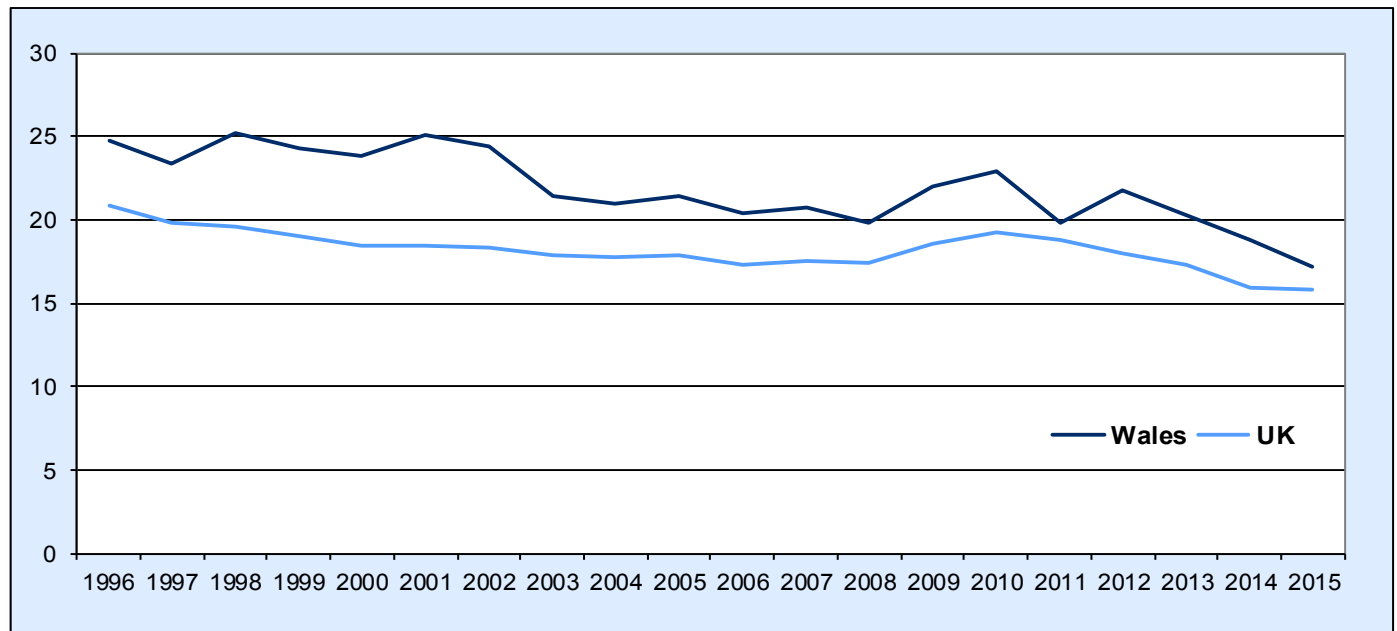


## Labour Market Statistics for Households, 2014

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a household survey that collects information on the labour market. The primary use of the survey is to provide person-level statistics. However, by collecting information about each member of participating households, the LFS also provides family and household level statistics that describe the economic status of household members. Since 2001 the LFS has been boosted in Wales to provide a sample of about 18,000 households annually and this is called the Annual Population Survey (APS). Data are available at a household level from this survey for the years 2004 to 2014 and due to the larger sample than the LFS; data can be obtained at a local authority level. Estimates at the Wales level are also less volatile than those from the LFS.

As APS data are only available from 2004 to 2014, quarterly LFS data are still used for time series analyses for Wales prior to 2004 and for 2015. Chart 1 shows the trend in the percentage of workless households between 1996 and 2015.

**Chart 1: Percentage of households that are workless, 1996-2015**



Source: Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 1996-2015

- Between 1996 and 2001 the gap between Wales and the UK increased, followed by a sharp fall and halving of the gap between 2002 and 2008.
- Over the global recessionary period of the late 2000s, the percentage of workless households increased in both Wales and the UK. The increase in Wales was larger than the UK average. However, since 2010 the percentage has fallen overall to its lowest level in both Wales and the UK in 2015.

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Whilst the remaining tables concentrate on local authority estimates from the APS, Chart 2 is based on the LFS to provide a longer time series. Generally, the APS tables look at percentages to allow representative comparisons between areas to be made; however, 2014 levels are also included.

A comparison between LFS and APS estimates is provided in the Notes section, under key quality information and coherence.

## Section 1: Workless households

A workless household is defined as a household where none of the adults aged 16 to 64 are in employment. It includes households where all adults are unemployed, those where all adults are economically inactive, and those containing both unemployed and economically inactive adults.

