

The Socio-Economic Characteristics of the South Wales Valleys in a Broader Context

A Report for the Welsh Assembly Government

June 2004



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Main Findings

General

- Across all the main socio-economic indicators, the South Wales Valleys, and in particular the central Valleys as defined in this report, show large differences from Wales as a whole. Performance across all measures is typically worse and sometimes much worse. Given that the Valleys constitute roughly 30 per cent of the population of Wales, the differences from the rest of Wales are even greater. *(All sections in main report)*
- Comparison with similar areas in the rest of Britain suggests the scale and extent of the problems is greater in the Valleys than elsewhere, affecting possibly as many as 200,000 people. Although similar or worse performance is sometimes to be found in particular locations within the other regions examined, much wider areas within South Wales are affected. *(All sections)*
- Whereas the Valleys as a whole perform more weakly than the English comparator regions, two authorities, Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent under-perform their Valleys counterparts and the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys averages across most indicators. Only one authority in England, Easington in Co. Durham, reports figures broadly comparable across all indicators with the two weakest South Wales authorities. On some indicators Liverpool has worse figures than those of the Valleys authorities. *(All sections)*
- The ranking of local authorities across the selected indicators is broadly consistent, with only occasional examples of unexpected out-performance by one area compared with the others. The order of increasing severity of social and economic conditions problems is: Torfaen, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil. Within the area defined as the Extended Valleys, indicators comparable with the Greater Valleys are found particularly around Llanelli and the Amman Valley. *(All sections)*
- Three fifths of the top 100 most deprived wards in Wales as measured by the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000 are contained within the Greater Valleys authorities areas. Caerphilly has more wards than any other authority in Wales in the list of the top 25 most deprived. Eleven Rhondda wards figure in the top 50 most deprived. *(Section 1)*
- Variations in prosperity are greater in some authorities than others. Neath, Bridgend, Torfaen and Rhondda all have wards in the 100 least deprived in Wales. *(Section 1)*
- The most severe problems occur in those areas furthest from Cardiff, Newport and to a lesser extent Swansea in the more northerly parts of the authorities, though there are also wards nearer the main conurbations to the south where acute social and economic problems are apparent. *(All sections)*

Demographics and Household Composition

- The overall population of the Valleys is declining slowly with a small natural increase in most areas being countered by outward migration, particularly from northern wards. The Valleys population is less ethnically diverse than the rest of Wales, with the overwhelming bulk of inhabitants of the seven authorities born in Wales. *(Section 2)*
- The proportion of the male and female population in the upper age bands is lower than for Wales as whole. Teenage conceptions are higher than in Wales as a whole with particularly high figures in the three unitary authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly and Merthyr Tydfil. These two factors results in a slightly younger age profile, with a mean age for the Valleys six months below the Welsh average of 39.5 years. *(Section 2)*

Labour Market

- Economic activity rates are lower than in the rest of Wales and comparator areas in England, with the gap widening with age for both men and women. Much of the economic inactivity is expressed as permanent sickness or disability. Around three times as many non-working individuals are classified as inactive due to permanent sickness or disability as are classified as unemployed. For women caring for others is also an important cause of inactivity. *(Section 3)*
- Roughly one third of the unemployed aged 16-74 fall within the 16-24 age group and around ten per cent of the unemployed have never worked. *(Section 3)*
- The structure of the employment market differs markedly from the rest of Wales (and even more so from the rest of Britain). A relatively large proportion of people are employed in manufacturing and a markedly smaller proportion in the private service sector. In health and social services and education the proportions exceed those in Wales as a whole. *(Sections 3 and 9)*
- As a proportion of the working age population, self-employment in the rest of Wales is twice that in the Valleys. The unitary authorities with low levels of self-employment also have low levels of part-time employment. *(Section 3)*
- Fewer people in the Valleys work in managerial and professional occupations and more in elementary occupations compared with Wales or comparator areas, with the variation particularly pronounced in Blaenau Gwent.

Education and Skills

- Educational attainment levels in the Valleys are low, with larger proportions possessing few or no qualifications at all than in Wales as a whole or in the comparator English regions *(Section 4)*.
- Problems start early in life, with attainment falling way progressively through the Key Stages of educational attainment and up to GCSE, leading ultimately

to smaller numbers entering higher education and a higher proportion leaving school with poorer grades. The path to work, where it opens, leads for many young people only into unskilled and hence low-paid work. (*Section 4*).

- In the population as a whole, levels of attainment are higher in younger age groups, progressively deteriorating through successive age bands. The gap with other parts of Wales in attainment levels remains broadly consistent throughout age bands, however. (*Section 4*).

Health

- A relatively larger proportion of people in the Greater Valleys than in Wales as a whole or in the comparator areas report a limiting long term illness, with heavy concentrations in the northern parts of the Valleys. In general, fewer people in the area report their general health as “good” than in Wales as a whole or in the comparator areas and mortality ratios are much higher than for Wales, particularly in Merthyr Tydfil. (*Section 5*)
- Valleys GPs have to carry larger patient lists (and possibly also more visits per patient) than in the rest of Wales and the UK. (*Section 5*)
- The proportion of GPs due to retire in the next ten years is high in several authorities and particularly so in Blaenau Gwent where nearly one-third of practices are also single-handed.

Income and Deprivation

- The proportion of household without any adults in employment is higher than in Wales as a whole or in the comparator areas in England with the exception of Merseyside, leading to much higher numbers of benefit claimants and pupils eligible for free school meals. (*Section 6*)
- Average gross weekly earnings are below the Welsh average in all but two authorities, Torfaen and Neath Port Talbot, and particularly low in Blaenau Gwent. (*Section 6*)

Housing

- Housing tenure patterns in the Valleys are broadly comparable with those in Wales as a whole, with the main variation being slightly higher levels of owner occupation. The Valleys generally present evidence of an unbalanced housing structure, with high proportions of low-priced older and terraced accommodation, concentrated in the lowest Council Tax price bands, and a smaller proportion of higher-priced detached housing than in Wales as a whole (*Section 7*).

Commuting and Access to a Car

- Commuting out of area, mainly to Cardiff, has become a factor of life for large numbers of people in several authorities, particularly Caerphilly, Torfaen and Rhondda Cynon Taff. (*Section 8*)
- Though the rail network into Cardiff is extensive, train times and frequencies beyond Caerphilly and Pontypridd impede the development of a significant commuter market to city centre jobs. Similar considerations apply to bus services. (*Section 8*)
- A higher proportion of households lack access to a car than in Wales as a whole but higher proportions are recorded in some of the comparator areas in England. (*Section 8*)

Business Activity

- Fewer people than in Wales as a whole work in very small workplaces (up to 25 people employed) though the differences are not large. More people work in medium-sized workplaces of up to 200 employees in total, with the proportions in very large workplaces generally small apart from one or two exceptions. (*Section 9*)
- The number of Vat-registered businesses is well below the Welsh average per 1,000 population. (*Section 9*)

Crime

- Levels of crime vary widely even between neighbouring authorities (probably reflecting different methods of recording). There appear, however, to be high levels of crime throughout the Valleys associated with poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, notably robbery, vehicle crime and violence. (*Section 10*)

Other Issues

- This statistical profile presents a picture of a distressed area unique in Great Britain for the depth and concentration of its problems. It also highlights the interlinked – and even circular – nature of these problems. Success in raising standards in any part of the chain would have beneficial effects elsewhere. Over the long term the challenge of improving education and skills so that aspirations and motivation can be raised and future generations set on the path to more prosperous and fulfilling lives appears to be one overarching area that needs to be addressed
- On a general point, we have identified some gaps in the data available, which we believe it would be useful to rectify. It has, for example, not proved possible to establish levels of household income at local authority level, which take account of income from both work and benefits. We also believe it would be useful to understand in more detail cost of living figures for individuals and households in the areas concerned. The information available on educational performance could also be supplemented through the use of tracking

mechanisms that followed cohorts (from a stratified sample) through key educational stages and on into further education and work and residence.

Introduction

The Policy Context

The Welsh Assembly Government's aspiration for Wales, as set out in its national economic development strategy, *A Winning Wales*, published in 2002, is that "within a generation the standard of living in Wales will match that of the UK as a whole. Wales will become more prosperous, and that prosperity will be sustainable and more evenly spread".

More specifically, the Assembly Government committed itself to the aspiration of raising gross domestic product (GDP) per head from 80 per cent of the UK average to 90 per cent by 2010.

The South Wales Valleys that we focus on in this report are central to this aim. They account for roughly 30 per cent of Wales's population, and experience on a wider scale than any other area within Wales the key problem – low economic activity rates – a major factor that lies behind Wales's lower GDP per head figures. They also manifest a range of interlinked problems in health, education, incomes and deprivation.

The problems are being addressed through a range of initiatives, the most important being the EU Objective One funding programme secured for the period 2001-2006. During this period West Wales and the Valleys, an area covering all of the local authorities included in this report, will benefit from a total investment package of £2.4bn¹. Priorities identified for support have focused heavily on building a knowledge-based economy and developing innovation; encouraging the growth of small and medium-sized companies; improving infrastructure; and securing community-based economic regeneration.

The Valleys Context

The evidence we have found represents largely a snapshot of conditions in 2001, drawn mainly from the Census that year, supplemented by some data from other sources. It does not present a picture about which it is possible to be sanguine and confirms both the size and scale of the task facing government if it is to raise GDP per head in the area nearer to the UK average or even rest of Wales levels. Indeed, the evidence across the whole range of social and economic indicators we have examined points to what can only be termed a distressed society, facing problems over a wider geographical area and in greater depth than in any similarly-sized region of the United Kingdom.

There are social and economic problems throughout the Valleys but there are concentrations, too, in certain areas where the problems are much more severe even by Valleys standards. These occur throughout the area, in post-war hilltop housing

¹ West Wales and the Valleys will receive £1.14 billion from the European Union for the Objective 1 programme. A further £860 million of public sector expenditure and an estimated £430 million from the private sector will match this. Source: Wales European Funding Office www.wefo.wales.gov.uk/download/obj-1/guidance/pdf/New_FS5_English_Welsh.pdf

estates and in older largely Victorian era areas at the centre of communities. They are to be found in their most acute form in the two northernmost unitary authorities, Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent and in the upper reaches of each of the five other Valleys unitary authorities, as well as in parts of the neighbouring coalfield areas in Carmarthenshire, Powys and Swansea.

Of course, it is necessary not to overstate the problems or to paint a universally gloomy representation of Valleys life. There is dynamism throughout Valleys communities, which continue to spawn some of Wales's highest achievers in education, business, sports, the arts and other walks of life. Some of the world's leading companies are well established in the Valleys, in information technology, aerospace, the motor industry and other high technology fields, and Valleys' products find their way to export markets across the world, fully able to compete on price and quality.

There are also examples of outstanding entrepreneurship within the Valleys, and of local businesses that have survived and grown, sometimes over many decades, providing quality local jobs and the right products for the markets they operate in. As an environment, too, the Valleys have been transformed over recent years, so that a stronger role for tourism – largely unthinkable only 25 years ago – can be considered.

The signs of distress are, nevertheless, clear and stark and affect perhaps one quarter of the 800,000 people living in the area covered by this study. We believe a vicious circle now exists in the Valleys, with each successive stage re-inforcing the next. Too many children – and especially boys – are not performing well at school, and hence failing to equip themselves for anything other than elementary occupations, mainly in basic manufacturing work (of the sort that is currently finding it difficult to survive in Britain against low cost competition from Eastern Europe and China).

The absence in the Valleys of sufficient low skilled jobs into which local people can (or will) price themselves, particularly where they are currently able to claim a range of benefits, means there are far too many households in the Valleys where no-one of working age is actually working. Benefits bring families and individuals up to a basic level but are not enough to keep them out of poverty and this poverty itself results in housing conditions well below Welsh and UK standards and in weak local demand for goods and services.

Though the strengths and weaknesses of the retail sector were not examined in this report, it is clear that both the main centres and subsidiary ones have experienced a loss of trade to bigger centres such as Cardiff and to out of town centres, with a consequent loss of amenity and local spending power. This has led to town centres across the Valleys showing signs of decline, creating an environment that is unattractive both to existing residents and to incomers.

Town centre redevelopment schemes are being implemented, for example in Merthyr Tydfil and Pontypridd in a bid to improve the shopping environment and to ensure a greater share of income is channelled through locally-based retailing activities. Recent years have also seen an increase in private sector house building in valley authority areas. Such initiatives are highly important, if the tendency that we detect for the more

mobile members of society - and this usually means those who are better qualified and in higher paid jobs – to leave is to be reversed.

In this situation - magnified by constant reminders in the media that the Valleys are falling further and further behind other parts of Wales and the UK - it is hardly surprising that poor health has got a strong grip, very often, other evidence suggests, in the form of mental illness or, more specifically, depression.

Faced with statistics that show very large numbers of people not working in certain areas, it is, of course, all too easy to assume many do not wish to work, or find it easier and more comfortable not to do so. In reality, the barriers that individuals face are, in very many cases, enormous. In today's world those who are in work are equipping themselves with new skills, particularly IT skills, at a faster rate than has ever been the case previously. By implication, therefore, those who are outside the labour market are falling further and further behind.

Those without work are well aware of this. It would be surprising, therefore, if fear of failure or humiliation in the workplace had not become a factor, to be added to all the other disincentives to work.

This malaise is, we suspect, transferred by workless parents to new generations of children, whose feeling that there is no future for them is manifested not just in turning-off from lessons, but also, by their late teens, in self-destructive behaviour, such as the abuse of drugs, unwanted teenage pregnancies, and anti-social behaviour. Unless it can be broken, this cycle is in danger of continuing to be repeated, ultimately making it difficult for the Valleys to sustain themselves as a decent place in which to live and work.

The pressures being brought to bear on the Valleys as a result of global economic forces are not likely to diminish. The huge revolution brought about by information technology and, in particular, the internet has made it possible in a way unimaginable a few years ago to manufacture products remotely in distant corners of the world, with designs, contracts, and orders all capable of being transmitted instantly to wherever they are needed and with subsequent deliveries capable of being tracked every inch of the way to warehouse or shop shelves.

In the modern global economy companies seeking to invest in the United Kingdom will generally be looking for higher-level skills than are readily available in the Valleys. At the very least, high value-added industries need individuals with GNVQ Levels 4-5 and they are tending to find these in the southeast of England rather than the regions.

The English language, once seen as Britain's business enabler worldwide, has also become a double-edged sword, affecting areas such as the Valleys. India has hardly needed to compete with China for outsourced manufacturing contracts. The wide use of English on the sub-Continent has enabled the Indians to opt instead for outsourced service jobs, such as call centres and business processing, occupations which at one time appeared to have the potential to develop on a substantial scale in Wales.

Clearly, as the historical annex to this report shows, the Valleys have presented policymakers with an enormous challenge for most of the last 50 years and even longer, and a number of different approaches have come and gone without producing a turning point in their fortunes. Throughout this period the population of the area has declined, with roughly 2,000 people a year moving out in the 1990s, a decade in which, certainly in its early part, the overall UK manufacturing economy was stronger than it has been in more recent years.

Future Scenarios

Much hope now rests on the outcomes achieved from the Objective One funding programme, but three years into its course it is still too early to assess fully its success. Indeed, it is likely to be several years after the current substantial funding has come to an end before its full impact has become clear.

Depending, however, on how successful the programme proves to be, we believe the following scenarios can be envisaged as those that might emerge from another snapshot after the 2011 Census.

1) Limited success - The problems remain

In this scenario the impact of Objective One funding and other regeneration and employment initiatives has been much less than hoped.

There is continued population decline, with the process accelerating in the northernmost wards of Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly, and less accessible parts of other authorities. The population remains largely homogeneous with limited movement inwards, and this often confined to poorer sections of the community seeking the least expensive housing.

Qualification levels within the population continue to lag well behind those in the rest of Wales and Great Britain generally, with performance continuing to deteriorate relative to other areas through school years, particularly among boys.

The manufacturing base continues to erode. Continued low skill levels in the population and outward migration of the most skilled make it difficult for businesses to compete, leading to relocation elsewhere by existing inward investors and difficulties in attracting new investment from modern industries. Locally owned businesses struggle to survive.

Prospects for boosting the small proportions currently drawn into self-employment remain poor because of the weak state of the local economy. The service sector as a result remains weak and under-developed.

Activity levels for men and women remain well below Wales and GB levels, with older and unskilled individuals continuing to be the worst-affected.

With employment contracting, levels of deprivation and dependence on benefits increase, with consequent effects on reported sickness and disability and on mortality rates. The biggest impact is felt in the northernmost wards where there is now a widening gap, compared with more prosperous wards to the south.

Increasing numbers of those in work are travelling outside the area to Cardiff or other employment centres along the M4.

Regenerated town centres fail to attract sufficient local consumer spending to remain of interest to multiple store operators and begin to deteriorate. Crime and vandalism and other forms of anti-social behaviour increase.

New housing development is largely concentrated at the southern end of the Valleys. These new settlements see themselves as part of Greater Cardiff and positively choose not to identify with the “declining Valleys”. At the same time the quality of housing stock in the Valleys, particularly post-war council housing continues to deteriorate.

The local population further loses confidence in itself and sets low aspirations for itself, with increasing numbers rejecting school or lifelong learning as a means of improving their social and economic performance and those of the community.

A renewed case for Objective One funding post 2006 has to be made. The Valleys are now being passed in prosperity by the more dynamic industrial regions of the 2004 EU accession countries.

The South Wales Valleys will need to continue to enjoy Objective One status for a further period of six years.

2) *A story of mixed successes*

In this scenario Objective One and other policies are achieving some of their aims, but the impact has not been as great as hoped.

In this case population loss has been stemmed in most wards in the more prosperous authorities – Bridgend and Torfaen - and in wards closest to Cardiff or the M4 in the other authorities. As a result, overall populations in the Valleys have stabilised, even though the most northerly wards and in those in more remote locations are still experiencing an outflow.

House prices have continued the rise which began in the early 2000s though they remain some way off rest of Wales and GB levels. The rises reflect the slowdown in the number of people leaving the area and the increase in the numbers moving in from outside the area to new housing being developed in the M4 corridor near Cardiff.

Most of those living in new housing in the Valleys and more of the existing Valleys population are commuting to work in the Cardiff area, creating growing congestion problems on the roads

The gap between male and female activity rates in the Valleys and Wales as a whole starts to close, particularly among younger age groups but a severe problem still exists with the tail of older people over 50.

Rising overall wealth in south east Wales creates opportunities for some further growth in self-employment providing consumer services but higher level services have failed to materialise. Service sector growth overall fails, however, to keep pace with more prosperous areas in Wales and GB and remains confined to lower tier services.

Continued public funding for existing and, to a diminishing extent, incoming industry slows down the loss of manufacturing jobs, and indigenous firms are by and large holding their own.

Income levels have risen and fewer people are now claiming benefit, though the proportions remain above Wales and GB levels. Sickness and disability remains high but as the current generation of 50 plus individuals passes into retirement the proportion is declining.

Pupils are closing the gap in attainment with the rest of Wales, though there remains work to be done in some authorities where performance had been worst.

New shopping centres in Merthyr Tydfil and Pontypridd are cutting the leakage of spending power from the local economy and citizens are beginning to evince greater pride and confidence in the future of the Valleys.

An extension of Objective One funding will be needed.

3) A policy success story – the Valleys Revived

In this scenario policies have met with a large measure of success, transforming the Valleys in the process and bringing them up to Welsh levels of prosperity across most indicators.

For the first time in nearly 100 years the population of the Valleys is increasing, reflecting the area's growing attractiveness as a place to live and work. Fewer people are leaving as more young people are finding jobs to go to. Others are moving in from outside the area. Growth is particularly strong at the southern end but population levels have stabilised in northern wards as well.

Educational attainment levels are now at or above Wales levels and more young people are staying, or returning to the Valleys to work for SMEs or to start up their own business.

Rising skill levels have encouraged existing investors to retain faith with the Valleys as a manufacturing location and manufacturing employment, output and productivity are increasing. A wider range of alternative job opportunities has cut commuting outflows and more people from outside the area are finding jobs in the Valleys as well.

The gap with activity rates for Wales as a whole has largely disappeared both for men and women, and levels among younger age groups are now the same as for Wales as a whole.

The gap between self-employment levels in the Valleys and the rest of Wales has been closed. Employment in services has also risen to levels comparable with the rest of Wales and much of this has resulted from the growth of higher level professional services. Within manufacturing fast-growing industries in high technology areas are now as strongly represented as in other parts of Wales and dependence on declining industries where employment and output are declining across Wales and GB has diminished.

There has been an improvement in health, with those reporting their general health as good rising close to Welsh averages and the proportions reporting sickness or disability as a reason for inactivity falling.

Rising incomes have led to increased consumer spending, with the result that second phases are planned for the shopping centre redevelopments of the early 2000s in both Pontypridd and Merthyr Tydfil. Both centres have attracted important national chains and, as well as capturing local spending, they are now being marketed to out of area residents as a shopping day out

The northern Valley towns, benefiting greatly from completed dualisation of the Heads of the Valleys road, have positioned themselves as the Gateway to the Beacons and a stopping off point for visitors from the Midlands, heading for Pembrokeshire and other parts of West Wales. Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenafon in particular now have vibrant heritage tourism activities and other valley towns have entered the tourist industry by developing facilities, including accommodation and catering, for climbing, mountain bike, trekking and horse-riding enthusiasts.

New housing, including executive housing aimed at the Valleys' successful new entrepreneur class is being developed throughout the Valleys and fewer people are migrating to the southern ends close to the M4. At the same time, housing improvement schemes have brought the majority of Valleys houses up to required standards.

Valleys residents express growing pride in the Valleys and confidence in its future emergence as a dynamic Welsh region offering opportunities for all.

Objective One is credited with achieving a turn around in the fortunes of the Valleys and only a more limited support package is reckoned to be necessary over the next decade..

Achieving the scenario outlined in 3) above will be difficult but it is worth rehearsing why it is important to do so.

Firstly, there is the impact at a UK level on public expenditure. The productive potential of the Valleys is not being met and large sums of money are currently required in order to finance social provision, with little prospect of this situation changing over the short or medium term. It would clearly be better if this could progressively be reduced as more and more and more people in the Valleys from among the currently inactive are brought into productive employment

There is, too, the social, physical and economic capital already invested in the area, which also still holds a close emotional hold on large numbers of people in other parts of Wales as a wellspring of much of what has been good about Wales in the past.

There are also wider economic reasons affecting Wales as a whole for seeking to remove the deprivation that exists in the Valleys and to seek to give the area a viable future. Put simply, for Wales to be a healthy society, all its parts need to be fully functioning and contributing to the increasing wealth and prosperity of the nation as a whole.

Unless the problems of the Valleys can be solved it will be impossible for Wales as a whole to improve its relative position among British regions or aspire to offer all its citizens a standard of living as envisaged in *Winning Wales* comparable with that in many other parts of the UK and EU.

At a regional level, the ambitions held by Wales's three cities – Cardiff, Swansea and Newport – to be dynamic centres serving wider hinterlands will be constrained if the Valleys they serve remain poor compared with other parts of Wales and the UK. It is not to exaggerate too much to point out that new attractions, such as the Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff Bay's other attractions, the Millennium Stadium and the soon-to-be expanded St. David's Shopping Centre in Cardiff city centre, need a thriving population much wider than that of Cardiff alone to draw on if they are to prosper. The same is true of Swansea, where ambitious quayside developments are under way, and Newport, which has its own comprehensive regeneration strategy.

Wales as a whole cannot function as a confident country, able to take its place among leading European nations as long as it has pockets of economic and social deprivation like the Valleys (or indeed parts of Pembrokeshire, the north Wales coast, Gwynedd and Anglesey). Setting the Valleys on a path of self-sustaining improvement is, therefore, a challenge that cannot be ignored.

Conclusion

Clearly, the Valleys deserve to be a more prosperous and healthy series of communities than is now the case. They need to be interesting, lively, harmonious, places to live for all sections and age groups, young and old, men, women and children.

They need to be self-confident, socially-balanced communities offering a range of work and life opportunities to individuals, who should themselves be equipped with the skills necessary for making the most of life in the 21st century.

They need to possess the same variety and quality of housing provision as other areas and complementary leisure, sport and retail opportunities. They need to enjoy good transport links with major population centres in Wales and beyond and as good internal communications as topography will allow.

This report will, we hope, help provide those charged with creating the route map to get there with some of the crucial information on the socio-economic characteristics of the Valleys that they need.

1 Background and Methodology

Background

The South Wales Valleys are characterised by a legacy of extractive industry, iron and steel-making, which has now largely disappeared and been replaced by engineering, food processing, and a wide range of generally low-tech light industry. Some of these industries, too, have experienced successive phases of decline. Today, despite considerable success in bringing down unemployment, the Valleys have high levels of economic inactivity and a range of interconnected socio-economic problems that have proved difficult over a prolonged period of time to resolve.

This report has been drawn up in response to a request from the Welsh Assembly Government for a detailed study of the social and economic characteristics that make the South Wales Valleys unique in Wales and for a comparison of the South Wales Valleys with other areas in the UK that appear to face similar problems.

The current document:

- examines the current socio-economic characteristics of the South Wales Valleys through consideration of a diverse set of indicators
- examines the socio-economic characteristics of comparable regions in the UK using, as far as possible, the same socio-economic indicators and, hence, evaluates the position of the South Wales Valleys in a UK context.

It uses a range of statistical series but draws most heavily on the 2001 Census, detailed results from which emerged during 2003. The result of this exercise is a snapshot of the characteristics of the South Wales Valleys (and comparable areas) at the start of the new century.

An annex to this report includes a review of labour market and social economy initiatives embarked upon in other areas in the UK and elsewhere as a means of identifying policy options relevant to the South Wales Valleys. An account of some of the wider policy approaches adopted by successive governments over the past 50 years to deal with changing employment patterns in the Valleys is included in a second annex.

More recent statistics on the wider UK economy suggest changes have been taking place at an accelerating pace over recent years. In particular, there appear to have been significant changes in manufacturing and service sector employment patterns, economic activity rates, and business formation rates. The data on these changes are available only in aggregate form and have not been incorporated into this report. References have, however, been made where appropriate.

The South Wales Valleys Study Area

Since there is no officially recognised geographical definition of the “South Wales Valleys” it has been necessary to identify an appropriate area. It was decided that three areas would be defined, partly as a consequence of the restrictions imposed by the spatial scales of the available data.

Throughout the report aggregate figures for Greater Valleys and Central Valleys areas are reported where the data allows. The **Greater Valleys** area comprises the unitary authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Torfaen, which according to the 2001 Census contain a total population of 881,572. The local authorities in this area contain most of the former mining communities of south Wales.

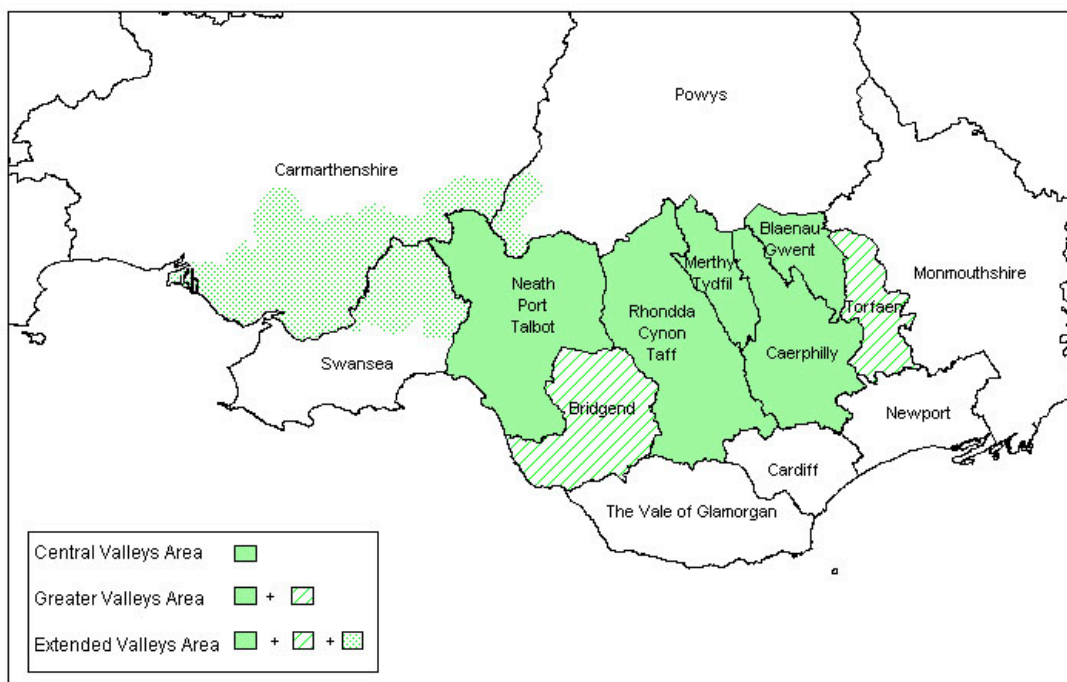
Figures are also reported for the **Central Valleys** area, an area that we define as comprising the aforementioned unitary authorities, excluding Bridgend and Torfaen. Because of their more favourable geographical positions and ability to offer suitable sites for industry, these last two authorities have been the main beneficiaries of incoming industrial investment. As such the process of adaptation from dependence on declining sectors, such as coal mining, has been able to proceed more quickly than in the other five authorities.

To take account of the presence of “valleys” communities in the coalfield areas of the unitary authorities of Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Powys, we define the **Extended Valleys** area as comprising the Greater Valleys area plus the following wards (based on 2003 electoral boundaries):

Carmarthenshire	Quarter Bach Garnant Glanamman Betws Ammanford Pontamman Penygroes Tycroes Saron Llannon	Hendy Swiss Valley Llangennech Felinfoel Lledi Dafen Elli Tyisha Bigyn Glanymor	Llwynhendy Bynea Pontyberem Glyn Hengoed Llangyndeyrn Trimsaran Burry Port Kidwelly Pembrey
Swansea	Lower Loughor Upper Loughor Gorseinon Central Penyrheol	Pontarddulais Llangyfelach Gorseinon East Penllergaer	Cwmbwrla Morrison Llansamlet Clydach
Powys	Ystradgynlais	Cwm-twrch	Ynyscedwyn

Use of the Extended Valleys area definition is restricted to the analysis of data sources for which figures are available at the ward level, principally the 2001 Census.

The three geographical definitions of the Valleys are indicated on Map 1.1.



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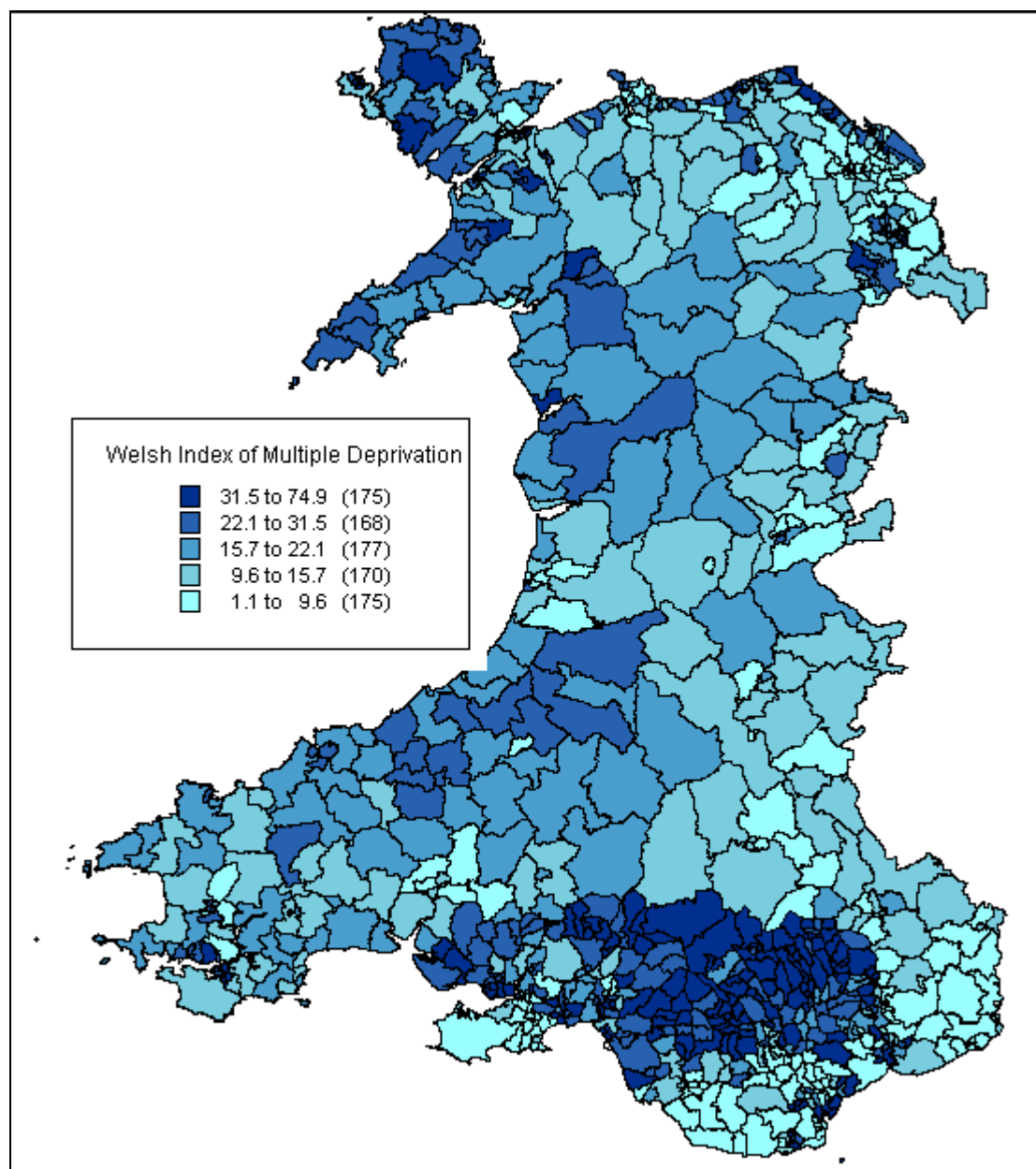
Map 1.1 The South Wales Valleys Study Areas

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) 2000 combines data from a range of sources to produce summary scores of deprivation at the electoral division level. Multiple deprivation is represented as being made up of the following distinct dimensions of deprivation:

- income deprivation;
- employment deprivation;
- health deprivation and disability;
- education, skills, and training deprivation;
- housing deprivation;
- geographic access to services.

Deprivation scores are available for the 865 Electoral Divisions that existed in Wales as at 1 April 1998, using data up to and including the year 2000. These scores are summarised in Map 1.2. Higher scores indicate more deprivation.



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Map 1.2 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000

The Greater Valleys authority with the highest measures of multiple deprivation is Merthyr Tydfil where 44 per cent of its wards (6 out of 11) are in the highest 100 (Tables 1.1 & 1.2), followed by Blaenau Gwent (44 per cent/ 7 out of 16 wards) and Caerphilly (39 per cent/13 out of 33 wards). High shares are also recorded by Rhondda Cynon Taff (32 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot (28 per cent).

Of the six Merthyr Tydfil wards, three are in the index of multiple deprivation Wales top 25. Other boroughs with a large number of wards in the highest 25 are Neath Port Talbot and Caerphilly (both 4) and Rhondda Cynon Taff (3). Each of these latter authorities has a much larger population and hence number of wards than Merthyr Tydfil. Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil's neighbouring authority has only one ward in the highest 25 – Nantyglo – and it is positioned at number 25.

In the Extended Valleys area there is a concentration of deprivation around Llanelli in Glanymor (ranked 10th in the index of multiple deprivation), in Llwynhendy (41), Felinfoel (64) Ty-Isha (69) and Pantyffynnon (78), with a further though less severely affected area around Ammanford.

Table 1.1 Greater Valleys authorities wards in Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation highest 100

Authority	WIMD score	WIMD rank	Authority	WIMD score	WIMD rank
<i>Rhondda Cynon Taff</i>			<i>Caerphilly</i>		
Pen-y Waun	73.34	2	New Tredegar	5.50	9
Maerdy	68.43	5	Aberbargoed	63.50	16
Tylorstown	64.66	11	Darran Valley	60.81	20
Glyncoch	57.71	26	Twyn Carno	60.37	21
Llwyn-y-pia	55.30	29	Tir-Phil	55.44	28
Penrhiwceiber	54.01	31	Pontlottyn	53.68	35
Treherbert	53.84	33	Bargoed	49.27	52
Cwm Clydach	53.56	36	Moriah	49.17	53
Rhydfelen C.	52.94	38	Argoed	45.48	72
Gilfach Goch	52.46	39	Hengoed	42.35	80
M'tainAsh W	51.67	42	Aber Valley	41.11	86
Cymmer	47.33	56	Gilfach	40.85	88
Ynyshir	47.05	59	Abertysswg	40.21	92
Trealaw	46.69	60			
Aberaman S	46.95	61			
Tonyrefail W.	46.22	67			
Pen-y-Graig	45.57	71			

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

Table 1.1 (cont'd) Greater Valleys authorities wards in Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000 - highest 100

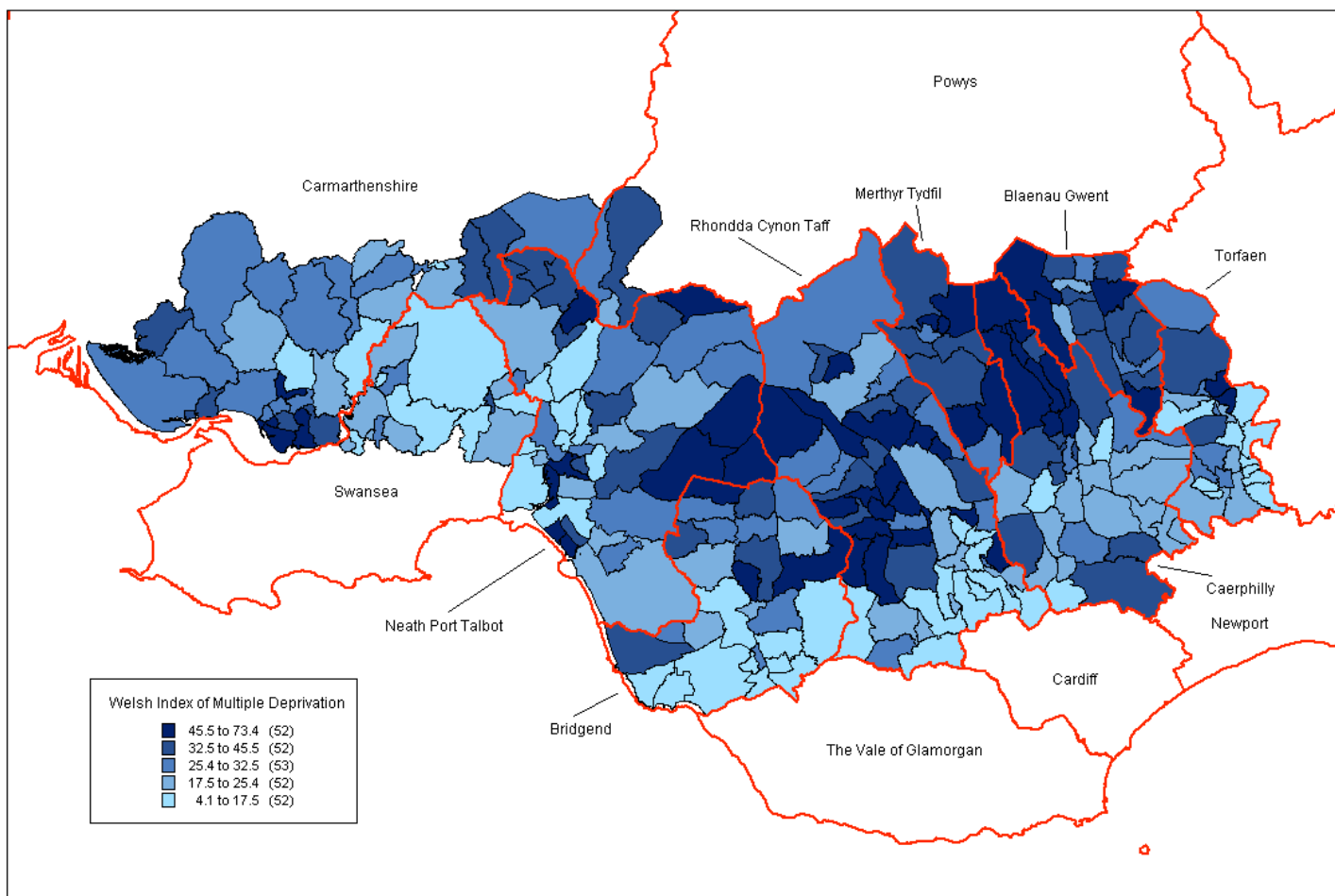
Authority	WIMD score	WIMD rank	Authority	WIMD score	WIMD rank
Blaenau Gwent			Torfaen		
Nantyglo	57.82	25	Trevelin		
Tredegar	51.04	43	St. Cadocs	55.62	27
Llanhilleth	50.40	47	+Penygarn	47.12	57
Sirhowy	49.44	50	Neath Port Talbot		
Rassau	41.11	87	Cymmer		
Cwmillery	40.78	89	Gwynfi		
Blaina	39.44	98	Sandfields W.	66.57	8
Merthyr Tydfil			Glyncorwg	64.18	13
Gurnos	71.24	4	Onllwyn	60.97	19
Penydarren	50.76	45	Sandfields E.	57.96	24
Dowlais	50.72	46	Ystalyfera	53.69	34
Merthyr Vale	47.88	55	Briton F. W	50.96	44
Bedlinog	46.39	66	Neath E	50.12	48
Cyfarthfa	43.00	77	L.Brynamman	49.10	54
Bridgend			Pelenna	45.98	68
Caerau	62.80	17	Seven Sisters	40.37	91
Bettws	59.87	22		39.60	95
Llangeinor	41.85	84		39.52	96

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

Table 1.2 Greater Valleys Authorities Wards in Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000 - highest 100 as a proportion of total wards

	No. of Wards	No. ranked 1-25	% ranked 1-25	No. ranked 1-100	% ranked 1-100	Authority Ranking
Bridgend	39	2	5	3	8	6=
Neath Port Talbot	42	4	10	12	28	5
Blaenau Gwent	16	1	0.6	7	44	2
Caerphilly	33	4	12	13	39	3
Torfaen	24	1	4	2	8	6=
Rhondda Cynon Taff	52	3	6	17	32	4
Merthyr Tydfil	11	1	9	6	54	1
GREATER VALLEYS	217	16	7	60	28	

Source: Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation



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Map 1.3 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000 Scores

Selection of UK Areas for Comparison with the South Wales Valleys

While a number of local authority areas appear to share certain characteristics of the South Wales Valleys, such as low GDP, high economic inactivity or poor housing, the areas selected for comparison were chosen on the basis of a wider range of factors, including their industrial background. Overall, the aim was to identify areas with a legacy of coal and metals industry, which also shared comparable socio-economic characteristics. The selection was intended to incorporate both declining and improving areas.

Three sources of data were used to inform the selection. First, areas receiving European structural funding (Objective 1, Objective 2 and Urban II) were examined for comparability with the South Wales Valleys. Secondly, the Office for National Statistics classification of local authorities (ONS, 1999; 2003) was examined to identify “industrial” authorities, and those that had been classified as most similar to the South Wales Valleys local authorities. Finally, the index of multiple deprivation scores for all local authorities in England were examined, in order to delimit clusters of local authorities which shared similar characteristics to the South Wales Valleys.

