

# Know Northumberland

## Northumberland in Context

This quarterly bulletin is produced by the Northumberland County Council Digital Team to give a Northumberland update of statistical changes and headlines across a range of topics. The first two pages provide a general overview, the remainder of the bulletin focuses on specific topics.

### This issue covers housing and quality of place

#### Population

Northumberland is home to 319,030 people and covers an area of 5,013 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 96.7% is classed as rural.

49.1% of the population live in rural areas compared to the North East (18.8%) and England (18.9%)

The number of people aged 65+ is set to increase by 42.4% by 2031 (North East 37.2% and England 41% (2014 based population projections).

Life expectancy at birth for males is 79.2 and females 82.6 (2014-16).

The county is sparsely populated with 63 people per km<sup>2</sup> (North East 304 and England 411 (2013).

51% of the population live in the 3% of urban land based mainly in the South East of the county

#### Deprivation

13.2% of the population live in one of the 10% most deprived areas of England compared to 16.98% in the North East and 9.9% across England (2015).

20.8% of the population are classed as income deprived and 25.4% are employment deprived (2015 IMD).

#### Crime

Crime rates (per 1,000 population) are low in Northumberland (75.6) compared to the Northumbria Police area (103) (Dec 17 Crime Survey England and Wales).

#### Economy and the labour market

GVA (Gross Value Added) is much lower in Northumberland. GVA per head stood at £15,950 compared to £18,927 across the North East and £26,159 for England (workplace based GVA 2015)

Unemployment is higher than the national level, 1.8% claim Job Seekers Allowance which is lower than the North East rate of 2.1% (Nov16).

The employment rate in Northumberland is 73.0% compared to the North East (70.6%) and England (75.1%) (Jan-Dec 17).

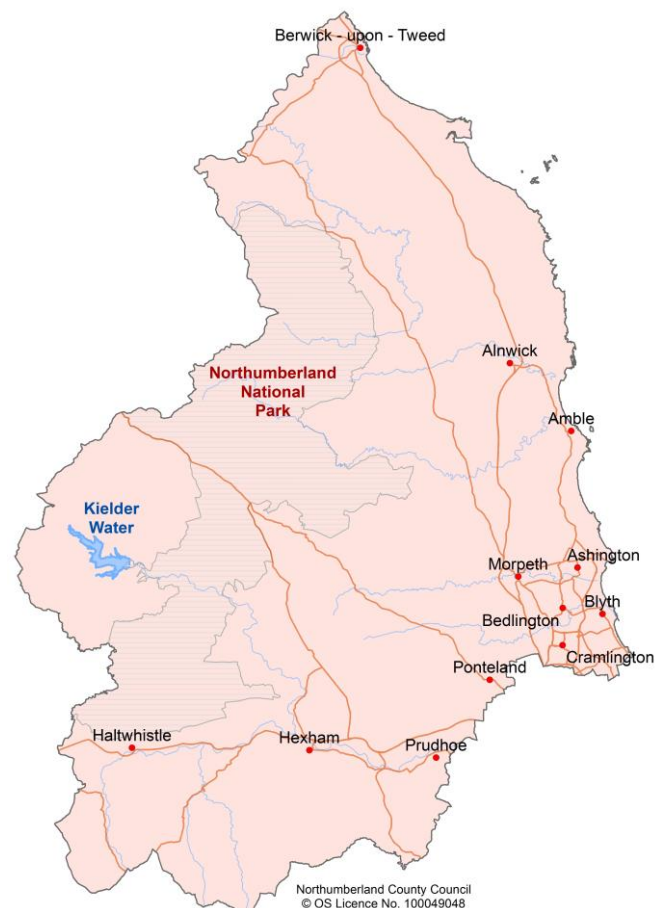
Wages in the county are lower than the country figure, with the weekly average (median) pay being £521 compared to £556 in England (2017).

