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Industrial sector of workers by size of Built Up Area, 2011

Introduction

This bulletin analyses Welsh Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) level data from Census of Population 2011 to see if the shares of workers in various industrial sectors changes according to the size of Built Up Area that the workers live in. Workers include people aged from 16 to 74 who are either in employment or self employed. Each worker is allocated to their main industrial sector.

LSOA are a part of the standard geographies for National Statistics. There are 1,909 LSOA in Wales with an average population of around 1,600 people in each.

The analysis uses a way of allocating LSOAs to the published Built Up Areas in Wales using a 'best fit' methodology. The look-up tool between the published Built Up Areas and the LSOA has been published alongside a separately released statistical article "Best fit of Lower Super Output Areas to Built Up Areas, 2011". The purpose of this bulletin is to show how that classification can be used, to encourage users to make use of the LSOA/Built Up Areas look-up and to provide feedback on how useful it is for analysis and whether it should be extended and improved.

The analysis in this paper uses Contiguous Built Up Areas. These are used instead of the Wider Built Up Areas which can be made up of a set of Contiguous Built Up Areas where the individual areas are separated by less than 200 metres. All terms relating to types of areas and the distinction between the Contiguous and Wider Built Up Areas are explained in the "Best fit of Lower Super Output Areas to Built Up Areas, 2011" article.

Links to documentation for the Built Up Areas and to the Statistical Article are given in the "references" section

Highlights

Based on 2011 Census data:

- Across Wales employment patterns are mixed. Single sectors do not tend to dominate employment in an area. No LSOA in Wales has most of its workers in a single sector. There are 10 (out of 1,909) where at least 30 per cent of the workers are in a single sector.
- The largest four sectors in Wales - retail, health, manufacturing and education - account for over half of the workers in Wales.

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- These sectors tend to be the largest sectors in LSOA of all the various Built Up Area size groups (although there is considerable variation between individual LSOA).
- Overall the agriculture sector accounts for less than 2 per cent of the total workers in Wales. For the smallest Built Up Areas in the sparsest context this rises to just under 10 per cent.
- There are 37 LSOA in Wales where agriculture is the largest single sector. All are in the smallest Built Up Area size group, with 2 in the less sparse context and the rest in the sparsest. The largest share of agricultural workers in an LSOA is just over 27 per cent

Sources

Data for the number of workers are taken from the Census of Population, 2011. Results for the number of workers and their industrial sector are taken from the published 2011 Census: Key Statistics table KS605.

The published table defines a worker as somebody aged between 16 and 74 who is either in employment or self employed. The industrial sector is for a person's main employment.

The Census is used for these analyses because the results are available at LSOA level to allow us to investigate the local detail.

Built Up Area classification

The ONS published an Output Area classification of Built Up Areas for use with the Census. A best fit for the Built Up Areas to LSOA has now been published for Wales, and this is used in the following analysis. See References for links to published classification and articles explaining methodology.

The Built Up Areas are derived from Ordnance Survey digital mapping data. They identify areas of connected "built land" i.e. land on which man-made buildings or structures exist. This gives a reasonable set of Built Up Areas with consistent definitions and a reproducible methodology. However, it does not necessarily give areas that function as separate settlements or which local people would necessarily recognise as separate.

For the purposes of this paper each LSOA is classified according to the size of Built Up Area it is part of. The following size groups are used:

- Largest – at least 100,000 people
- Large – 25,000 to 99,999 people
- Medium – 10,000 to 24,999 people
- Small – 2,000 to 9,999 people
- Smallest – Under 2,000 people

The "smallest" group includes areas of dispersed settlement with no named Built Up Area.

Using the National Statistics rural-urban classification we can split Wales in the Sparsest and Less Sparse contexts. If we combine the Built Up Areas with the context this gives a way to look not just at settlement size but also a proxy for dispersion or accessibility. For brevity in the charts and tables, the two contexts will be shown as

- (L) – Less sparse Context
- (S) – Sparsest Context

Table 1 shows the distribution of people and land in Wales by the joint classification. The summary classification combines categories where there are relatively few people. It is the summary classification that will be used in further analysis.

