

# Research Report

## Northumberland Local Economic Assessment Statistical Update

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## Executive Summary

### The Northumberland Local Economic Assessment – Statistical Update

This paper provides a statistical update which forms part of the Local Economic Assessment (LEA) for Northumberland. The information is provided on a range of economic indicators at various geographic levels, providing an up to date overview of the current economic climate both within Northumberland and in the context of the North Eastern LEP, the North East region and England.

### Other Key Economic Information

This report does not cover every aspect of the economy of Northumberland and is a gradually evolving body of work. For instance the statistics in this report will be impacted upon by the closure of Rio Tinto Alcan's aluminium smelter, the county's largest private sector employer. There are also other major pieces of research that form part of the economic picture, such as the Northumberland Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

Alongside this report are a suite of other recently produced key documents about Northumberland's economy which form part of the LEA and are now available on our website including:

- Northumberland Poverty and Worklessness Assessment
- Economic Scenario's for Northumberland (including Broadband infrastructure scenarios)
- Economic Scenario's for Northumberland – Low Carbon Scenarios Report
- Alcan Economic Indicators Executive Summary and Report
- Alcan Closure Economic Impacts Report

This link will take you to the reports: [Economic Research and Statistics](#)

## Statistical Summary

### Growth

Economic growth can be measured using Gross Value Added (GVA) which provides a value for the amount of goods and services that have been produced, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production. The GVA per head for Northumberland, the North East and England has increased every year between 1999 and 2008. 2009 was the first year that the GVA per head had fallen (in all areas). Northumberland has a much lower GVA per head than England and the North East region. The 2009 GVA per head for Northumberland was £12,154, substantially lower than the North East (£15,304) and England (£20,498).

The North East region has price levels 1.8 per cent below the UK average, and Yorkshire and Humberside is the only English Region with lower Relative Regional Consumer Price Levels than the North East.

## Migration

In the 12 months to June 2010, Northumberland (16,800) had the third largest turnover of internal migrants out of the 12 local authorities in the North East region after Newcastle upon Tyne (36,200) and County Durham (31,300). The large population of Northumberland in comparison to other areas (only County Durham has a larger population) is a major reason behind this. A slightly greater number of people moved into (8,800) Northumberland than out (8,000) over the period.

## Deprivation

The former Wansbeck District has a high proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) nationally, a higher proportion than Northumberland as a whole, the North East (NE) Region and the North Eastern LEP (NELEP). The former Blyth Valley District also has a high proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the IMD in comparison to Northumberland, while the other four former districts have higher proportions of LSOAs in the least deprived deciles nationally, most notably Alnwick, Castle Morpeth and Tynedale. The more rural areas of Northumberland in the North and West of the county generally have lower levels of deprivation

## Earnings

Resident's earnings in Northumberland and across all of the former districts are higher than local workplace earnings in the county (i.e. residents tend to earn more if they are employed outwith the County). The former Tynedale District (£198) has the largest difference between residents and workplace pay. People living in Northumberland earn on average £49 per week more than those working in the county while there is only a very small difference between the average earnings for residents and workplaces in the NE region and England. Residence based pay in Northumberland (average earnings) are higher in Northumberland (£474) than the North East (£451) but lower than England (£508). Resident earning levels in the former districts of Berwick-upon-Tweed (£386), Blyth Valley (£446) and Wansbeck (£439) are lower than the Northumberland average. Work place earnings in Northumberland (£425) are lower than both the North East (£452) and England (£507). Work place earning levels in the former districts of Alnwick (£358), Berwick-upon-Tweed (£381), and Tynedale (£385) are lower than the Northumberland average.

## Poverty

Northumberland had the lowest proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits in the NE region in snapshots taken for 2009 and 2010 (19%). If the measure of child poverty is defined as *the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income*, Northumberland has consistently showed the lowest proportion of children living in poverty since 2007 (between 17 and 18%). This County-wide figure however, masks extreme variances at a more local level – ranging from 1% in the Ponteland South area to 57.6% in the Croft area of Blyth Valley.



BRE's latest fuel poverty estimates (2009) place Northumberland highest in the region for proportion of households in fuel poverty (27%), higher than the regional (24%) and national (18%) average and a marked increase on the previous years' figures (24%). Below Northumberland level, the proportion of households estimated to be fuel poor using the latest available BRE data range from 55% in the Bamburgh area (equivalent to 394 households) to 8% in Cramlington North (equivalent to 164 households).

## Employment

There are two commonly used measures of unemployment. The International Labour Organisation measure (ILO) is based on national survey data of a sample of the total population and Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimant count records the number of residents who are out of work and qualify for JSA. ILO is classed as the 'official measure' preferred by government. The ILO unemployment rate in Northumberland is 7.7% for the 12 months to June 2011, which is the same as the England average but lower than the NE region (9.8%). The JSA claimant count unemployment rate in February 2012 is higher than at any time during the last 6 years in Northumberland (4.4%), the NE region (5.6%) and England (4.1%). In February 2012 8,694 people in Northumberland were claiming JSA, 3,622 more people than at the same time five years ago which is an increase of 71.4%; while the NE region (86.8%) and England (96.6%) have seen even larger increases.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) provide a quarterly snapshot of benefit claimants. The claimants can be categorised by the main reason for interacting with the benefit system. Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Incapacity benefits have the highest levels of claimants across all geographies, and numbers were higher in 2006 than 2011. There tends to be more males claiming DWP benefits than females. There have been substantial increases in JSA claimants and young people (aged 16-24) in the last five years. Northumberland showed a 57% increase in JSA claimant numbers in August 2011, based on August 2006 figures (for England as a whole the increase was 64%, for the NE region and the NELEP this was 72%). The number of 16-24 year olds claiming DWP working age benefits in Northumberland was 26% higher in 2011 than 2006 (32% higher for England, 29% for the NE region and 30% for NELEP).

The Employment Rate is the proportion of the working age population who are in employment according to the ILO definition. Northumberland has a higher employment rate than the North Eastern LEP, and the region, but lower, on average, than England. Most recently Northumberland had an employment rate of 69%, the NELEP 66%, the NE region 65% and England 70%. Substantial differences exist below county level.

Jobs density is the number of jobs per resident aged 16-64. In 2009, Northumberland had a lower jobs density than the NELEP, the NE region and England; 0.64 as opposed to 0.66 (both NELEP and NE) and 0.78 (England). However Northumberland has risen from 0.62 in 2007, whereas the other areas have fallen (NELEP and NE 0.69, England 0.80).

A monthly count of vacancies is notified to job centres and is published by National Statistics. In March 2012 full-time vacancies exceeded part-time vacancies by roughly two thirds in England, the NE region and NELEP, however in Northumberland more than half the vacancies were part-time. Also in March 2012, only 3% of England's total vacancies were located in the NELEP area and of those, 13% were in Northumberland. Jobcentre Plus vacancies can also be analysed by industry or occupation. In March 2012, Banking, Finance and Insurance etc. dominated the vacancies at NELEP, NE and national level, but within Northumberland, Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants had more dominance – particularly in the North of the County. Also, the highest proportion of vacancies in England were Elementary Occupations, but in the NE, NELEP and throughout most of Northumberland, Sales and Customer Service Occupations tended to dominate.

### **Accessibility**

Department of Transport accessibility statistics provide a local-level measure of the availability of transport to key services. Northumberland consistently has the longest travel times over the four year period, 2007-2010 of between 14 and 16 minutes by public transport/walking. Nationally the average for 2010 was 14 minutes and for the NE region it was 12 minutes. Northumberland also has the lowest overall proportion of users able to access employment centres by public transport/walking compared with the rest of the NE region and England as a whole. In 2010, 77% of Northumberland's working age population had access compared with 81% for the NE region and 82% for England. Large disparities exist when access is considered at a more local level, from 28% in an area of Wooler to 90% in Seaton Valley.

### **Sectors**

The Inter-departmental Business Register (IDBR) is maintained by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and updated using VAT records and PAYE information. For Northumberland, the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing sector (18%) is the most dominant in terms of number of enterprises, followed by Construction (12%), Professional, Scientific & Technical (12%). This is significantly different to the distribution of enterprises in England and the NE region where there is proportionately three times less Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing Enterprises (5% and 7% respectively). The number of enterprises does not reflect overall significance in terms of employment because enterprises of up to 4 employees are the most prolific and account for three quarters of all Enterprises in Northumberland (slightly higher in proportion than the NE region at 72% and lower than England at 76%). The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) is an employer survey of the number of jobs held by full/part-time and detailed industry. At County level and above the distribution of employees by workplace is proportionately similar in most sectors; the Health sector is the most dominant (Northumberland – 16%, NELEP – 15%, NE – 16%, England 13%). Manufacturing is the second largest sector for the NE region (11%), NELEP (11%) and County (13%), followed by Education and Retail. Below County level a rather different distribution emerges, for example, Berwick-upon-Tweed's largest sector in terms of number of employees, is the Retail sector (17%).

## Public and Private Sector Split

ONS produces quarterly public sector employment data at national and regional level, however statistical releases of sub-regional data are infrequent and derived from different data sources and measures. Thus in the context of available data on workplace based employee densities, the former district of Castle Morpeth displays the highest reliance on the public sector (31%) and bucks the County, NELEP, NE region and national trend of around a fifth of employment in the working age population. The private sector dominates across all geographies except when analysed at former district level where Castle Morpeth shows an even split between both public and private sector employment. The Annual Population Survey (APS) provides residence based public and private sector employee estimates down to former district level. The APS tends to result in an overestimate of public sector employment. Local variations exist in the public-private sector split which are not apparent at County level and above. Castle Morpeth and Wansbeck display the highest levels of residence-based public sector employees (35% each). Berwick-upon-Tweed has a higher level of private sector employees than anywhere else in the County (82%), this is also much higher than NELEP, NE region and England average (70-76%).

## Business Activity

Statistics from the ONS Business Demography release provide numbers of currently active businesses, new business start-ups and business closures. There were 9,410 active enterprises in Northumberland in 2010. This works out at 479 per 10,000 population of working age in the county which is proportionately lower than England (591) but higher than the NE region (365). The former Wansbeck District (293) has the least number of active enterprises per 10,000 working age population. Between 2004 and 2010, Northumberland has seen a larger increase in active enterprises than England but lower than the NE region. Northumberland's business birth rate for 2010 was 8.9%. This is the lowest it has been since 2004. The NE region's was 9.6% and England's was 10.4%. Northumberland's business death rate for 2010 was 10.9%. This is lower than both the NE region (13.1%) and England (13.1%). Northumberland has had consistently lower business death rates than the North East and England since 2004.

## Qualifications

In Northumberland, in 2010, 70.2% of people aged 16 to 64 are qualified to NVQ level 2 and above, this is a higher proportion of people than in the North Eastern LEP area (66.1%) and England (67%). Northumberland also has a higher proportion of the population aged 16 to 64 qualified to NVQ level 4 or above at 29% compared to 25.7% in the NELEP area. This is lower than the England average however, at 31.3%. There are a slightly higher proportion of people aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications in Northumberland (11.5%) than the England average (11.1%), but this is lower than NELEP (12.7%) and the NE region (13%). Also in 2010, 7% of 16 to 18 year olds were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), this is lower than the NE region average of 8% and a decrease of 0.3% on the previous years' figures.

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 The Northumberland Local Economic Assessment**

The Local Economic Assessment (LEA) provides an opportunity to better understand their area's economy in order to better target resources and plan effectively for the future. Further to the change of government in May 2010, guidance in relation to LEAs was removed. Local Authorities are now free to determine how they take forward their own LEAs however the government has suggested they play a 'crucial role' in underpinning the work of local enterprise partnerships (LEP) and in local economic strategies. The Northumberland LEA, first produced in 2009 and updated on an incremental basis since then is now a rolling body of evidence and research which underpins the Northumberland Economic Strategy 2010-15 and forms part of the wider corporate package of research products prepared by Northumberland County Council.

### **1.2 Statistical Update**

The following pages provide a core part of the LEA, a statistical update of economic conditions in the County. The information is provided on a range of economic indicators at various geographic levels, providing an up to date overview of the current economic climate both within Northumberland and in the context of the North Eastern LEP, the North East region and England.

### **1.3 Other Key Economic Information**

Inevitably, this report does not cover every aspect of the economy of Northumberland and is a gradually evolving body of work. For instance the statistics in this report will be impacted upon by the closure of Rio Tinto Alcan's aluminium smelter, the county's largest private sector employer. There are also other major pieces of research that form part of the economic picture, such as the Northumberland Strategic Housing Market Assessment.

This report provides one part of the council's approach to gradually updating the LEA. The council is currently developing a new portal 'Northumberland Knowledge' which will provide further analysis and easy to access information about the economic and social characteristics of the County. Much of the information prepared for the LEA will form part of this new portal and feedback is always welcome.

Alongside this report are a suite of other recently produced key documents about Northumberland's economy which form part of the LEA and are now available on our website including:

- Northumberland Poverty and Worklessness Assessment
- Economic Scenario's for Northumberland (including Broadband infrastructure scenarios)
- Economic Scenario's for Northumberland – Low Carbon Scenarios Report

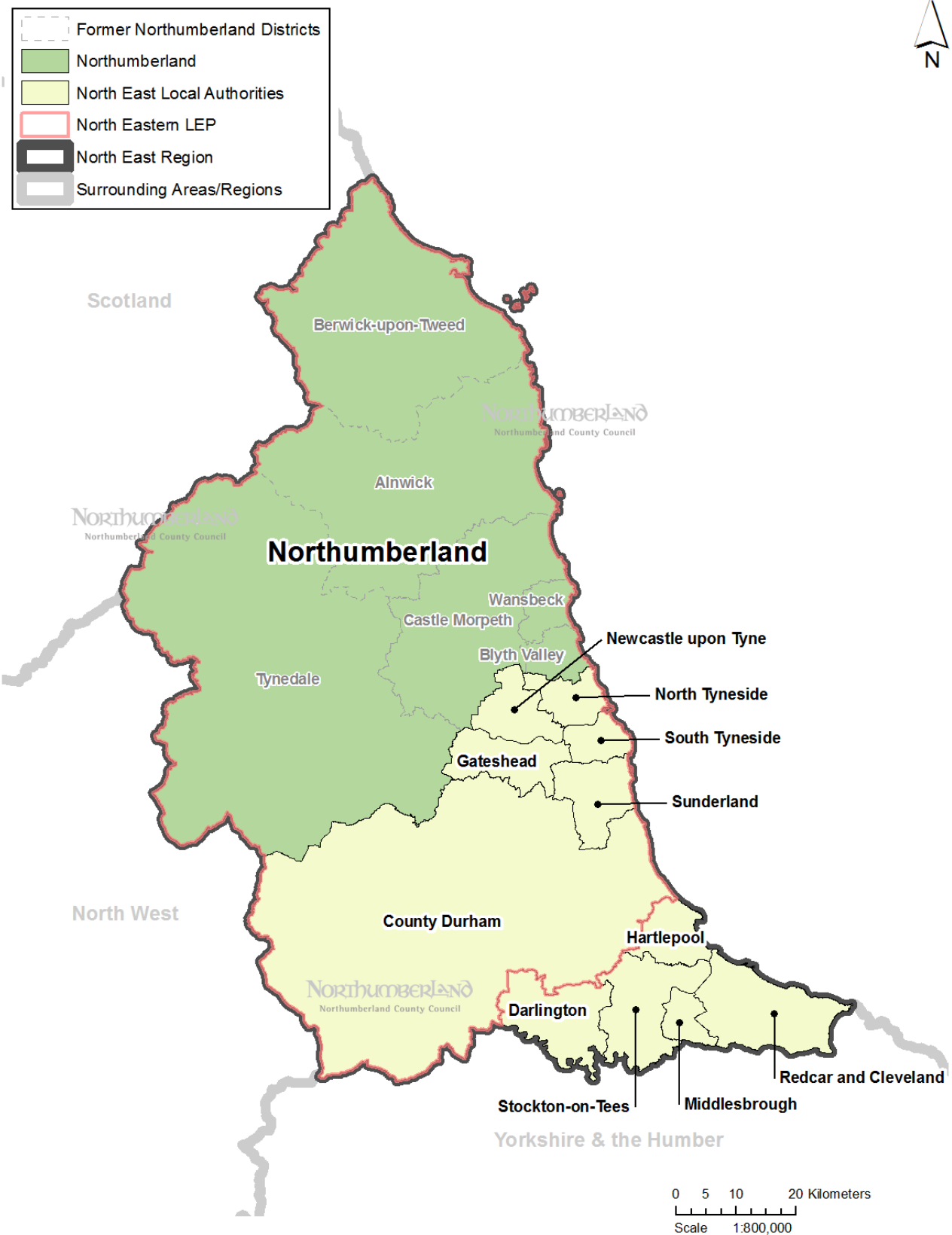
- Alcan Economic Indicators Executive Summary and Report
- Alcan Closure Economic Impacts Report

This link will take you to the reports: [Economic Research and Statistics](#)

## 1.4 Geographical Coverage

Figure 1 shows a selection of different geographic areas covered by the indicators in this report. Where available, indicators are provided for smaller geographic areas in Northumberland such as Wards and Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) to illustrate the local differences across Northumberland. Local government reorganisation in 2009 saw a single unitary authority established in Northumberland but some indicators are still released at former district level, where appropriate these have been included, again to show statistical variations below Northumberland level.

Figure 1: Map of Northumberland



## 2.0 Economic Growth (GVA)

Economic growth can be measured using Gross Value Added (GVA). GVA provides a value for the amount of goods and services that have been produced, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production. It is used to monitor the performance of the national economy and is now the measure preferred by the Office for National Statistics.

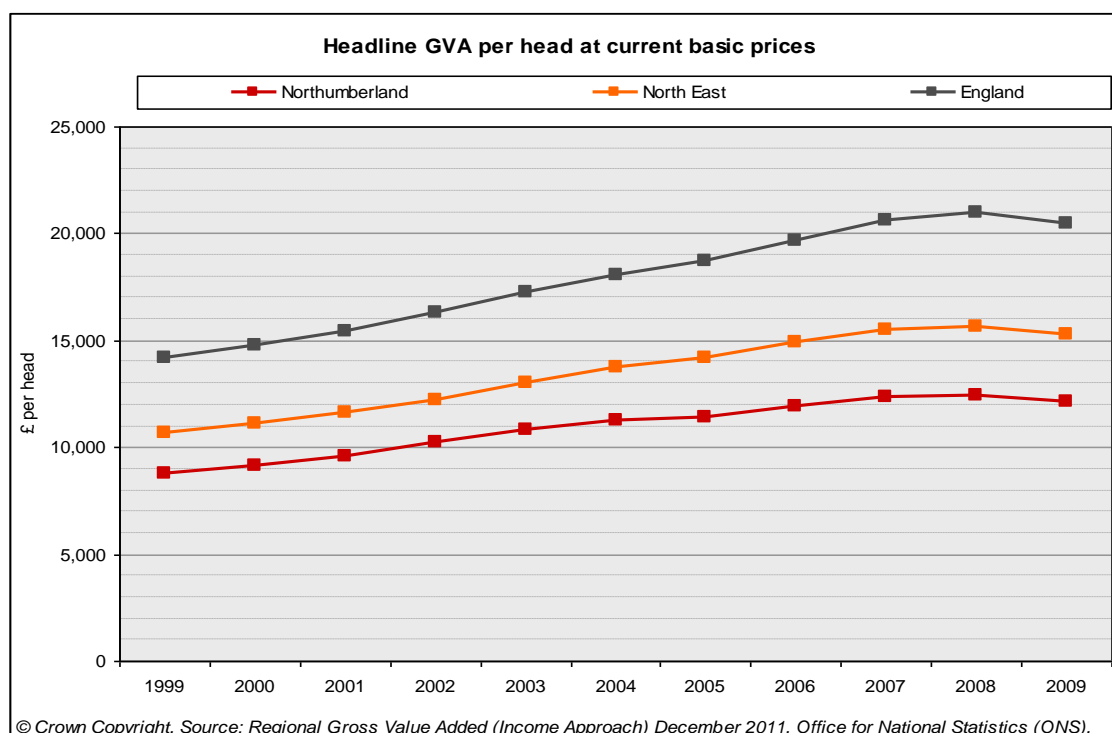
Figures 2 and 3 show the GVA per head of population in Northumberland in comparison to the North East region and England. The GVA per head for Northumberland, the North East and England increased every year between 1999 and 2008, 2009 was the first year that the GVA per head had fallen (in all areas). Northumberland has a much lower GVA per head than England and the North East region. The 2009 GVA per head for Northumberland is £3,150 lower than the North East and £8,344 lower than England. The North East had the lowest GVA per head in 2009 out of all regions in England.

**Figure 2: Headline<sup>1</sup> GVA<sup>2</sup> per head at current basic prices (£ per head)**

Area	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
England	18,678	19,642	20,649	20,962	20,498
North East	14,214	14,901	15,530	15,673	15,304
Northumberland	11,437	11,935	12,368	12,433	12,154

© Crown copyright. Source: Regional Gross Value Added (Income Approach) December 2011, Office for National Statistics (ONS).

**Figure 3: Chart Showing Headline<sup>1</sup> GVA<sup>2</sup> per head at current basic prices**



<sup>1</sup> The headline GVA series in this report have been calculated using a five-period moving average.

<sup>2</sup> Estimates of workplace based GVA allocate income to the region in which the economic activity takes place.

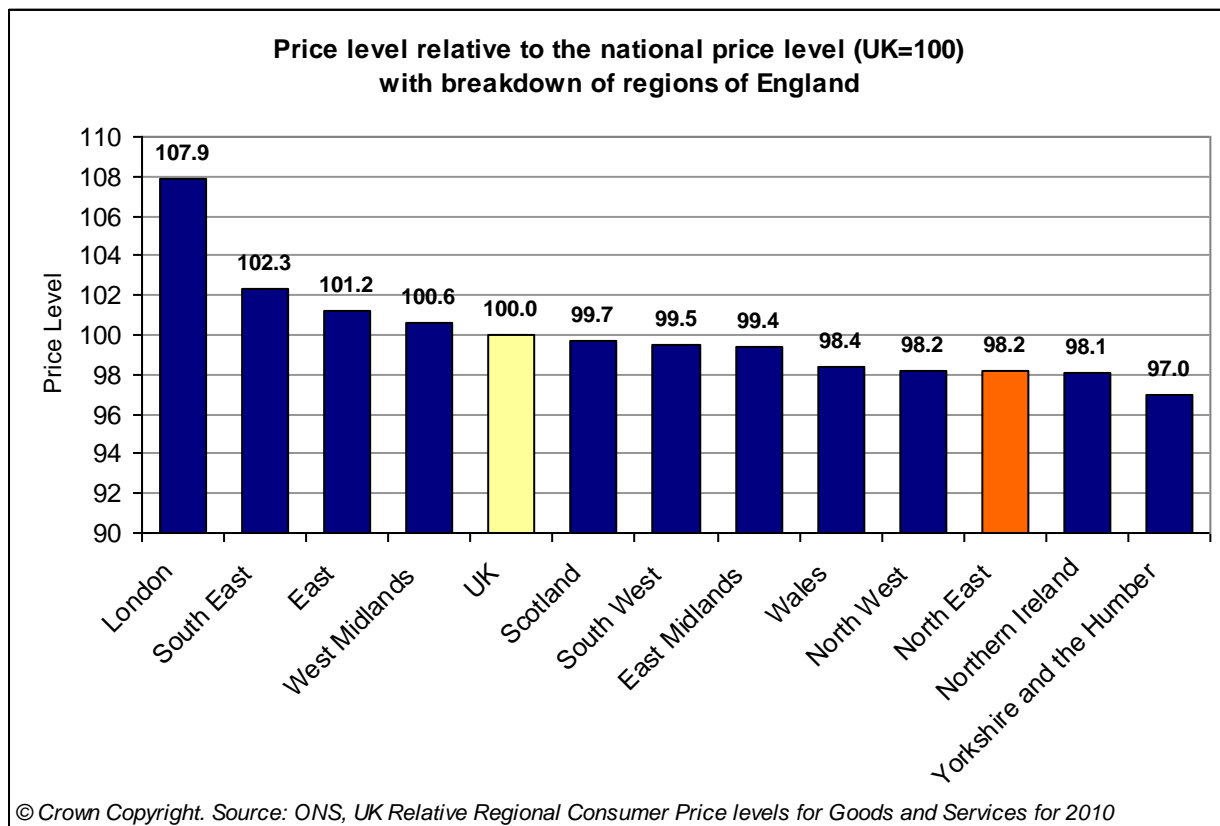
© Crown copyright. Source: Regional Gross Value Added (Income Approach) December 2011, Office for National Statistics (ONS).