#### Housing

There are 145,650 dwellings (2011) in Northumberland. The average house price is £153,800 which is less than the England figure of £234,300 (2016)

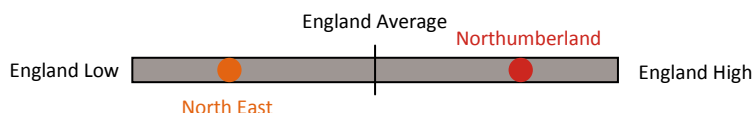
#### Children education and skills

The percentage of children achieving 5 or more GCSE grades A\*-C (inc. English and Maths) is 55.3%, compared to the North East (56.3%) and England (53.5%). (2016)



**Maps** showing different geographic boundaries and areas within Northumberland can be found on the [Northumberland Knowledge website](http://Northumberland Knowledge website).

Statistical profile of Northumberland, by topic and indicator, shows how Northumberland compares to England, other LAs (lowest and highest rates), and the North East and England average figures.



Topic	Indicator	N'land	Eng Avg	Eng Low	England Range	Eng High
Pop.	1 Population aged 0 - 15	16	19.1	11.5		27.4
	2 Population aged 16-64	60	63.1	53.0		75.3
	3 Population aged 65+	24	17.9	6.0		33.3
Education/Skills	4 GCSE results	55.3	53.5	36.4		71.4
	5 Pupils progressing to higher education	57.0	59.0	25.0		77.0
	6 % staff not fully proficient at their job	4.0	5.0	2.0		10.8
	7 Males taking recent job related training	12.4	17.5	7.1		32.4
	8 Females taking recent job related training	15.1	18.8	9.2		29.1
	9 People aged 16-64 with no qualifications	9.1	7.8	2.1		24.8
	10 16-18yr olds not in edu./employ./train.	3.8	2.8	0.6		6.1
Employment	11 Economic inactivity rate	23.5	21.7	13.1		36.3
	12 Employment rate	72.5	74.7	59.3		87.4
	13 JSA claimant count rate	1.8	1.1	0.2		3.4
	14 Unemployment rate	5.3	4.6	1.7		12.0
Env	15 Household waste sent for recycling	37.7	43.7	14.1		65.4
	16 Municipal waste sent to landfill	13.5	15.9	0.0		64.7
Health	17 Adults smoking	16.9	15.5	7.4		24.2
	18 Adults drinking over 14 units a week	26.6	25.7	8.1		51.3
	19 Excess weight- children Reception	24.2	22.6	16.7		28.4
	20 Excess weight- children Year 6	35.2	34.2	25.3		44.4
	21 Teenage pregnancy	22.5	20.8	7.4		38.4
Housing	22 LA dwellings below decent homes STD	1	12.6	0		65.1
	23 Owner occupied dwellings	82.8	82.5	71.7		92.7
	24 Mean Annual House Price % Change	3.7	7.2	-3.2		20.7
Inclusion	25 Children in low income families	18.9	20.1	7.0		35.6
	26 Pupils receiving free school meals primary	12.0	14.1	5.3		32.5
	27 Pupils receiving free school meals secondary	11.0	12.9	4.5		39.9
	28 % 2 years – funded early education	81	71	39		100
	29 Overall pupil absence in schools	4.6	4.6	3.2		5.5