Table 1

People and land in Wales by Built Up Area size and context, 2011

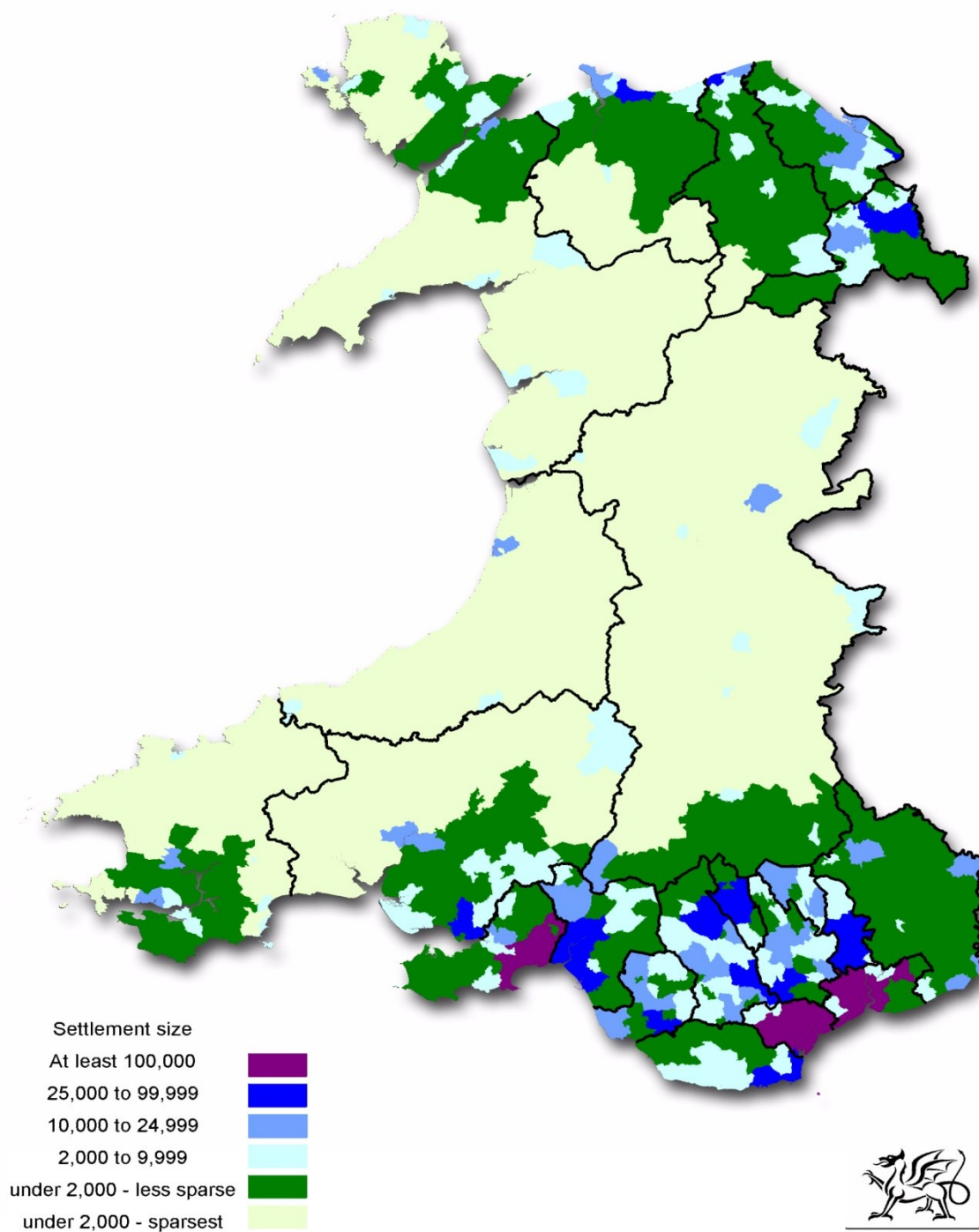
BUA size and context	People (‘000)	Land (sq km)	Share of Wales	
			People	Land
Full set of categories				
Largest (L)	645	316	21.1%	1.5%
Large (L)	606	538	19.8%	2.6%
Medium (L)	527	704	17.2%	3.4%
Medium (S)	57	92	1.9%	0.4%
Small (L)	557	1,427	18.2%	6.9%
Small (S)	90	492	3.0%	2.4%
Smallest (L)	307	5,330	10.0%	25.7%
Smallest (S)	273	11,837	8.9%	57.1%
Total	3,063	20,735	100.0%	100.0%
Summary categories				
Largest	645	316	21.1%	1.5%
Large	606	538	19.8%	2.6%
Medium	584	795	19.1%	3.8%
Small	648	1,920	21.1%	9.3%
Smallest (L)	307	5,330	10.0%	25.7%
Smallest (S)	273	11,837	8.9%	57.1%
Total	3,063	20,735	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Census 2011 with LSOA best fit to Contiguous Built Up Areas

Map 1 shows the summary categories across Wales. The map is included partly to help visualise the categories. Mostly, however, it is to show the problems with such maps. What we see is how the *land area* of Wales is dominated by the Smallest Built Up Areas. It is very hard to see the distribution of the people from such a map. In Map 1 the classification is called the “extended” because it uses both the Built Up Areas and the context from the rural-urban classification.

Map 1

Extended best fit to Contiguous Built Up Areas by size band



Source: Knowledge and Analytical Services

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Cartographics, FCS

Industrial sectors in Wales

The industrial sectors used in this bulletin are based on those published by ONS in the key statistics from Census of Population 2011. In the Census people aged between 16 and 74 who are either employed or self employed are allocated to an industrial sector based on the information on their employment that they provided. People with more than one job are allocated to their main sector.

The industrial sectors refer to the industry in which a person works – rather than to the specific job they do. For example, an accountant working for a building company would be in the construction sector rather than finance.

A few sectors from the ONS set with relatively few workers have been combined for simplicity.

- Mining and quarrying - included in manufacturing
- Electricity, gas and water (supply, sewerage and waste) - combined
- Real estate – included in finance

Note that published results for the agriculture sector includes people working in fishing and forestry.

Table 2 shows a summary for the industrial sectors used in this bulletin. The table shows the number of workers in each sector, and the share of the Wales total. It also counts the number of LSOA where a particular sector is the largest employer.

Table 2

Summary industrial sectors in Wales, 2011

Sector	Workers		Largest sector	
	('000)	Share	Number	Share
Retail	213	15.6%	820	43.0%
Health	197	14.5%	542	28.4%
Manufacturing	147	10.8%	333	17.4%
Education	138	10.1%	136	7.1%
Construction	111	8.2%	9	0.5%
Public Admin	108	7.9%	22	1.2%
Hotel & Catering	85	6.2%	37	1.9%
Finance	59	4.3%	0	0.0%
Professional	59	4.3%	4	0.2%
Administrative	54	4.0%	0	0.0%
Transport	53	3.9%	0	0.0%
Info & Comms	31	2.3%	0	0.0%
Agriculture	23	1.7%	37	1.9%
Power & Water	23	1.7%	1	0.1%
Others	62	4.5%	0	0.0%
Total	1,364	100.0%	1,941	101.7%

Source: Census of Population, 2011

Note that an LSOA can have more than one sector as its maximum (in which case those sectors must have exactly the same number of workers). In the 2011 data there are 30 LSOA with two largest sectors and one with three. The share of LSOA is taken out of the true total of 1,909 LSOA (and so the total adds to more than 100%).