**Table 1: Percentage of households that are workless, by local authority, 2005-2014(r)**

Local Authority	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2014 number
Isle of Anglesey	23.0	25.9	21.1	20.9	21.1	20.9	20.1	18.9	19.4	19.7	4,100
Gwynedd	18.9	18.8	18.8	20.5	22.3	20.7	21.7	21.2	20.0	20.7	7,500
Conwy	18.9	18.9	18.6	20.1	21.9	20.7	21.1	18.0	17.9	19.7	6,300
Denbighshire	17.0	19.7	21.4	21.5	23.7	24.9	20.5	21.8	19.9	20.1	5,400
Flintshire	14.2	15.1	16.1	13.9	13.6	16.4	17.5	17.1	16.6	17.3	8,000
Wrexham	19.3	19.0	16.4	16.1	16.5	18.5	18.3	17.0	15.2	18.6	8,000
Powys	19.0	17.7	17.1	17.4	20.2	20.6	19.5	18.9	15.8	15.3	6,100
Ceredigion	23.6	23.7	23.2	20.9	20.5	16.9	20.1	22.7	21.4	21.6	4,800
Pembrokeshire	21.7	20.5	21.2	19.5	21.8	25.2	21.4	21.3	20.9	18.4	6,400
Carmarthenshire	22.2	22.4	21.2	21.3	23.5	21.8	21.1	22.6	21.8	20.3	11,200
Swansea	22.0	21.0	22.8	25.3	26.8	26.7	26.5	25.9	22.6	18.2	14,100
Neath Port Talbot	28.1	27.4	27.8	25.8	30.1	29.6	28.5	25.3	21.9	21.6	10,000
Bridgend	22.3	23.2	21.4	21.8	22.3	22.9	20.6	22.3	20.4	20.1	8,900
The Vale of Glamorgan	19.2	15.6	18.3	17.2	19.7	18.9	17.2	17.6	17.6	16.3	6,100
Rhondda Cynon Taf	24.1	20.8	22.8	24.5	26.1	25.7	28.4	26.8	24.1	22.2	16,700
Merthyr Tydfil	32.6	29.8	28.0	25.4	28.6	29.8	30.4	24.8	23.7	22.1	4,300
Caerphilly	26.3	23.0	24.6	25.0	26.4	24.7	24.1	21.0	19.9	23.9	13,900
Blaenau Gwent	29.4	27.8	25.7	26.5	31.7	28.8	31.8	28.8	30.1	23.5	5,300
Torfaen	22.6	24.2	24.0	24.5	26.7	23.0	22.9	21.6	22.9	22.0	6,300
Monmouthshire	15.3	15.0	15.9	15.4	15.4	16.4	16.2	13.8	13.1	13.2	3,400
Newport	19.7	21.3	19.5	22.9	24.4	20.4	23.0	20.4	21.1	19.7	9,200
Cardiff	20.6	21.5	19.9	15.8	21.0	21.0	20.4	20.4	16.8	17.0	19,700
Wales	21.6	21.1	21.0	20.8	22.9	22.6	22.4	21.6	19.9	19.4	185,900
UK	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	18.6	19.0	18.9	18.2	17.3	16.4	3,380,200

Source: Annual Population Survey

(r) 2006-2013 data has been revised since the previous publication following the reweighting of the APS.

- The percentages of workless households are typically highest in the Valleys areas of Wales. In 2014, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent had the highest percentages of workless households, at 23.9 per cent and 23.5 per cent respectively, whilst Monmouthshire had the lowest percentage of workless households (13.2 per cent).
- Since 2005, 17 of the 22 local authorities have had a reduction in the percentage of workless households. Merthyr Tydfil and Neath Port Talbot have shown the largest percentage point falls in workless households, down 10.5 percentage points and 6.5 percentage points respectively.
- Of the five authorities where there has been an increase in the percentage of workless households, the largest percentage point increases have been in local authorities in North Wales, where Denbighshire and Flintshire, both increased by 3.1 percentage points.
- Over the course of the global recessionary period of the late 2000s, the percentage of workless increased across most local authorities across Wales. The Wales average increased from 20.8 per cent in 2008 to 22.9 per cent in 2009. Since then the percentage of people in workless households in Wales has fallen to its lowest rate of 19.4 per cent in 2014. The effect of the recession lasted the longest in

some Valleys local authorities such as Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil and Blaenau Gwent where the rise in the percentage of workless households did not peak until as late as 2011.