### 3.0 UK Relative Regional Consumer Price Levels for Goods and Services

Relative Regional Consumers Price Levels (RRCPLs) provide a comparison of a region’s price level relative to the national price level where the UK=100. Those regions with a RRCPL above 100 are relatively more expensive than the UK average, while the converse is true for those regions with a RRCPL of less than 100.

The North East has price levels 1.8 per cent below the UK average, and Yorkshire and Humberside is the only English Region with lower RRCPLs than the North East.

**Figure 4: Relative Regional Consumers Price Levels**



ONS provides further information on RRCPLs, this is available on the [ONS website](#).



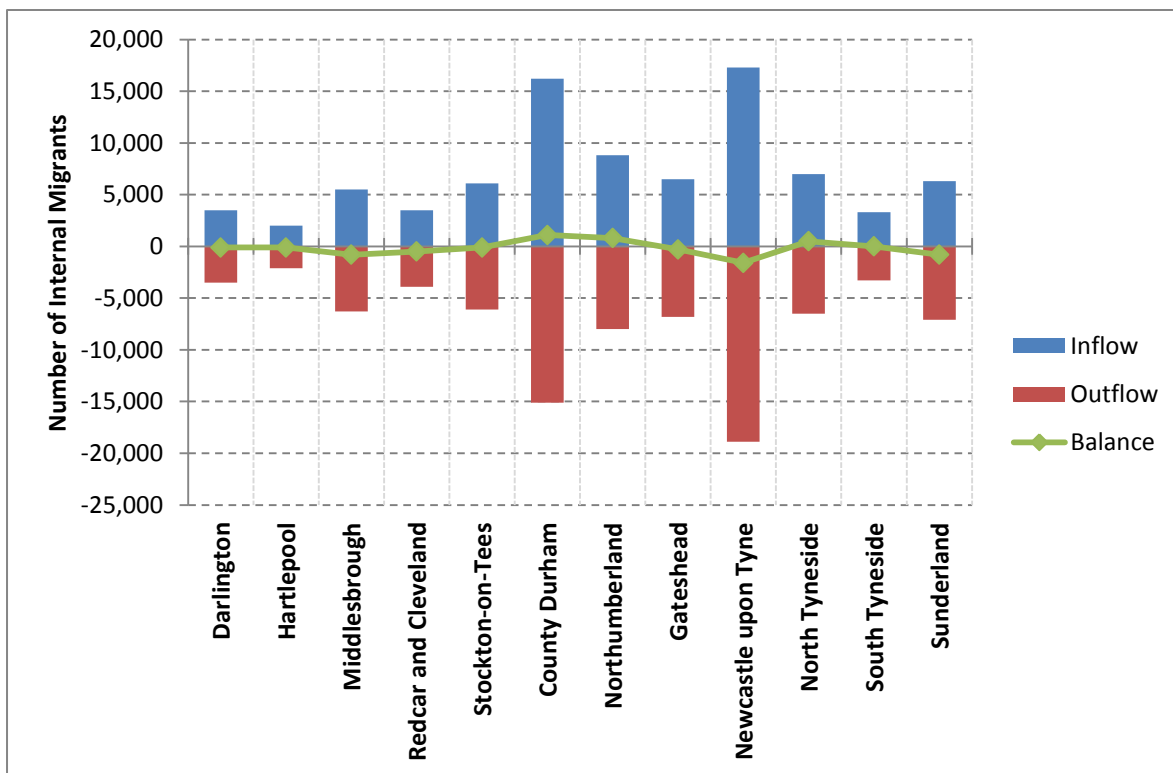
## 4.0 Migration

The ‘internal’ migration statistics in this report include movements of people within the UK.

The North East had the smallest turnover of internal migrants (87,600) in comparison to all other regions in England and Wales with 1,800 more people moving out of the region than moving in during the 12 months to June 2010.

Figure 5 shows that Northumberland (16,800) had the third largest turnover of internal migrants out of the 12 local authorities in the North East region after Newcastle upon Tyne (36,200) and County Durham (31,300). The large population of Northumberland in comparison to other areas (only County Durham has a larger population) is a major reason behind this. A slightly greater number of people moved into (8,800) Northumberland than out (8,000) over the period.

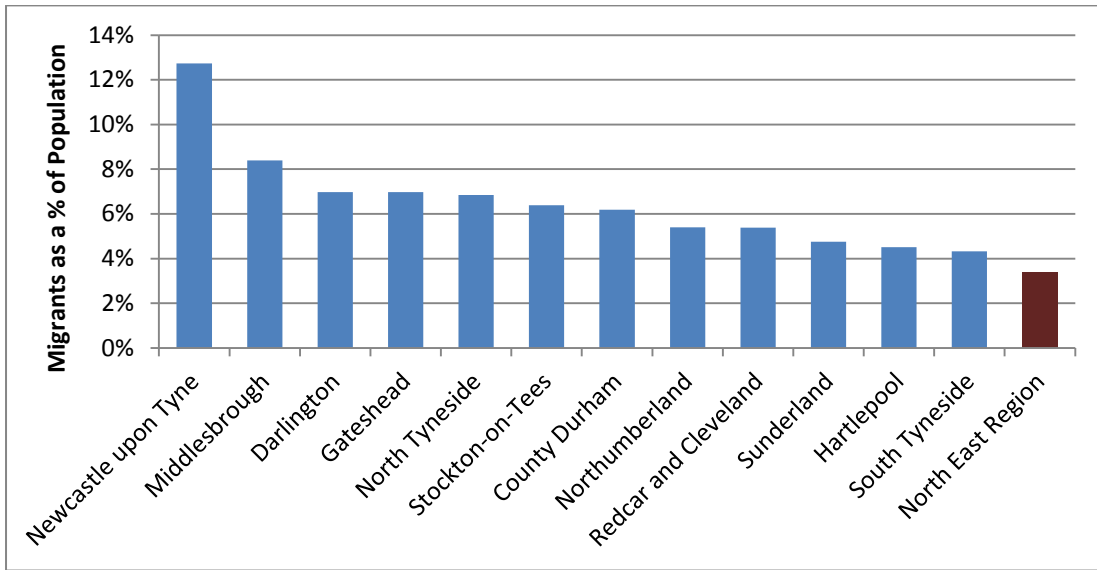
**Figure 5: Internal Migration by North East Region Local Authority Areas (mid 2010)**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS (Internal Migration within the UK by local authorities in England and Wales, mid-2010). Inflow = residents moving into area, outflow = residents moving out of area, and balance = Inflow – Outflow.

Figure 6 shows the total number of migrants in the North Eastern Local Authority areas as a proportion of the population in 2009. The number of migrants entering and leaving Northumberland in the 12 months to June 2010 was equivalent to 5% of the population, which was the 8<sup>th</sup> highest proportion of the 12 North East local authorities, Newcastle upon Tyne was the area within the North East where migration accounted for the largest proportion of the population.

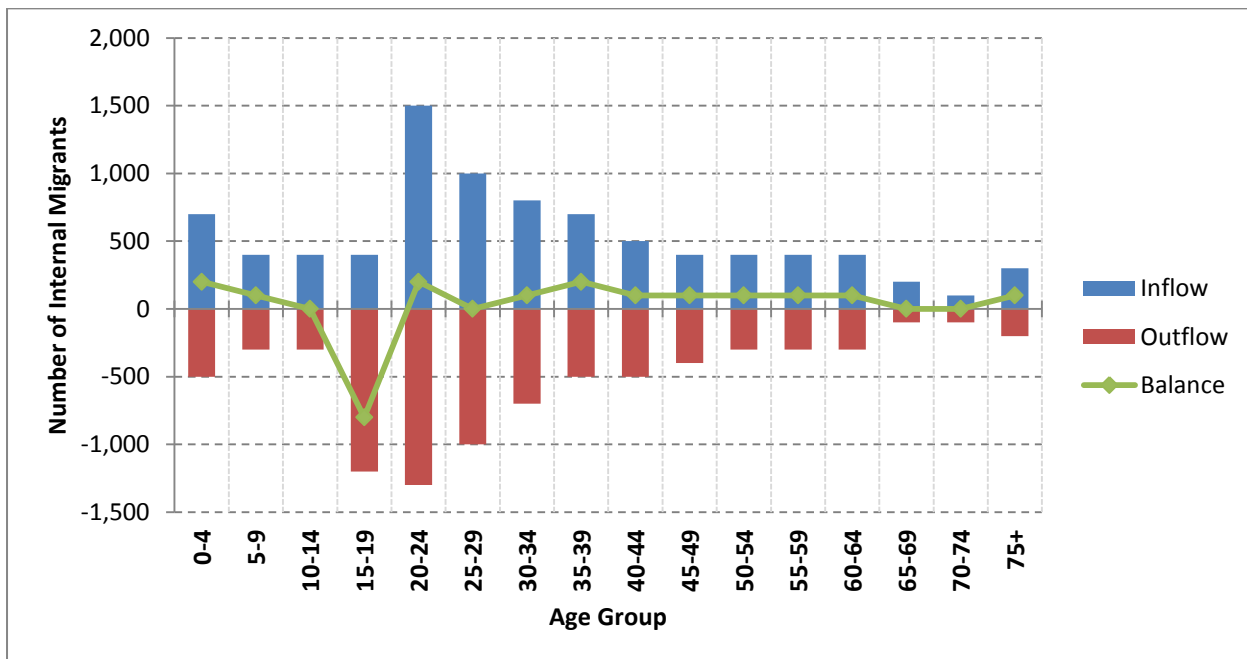
**Figure 6: Internal Migration Turnover as a Proportion of the Total Mid-2009 Population**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS (Internal Migration within the UK by local authorities in England and Wales, mid-2010) Proportion of ONS mid-2009 Population Estimates. Migration in and out of the North East region does not include migration between local authority areas within the region.

The movement of people in and out of Northumberland by five year age group is shown in figure 7. The largest turnover of migrants over the year was in the 20 to 24 year old age group (2,800), the 25 to 29 year old group (2,000), and the 15 to 19 year olds (1,600). Within 20 to 24 year old age group 200 more people moved into Northumberland than out, in the 25 to 29 year old group there was an equal number of in and out migrants while in the 15 to 19 year old group 800 more people moved out of the county than in.

**Figure 7: Internal Migration in Northumberland by 5 Year Age Group**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS (Internal Migration within the UK by local authorities in England and Wales, mid-2010). Inflow = residents moving into area, outflow = residents moving out of area, and balance = Inflow – Outflow.

## 5.0 Deprivation

The English Indices of Deprivation 2010 is a relative measure of deprivation at a small area level (LSOA) that measures a range of types of deprivation using different domains. This report analyses the overall levels of deprivation (IMD) and the income and employment deprivation domains.

The IMD is an overall measure of deprivation across seven different domains. The Income Domain measures the proportion of the population in an area experiencing deprivation related to low income. In addition to this domain, two supplementary indices are also produced: an Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOPI). These two indices represent the proportion of children aged 0-15 and the proportion of older people aged 60 and over living in income deprived households respectively. The Employment Domain measures employment deprivation in an area conceptualised as involuntary exclusion of the working age population from the labour market.

In each domain of the Indices of Deprivation 2010 every LSOA in England is given a rank from 1 to 32,482, the lower the rank the more deprived the LSOA is. The deciles in this report are ten groups of equal size for all LSOAs in England and indicate how deprived an LSOA is in comparison to all of the LSOAs in England. It is important to consider when looking at the English Indices of Deprivation 2010 that while it was constructed in 2010 but the majority of the datasets used relate to 2008.

Figure 8 shows that Northumberland has a fairly even number of LSOAs in each decile of the IMD ranging from the most deprived to least deprived nationally, whereas the North East Region and the North Eastern LEP have higher proportions of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the IMD.

The former Wansbeck District has a high proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the IMD nationally, a higher proportion than Northumberland as a whole and the North East Region and the North Eastern LEP. The former Blyth Valley District also has a high proportion of LSOAs in the most deprived deciles of the IMD in comparison to Northumberland while the other four former districts have higher proportions of LSOAs in the least deprived deciles nationally, most notably Alnwick, Castle Morpeth and Tynedale.

Figure 8: IMD Proportion of LSOAs by Decile

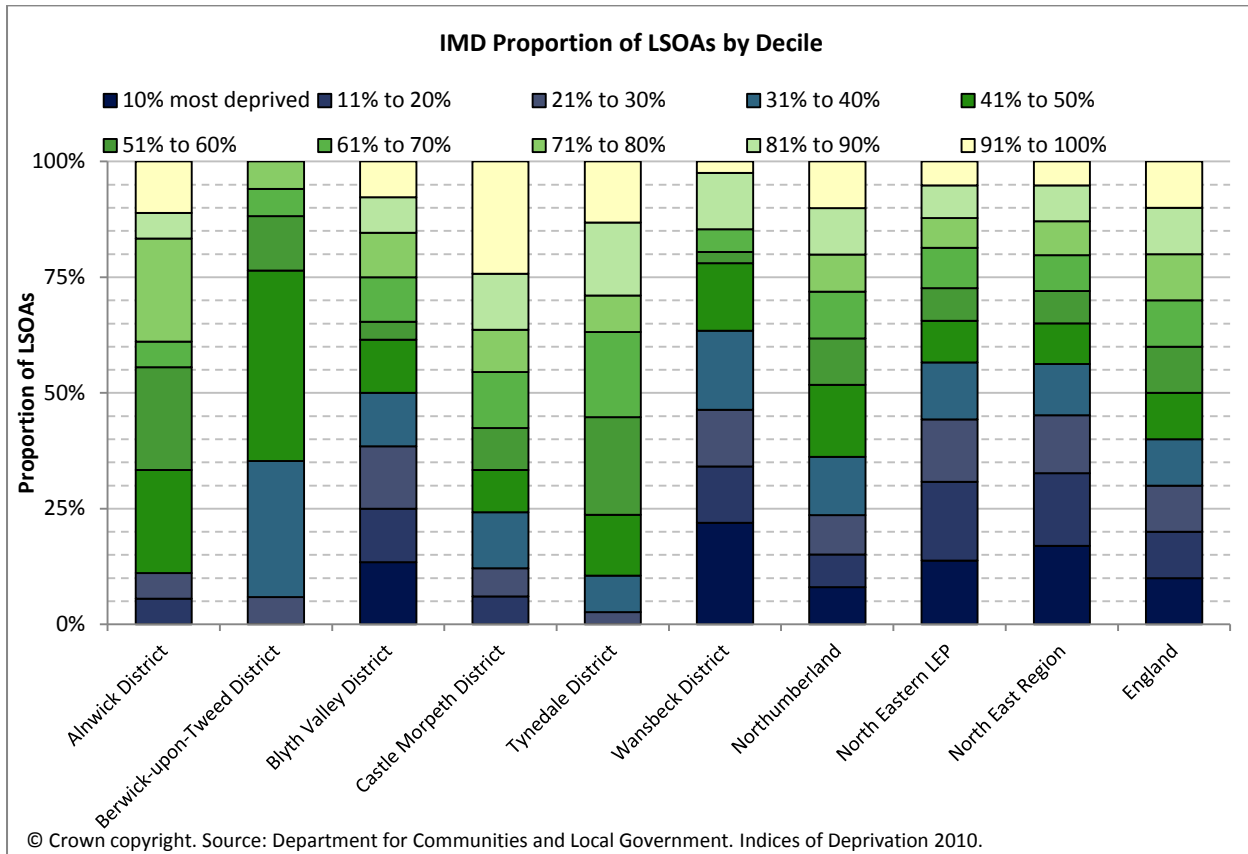


Figure 9 shows that in terms of overall deprivation LSOAs falling into the most deprived deciles of the IMD in Northumberland are concentrated in the South East corner of the county. The more rural areas of Northumberland in the North and West of the county generally have lower levels of deprivation with the areas surrounding towns often being more deprived than the most rural areas of Northumberland.

Figures 10 to 13 show the differing levels of deprivation in the employment and income domains (including income deprivation affecting children and older people supplementary indices) for Northumberland and its former districts and also for the North Eastern LEP and North East Region. The maps in Figures 14 to 17 show the location of small areas of employment and income deprivation in Northumberland.

Figure 9: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010

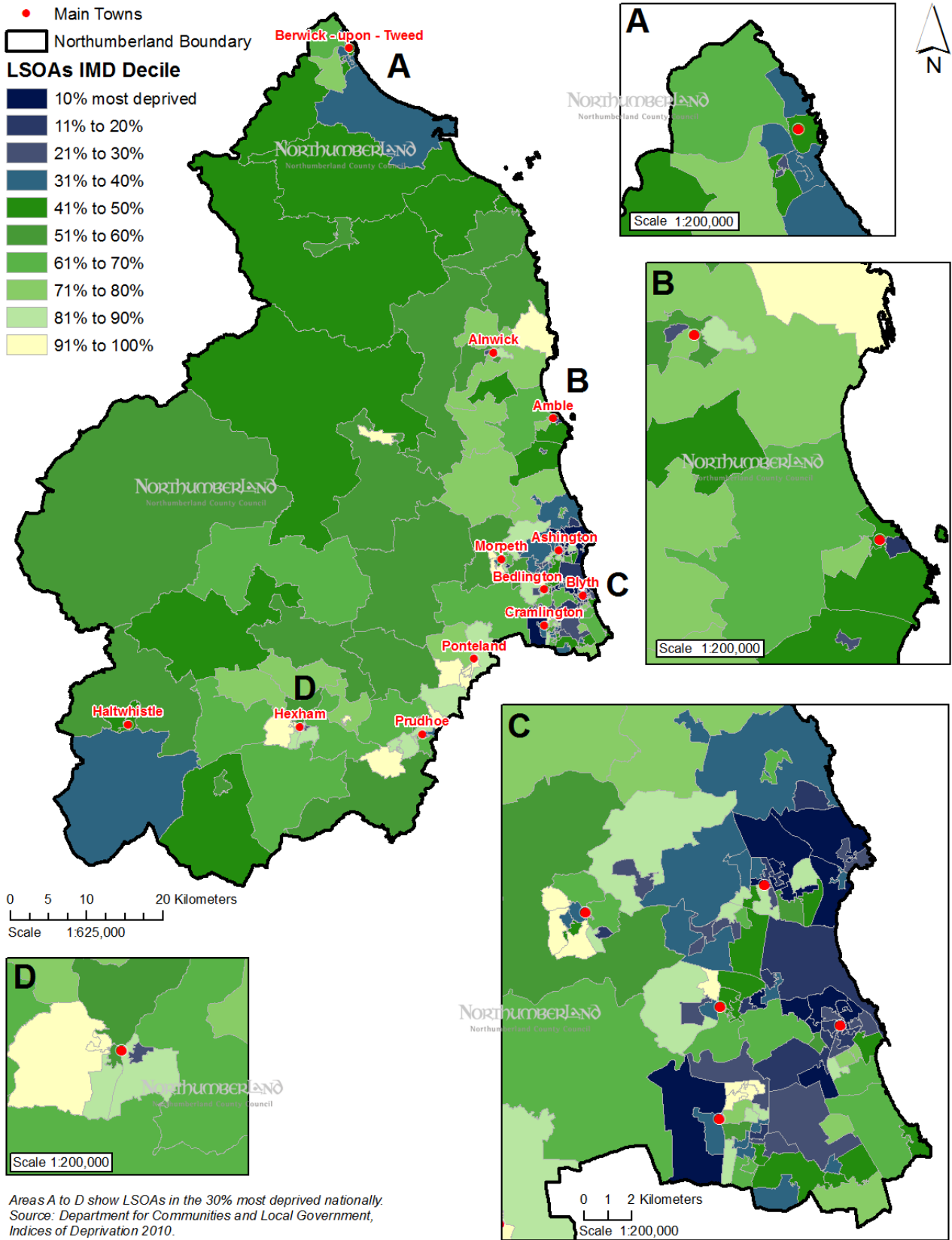


Figure 10: Proportion of LSOAs by Employment Domain Decile

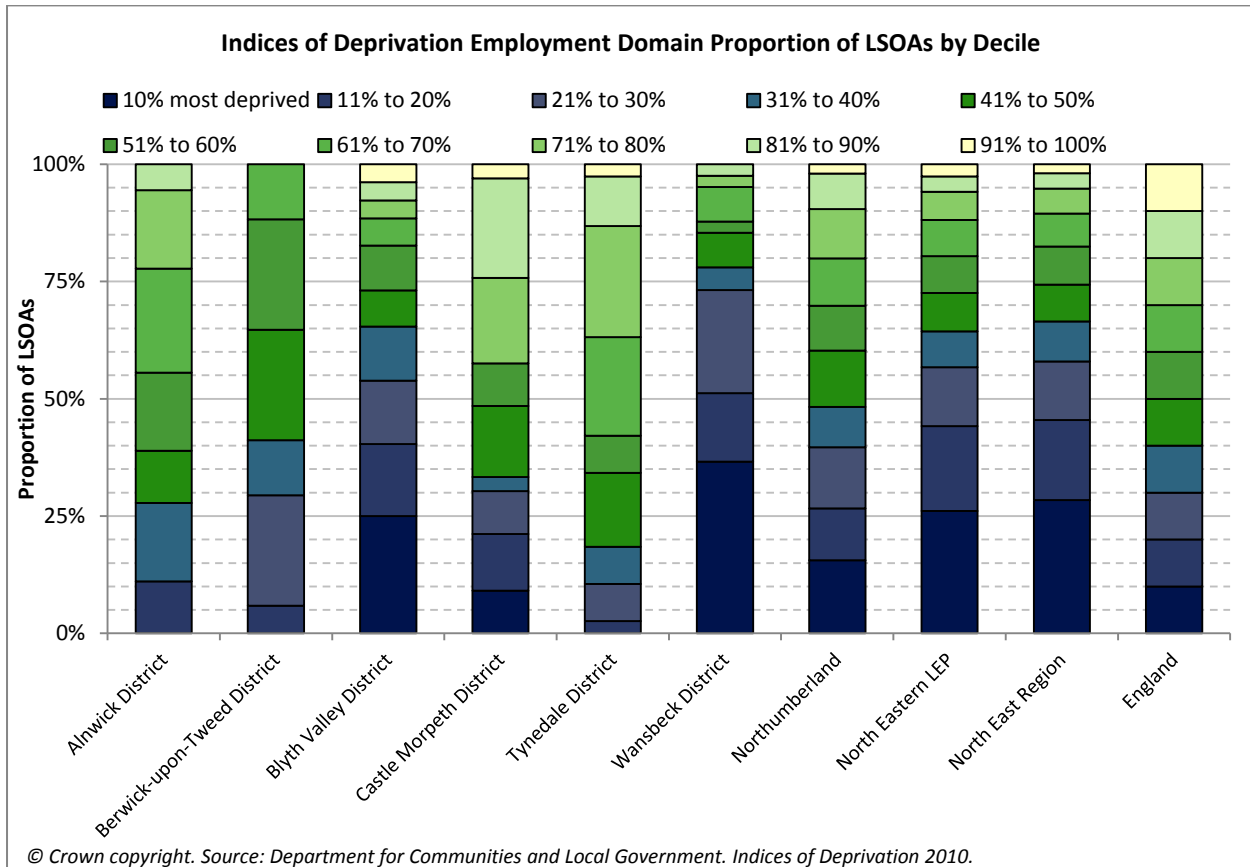


Figure 11: Proportion of LSOAs by Income Domain Decile

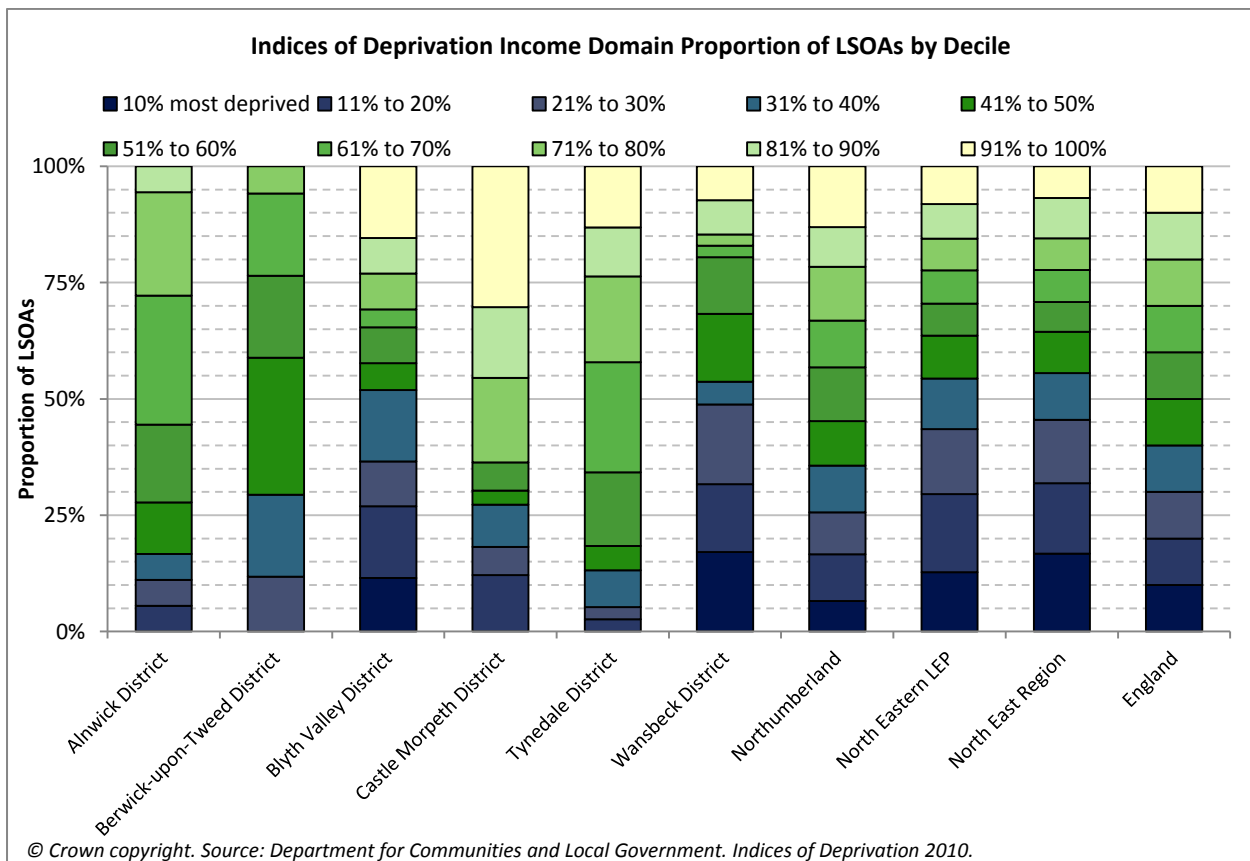


Figure 12: Proportion of LSOAs by Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index Decile