The table shows how diverse employment is in Wales. The largest single sector is retail and this accounts for less than 16 per cent of all workers. This is the largest sector in just over 40 per cent of Welsh LSOA.

Overall just over half the workers in Wales are in the retail, health, manufacturing or education sectors. A large majority of the LSOA in Wales have one of these four sectors as their largest employer.

Given the small size of the agriculture sector it is somewhat surprising to see that it is the largest sector in 37 out of 1,909 LSOA in Wales. Further analysis of the agricultural sector can be found later in the bulletin.

Table 3 shows the distribution of LSOA by the share of workers in the largest sector.

Table 3

LSOA by the share of workers in the largest sector in the LSOA, 2011

Max share	LSOA	Share
Under 11%	0	0.0%
11% but under 12%	5	0.3%
12% but under 13%	32	1.7%
13% but under 14%	76	4.0%
14% but under 15%	144	7.5%
15% but under 16%	230	12.0%
16% but under 17%	298	15.6%
17% but under 18%	257	13.5%
18% but under 19%	217	11.4%
19% but under 20%	203	10.6%
20% but under 21%	117	6.1%
21% but under 22%	102	5.3%
22% but under 23%	79	4.1%
23% but under 24%	50	2.6%
24% but under 25%	25	1.3%
25% but under 26%	25	1.3%
26% but under 27%	19	1.0%
27% but under 28%	10	0.5%
28% but under 29%	6	0.3%
29% but under 30%	4	0.2%
30% but under 50%	10	0.5%
Total	1,909	100.0%

Source: Census of Population, 2011

The key finding from this is how low the share in the largest sector typically is. A largest sector having at least 20 percent of all workers living in the LSOA is relatively rare, with only 10 LSOA

in Wales at 30 per cent or above. Using the size bands of a single percentage point is a deliberate step to emphasise how narrow the range is.

This does not mean that there is no clustering in particular industries. However, the historic patterns of areas being dominated by a single industry are not detectable in the 2011 data.

Table 4 considers the distribution of the share of workers in each of the sectors across all LSOA in Wales. For each of the sectors the table shows

- Minimum – the lowest share seen over all 1,909 LSOA in Wales
- Low – the share below which 10 per cent of the LSOA in Wales fall
- Median – the share below which half the LSOA in Wales fall
- High – the share above which 10 per cent of the LSOA in Wales fall
- Maximum – the highest share seen over all 1,909 LSOA in Wales
- Average – Wales average share

Table 4

Range of share of total workers by industrial sector, 2011

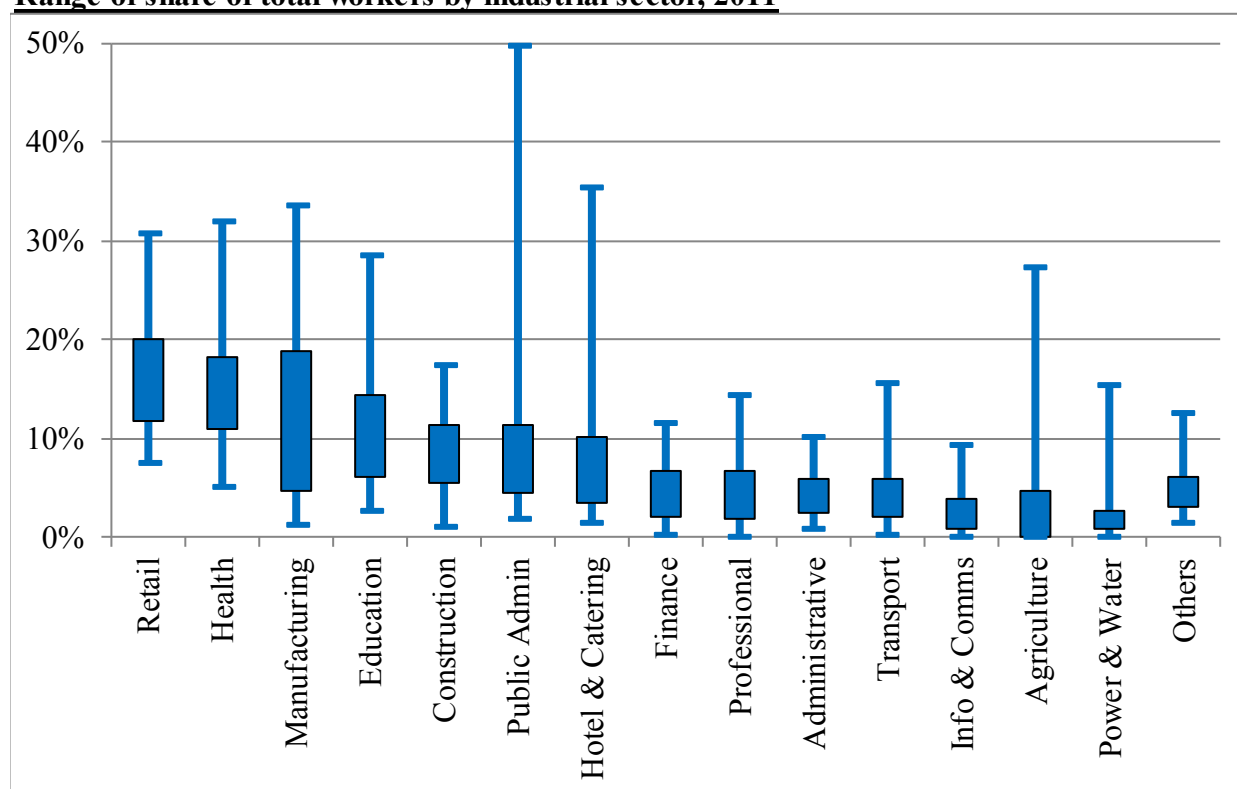
	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Average</u>
Retail	7.4%	11.7%	15.4%	20.1%	30.9%	15.6%
Health	5.0%	11.0%	14.4%	18.3%	32.1%	14.5%
Manufacturing	1.3%	4.7%	9.9%	18.8%	33.5%	10.8%
Education	2.7%	6.1%	9.5%	14.4%	28.5%	10.1%
Construction	1.0%	5.5%	8.2%	11.3%	17.5%	8.2%
Public Admin	1.8%	4.5%	7.5%	11.3%	49.8%	7.9%
Hotel & Catering	1.5%	3.4%	5.4%	10.1%	35.4%	6.2%
Finance	0.2%	2.0%	3.9%	6.8%	11.5%	4.3%
Professional	0.0%	2.0%	3.7%	6.8%	14.5%	4.3%
Administrative	0.8%	2.5%	3.9%	5.9%	10.2%	4.0%
Transport	0.2%	2.2%	3.9%	5.8%	15.6%	3.9%
Info & Comms	0.0%	0.9%	2.0%	3.9%	9.3%	2.3%
Agriculture	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	4.6%	27.4%	1.7%
Power & Water	0.0%	0.8%	1.6%	2.8%	15.4%	1.7%
Others	1.4%	3.1%	4.4%	6.1%	12.6%	4.5%

