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | 844 | 0.9 |
| South West Wales | Swansea | 1,364 | 1.5 |
| South East Wales | Torfaen | 453 | 1.2 |
| South East Wales | Vale of Glamorgan | 480 | 0.9 |
| North Wales | Wrexham | 594 | 1.0 |
| | Total | 13,489 | |

Interpretation of these data need to take account of changes in recent years to Jobcentre Plus procedures for taking and handling vacancies. These figures are not fully comparable over time and may not indicate developments in the labour market. A more detailed explanation is available at www.nomisweb.co.uk

Source: National Statistics, Job Centre Plus Vacancies

Vacancy rates (notified vacancies as a % of employment) are highest in Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff and Swansea while Anglesey and Gwynedd have the lowest rates. Caution should be exercised in reading too much into these differences, which may reflect spatial variations in informal recruitment as much as they do the demand for labour.

S10. Percentages of the adult population (aged 16-60) who have 'low', 'lower' and 'very low' literacy skills

| Region | Unitary Authority | Total population aged 16-60 | Low | Lower | Very Low | Total % |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------|-------|----------|---------|
| North Wales | Conwy | 60,388 | 15.5 | 6.1 | 4.7 | 26.4 |
| | Denbighshire | 50,632 | 15.8 | 5.8 | 4.6 | 26.2 |
| | Flintshire | 88,666 | 16.0 | 6.1 | 4.6 | 26.6 |
| | Gwynedd | 66,891 | 17.3 | 5.7 | 5.0 | 28.0 |
| | Isle of Anglesey | 36,716 | 16.5 | 5.8 | 4.8 | 27.1 |
| | Wrexham | 72,987 | 16.6 | 6.8 | 5.7 | 29.1 |
| Mid Wales | Ceredigion | 42,284 | 17.5 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 26.7 |
| | Powys | 71,308 | 17.7 | 5.5 | 4.8 | 28.0 |
| South West Wales | Carmarthenshire | 94,635 | 17.1 | 6.4 | 5.1 | 28.6 |
| | Neath Port Talbot | 79,582 | 17.0 | 7.7 | 6.1 | 30.9 |
| | Pembrokeshire | 64,251 | 17.5 | 5.9 | 5.2 | 28.6 |
| | Swansea | 133,750 | 15.9 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 27.7 |
| South East Wales | Blaenau Gwent | 41,918 | 17.1 | 8.7 | 7.3 | 33.1 |
| | Bridgend | 76,492 | 16.2 | 6.9 | 5.5 | 28.6 |
| | Caerphilly | 98,371 | 17.1 | 8.0 | 6.4 | 31.6 |
| | Cardiff | 192,660 | 15.1 | 5.2 | 5.8 | 26.1 |
| | Merthyr Tydfil | 32,429 | 17.1 | 8.3 | 7.2 | 32.6 |
| | Monmouthshire | 51,507 | 15.0 | 4.7 | 4.0 | 23.8 |
| | Newport | 79,006 | 16.2 | 6.5 | 6.1 | 28.9 |
| | Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | 143,089 | 16.9 | 7.5 | 6.4 | 30.8 |
| | Torfaen | 52,298 | 16.7 | 7.6 | 6.6 | 30.9 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | 66,960 | 15.4 | 5.6 | 4.6 | 25.6 | |
| All Wales | | 1,696,820 | | | | 28.0 |

Source: Adults' basic skills: benchmark information on the scale of need in different areas of Wales. The Basic Skills Agency, 2001.

The poorest literacy skills are found in former industrial areas and the South East Valleys, whereas the highest literacy skills are found in the more prosperous areas of North East Wales, Cardiff, The Vale of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire.