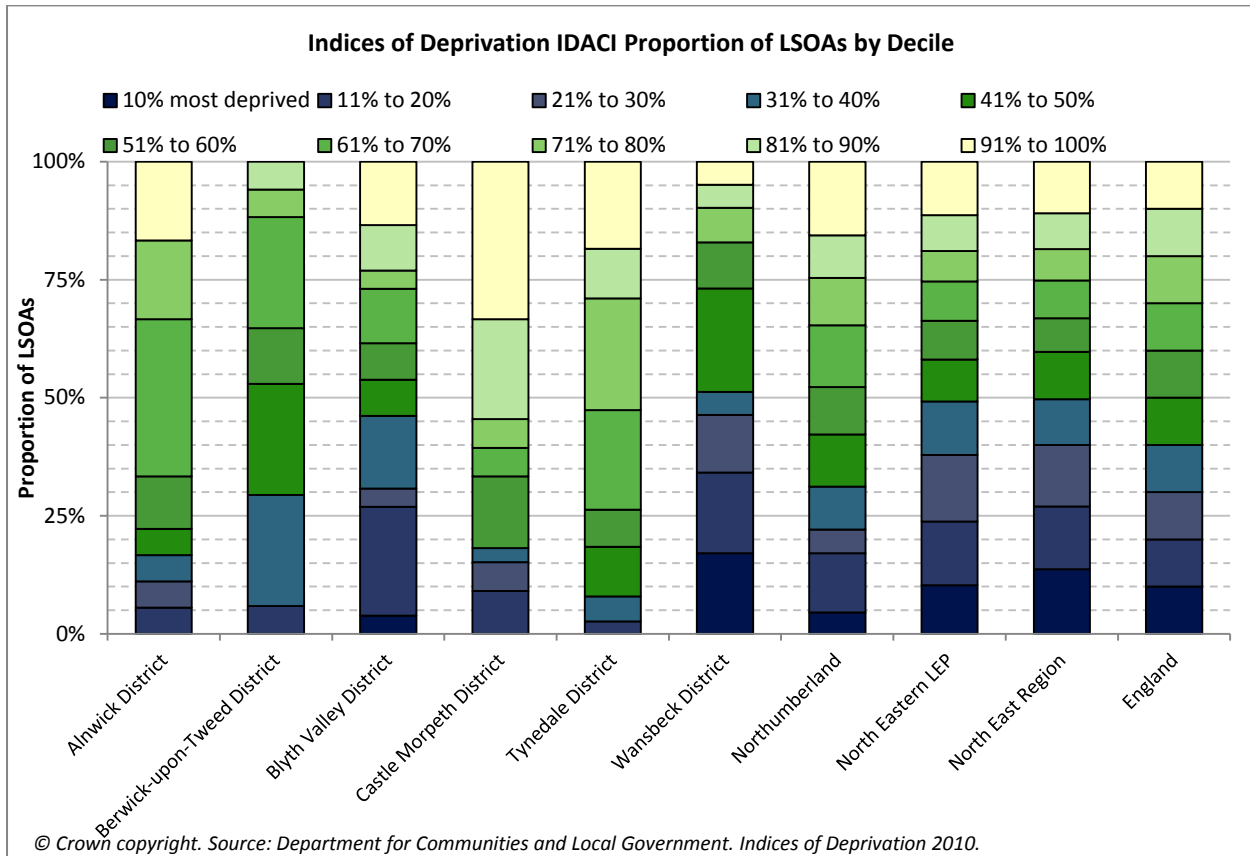


Figure 13: Proportion of LSOAs by Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Decile

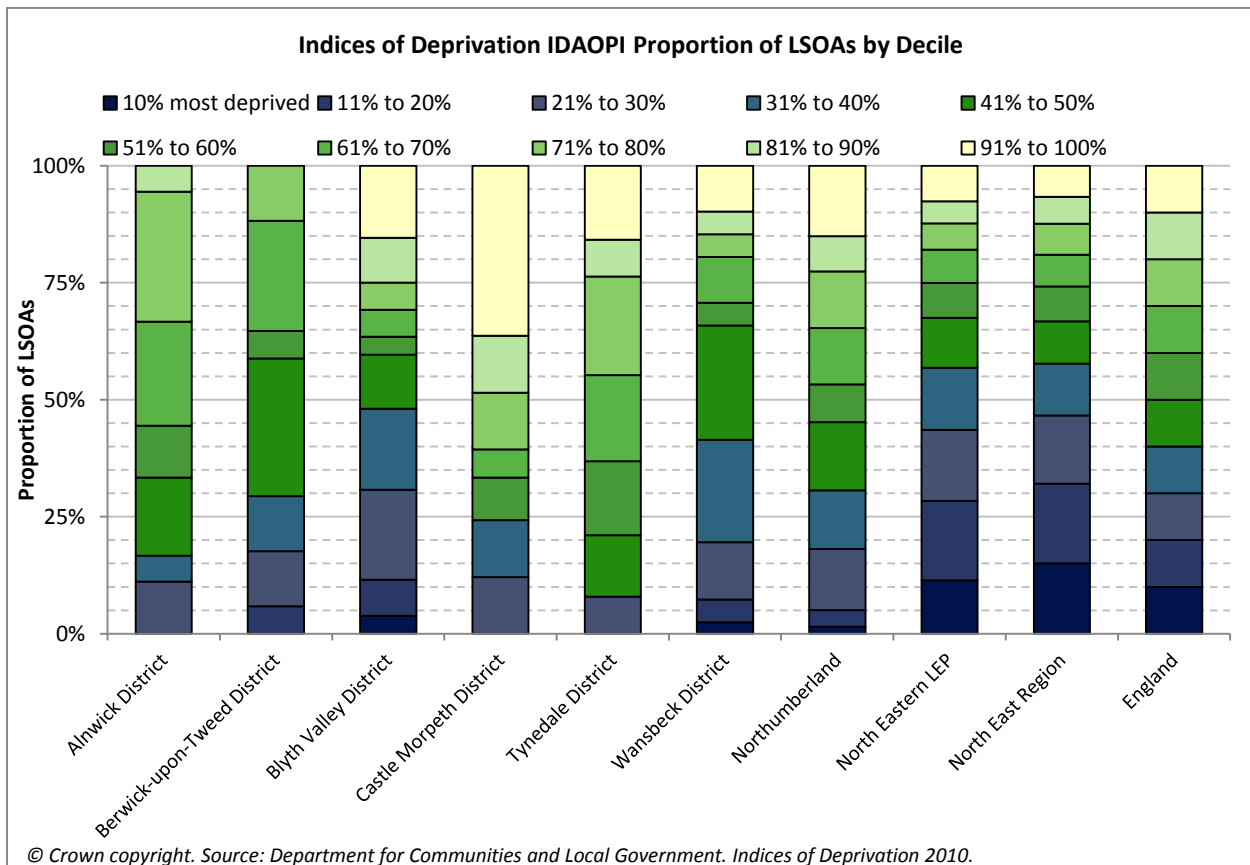


Figure 14: Map of ID 2010 Employment Domain

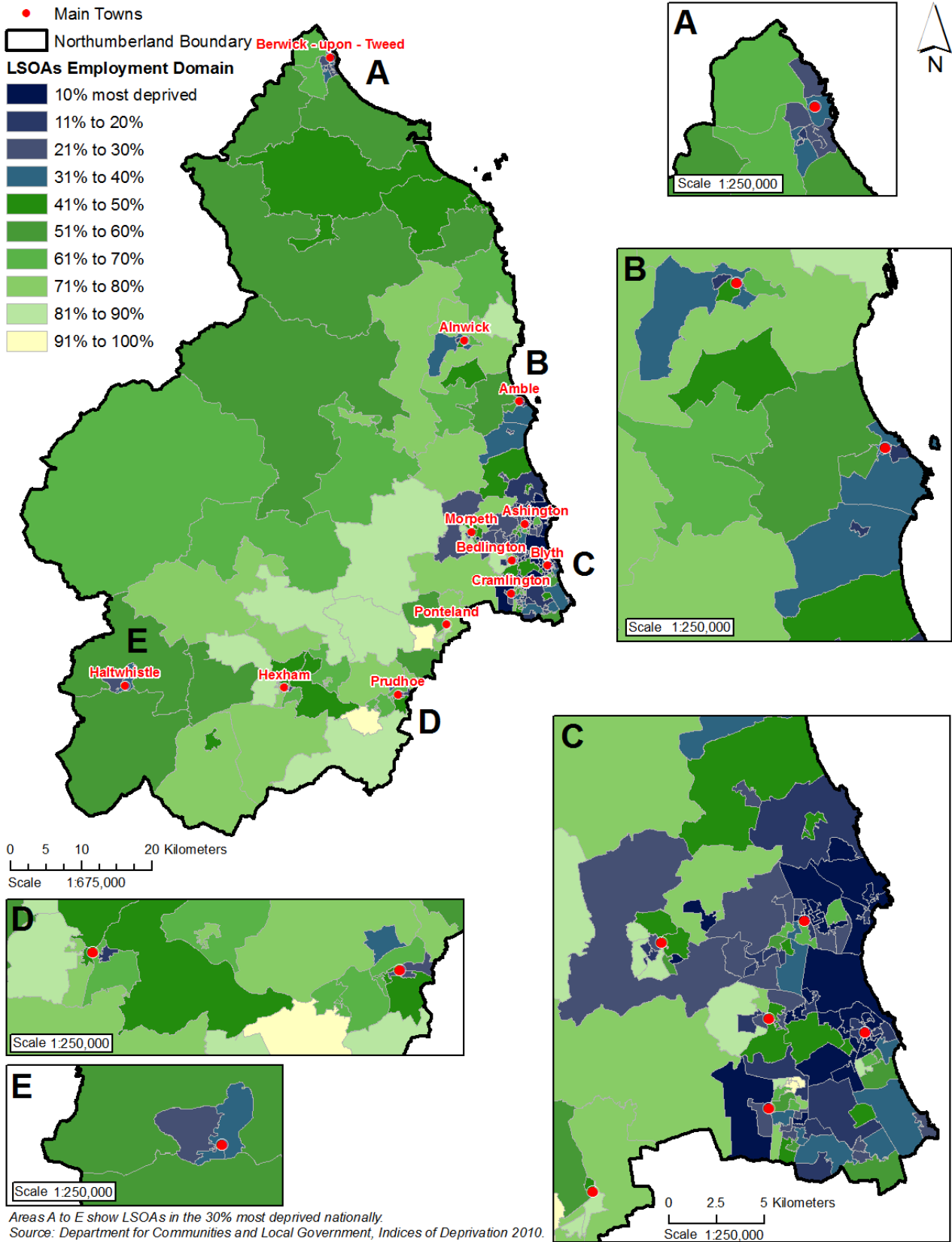
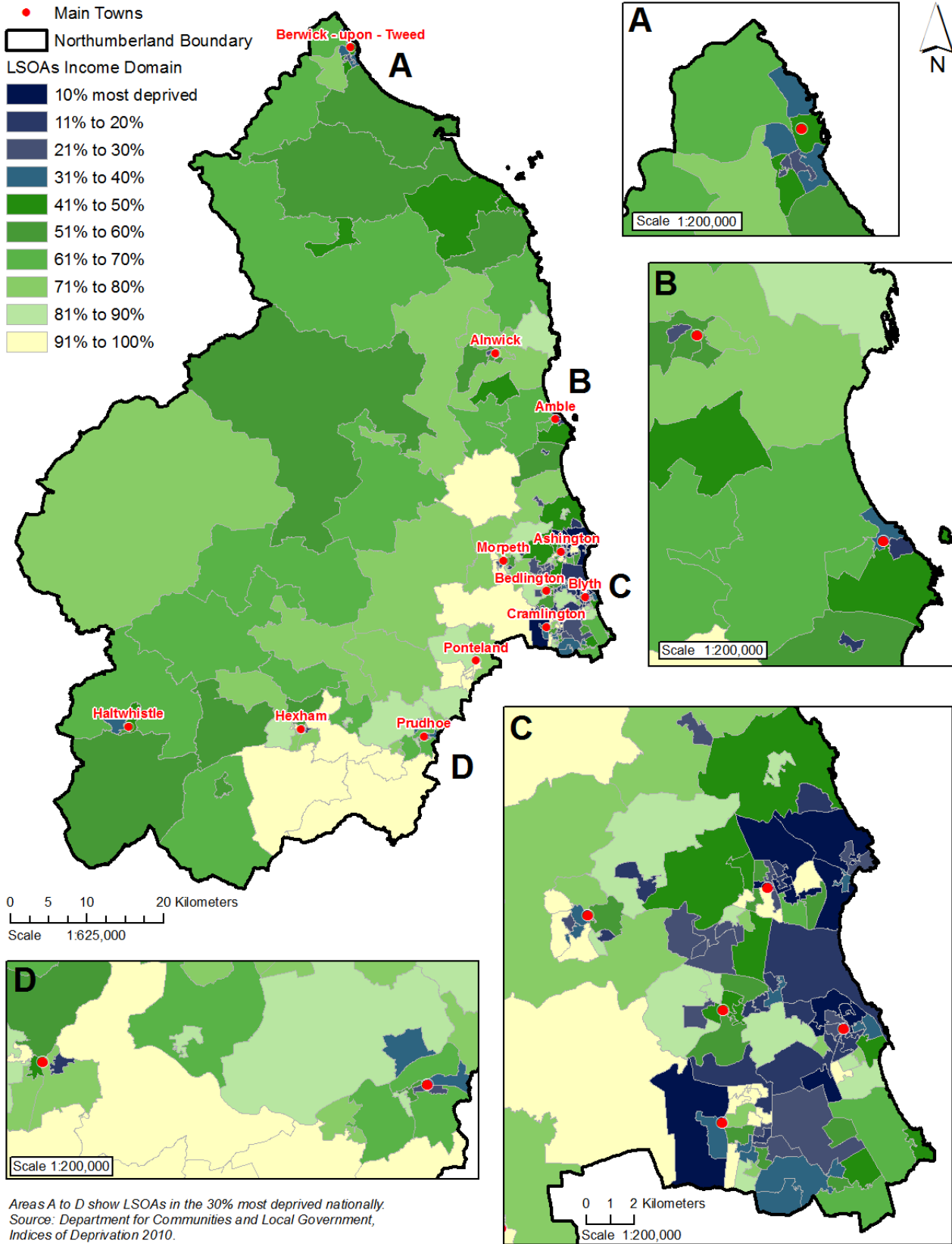




Figure 15: Map of ID 2010 Income Domain



Areas A to D show LSOAs in the 30% most deprived nationally. Source: Department for Communities and Local Government, Indices of Deprivation 2010.

Figure 16: Map of ID 2010 IDACI

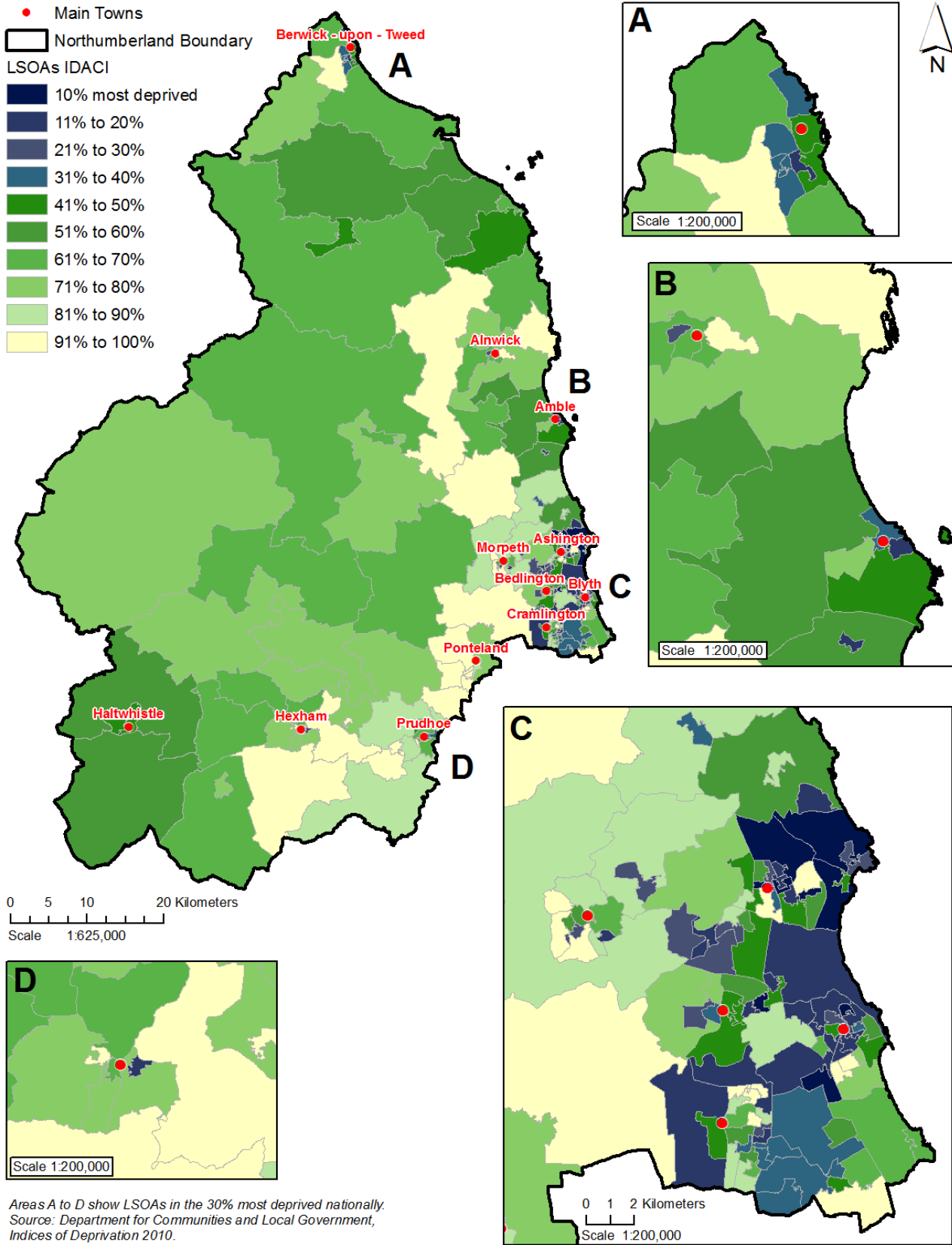
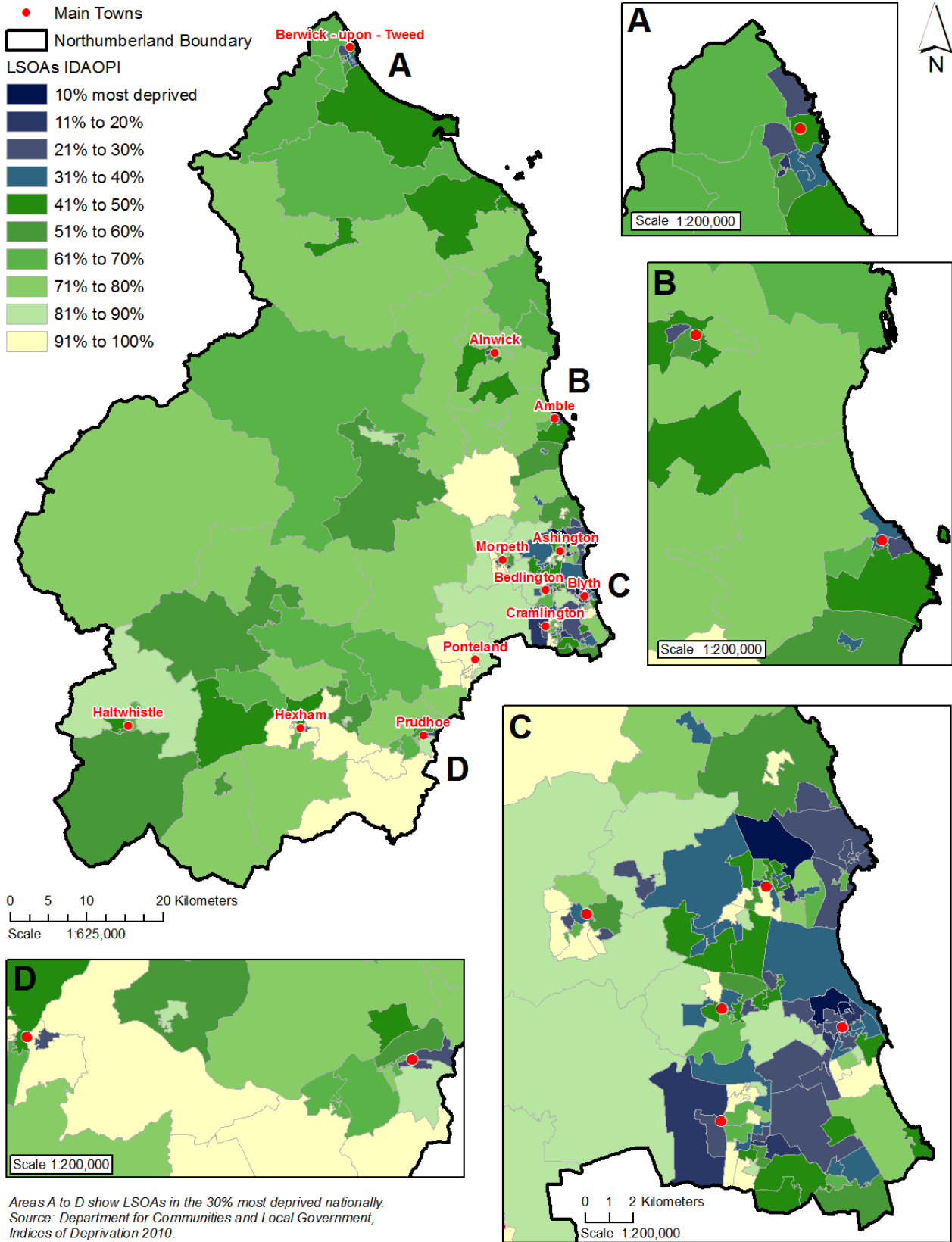


Figure 17: Map of ID 2010 IDAOP1



## 6.0 Poverty

### 6.1 Earnings

The Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) takes place in April each year to obtain information on levels and distribution of earnings of employees. ASHE is based on a sample of employee jobs taken from HM Revenue & Customs PAYE records for employees who are living or working in an area, who are on adult rates and whose pay for the survey pay-period was not affected by absence.