Areas Receiving European Structural Funding

In addition to West Wales and the Valleys (which received the status in 1999 for the 2000-2006 programme period), the British Objective 1 areas are Cornwall, Merseyside and South Yorkshire. Cornwall has low GDP and high unemployment, but differs from the South Wales Valleys being a rural area with a strong tourism industry and high levels of in-migration by retirees. Merseyside has low GDP and educational performance, and high unemployment, but has shown signs of economic stabilisation. Like the South Wales Valleys, Liverpool has suffered since World War Two from a severe contraction in the number of male jobs – in this case mainly as a result of structural changes in cargo handling. South Yorkshire has a traditional economic base of coal, steel and engineering, and has suffered job losses and economic decline since the 1970s. It has areas of severe deprivation, and there are clear similarities between this area and the South Wales Valleys.

Of the Objective 2 areas, West Scotland, North East England and the East Midlands appear to be comparable with the South Wales Valleys. West Scotland contains areas that had a traditional base of coal, steel, shipbuilding and heavy industry, which are now under transition into service sector and high-technology industry. West Scotland contains the most deprived wards in Scotland, and has low GDP and high (although declining) unemployment. North East England has been affected by decline in shipbuilding, steel, engineering and coal mining industries, and is affected by low GDP, unemployment and a low business start-up rate. East Midlands comprises urban, rural and former coalfield areas. It has areas of high deprivation, poor health and high crime.

The Urban II funded areas are identified at ward level, and areas of interest include the East Durham Coalfield area, West Wrexham and Burnley.

Office for National Statistics Area Classification of Local Authorities

The ONS produces an area classification based on data from the census. The classification uses variables covering demographic structure; household composition; housing; socioeconomic character, and employment to group together geographic areas according to key characteristics common to the population in that grouping. The 1999 ONS classification² of local authorities of Great Britain which is based on 37 variables from the 1991 census, identified a grouping of local authority areas classed as ‘Mining, Manufacturing and Industry’, consisting of coalfield, manufacturing and industrial port areas. The local authorities placed in this grouping are listed in Table 1.3:

Table 1.3 ONS Classification of Local Authorities, 1999

ONS Industry Description	Local Authorities (April 1999)
Mining and inner city	Corby, Stoke-on-Trent, Kingston-upon-Hull, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough
Mining and Industry	Copeland, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees, North East Lincolnshire, Doncaster, Wakefield, Barnsley, Rotherham, Chesterfield, Bolsover, Mansfield, Wrexham, St Helens, Wigan, Swansea, Bridgend, Newport
Former mining areas	Wansbeck, Derwentside, Wear Valley, Sedgefield, Easington, Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen.
Manufacturing centres	Barrow-in-Furness, Preston, Bolton, Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn, Burnley, Pendle, Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Rochdale, Oldham, Tameside, Leicester, Coventry, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Sandwell
Ports and industry	Liverpool, Knowsley, Salford, Sheffield, Manchester, Nottingham, Sunderland, South Tyneside, North Tyneside, Gateshead, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, City of Dundee, Fife, Clackmannanshire, Falkirk, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Ayrshire, North Ayrshire, various Clydeside

The ONS study also produced an analysis of local authorities that were comparable. Under this system, the Central Valleys local authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Neath Port Talbot and Rhondda Cynon Taff were seen as comparable to Easington, Barnsley and Wear Valley. The Valleys authorities of Bridgend, Carmarthenshire, Swansea and Torfaen were comparable with Wigan, North Cornwall, Wirral and Sedgefield.

² The ONS Classification of Local and Health Authorities of Great Britain. Government Statistical Service. 1999. (www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/SMPS63_v5.pdf)

During the course of the preparation of this report, the ONS classification was updated to take account of data from the 2001 Census³. The new classification, based on 42 variables, identifies the majority of the Valleys local authorities as being “Industrial Hinterlands”, with Bridgend being identified as a “Manufacturing Town”. Other authorities which have been given the same classification as these are listed in Table 1.4.

Table 1.4 National Statistics 2001 Area Classification for Local Authorities - “Industrial Hinterlands A” and “Manufacturing Towns A” Subgroups

Industrial Hinterlands A	<p>Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Swansea, Newport.</p> <p>Wansbeck, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Sunderland, Easington, Hartlepool, Redcar and Cleveland, Middlesbrough, Sedgfield, Darlington, Wear Valley, Derwentside, Gateshead, Copeland, Barrow-in-Furness, Sefton, Wirral, Knowsley, St. Helens, Halton, Tameside, Stoke-on-Trent, City of Kingston-upon-Hull</p>
Manufacturing Towns A	<p>Bridgend</p> <p>North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Bassetlaw, Doncaster, Rotherham, Wakefield, Barnsley, Bolsover, North East Derbyshire, Mansfield, Ashfield, Erewash, Amber Valley, Chesterfield, Blyth Valley, Chester-le-Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Rossendale, Wigan, Ellesmere Port and Neston, Flintshire, Wrexham, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Telford and Wrekin, Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Tamworth, Nuneaton and Bedworth, Dudley, Redditch, Wellingborough, Swale</p>

The local authorities which, according to the ONS analysis, can be classed as being most comparable to the Valleys authorities are listed in Table 1.5.

³ National Statistics 2001 Area Classification of Local Authorities.
(www.statistics.gov.uk/about/methodology_by_theme/area_classification/default.asp)

Table 1.5 Similar Local Authorities Based on ONS Classification

Blaenau Gwent	EASINGTON	MERTHYR TYDFIL	SEDFIELD	<i>Torfaen</i>
Bridgend	TORFAEN	CAERPHILLY	NEATH PORT TALBOT	BARNSLEY
Caerphilly	TORFAEN	SEDFIELD	BRIDGEND	EASINGTON
Merthyr Tydfil	RHONDDA CYNON TAFF	EASINGTON	BLAENAU GWENT	<i>Torfaen</i>
Neath Port Talbot	BRIDGEND	<i>Torfaen</i>	<i>Barnsley</i>	<i>Derwentside</i>
Rhondda Cynon Taff	MERTHYR TYDFIL	CAERPHILLY	TORFAEN	BRIDGEND
Torfaen	CAERPHILLY	SEDFIELD	BRIDGEND	DERWENTSIDE
Carmarthenshire	DENBIGHSHIRE	PEMBROKESHIRE	WYRE	SWANSEA
Swansea	SEFTON	WIRRAL	DARLINGTON	VALE OF GLAMORGAN

Source: National Statistics 2001 Area Classification of Local Authorities

LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE EXTREMELY SIMILAR

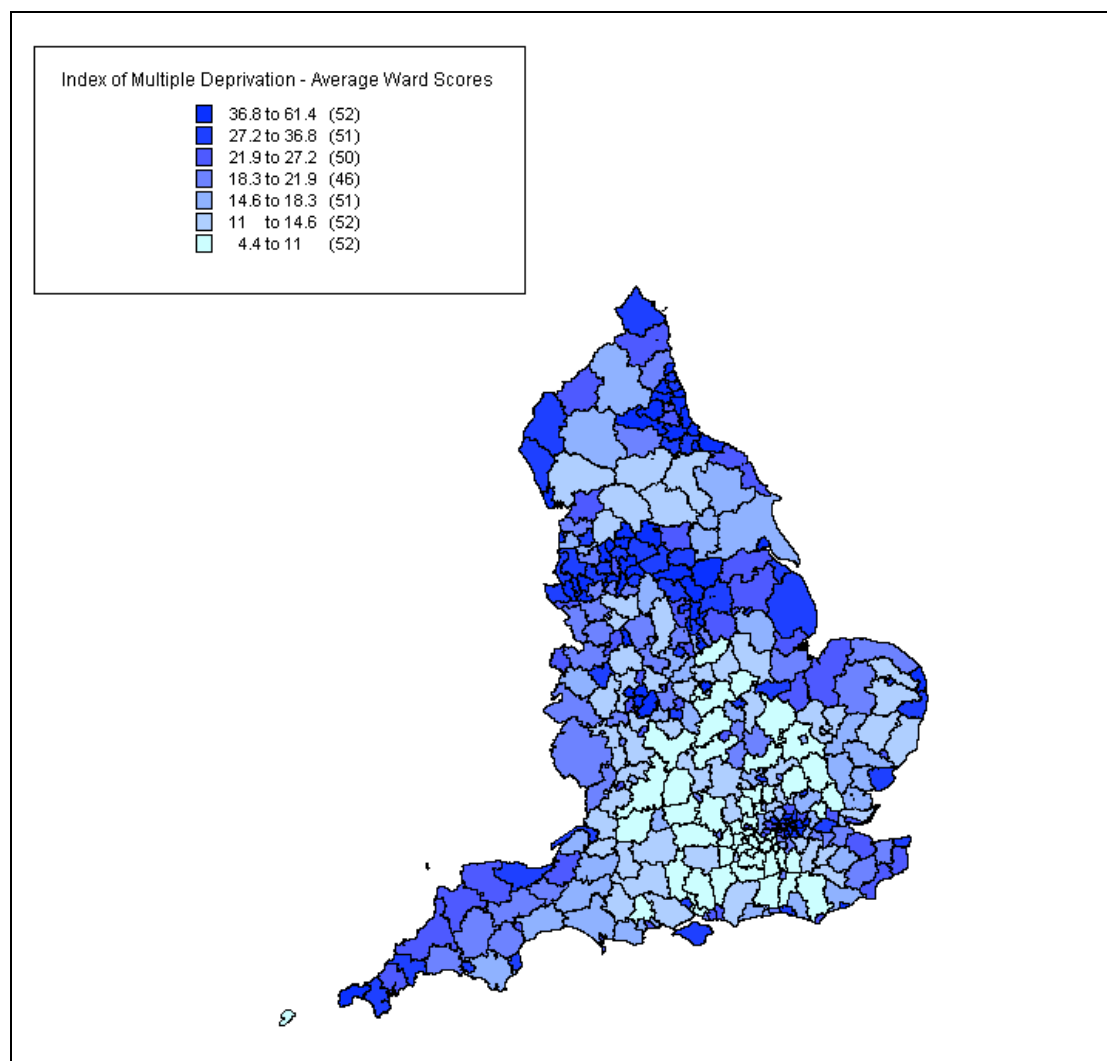
Local Authorities which are considered to be very similar

Index of Multiple Deprivation for England

The then Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions published the Index of Multiple Deprivation for England in the year 2000. The Index is based on the same set of dimensions of deprivation as the Welsh version of the Index, but the two indices are not directly comparable due to differences in the datasets which are used in their construction.

A summary of the Index of Multiple Deprivation for England scores (ward scores averaged for local authority areas) is shown in Map 1.4. In broad terms, this shows areas of lowest deprivation radiating out from the southeast, with south central England the area with least deprivation. Clusters of more deprived authorities are found in the north east of England, a band which stretches from Liverpool and parts of Lancashire to South Yorkshire, a small cluster around Birmingham in the West Midlands, and some inner London areas. Cornwall, the Isle of Wight, and parts of Devon and Kent also record high scores.

There is a clear correlation between the industrial areas identified above, and higher index of multiple deprivation scores.



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Map 1.4 Index of Multiple Deprivation in England

Selection of Local Authority Areas for Comparison

On the basis of the above overview, the areas selected for analysis are parts of:

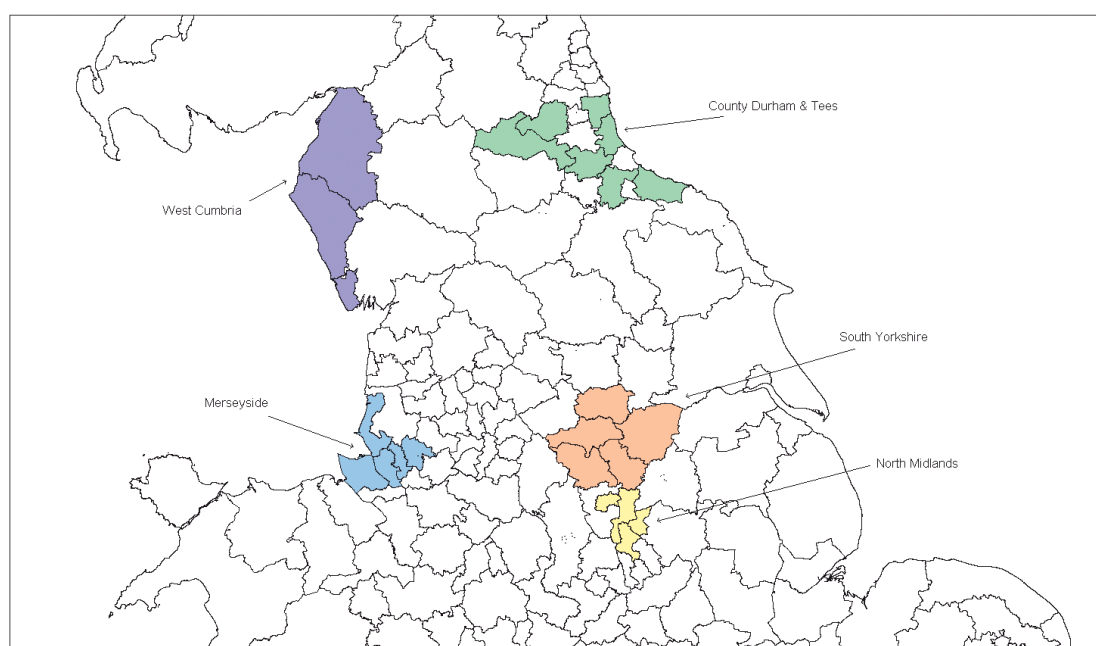
- North East England
- South Yorkshire
- North Midlands
- Merseyside
- Cumbria

The West Midlands and an industrial area comprising Greater Manchester and parts of Yorkshire were considered for analysis, but rejected due to their different manufacturing and social history.

The main characteristic of the areas chosen is a former mining/metal manufacturing background, with the exception of Merseyside where a different mix of industries but a similar range of social problems is encountered. The resulting local authority clusters are given in Table 1.6 and shown in Maps 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7.

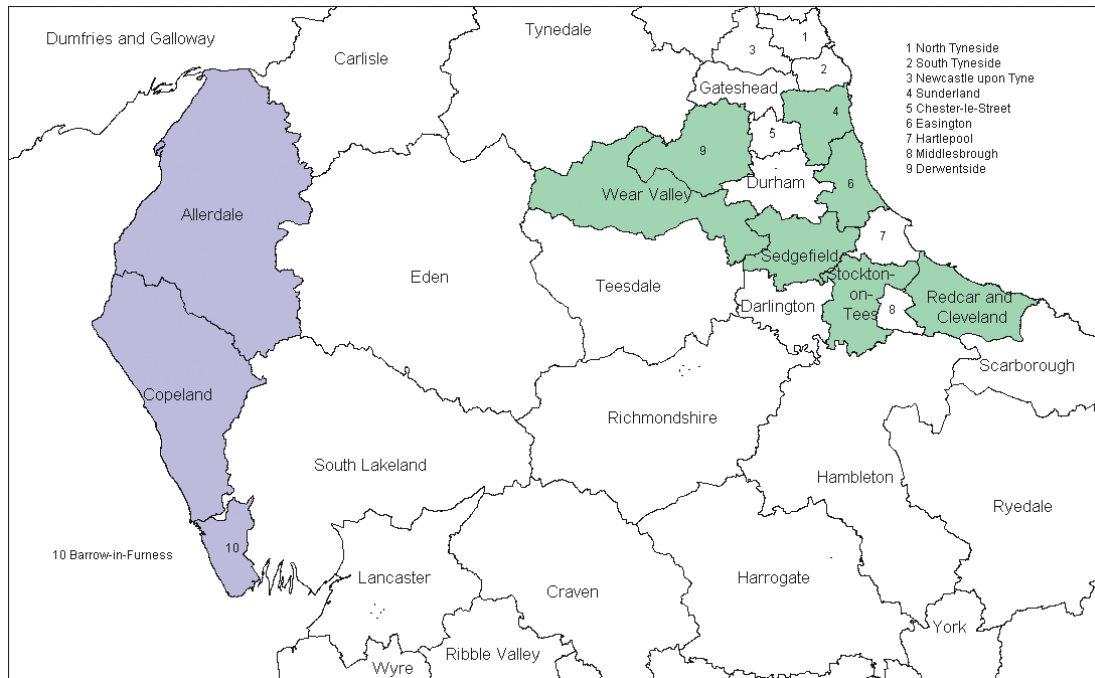
Table 1.6 Selected study areas in England

Study Area	Local Authorities
County Durham and Tees	Derwentside, Wear Valley, Sedgefield, Easington, Sunderland, Redcar & Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees
South Yorkshire	Doncaster, Barnsley, Rotherham, Wakefield, Sheffield
North Midlands	Chesterfield, Bolsover, Mansfield, Ashfield
Merseyside	Wirral, St Helens, Liverpool, Sefton, Knowsley
West Cumbria	Copeland, Allerdale, Barrow-in-Furness



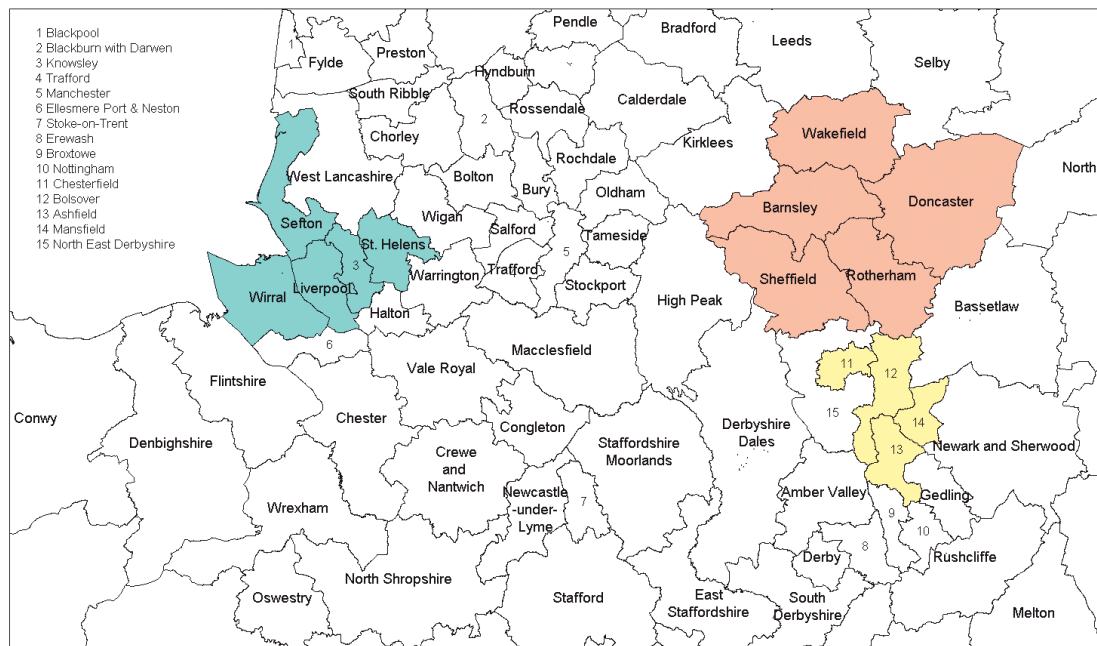
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Map 1.5 The English study areas



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Map 1.6 West Cumbria and County Durham & Tees study areas



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Map 1.7 Merseyside, South Yorkshire and North Midlands study areas

2 Demographics and Household Composition

This section examines the age profile, components of population change, country of birth, ethnic origin and household composition of the Valleys and also details teenage conceptions.

The Resident Population

Around three in ten of all Welsh people (Table 2.1) live in the Greater Valleys area, more than two-thirds of these in the Central Valleys. Proportions of working age (60.0 per cent in both areas) are not markedly different from the Wales figure and there are similar close similarities with the proportions aged 0-15 and above retirement age. The mean age is just over six months lower than in Wales as a whole, with only the Neath Port Talbot figure (40.4) exceeding the Wales figure of 39.5, largely as a result of variations from the Wales and Valleys averages in the proportions aged 0-15 and above retirement age in this unitary authority.

Table 2.1 Resident Population, 2001

	Population	Share of Wales' Pop. (%)	Aged 0-15 (%)	Working age ^a (%)	Above retirement age ^b (%)	Mean age
Neath Port Talbot	134468	4.6	19.6	59.3	21.0	40.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	231946	8.0	20.9	60.3	18.8	38.6
Merthyr Tydfil	55981	1.9	21.5	59.7	18.8	38.6
Caerphilly	169519	5.8	21.6	60.6	17.8	38.1
Blaenau Gwent	70064	2.4	21.3	59.2	19.5	39.1
Bridgend	128645	4.4	20.5	60.2	19.3	39.3
Torfaen	90949	3.1	21.5	59.3	19.2	39.3
Central Valleys	661978	22.8	20.9	60.0	19.1	38.9
Greater Valleys	881572	30.4	20.9	60.0	19.1	39.0
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	2021513	69.6	19.9	59.6	20.5	39.7
Wales	2903085	100.0	20.2	59.7	20.0	39.5

Source: Census 2001

^a Working age is defined as males aged 16-64 and females aged 16-59.

^b Above retirement age is defined as males aged 65+ and females aged 60+.

Table 2.2 (and Figure 2.1) shows that the age profile of the population of the Greater Valleys area and the Central Valleys differs marginally but importantly from that of Wales as a whole. The proportion of individuals in both main areas in the younger age bands (0-9 and 10-19 years of age) is greater than in Wales as a whole. After age 50, however, the Valleys' proportion of individuals in the upper age groups is consistently lower. In age band 20-29 the proportion for Wales as whole (11.6 per cent) compares with 11.3 per cent in both the Greater Valleys area and Central Valleys. Whether this

is due mainly to out-migration in this age group or whether other factors play a part needs to be further investigated.

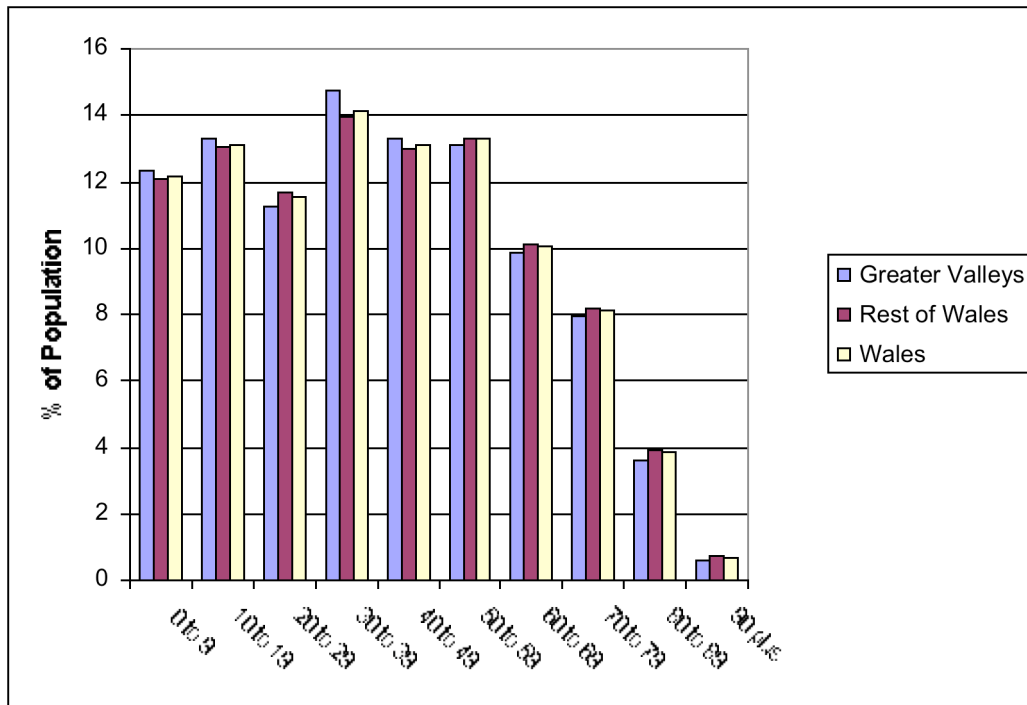


Figure 2.1 Age Profile of the Greater Valleys Population

Source: Census 2001

Table 2.2 Resident Population by Age Band, 2001 (%)

	0 to 9	10 to 19	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 59	60 to 69	70 to 79	80 to 89	90 plus
Neath Port Talbot	11.6	12.9	10.5	14.1	13.9	13.3	10.2	8.7	4.1	0.8
Rhondda Cynon Taff	11.9	12.9	12.1	14.6	12.9	12.8	9.7	8.4	4.2	0.6
Merthyr Tydfil	12.6	14.2	10.8	14.8	13.3	12.9	9.9	7.7	3.3	0.5
Caerphilly	13.1	13.5	11.9	15.0	13.2	13.1	9.6	7.2	3.1	0.5
Blaenau Gwent	12.5	13.7	11.0	14.8	12.4	13.4	10.0	7.8	3.7	0.7
Bridgend	12.2	12.9	11.2	15.2	13.5	13.2	10.1	7.7	3.5	0.6
Torfaen	12.7	13.6	10.7	14.5	13.4	13.2	9.8	8.1	3.4	0.5
Central Valleys	12.3	13.3	11.3	14.6	13.2	13.1	9.8	7.9	3.7	0.6
Greater Valleys	12.4	13.3	11.3	14.7	13.3	13.1	9.9	7.9	3.6	0.6
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	12.1	13.1	11.7	13.9	13.0	13.3	10.1	8.2	3.9	0.7
Wales	12.2	13.1	11.6	14.1	13.1	13.3	10.0	8.1	3.8	0.7

Source: Census 2001

Population Change

Table 2.3 shows that the Greater Valleys area experienced a net loss of 15,500 people in the period 1991-2001, compared with a gain of 30,160 in Wales as a whole (net migration and natural change). The severest losses were in Merthyr Tydfil (-6.1 per cent), Blaenau Gwent (-3.7 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot (-3.2 per cent). Caerphilly experienced a natural population growth of 3,310 (before net migration), accounting for most of the Greater Valleys growth (before migration) of 3,460 but there were natural declines in Neath Port Talbot (2,500) and Blaenau Gwent (440). Modest gains in natural growth elsewhere were more than counter-balanced by population outflow with Caerphilly, experiencing the biggest overall decline of 4,360 followed by Merthyr Tydfil (3,770) and Rhondda Cynon Taff (3,630). The paradox implicit in the Caerphilly figures is probably due to inward movement of young people to new housing in and around Caerphilly town, accounting for the natural increase, and outward movement in northern wards along the Heads of the Valleys. In total net migration from the Greater Valleys amounted to 19,000 between 1991 and 2001.

Table 2.3 Components of Population Change, Mid 1991 – Mid 2001 (000s)

	Pop Mid 1991	Natural Change	Net Migration and Other Changes	Pop Mid 2001	Pop Change	Pop Change (%)
Neath Port Talbot	138.8	-2.5	-2.0	134.4	-4.4	-3.2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	234.9	0.7	-3.6	231.9	-3.0	-1.3
Merthyr Tydfil	59.6	0.2	-3.8	56.0	-3.6	-6.1
Caerphilly	170.6	3.3	-4.4	169.6	-1.1	-0.6
Blaenau Gwent	72.7	-0.4	-2.3	70.0	-2.7	-3.7
Bridgend	129.9	0.9	-1.7	128.7	-0.8	-0.6
Torfaen	91.0	1.4	-1.4	91.0	0.0	0.0
Central Valleys	676.6	1.2	-16.0	661.9	-14.7	-2.2
Greater Valleys	897.1	3.5	-19.0	881.5	-15.6	-1.7
Wales	2873.0	0.5	29.7	2903.2	30.2	1.1

Source: Office for National Statistics

Table 2.4 reports net migration figures by age group for the period 1997 to 2001. The highest levels of net migration occur amongst the 16-24 age group, with the Greater Valleys experiencing a net outward migration of 4,300 individuals within this age group.

Table 2.4 Net Internal Migration within the United Kingdom by Age Band, mid-1997 to mid-2001¹ (thousands)

	0-15	16-24	25-44	45-64	65+	All Ages
Neath Port Talbot	0.6	-0.9	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3
Rhondda Cynon Taff	0.1	-0.7	-0.6	0.2	-0.1	-0.9

Merthyr Tydfil	-0.3	-0.5	-0.3	0.0	-0.2	-1.2
Caerphilly	0.5	-0.7	1.0	0.1	0.0	1.1
Blaenau Gwent	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-1.5
Bridgend	0.3	-0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.8
Torfaen	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4	0.0	0.0	-1.0
Central Valleys	0.5	-3.2	-0.1	0.5	-0.3	-2.2
Greater Valleys	0.7	-4.3	0.0	1.1	-0.1	-2.4
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	7.9	-2.6	1.2	13.4	2.3	22.4
Wales	8.6	-6.9	1.2	14.5	2.2	20.0

Source: Office for National Statistics

¹ Figures are aggregations of annual net flows. Negative figures represent net outflows of people.

Country of Birth and Ethnic Origin

A larger proportion of the Valleys population (Table 2.5) was born in Wales (Greater Valleys 88.9 per cent and Central Valleys 90.2 per cent) than is the case for Wales as a whole where only just over three quarters of the population is Welsh by place of birth. The highest figures for place of birth outside Wales are Bridgend with 15.3 per cent and Torfaen with 14.5 per cent, while in Blaenau Gwent fewer than 8 in every 100 come from outside Wales.

More than 98.9 per cent of the population of the Valleys authorities is White (Table 2.6) in ethnic origin, compared with a Welsh figure of 97.9 per cent. Differences in the proportions in the different authorities are small. Asian and British Asian count for a larger share of the ethnic minority population than Black and British Black.

Table 2.5 Country of Birth (% of Population)

	Wales	Elsewhere in UK and Rep. Of Ireland	Other EU countries	Elsewhere outside the EU
Neath Port Talbot	89.5	9.1	0.5	1.0
Rhondda Cynon Taff	89.9	8.4	0.6	1.1
Merthyr Tydfil	92.0	6.8	0.3	0.9
Caerphilly	90.0	8.6	0.5	0.9
Blaenau Gwent	92.1	6.9	0.3	0.7
Bridgend	84.7	13.2	0.6	1.5
Torfaen	85.5	12.9	0.5	1.0
Central Valleys	90.2	8.3	0.5	1.0
Greater Valleys	89.0	9.5	0.5	1.0
Rest of Wales (Ex. GV)	69.5	27.3	0.9	2.3
Wales	75.39	21.9	0.8	1.9

Source: Census 2001

Table 2.6 Ethnic Origin, 2001 (% of Population)

	White	Mixed	Asian and British Asian	Black and British Black	Other
Neath Port Talbot	98.9	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	98.9	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3
Merthyr Tydfil	99.0	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.2
Caerphilly	99.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2
Blaenau Gwent	99.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Bridgend	98.6	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5
Torfaen	99.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2
Central Valleys	99.0	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2
Greater Valleys	98.9	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3
Wales	97.9	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.4

Source: Census 2001

Household Composition

Household composition in the Valleys (Table 2.7) is broadly in line with figures for Wales as a whole, with one or two important exceptions in individual authorities. The percentage of lone parents with dependent children is higher for Merthyr Tydfil (9.6 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (9.0 per cent), compared with a Greater Valleys area average of 8.0 per cent, a Central Valleys figure of 8.2 per cent and all-Wales figure of 7.3 per cent, and there is a higher proportion of couples with dependent children in four of the authorities, with Caerphilly more than two percentage points above the Welsh average.

Neath Port Talbot and Blaenau Gwent both have an older age structure than the other authorities, (and Wales as a whole) with more one pensioner and pensioner family households and fewer couples with dependent children. Caerphilly has the smallest proportion of pensioner households and the largest number of households with children.

Other aspects of household composition are broadly in line with the Wales average, though the number of student households is high enough to register only in Rhondda Cynon Taff – 0.5 per cent of all households against a Wales average of 0.4 per cent.

Table 2.7 Household Composition, 2001 (% of Households)

	One pensioner	Pensioner family	One person – not pensioner	Couple^a – no dependent children	Couple^a – dependent children	Lone parent – dependent children	Lone parent – non-dependent children	All Student	Other
Neath Port Talbot	16.4	9.6	13.9	23.4	20.2	7.9	3.7	0.0	5.0
Rhondda Cynon Taff	15.0	8.8	12.4	24.0	22.1	7.8	3.7	0.5	5.8
Merthyr Tydfil	15.5	8.3	13.4	22.2	21.0	9.6	4.0	0.0	6.0
Caerphilly	14.1	8.5	12.4	25.4	23.1	8.2	3.6	0.0	4.7
Blaenau Gwent	16.4	8.4	13.7	23.1	20.9	9.0	4.0	0.0	4.6
Bridgend	14.4	9.5	12.7	25.1	22.2	7.2	3.3	0.0	5.5
Torfaen	15.1	9.7	12.4	24.7	22.6	7.4	3.4	0.0	4.8
Central Valleys	15.3	8.8	12.9	24.0	21.7	8.2	3.7	0.2	5.2
Greater Valleys	15.1	9.0	12.8	24.2	21.9	8.0	3.6	0.1	5.2
Wales	15.5	9.6	13.7	23.8	20.8	7.3	3.4	0.4	5.6

Source: Census 2001

^a Couple includes both married and cohabiting couples.

Teenage Conceptions

Figures for the year 2000 (Table 2.8) show that a higher proportion of teenagers aged 15-17 conceived in the in the Greater Valleys area (60.0 per 1,000 population) and in the Central Valleys (62.2 per 1,000) than in Wales as a whole (48.4 per 1,000). The issue is particularly acute in Blaenau Gwent, where the figure is 68.4 per 1,000. The figure for the Central Valleys is some 11-13 per 1,000 higher than each of the comparator areas, apart from South Yorkshire, for which the difference is just over 8 per 1,000. The local authority-level figures for the comparator areas (Table A2.1 in the Appendix) show that only one, Doncaster, with a rate of 70.0 per 1000, has a higher rate than Blaenau Gwent. Sedgfield, with a rate of 63.6 per 1,000, is the only other local authority in excess of 60 per 1,000.

Table 2.8 Conceptions¹ per 1,000 women aged 15-17, 2000

Neath Port Talbot	59.0
Rhondda Cynon Taff	62.7
Merthyr Tydfil	61.7
Caerphilly	61.7
Blaenau Gwent	68.4
Bridgend	52.7
Torfaen	53.7
Central Valleys	62.2
Greater Valleys	60.0
Wales	48.4
Co. Durham & Tees	50.9
West Cumbria	48.8
Merseyside	47.5
South Yorkshire	53.9
North Midlands	49.1

Source: Office for National Statistics

¹ Conceptions which resulted in either a live or still birth or termination by legal abortion.

Key Finding

The Valleys are a relatively static community, with a much higher proportion of the population born in Wales (and by implication in the Valleys themselves) than is the case for the rest of Wales, where some areas have experienced high levels of inward migration over the past 25 years compared with the earlier post-war period, much of it associated with retirement. Natural population growth, which is occurring in all the authorities apart from Neath Port Talbot and Blaenau Gwent, is being countered by migration, leading to ongoing overall population decline. Bridgend, Caerphilly and Torfaen, where there is more evidence of population dynamism, appear to be holding on to their population totals more successfully than other areas.

The proportion of children living in single-parent homes is much higher than in Wales as a whole, especially in Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly. Higher levels of teenage conception than in Wales as a whole are being recorded in all authorities.

Perhaps surprisingly, however, the usual characterisation of the Valleys as an aged community is incorrect. The percentage of people in younger age bands up to age 19 is higher as a proportion than in Wales as a whole and the number in higher age bands is proportionately lower. The exception again is Neath Port Talbot, which has an older age structure than the other authorities. The extent to which the overall Valleys pattern is due to higher morbidity and mortality rates needs further analysis. A challenge for policy-makers is to find ways of ensuring more old people in the Valleys enjoy healthy and extended retirement years.

3 Labour Market

This section describes the levels and nature of economic activity, employment, unemployment and economic inactivity in the South Wales Valleys. At the time of writing, data beyond 2001 at the local authority-level were not available from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). Therefore, it was decided that due to the much larger size of the survey compared to the LFS, data from the 2001 Census would be used to analyse economic activity and inactivity in the Valleys. Furthermore, the Census permits ward-level analysis, which enables us to gain a more detailed picture of the spatial pattern of economic activity.

Economic Activity

The 2001 Census defines the economically active as those people who were working in the week before the Census or who were not working but were looking for work and were available to start work within two weeks. When discussing activity rates, the focus here is mainly the population of working age, that is, males aged 16-64 and females aged 16-59.

Those in full-time education are not generally economically active and where there are differences in student populations, comparisons of activity levels between areas can be misleading. The activity and inactivity rates reported here relate, therefore, to the non-student working age population.

Economic activity rates range from 66.2 per cent in Merthyr Tydfil (all individuals) to 73.9 per cent in Torfaen (Table 3.1), with the overall rate for the Greater Valleys Area being 70.6 per cent, some 4.2 percentage points lower than the Welsh average. The difference between the economic activity rate for the Greater Valleys Area and that for Wales as a whole is slightly greater for females (4.6 percentage points) than for males (4.0 percentage points). For the Central Valleys area, the overall activity rate is a further 1.1 percentage points below the rate for Wales. The five Central Valleys unitary authorities have the lowest activity rates in Wales.

Economic activity rates for working-age males in the Central Valleys (75.0 per cent) and the Greater Valleys (76.0 per cent) are lower than in any of the other study areas, which vary from 77.8 per cent (Merseyside) to 81.6 per cent (South Yorkshire), and 10 percentage points below the GB figure of 85.5 per cent. At the local authority level (see Table A3.1 in the Appendix), only Easington (70.6 per cent) and Liverpool (74.0 per cent) are below the overall Valleys figures. Merthyr Tydfil (71.4 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (73.3 per cent), however, are below the figure for Liverpool. The position for women is also less favourable, with the two Valleys areas having activity rates well below all the other study areas, apart from Easington, Knowsley and Liverpool. The activity rate of 63.9 per cent for the Central Valleys compares with 70.9 per cent for West Cumbria and South Yorkshire, the comparator areas with the highest activity rates for working-age women.

**Table 3.1 Economic Activity Rates
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)**

	Total	Males	Females	Males - Females
Neath Port Talbot	68.8	74.4	62.7	11.7
Rhondda Cynon Taff	69.9	75.3	64.2	11.1
Merthyr Tydfil	66.2	71.4	60.7	10.7
Caerphilly	71.4	76.9	65.5	11.4
Blaenau Gwent	67.6	73.3	61.5	11.8
Bridgend	73.5	79.0	67.4	11.6
Torfaen	73.9	78.8	68.5	10.3
Central Valleys	69.5	75.0	63.6	11.4
Greater Valleys	70.6	76.0	64.7	11.3
Rest of Wales (Excl GV)	76.7	81.8	71.3	10.5
Wales	74.8	80.0	69.3	10.7
Co. Durham & Tees	73.9	79.0	68.5	10.5
West Cumbria	76.3	81.2	70.9	10.3
Merseyside	73.0	77.8	68.1	9.7
South Yorkshire	76.5	81.6	70.9	10.7
North Midlands	76.1	81.4	70.4	11.0
Great Britain	79.7	85.5	73.6	11.9

Source: Census 2001

Tables 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 report employment by type of employment, expressed as percentages of the non-student working-age population. Although economic activity rates are lower in the Valleys authorities, a higher proportion of working-age men in the Greater Valleys Area is in full-time employment than in Wales as a whole, though this is not the case in Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil and Neath Port Talbot. Marginally fewer women are in full-time employment in the Valleys than in Wales as a whole.

Differences in employment patterns between the Greater Valleys Area and Wales as a whole are greatest for self-employment. Table 3.2 shows that in terms of employees in employment, the rate of full-time employment is 0.2 percentage points higher in the Greater Valleys Area than it is for Wales as a whole. For part-time employment, the rate for the Greater Valleys Area is 1.2 percentage points below the figure for Wales (1.5 below in the case of the Central Valleys). The self-employment rate for the Greater Valleys Area is, however, 3.5 percentage points below the Wales figure (the Central Valleys being 3.7 percentage points below the Welsh figure). When the Valleys are extracted from the Wales figures, the gap widens. In the Central Valleys only 5.7 per cent of the working age population is in self-employment (Greater Valleys 5.9 per cent), compared with 10.9 per cent in the rest of Wales. Put more graphically, as a proportion of the working-age population, self-employment in the rest of Wales is almost twice that in the Valleys. The unitary authorities with low

levels of self-employment are also associated with low levels of part-time employment

The variation in activity rates in the Greater Valleys Area compared with the rest of Wales arises, therefore, from lower levels of self-employment and to a lesser extent of part-time employment, and generally not from smaller proportions in full-time employment.

Valleys unemployment totals at under 5 per cent were lower than in the other study areas and not much greater than in Wales as a whole (4.5 per cent), with the exception of Blaenau Gwent (5.9 per cent). The co-occurrence of low unemployment and low activity may be partially explained by a propensity on the part of many of the jobless not to seek work.

Table 3.2 Economically Active People, 2001 (% of Non-student Working-Age Population)

	Total	Part-time employee^a	Full-time employee	Self-employed	Unemployed
Neath Port Talbot	68.8	13.5	44.5	5.8	5.0
Rhondda Cynon Taff	69.9	12.2	47.0	6.1	4.6
Merthyr Tydfil	66.2	12.3	43.5	5.2	5.1
Blaenau Gwent	67.6	12.4	44.8	4.5	5.9
Caerphilly	71.4	12.0	49.1	5.8	4.5
Bridgend	73.5	13.4	48.8	6.9	4.4
Torfaen	73.9	13.7	49.8	6.0	4.3
Central Valleys	69.5	12.4	46.5	5.7	4.8
Greater Valleys	70.6	12.7	47.2	5.9	4.7
Rest of Wales (Ex. GV)	76.7	14.5	46.9	10.9	4.5
Wales	74.8	13.9	47.0	9.4	4.5
Co. Durham & Tees	73.9	14.5	47.8	5.8	6.0
West Cumbria	76.3	16.1	46.1	8.7	5.4
Merseyside	73.0	14.1	45.7	6.7	6.5
South Yorkshire	76.5	15.7	48.2	7.5	5.1
North Midlands	76.1	15.4	48.1	7.2	5.4
Great Britain	79.7	14.0	51.6	9.8	4.3

Source: Census 2001

^a Part time is defined as working 30 hours or less per week.

Male full-time employment rates (Table 3.3) at 58.4 per cent for the Greater Valleys and 57.5 per cent for the Central Valleys are slightly behind the averages for the other study areas – Merseyside (55.2 per cent) excepted. Part-time employment is much lower in the two valley areas than in the other study areas where the only similarly low rates are to be found in the North East local authorities of Wear Valley, Sedgefield, and Easington and in Knowsley in Merseyside. Self-employment is higher in Wales as a whole than anywhere else reviewed here but lower in the Valleys areas

(8.7 per cent in the Greater Valleys and 8.5 per cent in the Central Valleys) than anywhere else apart from the North East (8.3 per cent).

Table 3.3 Economically Active Males, 2001 (% of Non-student Working-Age Population)

	Total	Part-time employee^a	Full-time employee	Self-employed	Unemployed
Neath Port Talbot	74.4	3.2	56.5	8.5	6.2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	75.3	2.7	57.6	9.2	5.8
Merthyr Tydfil	71.4	2.8	54.3	8.0	6.4
Caerphilly	76.9	2.8	59.9	8.6	5.7
Blaenau Gwent	73.3	2.8	56.4	6.5	7.6
Bridgend	79.0	3.1	60.5	10.1	5.4
Torfaen	78.8	3.2	61.7	8.7	5.3
Central Valleys	75.0	2.9	57.5	8.5	6.1
Greater Valleys	76.0	2.9	58.4	8.7	5.9
Rest of Wales (Excl GV)	81.8	3.9	56.8	15.4	5.6
Wales	80.0	3.6	57.3	13.3	5.7
Co. Durham & Tees	79.0	3.6	59.4	8.3	7.7
West Cumbria	81.2	3.4	59.6	11.4	6.8
Merseyside	77.8	3.7	55.2	10.2	8.6
South Yorkshire	81.6	4.0	60.2	11.0	6.4
North Midlands	81.4	3.7	60.8	10.5	6.5
Great Britain	85.5	3.6	62.5	14.1	5.3

Source: Census 2001

^a Part time is defined as working 30 hours of less per week.