S11. Percentages of the adult population (aged 16-60) who have low, lower and very low numeracy skills

| Region | Unitary Authority | Total population aged 16-60 | Low | Lower | Very Low | Total % |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------|-------|----------|---------|
| North Wales | Conwy | 60,388 | 14.7 | 8.6 | 7.5 | 30.9 |
| | Denbighshire | 50,632 | 14.2 | 8.4 | 6.8 | 29.4 |
| | Flintshire | 88,666 | 13.8 | 8.2 | 6.3 | 28.4 |
| | Gwynedd | 66,891 | 14.8 | 9.2 | 7.2 | 31.2 |
| | Isle of Anglesey | 36,716 | 14.4 | 8.8 | 6.8 | 30.0 |
| | Wrexham | 72,987 | 14.9 | 9.4 | 8.0 | 32.3 |
| Mid Wales | Ceredigion | 42,284 | 14.0 | 8.6 | 6.7 | 29.3 |
| | Powys | 71,308 | 15.2 | 9.3 | 6.9 | 31.3 |
| South West Wales | Carmarthenshire | 94,635 | 15.7 | 9.5 | 7.5 | 32.6 |
| | Neath Port Talbot | 79,582 | 16.0 | 10.0 | 9.0 | 35.1 |
| | Pembrokeshire | 64,251 | 15.1 | 9.4 | 7.5 | 32.0 |
| | Swansea | 133,750 | 13.6 | 8.9 | 7.8 | 30.3 |
| South East Wales | Blaenau Gwent | 41,918 | 16.7 | 11.2 | 10.5 | 38.3 |
| | Bridgend | 76,492 | 14.7 | 9.2 | 7.8 | 31.7 |
| | Caerphilly | 98,371 | 15.8 | 10.4 | 9.3 | 35.5 |
| | Cardiff | 192,660 | 12.0 | 8.0 | 7.8 | 27.7 |
| | Merthyr Tydfil | 32,429 | 16.1 | 10.9 | 10.5 | 37.5 |
| | Monmouthshire | 51,507 | 12.1 | 7.2 | 4.9 | 24.2 |
| | Newport | 79,006 | 14.1 | 9.3 | 8.3 | 31.8 |
| | Rhondda, Cynon, Taff | 143,089 | 15.6 | 10.1 | 8.9 | 34.6 |
| | Torfaen | 52,298 | 15.5 | 10.1 | 9.4 | 35.1 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | 66,960 | 12.8 | 7.8 | 6.1 | 26.8 | |
| All Wales | | 1,696,820 | | | | 32.0 |

Source: Adults' basic skills: benchmark information on the scale of need in different areas of Wales. The Basic Skills Agency, 2001

More people in Wales have difficulty with numeracy than literacy. As with literacy, the poorest numeracy skills are found in former industrial areas and the South East Valleys, whereas the highest numeracy skills are found in the more prosperous areas of North East Wales, Cardiff, The Vale of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire.

S12. GVA per head by NUTS 3 area

| Gross Value Added per head at current basic prices | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|--------|------------------|---------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| £ per year | Gwynedd | Powys | Isle of Anglesey | Gwynedd | Conwy and Denbigh shire | Flintshire and Wrexham | Central Valleys | Gwent Valleys | Monmouthshire and Newport | Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan | Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot | Swansea |
| 1995 | 8,725 | 9,165 | 5,843 | 8,725 | 7,762 | 11,823 | 7,594 | 7,458 | 9,864 | 11,405 | 9,042 | 8,764 |
| 1996 | 8,974 | 9,368 | 6,063 | 8,974 | 8,013 | 12,384 | 7,963 | 7,737 | 10,400 | 11,887 | 9,710 | 9,081 |
| 1997 | 8,877 | 9,546 | 6,344 | 8,877 | 8,267 | 13,042 | 8,207 | 7,946 | 11,040 | 12,638 | 10,267 | 9,535 |
| 1998 | 8,857 | 10,063 | 6,641 | 8,857 | 8,430 | 13,432 | 8,563 | 8,291 | 12,164 | 13,270 | 9,906 | 10,105 |
| 1999 | 8,885 | 10,138 | 6,682 | 8,885 | 8,525 | 13,435 | 8,566 | 8,593 | 13,202 | 14,210 | 9,998 | 10,615 |
| 2000 | 9,122 | 10,356 | 7,137 | 9,122 | 8,871 | 13,414 | 8,931 | 8,685 | 13,956 | 15,161 | 9,875 | 11,284 |
| 2001 | 9,816 | 10,784 | 7,891 | 9,816 | 9,446 | 13,976 | 9,287 | 8,854 | 14,352 | 16,527 | 10,177 | 11,926 |
| 2002 | 10,431 | 11,254 | 8,133 | 10,431 | 10,001 | 14,654 | 9,911 | 9,122 | 14,890 | 17,484 | 10,454 | 12,610 |
| Annual % change | 2.80% | 3.30% | 5.60% | 2.80% | 4.10% | 3.40% | 4.40% | 3.20% | 7.30% | 7.60% | 2.20% | 6.30% |

