

# Know Northumberland

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

## Northumberland in Context

### Population

Northumberland is home to 319,000 **people** and covers an area of 5013 km<sup>2</sup>, and 96.7% of this is classed as rural.

49% of the population live in **rural areas** compared to the North East (18.8%) and England (18.9%).

The number of **older people** aged 65 and over is set to increase by 43.2% by 2041 (North East 39.3% and England 51.7% (2016 based population projections).

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

The county is sparsely populated with a **density** of 63 people per km<sup>2</sup> (North East 308 and England 424 (2016). 51% of the population live in 3% of the area of Northumberland which is based in the South East of the County and mainly classed as **urban land**.

### Deprivation

13.2% of the population live in one of the **10% most deprived** areas of England compared to 16.98% in the North East and 9.9% across England (2015). 20.8% of the population are classed as **income deprived** and 25.4% are **employment deprived** (2015 IMD).

### Crime

**Crime rates** (per 1,000 population) are low in Northumberland at 79 which is the lowest rate in the Northumbria force area where the rate is 106 (Mar 18 Crime Survey England and Wales).

### Economy and the Labour Market

**GVA** (Gross Value Added) is historically low Northumberland. GVA per head stood at £16,408 compared to £20,129 across the North East and £28,096 for England (GVA(B) 2017).

**Unemployment** is higher than the national level (4.3%), and 2.4% claim **Out of Work Benefits** which is lower than the North East rate of 3.2% (Oct 18).

The **employment rate** in Northumberland is 72.5% compared to the North East (70.6%) and England (75.2%) (Jul17-Jun18).



**Wages** for those working in the county are lower than the national figure, with the weekly average (median) pay being £478 compared to £575 in England and £507 in the North East (2018).

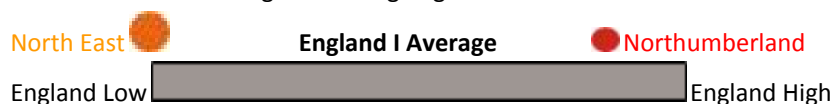
### Housing

There are 153,715 dwellings (2017) in Northumberland. The **average house price** is £163,518 which is higher than the region, £132,049 and lower than England, £249,408 (UKHPI Sep18).

### Children, education and skills

The percentage of children achieving a grade 4 or above in **GCSE English and mathematics** is 63.5%, compared to 59.1% in England (2017/18).

The table below is a statistical profile of Northumberland across a number of indicators grouped into topics and the chart shows how Northumberland compares to the range of areas/authorities in England with the lowest and highest rates, and also shows the North East and England average figures.



Topic	Indicator	N'land	Eng Avg	Eng Low	England Range	Eng High
Pop.	1 Population aged 0 - 15	16	19.1	11.5		27.4
	2 Population aged 16-64	60	63.1	53.0		75.3
	3 Population aged 65+	24	17.9	6.0		33.3
Education /Skills	4 GCSE results	63.5	59.1	41.9		79.6
	5 Pupils progressing to higher education	82	86	74		94
	6 % staff not fully proficient at their job	11	13	7		38
	7 Males taking recent job related training	15.4	17.5	15.5		20.5
	8 Females taking recent job related training	14.91	19.1	17.5		23.1
	9 People aged 16-64 with no qualifications	9.1	7.8	2.1		24.8
	10 16-17yr olds not in edu./employ./train.	4.6	6	2.1		11.8
Employment	11 Economic inactivity rate	24.4	21.4	7.7		35
	12 Employment rate	72.5	75.2	60.3		90.5
	13 JSA claimant count rate	2.4	2.3	0.4		7.2
	14 Unemployment rate	4.3	4.2	1.7		8.9
Env.	15 Household waste sent for recycling	37.7	43.7	14.1		65.4
	16 Municipal waste sent to landfill	13.5	15.9	0.0		64.7
Health	17 Adults smoking	16.9	15.5	7.4		24.2
	18 Adults drinking over 14 units a week	26.6	25.7	8.1		51.3
	19 Excess weight- children Reception	24.2	22.6	16.7		28.4
	20 Excess weight- children Year 6	35.2	34.2	25.3		44.4
	21 Teenage pregnancy	22.5	20.8	7.4		38.4
Housing	22 LA dwellings below decent homes STD	1	12.6	0		65.1
	23 Owner occupied dwellings	82.8	82.5	71.7		92.7
	24 Mean Annual House Price % Change	3.7	7.2	-3.2		20.7
Inclusion	25 % of children in poverty (after housing costs)	24.18	30	10.76		53.4
	26 Pupils receiving free school meals primary	12.0	14.1	5.3		32.5
	27 Pupils receiving free school meals secondary	11.0	12.9	4.5		39.9
	28 % 2 years – funded early education	81	71	39		100
	29 Overall pupil absence in schools	4.6	4.6	3.2		5.5