The Valleys have the smallest proportion of part time female employees (Table 3.4) of any of the study areas but broadly similar proportions of full-time female employees. Self-employment is highest in Cumbria, (where full time employment levels are low). Employment patterns may differ here in part, however, because of the region's prominent tourism industry. Only Easington (2.4 per cent), Sunderland (2.6 per cent), Knowsley (2.0 per cent) and Liverpool (2.4 per cent) have smaller proportions of women in self-employment (Table A3.3) than the Central Valleys (2.8 per cent) and the Greater Valleys (2.9 per cent.). In the rest of Wales, excluding the Valleys, self-employment among women is higher than in any of the other areas under review at 6.1 per cent. (Cumbria's figure is 5.6 per cent, again probably as a result of the importance of the tourism industry.)

Table 3.4 Economically Active Females, 2001 ((% of Non-student Working-Age Population)

	Total	Part-time employee^a	Full-time employee	Self-employed	Unemployed
Neath Port Talbot	62.7	24.6	31.5	2.9	3.7
Rhondda Cynon Taff	64.2	22.2	35.7	2.9	3.3
Merthyr Tydfil	60.7	22.4	32.1	2.3	3.8
Caerphilly	65.5	21.9	37.6	2.8	3.2
Blaenau Gwent	61.5	22.8	32.2	2.4	4.0
Bridgend	67.4	24.6	36.0	3.5	3.3
Torfaen	68.5	25.0	37.1	3.1	3.3
Central Valleys	63.6	22.7	34.7	2.8	3.5
Greater Valleys	64.7	23.2	35.1	2.9	3.4
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	71.3	25.9	36.2	6.1	3.2
Wales	69.3	25.1	35.9	5.1	3.3
Co. Durham & Tees	68.5	26.1	35.3	3.0	4.0
West Cumbria	70.9	30.3	31.0	5.6	3.9
Merseyside	68.1	24.8	35.9	3.1	4.3
South Yorkshire	70.9	28.5	35.1	3.7	3.6
North Midlands	70.4	28.2	34.3	3.7	4.1
Great Britain	73.6	25.1	39.9	5.3	3.3

Source: Census 2001

^a Part time is defined as working 30 hours of less per week.

Figures 3.1 and 3.2 show male and female activity rates for the Greater Valleys compared with the corresponding rates for Wales as a whole. (Tables A3.5 and A3.6 in the Appendix report economic activity rates by age for males and females respectively). For both males and females, economic activity rates in the Central and Greater Valleys areas are below those for Wales as a whole in each age band. In the case of males, the difference between the Valleys and Wales rates increases throughout the working-age age bands. For the 16-19 age group the difference between the Wales and Greater Valleys figures is 0.9 percentage points, but this increases steadily to 3.9 percentage points at age 45-49 and then increases sharply to 6.2 percentage points by age 50-55 and 8.9 percentage points by age 55-59. When the rates for Wales are compared with the rates for the Central Valleys, the differences are greater still.

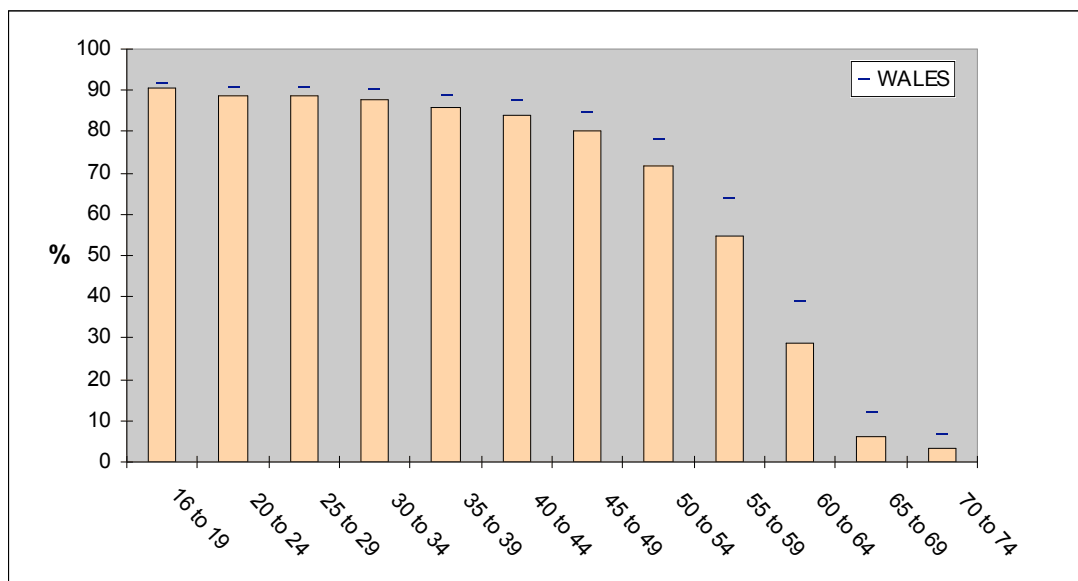


Figure 3.1 Male Activity Rates by Age for the Greater Valleys (Non-Students)

Source: Census 2001

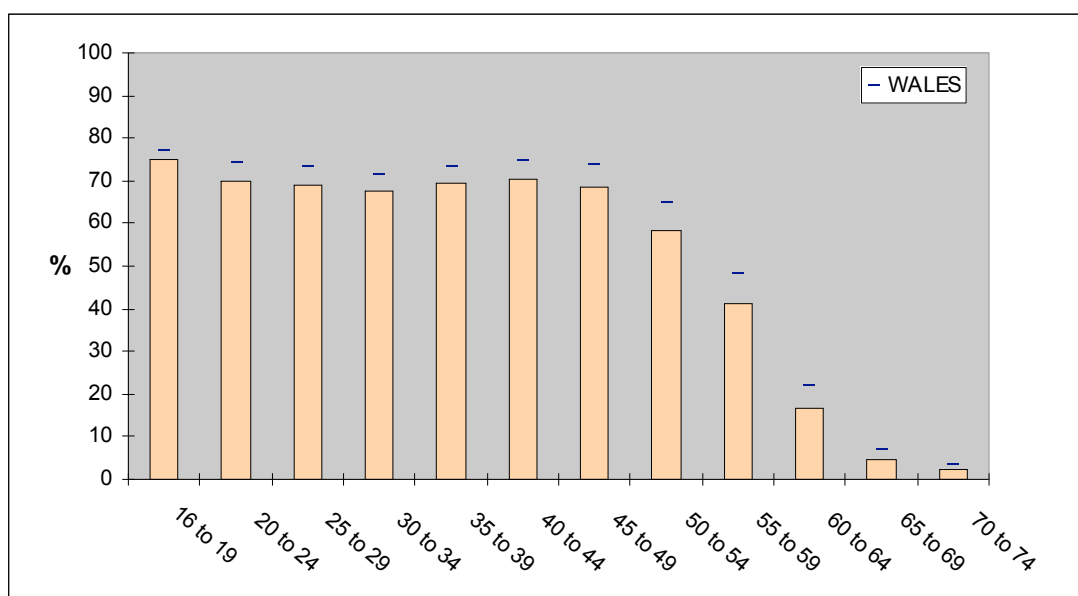


Figure 3.2 Female Activity Rates by Age for the Greater Valleys (Non-Students)

Source: Census 2001

In the case of females, the difference between the Greater Valleys and Wales economic activity rates is 2.1 percentage points at age 16-19 rising to 4.3 percentage points between ages 20 and 29, falling to 3.5 percentage points by age 35-39 and then rising to 7.2 percentage points at age 55-59. As with males, the difference in rates between the Valleys and Wales is greater in the case of the Central Valleys.

Table 3.5 reports economic activity and employment rates for males aged 65-74 and females aged 60-74. The activity rate for males aged 65 to 74 in the Greater Valleys Area is half that of Wales, whereas the figure for females is nearly three quarters of the figure for Wales. Furthermore, for Wales as a whole, self-employment accounts

for a relatively larger share of employment amongst this age group than it does in the Greater Valleys Area, replicating the findings in Table 3.2 for the economically active of working age.

Table 3.5 Post Retirement Age^a Economic Activity and Employment Rates (%)

	Greater Valleys			Central Valleys			Wales		
	M	F	All	M	F	All	M	F	All
Economically Active	4.9	8.1	7.0	4.5	7.9	6.7	9.3	11.2	10.5
Employee	2.6	7.0	5.4	2.5	6.9	5.3	3.7	8.5	6.8
Self-Employed	2.0	0.9	1.3	1.7	0.9	1.2	5.1	2.4	3.4

Source: Census 2001

^a Males aged 65 to 74 and females aged 60 to 74.

Occupations and Industries

Focusing on those in paid employment (either as an employee or self-employed), Tables A3.8, A3.9, A3.10 report figures for the occupational composition of employment in the Greater Valleys Area. Figures for the 16-74 age group are analysed in order to ascertain a more complete picture of the nature of employment in the Greater Valleys Area.

The figures reveal that, for both males and females, the Greater Valleys Area (particularly the Central Valleys area) has a lower proportion of employed people in senior and professional occupations than Wales as a whole. Furthermore, the Greater Valleys Area has a larger proportion of people working as process, plant and machine operatives and people working in elementary occupations, with this phenomenon particularly pronounced in Blaenau Gwent. The figures confirm the significance within the study area of older and often declining occupations (i.e. occupations in which the numbers employed are declining at the UK level), likely to continue to be subject to low cost competition and vulnerable to fluctuations in the value of the pound sterling to the dollar or Euro.

High proportions of individuals in elementary occupations are found in the former mining towns of Barnsley, Doncaster, Easington, Bolsover, Ashfield, Mansfield and Wakefield - as in the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys more than 15 per cent of all individuals in employment. Merthyr Tydfil (17.1 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (18.8 per cent) are, however, higher again. At the other end of the scale, the study areas in England all record higher figures for employment in managerial and other official occupations. Easington (8.97 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (8.9 per cent) record the lowest proportions, with the Valleys at just over 10 per cent, almost two percentage points below the best performer (Merseyside).

Tables A3.11, A3.12 and A3.13 show the composition of employment (employees and the self-employed) by industry. The figures show that the manufacturing sector accounted for a much larger share of employment in the Greater Valleys Area (24.5 per cent) than it did for Wales as a whole (17.3 per cent) and particularly for males. Some 33.75 per cent of male employment in the Greater Valleys Area is in the

manufacturing sector, compared to 24.6 per cent for Wales as a whole. In Blaenau Gwent, 44.9 per cent of male employment is in manufacturing. The Valleys are under-represented in education, public administration and defence, real estate, financial intermediation, and hotels and catering - all sectors which are growing in employment terms at the UK level. Further study is needed to understand how reported job losses in manufacturing have affected the sector's share in employment by industry.

The high proportion of individuals in manufacturing evident in the Greater Valleys (24.5 per cent) and the Central Valleys (24.6 per cent) is replicated (Table 3.14) in Cumbria (24.8 per cent), in the North Midlands (22.1 per cent) and the North East (20.56 per cent). Blaenau Gwent's total employment in manufacturing of 32.6 per cent stands out, however, the nearest among the English areas studied being Sedgefield (29.7 per cent). The high proportion of individuals employed in health and social services in Merthyr (15.3 per cent) is replicated in Liverpool but elsewhere the proportions are substantially less, and broadly in the same range as the Valleys generally.

Unemployment

The unemployed, as defined by the 2001 Census, are those individuals without a job who are looking for work and who are available to start within two weeks. The Census provides figures on unemployment that relate to the 16-74 age-group.

Table 3.6 shows the extent to which unemployment is concentrated in the 16-24 age group. Unemployment within this age group is higher in the Greater Valleys Area, accounting for 33.2 per cent of all the unemployed in the Greater Valleys Area (33.8 per cent in the Central Valleys), compared to 29.3 per cent for Wales as a whole. The difference between the Wales and Valleys figures is greatest for females, particularly with respect to the Central Valleys area where the difference is 5.0 percentage points. For males the proportions are broadly similar across all authorities with a difference of only 2.9 points between the authority with the highest proportion (Merthyr Tydfil 34.2 per cent) and that with the lowest (Blaenau Gwent 31.3 per cent). For females the differences are greater between authorities with Rhondda Cynon Taff recording the highest proportion (36.0 per cent) and Bridgend (30.1 per cent) the lowest. The proportion of the unemployed who are aged 16-24 is lower than the figures for the Valleys areas for each of the comparator areas for both males and females.

The higher incidence in the Greater Valleys Area of unemployed people who have never worked is associated more with females than with males. (Table 3.7) 11.3 per cent of unemployed females in the Greater Valleys Area (12.3 per cent in the Central Valleys) have never worked, which compares with a figure of 9.6 per cent for Wales. For males, there is a 0.4 percentage point difference between the figure for Wales and the Greater Valleys Area (0.8 difference for the Central Valleys). For females the gap is 1.7 percentage points (Central Valleys 2.7 percentage points). In Merthyr Tydfil more than one in ten unemployed males and more than one in seven unemployed females have never worked. The figures for the comparator areas are marginally higher than the Valleys figures, apart from the North Midlands.

Table 3.6 Proportion of the Unemployed Aged 16 - 74 Who are Aged 16 – 24, 2001

	Persons	Males	Females
Neath Port Talbot	32.7	33.6	31.1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	34.7	34.0	36.0
Merthyr Tydfil	34.8	34.2	35.8
Caerphilly	33.7	34.1	32.9
Blaenau Gwent	31.3	31.3	31.4
Bridgend	32.0	33.1	30.1
Torfaen	31.8	32.2	31.2
Central Valleys	33.8	33.7	34.0
Greater Valleys	33.2	33.4	32.9
Wales	29.3	30.0	29.0
Co. Durham & Tees	29.0	27.7	31.8
West Cumbria	27.1	27.3	26.7
Merseyside	28.2	27.8	28.8
South Yorkshire	28.2	27.4	29.7
North Midlands	27.9	27.9	27.8

Source Census 2001

Table 3.7 Proportion of the Unemployed Aged 16-74 Who Have Never Worked, 2001

	People	Males	Females
Neath Port Talbot	10.2	9.9	10.7
Rhondda Cynon Taff	11.1	9.6	13.9
Merthyr Tydfil	12.9	11.5	15.2
Caerphilly	8.8	8.2	9.8
Blaenau Gwent	10.8	9.5	13.4
Bridgend	7.5	7.7	7.3
Torfaen	7.7	6.6	9.5
Central Valleys	10.4	9.4	12.3
Greater Valleys	9.8	9.0	11.3
Wales	9.0	8.6	9.6
Co. Durham & Tees	11.5	10.6	13.4
West Cumbria	10.3	10.0	10.8
Merseyside	13.9	13.4	14.8
South Yorkshire	11.3	10.7	12.4
North Midlands	8.0	7.7	8.5

Source Census 2001

Table 3.8 reports the incidence of long-term unemployment, defined by the Census as being unemployed since before 1 January 2000. The Greater Valleys Area has a

slightly lower incidence of long-term unemployment when compared to Wales as a whole, particularly amongst males, where the figure is 2 percentage points lower. The figures for the comparator areas are all above those of the Valleys.

Table 3.8 Proportion of the Unemployed Aged 16-74 Who are Long-term Unemployed*, 2001

	People	Males	Females
Neath Port Talbot	32.6	31.2	35.2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	28.2	26.1	32.2
Merthyr Tydfil	35.5	36.3	34.1
Caerphilly	29.1	27.0	33.2
Blaenau Gwent	32.3	31.3	34.3
Bridgend	28.2	26.8	30.8
Torfaen	27.2	25.7	29.8
Central Valleys	29.8	28.0	33.2
Greater Valleys	29.9	28.4	32.8
Wales	31.3	30.2	33.2
Co. Durham & Tees	34.8	34.3	35.8
West Cumbria	35.4	34.8	36.7
Merseyside	37.8	37.3	38.8
South Yorkshire	32.9	32.7	33.1
North Midlands	31.9	31.2	33.1

Source Census 2001

* Unemployed since before 1 January 2000.

Table 3.9 reports claimant count unemployment rates for November 2003 for the Valleys and the comparator areas. The claimant count rate is based on the number of Job Seekers Allowance claimants. On this measure, unemployment amongst all persons in the Valleys is only marginally higher than the rate of 2.4 per cent for Wales (0.1 and 0.2 percentage points higher for the Greater and Central Valleys areas respectively). Only Blaenau Gwent (3.6 per cent) and Merthyr Tydfil (3.0 per cent) have rates that are more than half a percentage point higher than the rate for Wales. The unemployment rates for the Valleys are similar to those of the comparator areas, apart from Merseyside (3.7 per cent) and County Durham & Tees (3.1 per cent).

On both measures of unemployment reported here, unemployment rates in the Valleys are similar to those found elsewhere. The important difference between the Valleys and the rest of Wales and the comparator areas is that the higher levels of joblessness in the Valleys are reflected in higher rates of economic inactivity and not unemployment.

**Table 3.9 Claimant Count¹ Unemployment Rates², November 2003
(% of Working Age Population)**

	Males	Females	Persons
Neath Port Talbot	3.7	1.4	2.6
Rhondda Cynon Taff	3.3	1.2	2.2
Merthyr Tydfil	4.6	1.4	3.0
Caerphilly	3.6	1.2	2.5
Blaenau Gwent	5.3	1.7	3.6
Bridgend	3.0	1.1	2.1
Torfaen	3.3	1.2	2.3
Central Valleys	3.8	1.3	2.6
Greater Valleys	3.6	1.3	2.5
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	3.4	1.2	2.3
Wales	3.4	1.2	2.4
Co. Durham & Tees	4.7	1.5	3.1
West Cumbria	3.8	1.2	2.6
Merseyside	5.7	1.7	3.7
South Yorkshire	3.8	1.3	2.6
North Midlands	3.5	1.3	2.4
Great Britain	3.5	1.3	2.4

Source: Jobcentre Plus Administrative System

¹ Count of claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance.

² Residence-based rates.

Economic Inactivity

Tables 3.10, 3.11 and 3.12 detail the rates and nature of economic inactivity for working-age people excluding those in full-time education.

The economic inactivity rate of 29.4 per cent for the Greater Valleys Area (Table 3.10) is 4.2 percentage points higher than the rate for Wales and is also higher than most of the comparator areas. One in five people in Britain are inactive, one in four in Wales and almost one in three in the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys. The highest figure recorded in the other study areas is Merseyside (27 per cent) while in Wales the stand-out figures are 33.8 per cent for Merthyr Tydfil and 32.4 per cent for Blaenau Gwent. Three people in these two authorities are, therefore, inactive for every two in Britain. The figures for men alone are even starker, with inactivity rates nearly double those in Great Britain as a whole.

The higher rate for the Greater Valleys Area is due mainly to the higher incidence of individuals self-reporting as permanently sick or disabled – 13.8 per cent for the Greater Valleys Area (14.6 per cent for the Central Valleys) compared to 8.8 per cent for the rest of Wales excluding the Greater Valleys. Inactivity due to self-reported permanent sickness or disability for the Greater Valleys Area unitary authorities ranges from 11.3 per cent in Torfaen to 17.9 per cent in Merthyr Tydfil (19.7 per cent

in the case of males). Inactivity due to early retirement is slightly less common in the Greater Valleys Area than in Wales as a whole.

Table 3.10 Economically Inactive People, 2001 (% of Working Age Non-student Population)

	Total	Retired	Looking after home / family	Permanently sick / disabled	Other reason
Neath Port Talbot	31.2	3.4	8.3	14.9	4.6
Rhondda Cynon Taff	30.1	2.4	8.2	14.5	4.9
Merthyr Tydfil	33.8	2.2	8.5	17.9	5.2
Caerphilly	28.6	2.5	8.4	13.3	4.5
Blaenau Gwent	32.4	3.0	8.7	15.3	5.3
Bridgend	26.5	2.8	7.9	11.6	4.4
Torfaen	26.1	3.0	8.2	11.3	3.6
Central Valleys	30.5	2.7	8.4	14.6	4.8
Greater Valleys	29.4	2.7	8.3	13.8	4.6
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	23.3	3.0	7.9	8.8	3.6
Wales	25.2	2.9	8.0	10.4	3.9
Co. Durham & Tees	26.1	2.3	8.6	11.3	3.9
West Cumbria	23.7	3.2	8.0	8.8	3.7
Merseyside	27.0	2.4	8.6	11.4	4.7
South Yorkshire	23.5	2.5	8.4	8.8	3.9
North Midlands	23.9	2.8	8.7	9.0	3.4
Great Britain	20.3	2.4	7.9	6.3	3.6

Source: Census 2001

The proportion of males self-reporting as permanently sick or disabled is 14.9 per cent for the Greater Valleys area (15.8 per cent for the Central Valleys) compared to 9.8 per cent for the rest of Wales excluding the Greater Valleys and 6.9 per cent in Great Britain as a whole. At the unitary authority level, self-reported permanent sickness or disability rates range from 12.4 per cent in Torfaen to 19.7 per cent in Merthyr Tydfil. For the comparator areas, County Durham and Tees has the highest rate at 13.0 per cent and South Yorkshire, at 10.1 per cent, has the lowest. Merthyr Tydfil's figure is exceeded by only one authority in the comparator areas – Easington with 21.0 per cent (see Annex).

Table 3.11 Economically Inactive Males, 2001 (% of Working Age Non-student Population)

	Total	Retired	Looking after home / family	Permanently sick / disabled	Other reason
Neath Port Talbot	25.6	4.7	1.6	15.5	3.8
Rhondda Cynon Taff	24.7	3.3	1.6	15.9	3.9
Merthyr Tydfil	28.6	2.9	1.7	19.7	4.2
Caerphilly	23.1	3.2	1.8	14.4	3.6
Blaenau Gwent	26.7	4.4	1.5	16.4	4.4
Bridgend	21.0	3.6	1.3	12.2	3.9
Torfaen	21.2	4.1	1.5	12.4	3.2
Central Valleys	25.0	3.6	1.7	15.8	3.9
Greater Valleys	24.0	3.7	1.6	14.9	3.8
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	18.2	4.0	1.3	9.8	3.2
Wales	20.0	3.9	1.4	11.4	3.4
Co. Durham & Tees	21.0	3.1	1.5	13.0	3.4
West Cumbria	18.8	4.4	1.2	9.9	3.3
Merseyside	22.2	3.4	1.7	12.9	4.1
South Yorkshire	18.4	3.3	1.5	10.1	3.4
North Midlands	18.6	3.7	1.4	10.5	2.9
Great Britain	14.5	3.2	1.1	6.9	3.2

Source: Census 2001

With the exception of Bridgend and Torfaen, the proportion of women who are economically inactive is higher in the Greater Valleys (35.3 per cent) and Central Valleys (36.4 per cent) (Table 3.12) than in the comparator regions - where the highest figure is reported in Merseyside (31.9 per cent) - or the rest of Wales (28.7 per cent). Compared with men in Wales, inactivity among women is consistently 10-12 percentage points higher, with particularly high figures being recorded in Merthyr Tydfil (39.3 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (38.5 per cent). Among women sickness and disability accounts for a much larger share of economic inactivity in the Valleys (Central Valleys 13.4 per cent and Greater Valleys 12.7 per cent) than in the other areas. The comparable figure for Wales is 9.2 per cent and Britain 5.6 per cent, and none of the comparator areas have figures in excess of 10 per cent.

Figures for limiting long-term sickness and disability amongst females in the other study areas vary from 7.3 per cent in South Yorkshire and North Midlands to 9.8 per cent in Merseyside, though Easington in County Durham and Tees (15.4 per cent) has a rate comparable with parts of the Valleys (Table A3.18). Looking after family is also an important reason for female inactivity, though the figures do not vary markedly from those for the rest of Wales or Great Britain. Whereas 15 women in every 100 on average cite caring responsibilities for being unable to work, only 1-2 per cent of men do so.

Table 3.12 Economically Inactive Females, 2001 (% of Working Age Non-student Population)

	Total	Retired	Looking after home / family	Permanently sick / disabled	Other reason
Neath Port Talbot	37.3	2.0	15.6	14.2	5.5
Rhondda Cynon Taff	35.8	1.5	15.3	13.0	6.0
Merthyr Tydfil	39.3	1.4	15.7	15.9	6.3
Caerphilly	34.5	1.6	15.4	12.1	5.4
Blaenau Gwent	38.5	1.5	16.6	14.0	6.3
Bridgend	32.6	1.8	15.0	10.9	4.9
Torfaen	31.5	1.7	15.4	10.2	4.1
Central Valleys	36.4	1.6	15.6	13.4	5.8
Greater Valleys	35.3	1.7	15.5	12.7	5.5
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	28.7	2.0	15.0	7.6	4.1
Wales	30.7	1.9	15.1	9.2	4.5
Co. Durham & Tees	31.5	1.4	16.2	9.5	4.4
South Yorkshire	29.1	1.5	15.9	7.3	4.4
North Midlands	29.6	1.7	16.6	7.3	4.0
Merseyside	31.9	1.3	15.7	9.8	5.2
West Cumbria	29.1	1.9	15.6	7.5	4.1
Great Britain	26.4	1.5	15.3	5.6	4.1

Source: Census 2001

Figure 3.3 shows that the proportion of men in the Greater Valleys area reporting themselves as unable to work because of sickness or disability increases progressively to a peak at age 60-64 of 14.5 percentage points above the proportion for the rest of Wales. For females (Figure 3.4), the difference between the Greater Valleys and the rest of Wales in the proportions unable to work due to sickness or disability increases to a peak of nearly 12 percentage points at age 55-59. These figures need to be treated with caution, however, as there may or may not be a greater propensity on the part of individuals in the rest of Wales to declare themselves not working because of retirement at these ages.

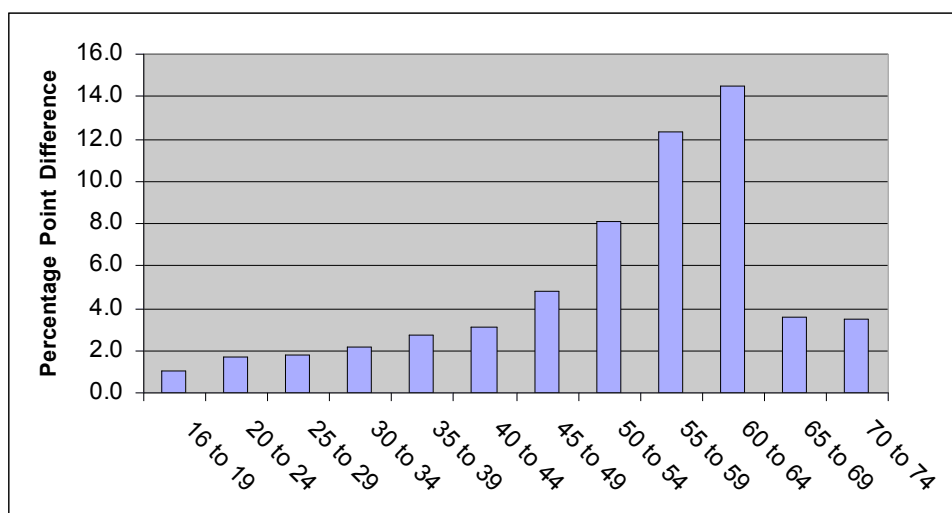


Figure 3.3 Percentage Point Difference in Male Self-Reported Permanent Sickness and Disability Rates between the Greater Valleys and the Rest of Wales by ages, 2001

Source: Census 2001

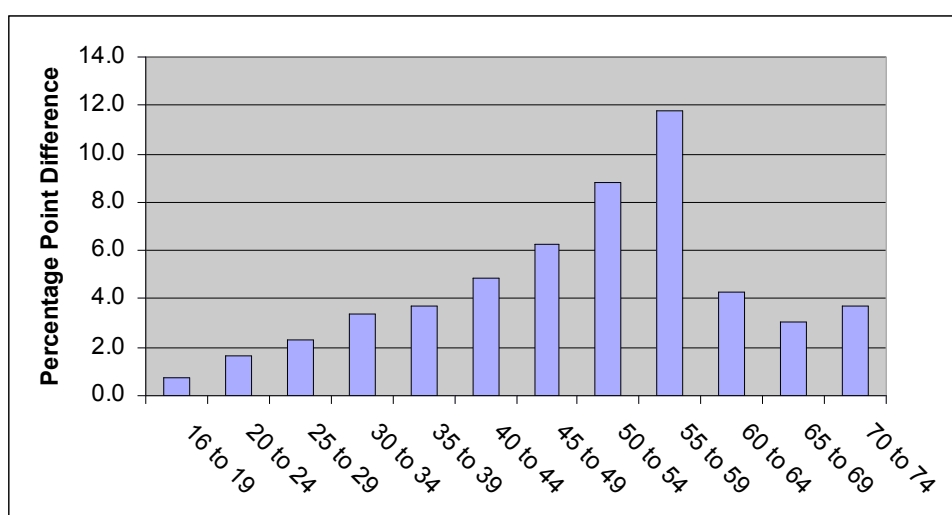


Figure 3.4 Percentage Point Difference in Female Self-Reported Permanent Sickness and Disability Rates by age between the Greater Valleys and the Rest of Wales by age, 2001

Source: Census 2001

Table 3.13 reports that while 31.2 per cent of Wales’ non-student working-age population reside in the seven Valleys unitary authorities we define as the Greater Valleys, the area accounts for 36.4 per cent of the economically inactive non-student population of working age. A total of 41.7 per cent of Wales’ working age population who classify themselves as being permanently sick or disabled live in the Greater Valleys Area, with the figure for females (42.9 per cent) being 2.1 percentage points higher than the figure for males (40.8 per cent).

Table 3.13 Working Age Population Excluding Students, 2001 (% of Welsh figures)

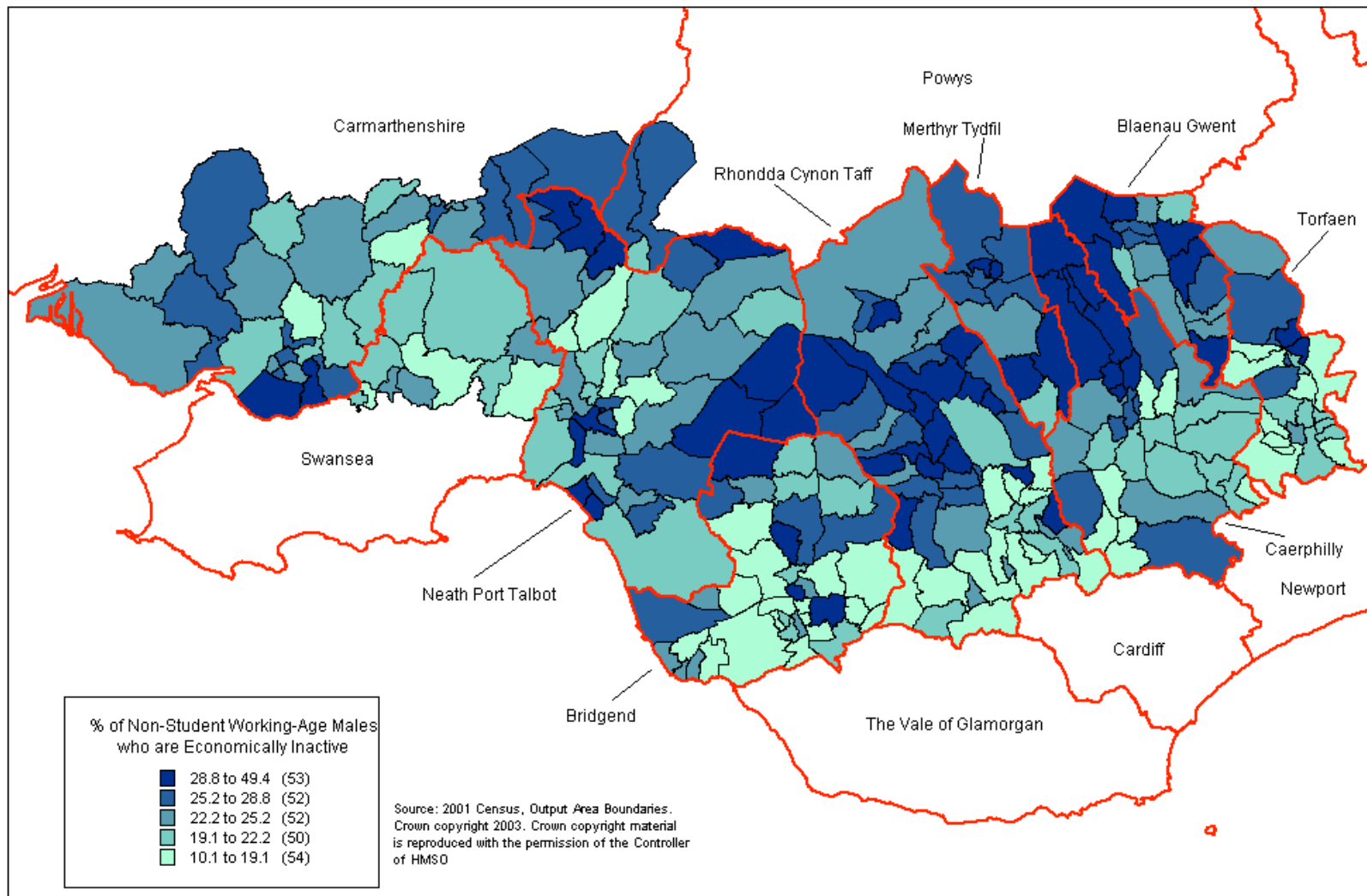
	CV			GV			EV		
	All	M	F	All	M	F	All	M	F
Population	23.4	23.3	23.4	31.2	31.2	31.4	37.3	37.2	37.3
Economically Active	21.7	21.9	21.5	29.4	29.6	29.1	35.3	35.5	35.0
Economically Inactive	28.3	29.1	27.7	36.4	37.4	35.8	43.2	44.2	42.5
Perm Sick/Disabled	33.1	32.4	33.9	41.7	40.8	42.9	49.5	48.2	51.1

Source: Census 2001

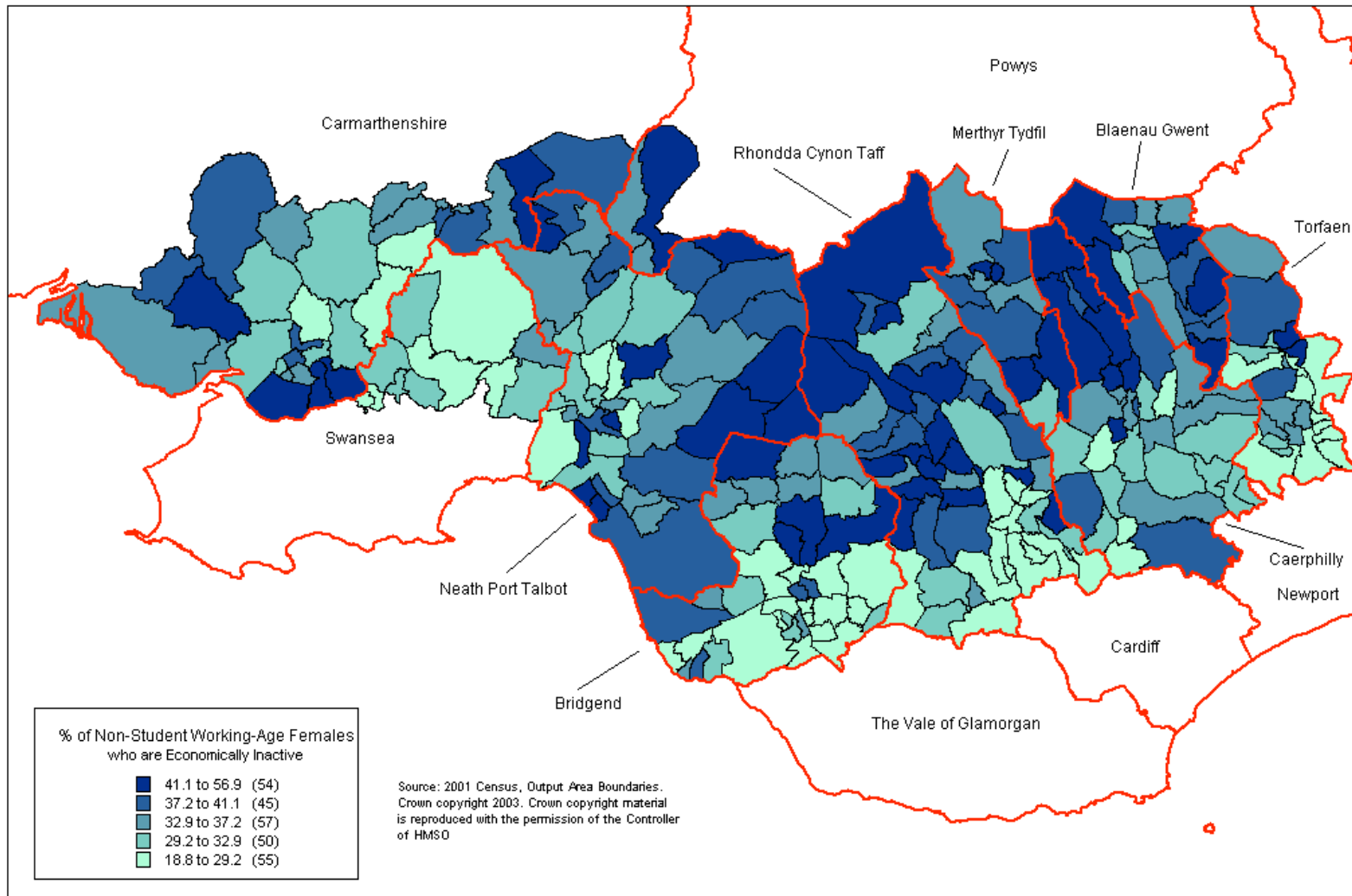
In summary, the much higher levels of economic inactivity seen in the Valleys are due to a higher incidence of individuals who self-report to be suffering from a permanent sickness or disability that limits their ability to work. This cannot be explained by demographic differences, since there is not a large difference in the age profile of working-age Valleys residents compared to Wales as a whole. The key point is that the rate of self-reported permanent sickness and disability is higher in the Valleys than in the rest of Wales for all ages and that the difference between the two increases with age.

Ward-Level Analysis of Inactivity

Maps 3.1 and 3.2 and Figures 3.5 and 3.6 report ward-level inactivity rates for males and females. In Figures 3.5 and 3.6, for each unitary authority, the inactivity rate in its constituent wards are plotted vertically. The unitary authorities with the smallest variations in inactivity among working age males, excluding students, are Blaenau Gwent where the rate varies from 22 per cent (Georgetown) to 32 per cent (Sirhowy) and Merthyr Tydfil, where the rate varies from 22 per cent in Treharris to 40 per cent in Gurnos. The widest variations are in Rhondda, which has the Valleys ward with the lowest level of inactivity (11 per cent in Llantwit Fardre at its southern end close to the M4) and that with the highest, apart from the exception below (41.4 per cent in Pen-y-Waun in Aberdare). Gwynfi in Neath Port Talbot and Maerdy in Rhondda Cynon Taff also have levels around 40 per cent. (Coity in Bridgend actually has the highest level of male inactivity - 49.3 per cent - but this is accounted for by the presence of HM Prison Parc within the ward boundary.) A total of 19 out of Bridgend's 39 wards report inactivity rates below 20 per cent, a higher proportion than anywhere else. Torfaen, too, has a relatively high concentration of wards with fewer than 20 per cent inactive and only two wards where more than 30 per cent are inactive (St Cadocs and Penygarn, and Trevethin). Cf. Also Table 1.1 Greater Valleys Authorities Wards in Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation in Highest 100 (pages 18-19).



Map 3.1 % of Non-Student Working-Age Males who are Economically Inactive, 2001



Map 3.2 % of Non-Student Working-Age Females who are Economically Inactive, 2001

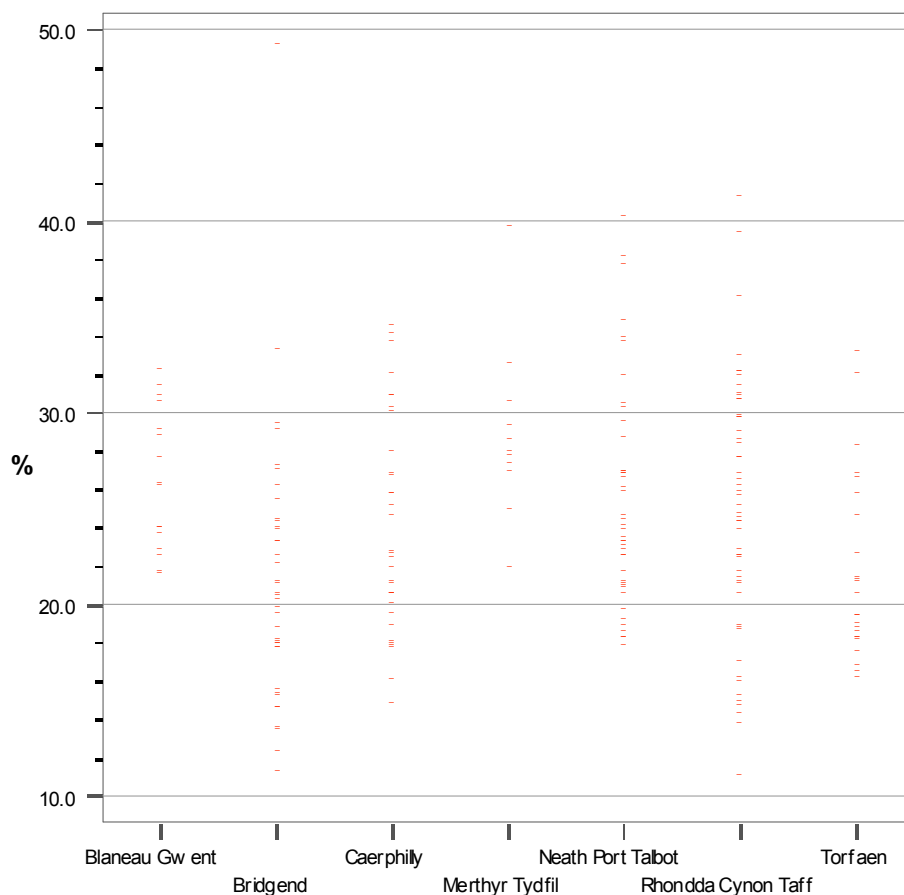


Figure 3.5 Ward-Level Male Inactivity Rates, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working-Age Males) (Source: Census 2001)

Among women the highest levels of inactivity are found in Penywaun ward in Rhondda Cynon Taff (57 per cent) followed by Glyncorrwg ward in Neath Port Talbot and Gurnos in Merthyr Tydfil (both 53 per cent). Neath Port Talbot also has two other wards reporting a figure in excess of 50 per cent - Sandfields West and Gwynfi. The widest variations are in Rhondda, which as for males has the ward with the lowest levels of female inactivity (Llantwit Fardre, 18.8 per cent). The seven wards with the best figures for activity among women are in Rhondda Cynon Taff and Bridgend, both of which have wealthier areas close to Cardiff and the M4. Neath Port Talbot has the highest concentration of wards with more than 25 per cent of women inactive, and Blaenau Gwent the smallest variation between worst performing and best performing wards.