Indicator Information

1: % Population aged 0 - 15 (Mid2016). 2: % Population aged 16 - 64 (Mid2016). 3: % Population aged 65+ (Mid2016). 4: % Pupils at the end of KS4 achieving 5+ A\*-C including English and Mathematics (2015-16). 5: % Pupils progressing to UK higher education institution (2014-15). 6: Percentage of staff not fully proficient at their job (2015). 7: % Male population aged 16-64 receiving job-related training in the last 13 weeks (Jan-Dec16). 8: % Female population aged 16-64 receiving job-related training in the last 13 weeks (Jan-Dec16). 9: % of the population aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications (2016). 10: % 16 to 18 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training NEET (2015). 11: Economic inactivity rate - population aged 16 to 64 (Dec 16). 12: Employment rate - population aged 16 to 64 (Dec 16). 13: Job Seekers Allowance claimant count rates - population aged 16 to 64 (Mar 17). 14: Unemployment Rate - all people aged 16 years and over (Dec 16). 15: % waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting (2014-15).. 16: % Municipal waste sent to landfill (2014-15). 17: Smoking prevalence – Adults aged 18 and over (2015) 18: Estimated % of increasing and high risk drinkers in the resident population aged 16 and over 2010. 19: % Prevalence excess weight children - Reception (2015-16). 20: % Prevalence excess weight children - Year 6 (2015-16). 21: Teenage pregnancy - Under 18 conception rates per 1000 females aged 15 - 17 (2014). 22: % of LA Dwellings that fall below the 'Decent Home Standard' (2011). 23: % total dwelling stock that is owner occupied (2015). 24: Mean annual house price - % change (Nov 16). 25: Proportion of children in low income families (2014). 26: % of primary pupils in receipt of free school meals (2016). 27: % of secondary pupils in receipt of free school meals (2016). 28: The rate of take-up of formal childcare by low income working families in (2011). 29: Overall absence rate for all pupils (2016).

## HOUSING

### House prices

The median sale price of all dwellings in Northumberland in 2016, according to ONS was £153,823. This is an increase of 9.8% for all types of dwelling over a five year period from 2013, although there were differences in rates depending on type of dwelling. The number of sales increased by 20% over the same period, from 3,548 to 4,279 per year.

### Median sale price by type of dwelling

	All	Detached	Semi-detached	Terraced	Flats/Maisonettes
2017	153,823	256,386	144,790	120,424	87,044
2016	149,155	249,830	140,325	116,579	83,740
2015	147,765	245,486	138,910	116,372	83,072
2014	142,540	235,538	133,666	12,578	81,300
2013	140,000	238,000	125,000	104,000	81,000

Source: Gov.UK

### Dwelling stock

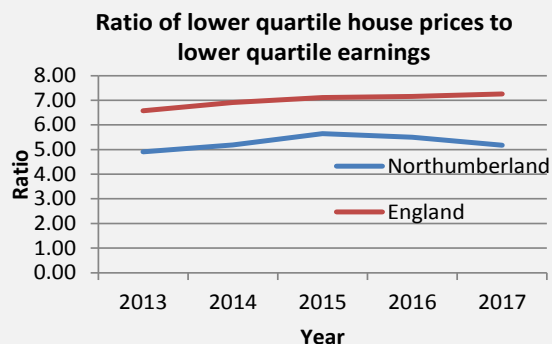
In 2017 Northumberland had an estimated dwelling stock of 153,720. This had increased by 1% since the previous year. 82.9% of all dwelling stock is owner-occupied and private rented which is slightly higher than the figure of 82.6% in England. Northumberland has an estimated local authority owned dwelling stock of 8,560 dwellings. This number has fallen by 60% compared with 10 years ago. The numbers for England has also dropped but to a lesser extent (38%).

2017		N/land	England (000)
Total Dwelling Stock	Count	153,720	23,950
LA Dwelling Stock	Count	8,560	1,602
	%	5.6	6.7
RSL Dwelling Stock	Count	17,670	2,511
	%	11.5	10.5
Other Public Sector Dwelling Stock	Count	50	56
	%	0.0	0.2
Owner Occupied and Private Rented Dwelling Stock	Count	127,430	19,781
	%	82.9	82.6

Source: Gov.UK

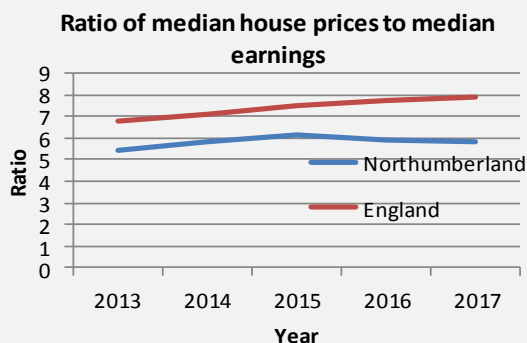
## Affordability

The table shows the house affordability ratios in Northumberland compared to England. However, it should be remembered that the affordability of home ownership is just one part of the affordability equation. The ratio of mean house prices to median earnings in Northumberland in 2017 was 5.8, compared to a ratio of 7.9 in England



When looking at the ratio of lower quartile house prices to lower quartile earnings shows a ratio of 5.3 for Northumberland and 7.2 for England in the same year.