Source: Census of Population, 2011

These results can also be visualised in chart 1

Chart 1

Range of share of total workers by industrial sector, 2011



Source: Census of Population, 2011

In the chart the vertical lines run from the minimum to the maximum share. The central box contains 80 per cent of the share values, with 10 per cent below the box and 10 per cent above. The box itself runs between the “Low” and “High” values in Table 4.

Generally the central box, with 80 per cent of the LSOA is relatively tight. Most of the observations are close together. Manufacturing stands out for the range of values in this central range. However, for all sectors here can be a lot of variation in the highest values. The only exception to this is manufacturing sector, where there seems to be more variation.

It may be useful to consider the location of some of the high shares in a single sector. For example, the largest value for “public administration” is just below 50 per cent. This happens in the LSOA that contains St Athans RAF base Also the highest value for “hotel and catering” can be found in Llandudno.

Table 5 shows the distribution a different way. Instead of the relative categories in Table 4 the absolute shares of workers in a sector are used.

Table 5

LSOA by sector and the share of workers in a sector

LSOA by sector and the share of workers in a sector							
	Share of workers in an LSOA in the named sector						
		5% to	10% to	15% to	20% to	25% to	
Sector	Under 5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	50%	Total
Number							
Retail	0	50	783	873	183	20	1,909
Health	0	96	1,021	703	72	17	1,909
Manufacturing	217	751	512	297	106	26	1,909
Education	47	1,026	688	129	17	2	1,909
Construction	137	1,344	412	16	0	0	1,909
Public Admin	296	1,249	344	14	1	5	1,909
Hotel & Catering	793	923	137	34	19	3	1,909
Finance	1,329	571	9	0	0	0	1,909
Professional	1,410	457	42	0	0	0	1,909
Administrative	1,495	411	3	0	0	0	1,909
Transport	1,488	412	7	2	0	0	1,909
Info & Comms	1,840	69	0	0	0	0	1,909
Agriculture	1,730	88	58	27	5	1	1,909
Power & Water	1,897	10	1	1	0	0	1,909
Others	1,319	588	2	0	0	0	1,909
Share							
Retail	none	2.6%	41.0%	45.7%	9.6%	1.0%	100.0%
Health	none	5.0%	53.5%	36.8%	3.8%	0.9%	100.0%
Manufacturing	11.4%	39.3%	26.8%	15.6%	5.6%	1.4%	100.0%
Education	2.5%	53.7%	36.0%	6.8%	0.9%	0.1%	100.0%
Construction	7.2%	70.4%	21.6%	0.8%	none	none	100.0%
Public Admin	15.5%	65.4%	18.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.3%	100.0%
Hotel & Catering	41.5%	48.3%	7.2%	1.8%	1.0%	0.2%	100.0%
Finance	69.6%	29.9%	0.5%	none	none	none	100.0%
Professional	73.9%	23.9%	2.2%	none	none	none	100.0%
Administrative	78.3%	21.5%	0.2%	none	none	none	100.0%
Transport	77.9%	21.6%	0.4%	0.1%	none	none	100.0%
Info & Comms	96.4%	3.6%	none	none	none	none	100.0%
Agriculture	90.6%	4.6%	3.0%	1.4%	0.3%	0.1%	100.0%
Power & Water	99.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.1%	none	none	100.0%
Others	69.1%	30.8%	0.1%	none	none	none	100.0%

Source: Census of Population, 2011

The chart and table show that it is relatively rare for an LSOA to have at least 10 per cent of its workers in any of the sectors outside the largest four (Retail, Health, Manufacturing or Education). This may be a useful rule of thumb for thinking about which sectors are “significant” in an area.

Industrial sectors by size of Built Up Area

Having established the distributions across the whole of Wales, the next step is to see what the similarities and differences are between the various Built Up Area size groups.

Table 6 shows the number of workers in each sector across the size groups with Chart 2 showing the information graphically. In Chart 2 the Wales average share of workers in a sector is shown in the lighter coloured bars so that it can be compared with the share for the individual Built Up Area size groups. Thus the lighter coloured bars show the same values across all the individual charts.

The overall impression of this is that the Built Up Areas have quite similar shares of the various industrial sectors. There are differences between the groups, but these tend to be quite subtle, a percentage point difference here and there.

The main exception is, unsurprisingly, agriculture in the smallest Built Up Areas. In the smallest Built Up Areas in the sparsest context agriculture accounts for nearly 10 per cent of all workers compared to a Wales average of under 2 per cent. However, even in this size group agriculture is the fifth largest industrial sector – behind retail, health, education and construction.