Figure 18 shows that resident's earnings in Northumberland and across all of the former districts are higher than local workplace earnings in the county. The former Tynedale District (£198) has the largest difference between residents and workplace pay, the other former districts with the largest difference between residents and local workplace earnings are Alnwick (£148) and Castle Morpeth (£86) suggesting people living in these areas are more likely to commute outside of the county. People living in Northumberland earn on average £49 per week more than those working in the county while there is only a very small difference between the average earnings for residents and workplaces in the North East Region and England.

The average earnings figures provided in figures 18 to 20 are based on a sample of the population and are colour coded depending on their confidence level/accuracy:

Precise

Reasonably precise

Acceptable, but use with caution

**Figure 18: Average (Median) Resident and Workplace Full-Time Gross Weekly Earnings (£ per week)**

Area	2011		
	Resident	Workplace	Difference
Alnwick District	505	358	148
Berwick-upon-Tweed District	386	381	5
Blyth Valley District	446	432	14
Castle Morpeth District	557	471	86
Tynedale District	582	385	198
Wansbeck District	439	431	8
Northumberland	474	425	49
North East	451	452	-1
England	508	507	0

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings).

When looking at residence based pay in Northumberland average earnings are higher in Northumberland (£474) than the North East (£451) but lower than England (£508). Resident earning levels in the former districts of Berwick-upon-Tweed (£386), Blyth Valley (£446) and Wansbeck (£439) are lower than the Northumberland average meaning there is an even greater disparity with earning levels across England. Figure 19 shows that since 2007 Northumberland earnings increased each year until 2011 when the earnings levels were lower than in 2010, while at a North East and England level earnings have increased every year between 2007 and 2011.

**Figure 19: Average (Median) Resident Full-Time Gross Weekly Earnings (£ per week)**

Area	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Alnwick District	429	452	519	471	505
Berwick-upon-Tweed District	350	334	381	411	386
Blyth Valley District	353	387	414	437	446
Castle Morpeth District	496	550	608	616	557
Tynedale District	500	576	602	626	582
Wansbeck District	424	415	424	441	439
Northumberland	417	433	468	481	474
North East	401	422	439	443	451
England	464	485	496	506	508

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings).

Work place earnings in Northumberland (£425) are lower than in both the North East (£452) and England (£507). Work place earning levels in the former districts of Alnwick (£358), Berwick-upon-Tweed (£381), and Tynedale (£385) are lower than the Northumberland average meaning there is an even greater disparity with earning levels across the North East Region and England. Figure 20 shows that since 2007 work place earnings in the North East and England have increased each year until 2011 however the change for England was very small between 2010 and 2011. Workplace earnings at a Northumberland level have followed a similar pattern from 2007 although between 2010 and 2011 the average earnings decreased by a negligible amount.

**Figure 20: Average (Median) Workplace Full-Time Gross Weekly Earnings (£ per week)**

Area	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Alnwick District	403	378	358	376	358
Berwick-upon-Tweed District	335	340	358	378	381
Blyth Valley District	357	377	399	406	432
Castle Morpeth District	438	485	466	473	471
Tynedale District	389	407	444	426	385
Wansbeck District	395	410	426	421	431
Northumberland	387	401	422	426	425
North East	404	421	436	443	452
England	464	484	495	505	507

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings).

Earnings at a more local level in Northumberland are not available from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings but household income figures for the 67 County Wards in Northumberland are available from CACI Information Solutions Paycheck dataset shown in Figure 21. The household income figures are for all households based in the area and because of this are not comparable with the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings figures.

Figure 21: Average (Mean) Northumberland Household Income by County Ward

Average Annual Household Income (£):

- 21825 - 25270
- 25837 - 29141
- 30179 - 34792
- 36078 - 42599
- 44163 - 56835

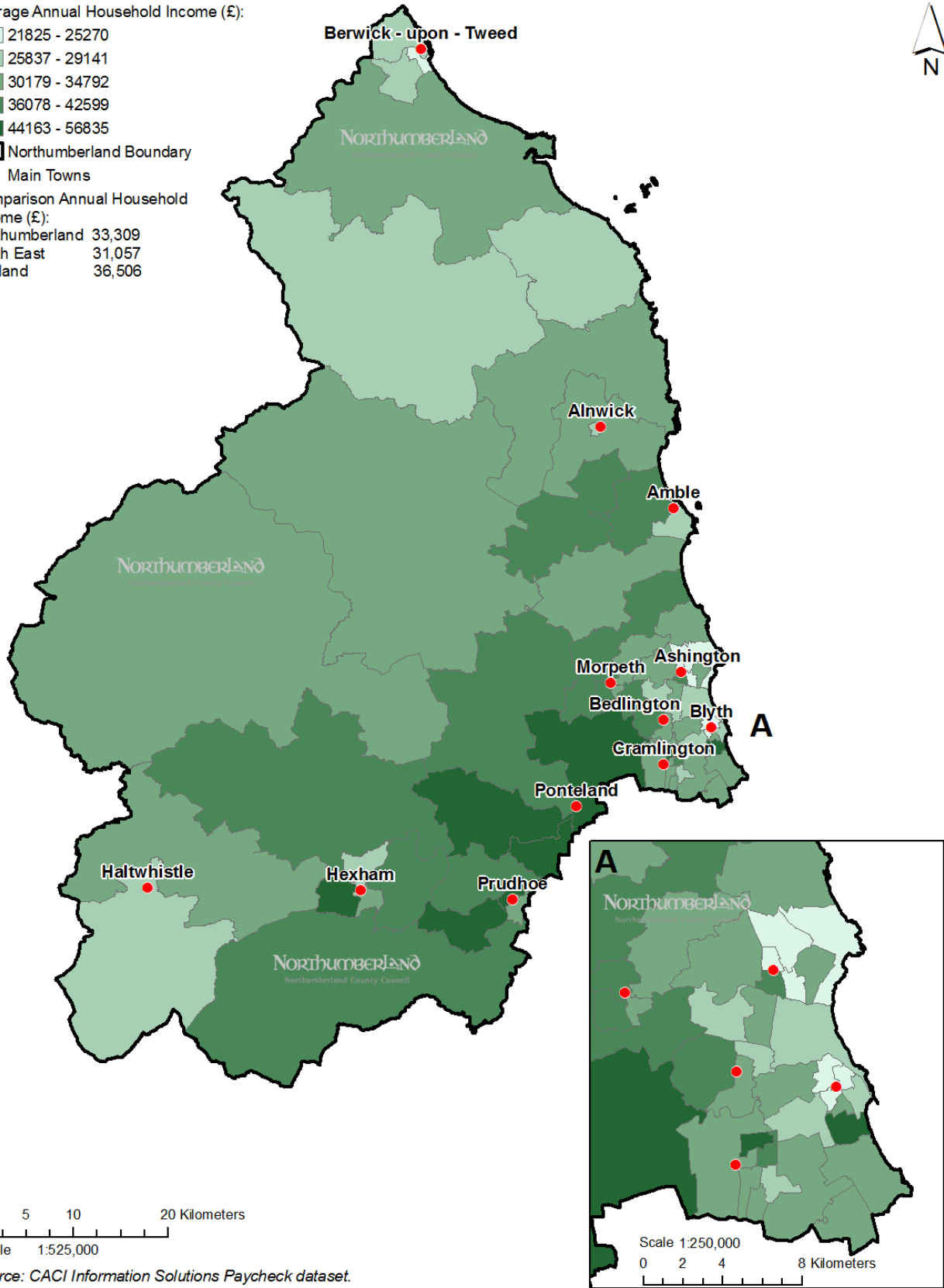
Northumberland Boundary

Main Towns

Comparison Annual Household

Income (£):

Northumberland	33,309
North East	31,057
England	36,506



Source: CACI Information Solutions Paycheck dataset.

## 6.2 Child Poverty

There are currently **two** local child poverty measures which estimate the number and proportion of children in low income poverty in each local authority.

1. The **local child poverty proxy measure** (formerly NI 116 *proxy measure*) is defined as the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits and covers children aged 0-15 years.

The following table shows snapshots at May 2009 and 2010.

**Figure 22: Local child poverty proxy measure 2009 and 2010**

	Children living in families in receipt of out-of-work benefits as at May 2009		Children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits as at May 2010	
	Number	Proportion (%)	Number	Proportion (%)
<b>ENGLAND</b>	2,028,170	22.3%	2,025,360	22.1%
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	117,940	26.2%	117,050	26.2%
County Durham	22,360	25.3%	21,980	24.9%
Darlington	4,390	22.7%	4,320	22.3%
Gateshead	8,680	25.8%	8,500	25.3%
Hartlepool	5,530	30.6%	5,630	31.3%
Middlesbrough	9,440	34.3%	9,580	34.6%
Newcastle upon Tyne	13,630	29.9%	13,400	29.1%
North Tyneside	7,420	21.3%	7,320	20.9%
<b>Northumberland</b>	<b>10,070</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>9,960</b>	<b>18.9%</b>
Redcar and Cleveland	6,820	27.2%	6,730	27.2%
South Tyneside	7,650	28.9%	7,600	28.8%
Stockton-on-Tees	8,350	22.4%	8,490	22.8%
Sunderland	13,600	27.5%	13,540	27.7%

Northumberland had the lowest proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits in the North East region in both snapshots – 2009 and 2010, however in numerical terms, Northumberland had the fourth largest number of children in this *proxy measure*. Note the fall in number and proportion throughout most of the North East between 2009 and 2010.

2. The revised **local child poverty measure** (formerly NI 116) is defined as the proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income. Data is published annually and the latest data is for 2009. The following table shows how Northumberland compares regionally and nationally:

**Figure 23: Local child poverty measure**

Proportion of children living in families in receipt of out of work (means-tested) benefits or in receipt of tax credits where their reported income is less than 60 per cent of median income	2007 (%)	2008 (%)	2009 (%)
<b>ENGLAND</b>	21.6	20.9	21.3
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	24.3	24.0	24.5
County Durham	21.9	21.8	22.8
Darlington	21.7	21.2	21.2
Gateshead	24.8	24.3	24.6
Hartlepool	29.5	28.9	29.2
Middlesbrough	33.3	33.5	33.6
Newcastle upon Tyne	32.3	32.1	30.5
North Tyneside	19.9	19.8	20.4
<b>Northumberland</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>17.8</b>
Redcar and Cleveland	25.5	25.1	25.6
South Tyneside	27.9	27.6	27.7
Stockton-on-Tees	21.4	21.3	22.3
Sunderland	25.4	25.0	25.9

Taken in a regional context, Northumberland has consistently showed the lowest proportion of children living in poverty since 2007 (17.1% - equal to approximately 11,605 dependent children under 20, 17% - equal to approximately 11,538 dependent children under 20, 17.8% - equal to approximately 12,081 dependent children under 20). This County-wide figure however, masks extreme variances at a more local level – ranging from 1% in the Ponteland South area to 57.6% in the Croft area of Blyth Valley. At the latest available mid year population estimates, this equates to 237 children under 20 in the Croft area alone. The table below provides details of contrasting levels of child poverty in Northumberland.

**Figure 24: Child poverty at Northumberland ward level**

	Worst wards		Equivalent 0-19 population		Best wards		Equivalent 0-19 population
2008	Croft	61%	253		Hexham West	1%	5
	College/Seaton with Newbiggin West	49%	172		Ponteland South with Heddon	1%	3
	Newsham	47%	275		Stocksfield and Broomhaugh	1%	4
	Hirst	47%	240		Ponteland North	2%	5
	Ashington Central/College/Hirst	45%	219		Ponteland East	2%	6
2009	Croft	58%	237		Ponteland South with Heddon	1%	6
	College/Seaton with Newbiggin West	54%	190		Morpeth North	2%	4
	Newsham	51%	296		Lesbury	2%	4
	Cramlington West	50%	240		Stocksfield and Broomhaugh	2%	5
	Hirst	47%	227		Chevington with Longhorsley	2%	6



Across the North East there was a 0.5% increase in this child poverty measure between 2008 and 2009. In Northumberland the largest increase was in the Seghill area of Blyth Valley which increased from 21.7% to 29.7%. The largest decrease was in the Elizabeth area of Berwick upon Tweed which decreased by 5.6% to 12%.

### 6.3 Fuel Poverty

The North East as a region has specific significant challenges which increase the impact of fuel poverty:

- It is the coldest region in England
- It is the most economically deprived
- Much of its housing stock is poor in terms of thermal efficiency

(NEA October 2009)

BRE's latest fuel poverty estimates place Northumberland highest in the region for proportion of households in fuel poverty (2009 Sub-regional fuel poverty levels, BRE, DECC), substantially higher than the regional and national average and a marked increase on the previous years figures. The table below provides the latest local regional and national figures:

**Figure 25: Fuel poverty 2008-2009**

	2008			2009		
	Estimated number of households	Estimated number of households in fuel poverty	% of households fuel poor	Number of households	Number of households in fuel poverty	% of households fuel poor
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>21,407,233</b>	<b>3,334,615</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>21,535,414</b>	<b>3,963,923</b>	<b>18.4%</b>
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	<b>1,115,195</b>	<b>236,239</b>	<b>21.2%</b>	1,127,904	271,519	24.1%
County Durham	220,608	49,101	22.3%	223,603	55,827	25.0%
Darlington	45,994	9,038	19.7%	46,552	10,844	23.3%
Gateshead	88,405	18,588	21.0%	89,074	22,018	24.7%
Hartlepool	39,377	8,286	21.0%	39,999	9,443	23.6%
Middlesbrough	56,290	12,402	22.0%	56,978	14,199	24.9%
Newcastle upon Tyne	113,382	23,933	21.1%	114,918	26,930	23.4%
North Tyneside	89,290	16,412	18.4%	90,098	19,972	22.2%
<b>Northumberland</b>	<b>137,793</b>	<b>32,934</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>139,363</b>	<b>37,240</b>	<b>26.7%</b>
Redcar and Cleveland	59,239	12,416	21.0%	59,989	14,767	24.6%
South Tyneside	68,002	14,366	21.1%	68,585	16,332	23.8%
Stockton-on-Tees	77,977	14,325	18.4%	79,138	16,463	20.8%
Sunderland	118,838	24,438	20.6%	119,607	27,484	23.0%

Below Northumberland level, the proportion of households estimated to be fuel poor using the latest available BRE data range from 55% in the Bamburgh area (equivalent to 394 households) to 8% in

Cramlington North (equivalent to 164 households). The following table shows the areas with the highest and lowest proportion of fuel poor households together with the estimated number of 0-19 year olds.

**Figure 26: Fuel poverty at Northumberland ward level**

	Worst wards	% of households fuel poor	0-19 population	Total number of households in area	Best wards	% of households fuel poor	0-19 population	Total number of households in area
2008	Haltwhistle	50.7%	200	502	Cramlington North	6.0%	1,540	2,055
	Wooler	47.1%	263	825	South Blyth	7.2%	512	787
	South Tynedale	45.6%	249	556	Bothal	7.5%	239	512
	Bamburgh	45.3%	182	717	Cramlington Eastfield	7.8%	373	590
	Norham & Islandshires/Wooler	45.2%	312	902	Plessey/South Blyth	9.3%	345	775
2009	Bamburgh	55.0%	182	717	Cramlington North	8.0%	1,540	2,055
	Haltwhistle	54.2%	200	502	Bothal	9.0%	239	512
	Wooler	53.0%	263	825	Cramlington Eastfield	10.5%	373	590
	Norham & Islandshires	50.7%	227	629	South Blyth	10.5%	512	787
	Norham & Islandshires/Wooler	49.4%	312	902	Bedlington West	10.7%	569	647

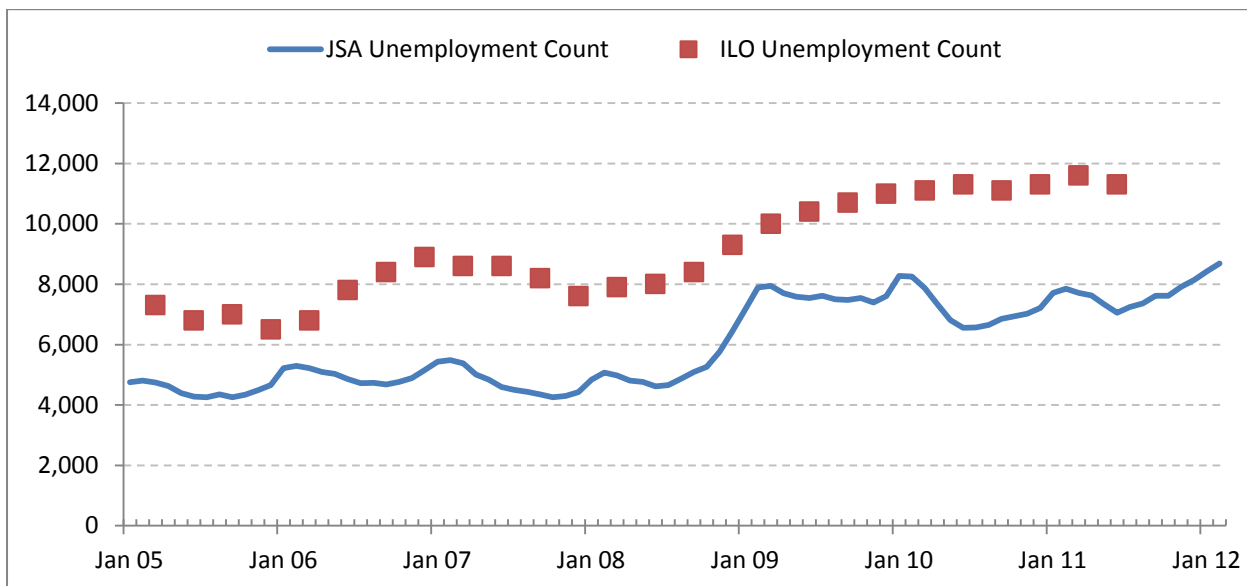
## 7.0 Unemployment

There are two commonly used measures of unemployment. The first is the International Labour Organisation (ILO) measure which is based on national survey data of a sample of the total population. The measure counts all people aged 16 and over without a job who are available to and able to start work. This is classed as the 'official' measure of unemployment preferred by the government.

The second measure of unemployment is Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimant count. This is not an official measure of unemployment but provides a useful indicator of job market conditions.

Claimant count only counts those residents who are out of work and qualify for JSA meaning that it can underestimate the true extent of unemployment; Figure 27 provides a comparison of claimant count and ILO Unemployment levels for Northumberland.

**Figure 27: Northumberland ILO Unemployment Compared to JSA Claimant Count Unemployment (Numbers)**

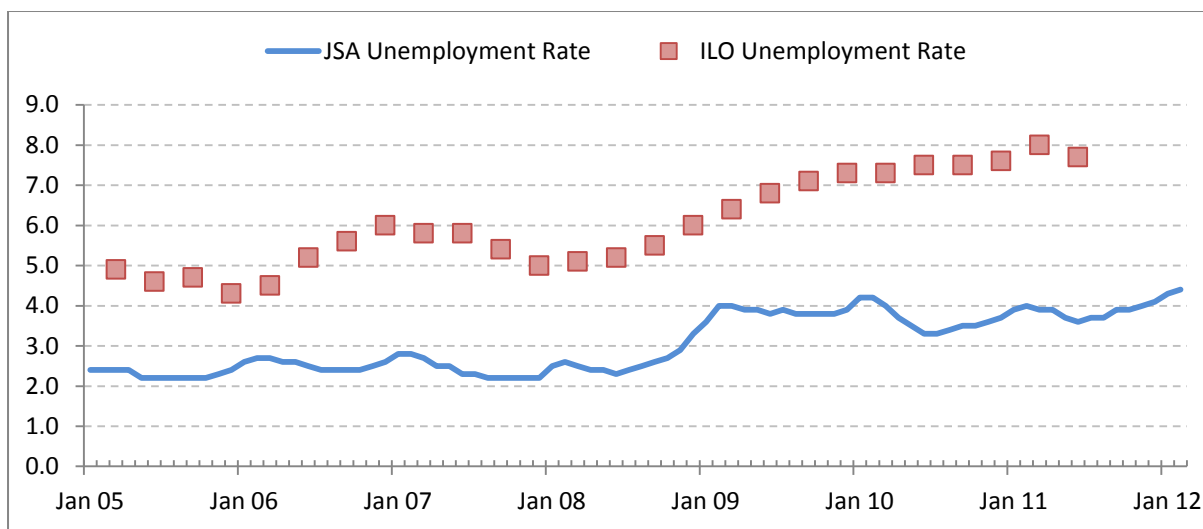


© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis. Claimant count with rates and proportions and model-based estimates of unemployment.

Figure 27 shows the model based ILO unemployment has been significantly higher than the JSA Claimant count between March 2005 and February 2012.

Using unemployment rates allows comparison between different areas such as Northumberland, the North East Region and England. The rate for ILO unemployment is calculated using a different denominator (the proportion of the economically active population aged 16 and over) to the JSA claimant count rate (which uses all residents aged 16 to 64), Figure 28 provides a comparison between the level of two different unemployment rates.

**Figure 28: Northumberland ILO Unemployment Compared to JSA Claimant Count Unemployment Rates**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis. Claimant count with rates and proportions and model-based estimates of unemployment. JSA Rates calculated using Mid 2010 Population estimates for population aged 16 to 64. ILO rates calculated by using the proportion of economically active population aged 16+.

Figure 28 shows the difference over time of the JSA claimant count unemployment rate and the ILO unemployment rate which is significantly higher.

JSA claimant count is often used to measure unemployment because it is not subject to sampling errors so is available at a local small area level and it is also released monthly (one month in arrears meaning that it is more sensitive to changes over short periods of time. ILO unemployment is released on a quarterly basis approximately seven months in arrears and is based on surveys conducted during the previous 12 months meaning it is not as sensitive to change over short periods of time.

In this report the latest ILO unemployment levels are shown but the main analysis concentrates on JSA claimant count unemployment levels.

### 7.1 ILO Unemployment

The ILO unemployment levels and the level of change up to June 2011 are shown in Figure 29.

**Figure 29: ILO Unemployment**

	12 months to June 2011		12 months to June 2010		12 months to June 2007		% Change 2010/11	% Change 2007/11
	count	rate	count	rate	count	rate		
Northumberland	11,300	7.7	11,300	7.5	8,600	5.8	0.0	31.4
North Eastern LEP	87,900	9.4	91,900	9.8	62,300	6.7	-4.4	41.1
North East Region	122,300	9.8	124,700	10.0	83,600	6.7	-1.9	46.3
England	2,029,100	7.7	2,032,100	7.7	1,373,000	5.3	-0.1	47.8

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis. Model-based estimates of unemployment and Annual Population Survey.