Source: ONS based on data from the latest Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings and sales and valuations over last 12 months



### Additional housing

In 2016/17, 1,531 additional dwellings were provided in Northumberland. This is higher than the number in 2015/16 (991). The number of affordable homes provided in 2016/17 was 370, an increase from the previous year of 140.

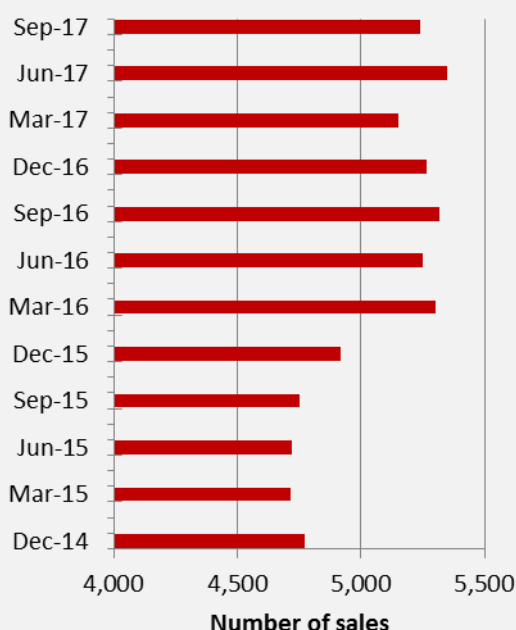
Sources: <sup>1</sup>Housing Flows Reconciliation (HFR), Gov.UK

	Net additional dwellings provided		Additional affordable dwellings provided	
	2015-16	2016-17	2015-16	2016-17
N/land	992	1531	230	370
England	189,645	217,345	32,630	42,220

### Residential property sales

The annual number of residential property sales fell between Sept 16 and Sept 17 by 1.5%, but between 2014 and 2015, there was an increase in numbers of sales of 3%.

Source: Gov.UK based on Land Registry data



### Household Projections

Between 2014 and 2039, the number of households in Northumberland is projected to increase by 12% (140 thousand to 153 thousand). This is considerably less than the percentage increase in England where projected figures increase by 23% over the same period.

Source: Communities and Local Government; Household projections based on 2014- SNPP

### Change from Mid-2014 to Mid-2039

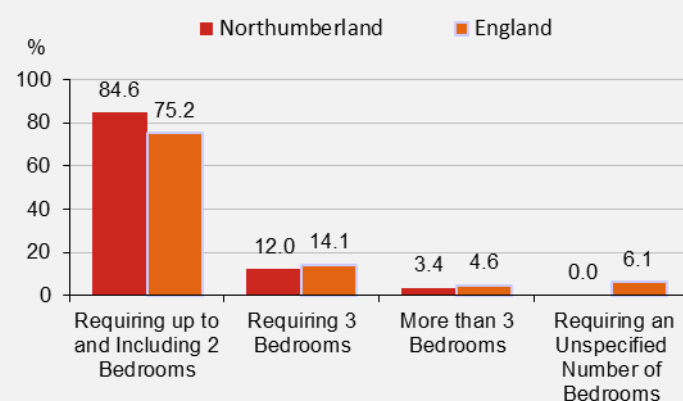
(000s)	N/land	England
2014	140	22,746
2019	144	23927
2024	147	25015
2029	149	26083
2034	151	27088
2039	153	28004

### Average household size

In Northumberland in 2014, the average household size was 2.21 persons per household, compared to 2.35 persons per household in England. These figures are projected to fall to 2.05 for Northumberland and 2.21 for England, by 2039.