Source: National Statistics

Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan continues to have the highest GVA per head in Wales, whereas Anglesey remains to have the lowest GVA per capita.

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=7359>

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_economy/Nuts3_Tables_1-12.xls

S13. Qualification aims of FE students by subject and region in 2002/03

| Subject for each Qualification aim | Percent | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | North Wales | Mid Wales | South West Wales | South East Wales | All Wales % |
| Business and Management | 6 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Sales/Marketing | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| IT | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 18 |
| Humanities | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Social Sciences | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cultural Studies | 7 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 8 |
| Education | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Care | 10 | 11 | 18 | 19 | 16 |
| Arts and Crafts | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Media | 6 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| Performing Arts | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Sports | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Hotel and Catering | 7 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Health | 12 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| Environment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Science/Maths | 6 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Agriculture | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Built Environment | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Services to Industry | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Manufacturing | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Engineering | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Mining/Chemicals | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Transport | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Not Specified | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Total Number | 147,835 | 49,481 | 153,500 | 273,430 | 624,246 |

Source: Extract from "HE, FE and Training Statistics in Wales 2002/2003", ELWa./HEFCW 2004

Subjects chosen are remarkably stable across all regions with the most popular subjects being Care, Health, IT and Business and Management. These 4 subjects account for 50% of all qualification aims in Wales overall.

Terms and Definitions

Labour Supply

Figures for the economically active and inactive tables are taken from the annual Local Area Labour Force Survey. The LFS is the largest regular household survey in the United Kingdom. The annual local area LFS dataset includes surveys conducted between March and February of each year. It also includes boosted samples for some local areas in order to enhance the reliability of estimates for these areas.

As LFS estimates are based on statistical samples, they are subject to sampling variability. This means that if another sample for the same period were drawn, a different estimate might be produced. In general, the larger the number of people in the sample, the smaller the variation between estimates. Estimates for smaller areas such as local/unitary authorities are therefore less reliable than those for larger areas such as regions and countries.

Economically Active

Economically active: People aged 16 and over who are either in employment or unemployed.

Economic activity rate (working age): The number of people, who are economically active aged 16 to 59/64, expressed as a percentage of all working age people.

In employment: People aged 16 or over who did some paid work in the reference week (whether as an employee or self employed); those who had a job that they were temporarily away from (on holiday, for example); those on Government supported training and employment programmes; and those doing unpaid family work.

Employment rate (working age): The number of people in employment aged 16 to 59/64 expressed as a percentage of all working age people.

Employees and self employed: The division between employees and self employed is based on survey respondents' own assessment of their employment status. The percentage show the number in each category as a percentage of all working age people.

Unemployment: Refers to people without a job who were available to start work in the two weeks following their LFS interview and who had either looked for work in the four weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already obtained. This is the International Labour Organisation (ILO) measure of unemployment and has been adopted by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) as the official, and only internationally comparable, measure of unemployment in the UK.

Unemployment rate (working age): The number of unemployed people aged 16 to 59/64 expressed as a percentage of the economically active population aged 16 to 59/64.

Economically inactive

Economically inactive: People who are neither in employment nor unemployed. This group includes, for example, all those who were looking after a home or retired.

Wanting a job: People not in employment who want a job but are not classed as unemployed because they have either not sought work in the last four weeks or are not available to start work.

Not wanting a job: People who are neither in employment nor unemployed and who do not want a job.

Disability

In the LFS, a person is classed as disabled if they are disabled according to one or both of the following two definitions:

DDA group - those who identify themselves as having a current disability covered by the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act.