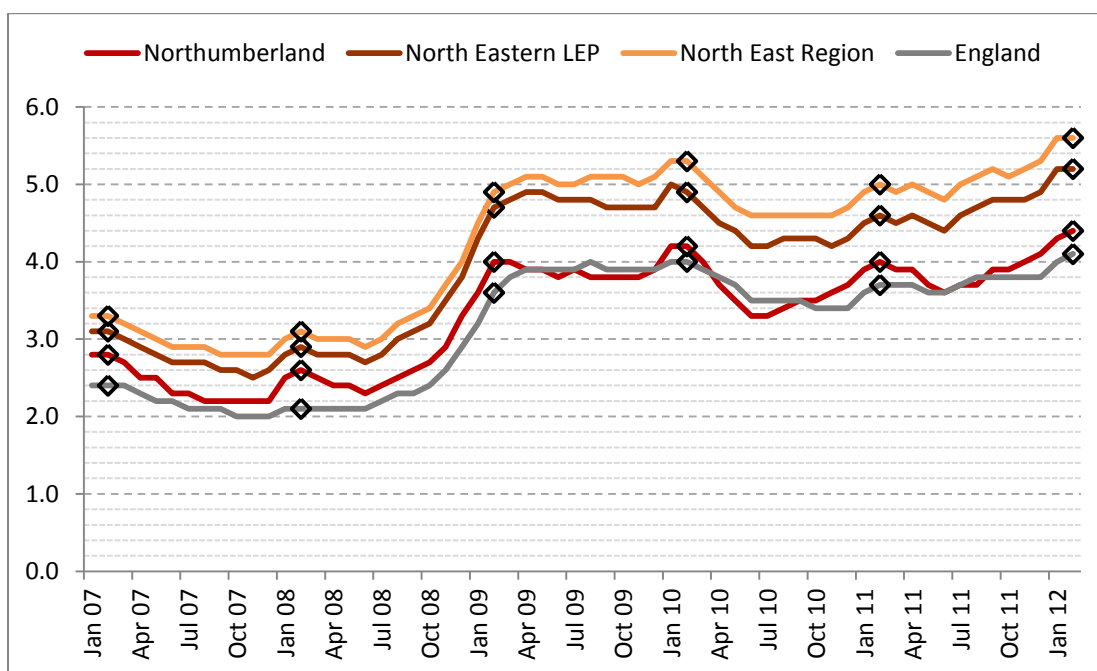
The ILO unemployment rate in Northumberland is 7.7% for the 12 months to June 2011, which is the same as the England average but lower than the North East region (9.8%). In terms of percentage change in the

number of people unemployed over the five years between 2007 and 2011 unemployment in Northumberland has increased by 31.4% which is less than in England and the North East region. However between 2010 and 2011 the rate in the North East region has decreased by 4.4% while Northumberland and England have remained the same (England has decreased by 0.1%).

## 7.2 JSA Claimant Count Unemployment

The JSA claimant count unemployment figures from January 2007 to February 2012 are shown in figure 30, the diamonds mark the rate in February each year to allow comparison with rates collected at the same time each year to be compared with each other as the rates are not seasonally adjusted.

**Figure 30: JSA Claimant Count Unemployment Rates Change over Time**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis, Claimant count with rates and proportions.

The JSA claimant count unemployment rate in February 2012 is higher than at any time during the last 6 years in Northumberland (4.4%), the North East region (5.6%) and England (4.1%). Northumberland’s claimant count rate is lower than the North East regional average but is currently 0.3 percentage points higher than the England average.

**Figure 31: Number of People Claiming JSA**

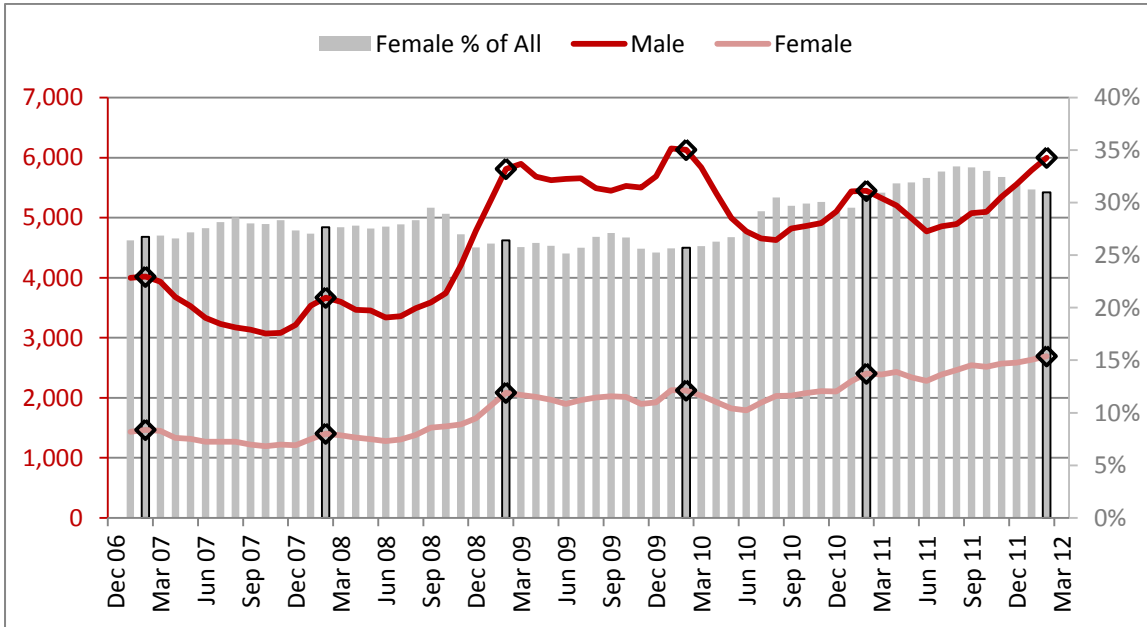
	Feb-12	Feb-11	Feb-08	% Change 2011/12	% Change 2008/12
Northumberland	8,694	7,851	5,072	10.7	71.4
North Eastern LEP	66,585	58,023	35,729	14.8	86.4
North East region	95,956	85,031	51,364	12.8	86.8
England	1,386,368	1,253,469	705,185	10.6	96.6

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis, Claimant count with rates and proportions.

Figure 31 shows that in February 2012 8,694 people in Northumberland were claiming JSA, 3,622 more people than at the same time five years ago which is an increase of 71.4%; while the North East region

(86.8%) and England (96.6%) have seen even larger increases. Over the 12 months to February 2012 the numbers of people claiming JSA in Northumberland has increased by 10.7%; this is a similar increase to England (10.6%) but less than the North East region (12.8%).

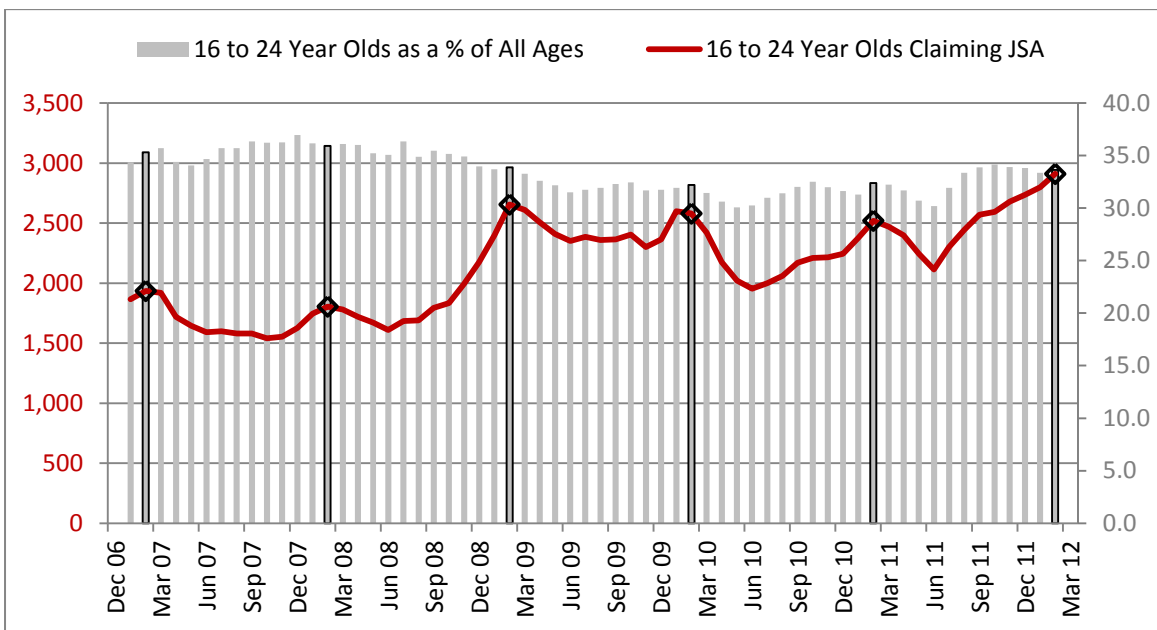
**Figure 32: Number of JSA Claimants by Gender in Northumberland**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Claimant count with rates and proportions).

Between February 2007 and February 2012 (Figure 32) shows that the number of males and females claiming JSA has increased, but over the whole period the number of females claiming JSA has risen more (In February 2007 26.7% of all claimants were females while in February 2012 31.0% of all claimants were females).

**Figure 33: Young People (16 to 24 Year olds) Claiming JSA**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis, Claimant count by age and duration. Figures rounded to nearest 5 before tallying of age bands may result in less accurate totals.

The number of 16 to 24 year olds claiming JSA (shown in Figure 33) has increased between February 2008 and February 2012 by 61.2% (from 1,805 to 2,910); however the proportion of people aged 16 to 24 as a percentage of total claimants is lower in February 2012 than it was in February 2008.

Figure 34 shows the difference in JSA claimant unemployment rates in local areas (LSOAs) across Northumberland. The yellow orange and red areas highlighting the highest rates of JSA claimants are mostly concentrated in the South East corner of Northumberland. Other small areas in Northumberland with relatively high rates of JSA claimants tend to be around the major settlements, most notably Amble.

Figure 35 shows change in the number of people claiming JSA between February 2011 and 2012, the red areas show where the largest percentage increase has taken place and the dark green areas are where the largest percentage decrease has taken place. It should be noted that due to the small number of JSA claimants in some LSOAs a small change in the actual number of claimants can translate to a large percentage increase or decrease. Areas showing the largest rise in JSA claimants are found in the South West and the South East corner of Northumberland.

Figure 34: JSA Claimant Rates by Small Areas (LSOAs) in Northumberland (Feb 2012)

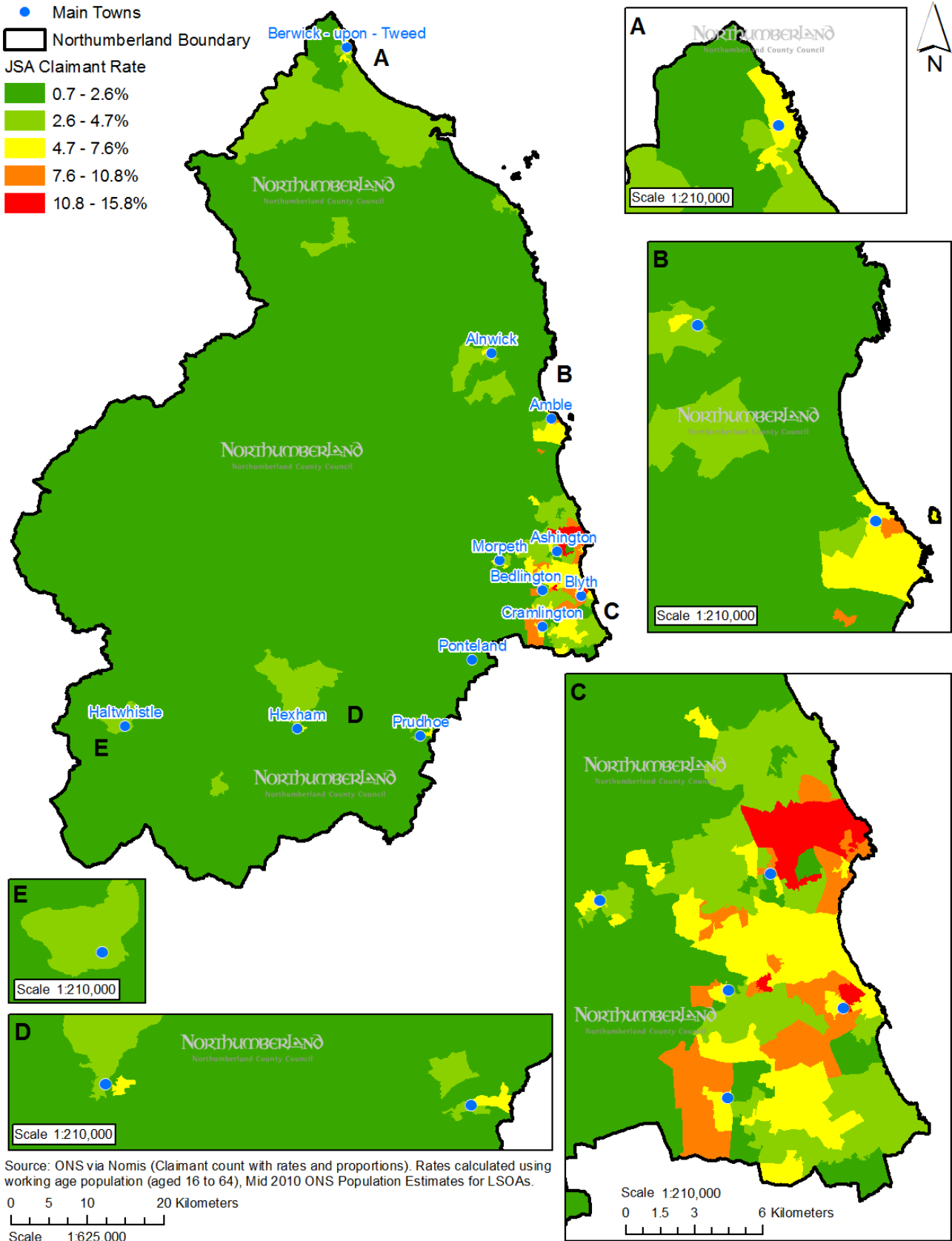
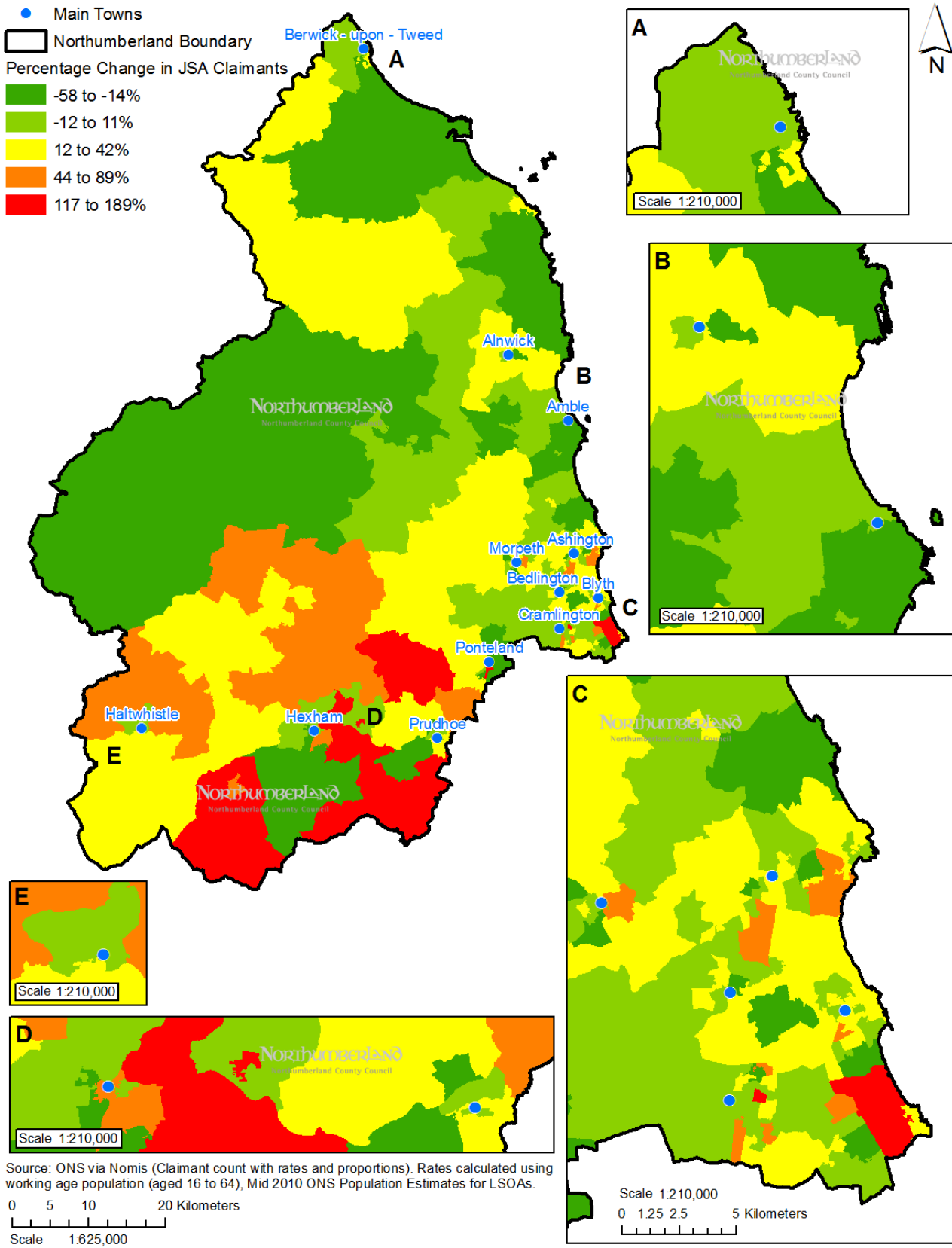




Figure 35: Percentage Change in JSA Claimants by Small Areas (LSOAs) in Northumberland (Feb 2011/12)



### 7.3 Other Benefits

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) provide a quarterly snapshot of benefit claimants at particular points in time, broken down into small areas, the source of which is the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS). The following table shows a count of people in Northumberland, the North East LEP, the region and England who were claiming DWP working-age benefits in August 2011 and back in August 2006.

**Figure 36: DWP Working-Age Benefit Claimants**

August	England		North East		NELEP		Northumberland	
	2011	2006	2011	2006	2011	2006	2011	2006
Total Claimants	4,860,180	4,419,04	319,10	305,56	231,190	223,190	29,070	28,840
Male	2,457,910	2,167,67	168,97	158,42	122,980	116,620	15,430	15,220
Female	2,402,280	2,251,34	150,13	147,15	108,200	106,580	13,640	13,630
Aged 16-24 <sup>1</sup>	812,300	616,530	55,990	43,370	39,330	30,350	4,970	3,930
Out of Work Benefits <sup>2</sup>	4,051,980	3,741,50	269,48	263,39	195,030	192,600	23,690	24,320
Job Seekers	1,266,790	772,540	85,470	49,650	59,210	34,460	7,320	4,660
ESA and Incapacity	2,113,730	2,160,77	142,62	167,71	106,600	125,680	12,970	15,850
Lone Parents	516,590	677,080	30,470	37,990	21,220	26,540	2,370	3,000
Carers	394,590	309,850	26,760	21,530	19,270	15,310	2,720	2,140
Others on IR <sup>3</sup> Benefits	154,860	131,120	10,930	8,040	7,990	5,920	1,030	800
Disabled	347,530	267,850	19,260	14,880	14,250	11,050	2,190	1,610
Bereaved	66,090	99,830	3,610	5,760	2,630	4,230	480	780

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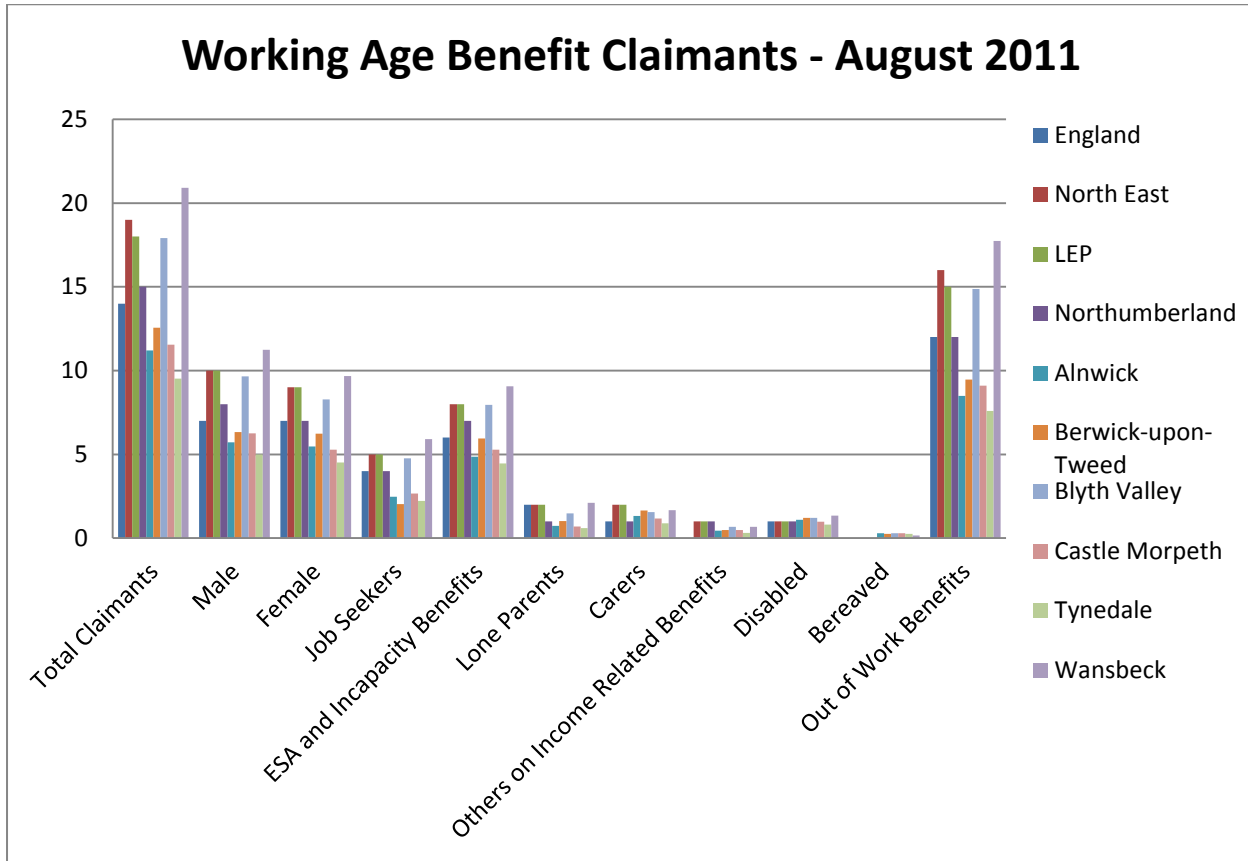
<sup>1</sup>Figures may not add up due to rounding. <sup>2</sup>Main Out of Work Benefits client group categories are: Unemployed people on Job Seekers Allowance, Lone Parents on Income Support, Incapacity Benefit customers and Others on Income-related benefits. The Carer, Disabled and Bereaved client groups are excluded. <sup>3</sup>Income Related

The dataset provides counts of benefit claimants categorised by their statistical group (their main reason for interacting with the benefit system), gender and age. ESA (Employment and Support Allowance) and Incapacity Benefits have the highest levels of claimants, and numbers were higher in 2006 than 2011. There tends to be more males claiming than females, although this was not the case nationally in 2006. Figures of particular note are the substantial increases in JSA claimants and young people (aged 16-24). Northumberland showed a 57% increase in JSA claimant numbers in August 2011, based on August 2006 figures (for England as a whole the increase was 64%, for the North East and the LEP this was 72%). The number of 16-24 year olds claiming DWP working age benefits in Northumberland was 26% higher in 2011 than 2006 (32% higher for England, 29% for the North East region and 30% for the LEP).