### Social Rented Housing Demand

In Northumberland in 2016/17 there were 8,977 households on the Local Authority register. The majority of these required up to (and including) 2 bedrooms (84.6%), with 12% needing 3 bedrooms, and 3.4% requiring more bedrooms. The proportion in Northumberland requiring up to and including 2 bedrooms was greater than the figure of 75.2% in England



Source: Communities and Local Government, via Neighbourhood Statistics, ONS

## TRANSPORT AND ACCESS TO SERVICES

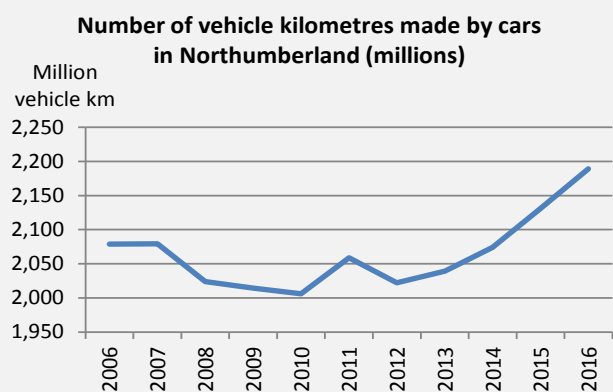
### Transport network

The current transport network of Northumberland includes the following assets:

A roads	377km
B roads	641km
C roads	1,526km
Unclassified roads	2,502km
Road bridges	1,460
Lighting columns	43,750
Highway signs	45,772
Traffic signals	336
Bus stations	6
Bus stops	3,842
Railway stations	17
Footways	2,276km
Public rights of way	5,078km

### Car traffic

The number of vehicle kilometres made by cars in Northumberland increased by 8.3% between 2012 and 2016 to 2,189 million km. This rate is higher than the figures for the North East (4.4%) but lower than England where the number of kilometres rose by 15.9% over the same period.



Source: Department for Transport

### Average minimum travel time<sup>1</sup> to reach the nearest key services

In 2013, the average minimum travel time to reach the nearest key services by public transport or walking in Northumberland was 11 minutes, the same as the figure for the North East, but lower than England (12mins). The average time by cycle in Northumberland was 14 minutes, which was longer than the time taken across the North East and across England. By car, the times were much reduced, with a minimum travel time of 7 minutes<sup>2</sup> in Northumberland and 6 minutes<sup>2</sup> in the North East, and England.

Source: DfT Accessibility Statistics. <sup>1</sup> Average of min. travel times to Employment centres, Primary & Secondary schools, Further Education, GPs, Hospitals & Food stores; <sup>2</sup> New method (adopted in 2010) using Trafficmaster congestion data

	Mode of transport	2011	2012	2013
N/land	Public Transport / Walk	15	-	11
	Cycle	14	14	14
	Car (old/new <sup>2</sup> methods)	7	7	7
North East	Public Transport / Walk	13		11
	Cycle	9	9	9
	Car (old/new <sup>2</sup> methods)	6	6	6
England	Public Transport / Walk	14	-	12
	Cycle	9	9	9
	Car (old/new <sup>2</sup> methods)	6	6	6

### Congestion

With the exception of a few major links, highway congestion is not considered to be a real problem in Northumberland. Congestion levels do need to be monitored however, to ensure that the projected increase in car ownership does not mean it becomes a problem in future. (Source: Northumberland LTP)

The average journey time per mile during the morning peak on local authority A roads has decreased slightly over the past 5 years in Northumberland. In 2013/14, the average journey time per mile in Northumberland was 1.64 minutes which was less than both the North East (2.11) and England as a whole (2.47).

Note: Morning peak defined as 7am to 10am. Based on academic years (Sept to July). Weekdays falling within school holiday periods excluded.

### Children travelling to school (usual mode of travel)

Children attending state-funded primary schools in Northumberland (January 2011) were most likely to either walk there (58%) or to go by car/van (37%). In state-funded secondary schools however, although the most common mode of travel was walking (49%), a larger percentage were likely to take the bus (28%) than for primary schools. For special schools, the preferred way of travelling was either the bus (50%) or by car/van (44%). Only 5% walked to school. These proportions are roughly similar to the North East and across England. Since 2011, this information is now not collected.