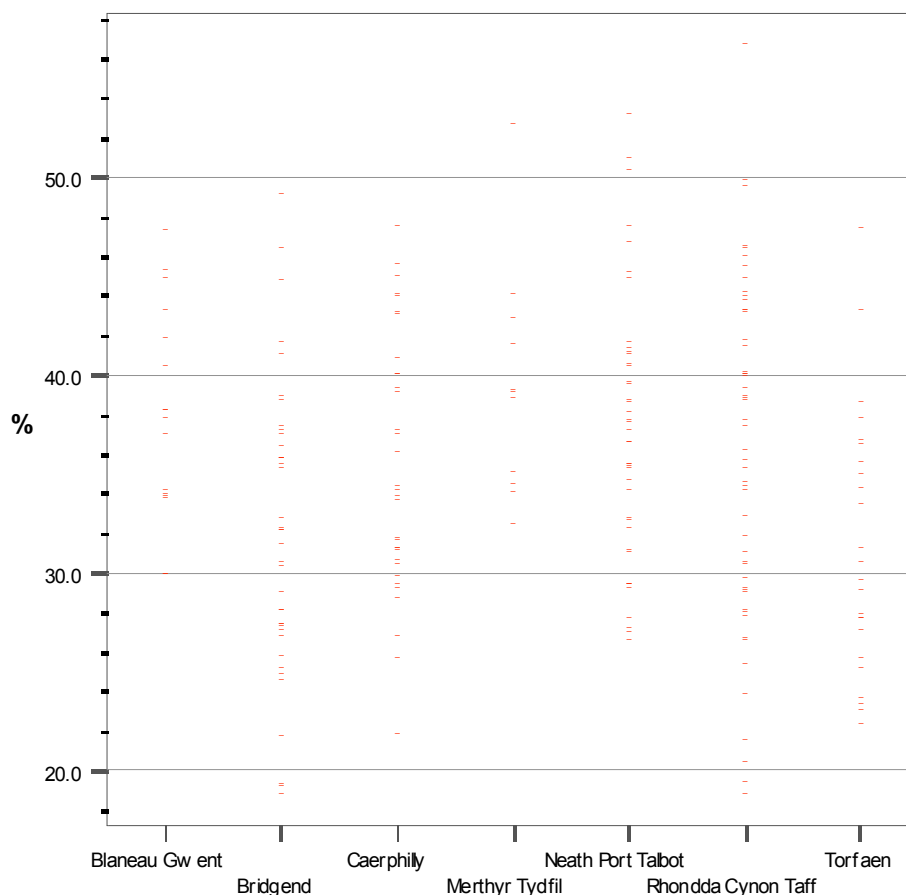


Figure 3.6 Ward-Level Female Inactivity Rates, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working-Age Females) (Source: Census 2001)

The largest proportion of wards in the Greater Valleys areas have male inactivity rates of between 20 and 30 per cent and female inactivity rates of between 30-40 per cent. Overall the figures confirm a concentration of problems in the northern ends of the area in Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly and Rhondda Cynon Taff, though there are problems also in the two Sandfields wards of Neath Port Talbot in coastal south Wales, and at the north eastern end of the same borough. Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent both lack better performing wards, unlike Rhondda Cynon Taff, which has communities close to the M4 at its southern end. These only serve, however, to mask very acute problems in certain poorly-performing wards in the north of the borough where women in particular are disadvantaged in the jobs market.

In Figures 3.6 and 3.7, for each unitary authority, the permanent sickness and disability rates in its constituent wards are plotted vertically. The smallest variations at ward level in reported sickness and disability rates among men (as for inactivity) are found in Blaenau Gwent with the highest figures just in excess of 20 per cent (Tredegar) and the lowest at 12.5 per cent (Brynmawr). In Rhondda Cynon Taff, by contrast, the figures vary from 28 per cent (Maerdy) to 6 per cent (Llantwit Fardre) and in Neath Port Talbot from 8 per cent (Cadoxton) to 28 per cent (Gwynfi). All

wards in Bridgend bar one (Bettws) report figures below 20 per cent, with the lowest (Coity) at just over 3 per cent. In Torfaen two wards (St. Cadocs and Penygarn, and Trevethin) exceed 20 per cent but all others are below 12 per cent.

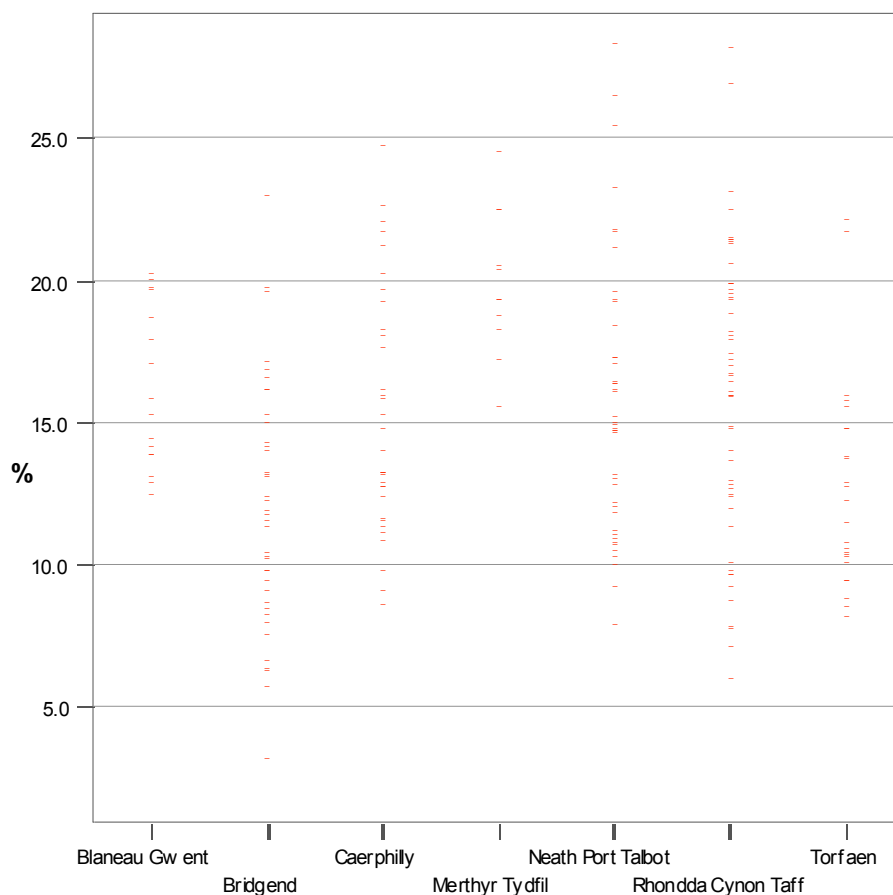


Figure 3.7 Ward-Level Male Self-reported Permanent Sickness and Disability Rates, 2001 (% of Working-Age Non-Student Males) (Source: Census 2001)

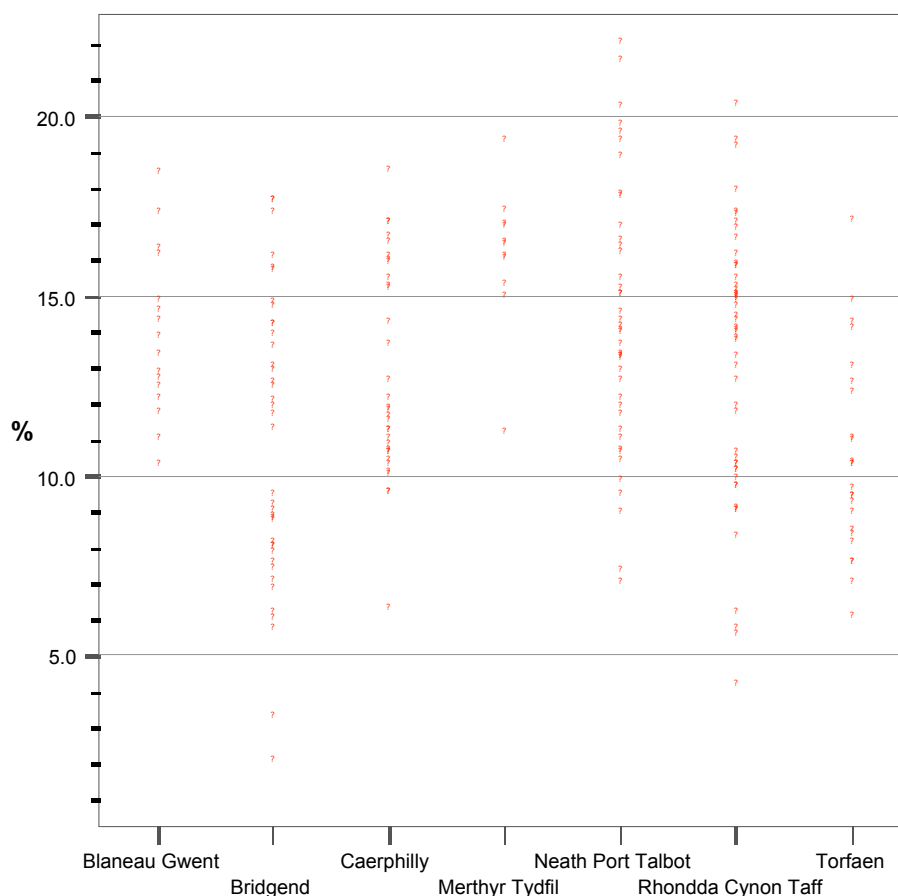


Figure 3.8 Ward-Level Female Self-reported Permanent Sickness and Disability Rates (% of Working Age Non-Student Females) (Source: Census 2001)

Among women Neath Port Talbot reports the highest rates of permanent sickness and disability, with figures of more than 22 per cent in Glyncoirwg ward and more than 21 per cent in Godre'r Graig ward. The only other borough reporting a figure in excess of 20 per cent is Rhondda Cynon Taff (Penywaun 20.3 per cent). No wards in Blaenau Gwent or Merthyr Tydfil report figures of less than 10 per cent permanently sick or disabled. Bridgend has the two wards reporting the smallest proportion of the working age female population sick or disabled - Pen-y-Fai (2 per cent) and Coity (3 per cent), while one borough in Rhondda is also below 5 per cent (Llantwit Fardre).

Changes in Inactivity Between 1991 and 2001

Tables 3.14 and 3.15 report inactivity rates for the South Wales Valleys and the comparative study areas relative to the average rates for Great Britain using index numbers (Great Britain equals 100) for 1991 and 2001). Owing to slight differences in the definition of “inactivity” used in the 1991 and 2001 censuses, comparisons between the rates for a given area should not be made between the two time periods. Only comparisons between areas for a given year are meaningful.

Table 3.14 Working-Age Male Economic Inactivity Indices, 1991 and 2001 (Excluding Students)

	1991				2001			
	Total	Retired	Perm. Sick / disabled	Other	Total	Retired	Perm. sick / disab	Other
Neath Port Talbot	206.6	153.8	257.1	44.5	176.0	145.6	222.5	124.3
Rhondda Cynon Taff	162.6	134.6	258.9	77.8	170.2	101.0	229.4	127.3
Merthyr Tydfil	228.6	130.8	296.4	88.9	196.5	91.0	284.2	134.9
Caerphilly	202.2	146.2	248.2	77.8	158.6	100.5	207.7	123.5
Blaenau Gwent	220.0	153.8	267.9	111	183.8	135.6	236.6	135.2
Bridgend	169.2	126.9	205.4	66.7	144.5	111.7	175.3	119.7
Torfaen	162.6	126.9	196.4	55.6	145.6	126.9	177.9	107.9
Central Valleys	208.8	142.3	260.7	77.8	172.0	112.8	227.7	127.1
Greater Valleys	197.8	138.5	246.4	66.7	165.2	114.0	214.8	124.1
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	138.5	126.9	150.0	100.0	125.4	123.8	141.2	101.5
Wales	153.8	130.8	180.4	55.6	137.8	120.7	164.1	108.5
Co. Durham & Tees	164.8	115.4	191.1	144.4	144.4	96.8	186.7	112.3
West Cumbria	104.4	115.4	101.8	88.9	116.4	122.2	132.4	86.5
Merseyside	151.6	111.5	167.9	166.7	153.1	106.7	186.2	134.6
South Yorkshire	145.1	142.3	139.3	188.9	126.5	103.5	145.9	112.5
North Midlands	146.2	196.2	126.8	122.2	128.0	114.6	151.5	100.3
Great Britain	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Census 2001, Census 1991

Table 3.15 Working-Age Female Economic Inactivity Indices, 1991 and 2001 (Excluding Students)

	1991				2001			
	Total	Retired	Perm, sick / disabled	Other	Total	Retired	Perm. sick / disabled	Other
Neath Port Talbot	128.3	136.4	254.1	108.7	141.2	131.1	255.1	109.1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	127.6	118.2	273.0	105.8	135.6	98.1	233.6	110.2
Merthyr Tydfil	140.7	127.3	318.9	114	148.8	95.2	285.6	113.6
Caerphilly	127.9	136.4	240.5	110.3	130.8	106.4	216.5	107.9
Blaenau Gwent	137.9	136.4	283.8	115.7	145.8	101.6	252.0	118.6
Bridgend	116.9	127.3	202.7	103.3	123.4	120.9	195.8	102.7
Torfaen	113.8	145.5	181.1	102.1	119.2	114.4	182.9	101.1
Central Valleys	130.0	127.3	264.9	109.5	137.7	107.0	239.8	110.6
Greater Valleys	126.6	127.3	248.6	107.9	133.7	109.8	227.5	108.5
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	109.3	127.3	135.1	107.4	108.6	129.2	137.1	98.7
Wales	114.8	127.3	170.3	105.8	116.4	123.2	165.3	101.7
Co. Durham & Tees	120.3	127.3	164.9	114	119.4	94.7	169.6	106.8
West Cumbria	105.9	127.3	108.1	104.5	110.3	123.4	134.8	102.1
Merseyside	113.8	100.0	164.9	106.7	120.9	83.7	176.2	107.9
South Yorkshire	111.0	127.3	121.6	107.1	110.1	101.4	130.6	104.9
North Midlands	110.3	136.4	102.7	110.3	112.1	112.9	130.3	106.8
Great Britain	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Census 2001, Census 1991

A comparison for men across the two sets of Census figures, though difficult because of definition changes, suggests tentatively a narrowing of the gap between the Valleys authorities and both the comparator areas and the British average. Only Rhondda Cynon Taff increased relatively – from 162.6 to 170.2. In the comparator areas male inactivity was closer to the Great Britain average in Co. Durham and Tees, South Yorkshire and North Midlands in 2001 than in 1991, but diverged in Merseyside and West Cumbria. In 2001 all but Merseyside of the comparator areas remain closer, however, to the British average than the best Valleys authority, Bridgend (144.5).

Caerphilly, Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot all show smaller variations from the British average in 2001 for male sickness and disability rates than in 1991, with Blaenau Gwent and Rhondda Cynon Taff also exhibiting a smaller differential (Table 3.14). The authorities with the highest and lowest variations from the British average in 1991 – Merthyr Tydfil and Torfaen respectively – have shown the least change in relative position. It remains the case, however, that in the 2001 Census 236 men in Blaenau Gwent reported permanent sickness or disability for every 100 in Britain, with Bridgend reporting the lowest total (175), or 11 more per 100 than Wales as a whole. The figures for the comparator areas vary from 186.7 (Co. Durham and Tees) to 132.4 (West Cumbria).

Among women (Table 3.15), there was a greater divergence in 2001 from the British average in all the Valleys authorities, compared with 1991, with 141 women inactive in Merthyr Tydfil for every 100 in Great Britain (Rest of Wales 115). Across the Valleys as a whole, the divergence from the Great Britain figure for those reporting sickness as the reason for inactivity was smaller in 2001 than in 1991. Some 227 women in the Greater Valleys, 240 in the Central Valleys and 285 in Merthyr Tydfil reported themselves inactive for reasons of permanent sickness in 2001 for every 100 in the UK (Rest of Wales 137). In the comparator regions the relationship with the Great Britain average for female economic inactivity is roughly the same in the two time periods, except in Merseyside and West Cumbria, where both areas diverged more in 2001 than in 1991.

Analysis of the percentage figures for economic inactivity (see Tables A3.22 to A3.25 in the Appendix) highlight that, even though the Valleys appears to be closing the gap in inactivity relative to Great Britain, inactivity in the Valleys increased between 1991 and 2001. However, the index numbers indicate that this increase is proportionally less than the increase in inactivity in Great Britain overall. Considering the composition of inactivity, permanently sick or disabled has also increased generally as the reason given for inactivity.

Vacancies

Table 3.16 shows the number of vacancies that were notified to Jobcentre Plus in 2002. Information is only available at Jobcentre office level, and so figures have been aggregated to calculate vacancies within each local authority. It should be stressed that not all vacancies are reported to Jobcentre Plus. In addition to total vacancies, the number of working age persons per vacancy for each local authority is reported.

There are higher numbers of people per vacancy in the Valleys than in Wales overall but fewer than in all but two of the other study areas. Put another way, 27.1 per cent

of the total vacancies for Wales are in the Greater Valleys area, though it has a 30.5 per cent share of Wales' working-age population (see Table 3.13). The Central Valleys position is slightly worse, with 10 more individuals per vacancy.

Figures vary widely, however, between authorities. While Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil and Caerphilly are close to the Greater Valleys average (140.3) there are 217 people for every vacancy in Neath Port Talbot but only 96.7 in neighbouring Bridgend. Persons per vacancy are higher in all the other study areas apart from the North Midlands and West Cumbria. In Merseyside and South Yorkshire persons per vacancy are in excess of 170 while in the Co. Durham and Tees study area the figure is 183. Table A3.19 in the Appendix reports the figures for the local authority areas that make up the comparative study areas.

Table 3.16 Vacancies as Notified to Jobcentre Plus (September 2003)

	Total vacancies	Persons per Vacancy¹
Neath Port Talbot	368	217.7
Rhondda Cynon Taff	1005	138.9
Merthyr Tydfil	249	135.3
Caerphilly	791	130.6
Blaenau Gwent	235	174.9
Bridgend	806	96.7
Torfaen	321	167.9
Central Valleys	2648	150.2
Greater Valleys	3775	140.3
Wales	13934	125.5
Co. Durham & Tees	3085	183.1
West Cumbria	1008	139.9
Merseyside	4782	171.9
South Yorks	5717	170.1
North Midlands	1988	117.7

Source: Derived from Jobcentre Plus data

¹Total vacancies divided by the working age population (mid-year population estimates published by the Office of National Statistics)

Key Findings

The evidence from the labour market shows a consistent pattern of lower economic activity by both men and women in the Valleys, compared with the rest of Wales and comparator areas in England. The variation for both men and women also widens progressively with age, with the 50-59 age bands worst affected. In the youngest age bands the variation from the Wales figure is marginal.

Significantly, too, the gap in activity rates for men is *not* accounted for by there being fewer employees in full-time employment, where the Valleys record higher figures than for Wales as a whole - in the case of Bridgend and Torfaen markedly so – but in self-employment and part-time employment. As a proportion of the working-age population, self-employment in the rest of Wales is almost twice that in the Valleys. More needs to be discovered about the nature and quality of self-employment in different parts of Wales and elsewhere to see whether these higher levels can be replicated in the Greater Valleys area.

The reasons for the low levels of self-employment are complex and beyond the scope of this report. Speculation in the past has often focused on the relatively self-sufficient nature of big employers, such as the coal and steel industries, which has been so important in the Valleys, and recent multinational inward investors. Whereas this may have suppressed the development and growth of support services in the past, low incomes, and hence low spending power, seem likely also to have restricted the demand for other consumer-related goods and services, which might otherwise have stimulated small business creation and self-employment. Other possible causes that deserve to be investigated are the link between low house prices (vd. Chapter 7) and the consequent difficulty of gaining access to start-up finance secured against assets.

Self-reported sickness and disability is the main reason for inactivity among working-age men and women, with the Valleys recording figures above not just the Britain figure but the comparator areas as well. Caring duties are a further important factor among women

Unemployment is heavily concentrated among the 16-24 age group, for both men and women. The proportion of the unemployed who have never worked is also higher than for Wales as a whole, particularly in Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Blaenau Gwent. Set against the comparator areas, the Valleys generally and the unitary authorities of Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent in particular, stand out for their dependence on manufacturing employment.

Other points to emerge are the relatively small size of the private service sector, the relatively large proportion of the population employed in public services, such as education, health and social services, the small proportions in managerial jobs and the large proportions of the workforce carrying out elementary occupations.

In this context it is worth noting the low skill levels prevalent across much of the population, which we highlight in the next chapter, and the likelihood that those working in elementary jobs, particularly in manufacturing, will continue to find their jobs vulnerable to low cost competition.

4 Education and Skills

This section looks at examination achievements, including key stage and last compulsory year results, and average sixth form points and qualifications within the population more generally.

Qualifications

Table 4.1 shows that a much larger proportion of the total population in the Valleys lacks qualifications than in Wales as a whole (39.7 per cent for the Greater Valleys, and 40.8 per cent for the Central Valleys against 33 per cent in Wales generally and 30.1 per cent Rest of Wales). The Valleys averages mask a much worse situation, however, in two authority areas - Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent where 43.9 per cent and 45.0 per cent respectively lack any qualifications. The two authorities closest to the Welsh average are Bridgend (36.4 per cent) and Torfaen (36.7 per cent). The gap from the rest of Wales widens through the different qualification levels with the Valleys only just behind the Welsh figure at Level One but more than four percentage points behind at Level 4/5. Fewer than one in ten have Level 4/5 qualifications in Blaenau Gwent, compared with 17.4 per cent in Wales as a whole and nearly 13 per cent in the Greater Valleys area. The proportion of people lacking qualifications declines in each age band but the rate of improvement matches that for Wales rather than closing the gap (Table 4.2).

The comparison with the other study areas is also instructive. Wales as a whole has fewer people lacking qualifications than any of the English areas but each of these with the exception of the North Midlands (38.4 per cent) performs better than the Valleys.

Individual English authorities with the highest proportion of unqualified individuals (see Table A4.1 in the Appendix) include Barnsley (41.1 per cent) Bolsover (41.4 per cent) and Easington (44.1 per cent). In the Valleys the figures for Blaenau Gwent are 43.9 per cent, Merthyr Tydfil 43.9 per cent and Rhondda Cynon Taff 40.5 per cent. The Valleys also have the smallest number of people with Level 4-5 (degree plus) qualifications of all the study areas, apart from the North Midlands and Co. Durham and Tees. The best performer is Merseyside (15.4 per cent), although within the same area Knowsley recorded only 9.9 per cent, a figure still better than Blaenau Gwent's 9.3 per cent. In summary, these figures from the census indicate that Valleys residents are in general less qualified than the residents of the other areas being considered in this report.

Map 4.1 shows that individuals lacking qualifications are generally to be found in the northernmost parts of the Valleys, generally in those wards also recording high levels of multiple deprivation, though there are some pockets further south. There are particular concentrations in Caerphilly in the Darren Valley, around Bargoed and Aberbargoed and also in neighbouring Blaenau Gwent in Sirhowy, Natyglo, Blaina and Cwmtillery. Further west, both Rhondda Valleys, the Cynon and northern Taff Valleys around Merthyr Tydfil contain a number of wards with heavy concentrations, as do several wards around Maesteg in the neighbouring Bridgend authority.

Concentrations in Swansea and Carmarthenshire in the Extended Valleys area covered by the report are smaller.

Table 4.1 Highest Qualification of People aged 16 –74 (%)

	No qualifications	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4/5	Other qualifications / level unknown
Neath Port Talbot	39.0	16.5	18.5	5.2	12.9	8.0
Rhondda Cynon Taff	40.5	15.1	17.7	6.1	13.0	7.7
Merthyr Tydfil	43.9	15.4	17.1	4.6	11.6	7.4
Caerphilly	39.8	16.7	18.8	5.2	12.1	7.4
Blaenau Gwent	45.0	17.4	17.4	4.2	9.3	6.6
Bridgend	36.4	15.7	18.7	5.4	15.7	8.2
Torfaen	36.7	17.0	20.1	5.2	13.6	7.5
Central Valleys	40.8	16.0	18.1	5.4	12.2	7.6
Greater Valleys	39.7	16.1	18.4	5.3	12.9	7.6
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	30.1	15.2	20.4	7.9	19.4	7.0
Wales	33.0	15.5	19.8	7.1	17.4	7.2
Co. Durham & Tees	36.6	17.9	18.9	6.3	12.6	7.7
West Cumbria	33.7	18.2	19.8	6.2	14.7	7.4
Merseyside	34.8	16.2	19.0	8.0	15.4	6.7
South Yorkshire	36.5	17.6	17.1	7.1	14.1	7.6
North Midlands	38.4	19.3	18.3	5.7	10.6	7.7

Source: Census 2001

Level 1: 1+ 'O' level passes, 1+ CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ

Level 2: 5+ 'O' level passes, 5+ GCSEs (grade 1). 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C), School Certificate, 1+'A' levels/ AS levels, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ

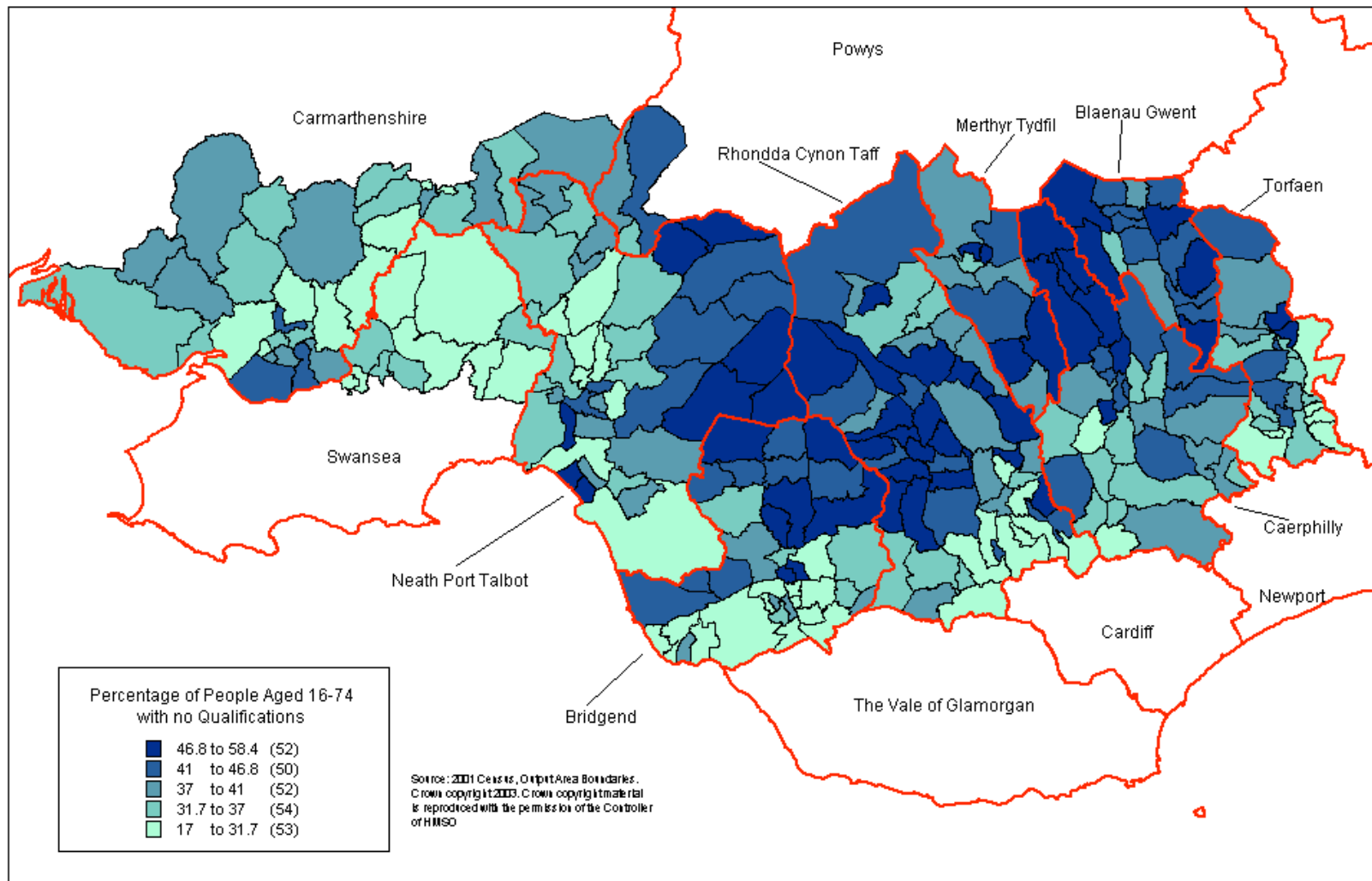
Level 3: 2+ 'A' levels, 4+ AS levels, Higher School Certificate, NVQ level 3, Advanced GNVQ

Level 4/5: First degree, Higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor.

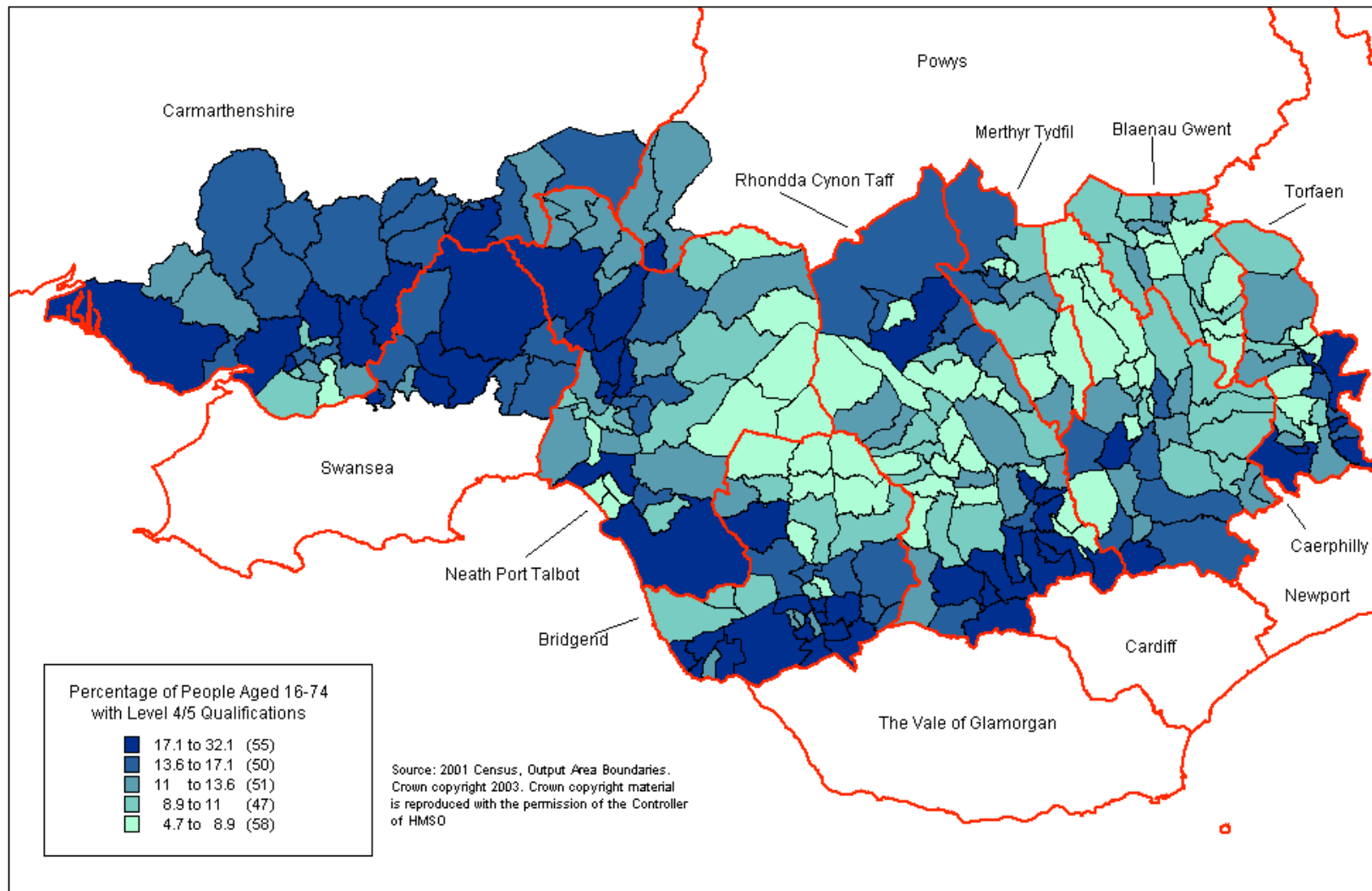
The main concentrations of well qualified individuals (Level 4 or Level 5) are found (Map 4.2) close to the M4, including the Rhondda wards of Taffs Well, Llantrisant Town, Llantwit Fardre, Talbot Green, Tonteg and Pontyclun, the Caerphilly wards of St. Martin's, Two Locks and Llanyravon South, as well as relatively large concentrations extending from Bridgend through the Ogmore Valley to Porthcawl, and in Neath Port Talbot at Margam and Baglan.

There are also concentrations of qualified individuals across a relatively large part of the Extended Valleys area, in the Pembrey, Hengoed, Llangennech, Swiss Valley, Llangyfelach and Mawr wards, as well as in Pontardawe, Rhos and Ynyscedwyn.

In some authority areas, poorly and well-qualified wards adjoin each other. The Sandfields wards in Neath Port Talbot perform poorly, whereas neighbouring Margam performs well. In the Rhondda Cynon Taff authority, Aberdare West and Aberdare East have large numbers of individuals with Level 4 or 5 qualifications and in the same borough Glyncoch in Pontypridd performs poorly alongside other wards adjoining the M4 with a relatively high proportion of well qualified individuals.



Map 4.1 Percentage of People Aged 16-74 with No Qualifications



Map 4.2 Percentage of People Aged 16 – 74 with Level 4 or Level 5 Qualifications

Table 4.2 Highest Qualification by Age, 2001 (% of Population)

	Neath Port Tafbot	Rhondda; Cynon; Taff	Merthyr Tydfil	Caerphilly	Blanaau Gwent	Bridgend	Torfaen	Central Valleys	Greater Valleys	Wales
16 to 24 years										
No quals	21.7	21.0	27.0	23.6	25.7	23.7	20.4	22.8	22.7	17.9
Level 1	18.9	16.3	18.9	18.5	20.4	17.1	18.8	18.0	18.0	15.2
Level 2	36.5	33.6	34.8	35.7	35.2	35.3	38.0	34.9	35.3	34.0
Level 3	13.5	18.7	11.4	13.3	10.9	13.4	13.1	15.0	14.6	21.4
Level 4/5	7.4	8.2	5.3	6.5	5.4	8.1	7.7	7.1	7.3	9.5
Other / unknown	2.1	2.1	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.2	1.9
25 to 34 years										
No quals	20.0	21.8	25.5	20.0	25.4	19.1	17.1	21.7	20.8	16.2
Level 1	27.6	24.5	25.7	25.6	29.2	25.0	27.6	26.0	26.0	24.6
Level 2	21.9	22.4	21.7	23.3	21.8	22.1	26.2	22.4	22.8	23.3
Level 3	7.2	7.1	6.2	7.3	5.6	7.2	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.6
Level 4/5	17.5	18.4	15.2	18.0	12.4	20.6	17.1	17.2	17.7	23.6
Other / unknown	5.7	5.9	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.9	5.1	5.8	5.7	4.7
35 to 49 years										
No quals	32.0	35.5	37.9	33.7	39.3	30.6	28.8	34.9	33.6	26.4
Level 1	21.0	19.3	18.7	21.0	21.5	19.2	22.1	20.3	20.3	20.1
Level 2	19.5	17.5	17.4	19.5	18.2	19.2	20.8	18.5	18.8	20.8
Level 3	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.2	3.4	4.8	4.3	4.1	4.2	5.2
Level 4/5	15.3	15.6	14.2	14.1	10.6	18.4	16.8	14.5	15.3	20.7
Other / unknown	7.9	8.1	7.7	7.5	6.9	7.9	7.2	7.7	7.7	6.9
50 to 59 years										
No quals	49.3	51.7	56.4	51.2	57.2	45.1	47.7	52.1	50.6	41.6
Level 1	10.8	9.4	9.3	11.2	11.4	10.8	11.0	10.4	10.5	11.3
Level 2	12.6	11.6	9.4	12.2	11.0	13.0	13.2	11.7	12.1	14.4
Level 3	2.6	2.3	1.9	2.4	2.0	2.7	2.7	2.3	2.4	3.4
Level 4/5	12.1	12.0	10.8	10.9	8.6	15.0	13.0	11.3	12.0	17.2
Other / unknown	12.6	12.9	12.3	12.1	9.9	13.3	12.5	12.3	12.4	12.0

Source: Census 2001

Level 1: 1+ 'O' level passes, 1+ CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ

Level 2: 5+ 'O' level passes, 5+ GCSEs (grade 1). 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C), School Certificate, 1+'A' levels/ AS levels, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ

Level 3: 2+ 'A' levels, 4+ AS levels, Higher School Certificate, NVQ level 3, Advanced GNVQ

Level 4/5: First degree, Higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor.

Nearly one quarter of all individuals in the Valleys aged 16-24 lack any qualifications, with Merthyr Tydfil (27 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent 25.7 per cent, the two poorest performing authorities. For Wales the comparable figure is 18 per cent. Nearly one in two 25-34 year olds also have either Level 1 or no qualifications against a figure for Wales of 40 per cent. Each successive age band shows fewer people without qualifications but the rate of improvement in the Valleys is only matching that in Wales as a whole and, therefore, not closing the gap.

Examination Achievements and Assessment

At Key Stage One across all core subjects five of the seven authorities are within three percentage points of the Wales average (Table 4.3). The chief laggard at this stage is Blaenau Gwent (69 per cent against the Welsh average of 80 per cent), followed by Merthyr Tydfil (with 73 per cent gaining Level 2 and above). The figures are flattered, however, by an apparently strong performance in Welsh in Neath Port Talbot and Caerphilly, with both authorities reporting figures above the Welsh average of 87 per cent. Only Bridgend matches the Welsh average in both English and Mathematics, with Torfaen also achieving the national average for Mathematics. Caerphilly exceeds the Welsh average for performance in Science by one percentage point, with a further five authorities falling only one percentage point behind this figure (88 per cent). Only Blaenau Gwent at this stage reports a figure for performance in Science that is well below the Welsh average (84 per cent).

The results appear, however, to be flattered by surprisingly good figures for the Welsh language. As in Wales as a whole more children in each of the four authorities reporting figures for both languages reached Level 2 in Welsh than in English, with 94 per cent reaching this Level in Caerphilly.

Table 4.3 Key Stage 1 Results 2003 (% gaining level 2 and above)

	All Core Subjects	English	Welsh	Maths.	Science
Neath Port Talbot	77	80	88	85	87
Rhondda Cynon Taff	78	81	84	86	87
Merthyr Tydfil	73	76	-	81	87
Caerphilly	77	79	94	86	89
Blaenau Gwent	69	72	-	79	84
Bridgend	80	82	86	87	87
Torfaen	78	80	-	87	87
Wales	80	82	87	87	88

Source: Welsh Assembly Government

Core Subjects: Those reaching respective level in **all** the core subjects: maths, science and English or Welsh.

By Key Stage Two (Table 4.4) there is some slippage from the all-Wales average across all core subjects, with only Bridgend doing better than the Welsh average of 70 per cent on test/task results. Blaenau Gwent is at this stage eleven points adrift, Merthyr Tydfil six and Rhondda Cynon Taff and Neath Port Talbot three points worse. Most of the authorities are by this stage well down in English, Maths and Science compared with Wales as whole. The exception is Bridgend, where performance exceeds the Welsh average by one point for all of these subjects except English, where achievement is one point short of the average. Torfaen also reports figures very close to the Welsh average.

By Key Stage Three (Table 4.5) the gap has grown further in certain authorities, with Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent ten and nine points respectively down on the all-Wales performance in tested core subjects. Neath Port Talbot is, however, by this stage one point ahead and Bridgend (also ahead at Key Stage Two) two points above the Welsh average. Children in Blaenau Gwent are a full 9 percentage points behind the Welsh average in English, 9 percentage points behind in Maths and 7 percentage points behind in Science in tested results. In Merthyr Tydfil, achievement in English is 11 percentage points below the average, 9 percentage points below in Science, and 8 percentage points below in Maths.

Table 4.4 Key Stage 2 Results 2003 (% gaining level 4 or above)

	All Core Subjects		English		Welsh		Maths.		Science	
	TA	T/T	TA	T/T	TA	T/T	TA	T/T	TA	T/T
Neath Port Talbot	68	67	73	77	74	76	75	73	84	87
Rhondda Cynon Taff	69	67	73	75	83	84	76	74	83	86
Merthyr Tydfil	63	64	67	72	-	-	71	70	70	81
Caerphilly	68	66	74	75	80	80	74	73	84	87
Blaenau Gwent	60	59	68	70	-	-	66	65	78	81
Bridgend	73	71	78	78	68	76	78	76	85	89
Torfaen	69	69	76	79	-	-	75	74	83	87
Wales	71	70	76	79	76	78	76	75	85	88

Source: Welsh Assembly Government

TA = Teacher Assessment

T/T = Test / Task

Core Subjects: Those reaching respective level in **all** the core subjects: maths, science and English or Welsh.

Table 4.5 Key Stage 3 results 2003 (% attaining level 5 or above)

	All Core Subjects		English		Welsh		Maths		Science	
	TA	T/T	TA	T/T	TA	T/T	TA	T/T	TA	T/T
Neath Port Talbot	54	55	60	62	75	74	70	68	72	73
Rhondda Cynon Taff	49	48	60	55	-	-	63	61	66	62
Merthyr Tydfil	44	44	55	52	-	-	63	60	60	61
Caerphilly	47	47	59	59	-	-	64	62	63	65
Blaenau Gwent	44	45	54	54	-	-	62	59	62	63
Bridgend	56	56	66	65	-	-	70	70	72	71
Torfaen	52	50	62	54	-	-	68	65	65	69
Wales	55	54	65	63	74	74	69	68	69	70

Source: Welsh Assembly Government

TA = Teacher Assessment

T/T = Test / Task

Core Subjects: Those reaching respective level in **all** the core subjects: maths, science and English or Welsh.

The deterioration of educational performance in the Valleys across the three Key Stages is illustrated graphically in Figure 4.1. Test results were recalculated with the Welsh average being given a fixed figure of 100. The gradual fall in performance, particularly in Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the Welsh performance can therefore be seen more clearly. This also highlights the difference in performance between the Greater Valleys and the Central Valleys, with Bridgend and Torfaen maintaining performance at or near the Welsh average throughout the three Key Stages, compared with authorities in the Central Valleys, which fall increasingly behind the Welsh average as their children progress through the Key Stages.

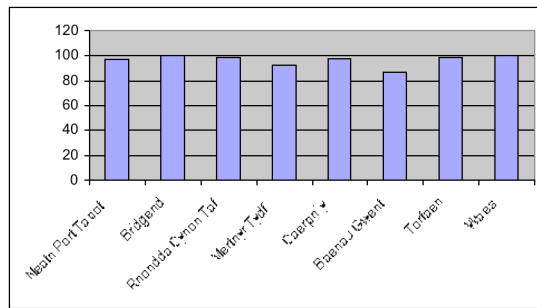
The figures in Table 4.6 show boys outperforming girls in three authorities, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil and Caerphilly at Key Stage One. By Key Stage Two girls are ahead in all authorities – markedly so in Torfaen, Merthyr Tydfil and Neath Port Talbot. By Key Stage Three boys perform most poorly in Blaenau Gwent where a 2 per cent gap at Key Stage Two has widened to more than 14 per cent. (Vd. also Figure 2)

The figures also show wide variations in the performance of boys and girls in the different authorities. In Blaenau Gwent only 64 per cent of boys achieve Level 2 at Key Stage One, compared with 74 per cent of girls in the same authority and 76 per cent of boys in Wales as a whole. (In Rhondda Cynon Taff at this stage some 78 per cent of boys reach this level). By Key Stage Three only 38 per cent of boys in Blaenau Gwent and 39 per cent in Merthyr Tydfil gain Level 5, compared with 49 per cent in Wales and 51 per cent in Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend.