This covers people who said they had a health problem or disability they felt would last for more than a year and who said this problem or disability would 'substantially limit their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'. Additionally, people with progressive illnesses (eg cancer, multiple sclerosis, symptomatic HIV, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy) are also included under this definition.

Work-limiting group

People who said they had a health problem or disability they felt would last for more than a year and who said that the health problem or disability in question 'affected either the kind or amount of paid work they could do'

Qualifications

No qualifications: No formal qualifications held

Other qualifications: includes foreign qualifications and some professional qualifications

NVQ 1 equivalent: e.g. fewer than 5 GCSEs at grades A-C, foundation GNVQ, NVQ 1, intermediate 1 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ 2 equivalent: e.g. 5 or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ 2, intermediate 2 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ 3 equivalent: e.g. 2 or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ 3, 2 or more higher or advanced higher national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ 4 equivalent and above: e.g. HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent

Earnings

The figures show the average earnings in £ for employees who are on adults rates of pay and whose pay was not affected by absence. Figures for earnings come from the New Earnings Survey (NES). The NES is based on a 1 per cent sample of employees, information on whose earnings and hours is obtained from employers. The survey does not cover self-employed. In 2003 information related to the pay period which included 9 April.

Earnings data can be reported on a residence basis (on the area in which employees reside) or on a workplace basis. The earnings information collected relates to gross pay before tax, national insurance or other deductions, and excludes payments in kind. It is restricted to earnings relating to the survey pay period and so excludes payments of arrears from another period made during the survey period; any payments due as a result of a pay settlement but not yet paid at the time of the survey will also be excluded.

Working-age Benefits

JSA claimant count records the number of people claiming Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits at Jobcentre Plus local offices. People claiming JSA must declare that they are out of work, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which the claim is made.

The percentage figures express the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the working age population resident in that area. Working age is defined as 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females. The working age population figures used to calculate claimant count proportions are derived from the mid-2002 population estimates.

The count of total JSA claimants is mostly derived from the Jobcentre Plus computer records. For various reasons, e.g. when a claimant's National Insurance number is not known, a few claims have to be dealt with manually by local offices. These clerical claims, which amount to less than 1 per cent of the total, are counted separately and not analysed in as much detail as the computerised claims. The count of total JSA claimants includes clerical claims, but only the computerised claims are analysed by age and duration.

Employee jobs

The number of jobs held by employees. The information comes from the Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) - an employer survey conducted in December of each year. The survey samples around 78,000 businesses. The ABI records a job at the location of an employee's workplace (rather than at the location of the business's main office).

Full-time and part-time: In the ABI, part-time employees are those working for 30 or fewer hours per week.

Tourism-related includes the following sectors:

- 551 Hotels
- 552 Camping sites etc
- 553 Restaurants
- 554 Bars
- 633 Activities of travel agencies etc
- 925 Library, archives, museums etc
- 926 Sporting activities
- 927 Other recreational activities

Earnings

Figures for earnings come from the New Earnings Survey (NES). The NES is based on a 1 per cent sample of employees, information on whose earnings and hours is obtained from employers. The survey does not cover self-employed. In 2003 information related to the pay period which included 9 April. The figures show the average earnings in pounds for earners on adults rates of pay whose pay was not affected by absence.

The earnings information collected relates to gross pay before tax, national insurance or other deductions, and excludes payments in kind. It is restricted to earnings relating to the survey pay period and so excludes payments of arrears from another period made during the survey period; any payments due as a result of a pay settlement but not yet paid at the time of the survey will also be excluded.

NES estimates from Nomis may differ slightly from those produced directly by ONS (eg published volumes) due to different geographic bases. In this respect estimates produced by ONS will be given definitive status by National Statistics.

VAT Registered Businesses

VAT registrations and de-registrations are the best official guide to the pattern of business start-ups and closures. They are an indicator of the level of entrepreneurship and of the health of the business population. As such they are used widely in regional and local economic planning.

The source of these figures is the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR) which contains records of all businesses registered for VAT. Coverage of the statistics is complete in all parts of the economy except a few VAT exempt sectors and the very smallest one person businesses operating below the threshold for VAT registration.