Notice the contrast for agriculture with the smallest Built Up Areas in the less sparse context. While the share in agriculture is higher than the Welsh average, it is still below 4 per cent.

Also an exception is the share of workers in manufacturing for the largest Built Up Areas and for the smallest in the sparsest context. Both are around 7 per cent compared to a Wales average of 10 per cent.

Table 6

Workers by sector and size of Contiguous Built Up Area

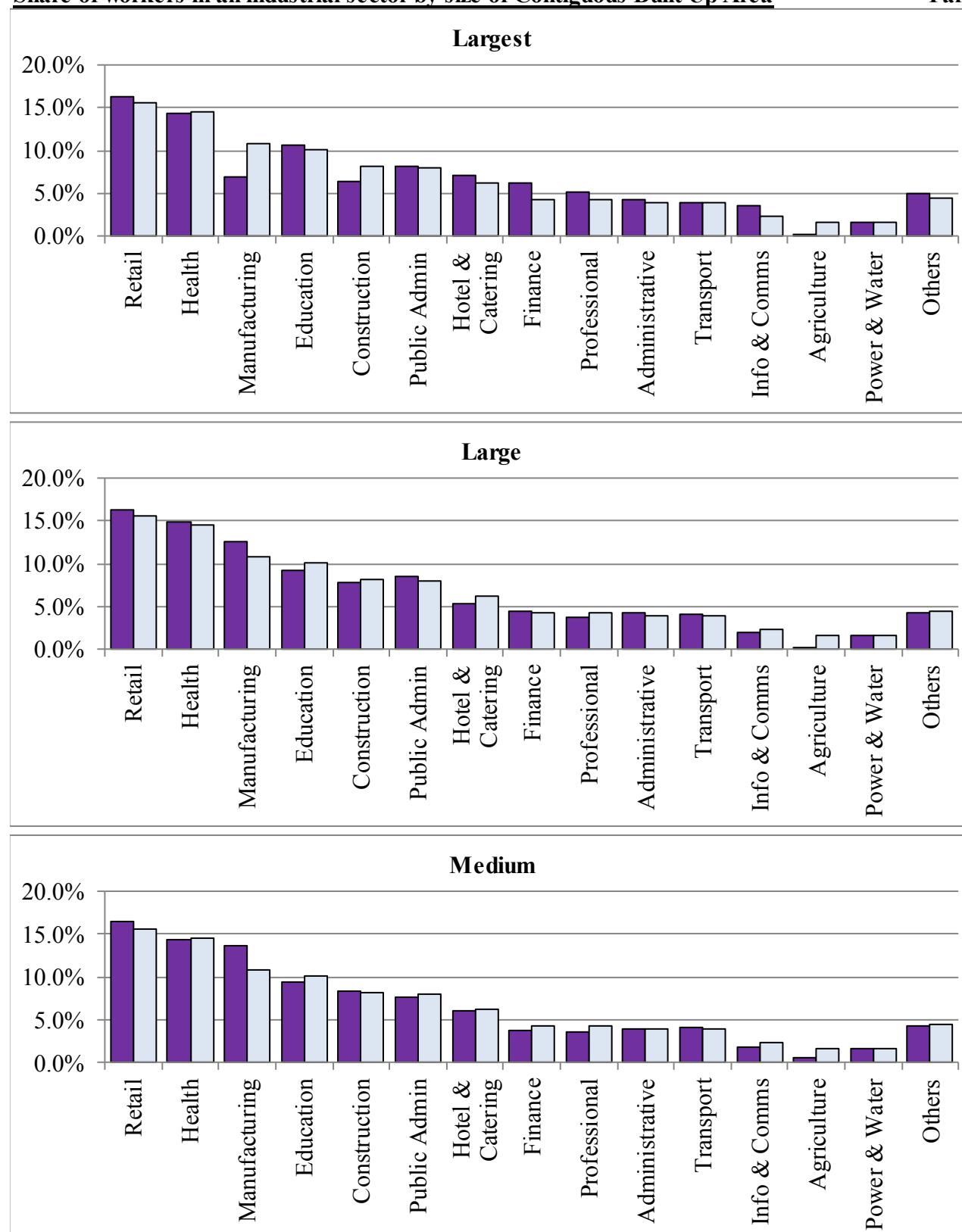
	<u>Largest</u>	<u>Large</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Small</u>	<u>Smallest (L)</u>	<u>Smallest (S)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Workers ('000)							
Retail	46.5	43.5	41.8	43.2	19.5	18.0	212.6
Health	41.3	40.0	36.5	42.4	20.7	16.4	197.2
Manufacturing	19.7	33.5	34.5	34.9	15.2	9.1	146.9
Education	30.5	24.9	23.9	28.6	16.0	14.0	137.9
Construction	18.1	21.1	21.0	25.4	12.8	12.9	111.3
Public Admin	23.3	22.8	19.1	23.2	11.3	8.2	108.2
Hotel & Catering	20.5	14.5	15.5	16.9	8.1	9.5	84.9
Finance	17.7	12.2	9.6	10.8	5.2	3.1	58.7
Professional	15.0	10.1	9.0	11.3	7.5	5.7	58.6
Administrative	12.3	11.6	10.2	10.8	5.2	4.3	54.4
Transport	11.2	11.1	10.4	11.3	4.9	4.4	53.2
Info & Comms	10.1	5.6	4.5	5.4	3.2	2.2	31.0
Agriculture	0.4	0.7	1.4	2.7	5.6	12.7	23.5
Power & Water	4.8	4.5	4.4	5.2	2.2	2.1	23.3
Others	14.2	11.5	10.9	12.4	6.5	6.5	62.0
Total	285.5	267.7	252.7	284.6	144.1	129.0	1,363.6
Share of BUA category							
Retail	16.3%	16.2%	16.6%	15.2%	13.5%	14.0%	15.6%
Health	14.5%	14.9%	14.4%	14.9%	14.3%	12.7%	14.5%
Manufacturing	6.9%	12.5%	13.6%	12.3%	10.5%	7.1%	10.8%
Education	10.7%	9.3%	9.5%	10.0%	11.1%	10.8%	10.1%
Construction	6.3%	7.9%	8.3%	8.9%	8.9%	10.0%	8.2%
Public Admin	8.2%	8.5%	7.6%	8.2%	7.9%	6.4%	7.9%
Hotel & Catering	7.2%	5.4%	6.1%	5.9%	5.6%	7.3%	6.2%
Finance	6.2%	4.6%	3.8%	3.8%	3.6%	2.4%	4.3%
Professional	5.3%	3.8%	3.6%	4.0%	5.2%	4.4%	4.3%
Administrative	4.3%	4.3%	4.0%	3.8%	3.6%	3.3%	4.0%
Transport	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	3.4%	3.4%	3.9%
Info & Comms	3.5%	2.1%	1.8%	1.9%	2.3%	1.7%	2.3%
Agriculture	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%	1.0%	3.9%	9.8%	1.7%
Power & Water	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Others	5.0%	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%	4.5%	5.0%	4.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Census of Population, 2011