### Indicator Information

**1:** % Population aged 0 - 15 (Mid2016). **2:** % Population aged 16 - 64 (Mid2016). **3:** % Population aged 65+ (Mid2016). **4:** % Pupils achieving grade 4 or above in English and Mathematics (2017-18). **5:** % Pupils progressing to sustained education institution (2016-17). **6:** Percentage of staff not fully proficient at their job UKCES (2017). **7:** % Male population aged 16-64 receiving job-related training in the last 13 weeks (Jul17-Jun18). **8:** % Female population aged 16-64 receiving job-related training in the last 13 weeks (Jul17-Jun18). **9:** % of the population aged 16 to 64 with no qualifications (2016). **10:** % 16 and 17 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training NEET (2016). **11:** Economic inactivity rate - population aged 16 to 64 (Jul17-Jun18). **12:** Employment rate - population aged 16 to 64 (Jul17-Jun18). **13:** Job Seekers Allowance claimant count rates - population aged 16 to 64 (Nov 18). **14:** Unemployment Rate - all people aged 16 years and over (Jul17-Jun18). **15:** % waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting (2014-15). **16:** % Municipal waste sent to landfill (2014-15). **17:** Smoking prevalence – Adults aged 18 and over (2015) **18:** Estimated % of increasing and high risk drinkers in the resident population aged 16 and over 2010. **19:** % Prevalence excess weight children - Reception (2015-16). **20:** % Prevalence excess weight children - Year 6 (2015-16). **21:** Teenage pregnancy - Under 18 conception rates per 1000 females aged 15 - 17 (2014). **22:** % of LA Dwellings that fall below the 'Decent Home Standard' (2011). **23:** % total dwelling stock that is owner occupied (2015). **24:** Mean annual house price - % change (Nov 16). **25:** % of children in poverty after housing costs (2017). **26:** % of primary pupils in receipt of free school meals (2016). **27:** % of secondary pupils in receipt of free school meals (2016). **28:** The rate of take-up of formal childcare by low income working families in (2011). **29:** Overall absence rate for all pupils (2016).

## Economic Performance - Introduction and Definitions

The economic performance of the county can be assessed by looking at several datasets which cover a number of socio-economic factors. This data provides the context for several of the economic priorities contained within the Economic Strategy. These are strengthening our existing specialisms, supporting our diverse business base, connecting our economy and that of the region, driving development and renewal and enabling growth.

- **Employment rate:** The number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.
- **Unemployment rate:** The number of people unemployed as a percentage of the economically active population.
- **Job Seekers Allowance:** JSA is an out-of-work benefit, payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work.
- **Economically inactive:** People aged 16-64 who are not in employment or actively looking for work. This includes, for example, all those who were looking after a home or have retired early.
- **Earnings:** Average (median) gross earnings in pounds.
- **Skills and education:** Percentage of people aged 16-64 with no qualifications, GCSE results (5 or more grade A\*-C including Maths and English), 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET), percentage of pupils progressing to higher education, skills gaps and job related training.
- **Business stock:** Business start-ups and closures are an indicator of the level of entrepreneurship and of the health of the business population. New business registrations are referred to as business births and the birth rate is calculated using the number of new business registrations as a proportion of the active enterprises. Businesses that have ceased to trade (identified through de-registration of the administrative units, that is, VAT and PAYE) are referred to as business deaths and the death rate is calculated using the number of deaths as a proportion of the active enterprises.
- **Economic growth or value:** Measured by GVA (Gross Value Added) which is the value of goods and services produced by an area, sector or producer minus the cost of the raw materials and other inputs used to produce them.
- **Spending:** Gross disposable household income represents the amount of money left available within the household sector for spending or saving after expenditure associated with income, property and pension.