### Working age people with access to employment centres

Source: Department for Transport Accessibility statistics <sup>1</sup>Users are

	2011	2012	2013
Users <sup>1</sup> in Northumberland(000)	229.2	230.2	232.8
<b>Users with access to employment centres</b>			
within a reasonable time by PT/walk	78%	-	77%
within a reasonable time by cycle	48.9%	46.7%	47%
within a reasonable time by car (old/new method)	87.4%	87.4%	87%

defined as the economically active population (16-74 years old)

87% of the economically active (aged 16-74) population in Northumberland can access employment centres within a reasonable time by car. The percentage figure for those using cycles is 47%. 77% of users have access to employment centres within a reasonable time by public transport / walking,

## ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND WASTE

### Local Carbon Dioxide Emissions

In 2016 the estimated per capita CO2 emission in Northumberland was 5.7 tonnes, 0.3 tonnes less than the previous year. The per capita CO2 emissions is high compared with both the North East (5.2tonnes) and with England (4.7 tonnes).

(tonnes per head)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
N/land	7.1	6.9	6.1	6.0	5.7
North East	6.6	6.4	5.6	5.6	5.2
England	6.2	5.9	5.3	5.1	4.7

Source: Department for Energy & Climate Change (DECC)  
[gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates](http://gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates)

### Average Domestic Energy Consumption

In Northumberland, the average domestic electricity consumption in 2016 was 3,637kWh, which was higher than the figure for the North East region (3,247). Over the five year period from 2012 to 2016, electricity consumption has fallen in Northumberland by 6%, which is the same as the North East rate.

		N/land	North East
Domestic Electricity (kWh)	2012	3,880	3,458
	2013	3801	3,421
	2014	3829	3,418
	2015	3782	3,366
	2016	3637	3,247
Domestic Gas (kWh)	2012	14884	14434
	2013	14583	14045
	2014	14015	13487
	2015	13,903	13723
	2016	13,758	13271

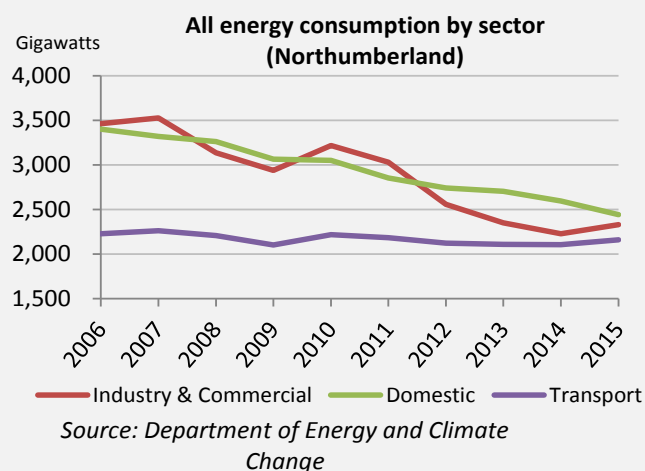
Domestic gas consumption figures have decreased in Northumberland over the same five year period from 14,884 in 2012 to 13,785 in 2016. This is a reduction of 7.5%

which is similar to the North East. Although average gas consumption has decreased each year since 2012, it is slightly higher in Northumberland than the region as a whole. Source: DECC.