Claimants may be claiming more than one benefit and are therefore categorised according to a benefit hierarchy, further details of which can be found on the Nomis website ([www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)). The

following chart shows the percentage of the working age population (based on 2010 mid year estimates) claiming benefits in the former districts, County, LEP, region and Country (England only) in August 2011.

**Figure 37: Percentage of Working Age Population claiming benefits**



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Proportionately, the North East (16%) and LEP (15%) areas have higher out of work related benefit claimants than England as a whole, below County level the former district of Wansbeck (18%) displays the highest proportion of working age population claiming out of work benefits. In this context Northumberland tends to reflect the national trends rather than more local circumstances.

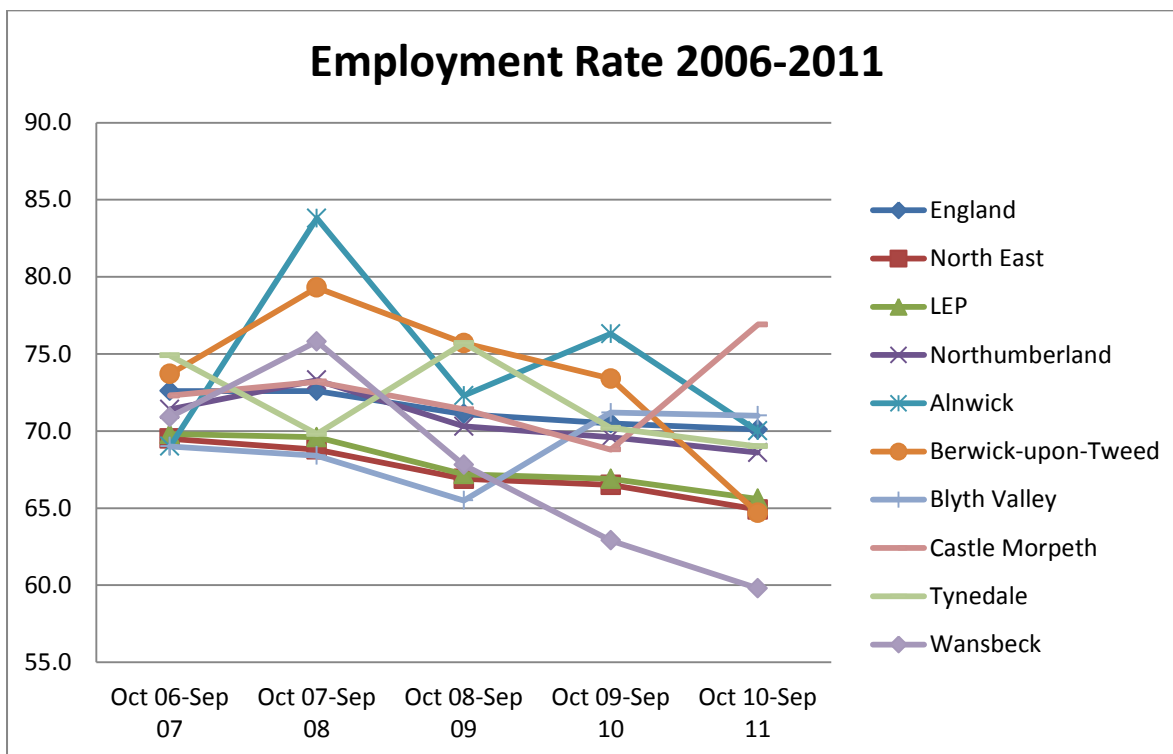
## 8.0 Employment

### 8.1 Overall Employment Rate

This is the proportion of the working age population (16-59 for females and 16-64 for males) who are in employment according to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition.

The following chart shows the overall employment rate for Northumberland compared to that of the North East LEP, the region and England. Northumberland has a higher employment rate than the North Eastern LEP and the region, but lower, on average, than England. Most recently Northumberland had an employment rate of 68.6% the lowest it has been in over 5 years. The chart also displays data at former district level – it is here where substantial differences across the county are revealed. Back in 2008, Alnwick recorded the highest proportion in employment in the county at 83.8%, however this was exceptional. Most recently, Castle Morpeth has had the highest average employment rate of 76.9%. Blyth Valley was consistently the lowest rate until late 2009 - early 2010, when Wansbeck fell to record low rates of 62.9% followed by 59.8% in 2011.

**Figure 38: Employment Rate 2006-2011**



© Crown Copyright. Source: Nomis (APS).

Data on employment rate below former Northumberland district level is available for wards; however the most recent statistics published were for 2001.

## 8.2 Jobs Density

Jobs Density is the number of jobs per resident aged 16 to 64. For example, a job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident of working age. Total Number of Jobs is a workplace-based measure and comprises employees, self-employed, government-supported trainees and HM Forces.

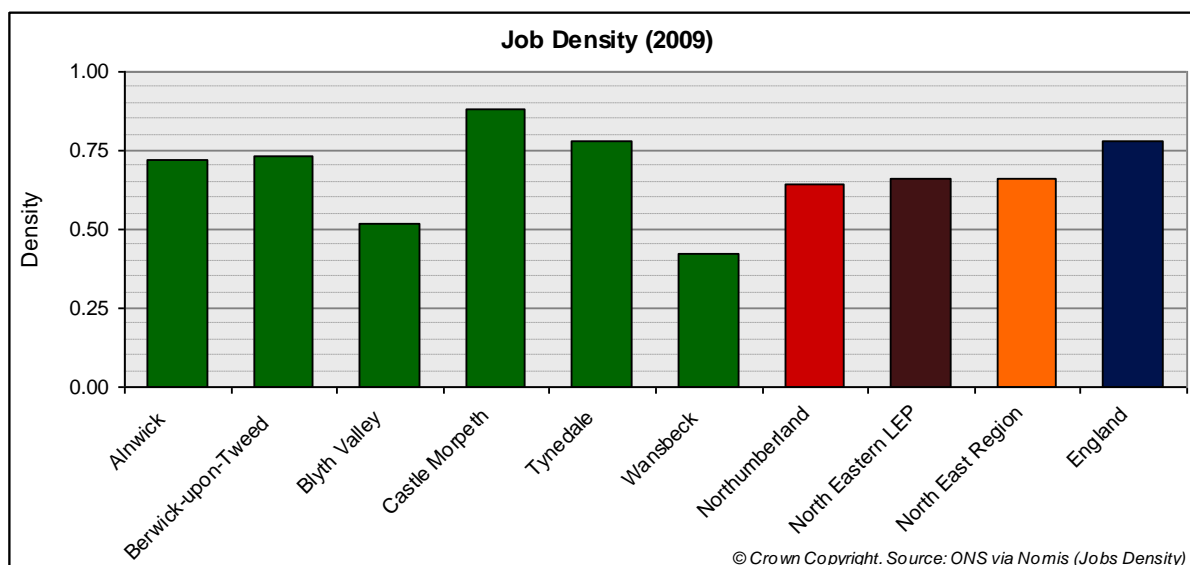
**Figure 39: Jobs Density and Total Number of Jobs**

Area	2007		2008		2009	
	Density	Total Num. Jobs	Density	Total Num. Jobs	Density	Total Num. Jobs
Alnwick	0.69	14,000	0.64	13,000	0.72	14,000
Berwick-upon-Tweed	0.82	13,000	0.83	13,000	0.73	12,000
Blyth Valley	0.49	26,000	0.52	28,000	0.52	27,000
Castle Morpeth	0.81	25,000	0.87	27,000	0.88	27,000
Tynedale	0.73	27,000	0.75	28,000	0.78	29,000
Wansbeck	0.44	17,000	0.46	18,000	0.42	17,000
Northumberland	0.62	123,000	0.64	127,000	0.64	127,000
North Eastern LEP	0.69	854,000	0.69	867,000	0.66	836,000
North East Region	0.69	1,149,000	0.69	1,156,000	0.66	1,117,000
England	0.80	26,606,000	0.79	26,611,000	0.78	26,246,000

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (Jobs Density).

Figure 39 shows that in 2009 Northumberland had a lower jobs density than the North East Region and England. Figure 39 also shows that the former districts of Wansbeck (lowest) and Blyth Valley (next lowest) have a jobs density lower than Northumberland as a whole.

**Figure 40: Jobs Density (2009)**



## 8.3 Vacancies

A monthly count of vacancies is notified to job centres and is published by National Statistics via the Nomis web site ([www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)). These figures are published at small area levels and can therefore be

analysed below Northumberland level. The following table displays figures published in March 2012 for England, the North East region, the North East LEP, and Northumberland. To provide some indication of the picture below County level, former district data is also included. This lower level data can be broken down further, however at smaller levels the numbers may be too small to provide any useful comparison. Interpretation of this data needs to take account of changes in recent years to Jobcentre Plus procedures for taking and handling vacancies. These figures are not fully comparable over time, may not indicate developments in the labour market and do not provide comprehensive measures relating to all vacancies in the economy. The proportion of vacancies which are notified by employers varies over time, according to the occupation and industry of the vacancies and also by geographical area. A more detailed explanation is available on the Nomis web site ([www.nomisweb.co.uk](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk)).

**Figure 41: Jobcentre Plus Vacancy Analysis**

March 2012	England	North East	NELEP	Northumberland	Alnwick	Berwick-upon-Tweed	Blyth Valley	Castle Morpeth	Tynedale	Wansbeck
Total Notified Vacancies	283,523	12,270	9,208	1,191	152	138	310	211	187	193
Full-Time Vacancies	68.0%	63.6%	61.5%	43.9%	38.8%	32.6%	56.5%	30.3%	46.0%	48.7%
Part-Time Vacancies	32.0%	36.4%	38.5%	56.1%	61.2%	67.4%	43.5%	69.7%	54.0%	51.3%

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Full-time vacancies exceeded part-time vacancies by roughly two thirds in England, the North East and NELEP, however in Northumberland more than half the vacancies in March 2012 were part-time (less than 30 hours per week). Below County level, the distribution was more varied. Only Blyth Valley had more full-time vacancies than part-time, indeed in Castle Morpeth and Berwick-upon-Tweed the proportion of part-time vacancies was nearly 70%.

In March 2012, 3% of national (England only) vacancies, were located in the North Eastern LEP area. Of those, only 13% were in Northumberland. Within Northumberland, the proportions were as follows:

Blyth Valley – 26%

Wansbeck – 16%

Alnwick – 13%

Castle Morpeth – 18%

Tynedale – 16%

Berwick-upon-Tweed – 12%

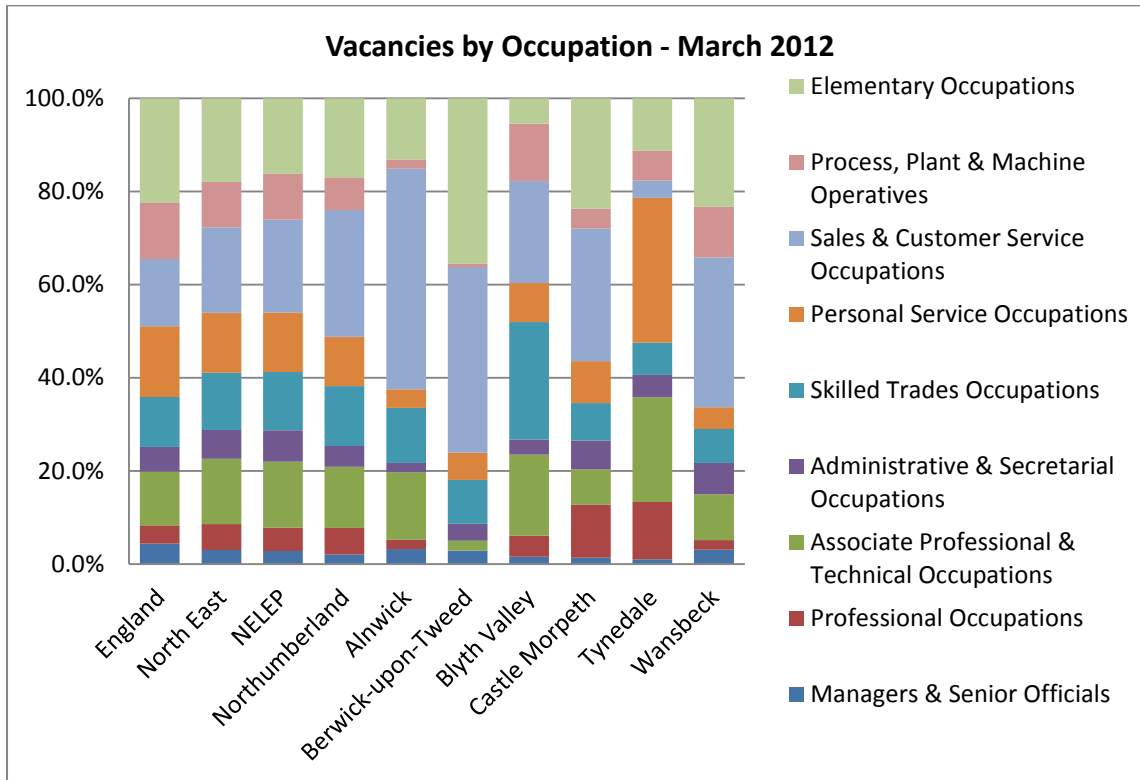
Jobcentre Plus vacancies can also be analysed by industry or occupation. The following two charts display the proportions of each job vacancy type available in March 2012.

Figure 42: Vacancies by Industry



© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis

Banking, Finance and Insurance, etc dominated the vacancies at LEP, regional and national level, but within Northumberland, Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants had more dominance – particularly in the North of the County. Wansbeck displayed the strongest Manufacturing vacancy levels and Tynedale had the largest proportion of Transport and Communications vacancies at the time.

**Figure 43: Vacancies by Occupation**

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis

In March 2012, the highest proportion of vacancies in England were Elementary Occupations, but in the North East, the LEP and throughout most of Northumberland, Sales and Customer Service Occupations tended to dominate. Note the substantial variations in types of occupation across the Northumberland former districts.

## 8.4 Accessibility

Department for Transport accessibility statistics provide a local-level measure of the availability of transport to key services (covering food stores, education, health care, town centres and employment centres) for the populations who use them. (NIs 175 and 176 are no longer reported on and data has been revised between 2007 to 2009 to ensure consistency with 2010 data).

Nationally, the latest statistics for 2010, published in June 2011 show the average minimum travel time to key services (excluding town centres) was 14 minutes by public transport/walking, nine minutes by cycling and six minutes by car. Service users in urban areas could access key services by public transport/walking, on average, in 12 minutes compared with 21 minutes in rural areas. The proportion of users able to access given key services by public transport/walking in a 'reasonable' time was highest for employment centres (82%), and lowest for hospitals (31%). Overall levels of access to key services by public transport / walking within a 'reasonable' time was highest in London and lowest in the East of England.



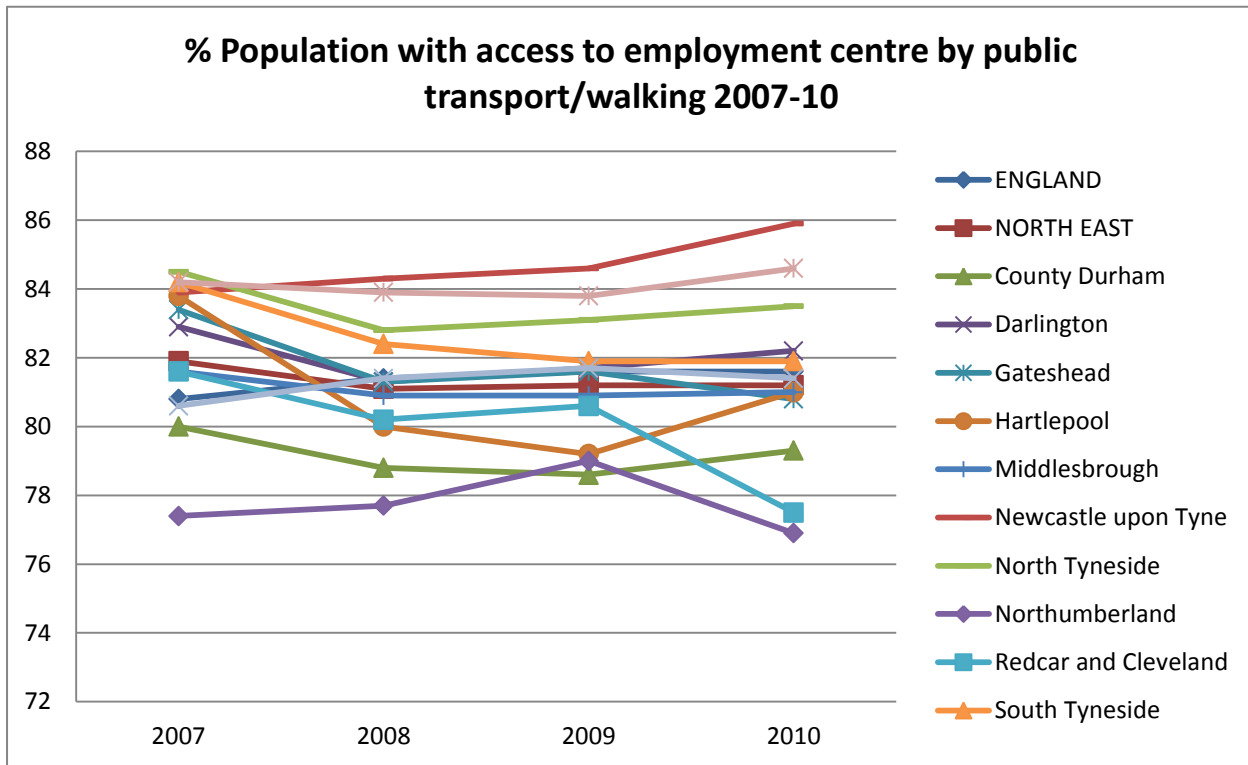
The following table displays the average minimum travel time in minutes to reach the nearest key services by public transport/walking at sub-regional, regional and national levels. Northumberland consistently has the longest travel times over the four year period, 2007-2010.

**Figure 44: Average minimum travel time to reach key services by public transport/walking**

Minutes	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
County Durham	15	15	13	13
Darlington	13	12	11	12
Gateshead	12	12	10	10
Hartlepool	13	12	11	11
Middlesbrough	12	12	11	11
Newcastle upon Tyne	11	11	10	10
North Tyneside	12	12	11	11
<b>Northumberland</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
Redcar and Cleveland	13	14	12	12
South Tyneside	12	12	11	11
Stockton-on-Tees	16	16	13	14
Sunderland	13	13	11	12

Northumberland also has the lowest overall proportion of users able to access employment centres by public transport/walking compared with the rest of the North East and England as a whole. In 2010, 76.9% of Northumberland's working age population had access compared with 81.2% for the North East and 81.6% for England. The following chart displays this in more detail over time.

**Figure 45: Accessibility to employment centres by public transport/walking**



Large disparities exist in access when Northumberland is considered at a more local level, from 28% in an area of Wooler to 90% in Seaton Valley (2010 figures). Of the three service areas, the North has the lowest levels of accessibility:

**Figure 46: % of working age population in Northumberland with access to employment centres by public transport/walking 2007-10**

%	2007	2008	2009	2010
North	74	74	75	70
South East	81	81	82	82
West	75	74	77	74

## 9.0 Businesses

The following tables provide an overview of business activity, size and location for 2011 at the lowest geographical level available, relevant to this study. This provides a context for data taken from the Business Register and Employment Survey (see 9.1) which indicates the level and type of employment in Northumberland.

**Figure 47: UK VAT and/or PAYE Based Enterprises 2011 by Broad Industry Group**

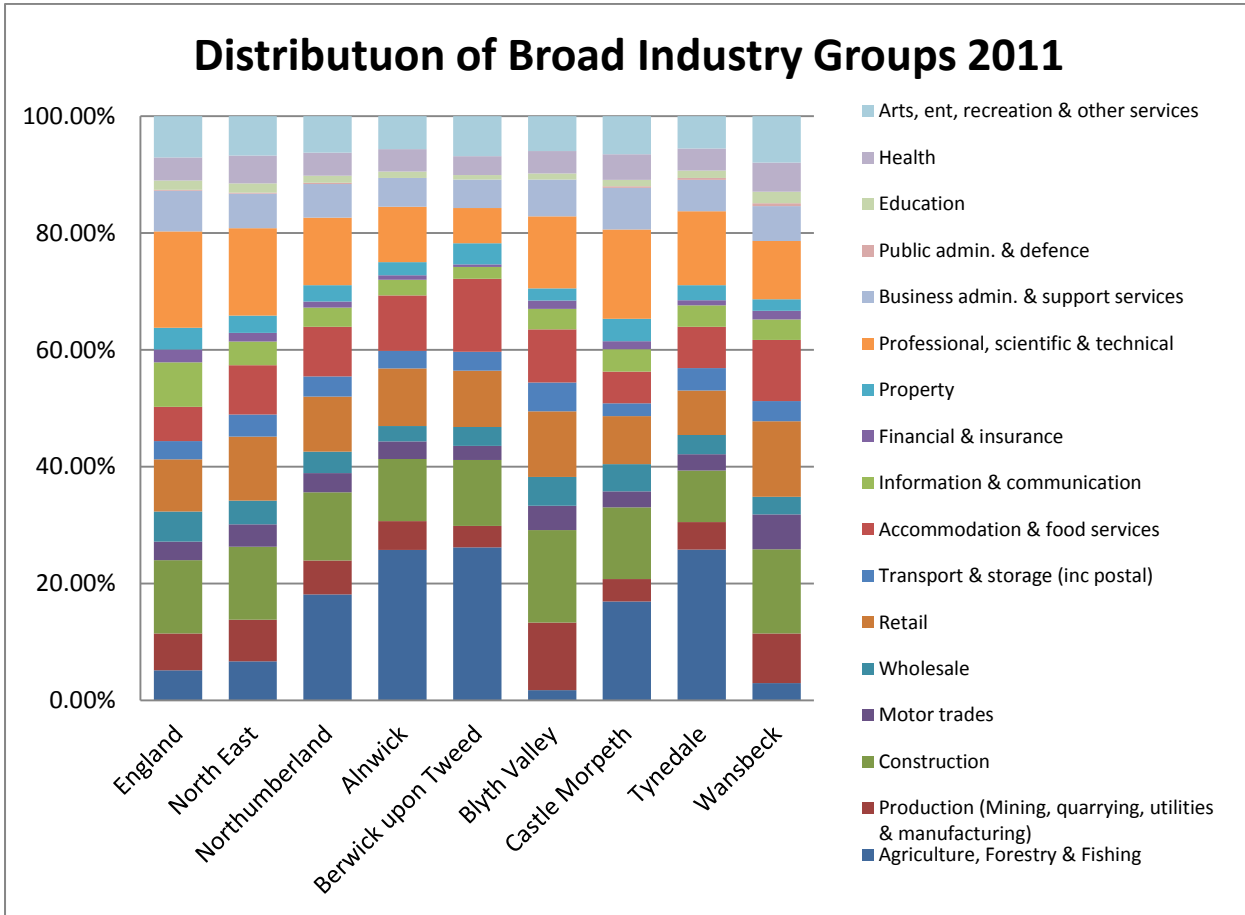
Number of Enterprises 2011	England	North East	Northumberland	Alnwick	Berwick upon Tweed	Blyth Valley	Castle Morpeth	Tynedale	Wansbeck
<b>Broad Industry Group</b>									
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	91,975	3,650	1755	340	325	25	310	745	30
Production (Mining, quarrying, utilities & manufacturing)	112,480	3,920	565	65	45	165	70	135	85
Construction	223,355	6,830	1130	140	140	225	225	255	145
Motor trades	56,570	2,110	320	40	30	60	50	80	60
Wholesale	91,535	2,230	355	35	40	70	85	95	30
Retail	158,520	5,990	910	130	120	160	150	220	130
Transport & storage (inc postal)	55,965	2,075	335	40	40	70	40	110	35
Accommodation & food services	104,355	4,625	820	125	155	130	100	205	105
Information & communication	135,915	2,205	320	35	25	50	70	105	35
Financial & insurance	38,765	820	100	10	5	20	25	25	15
Property	65,775	1,600	270	30	45	30	70	75	20
Professional, scientific & technical	294,200	8,195	1120	125	75	175	280	365	100
Business admin. & support services	124,130	3,260	560	65	60	90	130	155	60
Public admin. & defence	2,590	75	20	0	0	0	5	10	5
Education	28,075	880	115	15	10	15	20	35	20
Health	70,840	2,605	385	50	40	55	80	110	50
Arts, ent, recreation & other services	125,780	3,700	605	75	85	85	120	160	80
<b>Total Enterprises</b>	<b>1,780,825</b>	<b>54,770</b>	<b>9,685</b>	<b>1320</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>1425</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>2885</b>	<b>1005</b>

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (IDBR)

For Northumberland, the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing sector (18.12%) is the most dominant in terms of number of enterprises, followed by Construction (11.67%), Professional, Scientific & Technical (11.56%). This is significantly different to the distribution of enterprises in England and the North East region where there is proportionately three times less Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Enterprises (5.16% and 6.66% respectively). Here, the Professional, Scientific & Technical (16.52% and 14.96%) and Construction

(12.54% and 12.47%) sectors dominate. The following chart provides an illustration of these proportions and displays the differences below county level (for distribution of sectors by number of employees, please see section 9.1).