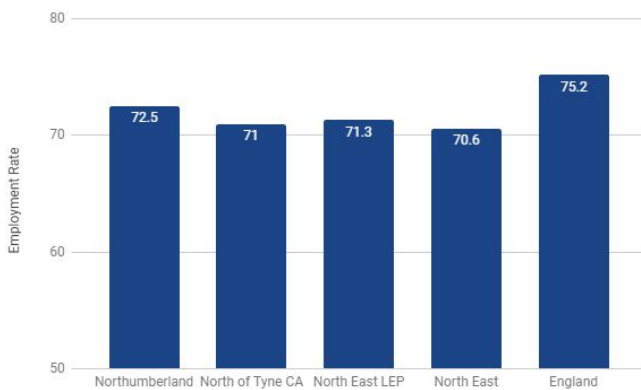
Indicators in this bulletin are presented for Northumberland, the North East Region and England, and also, where possible, for the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA). The North East LEP area covers County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland and the North of Tyne Combined Authority comprises Northumberland, Newcastle upon Tyne and North Tyneside.

### Employment rate

“The number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.”

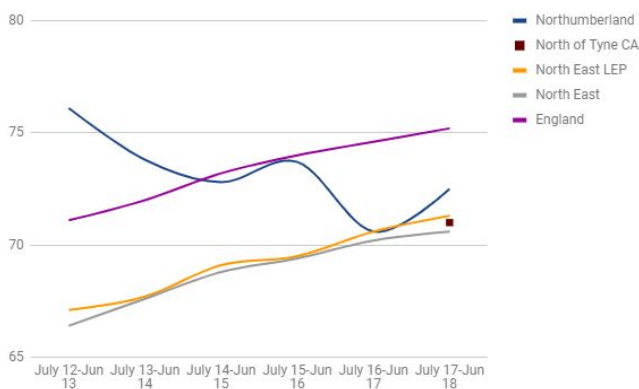
#### Latest Employment Rate (2017-18)

From July 2017 to June 2018, the employment rate for those aged 16-64 in Northumberland was 72.5% which was greater than that for the North of Tyne CA (71.0%), North East LEP (71.3%) and the region (70.6%). The national average was 2.7 percentage points higher.



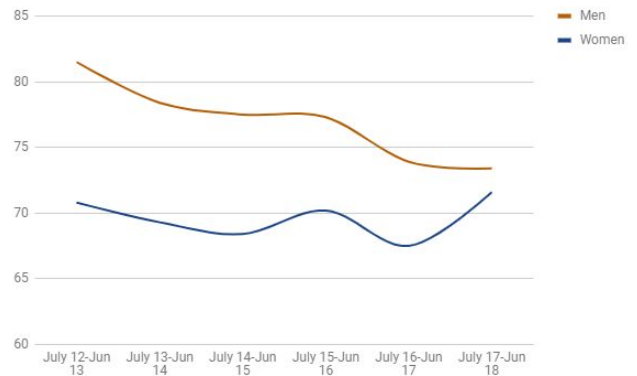
#### Employment Rate Change Over Time

Northumberland’s previously buoyant employment rate slipped post recession and aligned more closely with improving rates in both the North East LEP and the region as a whole. The last 5 years has seen a steady increase in the national rate. (Source Annual Population Survey through NOMIS, ONS)



### Employment Rate for men and women

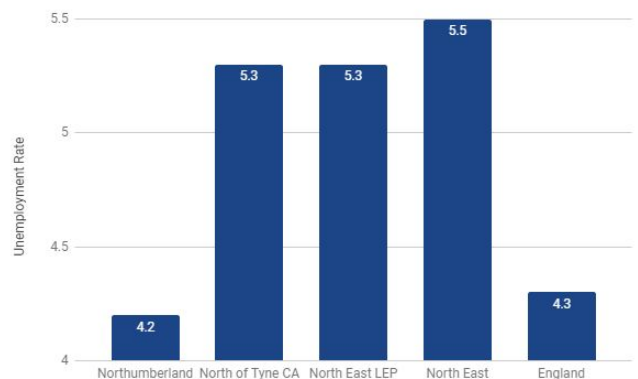
Northumberland’s employment rate had been in steady decline for both men and women from mid 2012 following a particularly high period of employment. A brief period of resurgence occurred in 2015 which appeared to have a greater impact on women, reflecting the fact that over the past 40 years, the country has seen a sustained rise in the number of working age women in paid or self employment.



### Unemployment

Measuring unemployment accurately, particularly at lower geographical levels, is difficult due to reasons such as lack of disclosure, inaccurate reporting, sampling reliability, etc. **Unemployment rate** can be derived from the Labour Force Survey which is based upon a survey sample. **Claimant Count** records those claiming unemployment benefit and can prove they are actively looking for work, however this is not a complete picture because not all individuals who are unemployed, claim.