### All Energy Consumption by Sector

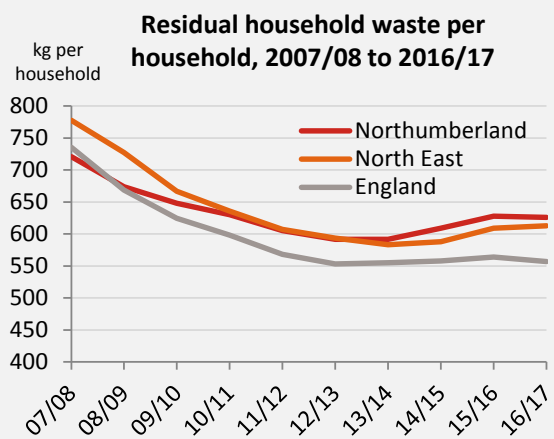
Northumberland has seen a fall in the energy consumption within the ‘industry & commercial’ and ‘domestic’ sectors during the period 2006 to 2015, but reasonably level energy consumption in the ‘transport’ sector. There has been a 33% reduction in Industry and Commercial use in Northumberland since 2006 (NE rate +5.8%), and a 28% reduction in domestic energy, similar to the NE rate. For transport there has been a 3% reduction over the period compared to a 5.4% reduction for the North East Region..

In 2015, 2,330GW were used in the Industry and Commercial sector, 2,440GW were used by the Domestic sector and 2,160GW were used by the Transport sector.



### Household Waste

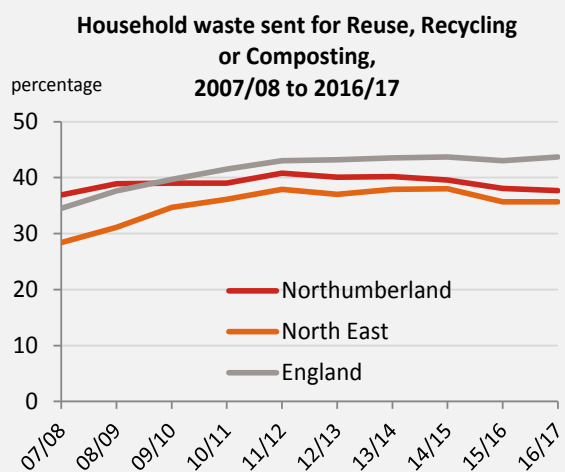
In 2016/17, residual waste per household in Northumberland was 626kg, a slight reduction from 628kg in 2015/16. This was more than the North East figure (613kg), and England (557kg). Residual waste per household has risen slightly by 3.7% over the past 5 years in Northumberland, which is a higher increase than both the North East (0.3%) and England where there has been a 1% decrease.



Source: Defra

The percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting decreased slightly over the past year, with 37.7% of Northumberland household waste treated this way in 2016/17. This is higher to the North East figure of 35.7% but less than the England figure of 43.7%..

Source: DEFRA.



Source: Defra

## TOURISM

Tourism makes up 11.8% of Northumberland’s economy, 2.7% higher than the national average, and contributed £632.4million to the economy IN 2016.

Source: Northumbrian Tourism

### Visitors

Data from Northumberland Tourism suggests that in 2016, there were 9.7 million visitors to the county which was an increase of 2% over the previous year. This equated to 15.1 million visitor days.

	All Staying Visitors	Day visitors	All visitor types
Visitor Days	7.12	8.00	15.12
Visitor Numbers	1.72	8.00	9.72

Of those visitors who stayed, 1.37m stayed with friends or relatives and 5.75m stayed in paid accommodation, of which 80% was non-serviced.

Over 45% of visits involved visiting friends or relatives, with a further 38% visiting on holiday.

35% of visitors stayed in the county for between 8 and 14 nights with nearly 25% staying for 15 nights or more.

### Journey purpose (2016)      Duration of stay (2016)

Purpose	% total visits	Duration	% total visits
Holiday	37.84%	Nil nights	0.00%
Business	10.15%	1-3 nights	23.50%
VFR	45.76%	4-7 nights	15.41%
Study	0.00%	8-14 nights	36.34%
Miscellaneous	6.25%	15+ nights	24.76%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Visit Britain Survey

## International Visitors

Data from the International Passenger Survey suggests that overseas visitors made 85,250 visits to Northumberland in 2015, an increase of 75% since 2014. The main reasons for these visits were holidays (51%) These visits equated to 659,640 nights and a spend of £29.27m.