**Figure 48: Distribution of Enterprises by Broad Industry Group 2011**



© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (IDBR)

The chart above shows that the more rural areas of the County (indicated by the former districts of Alnwick, Berwick-upon-Tweed and Tynedale) share similar Broad Industry Group distributions. Furthermore the largely urban South West areas of the County (former Blyth Valley and Wansbeck districts) show sectoral similarities. The former district of Castle Morpeth tends to mirror the County distribution as a whole.

The Number of Enterprises does not reflect overall significance in terms of employment. Employment size (i.e. number of employees) and turnover must also be considered.

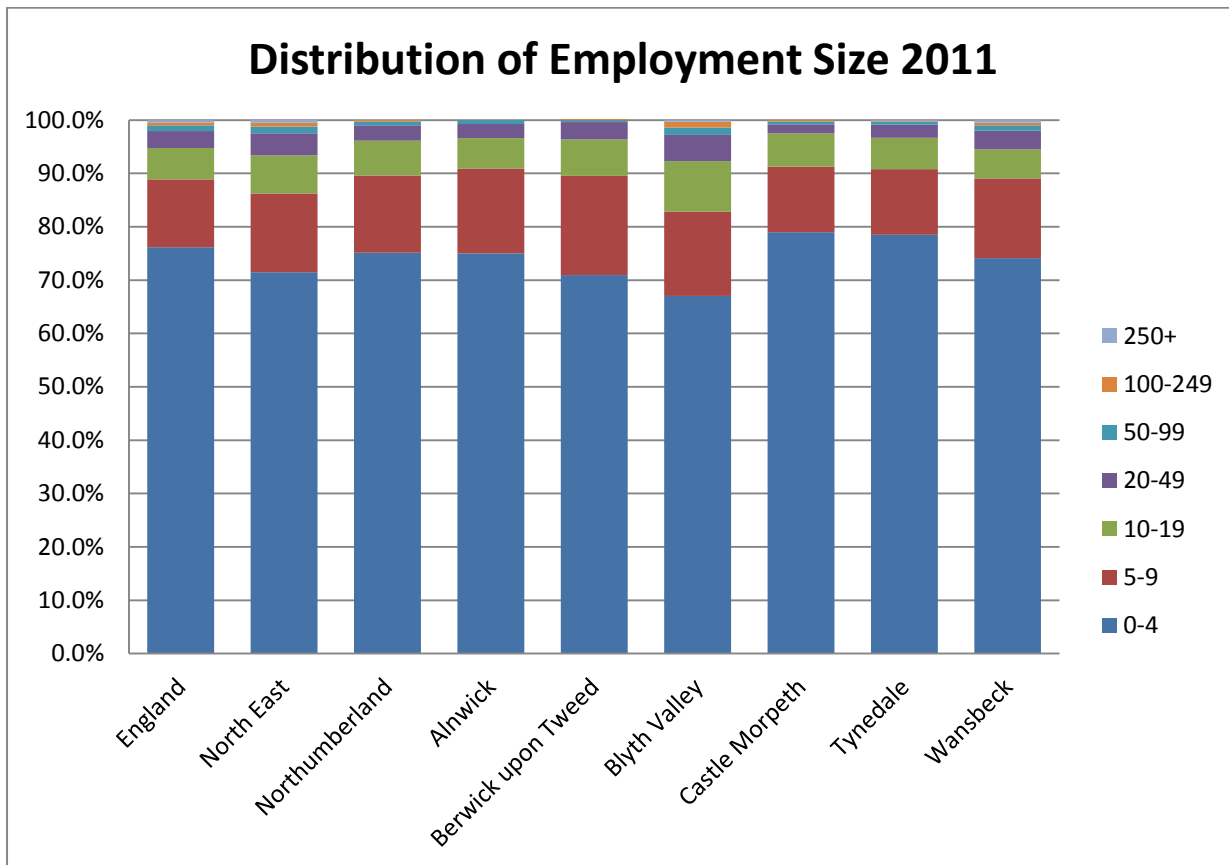
**Figure 49: UK VAT and/or PAYE Based Enterprises 2011 by Employment Size**

Number of Enterprises 2011	England	North East	Northumberland	Alnwick	Berwick upon Tweed	Blyth Valley	Castle Morpeth	Tynedale	Wansbeck
<b>Employment Size</b>									
0-4	1,356,445	39,155	7,280	990	880	955	1,445	2,265	745
5-9	226,370	8,090	1,395	210	230	225	225	355	150
10-19	104,890	3,915	635	75	85	135	115	170	55
20-49	56,855	2,235	280	35	40	70	30	70	35
50-99	18,480	710	70	10	5	20	10	15	10
100-249	10,270	385	35	0	5	15	5	5	5
250+	7,515	285	15	0	0	5	0	5	5

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (IDBR)

Enterprises of up to 4 employees are the most prolific and account for three quarters of all Enterprises in Northumberland (slightly higher in proportion than the NE region at 72% and lower than England at 76%).

**Figure 50: Distribution of Enterprises by Employment Size 2011**



© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (IDBR)

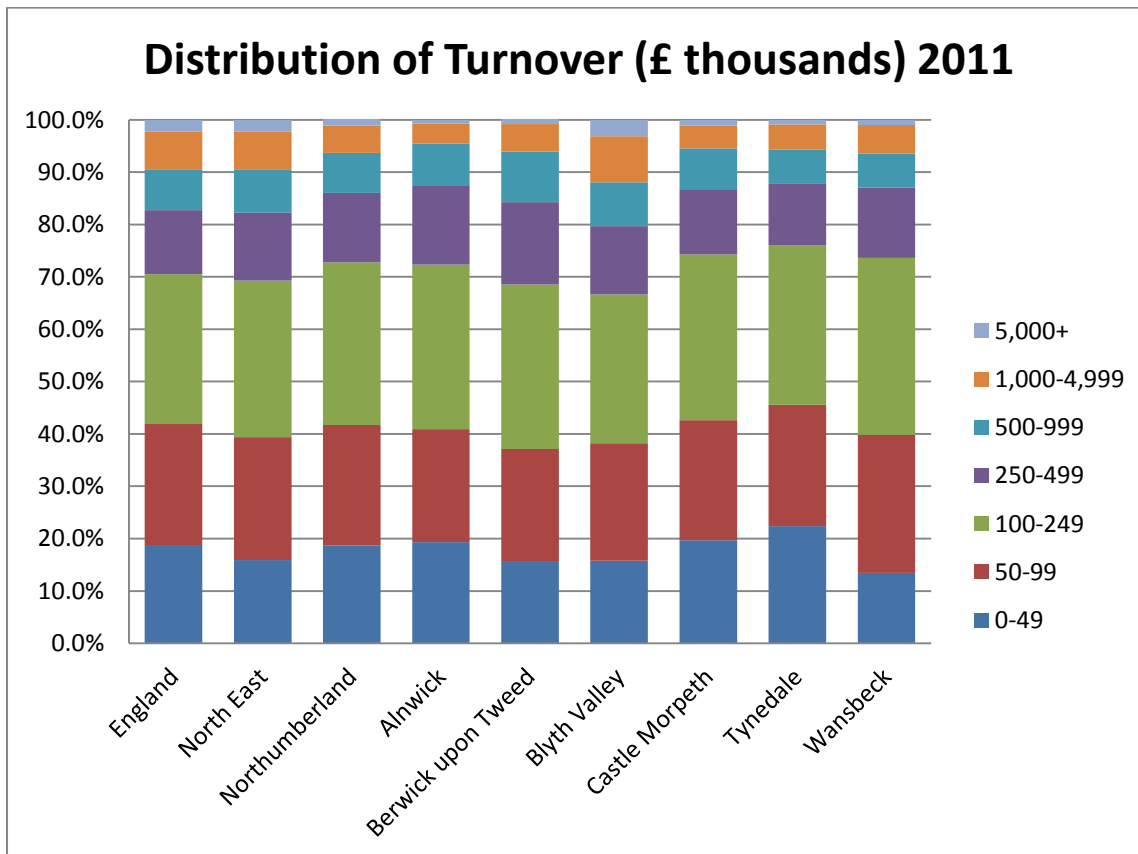
**Figure 51: UK VAT and/or PAYE Based Enterprises 2011 by Turnover (£ thousand)**

Number of Enterprises 2011	England	North East	Northumberland	Alnwick	Berwick upon Tweed	Blyth Valley	Castle Morpeth	Tynedale	Wansbeck
<b>Turnover (£ thousand)</b>									
0-49	334,845	8,725	1,815	255	195	225	360	645	135
50-99	411,565	12,845	2,225	285	265	320	420	670	265
100-249	509,210	16,365	3,010	415	390	405	580	880	340
250-499	217,895	7,115	1,280	200	195	185	225	340	135
500-999	137,370	4,500	740	105	120	120	145	185	65
1,000-4,999	129,640	4,000	505	50	65	125	80	140	55
5,000+	40,295	1,220	125	10	15	45	20	25	10

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (IDBR)

The turnover bracket of £100,000 to £249,000 is the most common across all geographies at around 30% of all enterprises. Below County level, the former district of Blyth Valley displays a larger proportion of higher turnover enterprises (£500,000+) than other parts of the County, the region or England.

**Figure 52: Distribution of Enterprises by Turnover 2011**



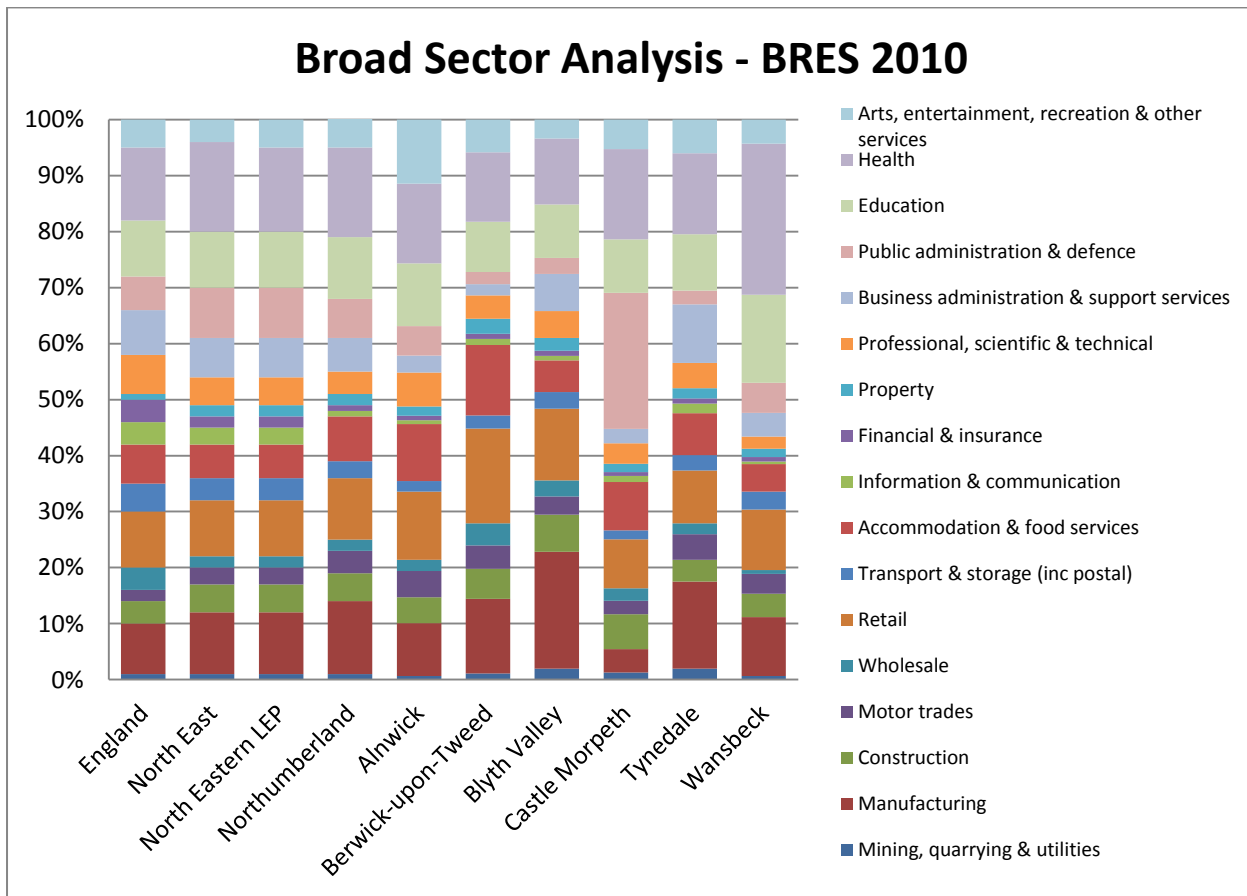
© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS (IDBR)

## 9.1 Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES)

BRES is conducted under the Statistics of Trade Act (STA) 1947. It is an employer survey of the number of jobs held by full/part-time and detailed industry. The survey records a job at the location of an employees workplace and is available at relatively small geographical levels, thus giving an indication of the business sector split of a particular area, however due to the potentially disclosive nature of the statistics, only suppressed and rounded statistics can be published here. Farm agriculture figures are not available at low geographical levels, therefore the broad industrial group of Agriculture, forestry and fishing cannot be included.

The following chart provides a proportional comparison between the former districts, County, LEP, regional and national level.

**Figure 53: BRES 2010 Broad Sector Analysis (proportion of employees by workplace)**



© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (BRES).

At County level and above the distribution of employees by workplace is proportionately similar in most sectors; the Health sector is the most dominant. Manufacturing is the second largest sector for the region, LEP and County, followed by Education and Retail. Below County level a rather different distribution emerges. The former districts of Alnwick and Wansbeck show Health sector dominance, however 27% of Wansbeck’s employees were in the Health sector as opposed to 14% in Alnwick, 16% in Northumberland, 16% in the region and 13% nationally. Other figures of note are:

- Berwick-upon-Tweed's largest sector is Retail (17%)
- Blyth Valley and Tynedale's largest sector is Manufacturing (21% and 16% respectively)
- Castle Morpeth's largest sector is Public administration and defence (24%)
- Alnwick displays a particularly high level of employment in the Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services compared to all other areas (11%)
- Tynedale has a higher level of employment in Business administration & support services compared to all other areas (10%)
- Northumberland displays rather low levels of employment in the Information & communication sector (1%).

## 9.2 Public and Private Sector Employment

Given the increasing emphasis on the level of public sector employment in the UK economy over recent years, it is pertinent to consider employment in terms of a public-private sector split. ONS produces quarterly public sector employment data (QPSES) at the national and regional level, however statistical releases of sub-regional data are infrequent and derived from different data sources and measures. The following tables show two ways of considering sub-regional public-private sector employment, however each has strengths and weaknesses which must be taken into account. The figures in the tables were derived from BRES 2010 and the Annual Population Survey 2010, in accordance with the methodologies outlined in the ONS publication: Subregional analysis of public and private sector employment (Prothero, R. November 2011).

BRES data provides a workplace based measure of employment and is based on survey returns from businesses, as such it is regarded as providing an accurate split of public sector to private sector employees. If BRES data is compared to the size of the sub-region's working age population, employee densities of public and private sector jobs may be calculated.

**Figure 54: Public and Private Sector Employee Densities from BRES 2010**

BRES 2010	Public Sector		Private Sector		All Sectors	
	Number of Employees	% of WA Population	Number of Employees	% of WA Population	Number of Employees	% of WA Population
England	6,373,496	19%	16,098,206	48%	22,471,702	66%
North East	342,599	20%	653,441	38%	996,040	59%
North Eastern LEP	255,031	20%	484,146	38%	739,177	58%
Northumberland	34,194	17%	66,183	34%	100,377	51%
Alnwick	3,057	15%	6,909	34%	9,966	50%
Berwick-upon-Tweed	2,219	14%	7,210	46%	9,429	60%
Blyth Valley	5,835	11%	18,278	35%	24,113	46%
Castle Morpeth	9,581	31%	9,621	31%	19,202	61%
Tynedale	5,896	16%	16,081	44%	21,977	60%
Wansbeck	7,602	19%	8,216	21%	15,818	40%

© Crown Copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis (BRES).



Unfortunately, at sub-regional level, the BRES dataset does not define statistics such as public corporations, HM Forces, etc. therefore these figures can only be considered as a rough guide. Thus, in the context of available data on workplace based employee densities, the former district of Castle Morpeth displays the highest reliance on the public sector (31%) and substantially bucks the County, LEP, regional and national trend of around a fifth of employment in the working age population. The private sector dominates across all geographies except when analysed at former district level where Castle Morpeth shows an even split between both public and private sector employment (31% each) and the Wansbeck area shows only a 2% difference.

The Annual Population Survey (APS) provides residence based public and private sector employee estimates down to former district level. Individuals are self-classified and the proportions are calculated as a percentage of those in employment as opposed to the total working age population. The APS tends to result in an overestimate of public sector employment. The following table provides APS data for 2010.

**Figure 55: Persons employed in public or private sectors as a % of all persons in employment from APS 2010**

APS 2010	Public Sector		Private Sector		All persons employed
	Number of Employees	% of all persons employed	Number of Employees	% of all persons employed	Number of Employees
England	5,882,300	24%	18,271,400	76%	24,153,700
North East	330,500	30%	788,600	70%	1,119,100
North Eastern LEP	252,800	30%	591,200	70%	844,000
Northumberland	40,800	30%	95,200	70%	136,100
Alnwick	4,300	28%	11,000	72%	15,300
Berwick-upon-Tweed	2,000	18%	9,500	82%	11,600
Blyth Valley	11,400	31%	26,000	69%	37,500
Castle Morpeth	7,000	35%	12,900	65%	19,900
Tynedale	7,000	27%	19,400	73%	26,400
Wansbeck	9,000	35%	16,500	65%	25,500

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Local variations exist in the public-private sector split which are not apparent at County level and above, however confidence intervals are higher in lower geographical level data due to survey estimates being based on smaller sample sizes. Castle Morpeth and Wansbeck display the highest levels of residence-based public sector employees (35% each). Berwick-upon-Tweed has a higher level of private sector employees than anywhere else in the County (82%), this is also much higher than the LEP, region and England average (70-76%).

### 9.3 Business Stock Start-ups and Closures

This section provides statistics from the ONS Business Demography release which includes numbers of currently active businesses, new business start-ups and business closures. These statistics allow you to

compare start-ups, closures and current stocks of businesses and they are provided at Northumberland former district, Northumberland, North East Region and England levels. The figures do not include the majority of Sole Traders and Not for Profit firms that are not VAT registered and some Limited Companies and Partnerships that are not VAT registered. This report also includes new business start-up statistics from Bank Search that include many of the businesses listed above that are missing from the ONS Business Demography dataset (this is the reason for the large differences in numbers between the two datasets) and it is broken down to Northumberland county ward level to give a comprehensive local picture of business start-ups.

### 9.3.1 Active Businesses

The starting point for demography is the concept of a population of active businesses in a reference year. These are defined as businesses that had either turnover or employment at any time during the reference period. Births and deaths are then identified by comparing active populations for different years.

There were 9,410 active enterprises in Northumberland in 2010. This works out at 479 per 10,000 population of working age in the county which is proportionately lower than England (591) but higher than the North East region (365). The former Wansbeck District (293) has the least number of active enterprises per 10,000 working age population, and Blyth Valley is the only other district with less active enterprises than in Northumberland which is also lower than in the North East. Berwick-upon-Tweed (687) and Tynedale (680) had the largest number of active enterprises per 10,000 working age population.

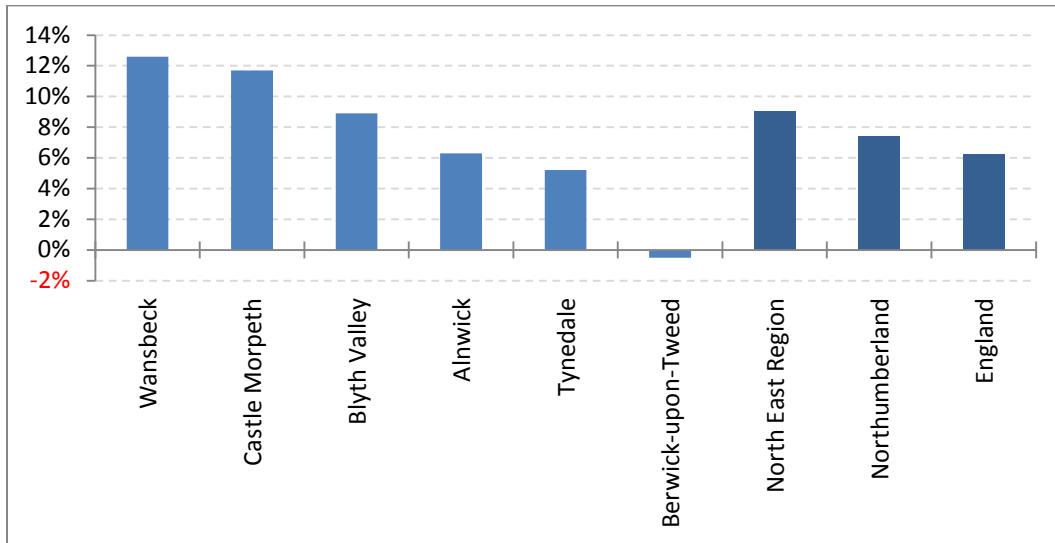
**Figure 56: Active Enterprises**

(2010)	Active Enterprises per 10,000 Working Age Population	Number of Active Enterprises
Berwick-upon-Tweed District	687	1,085
Tynedale District	680	2,510
Alnwick District	587	1,180
Castle Morpeth District	561	1,760
Blyth Valley District	325	1,710
Wansbeck	293	1,165
England	591	2,001,885
Northumberland	479	9,410
North East Region	365	61,955

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

Figure 57 shows the percentage change in number of active enterprises between 2004 and 2010 and illustrates that Northumberland has seen a larger increase than England but lower than the North East region. At a more local level in Northumberland the former districts of Wansbeck and Castle Morpeth have seen the largest percentage increases in active enterprises while Berwick-upon-Tweed is the only district that has seen a decrease between 2004 and 2010.