Chart 2

Share of workers in an industrial sector by size of Contiguous Built Up Area

Part 1

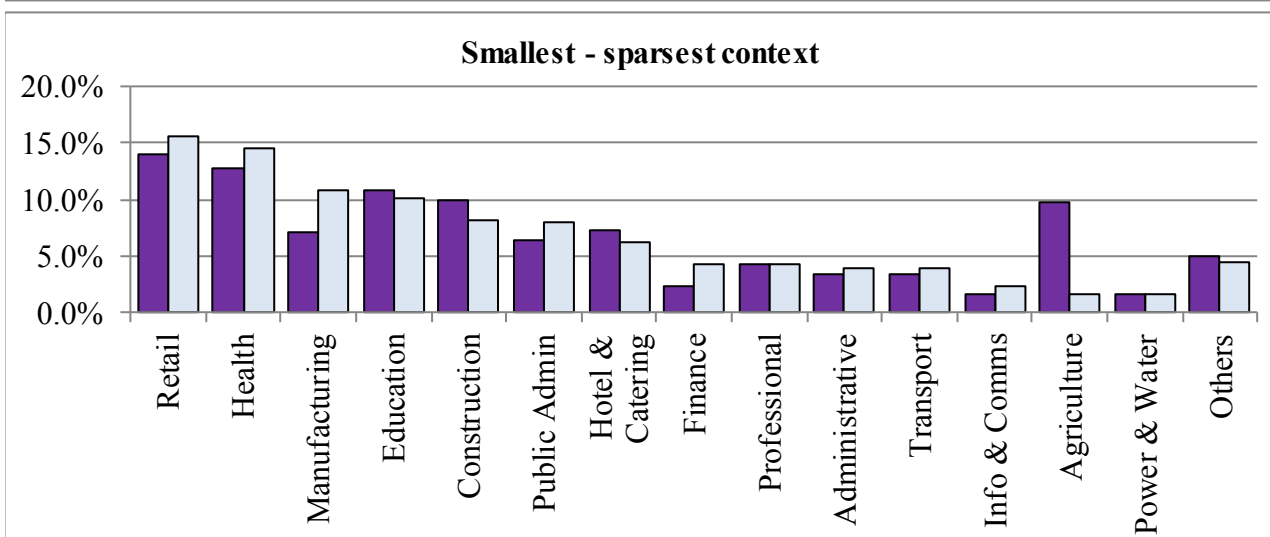
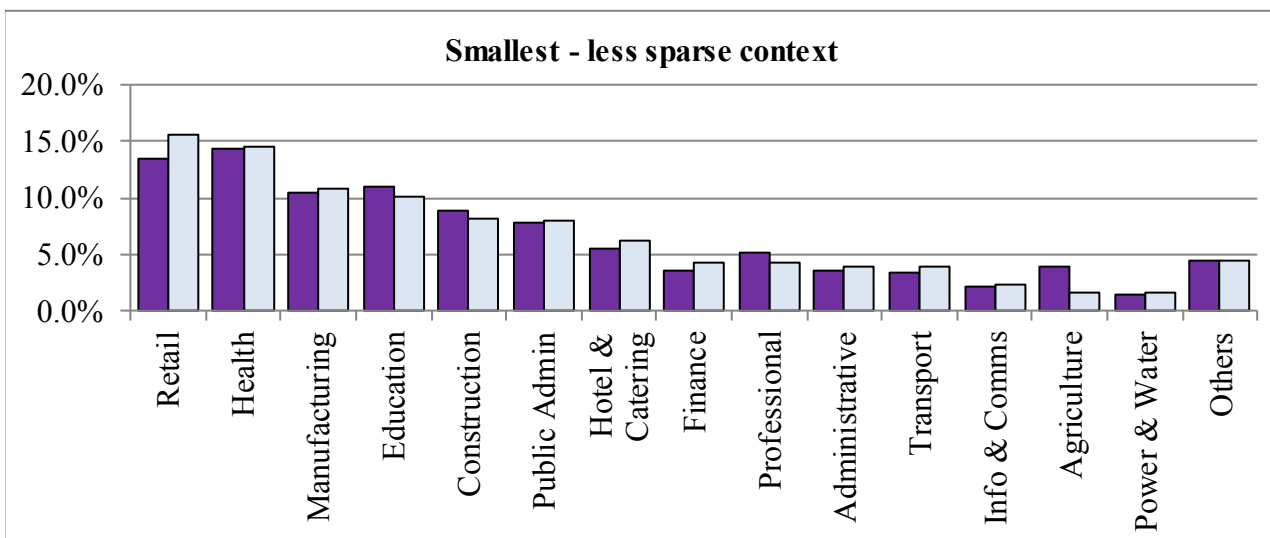
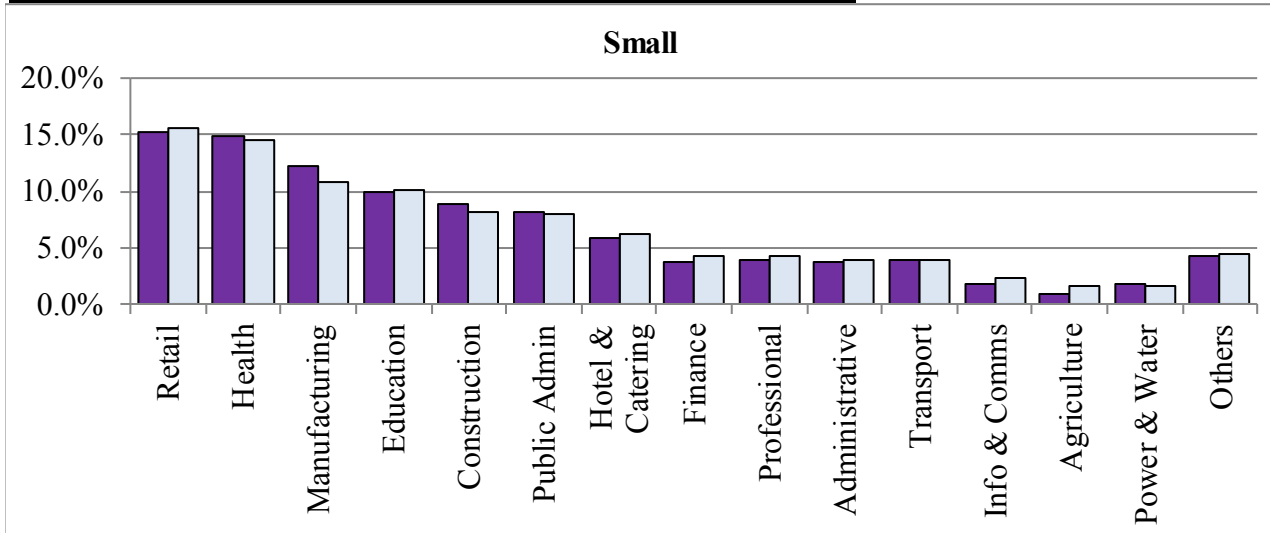