#### Latest Unemployment Rate (2017-18)

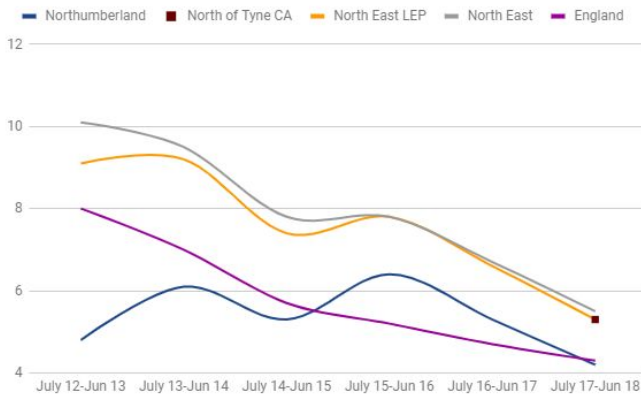


(Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS)

In Northumberland, the unemployment rate from July 2017 to June 2018 was 4.2 % of the population aged 16-64. There has been a fall recently bringing it just below the English average (4.3%), this remains much less than both the rate for the North East LEP (5.3%) and that of the region (5.5%) and NTCA (5.3%).

**Unemployment Rate Change Over Time**

(Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS)



The unemployment rate in Northumberland has fluctuated between record highs to record lows in the last 10 years, culminating in some of the lowest rates on record more recently. Unemployment rates have been falling across the North East and nationally.

**Unemployment rate for men and women**

The latest unemployment rate for men in Northumberland is 5.3%, for women it is 3%. The rate decreased by 0.7 percentage points for men and 1.6 percentage points for women, since the previous year.



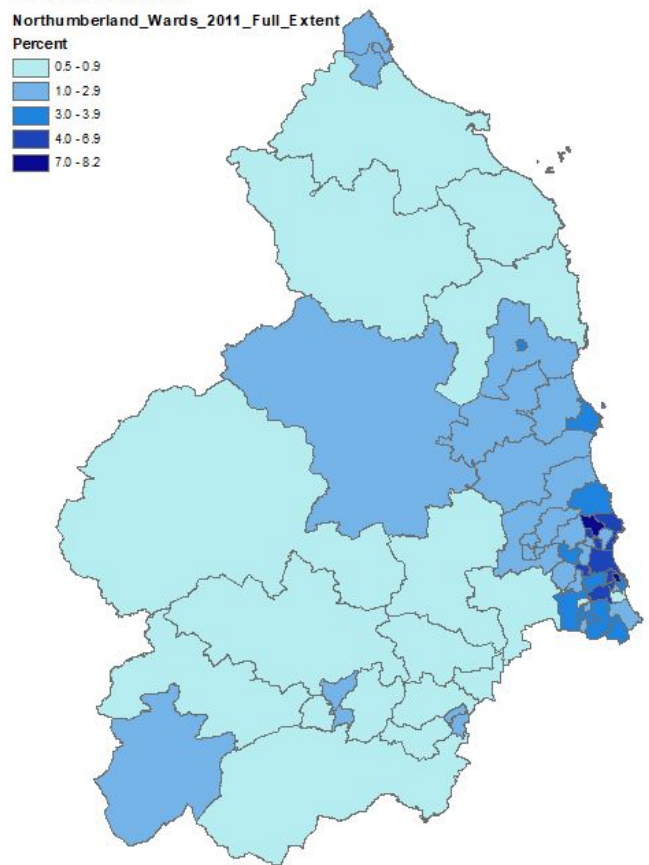
Overall, for 2017-18, there was a difference of 2.3 percentage points between male and female unemployment rates in Northumberland.

In England, the difference between unemployment rates for men and women was just 0.3 percentage points for the region it was 1.3.

**Claimant Count (November 2018)**

The number of people claiming Jobseekers Allowance, plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work is now the headline indicator of the number of people claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. In November 2018, the claimant count rate for the resident population age 16-64 in Northumberland (2.4%) was higher than England (2.3) but lower than the North East LEP (3.7) and the region(3.8).