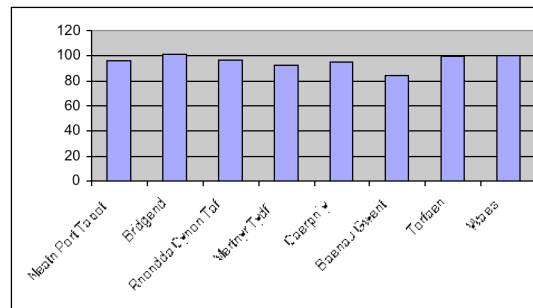
Table 4.6 Performance in Key Stage Core Subject (Task/Test), 2003 (%)

	Key Stage 1 Pupils gaining Level 2 & above		Key Stage 2 Pupils gaining Level 4 & above		Key Stage 3 Pupils gaining Level 5 & above	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Neath Port Talbot	73	82	63	72	51	59
Rhondda Cynon Taff	78	73	65	70	45	50
Merthyr Tydfil	73	70	60	69	39	51
Caerphilly	77	75	63	70	42	52
Blaenau Gwent	64	74	58	60	38	53
Bridgend	74	86	68	74	51	60
Torfaen	72	84	66	79	44	56
Wales	76	83	67	73	49	58

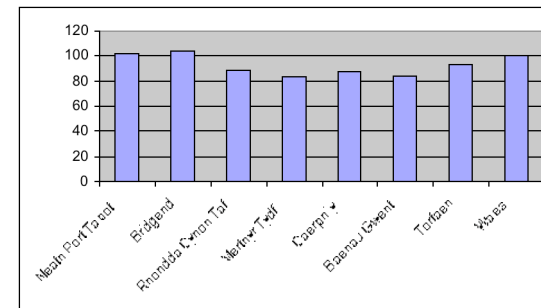
Source: Welsh Assembly Government



Key Stage 1 (% gaining level 2 and above)

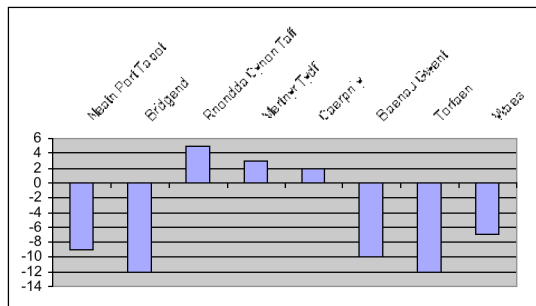


Key Stage 2 (% gaining level 4 and above)

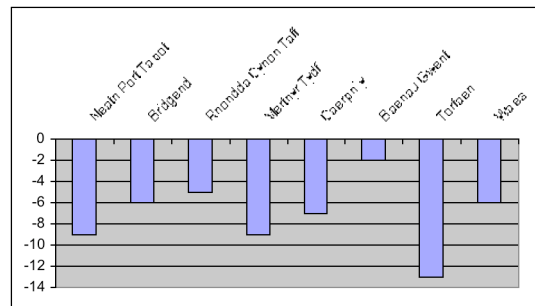


Key Stage 3 (% gaining level 5 and above)

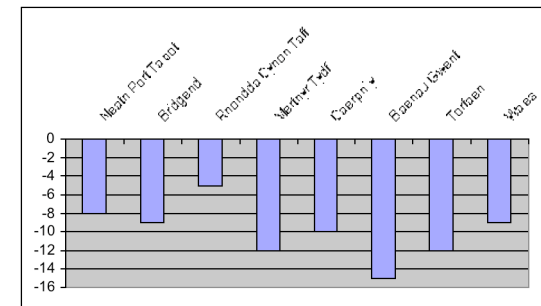
Figure 4.1 Performance in Key Stage Core Subjects Relative to Average for Wales, 2003 (Wales = 100)



Key Stage 1 (% gaining level 2 and above)



Key Stage 2 (% gaining level 4 and above)



Key Stage 3 (% gaining level 5 and above)

Figure 4.2 Difference between Boys and Girls in Performance in Key Stage Core Subjects, 2003 (Boys Minus Girls, Percentage Point Difference)

Against a Welsh average of five per cent of the population lacking any qualification in their last year of compulsory schooling (Table 4.7), five authorities post better results, with Neath Port Talbot in particular recording only two per cent in this situation. Two authorities, Caerphilly (7 per cent) and Rhondda Cynon Taff (6 per cent) are behind the Welsh average. Only Neath Port Talbot (52 per cent) has a higher than average (51 per cent) number of pupils achieving five or more GCSE grades A*-C. Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent both recorded a figure as low as 43 per cent.

Table 4.7 Examination Achievements 2002/03 - Proportion of Pupils in Their Last Year of Compulsory Schooling (%)

	No GCSE, NVQ or entry level qualification ¹	5 or more GCSEs grade A* to C or vocational equivalent	GCSEs grade A* to C in each of the core subjects ²
Neath Port Talbot	2	52	37
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	6	46	32
Merthyr Tydfil	4	43	31
Caerphilly	7	45	33
Blaenau Gwent	3	43	30
Bridgend	4	48	35
Torfaen	4	49	35
Wales	5	51	38

Source: Welsh Assembly Government

¹ Entry Level Qualification: Certificate of Educational Achievement or Certificate of Achievement.

² Core Subjects Indicator: achieved GCSE grade A* - C in each of English or Welsh, maths and science.

Table 4.8 shows that Bridgend matches the Welsh average of 20 for average sixth form points, whilst Neath Port Talbot is above the average with 23 points. Blaenau Gwent is furthest from the Welsh average with 16 points

Examination results in Neath Port Talbot appear to strengthen as pupils progress through school. Small variations from the Wales average in key stages 1 and 2 – negative in the case of boys – are followed by above average performance at GCSE and A/AS Levels. Of those who entered, some 98 per cent of pupils aged 17 at the start of the academic year 2002/3 achieved two or more A/AS Levels grade A-E or the vocational equivalent, compared with 94 per cent for Wales as a whole and 89 per cent in Blaenau Gwent, the worst performing Valleys authority.

Table 4.8 Pupils Aged 17 at the Start of the Academic Year, 2002/03

Maintained schools in...	Average Points Score per pupil entering two or more A/AS levels or achieved vocational equivalent	Percentage of pupils entering two or more A/AS levels or achieved vocational equivalent who...	
		achieved two or more A/AS levels grade A - C or vocational equivalent	achieved two or more A/AS levels grade A - E or vocational equivalent
Neath Port Talbot	23	81	98
Rhondda Cynon Taff	18	61	93
Merthyr Tydfil	17	61	95
Caerphilly	18	65	91
Blaenau Gwent	16	50	89
Bridgend	20	68	94
Torfaen	19	63	94
Wales ¹	20	68	94

Source: Welsh Assembly Government

¹ Includes independent schools, but excludes further education institutions.

Table 4.9 reports figures for individuals of working age who have achieved a particular level in a vocational qualification. Compared to Great Britain (and Wales) as a whole, a higher percentage of the working age population have no National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) in both the Greater and Central Valleys. The figures showing those achieving Level 1 in the Valleys overall are slightly higher than the figures for Wales and Great Britain, with the working age population performing slightly better in the Greater Valleys than in the Central Valleys. At Level 2, again, the Valleys have figures above the average for Great Britain, but below the figure for Wales. However, at Level 3, the Valleys perform worse than Great Britain overall, where 13.9 per cent of the working age population have achieved Level 3 (12.7 per cent for Wales), compared to 10.9 per cent in the Greater Valleys and 10.8 per cent in the Central Valleys. A further decline is observed at Level 4, with the Greater Valleys achieving 16.1 per cent and the Central Valleys 15.5 per cent, compared to the Welsh average of 20.7 per cent and the British average of 23.7 per cent.

The proportion of individuals in Valley authorities with Level 1 and Level 2 skills are broadly similar to Wales and GB as a whole. The main exceptions are Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly and Torfaen, which have higher proportions of Level 1 and Rhondda Cynon Taff (Level 2). The key variations are in the number lacking GNVQs altogether (42 per cent against 32.5 per cent in Britain as a whole) and in those with higher level skills (27 per cent with Levels 3 and 4 against 38 per cent). In Blaenau Gwent there are fewer than half as many people out of every 100 with Level 4 as in Britain as a whole.

Table 4.9 Working Age Population with National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ's) 2001 (%)

	No NVQ	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Neath Port Talbot	42.8	15.5	14.9	10.9	15.9
Rhondda Cynon Taff	40.3	14.5	17.2	11	17
Merthyr Tydfil	43.5	16.9	14.1	10.9	14.6
Caerphilly	43.0	17	14.1	10.8	15.1
Blaenau Gwent	49.1	14.4	16.1	9.7	10.7
Bridgend	39.5	14.9	14.8	11.3	19.5
Torfaen	40.9	17.9	15	10	16.2
Central Valleys	42.5	15.5	15.7	10.8	15.5
Greater Valleys	41.6	15.8	15.6	10.9	16.1
Wales	36.2	14.5	15.9	12.7	20.7
Great Britain	32.5	15.1	14.8	13.9	23.7

Source: Local Area Labour Force Survey 2001

Key Finding

More people in the Valleys lack qualifications than in any of the English regions studied and fewer enjoy higher qualifications. The unqualified are concentrated mainly in the most northerly wards and the better qualified in those to the south. Though each successive age band shows fewer people with poor qualification levels, the same is true of Wales as a whole. The Valleys are therefore, not closing the gap with the rest of Wales, leave alone Britain.

Poor performance starts early in the lives of school pupils in the Valleys and proceeds to deteriorate further as education proceeds, with the result that many children in the Valleys are not reaching their full potential. They also fall progressively further behind their peers in Wales as they proceed through school. Early lack of achievement and consequent low expectations have produced a workforce with very high proportions lacking any qualifications, and equipped, therefore, only for more elementary occupations. Boys' performance vis a vis girls also worsens throughout the key stages, where they are behind in all authorities.

Further research needs to be undertaken into the factors that are leading school pupils in the Valleys to perform relatively poorly, and in particular, the part played by peer and family pressures and family structures. The two authorities with the smallest populations and hence the fewest schools - Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent - are producing performances worse than the results of neighbouring authorities. Neath Port Talbot, despite a higher proportion of children whose parents receive key benefits - 30.1 per cent - than the Greater Valleys average of 29 per cent, records better educational results over the whole of school life than the other authorities. Significantly, it also spends more per head on its pupils than the other Valleys authorities.

5 Health

This section looks at the health characteristics of the area and compares these with the other study areas. In particular it reports on Limiting Long Term Illness, provision of unpaid care (itself a limiting factor on the ability to work), perceptions of general health and standardised mortality rates.

General Health and Limiting Long term Illness

Out of the total population of Wales some 23.3 per cent, or nearly a quarter, report Limiting Long term Illness (LLTI), (Table 5.1) falling to 18.4 per cent among those of working age. In the Greater Valleys Area the figure for the total population is nearly 4 percentage points higher (27.1 per cent) and in the Central Valleys some 4.5 percentage points higher. The situation is at its worst in Merthyr Tydfil (30.0 per cent with LLTI) Neath Port Talbot (29.4 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (28.3 per cent) and at its best in the two study area authorities outside the Central Valleys, namely Torfaen (24.8 per cent) and Bridgend (25.0 per cent). Relatively large proportions of people with LLTI are also found in wards around Llanelli and in the Amman Valley.

A similar pattern occurs among people of working age, with Merthyr Tydfil recording 26.7 per cent, Neath Port Talbot 24.1 per cent and Blaenau Gwent 24.5 per cent with LLTI, compared with lows of 20.0 per cent in Bridgend and 20.3 per cent in Torfaen. The largest number of households with one or more persons with a LLTI is Merthyr Tydfil (53.6 per cent) followed by Neath Port Talbot (51.1 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (50.3 per cent), and the lowest number is Bridgend (45.2 per cent) and Torfaen (45.2 per cent)

All the English study areas report a smaller proportion of households with one or more sufferers from Limiting Long Term illness than the Greater Valleys (48.8 per cent) and the Central Valleys (50.0 per cent). Co. Durham and Tees is closest with 43.7 per cent reporting long-term illness, where Easington (54.9 per cent) is roughly comparable with Merthyr Tydfil (53.6 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (50.3 per cent). (See Table A5.1 in the Appendix to this chapter for the local authority-level data for the English study area).

Figures for self-reported general health in Table 5.2 mirror the pattern for LLTI. More than 86 per cent of those living in Bridgend and Torfaen report their health as good or fairly good, compared with fewer than 82 per cent in Merthyr Tydfil. In the Greater Valleys Area and the Central Valleys just over 85 per cent report good or fairly good health against an all-Wales figure of 87.6 per cent. Only in Easington (57.8 per cent) and Bolsover (59.8 per cent) (see Table A5.2) do fewer people report their health as generally good than in the Central Valleys (60.5 per cent) and the Greater Valleys (61.1 per cent).

People in Wales generally feel worse about their health than in any of the comparator areas, several of which are closer to the all-Wales figure of 65.1 per cent reporting good general health. Further research is needed to establish the nature of the health constraints felt by individuals in the Valleys but given the length of time since very

large numbers were employed in the coal industry or other heavy industrial sectors, the conditions seem unlikely in many cases to be work-related. Instead, it can be assumed much of the problem is down to depressive illnesses brought on by what is perceived to be a persistently unfavourable social and economic environment. As such, it is perhaps a reflection of low morale in the Valleys in addition to more physically evident symptoms.

Table 5.1 Limiting Long-term Illness, 2001 (%)

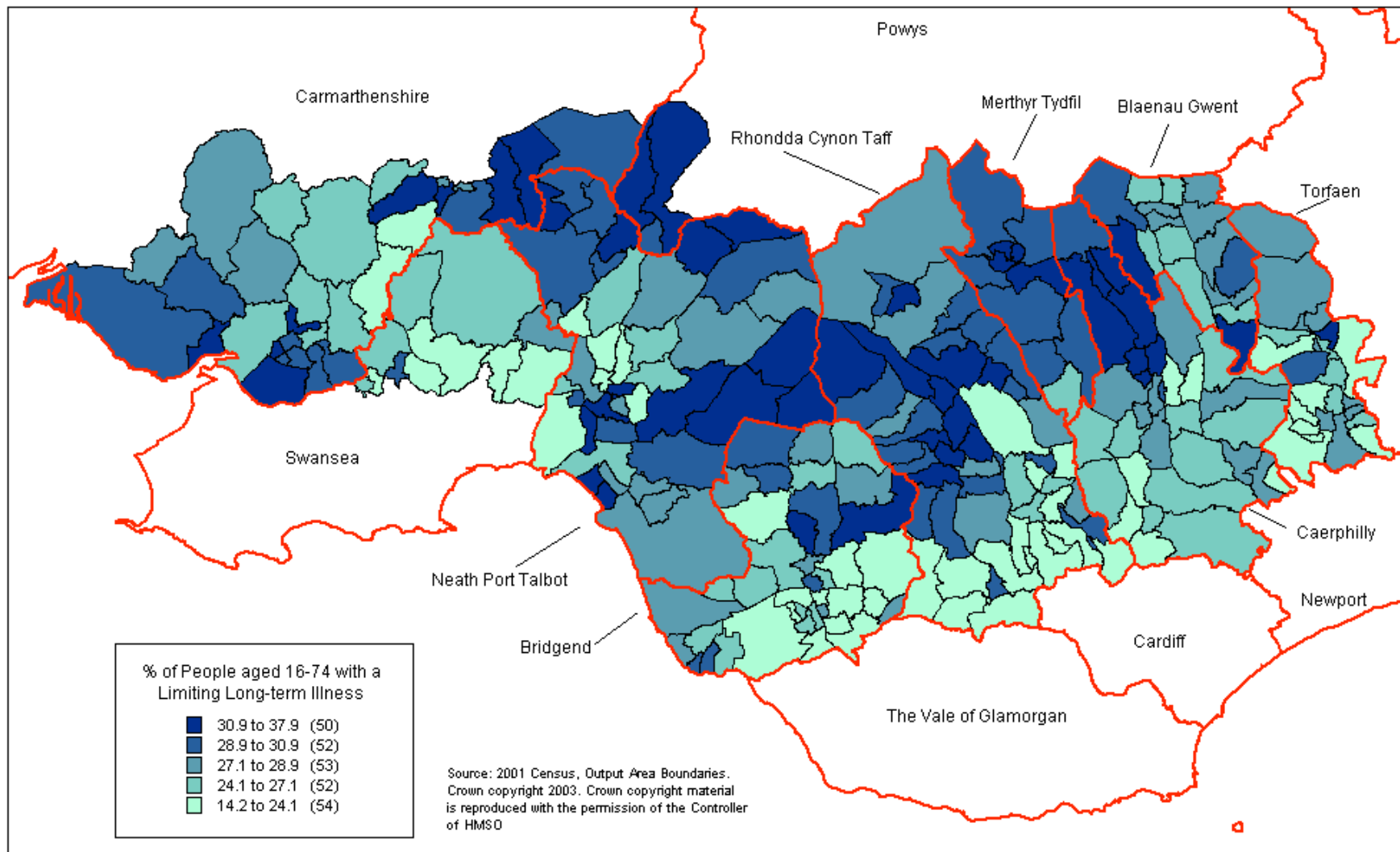
	All people	People of working age	Households with One or More Sufferers
Neath Port Talbot	29.4	24.1	51.1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	27.2	22.8	49.8
Merthyr Tydfil	30.0	26.7	53.6
Caerphilly	26.3	22.5	48.0
Blaenau Gwent	28.3	24.5	50.3
Bridgend	25.0	20.0	45.2
Torfaen	24.8	20.3	45.2
Central Valleys	27.8	23.5	50.0
Greater Valleys	27.1	22.6	48.8
Wales	23.3	18.4	42.4
Co. Durham & Tees	24.7	20.2	43.7
W. Cumbria	21.7	17.1	39.7
Merseyside	23.5	19.3	42.9
South Yorkshire	22.3	17.3	40.7
North Midlands	23.6	18.9	42.1

Source Census 2001

Table 5.2 General Health, 2001 (% of People)

	Good	Fairly good	Not good
Neath Port Talbot	59.7	24.0	16.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	61.0	23.3	15.7
Merthyr Tydfil	58.6	23.3	18.1
Caerphilly	61.6	23.4	15.0
Blaenau Gwent	59.3	24.2	16.5
Bridgend	63.5	22.9	13.6
Torfaen	62.2	23.9	13.9
Central Valleys	60.5	23.6	15.9
Greater Valleys	61.1	23.5	15.4
Wales	65.1	22.5	12.5
Co. Durham & Tees	62.6	24.2	13.3
W. Cumbria	65.6	23.3	11.1
Merseyside	65.7	21.8	12.6
South Yorkshire	64.3	23.6	12.1
North Midlands	62.2	25.5	12.3

Source Census 2001



Map 5.1 Percentage of People with a Limiting Long-Term Illness

Table 5.3 reports Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs) for 2002. In Merthyr 122 people died for every 100 who would have been expected to do so if the area enjoyed the same sex-and-age specific mortality rates as England and Wales as a whole. Blaenau Gwent and Rhondda Cynon Taff were both also much higher than the average. Torfaen and Neath Port Talbot and were within three points of the Welsh figure.

Table A5.3 in the Appendix gives the SMRs for the local authorities in the comparator areas. The two authorities with the highest ratios are Liverpool (126) and Knowsley (124), followed by Merthyr Tydfil (122) and Sunderland (121). The only two Valleys authorities where the variation from the British average is fewer than 10 points are Neath Port Talbot and Torfaen (both 108).

Table 5.3 Standardised Mortality Ratios, 2002

	Persons	Males	Females
Neath Port Talbot	108	114	102
Rhondda Cynon Taff	116	118	113
Merthyr Tydfil	122	118	125
Caerphilly	112	114	110
Blaenau Gwent	120	124	117
Bridgend	112	106	118
Torfaen	108	103	113
Wales	105	104	105
England & Wales	100	100	100
England	99	99	99

Source: ONS

SMRs are calculated as the number of actual deaths in each authority during 2002 as a percentage of deaths that would have been expected if the local populations had experienced the sex-and-age-specific mortality rates in England and Wales as a whole during that year

GP list sizes in Wales (Table 5.4) rose between 2001 and 2002 from 1,685 to 1,704. This was the case also in three Valley authorities – Blaenau Gwent, Neath Port Talbot and Rhondda Cynon Taff, with three others showing modest falls and one remaining the same. All but Torfaen (1,629) have list sizes bigger than the Welsh average and in Blaenau Gwent the average GP list size - 2,075 - is 22 per cent higher than in Wales as a whole (Table 5.4). Equally worryingly, half the GPs working in the Blaenau Gwent authority area are aged over 55, compared with a Welsh average of 17.2 per cent. High proportions of GPs over 55 are also recorded in Merthyr Tydfil (42.4 per cent), Rhondda Cynon Taff (40.8 per cent) and Caerphilly (29.8 per cent). Average list sizes in England are higher and those in Scotland lower than for Wales.

There is also a marked variation from the rest of Wales in the number of single-handed GPs. Only in Bridgend (3.7 per cent) and Torfaen (1.8 per cent) is the figure lower than in Wales as a whole (6.5 per cent). In Blaenau Gwent three out of every 10 GPs work on their own, more than double the authority with the next highest total

(Merthyr Tydfil 15.2 per cent). The figures confirm the importance of the primary care development plans now being instituted as a means of recruiting general practitioners for Valley areas and especially Blaenau Gwent.⁴

Table 5.4 General Practitioner Statistics for Local Health Groups September 30 2001

	GPs per 10,000 population^a	GP average list size	GPs aged 55+ (% of all GPs)	Single handed GPs (% of all GPs)
Neath Port Talbot	5.6	1793	18.7	6.7
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	5.2	1993	40.8	10.8
Merthyr Tydfil	5.9	1732	42.4	15.2
Caerphilly	5.5	1906	29.8	12.8
Blaenau Gwent	5.2	2075	50.0	30.6
Bridgend	6.4	1887	13.4	3.7
Torfaen	6.3	1629	14.0	1.8
Wales	6.1	1704	17.2	6.5

Source: GMS Census, September 2002

^a Mid-year population estimates, June 2002

Unpaid Care

Torfaen comes closest to matching the Welsh average (Table 5.5), for number of hours spent caring across the three broad time bands. In three authorities - Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent - those spending more than 50 hours a week providing unpaid care exceeds 30 per cent against the Welsh average of 26.3 per cent. For both the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys areas the average is more than 29 per cent. (Cf. Table 5.1 Long Term Limiting Illness).

⁴ The Heads of the Valley Project, established in 2002 with an allocation of £1m for the first three years from the Welsh Assembly Government, will address recruitment and retention issues in the Valley areas and provide teaching and educational facilities so that doctors in the undergraduate and GP Vocational Training schemes can experience general practice in the Valleys environment. Five salaried GPs have so far been recruited in Caerphilly and three in Blaenau Gwent under the scheme. Other initiatives include the appointment in 2000 in the Cynon Valley of the first two salaried GPs, one full time and one part time, four nurses, a diabetes nurse facilitator and a clinical director. The project was rolled out to Rhondda Valley and Taff Ely in 2003 and now provides support to all GPs in the Rhondda Cynon Taff area with 10 salaried GPs and six nurses appointed. In addition, the new General Medical Services Contract to be implemented from 2004 allocates money on the basis of patient need and workload and should benefit areas of high morbidity, such as the South Wales Valleys.

Table 5.5 Provision of Unpaid Care, 2001 (% of people)

	1 - 19 hours a week	20 - 49 hours a week	50 or more hours a week
Neath Port Talbot	56.1	14.0	29.9
Rhondda Cynon Taff	56.4	13.4	30.2
Merthyr Tydfil	53.8	15.6	30.7
Caerphilly	57.4	13.8	28.9
Blaenau Gwent	54.3	15.7	30.0
Bridgend	59.1	13.6	27.3
Torfaen	61.4	13.0	25.6
Central Valleys	56.2	14.0	29.8
Greater Valleys	57.1	13.9	29.0
Wales	61.1	12.6	26.3

Source Census 2001

Key Finding

The Valleys are characterised by the large proportion of individuals - more than one quarter of the population – who report a Limiting Long Term Illness, with the problem at its most severe in Merthyr Tydfil, Blaenau Gwent and Neath Port Talbot. People in the Valleys also feel themselves to be less well in general than their counterparts elsewhere in Wales and in the comparator regions.

Although sickness is higher and mortality ratios much worse than in Wales as a whole, in the Central Valleys in particular, there are fewer doctors per patient. People in the Central and Greater Valleys also spend more time than their counterparts elsewhere in Wales providing unpaid care. To this extent many people in the Valleys appear to be caught in a trap – more ill-health but probably fewer opportunities to discuss health problems because of pressure on GPs' time as a result of longer lists. The evidence reinforces the importance of current efforts to boost health services, and care provision and to secure wider action to prevent ill-health and to reduce inequalities in the worst affected areas and to secure increases in GP numbers before a wave of retirements by Valleys GPs occurs in the next few years.

The problem of long list sizes seems certain to be the cause of other undesirable knock-on effects, including the well-established tendency for GPs to refer a higher proportion of cases to hospital consultants than in other areas, putting further pressure on specialised resources. In addition, the Valleys, and Blaenau Gwent in particular, are characterised by very high proportions of older and single-handed GPs (in all likelihood the same individuals). We observe that apart from the need to replace those due to retire, it is also the case that single-handed practices are now generally thought not to be capable in many instances of providing the best service to patients, as they are unable to offer the range and depth of specialist and additional services now commonly on offer in multi-GP practices.

6 Income and Deprivation

This section looks at the number of households without any adults in employment, the proportion of pupils in maintained schools entitled to free school meals, average gross weekly earnings, benefit claimants and the employment position of lone parents.

Jobless Households

Table 6.1 reports that three authorities - Bridgend, Caerphilly and Torfaen - are at or around the Welsh average of 41.6 per cent for households with no adults in employment, but that a further three, Blaenau Gwent (48.0 per cent) Neath Port Talbot (47.2 per cent) and Merthyr Tydfil (48.0 per cent) report relatively high levels. The Greater Valleys area as a whole and the Central Valleys report levels 3-4 percentage points higher than the Wales average. Only Merseyside (45.4 per cent) of the comparator regions has a higher proportion than the Central Valleys (with Liverpool itself registering 49.4 per cent).

Table 6.1 Households with No Adults in Employment, 2001 (%)

	Total	With dependent children	No dependent children
Neath Port Talbot	47.2	7.4	39.7
Rhondda Cynon Taff	44.3	7.7	36.5
Merthyr Tydfil	48.0	9.3	38.7
Caerphilly	42.0	7.7	34.3
Blaenau Gwent	48.0	8.7	39.3
Bridgend	40.9	6.3	34.6
Torfaen	41.9	6.6	35.3
Central Valleys	45.0	7.9	37.1
Greater Valleys	44.1	7.5	36.5
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	40.5	5.4	35.1
Wales	41.6	6.0	35.5
Co. Durham & Tees	42.7	6.6	36.1
West Cumbria	41.0	5.2	35.8
Merseyside	45.4	8.1	37.2
South Yorkshire	40.3	5.8	34.4
North Midlands	40.4	5.8	34.6

Source: Census 2001

Free School Meal Entitlement

Table 6.2 reveals that three authorities - Rhondda Cynon Taff (26.9 per cent) Blaenau Gwent (26.2 per cent) and Merthyr Tydfil (30.1 per cent) - have relatively large proportions of primary school children entitled to free school meals when compared to Wales as a whole (18.5 per cent) and the rest of Wales (16.2 per cent). None of the authorities reports a smaller proportion, with the two least disadvantaged Bridgend reporting 20.7 per cent and Caerphilly 20.9 per cent. The pattern is similar at secondary level with the highest numbers recorded in Merthyr Tydfil (24.2 per cent)

and Blaenau Gwent (22.7 per cent) against a Greater Valleys average of 19.4 per cent, a Central Valleys figure of 20.6 per cent and a Wales average of 15.7 per cent (rest of Wales 14.0 per cent).

Table 6.2 Pupils at Maintained Schools Entitled to Free School Meals, 2003 (%)

	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools
Neath Port Talbot	21.2	20.8
Rhondda Cynon Taff	26.9	20.7
Merthyr Tydfil	30.1	24.2
Caerphilly	20.9	18.1
Blaenau Gwent	26.2	22.7
Bridgend	20.7	15.8
Torfaen	21.1	16.3
Greater Valleys	23.5	19.4
Central Valleys	24.4	20.6
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	16.2	14.0
Wales	18.5	15.7

Source: *Digest of Welsh Local Area Statistics*

Benefit Claimants

Table 6.3 reports that nearly 30 per cent of all individuals of working age in Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil claim benefits, 50 per cent more than the average for Wales as a whole and considerably more than the proportions in the Greater Valleys (24.8 per cent) and Central Valleys (25.9 per cent). In the comparator areas the highest number of benefit claimants is to be found on Merseyside (24.3 per cent) - itself largely accounted for by the high percentage of claimants in Knowsley (29.5 per cent) and Liverpool (29 per cent).

The only other authority with similar proportions of benefit claimants is Easington, Co. Durham (28.9 per cent). In South Yorkshire, the North Midlands, and West Cumbria claimants account for fewer than 20 per cent of the working age population and in Co. Durham and Tees the proportion is 21.3 per cent.

In Blaenau Gwent (22.0 per cent) and Merthyr Tydfil (22.8 per cent), a much higher proportion of these claimants is sick or disabled than in Wales as a whole (13.4 per cent) or in the comparator areas. Figures in these areas range from 11.4 per cent in South Yorkshire to 15.4 per cent in Merseyside. (Greater Valleys 18.6 per cent).

Unemployment, however, accounts for a smaller proportion of claims in the Valley areas than in the comparator areas.

Table 6.3 Claimants of Working Age of Key Benefits by Group¹, May 2003 (%)

	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parents	Other
Neath Port Talbot	25.9	2.8	19.4	3.1	0.5
Rhondda Cynon Taff	25.2	2.3	19.2	3.3	0.5
Merthyr Tydfil	29.6	2.6	22.8	3.6	0.5
Caerphilly	24.2	2.9	17.7	2.9	0.6
Blaenau Gwent	29.6	2.8	22.0	3.7	1.1
Bridgend	21.0	2.2	15.8	2.4	0.6
Torfaen	22.0	2.3	16.2	2.9	0.7
Central Valleys	25.9	2.6	19.5	3.2	0.6
Greater Valleys	24.8	2.5	18.6	3.1	0.6
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	16.5	2.4	11.2	2.3	0.5
Wales	19.0	2.4	13.4	2.5	0.6
Co. Durham & Tees	21.3	3.3	14.2	3.0	0.7
West Cumbria	18.0	3.0	12.4	2.1	0.6
Merseyside	24.3	4.1	15.4	3.9	0.9
South Yorkshire	17.5	2.8	11.4	2.5	0.8
North Midlands	18.1	2.8	12.7	2.1	0.5

Source: Department for Work and Pensions

¹ Groups are:

- Unemployed: claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance
- Sick and Disabled: claimants of one or more of IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
- Lone Parents: Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
- Other: IS claimant not in any other group, e.g. carers, asylum seekers, pensioners (Minimum Income Guarantee)

² Percentage of the population of working age. Population figures are based on mid 2002 figures published by the Office of National Statistics.

* Figures are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should be used only as a guide to the current situation.

Children Living in Benefit Claiming Households

Table 6.4 shows that more than 30 per cent of children living in Neath Port Talbot have parents claiming benefits and only Bridgend (20.3 per cent) has a smaller proportion than the Welsh average (22.1 per cent) and the rest of Wales (19.8 per cent). Among the comparator regions, the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys averages of 27.2 and 29.0 per cent are exceeded only by Merseyside (30.2), with other former coal mining districts, the North Midlands and West Cumbria, registering figures below that for Wales (19.2 per cent and 20.1 per cent respectively). Similar figures (Table A6.3) for child dependants of claimants are recorded in Co. Durham and Tees (26 per cent) and Merseyside (30.2), with lower figures in West Cumbria (20 per cent), North Midlands (19.2 per cent) and South Yorkshire (22.3 per cent).

Table 6.4 Children of Claimants of Key Benefits, as a Percentage of Population Aged Under 16 or Aged 16-19 in Full-Time Education: May 2003

	Number	%
Neath Port Talbot	9000	30.1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	16520	30.3
Merthyr Tydfil	3920	28.5
Caerphilly	10400	25.2
Blaenau Gwent	5400	32.4
Bridgend	6020	20.3
Torfaen	5200	23.8
Central Valleys	45240	29.0
Greater Valleys	56460	27.2
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	90180	19.8
Wales	146640	22.1
County Durham & Tees	54920	26.0
West Cumbria	10500	20.2
Merseyside	96900	30.2
South Yorkshire	79620	22.3
North Midlands	16360	19.2

Source: Department for Work and Pensions

Earnings

Table 6.5 reports gross weekly earnings for full-time employees. Weekly earnings in the Central and Greater Valleys area are £7 below the Welsh average (£10 below the rest of Wales figure). Neath Port Talbot (£447) with its heavy concentration of relatively well-paid engineering and metals employment, and Merthyr Tydfil (£426) have full-time earnings above the average for Wales. Full-time earnings in Blaenau Gwent at £372, however, are 10 per cent below the Welsh average. Full-time earnings in the comparator areas are higher than in the Valleys, except for County Durham & Tees (£403) and the North Midlands (£401).

Table 6.5 Average Full-Time Gross Weekly Earnings¹ (All), April 2003 (£)

Neath Port Talbot	447
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	398
Merthyr Tydfil	426
Caerphilly	389
Blaenau Gwent	372
Bridgend	408
Torfaen	408
Greater Valleys	407
Central Valleys	407
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	417
Wales	414
County Durham & Tees	403
West Cumbria	448
Merseyside	417
South Yorkshire	419
North Midlands	401

Source: *New Earnings Survey 2002*

¹ Full-time employee on adult rates whose pay for the survey period was not affected by absence.

Lone Parents and Employment

Table 6.6 reports that in the Greater Valleys, 48.3 per cent of lone male parents and 61.2 per cent of female lone parents are not employed, compared with figures of 40.5 per cent and 52.8 per cent respectively for the rest of Wales (42.8 per cent and 55.6 per cent respectively for Wales as a whole). In Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent, however, the figures for men rise to 56.9 per cent and 51.3 per cent respectively and for women to 63.5 per cent and 63.8 per cent respectively. The rates of joblessness among lone parents are higher in the valleys than for all of the comparator areas.

Table 6.6 Lone Parents and Employment, 2001 (% of lone parents)

	Male lone parent			Female lone parent		
	Not employed	Part-time	Full time	Not employed	Part time	Full time
Neath Port Talbot	48.1	6.0	46.0	62.2	24.5	13.3
Rhondda Cynon Taff	47.6	5.5	47.0	63.5	20.0	16.5
Merthyr Tydfil	56.9	2.6	40.5	63.5	22.9	13.6
Caerphilly	45.8	5.9	48.4	59.9	21.2	18.9
Blaenau Gwent	51.3	4.9	43.8	63.8	19.6	16.6
Bridgend	47.2	6.1	46.6	57.7	23.4	18.9
Torfaen	49.4	4.5	46.2	56.7	23.9	19.5
Central Valleys	48.4	5.4	46.2	62.4	21.4	16.2
Greater Valleys	48.3	5.4	46.3	61.2	21.9	16.8
Rest of Wales	40.5	6.6	52.8	52.8	27.6	19.6
Wales	42.8	6.3	50.9	55.6	25.7	18.7
Merseyside	48.0	5.8	46.2	61.3	22.5	16.1
South Yorkshire	42.2	6.5	51.3	55.7	27.2	17.1
West Cumbria	46.2	6.5	47.3	54.2	30.8	15.0
North Midlands	40.4	8.5	51.1	55.3	27.2	17.5
County Durham & Tees	42.6	5.8	51.6	55.8	26.4	17.9

Source: Census 2001

Key Finding

Levels of deprivation in the Valleys exceed those in most of the comparator areas. Figures for households with no adults in employment, for claimants of benefits and for child dependants of benefit claimants are, with one or two small exceptions, all higher than in the comparator regions. Large numbers of pupils across all authorities are receiving free school meals and earnings, with two exceptions, are below the Welsh average – markedly so in the case of Blaenau Gwent.

No fewer than one in four of all individuals living in the Valleys is claiming benefits other than the state pension - more than in all but one of the other study areas - and a bigger proportion of these claimants is classified as sick and disabled than in the other study areas.

If the proportions of claimants could be brought down to levels found in other former coal mining areas such as the North Midlands, or South Yorkshire, though more individuals returning to work, a contribution could be made to increasing the overall prosperity of the area. If they could be brought down to Welsh levels – leaving aside the ambition of reaching UK levels -the impact would be even greater.

7 Housing

This section discusses tenure patterns, types of accommodation, proportion of properties in different council tax bands and average dwelling prices by type.

Tenure Patterns

Table 7.1 shows that as in Wales as a whole the most important pattern of tenure in the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys is owner occupation, with the Welsh percentage (outright ownership or ownership with a mortgage or loan) of 70.8 marginally exceeded in both areas as a whole, as well as in three of the seven local authorities. Ownership through a mortgage exceeds the Welsh average of 36.8 per cent in four authority areas (Rhondda Cynon Taff (38.2 per cent), Caerphilly (41.6 per cent), Torfaen (39.2 per cent) and Bridgend (43.0 per cent). This is, presumably, largely the result of new housing development in the valley areas closest to the M4 motorway and the cities of Cardiff and Newport.

Table 7.1 Tenure Patterns (% of Households)

Local Authority Name	Owner occupied: Owns outright	Owner occupied: Owns with a mortgage or loan	Owner occupied: Shared ownership	Rented from Council (local authority)	Rented from Housing Association / Registered Social Landlord	Rented from Private landlord or letting agency	Rented from Other or Living rent free
Neath Port Talbot	35.2	35.8	0.4	16.6	3.7	5.1	3.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	36.6	38.2	0.3	10.3	4.5	6.5	3.6
Merthyr Tydfil	33.6	33.2	0.3	17.4	5.4	5.2	4.8
Caerphilly	30.6	41.6	0.4	17.1	4.2	4.2	1.7
Blaenau Gwent	31.9	30.4	0.3	24.3	4.5	6.1	2.4
Bridgend	33.8	43.0	0.3	11.1	3.3	5.5	3.0
Torfaen	28.1	39.2	1.0	22.8	3.6	3.2	2.1
Central Valleys	34.0	37.3	0.3	15.4	4.3	5.5	3.1
Greater Valleys	33.4	38.3	0.4	15.6	4.1	5.2	3.0
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	34.3	36.2	0.5	12.9	4.2	8.4	3.5
Wales	34.0	36.8	0.5	13.7	4.2	7.4	3.3
Co. Durham & Tees							
Tees	26.1	39.3	0.4	21.7	5.7	4.8	2.0
West Cumbria	33.4	37.4	0.4	8.5	10.3	6.7	3.3
Merseyside	27.4	36.8	0.7	15.5	8.7	8.4	2.7
South Yorkshire	26.5	37.3	0.5	24.1	2.8	6.2	2.7
North Midlands	31.2	38.1	0.4	18.8	3.0	5.9	2.7

Source: Census 2001

Council ownership is, however, also an important tenure pattern in the Valleys, with Blaenau Gwent (24.3 per cent) and Torfaen (22.8 per cent), recording figures well above the average for Wales (13.7 per cent), the Greater Valleys area (15.6 per cent) and the Central Valleys (15.4 per cent). This would appear to reflect lower levels of disposable income in the valley areas, limiting the ability to take advantage of right to buy, or the lack of desirability of the stock to potential purchasers. High levels of

council tenure are also likely to impact on mobility, with tenants unlikely to be able to find similarly priced equivalent accommodation elsewhere in the public or private sector, or to exchange in more prosperous areas offering a wider range of job opportunities.

Private renting and renting from housing associations or registered social landlords is less important in the Valleys than in Wales as a whole as a form of tenure but higher in the Central Valleys than in the Greater Valleys area as a whole.

Owner occupation is higher in both Valleys areas at around 34 per cent (outright occupation) than in the other study areas, with the exception of Cumbria where the figure is broadly similar. The lowest proportion is in South Yorkshire (26.5 per cent the North East (26.1 per cent) and Merseyside (27.4 per cent). The pattern is similar when proportions of ownership with a loan are added. Local authority renting plays a much more important part in tenure patterns in South Yorkshire (24.1 per cent) and the Co. Durham & Tees 21.7 per cent. The Greater Valleys figure by contrast is 15.6 per cent.

Types of Accommodation

Compared with the rest of Wales, terraced housing is considerably more important, with more than 50 per cent of accommodation being provided in this type of space in three authorities, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent, compared with 41.8 per cent in the Valleys as a whole, 44.1 per cent in the Central Valleys and less than 30 per cent in Wales generally. The lowest proportions of detached housing are to be found in Blaenau Gwent (9.4 per cent), compared with 27.1 per cent in Wales as a whole. The Greater Valleys area as a whole has a smaller proportion of detached housing (15.3 per cent), while the Central Valleys are lower still at 13.9 per cent. The highest figures are recorded in Bridgend (21.5 per cent), still 4.5 percentage points lower than the Welsh average, and Neath Port Talbot (18.6 per cent).

Bridgend (39.9 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot (43.5 per cent) also have the highest proportion of semi-detached housing, exceeding the Welsh average by 8.2 percentage points and 11.8 points respectively. With the exception of Caerphilly, all other local authorities record figures below the Welsh average, with the Blaenau Gwent figure below 25 per cent.

With the exception of Bridgend where the median is C, all local authorities in the valley areas show medians in the two lowest council tax bands (Table 7.3 and Figure 7.1), representing the least expensive property. In both Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent at least 55 per cent of all properties are in the very lowest A band, compared with a Greater Valleys average of 33 per cent and a Central Valleys average of 37 per cent. For Wales as a whole the figure is 19 per cent. Only Bridgend, Torfaen and Caerphilly have more than 3 per cent of properties in the second and third highest bands and none of the Valleys authorities (or indeed any authority in Wales) has sufficient properties in the highest band H to reach the recording threshold.