Source: Office for National Statistics, International Passenger Survey

## Expenditure

According to the Northumberland Visitors Survey 2015, it is estimated that visitors spend approximately £51.32 per day, with the average day visitor spending £28.76 per day and overnight visitor spending £59.82. The economic impact to the county for all visitor types, rose from 826m in 2015 to 852m in 2016. Direct expenditure rose from 624m to 632m between 2015 and 2016,

Source: Northumberland Tourism, Economic Impact report 2016;

### Employment

Direct employment in the tourism industry has risen from 11,591 to 11,785 (FTEs) from 2015 to 2016. All employment related to tourism has risen slightly over the same period from 13,930 to 14,175 (FTEs). There were nearly 5,000 FTEs working in the accommodation sector, with a further 4,300 in Food and Drink.

Sectoral Distribution of Employment - FTEs

Sectors	2016	2015	+/- %
Accommodation	4,971	4,938	0.7%
Food & Drink	4,305	4,199	2.5%
Recreation	1,247	1,219	2.3%
Shopping	719	704	2.1%
Transport	543	530	2.3%
<b>TOTAL DIRECT</b>	<b>11,785</b>	<b>11,591</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
Indirect	2,389	2,339	2.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,175</b>	<b>13,930</b>	<b>1.8%</b>

Source: STEAM report –Northumberland tourism

### Occupancy

Due to the relatively small number of businesses currently providing their occupancy figures the data does not provide a big enough sample size to be reliable.

### Northumberland Visitor Survey

The Northumberland Visitor Survey 2013 found that 99% of the visitors interviewed (UK & overseas) thought that their visit to Northumberland was good or very good.

99% said that they would recommend the area to friends and relatives. 41% of visitors to Northumberland rated the quality of visitor attractions as very good followed by variety of things to do (32%) and maintenance of parks (28%).

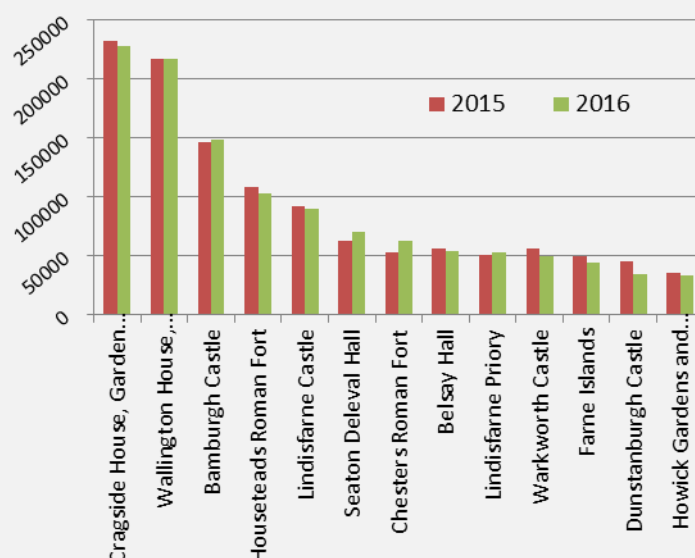
### Top Free & Paid Visitor Attractions

VisitEngland have produced a list of the top North East free and paid visitor attractions for 2016. None of the top 20 free attractions and 13 of the top 20 paid attractions are located in Northumberland.

The paid attractions with the most visitors were Cragside House (227,000) and Wallington House (216,600).

Woodhorn museum (202,800) which was a free attraction in 2015, has now changed category into paid attractions so does not appear on the top 20 list for 2016

### Northumberland attractions that appear in the top 20 free and top 20 paid attractions



62% of all visitors who completed the survey in the North East went to paid attractions, with 38% visiting free attractions.

Country Parks without additional attractions were excluded.

### INTERNET ACCESS

In Northumberland over a 5 year period, the percentage of residents who have used the internet within the last three months, has risen from 79.5% to 91.5%. This percentage figure is higher than both the North East (87.6%) and the UL (89.8%)

	Used in the last 3 months	Used over 3 months ago/Never used
2014	79.5	20.3
2015	81.7	17.9
2016	79.8	20.1
2017	87.2	11.0
2018	91.5	7.9