Claimant rate by ward

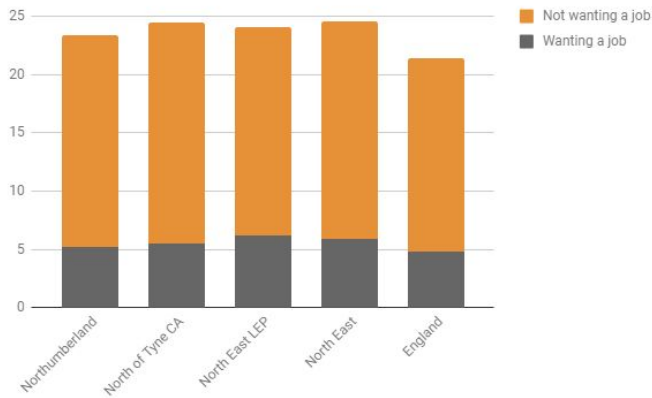


The map above shows the claimant count rates for Northumberland’s 67 wards. The highest rate was in Croft (8.2%) and the lowest was in Humshaugh and South Tynedale (0.5%).

### Economic Inactivity

Economically inactive people are not in work and do not meet the internationally agreed definition of unemployment; they can be divided into those ‘wanting a job’ (people not in employment, who want a job, but who have not actively sought work in the last four weeks or are not available to start work) or those ‘not wanting a job’.

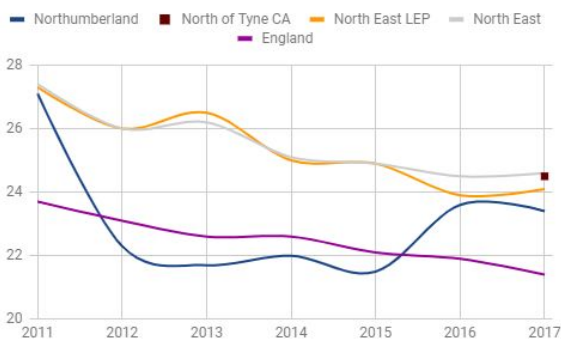
(Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS)



In Northumberland, in 2017, 23.4% of the resident population aged 16-64 were **economically inactive**. This was 1.1 percentage points lower than the North of Tyne CA, 0.7 lower than the North East LEP, 1.2 lower than the region, but 2 percentage points higher than England, which shifts the buoyancy pre 2016.

### Total Economic Inactivity Rate Change Over Time

The annual economic inactivity rate in Northumberland had improved substantially since the years immediately post the 2008 recession, where it was displaying levels similar to the regional average in excess of 25%. Nationally, levels have remained between 22-24%, whereas regionally and in the LEP area rates have remained around 25-27 percentage points over the same period. (Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS)

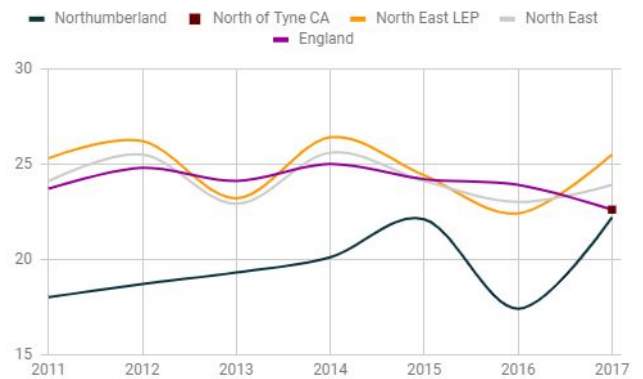


### Proportion of economically inactive wanting a job - change over time.

The proportion of those who are economically inactive, but who want a job, has historically been much lower in Northumberland than the LEP, regional and national averages - although levels had been rising, they are once again in decline.

In 2016, 17.4% of the economically inactive population in Northumberland (aged 16-64) wanted a job, compared to 22.4% in the LEP, 23% in the region and 23.9% in England.

(Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS)



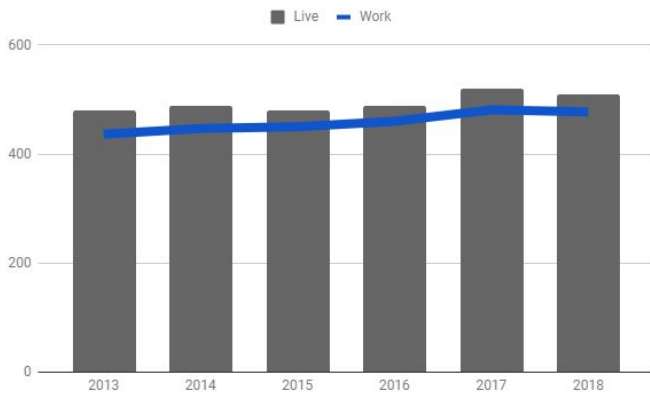
### Earnings

The following figures are based on the average (median) gross earnings in pounds for employees who are on adult rates of pay and whose pay was not affected by absence. Information regarding earnings can be based on where you live and where you work. During 2018, pay for those **working** in the county was £478 per week compared to £513 for the North of Tyne CA, £508 in the LEP area, £507 in the North East region and £575 across England.