Table 7.2 Household Spaces by Accommodation Type, 2001 (%)

	Whole house or bungalow: Detached	Whole house or bungalow: Semi-detached	Whole house or bungalow: Terraced (including end-terrace)	Flat, maisonette or apartment: Purpose built block of flats or tenement	Flat, maisonette or apartment: Part of a converted or shared house (including bed-sits)	Flat, maisonette or apartment: In a commercial building	Caravan or other mobile or temporary structure
Neath Port Talbot	18.6	43.5	27.7	7.9	1.3	0.9	0.2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	12.2	26.3	52.8	6.8	1	0.8	0.2
Merthyr Tydfil	13.1	27.3	52.6	5.2	0.8	0.8	0.2
Caerphilly	14.4	39.4	38.1	6.3	0.8	0.9	0.1
Blaenau Gwent	9.4	24.5	55.3	8.5	1.0	1.1	0.1
Bridgend	21.5	39.9	28.5	7.5	1.5	0.9	0.2
Torfaen	17.0	27.2	43.7	10.6	0.7	0.7	0.2
Central Valleys	13.9	33.1	44.1	7.0	1.0	0.9	0.2
Greater Valleys	15.3	33.5	41.8	7.4	1.0	0.9	0.2
Row (Ex GV)	32.1	31.0	24.2	8.2	2.7	1.2	0.5
Wales	27.1	31.7	29.5	8.0	2.3	1.1	0.4

Source: Census 2001

Table 7.3 Proportion of Domestic Properties^a by Council Tax Band, 2003

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Median ^b
Neath Port Talbot	23	38	19	11	6	2	1	-	B
Rhondda Cynon Taff	45	25	13	8	6	2	1	-	B
Merthyr Tydfil	56	24	7	7	5	1	-	-	A
Caerphilly	25	39	17	9	6	3	1	-	B
Blaenau Gwent	55	27	9	5	3	-	-	-	A
Bridgend	20	25	20	16	12	5	2	-	C
Torfaen	20	35	23	10	8	3	1	-	B
Central Valleys	37	31	14	8	6	2	1	-	B
Greater Valleys	33	31	16	10	7	3	1	-	B
Wales	19	25	20	15	12	5	3	-	C
Co. Durham & Tees	57	14	15	8	4	2	1	-	A
West Cumbria	56	15	13	9	4	1	1	-	A
Merseyside	53	18	15	7	3	2	1	-	A
South Yorkshire	60	16	12	7	3	1	1	-	A
North Midlands	58	19	13	7	3	1	-	-	A

Source: Welsh Local Government Finance Statistics, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

^a Percentage of chargeable dwellings i.e. excluding exemptions and before disabled reductions. May not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

^b The lowest band where at least 50 per cent of chargeable dwellings fall either within the band or below it.

There is a noticeable difference between the Valleys and the comparator areas in terms of the shares of band A and band B dwellings. The proportion of dwellings in band A is in excess of 50 per cent for each of the comparator areas (the highest being 60 per cent for South Yorkshire), whilst the proportion of band B dwellings is below 20 per cent in each case. Looking at bands A and B combined, the Greater Valleys has a figure of 64 per cent and the Central Valleys a figure of 68 per cent, compared to 71 per cent for Co. Durham and Tees, Merseyside and West Cumbria, 76 per cent for South Yorkshire and 77 per cent for the North Midlands.

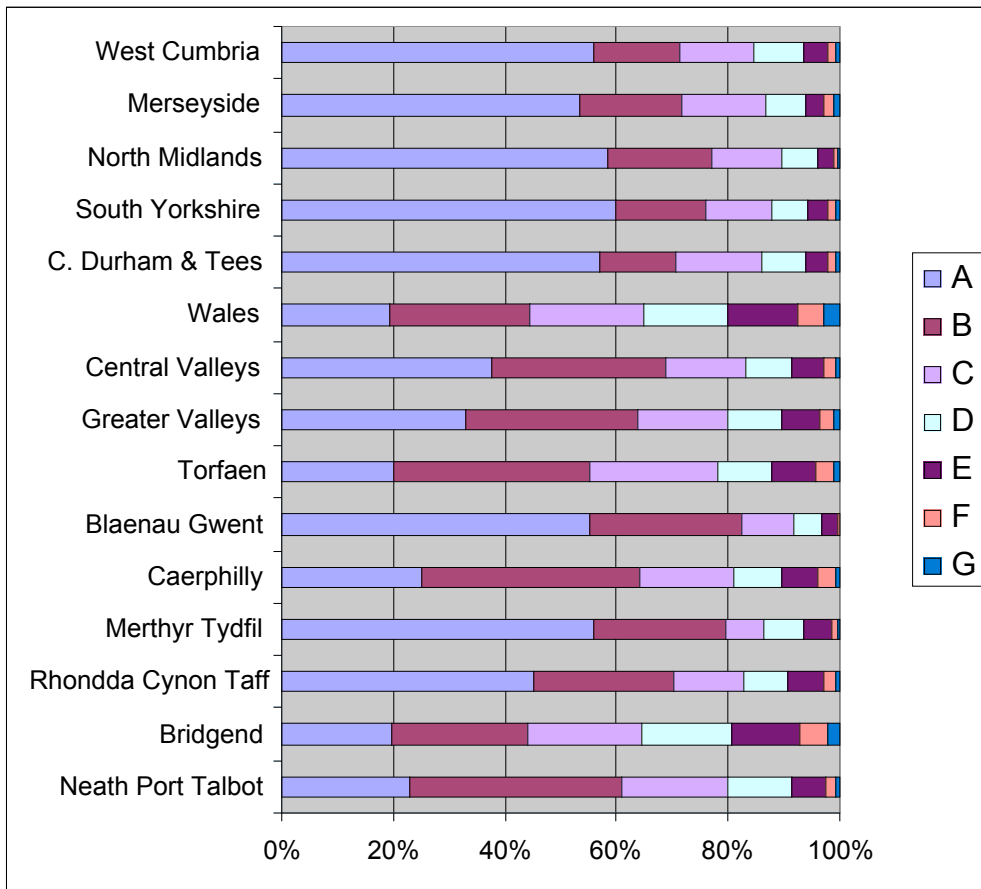


Figure 7.1 Proportion of Domestic Properties by Council Tax Band, 2003

Prices

House prices (Table 7.4) in the Valleys are lower than the averages for Wales across all types of dwelling, with those in Blaenau Gwent less than half the price of those for Wales as a whole. Only Bridgend comes close to the Welsh averages.

Table 7.4 Average Dwelling Price by Type, July 2002 – June 2003

	Detached	Semi-Detached	Terraced	Flat	All Dwellings
Neath Port Talbot	109,961	57,225	42,954	31,059	60,828
Rhondda Cynon Taff	128,741	65,788	41,196	53,667	62,229
Merthyr Tydfil	107,122	52,918	36,086	-	49,635
Caerphilly	133,945	71,694	54,361	45,394	74,939
Blaenau Gwent	95,254	47,735	33,660	22,332	40,659
Bridgend	134,763	74,199	55,238	53,414	83,229
Torfaen	149,432	79,538	58,820	44,535	79,658
Central Valleys	122,912	63,555	42,768	44,679	62,165
Greater Valleys	127,657	67,355	45,448	46,503	67,354
Wales	149,057	84,052	66,435	92,116	95,490

Source: Land Registry

Unfit Dwellings

Against a Welsh figure of 8.5 per cent, some 9.7 per cent of housing in the Greater Valleys area and 9.5 per cent in the Central Valleys are deemed unfit (Table 7.5). The figures, however, conceal a number of variations and need to be considered carefully, given the much greater prevalence of certain types of tenure, notably terraced housing in the Valleys compared with other parts of Wales. The worst problems are in Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff, and Torfaen (where there are relatively large proportions of unfit owner-occupied houses) and there appears to be a large pocket of unfit social housing dwellings in Bridgend, (Table 7.7) distorting the figures for that borough as a whole. Caerphilly stands out as the only authority where the proportion of unfit dwelling is smaller across all types of accommodation than for Wales as a whole, no doubt in part reflecting the amount of new house-building in the borough over recent years, particularly at its southern end. The proportion of unfit single person dwelling is also smaller than elsewhere.

Table 7.5 Unfit Dwellings by Type of Accommodation, 1998 (%)

	All dwellings	Terraced	Semi-detached	Detached	Flats and other
Neath Port Talbot	9.5	13.8	8.9	6.5	2.9
Rhondda Cynon Taff	11.4	13.6	6.8	4.9	15.1
Merthyr Tydfil	12.5	16.9	7.7	0.8	6.2
Caerphilly	5.9	7.4	5.1	1.9	6.6
Blaenau Gwent	9.0	12.4	3.3	5.6	7.1
Bridgend	9.8	13.0	9.6	3.3	11.0
Torfaen	11.3	13.3	9.3	10.0	7.8
Central Valleys	9.5	12.6	6.6	4.6	8.5
Greater Valleys	9.7	12.7	7.3	5.0	8.8
Wales	8.5	11.4	6.8	6.1	9.5

Source: Welsh House Condition Survey 1998

Table 7.6 Unfit Dwellings by Type of Household, 1998 (%)

	Single person	Families with dep. children	Others without dep. children
Neath Port Talbot	15.4	6.1	8.8
Rhondda Cynon Taff	17.8	6.4	11.3
Merthyr Tydfil	15.9	11.0	12.2
Caerphilly	9.3	4.7	5.4
Blaenau Gwent	15.5	7.7	6.0
Bridgend	18.8	6.7	8.3
Torfaen	13.8	11.4	9.7
Central Valleys	15.2	6.5	8.9
Greater Valleys	15.5	7.0	8.9
Wales	11.5	7.4	7.6

Source: Welsh House Condition Survey 1998

Table 7.7 Unfit Dwellings by Tenure, 1998 (%)

	Owner occupied	Social housing	Privately rented
Neath Port Talbot	9.7	7.3	25.7
Rhondda Cynon Taff	11.5	9.2	16.8
Merthyr Tydfil	13.0	10.6	20.4
Caerphilly	5.5	5.3	13.7
Blaenau Gwent	10.1	4.9	22.0
Bridgend	6.5	23.3	22.4
Torfaen	10.8	11.9	15.2
Central Valleys	9.6	7.4	17.8
Greater Valleys	9.2	9.7	18.3
Wales	7.6	8.2	18.4

Source: Welsh House Condition Survey 1998

Key Finding

Tenure patterns in the Valleys are broadly comparable with those in Wales as a whole, with the main variation being slightly higher owner occupation and slightly lower privately rented accommodation. The prevalence of owner occupation also distinguishes the Valleys from the other study areas.

The quality and variety of housing in the Valleys remains inferior to that found in other parts of Wales as a whole, and is reflected in both low prices, the large number of terraced properties, and the number of unfit dwellings. The proportion of unfit dwellings in the social housing sector is particularly high in Bridgend, which shares with Neath Port Talbot and Merthyr Tydfil a high proportion of unfit dwellings in privately rented accommodation.

Bridgend and Torfaen, followed by Caerphilly, come closest to average Welsh house prices, with other Valley authorities lagging behind.

The very low proportions of detached housing, compared with the rest of Wales may, we suggest, be a limiting factor preventing individuals and families from “trading up” within their own communities, and this may encourage outward migration of better-paid and more skilled workers and their families. We speculate also on the possible connection between the generally lower quality housing available in the Valleys and the low proportions recorded, compared with Wales as a whole, of individuals working in managerial occupations, many of whom may choose to live outside the area, even though working there.

A further consideration is that low housing values prevent individual homeowners from taking advantage of an appreciating asset, and make it difficult to move to other parts of Wales or the UK where relevant job opportunities are more readily available. It may, as also noted earlier, be a factor inhibiting entrepreneurial development, making it more difficult to raise finance backed by housing assets. The issues raised above, we believe, merit further investigation, including whether planning or other constraints, apart from difficult topography or lack of demand have held back new housing development.

It should be noted, however, that over recent years there appear to have been signs of a pick-up in private sector house building

8 Commuting and Access to a Car

This section looks at commuting patterns within and between the different Valley authorities, access to motor vehicles and modes of travel to work. In general the area is served by an extensive network of rail links to Cardiff and to a much lesser extent Swansea and Newport, with Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot benefiting from mainline services to and from Cardiff and Swansea, as well as local services. Road communications within the Valleys have improved considerably over recent years with fast roads across the southern extremes of the Valleys (the M4) the heads of the Valleys (A465) and connecting the Taff and Rhymney Valleys with Cardiff, and Torfaen with Newport. Largely for geographical reasons many other roads within the Valleys still offer relatively slow and tortuous journeys and some communities remain relatively isolated with poor public transport facilities.

Commuting Patterns

The commuting patterns reported in Table 8.1 relate to those individuals who are either employees or self employed, and the analysis is based solely on a person's main job – around 5 per cent of people living in Wales have a second job but for the purposes of this bulletin their commuting habits are taken from their main job.

Table 8.1 Summary Commuting Statistics by Local Authority, 2001

	Number of working residents	Total number working in the authority	% of residents working in area of residence	Commuting out of the authority	Commuting into the authority	Net Commuting ¹
Neath Port Talbot	51,000	44,000	70	15,000	9,000	6,000
Rhondda Cynon Taff	91,000	75,000	64	32,000	17,000	15,000
Merthyr Tydfil	23,000	26,000	74	6,000	9,000	-3,000
Caerphilly	71,000	55,000	57	31,000	15,000	16,000
Blaenau Gwent	23,000	20,000	56	10,000	7,000	3,000
Bridgend	60,000	58,000	73	16,000	15,000	1,000
Torfaen	32,000	30,000	64	11,000	9,000	2,000
Wales	-	-	73	-	-	-

Source: Labour Force Survey

¹ Net commuting equals number commuting out of the authority less the number commuting into the authority.

The authority with the closest balance of inward and outward commuters is Bridgend with a net outflow of only 1,000. Rhondda Cynon Taff (15,000) and Caerphilly (16,000) experience the biggest outflows, with some 30,000 people in both authorities working in a different local authority, a consequence, it can be assumed, of the proximity of the southern parts of the two boroughs to opportunities in Cardiff and elsewhere along the M4 corridor, and good communications by road and by rail, particularly from Pontypridd and Caerphilly town. Merthyr Tydfil, alone of the authorities, has a net inflow, which may be associated at least in part with the

presence in the town of several large employers, such as Hoover Candy, which recruit from a number of different valley areas and also the poor quality and availability of housing for those employed in senior (and middle management) positions within the borough.

Access to Motor Vehicles

Table 8.2 shows that Merthyr Tydfil (35.2 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (35.1 per cent) both have very high proportions of households lacking access to a motor vehicle, 11 percentage points higher than for the rest of Wales (24.2 per cent) and four-five points higher than the Greater Valleys area (30.1 per cent) and the central Valleys (31.4 per cent). Figures in excess of 30 per cent lacking a car are also recorded in Neath Port Talbot and Rhondda Cynon Taff, with Bridgend (25.6 per cent) and Torfaen (27.2 per cent) at the other end of the scale and close to the Wales figure (26.0 per cent). A much greater degree of consistency appears in the figures for single car per household with both positive and negative variations from the Wales average of 45.5 per cent exceeding one percentage point only in Bridgend, where 46.8 per cent of households have use of a car. Low levels of dual car ownership per household are found in Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent (16.6 per cent and 16.2 per cent respectively), compared with averages for the Greater Valleys of 19.9 per cent, Central Valleys 19.1 per cent, rest of Wales 24.3 per cent and Wales 22.9 per cent.

In the comparator areas (Table A8.1) lack of access to a motor vehicle is highest in Merseyside (37.6 per cent), (with nearly half of all people in Liverpool living in a household lacking a car) and South Yorkshire (32.4 per cent) and the North East (34.6 per cent) also both have a greater proportion of household with no access to a vehicle than the Central Valleys and the Greater Valleys.

Table 8.2 Number of Cars and Vans per Household (% of Households)

	None	One	Two	Three	Four +
Neath Port Talbot	30.2	46.5	19.1	3.3	0.8
Rhondda Cynon Taff	31.6	44.9	19.3	3.4	0.8
Merthyr Tydfil	35.2	44.6	16.6	2.9	0.8
Caerphilly	29.2	45.5	20.8	3.6	0.9
Blaenau Gwent	35.1	45.1	16.2	2.8	0.8
Bridgend	25.6	46.8	22.7	3.9	0.9
Torfaen	27.2	46.3	21.7	3.8	0.9
Central Valleys	31.4	45.4	19.1	3.3	0.8
Greater Valleys	30.1	45.7	19.9	3.5	0.8
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	24.2	45.5	24.3	4.9	1.4
Wales	26.0	45.5	22.9	4.3	1.3
Co. Durham & Tees	34.6	43.4	18.2	3.0	0.8
West Cumbria	28.1	47.0	20.2	3.7	1.0
Merseyside	37.6	41.8	17.1	2.8	0.7
South Yorkshire	32.4	43.9	19.8	3.2	0.9
North Midlands	28.9	45.2	21.4	3.6	1.0

Source: Census 2001

Table 8.3 reports motor vehicle access figures for families and individuals in non-pensioner households. Even in non-pensioner households, around one fifth of families in Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taff have no access to a car or van, compared with the Wales figure of 14.5 per cent (rest of Wales 12.9 per cent). In the same three authorities around one half of all individuals lack a car, with the figure still exceeding 40 per cent in the best-placed authority, Bridgend.

Table 8.3 Number of Cars and Vans per Household by Household Type (% of Non-Pensioner Households)

	Families			Individuals	
	None	One	Two plus	None	One plus
Neath Port Talbot	17.2	50.8	31.9	43.7	56.3
Rhondda Cynon Taff	19.4	49.1	31.5	47.0	53.0
Merthyr Tydfil	22.4	50.0	27.6	51.8	48.2
Caerphilly	17.8	48.8	33.4	43.9	56.1
Blaenau Gwent	21.7	51.1	27.2	50.3	49.7
Bridgend	14.6	49.0	36.3	40.1	59.9
Torfaen	15.5	48.9	35.6	39.9	60.1
Central Valleys	19.0	49.7	31.3	46.3	53.7
Greater Valleys	18.0	49.5	32.5	44.8	55.2
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	12.9	45.5	41.5	36.1	63.9
Wales	14.5	46.8	38.7	38.8	61.2

Source: Census 2001

Travel to Work

Consistent with the below average figures for self-employment mentioned elsewhere, numbers working at home (Table 8.4) range from a low of 5.8 per cent in Blaenau Gwent to 7.0 per cent in Bridgend compared with a Valleys average of 6.4 per cent, and the all-Wales figure of 9.7 per cent.

The use of a car to travel to work is somewhat greater than for Wales as a whole (70.2 per cent), accounting for around threequarters of all journeys by drivers and passengers after the exclusion of home working. A higher proportion travel as passengers (just under 12 per cent) than in Wales as a whole (9 per cent). Fewer than two per cent use taxis and bicycles and 10 per cent travel on foot. (12.5 per cent in Blaenau Gwent.)

Large differences appear in the propensity to use train services between the various authorities, reflecting the provision of services. In Caerphilly and Rhondda Cynon Taff, the southern parts of which enjoy relatively fast and frequent services to Cardiff 2.7 per cent and 2.6 per cent of those aged 16-74 in employment use the train, whereas in Blaenau Gwent (0.3 per cent), Torfaen (0.7 per cent) and Neath Port Talbot (1.0 per cent), the figures are well down on the Greater Valleys area average

of 1.7 per cent, the Central Valleys average of 1.9 per cent and the Wales average of 1.2 per cent.

The usage of buses, coaches and minibuses (5.2 per cent in the Greater Valleys area and 5.4 in the Central Valleys) is close to the Wales average of 5.3 per cent, as are all the boroughs with the exception of Merthyr Tydfil (8.2 per cent). This higher figure would seem to reflect lower levels of car ownership, compared with the Valleys generally.

Table 8.4 Mode of Transport to Work, 2001 (% of those in employment)

	Mainly home worker	Train	Coach bus or minibus	Motorcycle, scooter or moped	Driving a car or van	Passenger in a car or van	Taxi or minicab	Bicycle	On foot
Neath Port Talbot	6.6	1.0	4.9	1.0	64.0	10.6	0.5	1.4	9.6
Rhondda Cynon Taff	6.4	2.6	5.6	0.6	61.6	12.3	0.3	0.5	9.7
Merthyr Tydfil	6.2	1.1	8.2	0.5	59.7	12.2	0.6	0.6	10.7
Caerphilly	6.5	2.7	5.3	0.7	62.8	11.4	0.6	0.7	8.9
Blaenau Gwent	5.8	0.3	4.0	0.6	61.7	13.5	0.8	0.6	12.5
Bridgend	7.0	1.1	4.2	0.8	64.7	10.6	0.7	1.0	9.4
Torfaen	6.2	0.7	4.5	0.9	65.7	10.4	0.8	1.0	9.5
Central Valleys	6.4	1.9	5.4	0.7	62.2	11.8	0.5	0.7	9.9
Greater Valleys	6.4	1.7	5.2	0.7	63.0	11.5	0.5	0.8	9.8
RoW (Ex GV)	11.0	1.1	5.3	0.8	60.5	8.0	0.5	1.6	10.6
Wales	9.7	1.2	5.3	0.8	61.2	9.0	0.5	1.4	10.4

Census: Source 2001

The number and scheduled journey times outlined in Table 8.5 make it clear that the use of train services for regular commuting to work in Cardiff is not feasible very far north and west of Caerphilly and Pontypridd, even if difficult capacity constraints could be overcome. Even where the frequency and speed of services to and from Cardiff is relatively good, as in the case of Caerphilly and Pontypridd, rail usage remains limited. Only 2.7 per cent of those in employment use trains in Caerphilly (2.6 per cent in Rhondda Cynon Taff) compared with the Valleys average of 1.7 per cent.

Because of the variety and number of services and operators it has not been possible to carry out a similar exercise on the potential of bus services to play a bigger role in bringing people to work in employment locations in Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Bridgend or other locations along the M4 corridor. It is clear, however, from a brief survey of timetables that as in the case of trains, journey times to and from Cardiff from the more distant valley towns can be well in excess of one hour and often involve changes and waits.

Table 8.5 Rail Links to Cardiff

	No. of peak time services per day Mon-Fri 6-9 am / 4-7 pm	Average Journey Time (minutes)**	Fastest Journey Time (minutes)**
From Rhymney	6	60	55
From Cardiff	5	62	58
From Caerphilly	10	19	18
To Caerphilly	10	21	19
From Merthyr Tydfil	3	52	50
To Merthyr Tydfil	3	56	55
From Aberdare	3	56	54
To Aberdare	3	56	53
From Treherbert	6	60	59
To Treherbert	6	60	57
From Pontypridd	11	29	23
To Pontypridd	14	28	23
From Maesteg	2	50	50
To Maesteg	3	50	50
From Pontypool	3	35	34
To Pontypool	4	31	30

* Times as per Valleys Lines timetable May 18 to September 27 2003.

** Services reach Cardiff Queen Street four minutes earlier on average.

Key Findings

Relative poverty in the Valleys is reflected in the greater proportion than in the rest of Wales of households without access to a motor vehicle and the smaller proportions with access to two or more vehicles. The smaller number of individuals working at home confirms figures quoted elsewhere (Table 3.2) for the much smaller proportion in the Valleys who are self-employed, compared with Wales as a whole.)

Commuting out of area has become a feature of life for large numbers of people in Caerphilly and Rhondda Cynon Taff, the two authorities with the highest net outflow, presumably in the southern ends of those authorities, where there are good road and rail communications with Cardiff. In the northern part of the Valleys, train services are less frequent, more costly and of longer duration, and road journey times longer and more difficult, too, away from the main corridors.

By far the most important means of travelling to work is the private car or van, which accounts for three quarters of all journeys, with fewer than 10 per cent (4.3 per cent in Blaenau Gwent) using public transport. This is no doubt a function of the widely dispersed nature of the communities in the Valleys (making it difficult to maintain viable services at frequent intervals) and the also widely dispersed locations of places

of work. Rail journey times and frequencies militate against commuting to Cardiff by rail for example for service sector jobs) from all but the nearest valley towns and bus journey times from the northern ends of the Valleys also do not realistically allow this option. Even where rail links are good, however, services are used by only a small minority as a means of travelling to work. This no doubt reflects the limited range of destinations accessible by passenger train services, which in general do not serve the main south Wales manufacturing locations.

This is particularly significant given the large number of people without cars in the Greater and Central Valleys, very many of whom are likely to be concentrated in the poorest wards, which are themselves generally located in the north and west of the Valleys where accessibility is at its worst.

9 Business Activity

This section looks at employees by sector and at workplace size. It also examines the size and changes in the stock of VAT registered businesses.

Sectoral Employment Structure

The tables below confirm the importance of manufacturing as a source of employment in the Valleys (around 27 per cent of all jobs compared with 17 per cent for Wales as a whole.) The highest proportion of employees in manufacturing (Table 9.1) is in Blaenau Gwent (37.1 per cent), with the smallest number in Bridgend and Merthyr Tydfil (24.6 per cent). The figure for Blaenau Gwent is likely to be lower today however, as a result of the closure of the Corus works in Ebbw Vale. The authority with the next biggest manufacturing sector (by share of total employment) is Caerphilly (30.1 per cent).

In the Greater Valleys and Central Valleys wholesale and retail is the second biggest employer after manufacturing, 15 per cent and 14 per cent respectively against a Wales figure of 17 per cent, followed by education and health. The presence of headquarters operations is reflected in the relatively high numbers of people employed in electricity, gas and water supply in Caerphilly, and Rhondda Cynon Taff. Merthyr Tydfil stands out for the number employed in health and social work, which is comfortably above those in wholesale and retail. In percentage terms, Merthyr Tydfil's health and social work employment at 20.4 per cent is nearly double that of Blaenau Gwent (10.7 per cent) and well above the authority with the second highest proportion, Rhondda Cynon Taff (15.4 per cent).

Variations from the all-Wales average are widespread across all sectors and authorities, with manufacturing the greatest variant and construction the closest comparator. In general, the share of employment in virtually all other sectors is down compared with Wales's average because of the dominance of manufacturing in the Valleys. Figure 9.1, which shows graphically the composition of total employment by sector, illustrates this.

Figure 9.3 shows the percentage of total workers employed in manufacturing in each region. Many of the authorities in the comparative study areas are shown to have a reliance on manufacturing similar to that in the Valleys. In Co. Durham & Tees, W. Cumbria and South Yorkshire the manufacturing sector, has the greatest share of employment, though the extent of the dominance is generally not as great as in the Valleys. The share in employment of individual sectors is more varied than in the Valleys, as illustrated by Figure 9.2. Individual local authorities within these regions do, however, exhibit examples of dependence on manufacturing similar to the Valleys local authorities. Sedgefield (with 36.9 per cent of employees in manufacturing), Ashfield (34 per cent), and Copeland (32.8 per cent) are more reliant on manufacturing than the Valley authorities, with the exception of Blaenau Gwent. In both Merseyside and South Yorkshire, as a whole, wholesale/retail is now a bigger source of employment than manufacturing, though this is not true of all the individual local authorities in those areas.

Table 9.1 Employees by Sector, 2001 (%)

	Neath Port Talbot	Rhondda Cynon Taff	Merthyr Tydfil	Caerphilly	Blaenau Gwent	Bridgend	Torfaen	Central Valleys	Greater Valleys	Wales	Co. Durham & Tees	West Cumbria	Merseyside	South Yorkshire	North Midlands
Agriculture, hunting, forestry & fishing	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.2	1.3	0.3	1.4	0.1	0.3	0.3
Mining & quarrying	0.7	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.2
Manufacturing	25.5	24.8	24.6	30.1	37.1	24.6	26.4	27.4	26.8	17.3	23.9	27.9	12.3	17.0	22.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.4
Construction	8.4	3.1	5.7	3.7	3.3	4.4	3.2	4.6	4.4	4.7	6.0	3.6	3.9	6.1	5.4
Wholesale/retail trade; repair, etc	14.0	13.7	15.4	14.9	14.5	17.5	15.4	14.3	15.0	17.0	15.3	17.8	18.7	18.9	18.6
Hotels and restaurants	4.8	5.1	5.2	6.8	6.0	7.8	5.1	5.5	5.8	6.8	5.8	7.2	6.4	5.0	5.4
Transport, storage and communication	4.2	4.1	3.2	3.3	3.1	4.0	3.0	3.8	3.7	4.5	5.8	3.2	5.6	6.1	6.2
Financial intermediation	1.0	1.0	2.7	1.9	1.4	1.4	0.8	1.4	1.3	2.4	2.6	1.1	4.4	3.0	1.2
Real estate, renting, business activities	9.5	5.2	6.3	8.8	3.3	8.1	6.1	6.8	6.9	8.9	8.4	7.6	9.9	9.9	8.3
Public admin/defence; social security	4.7	5.6	3.7	4.0	3.7	8.5	11.9	4.7	6.2	6.9	4.7	4.8	8.0	5.3	2.5
Education	9.1	14.9	9.2	9.8	12.4	7.4	9.5	11.8	10.8	10.1	8.9	8.1	9.7	9.5	9.5
Health & soc. work	14.1	15.4	20.4	10.8	10.7	11.9	14.6	14.1	13.8	14.4	11.2	12.3	15.3	13.1	15.1
Other	3.4	5.3	3.5	4.6	4.5	3.9	3.8	4.5	4.3	4.9	5.7	3.8	5.3	5.1	4.1

Source: Annual Business Inquiry

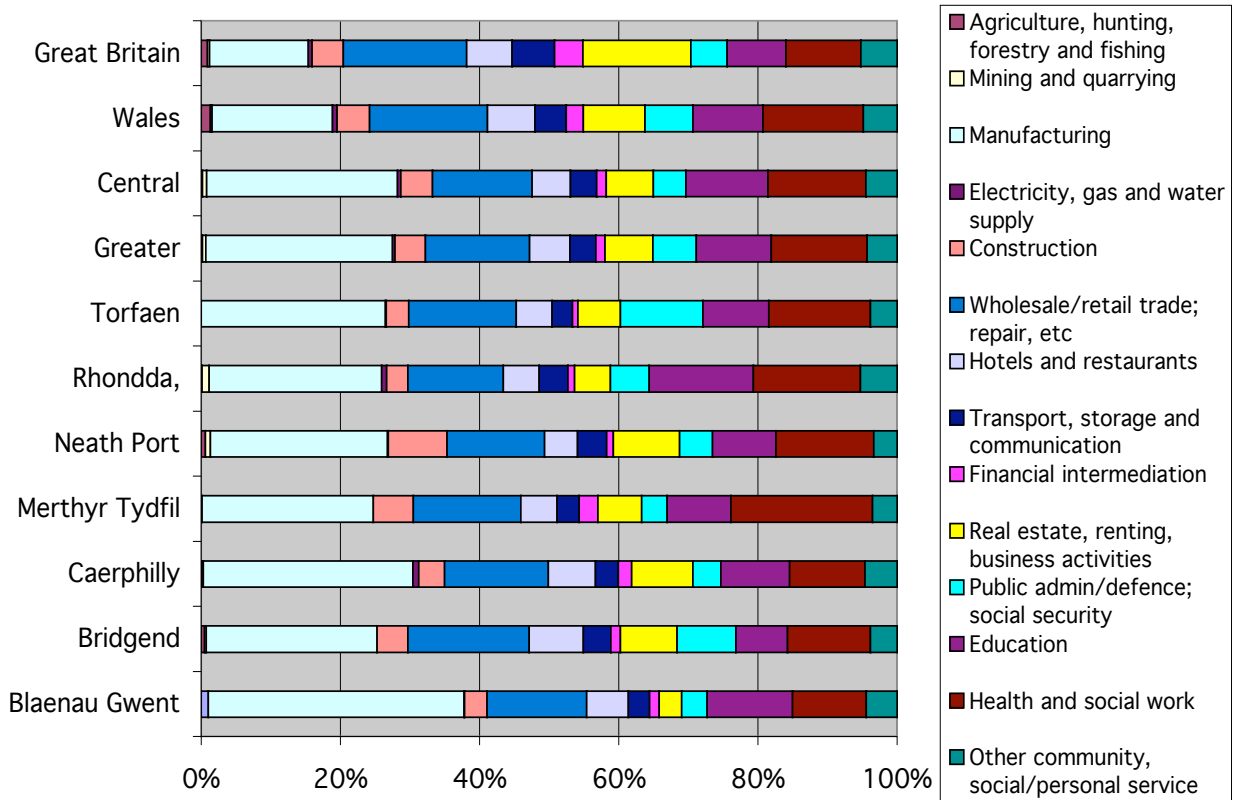


Figure 9.1 Employment by Sector, 2001 (%) (Source: ABI)

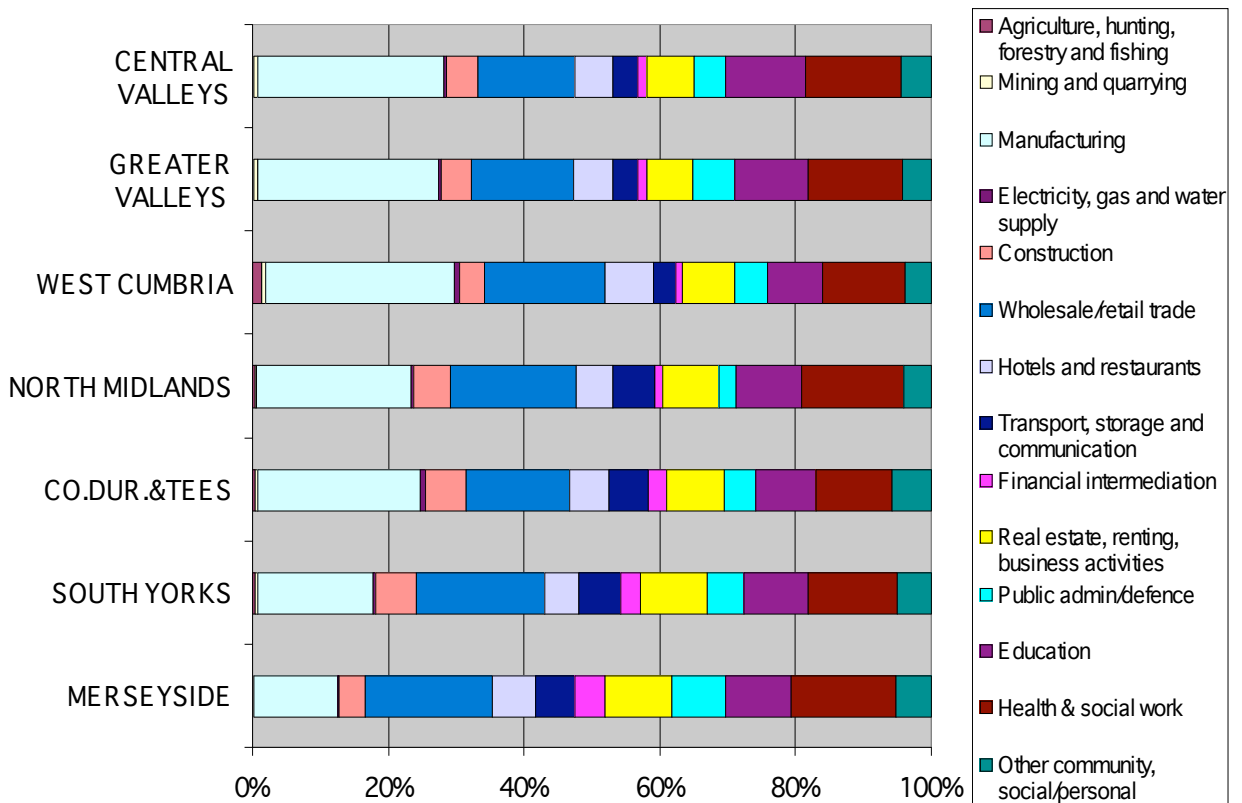


Figure 9.2 Employment by Sector in Comparative Study Areas, 2001 (%) (Source: ABI)

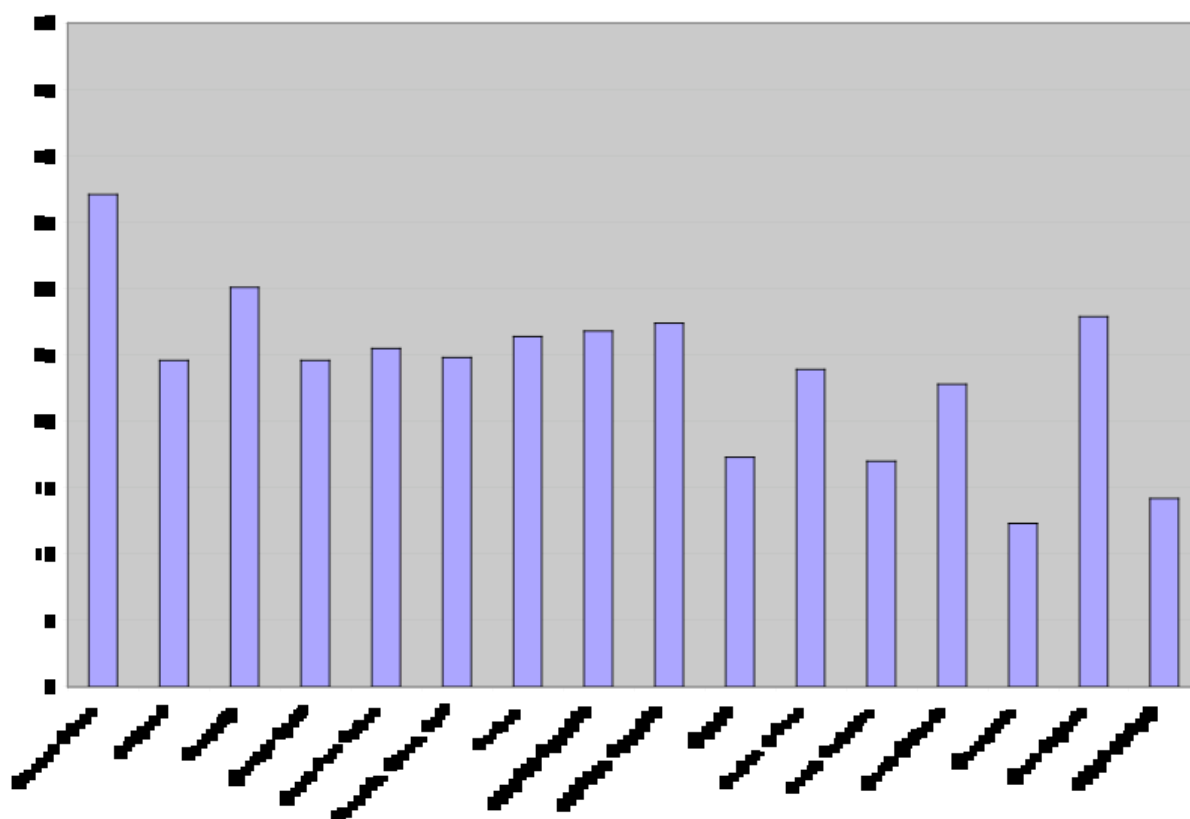


Figure 9.3 Employment in Manufacturing, 2001 (Source: ABI)

Employees by Size of Workplace

Though there are variations between the different Valley authorities, the main difference, compared with Wales as a whole, is a greater tendency for employees to work in larger companies than in smaller ones. Some 74 per cent of employees in the Central Valleys work in work places up to 200 employees (72 per cent in Greater Valleys and 71 per cent in Wales). For workplaces up to 100 employees the comparable figures are 58.1 per cent, 60 per cent and 59 per cent and for workplaces of 0-25 people, 31.7 per cent, 31.9 per cent and 33.8 per cent. The pattern is broadly similar in the comparator areas, though West Cumbria has a much larger proportion (39.2 per cent in businesses up to 25 employees. Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly are unusual compared with the other Valleys authorities in not having any workplaces employing more than 1,000. Merthyr Tydfil, especially, stands out for the very high proportion (11.5 per cent) of people employed in firms of 2,000-4,999 people, emphasising its acute dependence on one firm (Candy Hoover). Three other authorities (Neath Port Talbot, Torfaen and Bridgend also have a high (though by no means so large) proportion of their workforce in the biggest workplaces.

None of the Welsh authorities had workforces employing more than 5,000 workers, unlike West Cumbria where the presence of British Nuclear Fuels can be expected to account for the high proportion (8.8 per cent) in workplaces of this size.

Table 9.2 Employees by Size of Workplace, 2001 (% of Employees)

Number of Employees	Neath Port Talbot	Rhondda Cynon Taff	Merthyr Tydfil	Caerphilly	Blaenau Gwent	Bridgend	Torfaen	Central Valleys	Greater Valleys	Wales	Co. Durham & Tees	West Cumbria	Merseyside	South Yorkshire	North Midlands
1-4	11.4	9.2	8.4	12.1	8.6	10.6	7.7	10.2	9.9	10.9	8.3	12.5	9.2	9.4	9.6
5-10	10.2	8.2	7.4	11.5	10.7	10.0	9.4	9.5	9.6	10.1	9.1	12.4	9.2	9.3	9.9
11-24	13.6	10.7	13.1	14.0	9.8	13.8	10.1	12.2	12.2	12.8	12.3	14.3	12.3	13.1	13.3
25-49	15.0	13.0	11.5	13.6	17.2	13.3	11.8	13.8	13.5	12.9	13.0	11.6	13.5	13.2	14.0
50-99	12.7	13.0	11.2	14.5	18.6	9.9	12.2	13.7	12.9	12.2	13.6	9.8	12.2	12.5	15.5
100-199	11.2	14.5	16.3	16.0	16.7	11.3	14.3	14.6	14.0	11.9	11.7	7.2	11.7	11.9	13.3
200-299	5.1	5.1	2.8	5.4	5.1	5.4	4.2	5.0	4.9	5.9	6.8	6.1	5.4	7.6	7.2
300-399	2.7	4.6	5.3	4.3	1.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.5	4.2	3.0	3.8	5.0	3.2
400-499	2.2	6.3	2.4	4.8	0.0	4.9	1.2	4.2	3.9	2.8	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.8	4.1
500-749	3.2	1.6	5.9	3.9	3.1	4.0	7.0	3.0	3.7	4.1	3.2	1.4	4.7	3.2	3.7
750-999	3.9	3.6	4.2	0.0	8.4	2.0	7.3	3.4	3.7	2.6	3.9	0.0	2.3	1.9	0.5
1000-1499	2.6	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.6	1.5	1.7	2.8	1.8	4.1	1.7	0.8
1500-1999	0.0	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	5.1	2.8	3.3	2.1	1.1	2.1	1.9	0.9	0.0
2000-4999	6.2	0.0	11.5	0.0	0.0	4.5	5.8	2.3	3.1	4.6	2.9	5.4	5.4	4.6	4.7
5000 or more	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	3.3	8.8	1.0	1.9	0.0

Source: Annual Business Inquiry

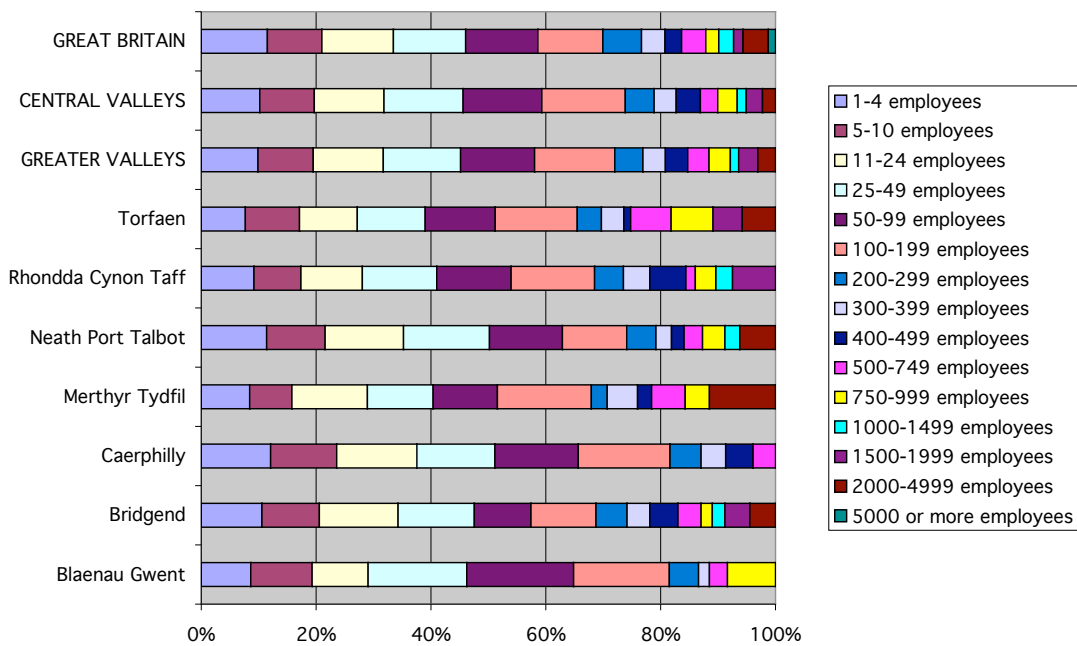


Figure 9.4 Employees by Size of Workplace in Valleys Local Authorities, 2001
 (Source: Annual Business Inquiry)

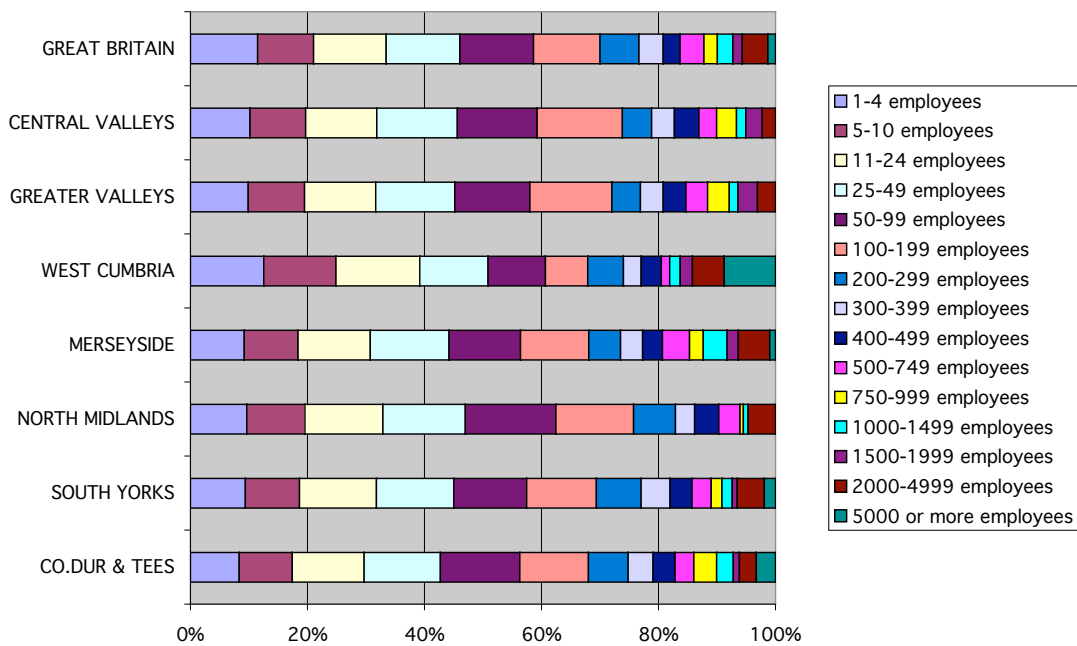


Figure 9.5 Employees by Size of Workplace in Comparative Study Areas, 2001
 (Source: Annual Business Inquiry)

VAT- Registered Businesses

Reflecting again the under-representation of smaller business and self-employment in the Valleys, the stock rate for VAT-registered businesses in both the Greater and Central Valleys areas (199.5 and 190.2 per 10,000 people aged 16+ respectively) is more than 50 per cent lower than the Welsh average of 326.5. The position is much

worse in Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil where the stock rate is only around half the Welsh figure.