Source: Census of Population, 2011

Dark coloured bars are for the individual size group, light bars for the Wales average

Share of workers in an industrial sector by size of Built Up Area

Part 2



Source: Census of Population, 2011

Dark coloured bars are for the individual size group, light bars for the Wales average

To explore the comparison between the Built Up Area size groups further, Table 7 considers the four largest industrial sectors in Wales. It shows the share of LSOA in a size group according to the share of workers in the selected sector.

Table 7

Share of LSOA in a size group by share of workers in a sector

Share of ESOA in a size group by share of workers in a sector							
Sector and Built Up Area size group	Share of workers in sector						Total =100%
	Under 5%	5% to 10%	10% to 15%	15% to 20%	20% to 25%	25% to 50%	
Retail							
Largest	none	4.5%	33.3%	38.8%	21.1%	2.2%	402
Large	none	0.5%	33.2%	56.1%	9.4%	0.8%	385
Medium	none	0.6%	34.5%	52.2%	11.0%	1.7%	362
Small	none	1.2%	43.3%	50.5%	4.7%	0.2%	404
Smallest (L)	none	7.0%	64.7%	26.7%	1.6%	none	187
Smallest (S)	none	5.9%	59.2%	34.3%	none	0.6%	169
Total	none	2.6%	41.0%	45.7%	9.6%	1.0%	1,909
Health							
Largest	none	6.0%	51.5%	39.1%	2.2%	1.2%	402
Large	none	3.6%	47.3%	43.4%	5.2%	0.5%	385
Medium	none	7.2%	50.6%	36.2%	5.0%	1.1%	362
Small	none	4.2%	50.5%	39.4%	4.7%	1.2%	404
Smallest (L)	none	2.7%	57.8%	36.4%	2.7%	0.5%	187
Smallest (S)	none	5.9%	81.1%	12.4%	0.6%	none	169
Total	none	5.0%	53.5%	36.8%	3.8%	0.9%	1,909
Manufacturing							
Largest	23.9%	60.7%	15.2%	0.2%	none	none	402
Large	4.7%	23.4%	43.4%	22.1%	5.5%	1.0%	385
Medium	11.6%	16.9%	29.0%	26.0%	13.0%	3.6%	362
Small	5.4%	34.2%	30.2%	21.0%	7.4%	1.7%	404
Smallest (L)	5.3%	51.3%	22.5%	16.6%	3.2%	1.1%	187
Smallest (S)	17.2%	72.2%	8.9%	0.6%	1.2%	none	169
Total	11.4%	39.3%	26.8%	15.6%	5.6%	1.4%	1,909
Education							
Largest	3.7%	48.8%	30.8%	14.7%	2.0%	none	402
Large	3.4%	62.6%	31.2%	2.9%	none	none	385
Medium	2.2%	66.3%	25.4%	4.7%	1.1%	0.3%	362
Small	2.5%	53.2%	38.1%	5.9%	none	0.2%	404
Smallest (L)	none	35.3%	58.8%	5.3%	0.5%	none	187
Smallest (S)	0.6%	40.2%	52.1%	4.7%	2.4%	none	169
Total	2.5%	53.7%	36.0%	6.8%	0.9%	0.1%	1,909

Source: Census of Population, 2011

The table shows that the four largest sectors are key employers in all the various BUA size groups. Within the size groups the distribution of workers is not uniform and could lead to

some interesting questions in local areas. However, the similarities between the groups are more striking than the differences.