- The percentage point increases in Wales were greater between 2008 and 2009 than the UK, however since then Wales has generally had larger falls in the percentage of workless household compared to the UK.

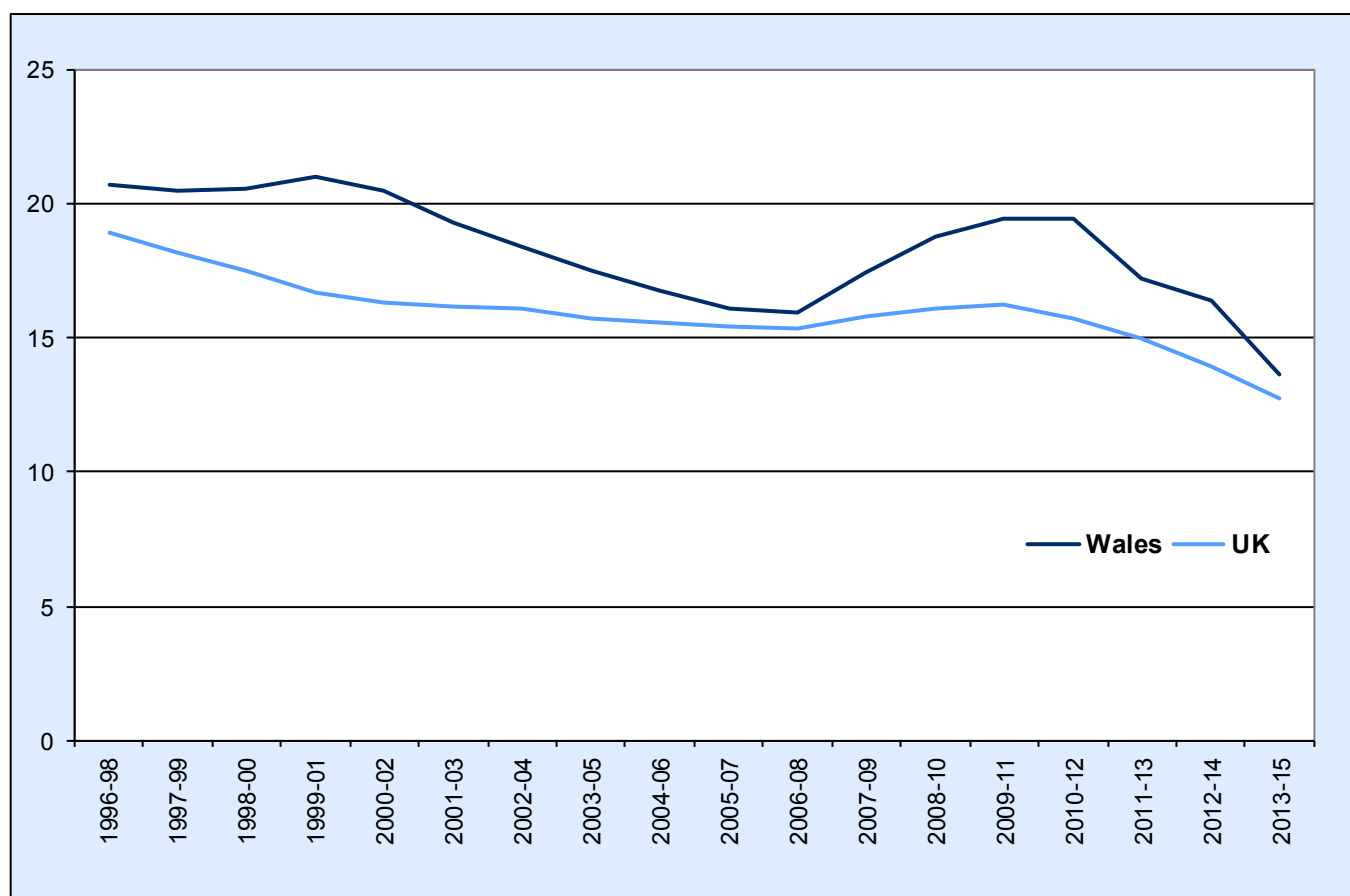
## Section 2: Children living in workless households

Children in workless households are defined as dependent children aged 15 or under who live in workless households (as defined in section 1).

Children living in workless households are particularly at risk of living in severe poverty and therefore reducing the number of children living in workless households is part of the Welsh Government’s Child Poverty Strategy.

Chart 2 shows the percentage of children who live in the workless households, using the LFS. This chart uses three year averages in order to smooth the volatility resulting from the smaller numbers sample size and the relatively fewer people involved.