The stock rate in all of the comparative study areas is below the British average of 369.7. County Durham and Teeside stock rate (188.9 per 10000 of the working age population) is, however, the only comparator area that performs more poorly than the Central and Greater Valleys. Other areas perform slightly better although again, below the average for Great Britain and indeed for Wales as a whole (326.5). Total stock rose in both the valley areas between 2002 and 2003 but fell by 15 in Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil, and Torfaen.

Table 9.3 VAT-Registered Businesses

	Stock at start of 2003	Stock at start of 2002	Stock Rate 2003 ^a	Registration Rate 2002 ^b	Deregistration Rate 2002 ^b
Neath Port Talbot	2105	2085	193.9	9.4	8.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	3630	3625	197.8	9.8	9.7
Merthyr Tydfil	745	760	168.7	7.2	8.6
Caerphilly	2660	2645	198.7	10.0	9.5
Blaenau Gwent	845	860	154.2	8.7	10.5
Bridgend	2475	2465	240.6	9.5	9.1
Torfaen	1495	1480	208.2	8.1	7.4
Central Valleys	9985	9975	190.2	9.5	9.3
Greater Valleys	13955	13920	199.5	9.3	9.1
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	62355	63070	380.8	7.6	8.8
Wales	76310	76990	326.5	7.9	8.8
Co. Durham & Tees	14085	14030	188.9	9.7	9.4
West Cumbria	5555	5580	294.2	7.0	7.5
Merseyside	22890	23005	210.8	10.3	10.8
South Yorkshire	31000	30790	244.4	10.4	9.8
North Midlands	7740	7615	251.4	11.1	9.3
Great Britain	1706010	1706540	369.7	10.3	10.1

Source: DTI Small Business Service

^a Number of VAT-registered businesses per 10,000 people aged 16+.

^b As a percentage of the stock at the start of 2002.

Key Finding

The structure of employment in the Valleys differs from Wales as a whole with higher proportions working in manufacturing and fewer in services. Especially high levels of employment are also recorded in health and care services and education but smaller proportions work in private sector services.

Marginally fewer people in the Valleys work in businesses employing up to 25 people and slightly greater proportions work in the biggest workplaces, reflecting in some cases the presence of recent large inward investors and in others that of long-standing employers. Merthyr Tydfil has an acute dependence on firms employing more than 2,000 people, with 11.5 per cent of its workforce in workplaces of this size. In general, despite local variations, the proportions of workers in workplaces of different sizes do not vary markedly from the comparator regions.

Reflecting the difficulties of stimulating an entrepreneurial culture, and probably also the lack of the skills needed to set up in business, the stock of VAT-registered businesses is well down on the figure for Wales as a whole and all but one of the comparator areas. In the case of the two worst performing authorities, Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil, the stock rate is less than 40 per cent of the comparable Great Britain figure.

10 Crime

This section examines data on notifiable offences in local authorities across Wales

Table 10.1 Notifiable Offences Recorded By The Police, Rate per 1000 population, April 2000 – March 2001.

	Violence against the person	Sexual Offences	Robbery	Burglary from a dwelling	Burglary from a dwelling, Rate per 1000 households	Theft of a motor vehicle	Theft from a motor vehicle
Neath Port Talbot	8.7	0.3	0.2	4.0	9.8	9.7	6.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	8.3	0.3	0.2	5.2	12.9	7.4	6.5
Merthyr Tydfil	12.0	0.5	0.3	6.1	14.6	13.7	11.9
Caerphilly	29.2	0.9	0.3	4.1	10.3	5.3	7.4
Blaenau Gwent	31.2	0.8	0.2	5.9	14.5	6.5	9.5
Bridgend	10.4	0.4	0.2	3.7	9.0	8.0	7.0
Torfaen	24.4	0.7	0.3	3.9	9.7	4.3	7.9
Greater Valleys	21.7	0.6	0.2	4.7	11.6	8.2	7.7
Wales	13.0	0.6	0.3	4.1	10.2	6.1	8.8
Co. Duhram & Tees	8.0	0.1	0.2	7.9	18.7	6.4	9.5
Merseyside	11.3	0.7	1.7	8.9	22.1	11.5	10.1
West Cumbria	8.9	0.3	0.2	4.1	9.8	2.1	9.3
South Yorkshire	6.4	0.6	1.0	11.4	26.6	6.6	13.6
North Midlands	11.1	0.6	0.7	13.8	20.3	5.5	13.3

Source: Home Office

Crime is a bigger problem in the Greater Valleys than in Wales as a whole, with relatively high levels of violence against the person and somewhat higher levels of burglary and car crime. Burglary from a dwelling appears a greater risk in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taff than elsewhere and the prevalence of theft of and from motor vehicles is considerably greater in Merthyr Tydfil than in the Greater Valleys Area or in Wales generally. Perhaps surprisingly in crimes such as violence against the person, the Valleys generally are 40 per cent above those for the worst affected authority in the comparator areas – Liverpool - with the figure for Blaenau Gwent apparently twice as high as the English city. Figures for burglary and vehicle theft are also comparable with some of the worst affected areas in the English study areas.

Key Finding

Though in some types of offence figures for the Valleys are not markedly different from other parts of Wales, crimes associated with deprivation - and drink and drug abuse - are high in some authorities and higher than in comparable English areas.

The statistics need to be treated with some caution, however. On their own they suggest much higher levels of violence in Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly and Torfaen (which fall mainly within the Gwent Police area) than in Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taff (covered by South Wales Police). As a result it seems very likely differences in police methods of classifying and recording crimes need to be considered, and this may also explain the variations from the English region figures.

Appendix – Comparison Tables

A2 Demographics and Household Composition

Table A2.1 Conceptions¹ per 1000 Women Aged 15-17, 2000

Derwentside	41.4
Easington	55.3
Sedgefield	63.6
Wear Valley	59.1
Sunderland	51.0
Redcar & Cleveland	57.2
Stockton-on-Tees	40.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	50.9
Allerdale	46.3
Barrow-in-Furness	51.1
Copeland	49.7
WEST CUMBRIA	48.8
Knowsley	49.7
Liverpool	49.3
St. Helens	51.2
Sefton	39.9
Wirral	48.3
MERSEYSIDE	47.5
Barnsley	52.5
Doncaster	70.0
Rotherham	51.2
Sheffield	49.4
Wakefield	48.9
SOUTH YORKS	53.9
Bolsover	46.7
Chesterfield	43.8
Mansfield	54.3
Ashfield	50.1
NORTH MIDLANDS	49.1
CENTRAL VALLEYS	62.2
GREATER VALLEYS	60.0

Source: Office for National Statistics

¹ Conceptions which resulted in either a live or still birth or termination by legal abortion.

A3 Labour Market**Table A3.1 Economic Activity Rates, 2001
(% of Non-Student Working Age Population)**

	All	Males	Females
Redcar and Cleveland	72.9	78.6	66.8
Stockton-on-Tees	77.1	82.6	71.1
Derwentside	75.2	79.6	70.4
Easington	66.1	70.6	61.3
Sedgefield	75.1	80.3	69.5
Wear Valley	74.1	79.9	67.8
Sunderland	74.2	78.9	69.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	73.9	79.0	68.5
Allerdale	79.3	84.3	73.8
Barrow-in-Furness	73.0	77.9	67.5
Copeland	75.8	80.5	70.4
WEST CUMBRIA	76.3	81.2	70.9
Knowsley	69.5	75.3	63.8
Liverpool	68.9	74.0	63.7
St. Helens	74.5	78.8	69.9
Sefton	77.1	81.2	72.9
Wirral	75.7	80.4	70.9
MERSEYSIDE	73.0	77.8	68.1
Barnsley	72.8	77.9	67.2
Doncaster	74.7	80.1	68.8
Rotherham	76.4	81.8	70.7
Sheffield	79.2	84.2	73.6
Wakefield	76.6	81.4	71.4
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	76.5	81.6	70.9
Bolsover	73.6	78.8	67.8
Chesterfield	78.1	82.8	73.0
Ashfield	77.3	83.2	70.9
Mansfield	74.6	79.8	69.0
NORTH MIDLANDS	76.1	81.4	70.4
CENTRAL VALLEYS	69.5	75.0	63.6
GREATER VALLEYS	70.6	76.0	64.7

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.2 Economic Activity Rates, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working Age Population)

	Total active	Part-time employ.	Full-time employ.	Self-employed	Unemployed
Redcar and Cleveland	72.9	15.9	44.5	5.8	6.6
Stockton-on-Tees	77.1	16.6	48.3	5.9	6.3
Derwentside	75.2	13.6	50.2	6.5	4.9
Easington	66.1	11.6	44.6	4.5	5.4
Sedgefield	75.1	12.5	51.7	5.8	5.1
Wear Valley	74.1	13.4	47.0	7.9	5.9
Sunderland	74.2	14.4	48.2	5.3	6.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	73.9	14.5	47.8	5.8	6.0
Allerdale	79.3	15.9	47.0	11.4	4.9
Barrow-in-Furness	73.0	17.0	44.5	6.2	5.3
Copeland	75.8	15.4	46.7	7.5	6.3
WEST CUMBRIA	76.3	16.1	46.1	8.7	5.4
Knowsley	69.5	13.3	43.4	5.3	7.5
Liverpool	68.9	12.4	42.6	5.7	8.2
St. Helens	74.5	14.4	48.5	6.3	5.3
Sefton	77.1	15.6	47.6	8.6	5.2
Wirral	75.7	15.4	47.5	7.3	5.5
MERSEYSIDE	73.0	14.1	45.7	6.7	6.5
Barnsley	72.8	14.9	45.4	7.6	4.9
Doncaster	74.7	16.3	45.9	7.2	5.3
Rotherham	76.4	16.1	48.3	7.1	4.9
Sheffield	79.2	15.7	49.7	8.1	5.6
Wakefield	76.6	15.5	49.8	7.0	4.4
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	76.5	15.7	48.2	7.5	5.1
Bolsover	73.6	14.9	46.4	7.2	5.0
Chesterfield	78.1	16.3	48.6	7.5	5.7
Ashfield	77.3	14.9	50.0	7.1	5.2
Mansfield	74.6	15.5	46.5	7.1	5.5
NORTH MIDLANDS	76.1	15.4	48.1	7.2	5.4
GREATER VALLEYS	70.6	12.7	47.2	5.9	4.7
CENTRAL VALLEYS	69.5	12.4	46.5	5.7	4.8

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.3 Female Economic Activity, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working Age Population)

	Total active	Part-time employ.	Full-time employ.	Self-employ.	Unemployed
Redcar and Cleveland	66.8	29.2	29.8	3.3	4.5
Stockton-on-Tees	71.1	29.6	34.3	3.1	4.1
Derwentside	70.4	24.7	38.7	3.6	3.5
Easington	61.3	21.1	34.0	2.4	3.8
Sedgefield	69.5	22.7	39.7	3.3	3.8
Wear Valley	67.8	24.8	34.6	4.1	4.2
Sunderland	69.2	25.8	36.7	2.6	4.1
CO. DURHAM & TEES	68.5	26.1	35.3	3.0	4.0
Allerdale	73.8	30.1	32.7	7.4	3.7
Barrow-in-Furness	67.5	31.7	28.3	3.9	3.6
Copeland	70.4	29.3	31.5	4.9	4.7
WEST CUMBRIA	70.9	30.3	31.0	5.6	3.9
Knowsley	63.8	23.3	33.4	2.0	5.1
Liverpool	63.7	21.2	35.0	2.4	5.2
St. Helens	69.9	26.5	36.6	3.0	3.8
Sefton	72.9	27.7	37.9	3.9	3.3
Wirral	70.9	27.2	36.0	3.8	3.9
MERSEYSIDE	68.1	24.8	35.9	3.1	4.3
Barnsley	67.2	27.3	32.4	3.8	3.8
Doncaster	68.8	29.0	32.3	3.7	3.8
Rotherham	70.7	29.4	34.1	3.5	3.6
Sheffield	73.6	28.1	38.0	3.8	3.7
Wakefield	71.4	28.5	36.0	3.6	3.4
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	70.9	28.5	35.1	3.7	3.6
Bolsover	67.8	27.3	32.6	3.8	4.1
Chesterfield	73.0	29.5	35.7	3.9	3.9
Ashfield	70.9	27.7	35.3	3.6	4.3
Mansfield	69.0	28.2	33.0	3.6	4.3
NORTH MIDLANDS	70.4	28.2	34.3	3.7	4.1
CENTRAL VALLEYS	63.6	22.7	34.7	2.8	3.5
GREATER VALLEYS	64.7	23.2	35.1	2.9	3.4

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.4 Male Economic Activity, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working Age Population)

	Total active	Part-time employ.	Full-time employ.	Self-employ.	Unemployed
Redcar and Cleveland	78.6	3.6	58.2	8.1	8.7
Stockton-on-Tees	82.6	4.4	61.4	8.5	8.3
Derwentside	79.6	3.5	60.7	9.1	6.2
Easington	70.6	2.7	54.5	6.5	6.8
Sedgefield	80.3	3.0	62.9	8.1	6.3
Wear Valley	79.9	2.8	58.3	11.3	7.4
Sunderland	78.9	3.8	59.0	7.9	8.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	79.0	3.6	59.4	8.3	7.7
Allerdale	84.3	3.3	59.8	15.1	6.1
Barrow-in-Furness	77.9	3.7	59.0	8.4	6.8
Copeland	80.5	3.3	59.8	9.7	7.7
WEST CUMBRIA	81.2	3.4	59.6	11.4	6.8
Knowsley	75.3	3.2	53.5	8.6	10.0
Liverpool	74.0	3.8	50.1	8.9	11.2
St. Helens	78.8	3.2	59.5	9.3	6.7
Sefton	81.2	4.0	57.0	13.2	7.0
Wirral	80.4	3.8	58.8	10.7	7.1
MERSEYSIDE	77.8	3.7	55.2	10.2	8.6
Barnsley	77.9	3.4	57.5	11.1	6.0
Doncaster	80.1	4.6	58.5	10.5	6.6
Rotherham	81.8	3.7	61.5	10.4	6.1
Sheffield	84.2	4.5	60.4	12.0	7.4
Wakefield	81.4	3.4	62.5	10.1	5.3
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	81.6	4.0	60.2	11.0	6.4
Bolsover	78.8	3.8	58.9	10.3	5.8
Chesterfield	82.8	4.1	60.6	10.8	7.3
Ashfield	83.2	3.2	63.5	10.3	6.1
Mansfield	79.8	3.7	59.1	10.5	6.6
NORTH MIDLANDS	81.4	3.7	60.8	10.5	6.5
CENTRAL VALLEYS	75.0	2.9	57.5	8.5	6.1
GREATER VALLEYS	76.0	2.9	58.4	8.7	5.9

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.5 Male Economic Activity Rates by Age, Excluding Students, 2001 (%)

	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 to 69	70 to 74
Neath Port Talbot	89.5	88.5	87.4	85.7	85.1	83.6	80.4	71.1	51.4	25.0	5.6	3.6
Rhondda Cynon Taff	90.6	88.5	87.5	87.6	85.3	82.2	79.7	70.3	54.2	28.3	5.9	3.2
Merthyr Tydfil	89.1	87.0	85.6	83.2	81.8	81.9	74.7	66.3	48.6	21.6	5.0	3.1
Caerphilly	91.7	88.9	90.1	89.2	86.7	84.1	79.5	71.7	55.6	30.0	5.5	3.0
Blaenau Gwent	91.0	90.0	87.4	87.3	82.8	84.1	80.1	65.7	48.2	24.5	4.3	3.0
Bridgend	88.5	87.9	89.7	88.8	87.7	86.2	83.7	76.7	62.0	35.7	8.2	3.7
Torfaen	92.0	92.6	92.2	89.0	88.6	86.4	82.8	75.3	58.0	31.9	7.0	4.1
Central Valleys	90.6	88.7	88.1	87.3	85.1	83.2	79.4	70.0	52.8	27.0	5.5	3.2
Greater Valleys	90.5	88.9	88.7	87.7	85.8	84.0	80.4	71.5	54.7	28.8	6.0	3.4
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	91.8	91.6	91.5	90.9	89.9	88.5	85.9	80.5	67.4	43.1	13.9	7.7
WALES	91.4	90.7	90.6	89.9	88.6	87.1	84.3	77.7	63.6	38.8	11.6	6.4

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.6 Female Economic Activity Rates by Age, Excluding Students, 2001 (%)

	16 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	30 to 34	35 to 39	40 to 44	45 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 to 64	65 to 69	70 to 74
Neath Port Talbot	76.3	70.1	68.3	64.3	66.7	69.4	67.7	54.5	38.1	15.0	4.1	2.2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	74.5	69.3	67.7	67.4	67.9	69.5	67.8	58.4	41.4	17.3	4.3	2.5
Merthyr Tydfil	73.9	65.6	64.9	64.4	68.3	66.0	62.4	52.4	34.4	13.4	2.4	2.6
Caerphilly	73.1	68.7	69.8	68.5	70.9	71.4	68.6	59.8	41.6	16.1	4.7	2.1
Blaenau Gwent	71.4	66.6	65.3	67.3	67.0	66.3	64.9	53.4	37.8	17.0	4.6	2.6
Bridgend	75.8	72.4	72.4	69.2	72.8	72.5	72.2	61.3	43.8	17.7	5.2	2.5
Torfaen	80.0	73.9	69.5	69.5	72.6	75.0	73.5	63.5	46.3	17.3	5.1	1.9
Central Valleys	74.1	68.7	67.9	66.8	68.4	69.3	67.2	56.9	39.8	16.2	4.2	2.4
Greater Valleys	74.9	69.7	68.8	67.5	69.5	70.4	68.6	58.2	41.1	16.5	4.5	2.3
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	78.1	76.1	75.1	72.9	74.5	76.7	75.5	67.9	51.4	23.8	8.2	3.8
WALES	77.0	74.0	73.1	71.2	73.0	74.8	73.4	65.0	48.3	21.7	7.0	3.4

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.7 People Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Occupation, 2001 (%)

	Managers and senior officials	Professional occupations	Associate professional and technical occupations	Administrative and secretarial occupations	Skilled trades occupations	Personal service occupations	Sales and customer service occupations	Process, plant and machine operatives	Elementary occupations
Neath Port Talbot	9.4	8.7	11.5	13.0	13.6	8.1	8.4	13.0	14.6
Rhondda Cynon Taff	10.5	8.6	12.4	12.6	12.6	7.6	7.6	13.1	15.0
Merthyr Tydfil	9.9	7.6	12.7	12.1	12.7	7.2	8.9	11.8	17.1
Caerphilly	10.9	8.4	11.6	13.2	13.0	6.3	7.5	13.9	15.3
Blaenau Gwent	8.9	5.7	10.3	9.9	12.7	8.3	7.6	17.9	18.8
Bridgend	12.0	8.9	13.7	10.8	12.7	7.9	8.3	12.4	13.3
Torfaen	11.1	8.5	11.7	12.3	12.7	7.1	8.1	13.6	15.0
Central Valleys	10.2	8.2	11.8	12.6	12.9	7.4	7.8	13.7	15.5
Greater Valleys	10.6	8.3	12.1	12.2	12.9	7.4	7.9	13.5	15.1
Wales	12.2	10.4	12.8	12.2	13.4	7.4	8.0	10.2	13.3
Co. Durham & Tees	10.9	8.2	11.9	12.0	12.9	7.6	9.9	12.6	14.0
West Cumbria	11.3	8.7	11.7	10.5	17.0	7.4	7.7	11.7	14.1
Merseyside	11.9	10.5	13.3	14.5	10.6	8.6	9.0	9.2	12.3
South Yorks	11.9	8.9	11.7	11.9	12.9	7.5	9.1	11.4	14.7
North Midlands	12.3	6.5	10.9	11.9	13.9	7.5	8.2	13.4	15.4

Source Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.8 Males Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Occupation, 2001 (%)

	Managers and senior officials	Professional occupations	Associate professional and technical occupations	Administrative and secretarial occupations	Skilled trades occupations	Personal service occupations	Sales and customer service occupations	Process, plant and machine operatives	Elementary occupations
Neath Port Talbot	10.9	9.5	11.2	5.4	22.9	2.3	3.4	20.0	14.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	12.4	9.2	11.9	5.7	21.4	2.6	3.6	18.5	14.6
Merthyr Tydfil	11.7	7.9	11.3	4.7	21.6	2.6	4.3	17.6	18.4
Caerphilly	13.4	8.7	11.2	5.2	21.9	1.9	3.2	19.3	15.3
Blaenau Gwent	9.8	5.9	9.4	3.7	21.0	2.1	3.0	25.4	19.8
Bridgend	15.0	9.5	13.6	3.8	21.3	2.5	3.6	17.8	12.9
Torfaen	13.3	9.1	11.4	4.5	21.4	1.7	3.3	20.2	15.1
Central Valleys	12.0	8.7	11.3	5.2	21.8	2.3	3.5	19.7	15.6
Greater Valleys	12.6	8.9	11.7	4.9	21.7	2.3	3.5	19.4	15.1
Wales	14.6	11.0	12.2	4.9	22.3	2.3	3.9	15.6	13.3

Source Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.9 Females Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Occupation, 2001 (%)

	Managers and senior officials	Professional occupations	Associate professional and technical occupations	Administrative and secretarial occupations	Skilled trades occupations	Personal service occupations	Sales and customer service occupations	Process, plant and machine operatives	Elementary occupations
Neath Port Talbot	7.6	7.7	11.9	22.2	2.3	15.1	14.5	4.5	14.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	8.2	7.9	12.9	20.8	2.2	13.4	12.3	6.8	15.5
Merthyr Tydfil	7.7	7.2	14.4	20.8	2.4	12.6	14.4	5.0	15.6
Caerphilly	8.0	7.9	12.0	22.7	2.6	11.6	12.5	7.5	15.2
Blaenau Gwent	7.9	5.3	11.5	17.1	2.9	15.6	13.1	9.0	17.7
Bridgend	8.4	8.2	13.8	19.1	2.4	14.4	14.0	5.9	13.9
Torfaen	8.5	7.8	12.1	21.3	2.4	13.5	13.6	5.8	15.0
Central Valleys	8.0	7.5	12.5	21.2	2.4	13.4	13.0	6.6	15.4
Greater Valleys	8.1	7.7	12.6	20.9	2.4	13.6	13.3	6.4	15.1
Wales	9.5	9.8	13.5	20.5	3.2	13.4	12.8	3.9	13.4

Source Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.10 People Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Occupation, 2001 (%)

	Managers and senior officials	Professional occupations	Associate professional and technical occupations	Administrative and secretarial occupations	Skilled trades occupations	Personal service occupations	Sales and customer service occupations	Process, plant and machine operatives	Elementary occupations
Sunderland	10.3	7.4	11.3	13.2	12.5	7.2	12.0	11.8	14.4
Derwentside	12.1	8.3	12.1	12.0	12.9	7.9	8.4	12.7	13.6
Easington	9.0	5.7	10.7	10.3	12.9	8.4	11.2	16.3	15.5
Sedgefield	10.9	7.1	11.7	10.9	13.4	7.3	7.7	16.5	14.7
Wear Valley	11.2	8.0	10.9	10.6	14.8	7.8	7.7	15.1	13.9
Redcar and Cleveland	10.1	9.2	12.3	11.6	14.1	8.3	8.9	11.7	13.9
Stockton-on-Tees	12.5	10.3	13.4	12.2	11.9	7.3	9.4	10.2	12.7
CO. DURHAM & TEES	10.9	8.2	11.9	12.0	12.9	7.6	9.9	12.6	14.0
Allerdale	12.7	8.6	10.1	10.1	16.7	7.1	7.8	12.9	14.1
Barrow-in-Furness	9.8	9.0	12.5	10.9	18.0	8.0	8.9	9.0	13.9
Copeland	10.7	8.5	13.1	10.6	16.4	7.2	6.5	12.6	14.3
WEST CUMBRIA	11.3	8.7	11.7	10.5	17.0	7.4	7.7	11.7	14.1
Knowsley	10.4	6.7	11.6	14.4	11.8	9.2	9.8	12.5	13.8
Liverpool	10.4	11.6	12.9	15.0	9.6	8.6	9.2	8.8	13.9
St. Helens	11.7	8.8	12.7	12.8	12.0	8.3	8.9	11.0	13.8
Sefton	13.8	10.6	14.0	15.7	10.4	8.5	9.5	7.2	10.3
Wirral	12.9	11.7	14.3	13.8	10.9	8.5	8.1	9.0	10.7
MERSEYSIDE	11.9	10.5	13.3	14.5	10.6	8.6	9.0	9.2	12.3
Barnsley	11.2	7.0	10.6	10.8	14.5	7.8	8.6	13.7	15.7
Doncaster	11.9	7.2	11.4	11.2	13.4	8.0	9.7	11.8	15.5
Rotherham	11.9	7.3	10.9	12.1	13.2	7.7	10.0	12.5	14.5
Sheffield	11.8	12.2	12.7	12.6	12.2	7.3	9.0	9.3	13.0
Wakefield	12.3	7.6	11.6	12.0	12.3	7.1	8.7	11.9	16.5
SOUTH YORKS	11.9	8.9	11.7	11.9	12.9	7.5	9.1	11.4	14.7
Bolsover	12.6	6.2	10.2	10.6	14.0	7.7	7.6	14.3	16.8
Chesterfield	13.2	8.2	12.2	13.1	12.2	7.8	7.9	11.3	14.2

Ashfield	11.6	5.4	9.9	11.8	15.1	6.9	8.3	15.5	15.5
Mansfield	11.9	6.2	11.2	11.7	14.1	8.0	9.0	12.6	15.3
NORTH MIDLANDS	12.3	6.5	10.9	11.9	13.9	7.5	8.2	13.4	15.4
CENTRAL VALLEYS	10.2	8.2	11.8	12.6	12.9	7.4	7.8	13.7	15.5
GREATER VALLEYS	10.6	8.3	12.1	12.2	12.9	7.4	7.9	13.5	15.1
WALES	12.2	10.4	12.8	12.2	13.4	7.4	8.0	10.2	13.3

Source: Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.11 People Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Industry of Employment, 2001 (%)

	Agriculture, hunting & forestry	Mining & quarrying	Manuf.	Electricity gas & water supply	Constr.	Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles	Hotels & catering	Transport, storage & comms.	Financial intermed- iation	Real estate, renting & business activities	Public admin. & defence	Education	Health & social work	Other
Neath Port Talbot	0.7	0.8	21.8	0.7	8.2	15.2	3.8	5.5	3.0	7.8	7.7	7.4	13.4	4.1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	0.5	0.5	22.9	1.1	8.6	15.1	3.9	4.9	3.1	7.1	6.5	7.9	13.4	4.6
Merthyr Tydfil	0.4	0.5	22.3	1.1	7.3	16.5	3.8	5.1	2.5	7.2	6.9	7.1	15.3	4.0
Caerphilly	0.6	0.2	26.5	1.0	7.0	15.2	3.8	5.2	3.8	8.2	7.4	7.0	10.2	3.8
Blaenau Gwent	0.8	0.2	32.6	0.4	5.6	15.0	3.6	4.6	1.9	6.4	5.3	5.9	13.5	4.2
Bridgend	0.7	0.4	23.9	0.9	7.5	16.0	4.7	4.8	2.3	7.7	6.9	7.0	13.1	4.2
Torfaen	0.8	0.1	24.7	0.9	7.1	16.3	4.0	5.3	2.9	8.0	7.3	6.8	11.7	4.3
Central Valleys	0.6	0.5	24.6	0.9	7.7	15.2	3.8	5.1	3.1	7.5	6.9	7.3	12.7	4.2
Greater Valleys	0.6	0.4	24.5	0.9	7.6	15.5	4.0	5.1	3.0	7.5	6.9	7.2	12.7	4.2
Wales	2.5	0.3	17.3	1.0	7.1	16.3	5.4	5.5	3.3	8.5	6.8	8.1	13.0	4.8
Co. Durham & Tees	0.8	0.7	20.6	1.1	7.4	16.6	4.6	6.8	2.9	8.2	6.6	7.6	12.0	4.2
W. Cumbria	3.0	0.4	24.8	1.8	8.1	15.0	6.7	4.6	1.5	7.4	5.0	6.4	11.1	4.11
Merseyside	0.6	0.1	13.2	0.6	6.4	16.9	4.6	7.2	4.6	10.0	7.6	8.8	14.5	5.0
South Yorks	0.8	0.7	17.3	0.8	8.0	18.9	4.7	6.6	3.5	9.2	5.4	7.9	12.2	4.1
North Midlands	1.0	1.1	22.1	0.8	8.0	18.6	4.4	6.5	2.2	8.5	4.9	6.2	11.9	4.0

Source Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.12 Males Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Industry of Employment, 2001 (%)

	Agriculture, hunting & forestry	Mining & quarrying	Manuf.	Electricity, gas & water supply	Constr.	Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles	Hotels & catering	Transport, storage & comms.	Financial intermediation	Real estate, renting & business activities	Public admin & defence	Education	Health & social work	C
Neath Port Talbot	1.1	1.4	32.4	1.0	13.9	12.3	2.3	7.4	1.7	8.4	6.4	3.8	4.3	
Rhondda, Cynon, Taff	0.8	0.9	30.9	1.4	15.0	13.3	2.1	6.7	2.3	7.3	6.1	4.3	4.9	
Merthyr Tydfil	0.6	0.8	31.9	1.5	13.0	15.1	2.1	6.5	1.9	7.0	6.6	4.1	5.4	
Caerphilly	0.8	0.4	35.5	1.3	12.0	14.1	2.3	7.2	2.4	7.8	6.4	3.6	3.1	
Blaenau Gwent	1.1	0.3	44.9	0.6	9.7	12.5	1.9	6.5	1.3	6.2	4.5	3.0	3.9	
Bridgend	1.0	0.7	32.4	1.2	12.7	13.5	3.1	6.6	1.7	8.1	6.8	3.6	4.7	
Torfaen	1.2	0.1	34.7	1.2	12.0	15.0	2.3	7.1	1.8	7.9	6.3	3.5	3.5	
Central Valleys	0.9	0.8	33.9	1.2	13.4	13.4	2.2	6.9	2.1	7.5	6.1	3.9	4.3	
Greater Valleys	0.9	0.7	33.8	1.2	13.0	13.6	2.4	6.9	2.0	7.7	6.2	3.8	4.2	
Wales	3.5	0.6	24.6	1.4	12.1	14.9	3.8	7.6	2.4	8.8	6.6	4.6	4.8	

Source Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.13 Females Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Industry of Employment, 2001 (%)

	Agriculture, hunting & forestry	Mining & quarrying	Manuf.	Electricity, gas & water supply	Constr.	Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles	Hotels & catering	Transport, storage & comms	Financial interme- diation	Real estate, renting & business activities	Public admin & defence	Education	Health & social work	Oth
Neath Port Talbot	0.3	0.1	9.1	0.3	1.3	18.6	5.6	3.2	4.5	7.1	9.2	11.7	24.3	4.9
Rhondda Cynon Taff	0.2	0.1	13.5	0.7	1.2	17.2	5.9	2.7	4.1	6.8	6.9	12.1	23.5	5.2
Merthyr Tydfil	0.2	0.0	11.2	0.6	0.7	18.2	5.8	3.3	3.2	7.5	7.2	10.6	26.9	4.5
Caerphilly	0.3	0.1	15.9	0.7	1.2	16.7	5.7	2.9	5.4	8.6	8.7	10.9	18.6	4.4
Blaenau Gwent	0.3	0.0	18.1	0.2	0.7	17.9	5.7	2.5	2.7	6.7	6.3	9.4	24.9	4.9
Bridgend	0.3	0.1	13.6	0.5	1.2	19.1	6.6	2.5	3.0	7.3	7.0	10.9	23.2	4.7
Torfaen	0.4	0.0	13.1	0.5	1.4	17.8	6.0	3.2	4.1	8.0	8.4	10.7	21.2	5.2
Central Valleys	0.3	0.1	13.5	0.5	1.1	17.5	5.8	2.9	4.3	7.4	7.8	11.3	22.7	4.9
Greater Valleys	0.3	0.1	13.5	0.5	1.2	17.8	5.9	2.9	4.1	7.4	7.7	11.2	22.7	4.9
Wales	1.3	0.1	9.0	0.6	1.2	17.9	7.2	3.1	4.3	8.1	7.1	12.3	22.5	5.4

Source Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

Table A3.14 People Aged 16-74 in Employment¹ by Industry of Employment, 2001 (%)

	Agriculture, hunting & forestry	Mining & quarrying	Manuf.	Electricity, gas & water supply	Constr.	Wholesale & retail trade, repair of motor vehicles	Hotels & catering	Transport, storage & comms	Financial intermedi- ation	Real estate, renting & business activities	Public admin & defence	Education	Health & social work	Other
Sunderland	0.4	0.4	18.6	1.3	6.9	17.9	4.7	7.4	3.8	8.0	6.8	7.6	11.8	4.4
Derwentside	1.3	0.3	20.5	0.7	6.9	15.9	4.6	6.6	2.6	7.8	7.8	7.5	13.4	4.1
Easington	1.0	0.6	24.9	1.4	6.5	15.2	4.0	8.5	2.4	6.3	6.4	6.5	12.3	3.9
Sedgefield	1.1	0.5	29.7	0.6	6.9	14.3	4.4	6.1	2.1	7.0	5.8	6.9	10.8	3.8
Wear Valley	2.2	0.9	22.4	0.5	9.6	15.0	4.4	5.6	1.9	6.6	6.6	7.6	12.6	4.2
Redcar and Cleveland	1.0	1.6	18.8	1.2	8.4	16.0	4.9	6.1	2.1	9.2	5.9	8.2	12.3	4.3
Stockton-on- Teess	0.6	0.6	17.9	1.2	7.7	17.6	4.5	6.4	3.1	9.9	6.5	8.2	11.9	4.1
CO. DURHAM & TEES	0.8	0.7	20.6	1.1	7.4	16.6	4.6	6.8	2.9	8.2	6.6	7.6	12.0	4.2
Allerdale	4.6	0.3	21.0	1.2	8.7	16.0	7.7	4.6	1.7	7.5	5.2	6.8	10.3	4.4
Barrow-in- Furness	0.9	0.4	28.0	1.3	6.2	16.2	6.0	5.2	1.6	6.4	5.0	6.1	12.6	4.1
Copeland	2.9	0.4	27.2	3.4	9.0	12.3	6.0	3.8	1.1	8.2	4.9	6.2	10.9	3.7
WEST CUMBRIA	3.0	0.4	24.8	1.8	8.1	15.0	6.7	4.6	1.5	7.4	5.0	6.4	11.1	4.11
Knowsley	0.6	0.1	15.1	0.7	7.4	17.2	4.2	9.0	4.1	8.9	6.8	7.0	14.0	5.1
Liverpool	0.3	0.1	10.6	0.4	6.0	15.7	5.4	7.7	4.9	10.2	7.5	10.2	15.3	5.6
St. Helens	0.7	0.1	17.5	1.0	7.3	18.6	4.1	7.3	3.0	9.0	5.8	7.9	13.4	4.4
Sefton	0.8	0.1	10.3	0.5	6.3	18.7	4.3	6.7	5.5	9.6	9.3	8.8	14.2	5.0
Wirral	0.6	0.2	15.6	0.6	6.3	15.6	4.2	6.0	4.5	11.4	7.4	8.5	14.4	4.8
MERSEYSID E	0.6	0.1	13.2	0.6	6.4	16.9	4.6	7.2	4.6	10.0	7.6	8.8	14.5	5.0
Barnsley	0.9	0.9	20.2	0.7	8.9	18.6	4.6	6.4	2.4	8.3	5.1	7.2	11.8	4.0
Doncaster	1.1	1.0	16.5	0.8	9.0	19.5	4.6	7.9	2.5	8.3	5.9	7.2	11.7	4.0
Rotherham	0.8	0.5	20.2	0.8	8.2	18.8	4.6	6.9	3.7	8.6	4.6	7.3	11.4	3.6
Sheffield	0.5	0.1	15.6	0.5	7.2	16.9	5.0	5.9	4.4	10.4	5.5	9.5	13.8	4.7

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Wakefield	0.8	1.2	16.7	1.1	7.5	21.7	4.5	6.8	3.5	8.9	5.8	6.7	10.9	4.0
SOUTH YORKS	0.8	0.7	17.3	0.8	8.0	18.9	4.7	6.6	3.5	9.2	5.4	7.9	12.2	4.1
Bolsover	1.4	1.7	23.3	0.6	7.6	18.7	4.8	6.2	2.1	7.6	4.4	6.2	11.6	3.9
Chesterfield	0.8	0.6	19.0	0.6	6.8	18.0	4.4	8.1	2.2	9.3	5.5	6.9	13.7	4.0
Ashfield	0.8	0.6	26.6	0.8	8.4	19.0	3.5	6.0	2.2	8.5	4.3	5.3	10.4	3.6
Mansfield	1.0	1.9	19.0	1.1	9.0	18.6	5.1	5.5	2.4	8.1	5.3	6.5	12.2	4.5
NORTH MIDLANDS	1.0	1.1	22.1	0.8	8.0	18.6	4.4	6.5	2.2	8.5	4.9	6.2	11.9	4.0
GREATER VALLEYS	2.5	0.4	24.5	0.9	7.6	15.5	4.0	5.1	3.0	7.5	6.9	7.2	12.7	4.2
CENTRAL VALLEYS	0.6	0.5	24.6	0.9	7.7	15.2	3.8	5.1	3.1	7.5	6.9	7.3	12.7	4.2
WALES	2.5	0.3	17.3	1.0	7.1	16.3	5.4	5.5	3.3	8.5	6.8	8.1	13.0	4.2

Source: Census 2001

¹ Includes employees and the self-employed

**Table A3.15 Claimant Count¹ Unemployment Rates²,
November 2003 (% of Working Age Population)**

	Males	Females	All
Derwentside	3.2	1.1	2.2
Easington	3.1	1.0	2.1
Redcar and Cleveland	5.7	1.5	3.7
Sedgefield	3.8	1.4	2.6
Stockton on Tees	5.6	1.6	3.7
Sunderland	4.9	1.6	3.3
Wear Valley	4.4	1.9	3.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	4.7	1.5	3.1
Allerdale	3.2	1.0	2.1
Barrow-in-Furness	4.3	1.1	2.8
Copeland	4.2	1.5	2.9
WEST CUMBRIA	3.8	1.2	2.6
Knowsley	6.1	1.8	4.0
Liverpool	7.8	2.2	5.0
Sefton	4.4	1.3	2.9
St Helens	4.1	1.4	2.8
Wirral	4.6	1.5	3.1
MERSEYSIDE	5.7	1.7	3.7
Barnsley	3.0	1.1	2.1
Doncaster	3.8	1.3	2.6
Rotherham	3.8	1.2	2.5
Sheffield	4.7	1.4	3.1
Wakefield	3.0	1.1	2.1
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	3.8	1.3	2.6
Ashfield	2.9	1.1	2.1
Bolsover	3.3	1.3	2.3
Chesterfield	4.4	1.6	3.0
Mansfield	3.3	1.2	2.3
NORTH MIDLANDS	3.5	1.3	2.4
CENTRAL VALLEYS	3.8	1.3	2.6
GREATER VALLEYS	3.6	1.3	2.5

Source: Jobcentre Plus administrative System

¹ Count of claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance

² Residence-based rates.