Distribution of agriculture sector workers in Wales

This section examines the agriculture sector in more detail to test the claim that agriculture is the most important employer in rural areas.

Table 8 shows the distribution of agricultural workers across the full set of size groups. The table is in a similar form to Table 4, adding in the number of agricultural workers in the size group and the share that this is of the total workers in the size group ("rate").

Table 8

Distribution of agricultural sector workers by Built Up Area classification, 2011

	Share of workers in agricultural sector					Agricultural wokers	
	Min	Low 10%	Median	High 10%	Max	('000)	Rate
Largest	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	3.4%	371	0.1%
Large	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.6%	3.7%	718	0.3%
Medium (L)	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	1.0%	4.0%	1,064	0.5%
Medium (S)	0.2%	0.5%	1.1%	2.2%	5.6%	328	1.4%
Small (L)	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	1.6%	5.4%	1,764	0.7%
Small (S)	0.0%	0.9%	1.9%	4.6%	12.5%	957	2.4%
Smallest (L)	0.0%	0.3%	2.5%	9.5%	16.0%	5,636	3.9%
Smallest (S)	0.7%	3.0%	8.6%	16.5%	27.4%	12,659	9.8%
Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	4.6%	27.4%	23,497	1.7%

Source: Census of Population, 2011

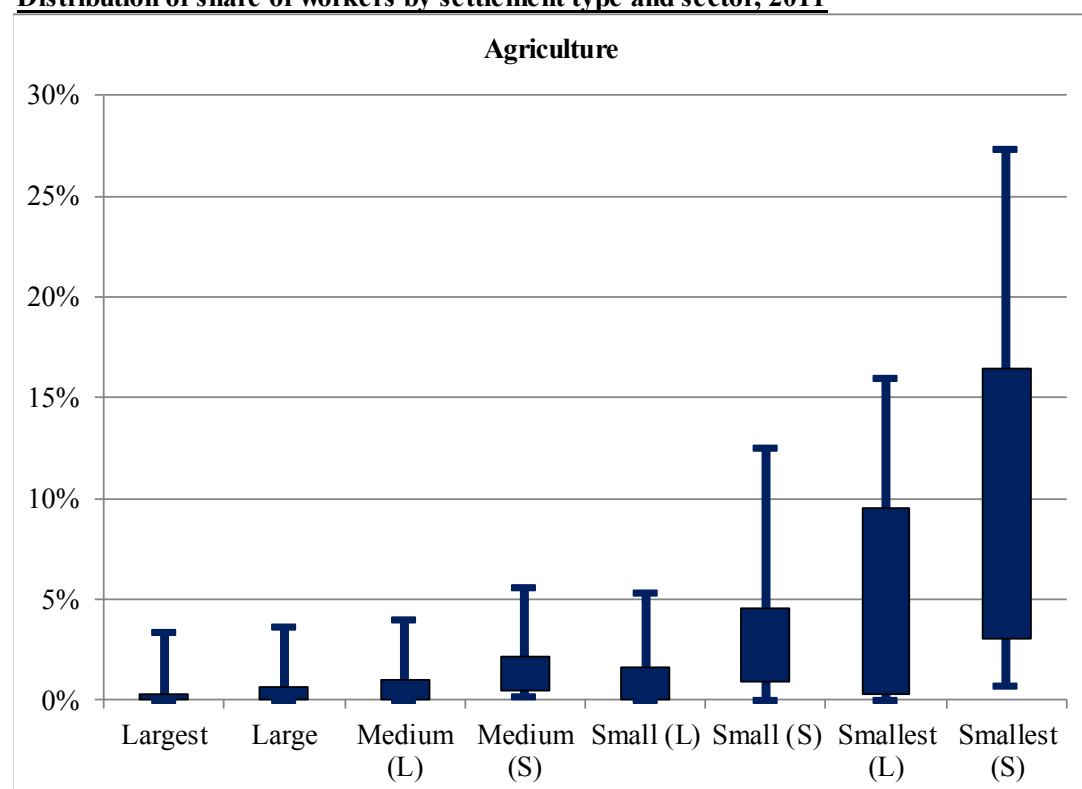
All zeros in the table are actual zeros (and not rounded to zero at 1 decimal place)

"Rate" shows the number of agricultural workers as a share of all workers

The results are also shown in chart 3.

Chart 3

Distribution of share of workers by settlement type and sector, 2011



Source: Census of Population, 2011

As we would expect, the share of workers in the agriculture sector is much higher in the smallest Built Up Areas than elsewhere. Also it is higher in the sparsest than the less sparse context.

In the smallest Built Up Areas in the sparsest context the average share of workers in agriculture is just under 10 per cent. In these areas 10 per cent of LSOA have less than 3 per cent agricultural workers and 10 per cent have more than 16.5 per cent. More than half the LSOA in this category have less than 9 per cent of their workers in the agriculture sector.

These results do not support the idea that agriculture “dominates” employment in these rural areas. However, the significance of the small numbers should not be over played. Agriculture is an important employer in the smallest Built Up Areas in the sparsest context. From Table 3 we can see that any sector that employs around 10 per cent of the workers living in an LSOA is significant in that area.

Feedback and further information

We would welcome comments and constructive criticism of this analysis and the Built Up Area best fit look-up tool. We would be also be interested in what users see the classification being used for and what they see as its strengths and weaknesses.

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029 2082 6822

References

Built Up Areas documentation

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/beginner-s-guide/census/built-up-areas---built-up-area-sub-divisions/index.html>

Statistical Article on the best fit of LSOA to Built Up Areas

<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/best-fit-lower-super-output-areas-to-built-up-areas/?lang=en>

National Statistics rural-urban classification

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/products/area-classifications/2011-rural-urban/index.html>



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<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>