**Chart 2: Percentage of children that are living in workless households, 1996-2015**



Source: Quarterly Labour Force Survey, three-year averages, 1996-2015

- The quarterly Labour Force Survey data shows that the proportion of children living in workless households in Wales fell from 20.7 per cent in 1996-98 to 13.6 per cent in 2013-15; this is the lowest rate since the data series began.
- The gap between Wales and the UK widened in the late 1990s before narrowing to 0.6 percentage points in 2006-08. During the recession and following years the gap widened, reaching 3.7 percentage points in 2010-12. Since then however, the gap has narrowed considerably, to 0.9 percentage points in 2013-15.
- While there have been differences in the rates of change over time between Wales and the UK, the broader trends for both areas have been largely similar over time. Both areas saw a decline

between 1996-98 and 2006-08, followed by an increase around the recession and subsequent decline in most recent years.

**Table 2: Percentage of children living in workless households, 2005-2014 (a) (r)**

Local Authority	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2014 number
Isle of Anglesey	13.2	15.4	16.3	16.4	11.2	6.4	11.4	12.5	12.7	15.2	1,700
Gwynedd	13.7	11.0	17.3	15.3	18.9	14.9	14.6	13.6	15.1	13.7	2,900
Conwy	12.2	12.8	16.6	18.2	14.9	16.0	13.0	14.4	17.9	17.3	3,300
Denbighshire	14.1	15.2	16.7	14.3	15.2	15.9	14.2	13.9	16.4	14.1	2,100
Flintshire	12.5	10.5	11.8	8.3	11.5	13.2	10.2	13.4	8.5	13.2	3,900
Wrexham	19.0	17.6	16.2	14.2	13.3	14.3	16.4	22.5	15.9	16.7	4,500
Powys	9.8	10.1	14.8	10.5	12.6	11.8	11.4	6.2	6.8	7.5	1,700
Ceredigion	13.5	13.1	14.3	9.9	11.6	10.1	10.8	6.9	4.7	8.3	900
Pembrokeshire	14.8	16.0	19.6	18.1	15.6	17.0	15.6	14.8	12.3	8.7	1,600
Carmarthenshire	15.5	15.4	16.0	17.4	24.1	17.0	11.8	20.1	20.5	14.8	4,200
Swansea	19.7	23.4	21.1	24.4	26.3	22.6	24.4	19.9	16.3	9.2	3,900
Neath Port Talbot	22.0	18.8	17.8	18.6	22.5	22.2	28.3	26.0	19.4	14.8	3,600
Bridgend	19.4	20.4	15.8	16.8	15.7	17.7	20.5	17.6	20.1	17.3	4,700
The Vale of Glamorgan	13.2	11.3	17.1	17.0	18.2	16.7	11.4	11.3	12.6	10.9	2,500
Rhondda Cynon Taf	20.1	14.7	14.9	22.7	24.9	21.7	25.1	22.8	23.3	17.2	6,900
Merthyr Tydfil	25.1	21.6	21.2	20.0	25.2	23.5	29.4	20.7	19.5	16.1	1,300
Caerphilly	21.1	17.8	23.4	18.7	26.8	23.2	26.8	17.0	18.0	16.7	5,000
Blaenau Gwent	27.2	25.0	21.7	23.4	33.8	32.3	33.3	30.6	29.2	18.0	2,000
Torfaen	25.2	24.2	25.9	22.9	25.5	19.3	18.0	17.3	23.7	15.9	2,400
Monmouthshire	7.1	5.7	9.6	4.9	5.4	9.2	10.8	6.6	10.4	11.3	1,600
Newport	21.3	22.4	24.3	23.2	23.7	22.6	24.5	22.0	20.3	22.2	6,100
Cardiff	18.6	21.3	23.1	15.7	20.5	23.1	16.7	19.4	15.9	16.4	10,800
Wales	17.5	17.0	18.4	17.3	20.0	18.8	18.7	17.8	16.6	14.6	77,600
UK	15.6	15.7	15.5	15.8	16.5	16.6	16.1	15.1	14.4	13.4	1,608,600

Source: Annual Population Survey

(a) Some of the estimates in this table have a coefficient of variation above 20 per cent and are considered unreliable for practical purposes. These are Gwynedd, Powys, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, Swansea, The Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen and Monmouthshire. Please see notes section for details.

(r) 2006-2013 data has been revised since the previous publication.