Table A3.16 Economically Inactive People, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working Age Population)

	Total inactive	Retired	Looking after home / family	Permanently Sick / dis.	Other
Derwentside	24.8	2.1	7.9	11.3	3.5
Easington	33.9	1.9	9.2	18.3	4.5
Redcar and Cleveland	27.1	3.6	9.4	10.2	3.9
Sedgefield	24.9	2.1	8.0	11.5	3.4
Stockton-on-Tees	22.9	2.5	8.6	7.8	4.0
Sunderland	25.8	1.8	8.4	11.7	3.9
Wear Valley	25.9	2.2	8.9	10.8	3.9
CO. DUR. & TEES	26.1	2.3	8.6	11.3	3.9
Allerdale	20.7	3.1	7.4	6.9	3.2
Barrow-in-Furness	27.0	2.8	8.5	12.1	3.6
Copeland	24.2	3.8	8.2	7.9	4.4
WEST CUMBRIA	23.7	3.2	8.0	8.8	3.7
Knowsley	30.5	1.7	9.8	13.3	5.6
Liverpool	31.1	1.9	9.4	13.5	6.2
St. Helens	25.5	2.8	7.8	11.2	3.7
Sefton	22.9	2.7	7.5	9.1	3.6
Wirral	24.3	2.8	8.2	9.7	3.5
MERSEYSIDE	27.0	2.4	8.6	11.4	4.7
Barnsley	27.2	2.6	8.9	11.7	4.0
Doncaster	25.3	2.6	9.3	9.2	4.2
Rotherham	23.6	2.6	8.9	8.4	3.6
Sheffield	20.8	2.2	7.8	7.1	3.8
Wakefield	23.4	2.6	7.8	9.1	3.8
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	23.5	2.5	8.4	8.8	3.9
Ashfield	22.7	2.7	8.7	7.9	3.4
Bolsover	26.4	2.6	9.4	10.6	3.7
Chesterfield	21.9	2.6	7.9	8.2	3.2
Mansfield	25.4	3.0	9.1	9.7	3.6
NORTH MIDLANDS	23.9	2.8	8.7	9.0	3.4
CENTRAL VALLEYS	30.5	2.7	8.4	14.6	4.8
GREATER VALLEYS	29.4	2.7	8.3	13.8	4.6

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.17 Economically Inactive Males, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working Age Population)

	Total inactive	Retired	Looking after home / family	Permanently Sick / Dis.	Other
Redcar and Cleveland	21.4	5.1	1.3	11.7	3.2
Stockton-on-Tees	17.4	3.3	1.3	8.9	3.9
Derwentside	20.4	2.8	1.6	13.1	2.9
Easington	29.4	2.7	2.0	21.0	3.7
Sedgefield	19.7	2.8	1.3	12.7	2.9
Wear Valley	20.1	3.0	1.7	12.3	3.1
Sunderland	21.1	2.4	1.6	13.7	3.3
CO. DURHAM & TEES	21.0	3.1	1.5	13.0	3.4
Allerdale	15.7	4.2	1.0	7.9	2.6
Barrow-in-Furness	22.1	4.1	1.5	13.4	3.1
Copeland	19.5	5.1	1.1	8.9	4.4
WEST CUMBRIA	18.8	4.4	1.2	9.9	3.3
Knowsley	24.7	2.7	2.3	15.1	4.6
Liverpool	26.0	2.8	2.1	15.4	5.7
St. Helens	21.2	3.9	1.5	12.6	3.2
Sefton	18.8	3.9	1.4	10.2	3.3
Wirral	19.6	4.1	1.3	11.1	3.0
MERSEYSIDE	22.2	3.4	1.7	12.9	4.1
Barnsley	22.1	3.5	1.6	13.6	3.4
Doncaster	19.9	3.5	1.6	10.7	4.1
Rotherham	18.2	3.6	1.7	10.0	3.0
Sheffield	15.8	3.0	1.4	8.1	3.3
Wakefield	18.6	3.5	1.3	10.6	3.2
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	18.4	3.3	1.5	10.1	3.4
Bolsover	21.2	3.6	1.7	12.6	3.3
Chesterfield	17.2	3.4	1.4	9.6	2.9
Ashfield	16.8	3.8	1.2	9.2	2.7
Mansfield	20.2	4.1	1.5	11.6	3.0
NORTH MIDLANDS	18.6	3.7	1.4	10.5	2.9
CENTRAL VALLEYS	25.0	3.6	1.7	15.8	3.9
GREATER VALLEYS	24.0	3.7	1.6	14.9	3.8

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.18 Economically Inactive Females, 2001 (% of Non-Student Working Age Population)

	Total Inactive	Retired	Looking after home / family	Permanently Sick / Dis.	Other
Redcar and Cleveland	33.2	2.1	18.0	8.5	4.6
Stockton-on-Tees	28.9	1.6	16.4	6.7	4.2
Derwentside	29.6	1.4	14.9	9.3	4.1
Easington	38.7	1.2	16.9	15.4	5.3
Sedgefield	30.5	1.4	15.1	10.2	3.9
Wear Valley	32.2	1.5	16.8	9.1	4.8
Sunderland	30.8	1.1	15.7	9.6	4.4
CO. DURHAM & TEES	31.5	1.4	16.2	9.5	4.4
Allerdale	26.2	1.9	14.6	5.8	3.9
Barrow-in-Furness	32.5	1.5	16.2	10.5	4.3
Copeland	29.6	2.2	16.4	6.6	4.3
WEST CUMBRIA	29.1	1.9	15.6	7.5	4.1
Knowsley	36.2	0.8	17.3	11.5	6.7
Liverpool	36.3	0.9	16.9	11.6	6.8
St. Helens	30.1	1.6	14.6	9.7	4.3
Sefton	27.1	1.5	13.8	8.0	3.8
Wirral	29.1	1.5	15.3	8.3	4.0
MERSEYSIDE	31.9	1.3	15.7	9.8	5.2
Barnsley	32.8	1.7	16.7	9.7	4.7
Doncaster	31.2	1.6	17.7	7.6	4.3
Rotherham	29.3	1.6	16.7	6.8	4.2
Sheffield	26.4	1.4	14.7	6.1	4.3
Wakefield	28.6	1.7	15.0	7.6	4.4
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	29.1	1.5	15.9	7.3	4.4
Bolsover	32.2	1.6	18.0	8.5	4.1
Chesterfield	27.0	1.8	14.9	6.7	3.6
Ashfield	29.1	1.6	16.9	6.6	4.1
Mansfield	31.0	1.9	17.2	7.8	4.2
NORTH MIDLANDS	29.6	1.7	16.6	7.3	4.0
CENTRAL VALLEYS	36.4	1.6	15.6	13.4	5.8
GREATER VALLEYS	35.3	1.7	15.5	12.7	5.5

Source: Census 2001

Table A3.19 Total Vacancies and Persons per Vacancy as notified to Jobcentre, September 2003

	Total Vacancies	Persons per Vacancy
Derwentside	435	118.6
Easington	476	117.4
Sedgefield	321	164.8
Wear Valley	169	217.2
Sunderland	556	211.3
Redcar and Cleveland	463	180.6
Stockton-on-Tees	665	167.1
CO. DURHAM & TEES	3085	183.1
Allerdale	406	137.9
Barrow-in-Furness	251	170.5
Copeland	351	120.2
WEST CUMBRIA	1008	139.9
Knowsley	491	185.1
Liverpool	1392	200.2
St. Helens	591	181.9
Sefton	764	213.7
Wirral	1544	117.6
MERSEYSIDE	4782	171.9
Barnsley	968	137.3
Doncaster	802	216.1
Rotherham	854	177.8
Sheffield	1468	217.3
Wakefield	1625	120.1
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	5717	170.1
Bolsover	344	127.6
Chesterfield	671	89.4
Mansfield	569	124.4
Ashfield	404	146.8
NORTH MIDLANDS	1988	117.7
CENTRAL VALLEYS	2648	150.2
GREATER VALLEYS	3775	140.3

Source: Jobcentre Plus

Inactivity Rates for 1991**Table A3.20 Economic Inactivity Rates 1991 – All Persons
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)**

	Total	Retired	Sick	Other
Neath Port Talbot	30.5	4.9	11.9	14.1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	29.9	4.5	12.3	13.5
Merthyr Tydfil	33	4.6	14.2	14.6
Caerphilly	29.8	4.5	11.5	14.2
Blaenau Gwent	31.9	4.7	12.8	14.6
Bridgend	27.0	4.4	9.6	13.4
Torfaen	26.2	4.6	9.0	13.0
Central Valleys	30.5	4.6	12.2	14.0
Greater Valleys	29.6	4.6	11.5	13.8
Rest of Wales (Ex GV)	24.8	4.5	6.7	13.6
Wales	26.0	4.6	8.3	13.7
Great Britain	18.6	1.9	4.7	12.1

Source: Census 1991

**Table A3.21 Economic Inactivity Rates 1991 – All Persons
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)**

	Total	Retired	Sick	Other
Derwentside	26.6	4.4	8.6	13.5
Wear Valley	26.9	4.4	8.0	14.5
Sedgefield	25.7	4.5	8.6	12.6
Easington	34.6	5.5	14.0	15.1
Sunderland	27.7	4.3	8.8	14.6
Redcar and Cleveland	27.3	4.2	7.4	15.7
Stockton-on-Tees	24.8	4.2	6.4	14.2
CO.DUR & TEES	27.5	4.4	8.6	14.5
Allerdale	22.3	4.7	5.0	12.7
Barrow-in-Furness	22.2	4.4	5.2	12.7
Copeland	22.9	4.7	4.9	13.3
WEST CUMBRIA	22.5	4.6	5.0	12.9
Knowsley	30.1	4.3	9.6	16.2
Liverpool	27.6	4.1	9.3	14.2
St Helens	25.5	4.8	8.2	12.6
Sefton	23.8	4.8	6.8	12.2
Wirral	24.1	4.6	6.3	13.2
MERSEYSIDE	26.0	4.5	8.0	13.6
Barnsley	28.4	5.5	8.4	14.5
Doncaster	27.9	5.1	7.1	15.7
Rotherham	25.2	4.5	6.3	14.4
Sheffield	21.6	4.3	5.3	12.0
Wakefield	24.3	5.2	5.9	13.2
SOUTH YORKS	24.9	4.8	6.4	13.7
Bolsover	27.9	6.5	6.1	15.3
Chesterfield	22.6	5.2	5.1	12.4
Mansfield	26.2	5.6	6.2	14.4
Ashfield	23.9	5.2	5.3	13.5
NORTH MIDLANDS	24.9	5.5	5.6	13.8
GREAT BRITAIN	18.6	1.9	4.7	12.1

Source: Census 1991

Table A3.22 Male Inactivity Rates 1991
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)

	Total	Retired	Sick	Other
Neath Port Talbot	18.8	4.0	14.4	0.4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	18.7	3.5	14.5	0.7
Merthyr Tydfil	20.8	3.4	16.6	0.8
Caerphilly	18.4	3.8	13.9	0.7
Blaenau Gwent	20.0	4.0	15.0	1.0
Bridgend	15.4	3.3	11.5	0.6
Torfaen	14.8	3.3	11	0.5
Greater Valleys	18.0	3.6	13.8	0.6
Central Valleys	19.0	3.7	14.6	0.7
Rest of Wales	12.6	3.3	8.4	0.9
Wales	14.0	3.4	10.1	0.5
Great Britain	9.1	2.6	5.6	0.9

Source: Census 1991

Table A3.23 Male Inactivity Rates 1991
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)

	Total	Retired	Sick	Other
Derwentside	15.3	3.2	10.7	1.4
Wear Valley	14.2	2.8	9.9	1.5
Sedgefield	14.0	2.6	10.3	1.1
Easington	23.9	4.5	17.0	2.4
Sunderland	15.3	2.8	11.2	1.3
Redcar and Cleveland	13.5	3.0	9.3	1.2
Stockton-on-Tees	11.6	2.8	7.9	0.9
CO.DUR & TEES	15.0	3.0	10.7	1.3
Allerdale	9.5	2.9	5.9	0.7
Barrow-in-Furness	8.8	2.7	5.4	0.7
Copeland	10.0	3.5	5.7	0.8
WEST CUMBRIA	9.5	3.0	5.7	0.8
Knowlsey	15.6	2.5	11.2	1.9
Liverpool	15.2	2.4	10.9	1.9
St. Helens	14	3.3	9.6	1.1
Sefton	12.4	3.0	8.2	1.2
Wirral	12.1	3.3	7.5	1.3
MERSEYSIDE	13.8	2.9	9.4	1.5
Bansley	16.8	5.1	10.5	1.2
Doncaster	14.6	4.4	8.9	1.3
Rotherham	12.8	3.7	8.0	1.1
Sheffield	10	2.6	6.3	1.1
Wakefield	14.7	4.1	7.3	3.3
SOUTH YORKS	13.2	3.7	7.8	1.7
Bolsover	16.1	6.8	8.1	1.2
Chesterfield	10.9	3.9	6.0	1.0
Mansfield	14.4	5.4	7.8	1.2
Ashfield	12.7	4.9	6.7	1.1
NORTH MIDLANDS	13.3	5.1	7.1	1.1
GREAT BRITAIN	9.1	2.6	5.6	0.9

Source: Census 1991

Table A3.24 Female Inactivity Rates 1991
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)

	Total	Retired	Sick	Other
Neath Port Talbot	37.2	1.5	9.4	26.3
Rhondda Cynon Taff	37.0	1.3	10.1	25.6
Merthyr Tydfil	40.8	1.4	11.8	27.6
Caerphilly	37.1	1.5	8.9	26.7
Blaenau Gwent	40.0	1.5	10.5	28.0
Bridgend	33.9	1.4	7.5	25.0
Torfaen	33.0	1.6	6.7	24.7
Central Valleys	37.7	1.4	9.8	26.5
Greater Valleys	36.7	1.4	9.2	26.1
Rest of Wales	31.7	1.4	5.0	26.0
Wales	33.3	1.4	6.3	25.6
Great Britain	29.0	1.1	3.7	24.2

Source: Census 1991

Table A3.25 Female Inactivity Rates 1991
(% of Non-student Working Age Population)

	Total	Retired	Sick	Other
Derwentside	32.7	1.1	6	25.6
Wear Valley	34.4	1.1	5.5	27.8
Sedgefield	32	1.3	6.4	24.2
Easington	40.4	1.5	10.4	28.5
Sunderland	35	1	6	28
Redcarand Cleveland	36.4	1.2	5.1	30
Stockton-on-Tees	33.1	1.2	6.4	24.2
CO.DUR & TEES	34.9	1.4	6.1	27.6
Allerdale	29.9	1.5	3.7	24.7
Barrow-in-Furness	31	1.2	4.7	25.1
Copeland	31.3	1.4	3.7	26.2
WEST CUMBRIA	30.7	1.4	4	25.3
Knowsley	39.3	0.9	7.6	30.8
Liverpool	35	0.8	7.2	27
St Helens	32.3	1.4	6.3	24.7
Sefton	29.5	1.2	5.1	23.1
Wirral	30.6	1.2	4.7	24.7
MERSEYSIDE	33	1.1	6.1	25.8
Barnsley	35.3	1.5	6	27.8
Doncaster	36.5	1.5	4.9	30.1
Rotherham	33.4	1.3	4.3	27.8
Sheffield	28.4	1.2	4	23.2
Wakefield	31.2	1.7	4.2	25.3
SOUTH YORKS	32.2	1.4	4.5	26.3
Bolsover	35.1	1.7	3.7	29.7
Chesterfield	29.1	1.4	3.9	23.9
Mansfield	33.7	1.5	4.2	27.9
Ashfield	31.2	1.3	3.5	26.3
NORTH MIDLANDS	32	1.5	3.8	26.7
GREAT BRITAIN	29	1.1	3.7	24.2

Source: Census 1991

A4 Education and Skills

Table A4.1 Highest Qualification of People aged 16 –74 (%)

	No quals	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4/5	Other / level unknown
Derwentside	36.1	17.9	18.7	6.0	14.0	7.4
Easington	44.1	17.7	17.2	4.9	9.1	7.1
Sedgefield	37.7	18.0	18.9	6.0	12.0	7.5
Wear Valley	39.8	17.0	17.6	5.4	13.0	7.2
Sunderland	36.9	18.2	18.6	6.8	12.0	7.5
Redcar & Cleveland	35.8	17.4	19.4	6.2	12.5	8.7
Stockton-on-Tees	31.4	18.0	20.7	6.9	15.2	7.9
CO. DURHAM & TEES	36.6	17.9	18.9	6.3	12.6	7.7
Allerdale	34.0	17.2	19.6	6.2	15.9	7.1
Barrow-in-Furness	32.8	19.4	20.3	6.6	13.0	7.9
Copeland	34.3	18.4	19.4	5.8	14.8	7.4
WEST CUMBRIA	33.7	18.2	19.8	6.2	14.7	7.4
Knowsley	43	16.8	17.9	5.9	9.9	6.6
Liverpool	37.8	14.5	16.4	10.5	15.2	5.6
St. Helens	35.4	17.2	19.6	6.1	14.1	7.6
Sefton	31.0	17.3	20.7	7.3	16.7	7.0
Wirral	29.4	16.9	21.4	7.3	17.7	7.3
MERSEYSIDE	34.8	16.2	19.0	8.0	15.4	6.7
Barnsley	41.1	18.0	16.7	5.4	11.1	7.8
Doncaster	38.1	18.6	18.5	5.4	11.8	7.5
Rotherham	36.8	19.2	18.8	5.5	11.5	8.2
Sheffield	32.0	15.9	16.0	10.4	18.8	6.9
Wakefield	39.1	17.9	16.8	5.6	12.5	8.2
SOUTH YORKS	36.5	17.6	17.1	7.1	14.1	7.6
Bolsover	41.4	18.6	17.4	4.9	9.9	7.8
Chesterfield	34.7	19.0	18.3	6.1	14.2	7.7
Mansfield	38.2	19.3	19.1	6.0	10.0	7.5
Ashfield	39.9	19.9	18.2	5.6	8.6	7.8
NORTH MIDLANDS	38.4	19.3	18.3	5.7	10.6	7.7
GREATER VALLEYS	39.7	16.1	18.4	5.3	12.9	7.6
CENTRAL VALLEYS	40.8	16.0	18.1	5.4	12.2	7.5

Source: Census 2001

Level 1: 1+ 'O' level passes, 1+ CSE/GCSE any grades, NVQ level 1, Foundation GNVQ

Level 2: 5+ 'O' level passes, 5+ GCSEs (grade 1), 5+ GCSEs (grades A-C), School Certificate, 1+'A' levels/ AS levels, NVQ level 2, Intermediate GNVQ

Level 3: 2+ 'A' levels, 4+ AS levels, Higher School Certificate, NVQ level 3, Advanced GNVQ

Level 4/5: First degree, Higher degree, NVQ levels 4 and 5, HNC, HND, Qualified Teacher status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor.

A5 Health**Table A5.1 Limiting Long-term Illness, 2001 (%)**

	All People	People of working age	Households with one or more sufferers
Derwentside	25.0	19.9	44.0
Wear Valley	24.7	19.4	43.6
Sedgefield	24.8	20.2	44.2
Easington	30.8	27.5	54.9
Sunderland	24.1	19.4	44.0
Redcar and Cleveland	23.3	18.4	43.0
Stockton-on-Tees	24.0	19.4	37.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	24.7	20.2	43.7
Allerdale	20.2	14.8	37.1
Barrow-in-Furness	24.8	21.2	45.1
Copeland	20.4	16.1	37.5
WEST CUMBRIA	21.7	17.1	39.7
Knowsley	24.7	21.5	46.7
Liverpool	24.6	20.8	44.4
St. Helens	23.6	19.5	43.8
Sefton	22.2	17.3	40.6
Wirral	22.5	17.9	40.7
MERSEYSIDE	23.5	19.3	42.9
Barnsley	25.3	21.1	45.2
Doncaster	22.9	18.4	42.1
Rotherham	22.4	17.4	41.4
Sheffield	20.6	14.8	37.6
Wakefield	22.4	17.9	40.7
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	22.3	17.3	40.7
Bolsover	25.8	20.7	45.6
Chesterfield	23.1	17.6	40.7
Mansfield	24.2	20.1	43.4
Ashfield	22.1	17.7	40.0
NORTH MIDLANDS	23.6	18.9	42.1
GREATER VALLEYS	27.1	22.6	48.8
CENTRAL VALLEYS	27.8	23.5	50.0

Source: Census 2001

Table A5.2 General Health, 2001 (% of People)

	Good	Fairly good	Not good
Derwentside	61.4	25.2	13.4
Wear Valley	61.7	25.3	13.0
Sedgefield	62.5	24.2	13.3
Easington	57.8	24.9	17.3
Sunderland	63.9	23.2	12.9
Redcar and Cleveland	63.4	24.5	12.1
Stockton-on-Tees	63.1	24.1	12.8
CO. DURHAM & TEES	62.6	24.2	13.3
Allerdale	66.6	23.3	10.1
Barrow-in-Furness	63.1	23.6	13.3
Copeland	66.7	22.9	10.3
WEST CUMBRIA	65.6	23.3	11.1
Knowsley	65.0	21.3	13.6
Liverpool	64.5	21.7	13.8
St. Helens	64.8	22.4	12.7
Sefton	67.0	21.7	11.3
Wirral	66.9	21.7	11.4
MERSEYSIDE	65.7	21.8	12.6
Barnsley	61.3	24.6	14.1
Doncaster	64.5	23.5	12.0
Rotherham	64.5	23.5	12.1
Sheffield	65.2	23.5	11.3
Wakefield	64.6	23.1	12.3
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	64.3	23.6	12.1
Bolsover	59.8	26.5	13.7
Chesterfield	62.4	25.5	12.2
Mansfield	62.7	24.9	12.3
Ashfield	63.1	25.4	11.5
NORTH MIDLANDS	62.2	25.5	12.3
GREATER VALLEYS	61.1	23.5	15.4
CENTRAL VALLEYS	60.5	23.6	15.9

Source Census 2001

Table A5.3 Standardised Mortality Ratios, 2002

	Persons	Males	Females
Neath Port Talbot	108	114	102
Rhondda Cynon Taff	116	118	113
Merthyr Tydfil	122	118	125
Caerphilly	112	114	110
Blaenau Gwent	120	124	117
Bridgend	112	106	118
Torfaen	108	103	113
WALES	105	104	105
ENGLAND & WALES	100	100	100
ENGLAND	99	99	99
CO. DURHAM & TEES			
Redcar and Cleveland	111	110	112
Stockton-on-Tees	106	103	109
Derwentside	110	106	114
Easington	119	123	115
Sedgefield	113	113	112
Sunderland	121	123	119
Wear Valley	112	110	114
WEST CUMBRIA			
Allerdale	107	103	112
Barrow-in-Furness	112	121	104
Copeland	111	109	113
MERSEYSIDE			
Knowsley	124	125	123
Liverpool	126	129	124
St Helens	115	120	110
Sefton	108	109	107
Wirral	104	104	104
SOUTH YORKSHIRE			
Barnsley	113	115	111
Doncaster	111	112	110
Rotherham	113	113	113
Sheffield	102	101	102
Wakefield	111	113	109
NORTH MIDLANDS			
Ashfield	117	118	116
Bolsover	114	117	110
Chesterfield	110	115	105
Mansfield	109	110	109

Source: ONS

SMRs are calculated as the number of actual deaths in each authority during 2002 as a percentage of deaths that would have been expected if the local populations had experienced the sex-and-age-specific mortality rates in England and Wales as a whole during that year

A6 Income and Deprivation**Table A6.1 Households with No Adults in Employment, 2001 (%)**

	Total	With dependent children	No dependent children
Derwentside	41.9	5.6	36.3
Easington	47.8	8.1	39.7
Sedgefield	41.6	5.9	35.6
Wear Valley	43.6	6.4	37.2
Sunderland	42.8	6.8	36.0
Redcar and Cleveland	44.3	7.0	37.3
Stockton-on-Tees	39.1	6.2	32.9
CO. DURHAM & TEES	42.7	6.6	36.1
Allerdale	39.4	4.3	35.1
Barrow-in-Furness	43.2	6.0	37.2
Copeland	40.8	5.4	35.4
WEST CUMBRIA	41.0	5.2	35.8
Knowsley	47.1	11.1	36.0
Liverpool	49.4	10.2	39.2
St. Helens	41.5	6.8	34.7
Sefton	42.4	5.7	36.7
Wirral	43.5	6.7	36.8
MERSEYSIDE	45.4	8.1	37.2
Barnsley	42.4	6.8	35.6
Doncaster	41.0	6.2	34.8
Rotherham	39.4	6.0	33.4
Sheffield	40.3	5.3	35.0
Wakefield	38.8	5.5	33.3
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	40.3	5.8	34.4
Bolsover	41.7	5.8	35.8
Chesterfield	40.8	5.0	35.8
Mansfield	41.7	6.8	34.9
Ashfield	38.1	5.6	32.5
NORTH MIDLANDS	40.4	5.8	34.6
GREATER VALLEYS	44.1	7.5	36.5
CENTRAL VALLEYS	45.0	7.9	37.1

Source: Census 2001

Table A6.2 Claimants of Working Age of key benefits by group¹ and Local Authority, May 2003 (%²)

	All	Unemployed	Sick & Disabled	Lone Parents	Other
Derwentside	20.0	2.7	14.1	2.3	0.9*
Easington	28.9	2.1	23.1	3.1	0.6*
Sedgefield	20.7	3.0	14.5	2.7	0.5*
Wear Valley	23.5	3.0	15.9	3.5	1.0*
Sunderland	21.6	3.6	14.2	3.2	0.6
Redcar and Cleveland	20.6	3.8	12.6	3.2	0.9
Stockton-on-Tees	17.8	3.8	10.5	2.9	0.6
CO. DUR. & TEES	21.3	3.3	14.2	3.0	0.7
Allerdale	15.2	2.5	9.8	2.1	0.7*
Barrow-in-Furness	22.4	3.0	16.8	1.9	0.6*
Copeland	17.4	3.5	11.3	2.2	0.4*
WEST CUMBRIA	18.0	3.0	12.4	2.1	0.6*
Knowsley	29.5	5.2	17.7	5.5	1.1
Liverpool	29.0	5.1	18.2	4.7	1.1
St. Helens	21.5	3.2	14.3	3.1	0.9
Sefton	18.1	3.0	11.6	2.8	0.7
Wirral	21.9	3.7	14.0	3.4	0.9
MERSEYSIDE	24.3	4.1	15.4	3.9	0.9
Barnsley	21.5	2.3	15.8	2.6	0.7
Doncaster	18.0	2.8	11.7	2.7	0.8
Rotherham	17.4	2.7	11.3	2.5	0.9
Sheffield	15.8	3.2	9.4	2.4	0.8
Wakefield	17.1	2.4	11.5	2.6	0.6
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	17.5	2.8	11.4	2.5	0.8
Bolsover	19.3	3.1	13.4	2.0	0.7*
Chesterfield	19.3	3.6	13.2	2.0	0.6*
Ashfield	16.3	2.4	11.4	2.0	0.5*
Mansfield	18.3	2.4	13.3	2.3	0.3*
NORTH MIDLANDS	18.1	2.8	12.7	2.1	0.5*
GREATER VALLEYS	24.8	2.5	18.6	3.1	0.6
CENTRAL VALLEYS	25.9	2.6	19.5	3.2	0.6

Source: Department of Work and Pensions

¹ Groups are:

- Unemployed: claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance
- Sick and Disabled: claimants of one or more of IB, SDA, DLA or IS with a disability premium
- Lone Parents: Single people with children on IS and not receiving a disability related premium
- Other: IS claimant not in any other group, e.g. carers, asylum seekers, pensioners (Minimum Income Guarantee)

² Percentage of the population of working age. Population figures are based on mid 2002 figures published by the Office of National Statistics.

* Figures are subject to a high degree of sampling error and should be used only as a guide to the current situation.

**Table A6.3 Number of Children and young adult dependants
of claimants of key benefits
May 2003**

Stockton-On-Tees	22.2
Derwentside	24.3
Easington	34.5
Sunderland	27.1
Wear Valley	27.4
Sedgefield	22.6
Redcar & Cleveland	25.5
CO. DURHAM & TEES	26.0
Allerdale	17.3
Barrow-In-Furness	23.0
Copeland	20.8
WEST CUMBRIA	20.2
Knowsley	38.1
Liverpool	39.2
Sefton	22.0
St Helens	23.6
Wirral	24.9
MERSEYSIDE	30.2
Barnsley	24.4
Doncaster	21.8
Rotherham	20.3
Sheffield	22.9
Wakefield	22.0
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	22.3
Chesterfield	18.4
Ashfield	16.7
Bolsover	24.6
Mansfield	19.0
NORTH MIDLANDS	19.2
GREATER VALLEYS	27.2
CENTRAL VALLEYS	29.0

Source: Department for Work and Pensions

A7 Housing

Table A7.1 Tenure Patterns (% of Households)

	Owner occupied: Owns outright	Owner occupied: Owns with a mortgage or loan	Owner occupied: Shared ownership	Rented from: Council (local authority)	Rented from: Housing Association / Registered Social Landlord	Rented from: Private landlord or letting agency	Rented from: Other
Derwentside	29.4	39.1	0.3	22.2	2.5	4.4	2.1
Easington	24.9	37.5	0.2	25.6	3.8	4.1	3.9
Sedgefield	23.5	40.9	0.3	26.4	3.2	4.0	1.7
Wear Valley	30.6	36.7	0.2	19.2	4.8	5.8	2.7
Sunderland	22.7	37.0	0.5	23.2	10.4	4.7	1.6
Redcar and Cleveland	30.1	39.0	0.5	19.6	3.4	5.5	1.9
Stockton-on-Tees	26.8	44.4	0.4	17.2	4.3	5.2	1.7
CO. DURHAM & TEES	26.1	39.3	0.4	21.7	5.7	4.8	2.0
Allerdale	33.9	35.2	0.5	3.3	17.4	6.3	3.5
Barrow-in-Furness	36.1	40.1	0.2	10.1	2.1	8.4	2.9
Copeland	29.9	37.6	0.3	14.0	9.1	5.6	3.5
W. CUMBRIA	33.4	37.4	0.4	8.5	10.3	6.7	3.3
Knowsley	22.0	38.6	1.2	24.9	6.7	3.8	3.0
Liverpool	21.0	31.1	0.6	17.4	14.9	12.4	2.8
St. Helens	30.7	37.8	0.6	18.9	5.0	3.9	3.1
Sefton	33.9	39.6	0.6	10.5	5.5	7.6	2.2
Wirral	31.3	41.0	0.6	10.9	5.7	8.1	2.4
MERSEYSIDE	27.4	36.8	0.7	15.5	8.7	8.4	2.7
Barnsley	28.2	35.5	0.5	23.6	2.1	6.5	3.6
Doncaster	29.5	39.9	0.3	19.1	1.9	5.8	3.7
Rotherham	26.4	38.7	0.3	23.2	3.2	5.0	3.3
Sheffield	24.4	35.2	0.6	26.5	3.8	7.6	1.9
Wakefield	26.1	38.5	0.6	25.7	2.2	5.0	1.9
SOUTH YORKSIRE	26.5	37.3	0.5	24.1	2.8	6.2	2.7
Bolsover	31.2	37.9	0.2	18.4	2.4	6.8	3.1
Chesterfield	29.1	36.5	0.5	23.6	2.8	5.6	1.9
Mansfield	31.9	37.7	0.4	16.5	4.4	6.3	3.0
Ashfield	32.4	40.1	0.4	16.5	2.3	5.4	2.9
NORTH MIDLANDS	31.2	38.1	0.4	18.8	3.0	5.9	2.7
GREATER VALLEYS	33.4	38.3	0.4	15.6	4.1	5.2	3.0
CENTRAL VALLEYS	34.0	37.3	0.3	15.4	4.3	5.5	3.1

Source: Census 2001

Table A7.2 Proportion of Domestic Properties^a by Council Tax Band, 2003

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	Median
Redcar & Cleveland	46	19	22	8	4	1	1	-	B
Southend-on-Sea	21	19	29	16	8	5	2	-	C
Derwentside	71	10	9	5	3	1	1	-	A
Easington	82	6	6	4	2	1	-	-	A
Sedgefield	69	11	9	7	3	1	-	-	A
Wear Valley	65	11	11	8	3	1	-	-	A
Sunderland	66	12	12	6	2	1	1	-	A
CO. DURHAM & TEES	57	14	15	8	4	2	1	-	A
Allerdale	50	16	15	11	6	2	1	-	A
Barrow-in-Furness	60	17	13	7	3	1	-	-	A
Copeland	60	13	12	9	5	1	-	-	A
WEST CUMBRIA	56	15	13	9	4	1	1	-	A
Knowsley	60	19	13	5	2	-	-	-	A
Liverpool	65	15	11	6	2	1	1	-	A
St Helens	47	20	19	8	4	2	1	-	B
St Helens	47	20	19	8	4	2	1	-	B
Wirral	41	21	19	9	6	3	2	-	B
MERSEYSIDE	53	18	15	7	3	2	1	-	A
Barnsley	63	15	10	7	3	1	1	-	A
Doncaster	62	17	10	6	3	1	1	-	A
Rotherham	57	19	12	7	3	1	1	-	A
Sheffield	61	15	12	6	4	2	1	-	A
Wakefield	55	18	14	8	4	1	1	-	A
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	60	16	12	7	3	1	1	-	A
Bolsover	64	15	11	6	2	1	-	-	A
Chesterfield	56	20	12	7	3	1	-	-	A
Ashfield	57	20	15	6	2	1	-	-	A
Mansfield	58	19	12	7	3	1	-	-	A
NORTH MIDLANDS	58	19	13	7	3	1	-	-	A
GREATER VALLEYS	33	31	16	10	7	3	1	-	B
CENTRAL VALLEYS	37	31	14	8	6	2	1	-	B

Source: *Welsh Local Government Finance Statistic*; *Office of the Deputy Prime Minister*

^a Percentage of chargeable dwellings i.e. excluding exemptions and before disabled reductions. May not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

^b The lowest band where at least 50 per cent of chargeable dwellings fall either within the band or below it.

A8 Commuting and Access to a Car**Table A8.1 Number of Cars and Vans Per Household (% of Households)**

	None	One	Two	Three	Four or more
Derwentside	33.4	43.4	19.2	3.2	0.9
Easington	37.0	44.7	15.2	2.5	0.6
Sedgefield	32.2	44.9	18.9	3.1	0.9
Wear Valley	32.4	43.0	20.2	3.3	1.2
Sunderland	39.9	42.0	15.2	2.4	0.6
Redcar and Cleveland	32.3	44.9	18.6	3.3	0.9
Stockton-on-Tees	29.6	43.3	22.4	3.8	0.9
CO. DURHAM & TEES	34.6	43.4	18.2	3.0	0.8
Allerdale	24.1	46.3	23.6	4.7	1.3
Barrow-in-Furness	33.5	49.1	14.6	2.3	0.6
Copeland	27.9	45.7	21.5	3.8	1.1
WEST CUMBRIA	28.1	47.0	20.2	3.7	1.0
Knowsley	41.8	40.9	14.8	2.1	0.5
Liverpool	48.3	38.2	11.4	1.7	0.5
St. Helens	30.5	43.3	21.5	3.8	0.9
Sefton	31	44.1	20.6	3.5	0.8
Wirral	30.3	44.3	20.8	3.6	0.9
MERSEYSIDE	37.6	41.8	17.1	2.8	0.7
Barnsley	32.2	43.9	19.9	3.2	0.9
Doncaster	30.7	44.8	20.4	3.3	0.9
Rotherham	29.7	44.0	21.7	3.6	1.0
Sheffield	35.7	42.8	17.9	2.8	0.8
Wakefield	30.6	44.6	20.7	3.3	0.8
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	32.4	43.9	19.8	3.2	0.9
Bolsover	27.5	44.7	22.7	4	1.1
Chesterfield	30.4	44.8	20.5	3.4	0.9
Mansfield	29.3	45.1	21.3	3.4	0.9
Ashfield	28.0	46.1	21.3	3.6	1.0
NORTH MIDLANDS	28.9	45.2	21.4	3.6	1.0
GREATER VALLEYS	30.1	45.7	19.9	3.5	0.8
CENTRAL VALLEYS	31.4	45.4	19.1	3.3	0.8

Source: Census 2001

A9 Business Activity

Table A9.1 Employees by Sector 2001 (%)

	Knowsley	Liverpool	St Helens	Sefton	Wirral	MERSEYSIDE	Barnsley	Doncaster	Rotherham	Sheffield	Wakefield	SOUTH YORKS	Sunderland	Derwentside	Easington	Sedgefield	Wear Valley	Redcar & Cleveland	Stockton on Tees	CO. DUR &
Agriculture, hunting, forestry & fishing	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.3
Mining and quarrying	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.3	2.2	0.4	0.4
Manufacturing	24.9	8.7	18.4	7.5	14.8	12.3	20.3	14.8	20.1	15.5	17.6	17.0	22.2	29.8	29.9	36.9	17.3	24.5	18.6	23.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.5	1.3	0.9
Construction	5.2	2.6	6.9	3.5	4.7	3.9	9.7	7.4	6.2	4.6	5.5	6.1	5.7	6.8	3.9	6.5	8.3	4.0	6.9	6.0
Wholesale/retail trade	14.4	16.6	22.4	22.2	19.7	18.7	15.7	19.4	17.7	18.7	21.7	18.9	17.3	12.8	12.1	12.3	17.5	13.3	15.9	15.3
Hotels and restaurants	5.6	6.9	6.5	6.5	5.8	6.4	4.9	4.3	5.6	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9	6.1	5.6	5.6	8.8	7.8	5.2	5.8
Transport, storage and communication	3.9	7.2	6.9	4.9	3.2	5.6	6.4	6.5	7.2	4.5	8.1	6.1	6.1	6.3	10.3	3.9	3.9	5.5	5.0	5.8
Financial intermediation	2.4	6.3	1.2	6.2	1.6	4.4	1.6	1.7	2.1	5.1	1.4	3.0	4.1	1.4	1.0	0.8	1.3	0.7	3.7	2.6
Real estate, renting, business activities	5.2	11.5	7.7	7.7	12.9	9.9	8.2	9.7	8.2	11.8	8.7	9.9	10.2	3.8	9.0	4.0	5.1	8.6	10.0	8.4
Public admin/defence	5.0	9.1	5.0	10.2	6.7	8.0	5.3	6.3	2.9	5.1	6.3	5.3	5.0	4.5	4.0	5.9	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.7
Education	9.9	9.7	8.8	9.6	9.9	9.7	8.8	9.8	11.2	9.6	8.4	9.5	7.8	10.1	10.4	9.4	11.0	9.7	8.3	8.9
Health & social work	17.9	15.1	10.8	16.7	15.3	15.3	13.0	13.6	13.0	13.8	11.4	13.1	11.3	13.1	9.4	10.0	15.4	13.5	9.1	11.2
Other ,community, social/personal	4.8	6.0	5.2	4.6	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.0	4.3	5.7	4.3	5.1	4.2	4.4	3.8	3.6	5.0	4.5	10.7	5.7
Total	100.	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Annual Business Inquiry

	Bolsover	Chesterfield	Ashfield	Mansfield	NORTH MIDLANDS	Allerdale	Barrow in Furness	Copeland	WEST CUMBRIA
Agriculture hunting, forestry & fishing	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	2.2	0.2	1.5	1.4
Mining and quarrying	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Manufacturing	26.5	17.0	34.1	15.5	22.8	23.6	28.0	32.8	27.9
Electricity, gas and water supply	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.3	0.7
Construction	4.7	4.1	5.9	7.1	5.4	3.9	2.5	4.2	3.6
Wholesale/retail trade	15.8	20.0	14.5	23.1	18.6	21.3	19.1	12.6	17.8
Hotels and restaurants	8.3	5.1	3.8	6.2	5.4	9.4	6.6	5.2	7.2
Transport, storage and communication	3.8	8.7	6.3	3.8	6.2	3.5	4.2	2.0	3.2
Financial intermediation	0.4	1.3	0.6	2.3	1.2	1.2	1.6	0.7	1.1
Real estate, renting, business activities	6.2	9.6	6.5	9.8	8.3	6.3	5.2	11.1	7.6
Public admin/defence	1.2	3.0	1.5	3.7	2.5	5.3	4.4	4.7	4.8
Education	15.0	9.9	6.2	9.9	9.5	7.8	9.2	7.4	8.1
Health & social work	11.4	17.5	16.7	11.6	15.1	10.7	14.1	12.5	12.3
Other community, social/personal	4.5	3.5	3.5	5.5	4.1	3.7	4.3	3.5	3.8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Annual Business Inquiry

Table A9.2 VAT-Registered Businesses

	Stock Rate 2003	Registration Rate 2002	Deregistration Rate 2002
Derwentside	202.7	8.8	7.8
Wear Valley	287.0	10.1	7.6
Sedgefield	224.5	10.2	7.5
Easington	149.9	8.5	8.1
Sunderland	168.9	11.4	11.1
Redcar and Cleveland	157.6	7.9	9.0
Stockton-on-Tees	206.6	9.2	10.4
CO.DUR & TEESIDE	188.9	9.7	9.4
Allerdale	410.7	7.2	7.1
Barrow-in-Furness	170.4	7.0	10.4
Copeland	261.7	6.5	6.5
WEST CUMBRIA	294.2	7	7.5
Knowsley	145.3	10.9	10.1
Liverpool	214.4	10.9	11.7
St Helens	206.5	9.5	8.9
Sefton	238.4	10.3	11.3
Wirral	213.7	9.6	10.4
MERSEYSIDE	210.8	10.3	10.8
Barnsley	239.5	10.3	10.6
Doncaster	233.5	9.6	7.9
Rotherham	224.9	10.8	9.5
Sheffield	258.5	10.0	10.9
Wakefield	249.9	11.4	9.2
SOUTH YORKS	244.4	10.4	9.8
Bolsover	238.7	10.2	9.1
Chesterfield	297.7	11.3	9.4
Mansfield	235.2	10.2	9.3
Ashfield	232.8	12.3	9.1
NORTH MIDLANDS	251.4	11.1	9.3
CENTRAL VALLEYS	190.2	9.5	9.3
GREATER VALLEYS	199.5	9.3	9.1

Source: Small Business Service

^a Number of VAT-registered businesses per 10,000 working age population.

^b As a percentage of the stock at the start of 2002.

A10 Crime**Table A10.1 Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police, Rate per 1000 population, April 2000 – March 2001.**

	Violence Against the Person	Sexual Offences	Robbery	Burglary from a Dwelling	Theft of a Motor Vehicle	Theft from a Motor Vehicle
Derwentside	9.7	0.5	0.2	3.1	4.9	6.6
Easington	6.8	0.4	0.2	5.8	4.9	6.2
Sedgefield	6.8	0.5	0.4	4.4	4.1	7.5
Wear Valley	15.1	0.2	0.3	7.3	6.2	8.3
Sunderland	10.6	0.6	0.9	10.4	9.2	10.4
Redcar and Cleveland	5	0.4	0.7	7.7	5.8	10.3
Stockton-on-Tees	4	0.3	1	9.6	5	12.2
CO. DURHAM & TEES	8	0.1	0.2	7.9	6.4	9.5
Allerdale	5.8	0.2	0.2	5	2.7	10.2
Barrow-in-Furness	14.4	0.6	0.2	3.2	1.4	4.7
Copeland	7.5	0.2	0.3	3.8	2.1	8.7
WEST CUMBRIA	8.9	0.3	0.2	4.1	2.1	9.3
Knowsley	8.8	0.6	1.4	6.9	13	9.3
Liverpool	15.6	0.8	3.2	11.8	17.1	14.9
St. Helens	10	0.9	0.9	9.3	10.8	9.6
Sefton	8	0.5	0.8	5.3	7	6.5
Wirral	9.9	0.7	1	8.7	7.4	7.3
MERSEYSIDE	11.3	0.7	1.7	8.9	11.5	10.1
Barnsley	6.5	0.4	0.4	10.5	6.6	10.7
Doncaster	7.6	0.6	0.9	12	6.7	12.6
Rotherham	4.9	0.4	0.4	9.9	6.1	11.4
Sheffield	5.8	0.5	1.8	11.9	7.4	16
Wakefield	7.5	0.7	0.5	10.22	5.5	14.4
SOUTH YORKS	6.4	0.6	1	11.4	6.6	13.6
Bolsover	9.1	0.4	0.4	5.8	5.1	14.8
Chesterfield	10.8	0.7	0.7	6	4.9	11.5
Mansfield	13.8	0.7	0.7	10.1	6	16.4
Ashfield	10.2	0.6	0.7	11.5	5.7	11.4
NORTH MIDLANDS	11.1	0.6	0.7	13.8	5.5	13.3

Source: The Home Office