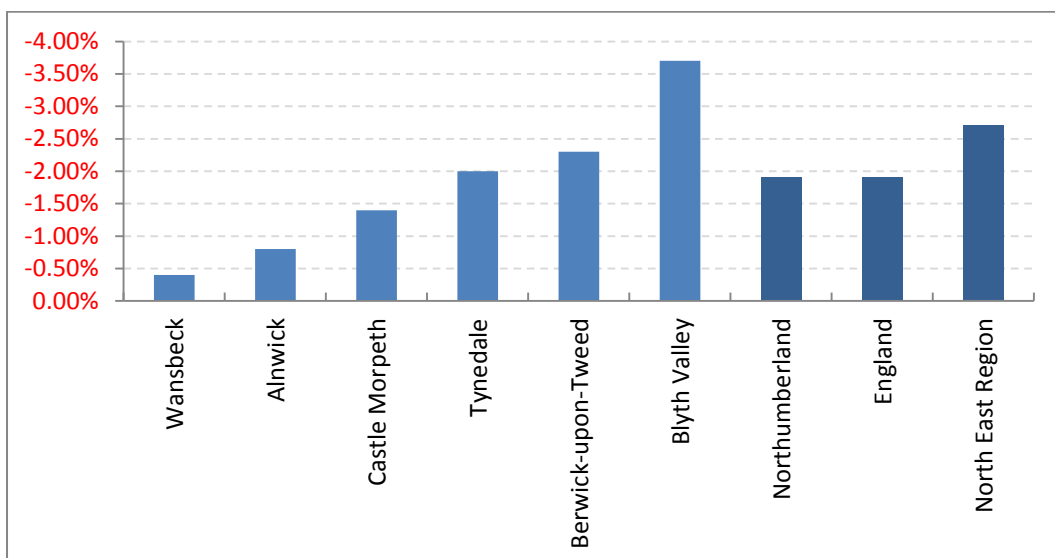
**Figure 57: Percentage Change in Number of Active Enterprises 2004 to 2010**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

In the 12 months to 2010 the number of active enterprises for all areas shown in Figure 58 has decreased. Northumberland has seen a 1.9% decrease which is the same as England but lower than the 2.7% decrease in the North East region. At former district level Blyth Valley has seen the largest decrease (3.7%), Berwick-upon-Tweed (2.3%) and Tynedale (-2.0%) are the other districts that have seen a larger decrease in the number of active enterprises than across the whole of Northumberland. Wansbeck has seen the smallest decrease (-0.4%) of the six former districts in Northumberland.

**Figure 58: Percentage Decrease in Number of Active Enterprises 2009 to 2010**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

### 9.3.2 Births of New Enterprises

A birth is identified as a business that was present in a given year, but did not exist in the previous two years. Birth rates are the number of new businesses as a percentage of the total number of businesses in that year.

Northumberland (8.9%) had a lower birth rate than the North East Region (9.6%) and England (10.4%) in 2010. At former Northumberland district level Berwick-upon-Tweed (18.9%) had the highest birth rate in 2010, more than double the Northumberland rate. Alnwick (11.4%) and Blyth Valley (10.5%) had the next highest birth rates, both higher than the Northumberland, North East and England birth rates. Tynedale (3.2%) has the lowest new business birth rate of the six former districts.

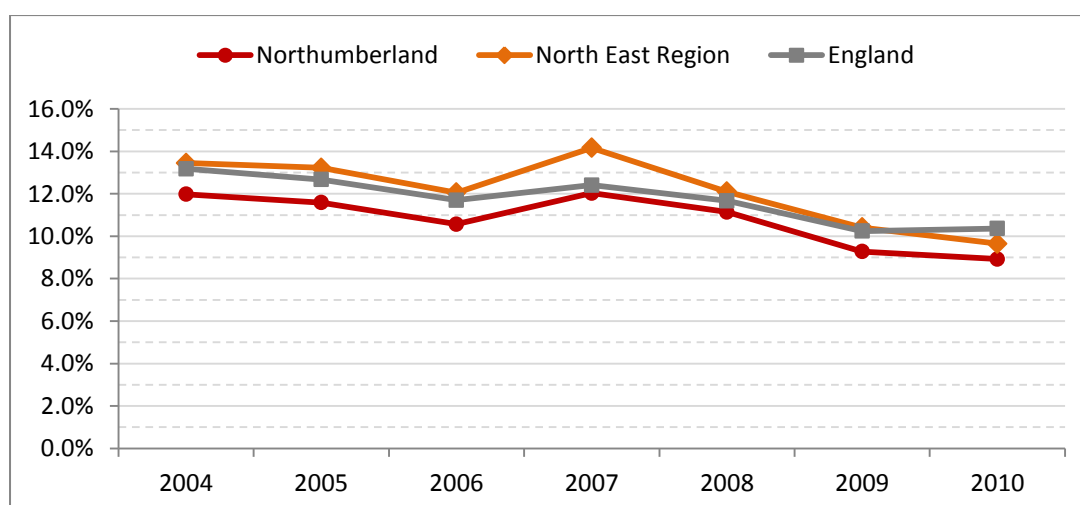
**Figure 59: Birth Rates and Number of Births of New Businesses 2010**

	Number of Births	Total Number of Businesses	Birth Rate
Berwick-upon-Tweed	205	1,085	18.9%
Alnwick	135	1,180	11.4%
Blyth Valley	180	1,710	10.5%
Wansbeck	100	1,165	8.6%
Castle Morpeth	140	1,760	8.0%
Tynedale	80	2,510	3.2%
England	207,520	2,001,885	10.4%
North East Region	5,975	61,955	9.6%
Northumberland	840	9,410	8.9%

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

Figure 60 shows that since 2004 Northumberland has had a lower birth rate than the North East region and England. Northumberland's birth rate in 2010 is the lowest it has been since 2004.

**Figure 60: Birth Rates of New Businesses over time**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

Statistics from Bank Search that show business start-ups down to county ward level in Northumberland. These figures are not comparable with the ONS business stock, start-up and closure figures provided in this report.

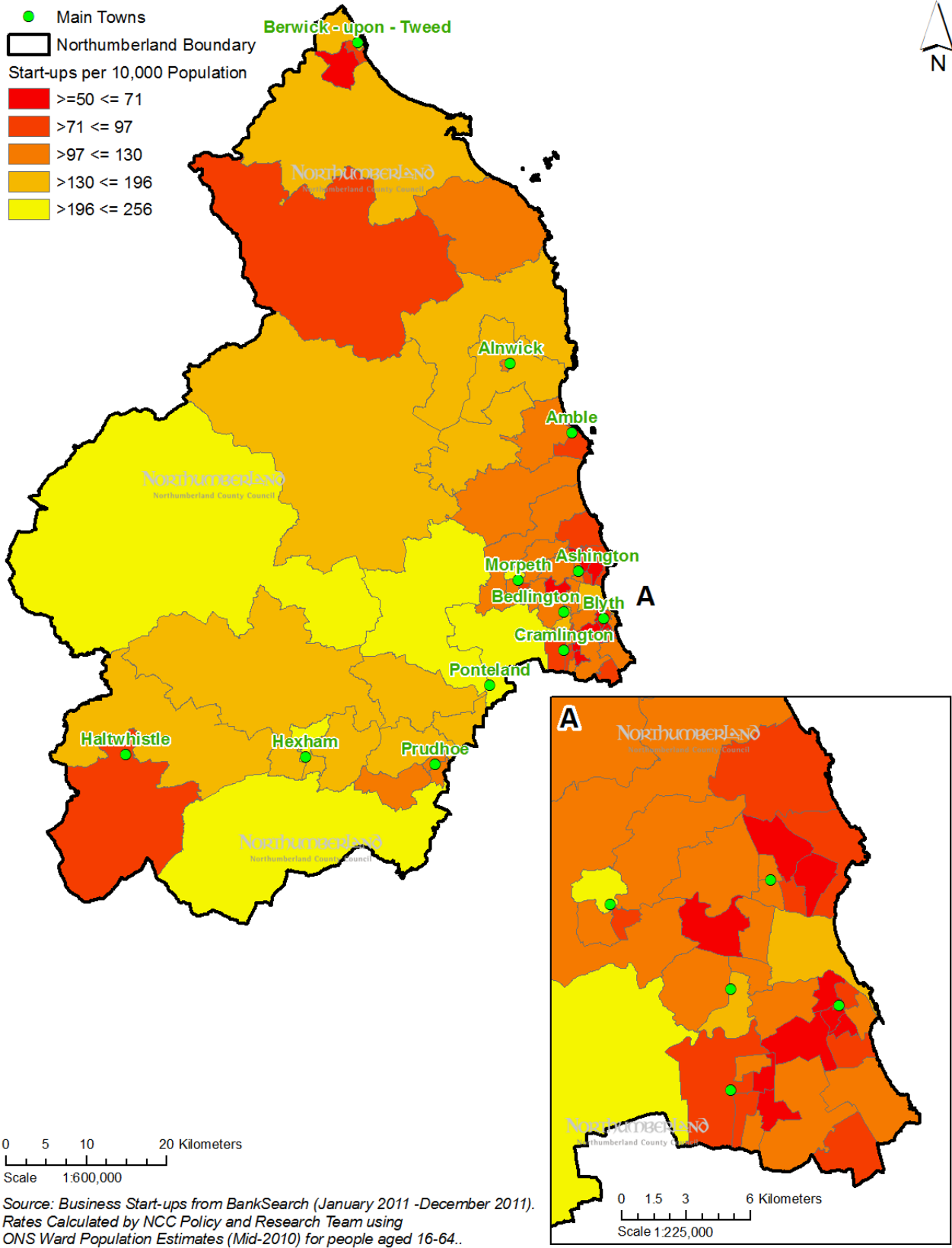
According to Bank Search business start-up figures, in Northumberland during 2011 there were 2,375 actual business start-ups – approximately 19% of the 12,772 in the North East region. The table below (Figure 61) lists the ten Wards with the lowest and highest proportion of business start-up rates per 10,000 working age population. Figure 62 maps the difference in business start-up rates in County Wards, the red areas are the areas with the lowest proportion of new business start-ups and the yellow areas have the the highest.

**Figure 61: Wards with Ten Highest and Lowest (Bank Search) Business Start-ups per 10,000 WA Population (2011)**

Highest Business Start-ups		Lowest Business Start-ups	
Start-ups per 10,000 Working Age Population	Ward	Start-ups per 10,000 Working Age Population	Ward
256	Ponteland North	50	Newsham
250	Ponteland East	52	Berwick West with Ord
237	Hexham Central with Acomb	57	Plessey
233	Bellingham	57	Seaton with Newbiggin West
211	South Tynedale	62	Choppington
209	Morpeth North	63	Cramlington East
196	Corbridge	64	Isabella
184	Ponteland West	67	Hirst
180	Shilbottle	69	Cowpen
176	Bywell	71	Cramlington Eastfield

Source: Bank Search Northumberland. New Business Start-ups by County Ward (2011). Rates calculated using ONS mid-2010 population estimates for people aged 16 to 64.

Figure 62: Business Start-ups per 10,000 Working Age Population 2011 (by Count Ward)



Source: Business Start-ups from BankSearch (January 2011 -December 2011). Rates Calculated by NCC Policy and Research Team using ONS Ward Population Estimates (Mid-2010) for people aged 16-64..

### 9.3.3 Deaths of Enterprises

A death is defined as a business that was on the active file in a given year, but was no longer present in the active file in either of the subsequent two years. Death rates are the number of business deaths as a percentage of the total number of businesses in that year.

Northumberland (10.9%) had a lower death rate of businesses in 2010 than the North East (13.1%) and England (13.1%). Blyth Valley (12.9%) is the former Northumberland District with the highest business death rate followed by Wansbeck (12.4%) both having a higher death rate than the whole of Northumberland but still lower than the North East and England. Tynedale had the lowest business death rate in 2010 of the six former Northumberland districts.

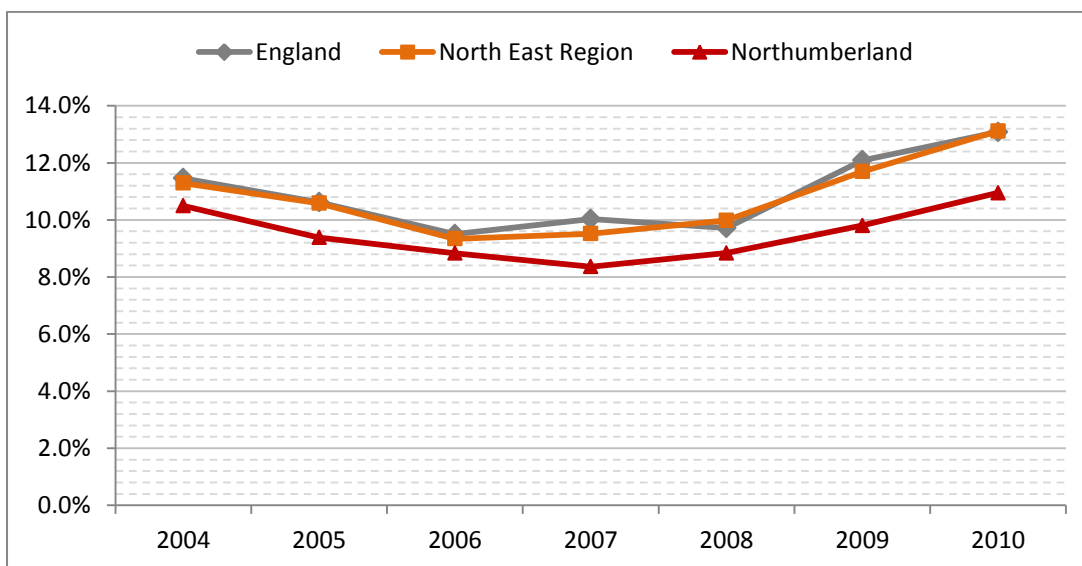
**Figure 63: Death Rates and Number of Deaths of Businesses 2010**

	Number of Deaths	Total Number of Businesses	Death Rate
Blyth Valley	220	1,710	12.9%
Wansbeck	145	1,165	12.4%
Castle Morpeth	190	1,760	10.8%
Alnwick	120	1,180	10.2%
Berwick-upon-Tweed	110	1,085	10.1%
Tynedale	245	2,510	9.8%
North East Region	8,125	61,955	13.1%
England	261,880	2,001,885	13.1%
Northumberland	1,030	9,410	10.9%

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

Figure 64 shows that Northumberland has had consistently lower death rates than the North East and England since 2004, and death rates for all areas are at the highest they have been since 2004.

**Figure 64: Death Rates of Businesses over time**



© Crown copyright. Source: ONS Business Demography 2010.

## 10.0 Education

### 10.1 NVQ Qualifications

In Northumberland 70.2% of people aged 16 to 64 are qualified to NVQ level 2 and above (e.g. equivalent to 5 GCSEs at grades A-C or above), this is a higher proportion of people than in the North Eastern LEP area (66.1%), the North East Region (66.1%) and England (67.0%). In Northumberland 29.0% of the population aged 16 to 64 are qualified to NVQ level 4 or above (e.g. equivalent to HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications) which is higher than the North Eastern LEP area (25.7%) and the North East region (25.5%) but lower than England 31.1%). Northumberland has a higher proportion of people aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications (11.5%) than England (11.1%) but lower than the North Eastern LEP area (12.7%) and the North East region (13.0%).

**Figure 65: Qualifications (Jan-Dec 2010)**

	Northumberland		North Eastern LEP		North East Region		England	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
NVQ4 and above	55,900	29.0	322,400	25.7	427,600	25.5	10,440,600	31.1
NVQ3 and above	96,500	50.0	602,700	48.0	802,500	47.9	16,997,700	50.7
NVQ2 and above	135,400	70.2	829,200	66.1	1,107,800	66.1	22,475,900	67.0
NVQ1 and above	162,000	84.0	1,009,300	80.5	1,344,500	80.3	26,924,800	80.3
Other Qualifications	8,700	4.5	85,300	6.8	112,200	6.7	2,897,400	8.6
No Qualifications	22,200	11.5	159,900	12.7	218,500	13.0	3,722,800	11.1

© Crown copyright. Source: ONS via Nomis Annual Population Survey. Numbers and rates are for resident population aged 16 to 64.

### 10.2 GCSE Results

Figure 66 shows that Northumberland has a lower proportion of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 (KS4) gaining five or more GCSEs which include English and Maths (2009/10) than England but a slightly higher proportion than the North East Region.

**Figure 66: Pupils Gaining Five or more A\* to C GCSE Grades including English and Maths 2009/10**

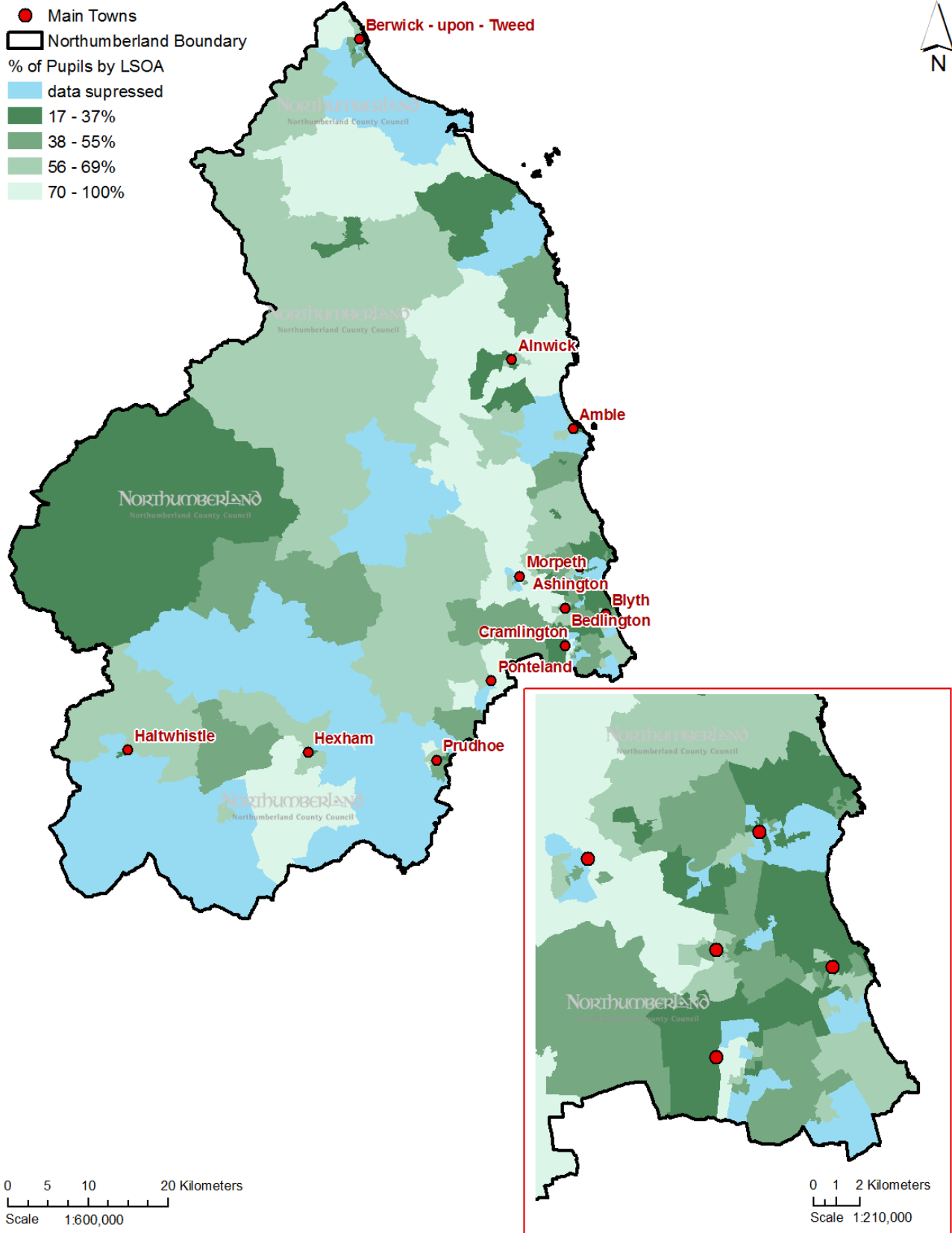
	All Pupils at the End of KS4	% of All Pupils at the End of KS4 Achieving 5+ A* to C Including English and Maths
<b>Northumberland</b>	3,460	53.5
<b>North East</b>	29,487	52.9
<b>England</b>	577,810	55.1

© Crown copyright. DfE Research and Statistics Gateway. Data referenced by location of pupil residence.

Figure 67 maps the location of the same statistics at LSOA level. The light blue areas on the map show areas where rates could not be calculated because figures were not published in order to protect the identity of pupils. The darker green colours show areas where a lower proportion of pupils gained five or more GCSEs including English and Maths and the lighter green areas show areas where a higher proportion of students gained five or more GCSEs including English and Maths.



Figure 67: Percentage of pupils gaining five or more GCSEs including English and Maths (2009/10)



Source: DfE Research and Statistics Gateway. Data referenced by location of pupil residence.

57 out of the 199 LSOAs in Northumberland do not have a rate because the data has been suppressed. Of the 142 LSOAs that data is available for almost half (70 or 49.3%) are below the Northumberland average, a slightly smaller number (67 or 47.2%) are below the North East average.

### 10.3 Young People aged 16-18 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

For most young people, being NEET is a temporary outcome as they move between different education and training options – surveys estimate that only one per cent of young people are NEET at ages 16, 17 and 18. The characteristics of young people who are not participating are diverse, although there are some groups that are at greater risk of becoming NEET. This includes, for example, those with few or no qualifications and those with a health problem, disability or low aspirations (source: <http://www.education.gov.uk/a0064101/16-to-18-year-olds-not-in-education-employment-or-training-neet>).

The following table displays the latest available Department for Education adjusted NEET figures for England, the region and the North East local authorities.

**Figure 68: 2011 NEET Figures by Local Authority Area**

2011 data (average at end of Nov 11, Dec 11 and Jan 12)	16-18 year olds known to the local authority	16-18 year olds NEET		% whose activity is not known
		Estimated number	%	
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>1,772,857</b>	<b>108,490</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>9.3%</b>
<b>NORTH EAST</b>	<b>94,850</b>	<b>8,350</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>9.5%</b>
County Durham	18,382	1,380	7.5%	20.6%
Darlington	3,784	420	11.2%	3.9%
Gateshead	6,625	600	9.0%	10.0%
Hartlepool	3,841	280	7.4%	3.6%
Middlesbrough	5,640	670	11.8%	8.3%
Newcastle	9,226	1,090	11.8%	10.6%
North Tyneside	7,004	430	6.2%	4.8%
<b>Northumberland</b>	<b>11,343</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
Redcar & Cleveland	5,396	560	10.4%	13.0%
South Tyneside	5,678	430	7.5%	10.1%
Stockton on Tees	7,325	750	10.3%	4.7%
Sunderland	10,603	960	9.1%	5.3%

© Crown copyright. Source: DfE 2012

The number and proportion of young people NEET in each area has been adjusted using an established formula which assumes that a significant proportion of those who are 'not known' will be found to have been NEET when contact is re-established. The adjustment is intended to give a more robust reflection of the NEET situation in each local area, although may be less accurate in areas where 'not knowns' are particularly high. If the proportion of 16-18 year olds whose current activity is not known is more than 50% above the England average it is possible that the number and proportion NEET will be inaccurate.

2011 data cannot be compared with that published in previous years because significant changes have been made to the information collected in preparation for the Government's commitment to raise the participation age. 2011 figures:

i) relate to young people resident in the local area. Data for previous years related to the area in which the young person was attending school or college.

ii) relate to the young person's academic age; i.e. their age on 1 September 2011. Data for previous years was based on calendar age. This is in line with other statistical collections and has the effect of increasing the number and percentage NEET.

Northumberland's NEET of 6.7% ranks in second place in the North East area and has been classed as "the best comparative position for our young people yet achieved" (Connexions Northumberland Adapted Quarterly Report Period November 2011-January 2012). Northumberland has also achieved the lowest "unknown" status of 3.1% demonstrating a good level of information about the status of engagement of all young people.

Below Northumberland level, hotspot areas exist where NEET status has increased, these are concentrated in Ashington and Bedlington.



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