- In 2014, 14.6 per cent of children in Wales lived in workless households, down from 16.6 per cent in 2013. The UK figure for 2014 was 13.4 per cent, down from 14.4 per cent in 2013.
- Newport (22.2 per cent), Blaenau Gwent (18.0 per cent), Bridgend and Conwy (both 17.3 per cent) had the highest percentages of children living in workless households in 2014.
- Ceredigion (8.3 per cent) and Pembrokeshire (8.7 per cent) had the lowest percentages of children in workless households in 2014.
- Of the 22 local authorities in Wales, 15 had a reduction in the percentage of children living in workless households between 2005 and 2014. Swansea, Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent had the largest falls, down 10.5 percentage points, 9.3 percentage points and 9.2 percentage points respectively.
- Conwy, Monmouthshire and Isle of Anglesey had the largest increases, up 5.1 percentage points, 4.2 percentage points and 2.0 percentage points respectively.
- Over the course of the recession, the proportion of children in workless households in Wales increased from 17.3 per cent in 2008 to 20.0 per cent in 2009. Since then the percentage of children in workless households in Wales has fallen to its lowest rate of 14.6 per cent in 2014.
- The increases in Wales were greater between 2008 and 2009 than the UK, however between 2009 and 2014 the percentage of children in workless household in Wales fell more than the UK.

### Section 3: Lone parent families

A family is a lone parent family if the head of the family is a lone adult and the family unit has at least one dependent child aged 15 or younger, or a child who is in full time education and under 19 years.

Children living in lone parent families are at greater risk of income poverty according to Households Below Average Income data. Furthermore, analysis of the Millennium Cohort Study data suggests that moves into poverty tend to be associated with relationship breakdown and becoming a lone parent. Among other factors, improving the employment rate of lone parents may reduce poverty in lone parent families and this is part of the Welsh Government's Child Poverty Strategy.

**Table 3: Lone parent families, by local authority, 2012-2014 (a)**

Local Authority	<i>Three-year averages</i>		
	Percentage of families containing lone parents (b)	Employment rates for lone parents	Number of lone parent families
Isle of Anglesey	8.6	58.7	2,000
Gwynedd	6.3	49.2	2,500
Conwy	8.2	55.6	2,900
Denbighshire	9.6	64.9	2,900
Flintshire	8.0	62.3	4,000
Wrexham	8.5	55.3	4,000
Powys	6.3	76.5	2,700
Ceredigion	5.0	72.3	1,400
Pembrokeshire	8.2	62.8	3,100
Carmarthenshire	8.7	59.0	5,200
Swansea	9.6	60.2	8,800
Neath Port Talbot	11.7	58.5	5,800
Bridgend	10.4	57.3	5,000
The Vale of Glamorgan	9.4	64.0	3,800
Rhondda Cynon Taf	11.4	51.0	9,500
Merthyr Tydfil	12.8	55.3	2,700
Caerphilly	9.5	59.4	5,900
Blaenau Gwent	10.6	50.8	2,500
Torfaen	10.4	53.3	3,200
Monmouthshire	7.7	66.2	2,100
Newport	10.6	48.4	5,600
Cardiff	9.0	59.7	13,000
Wales	9.2	58.2	98,400
UK	8.6	59.8	1,998,700

Source: Annual Population Survey

(a) A three-year average has been used as the sample sizes for some local authorities are small.

(b) Where at least one person in the household is aged 16 to 64.

- The overall percentage of lone parent families was higher in Wales than in the UK; 9.2 per cent in Wales compared to 8.6 per cent in the UK.
- The highest percentages of lone parent families were found in Valleys authorities: Merthyr Tydfil (12.8 per cent), Neath Port Talbot (11.7 per cent) and Rhondda Cynon Taf (11.4 per cent). More rural areas of Wales had the lowest percentages of families containing lone parents: Ceredigion (5.0 per cent), Gwynedd (6.3 per cent) and Powys (6.3 per cent).
- The highest lone parent employment rates were in more rural local authorities: Powys (76.5 per cent), Ceredigion (72.3 per cent) and Monmouthshire (66.2 per cent). Newport (48.4 per cent), Gwynedd (49.2 per cent) and Blaenau Gwent (50.8 per cent) had the lowest employment rates for lone parents.

## Section 4: Tenure of households by local authority

The breakdown of households into the type of tenure and those in local authority/housing association households for 2014 is shown in the table below. The APS household data provides robust housing tenure statistics which are used to support housing policy in the Welsh Government.

**Table 4: Tenure of households by local authority, 2014 (a)**

Local Authority	Percentage owned outright	Percentage being bought with mortgage or loan	Percentage being rented	Other (a)	Percentage of rented households that are local authority or housing association	Total number of households
Isle of Anglesey	46.5	25.1	27.8	0.5	56.2	31,900
Gwynedd	49.5	21.6	26.6	2.0	57.6	55,000
Conwy	45.0	26.8	26.8	1.3	46.9	51,100
Denbighshire	44.4	27.8	26.1	1.6	51.5	41,200
Flintshire	39.3	34.6	25.1	0.9	58.8	64,000
Wrexham	36.3	28.9	33.6	1.1	64.7	59,200
Powys	48.3	24.2	25.5	1.9	48.8	59,200
Ceredigion	48.9	22.8	25.6	2.7	36.5	34,300
Pembrokeshire	51.5	23.6	23.4	1.5	53.8	54,500
Carmarthenshire	47.7	25.9	25.1	1.3	55.9	82,400
Swansea	35.2	29.8	33.8	1.0	57.8	102,500
Neath Port Talbot	38.9	31.9	27.8	1.4	62.9	63,100
Bridgend	35.1	35.3	28.5	1.0	43.4	58,600
The Vale of Glamorgan	35.5	37.2	26.2	1.1	42.9	53,400
Rhondda Cynon Taf	39.7	32.9	26.6	0.8	53.9	101,200
Merthyr Tydfil	39.6	23.9	35.3	1.1	62.2	26,600
Caerphilly	36.8	35.3	26.8	1.2	64.6	78,500
Blaenau Gwent	35.4	25.2	38.0	1.4	63.4	31,600
Torfaen	35.4	30.4	33.4	0.9	76.7	39,500
Monmouthshire	43.8	32.6	22.0	1.5	59.4	38,600
Newport	32.9	33.9	31.2	2.0	59.4	62,900
Cardiff	29.8	33.6	35.6	1.1	46.6	142,300
Wales	39.6	30.1	28.9	1.3	55.3	1,331,500
UK	33.0	31.7	33.8	1.5	51.7	26,684,500

Source: Annual Population Survey

(a) Includes part rent/part mortgage, rent free and squatting. The sum of the second, third, fourth and fifth columns may not equal 100 due to missing values.

- The more rural local authorities had the highest percentage of households that were owned outright, with the highest proportions being in Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Gwynedd, Powys and Carmarthenshire. Whilst the more urban areas of Cardiff, Newport, Bridgend and Swansea had the lowest proportion of households owned outright.
- The highest percentages of households being bought with a mortgage or loan were in The Vale of Glamorgan (37.2 per cent), Bridgend (35.3 per cent), and Caerphilly (35.3 per cent).
- Blaenau Gwent, Cardiff and Merthyr Tydfil had the highest proportion of households that were rented, whilst the lowest proportions were in Monmouthshire, Pembrokeshire, Flintshire and Carmarthenshire.
- Where households were rented, the highest proportions rented from the local authority or housing associations were in Torfaen (76.7 per cent), Wrexham (64.7 per cent) and Caerphilly (64.6 per cent).

cent). At 36.5 per cent, Ceredigion had the lowest percentage of rented households that were from the local authority or housing association.

## NOTES

### Background

1. This bulletin analyses the household information for Wales available from the Annual Population Survey (APS) from 2004 to 2014. It also includes data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) from 1996 to 2015 to provide a longer time series and more recent data.

### Changes to this year's bulletin and planned changes for future bulletins

2. **This year's bulletin** - The Office for National Statistics (ONS) have reweighted the Annual Population Survey (APS) to take account of population data from the 2011 Census. Therefore, data for 2006-2013 has been revised in this bulletin.
3. **Future bulletins** - There are no planned changes for future bulletins.

### Policy/Operational Context

4. The headline LFS estimates in the bulletin are published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in their Workless Households Statistical Bulletin (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lmac/working-and-workless-households/index.html>) which includes headline figures for Wales as a whole. The ONS also publishes sub-regional data using the APS, which can be found at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lmac/workless-households-for-regions-across-the-uk/index.html>. This bulletin, produced by the Welsh Government, provides additional analysis from the APS for Wales. These statistics are used by the Welsh Government to monitor worklessness and poverty. The data on children in workless households and lone parents in employment are used as indicators in the child poverty strategy (see: <https://stats.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Community-Safety-and-Social-Inclusion/Poverty/Child-Poverty-Strategy>). This bulletin is also used by other public sector organisations, businesses, academia and private individuals as a means of identifying the key trends in worklessness at a household level for Wales. Our user consultation provides more information on how our outputs are used: <http://gov.wales/consultations/statistics/economicoutputs>

### Key quality information: Source

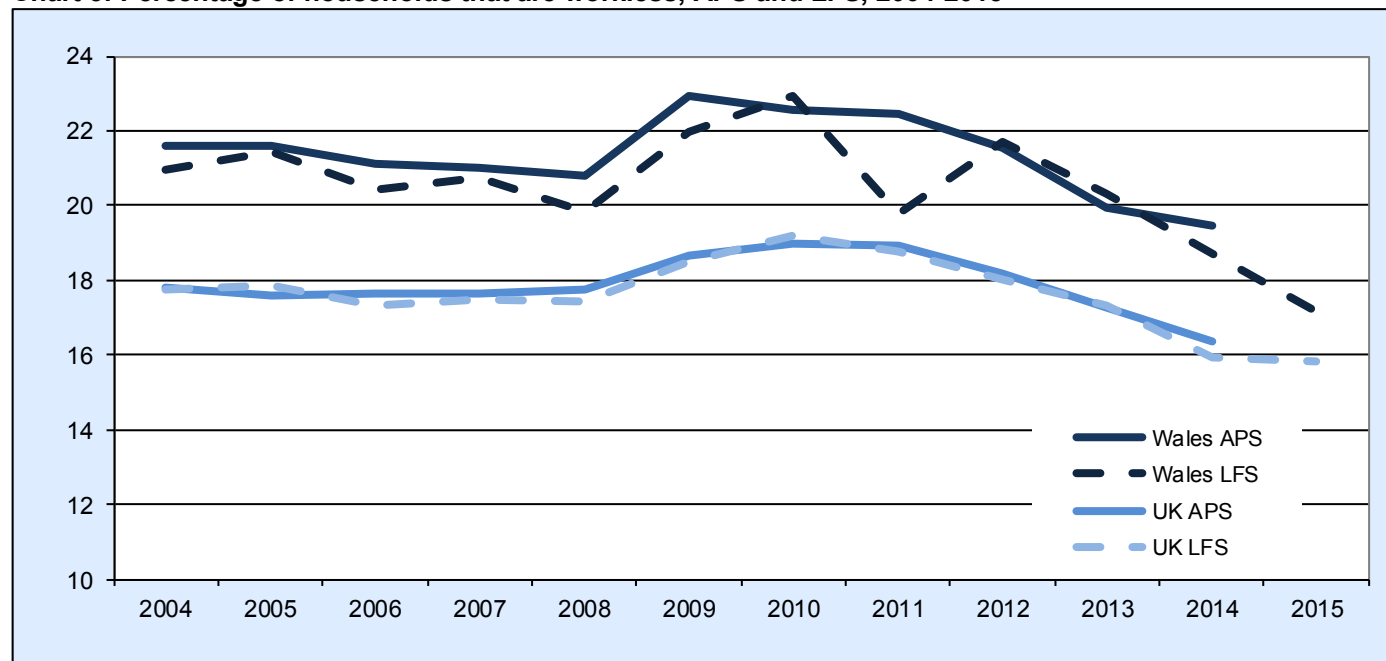
5. The APS is an annual sample survey of households living at private addresses in the UK. The annual survey uses results from those sampled for the main quarterly LFS and since 2001, additional persons have been sampled on an annual basis to provide a more robust (boosted) annual dataset across the UK, with estimates subject to much lower sampling variability. For Wales, the data are now based on an enhanced sample (around 350 per cent larger) compared to earlier years. The household datasets for the APS are only available from 2004 onwards.
6. The additional persons sampled in the APS are based on four waves, over four years of the survey. For the first wave, the response rate in Wales is around 60 per cent, with around 75 per cent of these remaining by the fourth wave. In total, around 18,000 households are sampled each year for the APS in Wales.
7. By collecting information about each member of participating households, the LFS also provides family and household-level statistics that describe the combined economic activity status of family and household members. In autumn 2008, the ONS launched new annual local area

datasets called APS household datasets. They allow production of family and household labour market statistics at a local area level and for small sub-groups of the population across the UK. It is also the main source of statistics on 'working' households (where all the adults are working); 'mixed' households (containing both working and non-working adults); and 'workless' households (where none of the adults are working).

### Key quality information: Coherence

8. The LFS & APS estimates differ slightly due to the differences in sample design and size. The APS is described in points 5 & 6 above; the LFS is described in points 9 & 10 below.
9. The main LFS is a quarterly sample survey of around 60,000 households living at private addresses in the UK. Each quarter's LFS sample of 60,000 private households is made up of 5 'waves', each of approximately 12,000 households. Each wave is interviewed in 5 successive quarters, such that in any one quarter, one wave will be receiving their first interview, one wave their second, and so on, with one wave receiving their fifth and final interview. As a result, there is an 80 per cent overlap in the samples for successive quarters. Households are interviewed face-to-face when first included in the survey and by telephone thereafter. For the first wave in Wales, the response rate in the main LFS is around 60 per cent. The total sample for Wales is usually about 3,500 households in each quarter.
10. The main LFS is based on a detailed questionnaire and hence provides for a large dataset, though there are some limitations to its use (particularly at a sub-regional level) due to sample size constraints. Its primary use is to provide labour market information for the UK, including levels and rates for employment, unemployment and economic activity/inactivity.
11. Chart 3 below shows that the APS and LFS data has followed a similar trend in both Wales and the UK. However, there is more volatility in the Wales LFS estimates, due to the smaller sample size.

**Chart 3: Percentage of households that are workless, APS and LFS, 2004-2015**



Source: Annual Population Survey and Quarterly Labour Force Survey



## Key quality information: Reliability

12. In order to assess the reliability of the data we can look at the coefficients of variation (CV), which have been calculated by the ONS for the 2014 figures in Tables A, B and C below. The CV value indicates the quality of an estimate; the smaller the value the higher the quality. Where the CVs are greater than or equal to 20, the estimates are considered to be too unreliable for practical purposes. Please note that for eight authorities the estimates for children in workless households are above this level. These are Gwynedd, Powys, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, Swansea, The Vale of Glamorgan, Torfaen and Monmouthshire.
13. The CV is also a useful way to compare the quality of the LFS and APS estimates. Table A below shows the CVs for the headline figures.

**Table A: Coefficients of variation for the APS and LFS**

**Coefficients of Variation<sup>1</sup>**

	Wales		UK	
	APS	LFS	APS	LFS
Percentage of households that are workless households	1.8	6.0	1.7	1.2
Percentage of children in workless households	4.6	13.7	1.6	2.8

*Source: Labour Force Survey & Annual Population Survey, ONS*

<sup>1</sup>APS is for 2014, LFS is for Apr-Jun 2015

**Table B: Coefficients of variation for percentage of workless households and children living in workless households**

Local Authority	Percentage of workless households	CV of workless households (%)	Percentage of children in workless households	CV of children in workless households (%)
Isle of Anglesey	19.7	7.4	15.2	19.4
Gwynedd	20.7	7.9	13.7	<b>21.6</b>
Conwy	19.7	7.2	17.3	17.5
Denbighshire	20.1	7.5	14.1	18.6
Flintshire	17.3	8.2	13.2	17.2
Wrexham	18.6	8.0	16.7	15.5
Powys	15.3	9.7	7.5	<b>28.2</b>
Ceredigion	21.6	7.6	8.3	<b>26.7</b>
Pembrokeshire	18.4	8.5	8.7	<b>25.4</b>
Carmarthenshire	20.3	7.6	14.8	16.9
Swansea	18.2	7.9	9.2	<b>23.6</b>
Neath Port Talbot	21.6	7.1	14.8	18.5
Bridgend	20.1	7.9	17.3	17.8
The Vale of Glamorgan	16.3	9.3	10.9	<b>21.4</b>
Rhondda Cynon Taf	22.2	7.0	17.2	18.1
Merthyr Tydfil	22.1	8.2	16.1	19.5
Caerphilly	23.9	6.8	16.7	16.2
Blaenau Gwent	23.5	7.7	18.0	19.9
Torfaen	22.0	7.5	15.9	<b>20.1</b>
Monmouthshire	13.2	9.2	11.3	<b>26.0</b>
Newport	19.7	7.8	22.2	16.0
Cardiff	17.0	8.2	16.4	17.8
Wales	19.4	1.8	14.6	4.6
UK	16.4	0.7	13.4	1.7

Source: Office for National Statistics

## Accessing the data

14. Much of the data behind the charts shown in this bulletin can be found on StatsWales (a free-to-use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate and download tables from the most detailed official data on Wales): <https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Business-Economy-and-Labour-Market>
15. The headline statistics and statistical bulletin are available on the Welsh Government Internet site at: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/?topic=Business+and+economy&lang=en>

## Data Sources and Quality

16. We have published a comprehensive data sources guide, which provides a summary of all the main official data sources used by the Economic and Labour Market Statistics branch as well as useful links. The guide can be found at: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/economic-labour-market-statistics-guide-data-sources-useful-links>

## National Statistics

17. The United Kingdom Statistics Authority (UKSA) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.



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