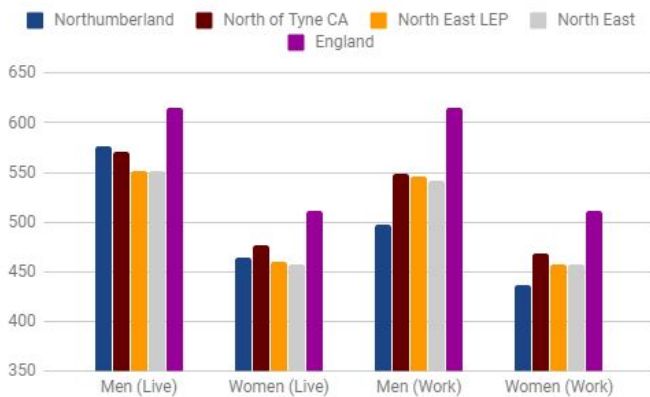
Median weekly pay for Northumberland’s **residents** was £509, compared to £529 in the North of Tyne CA, £514 in the LEP area, £512 in the North East and £575 across England.

### Earnings over time

The median pay of those **living** in the county has risen sharply recently, from £480 per week in 2015 to £520 in 2017 followed by a dip in 2018 to £509. This brings resident’s wages more in line with regional and national levels. For those **working** in the county however, earnings are still much lower but have increased from £447 to £478 over the most recent 5 year period.

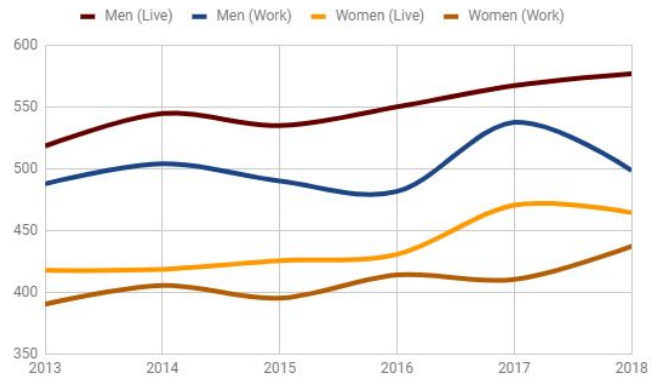


In 2018, the weekly gross pay of full-time **men working** in Northumberland was £61 per week greater than the pay of full-time **women**. For **residents** of Northumberland, the weekly gross pay of full-time men was £112 per week greater than the pay of women. This compares to a difference of up to £94 per week For the North of Tyne CA, up to £91 per week in the LEP, up to £93 per week in the North East region and around £103 per week in England in both residence and workplace terms. (Source: ASHE, ONS)



For those **working** in Northumberland, the weekly gross pay of full-time men has increased from £488 in 2013 to £498 in 2018, however it had been over £500 in 2014 and 2017. For full-time women it has increased from £390 in 2013 to £437 in 2018, however it has fluctuated in the interim period.

For **residents** of Northumberland, who may work out of the County, the weekly gross pay of men working full-time has increased from £518 in 2013 to £577 in 2018. For women the increase was from £417 to £464.

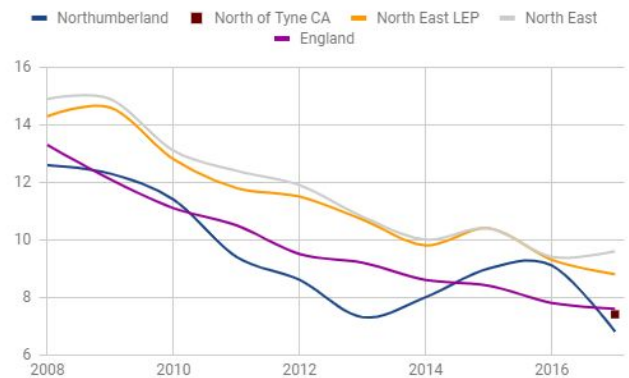


### Skills and Education

#### Population with no qualifications

In 2017, 6.8% of the population in Northumberland (aged 16-64) had no qualifications. This is lower than the North of Tyne CA (7.4%), North East LEP (8.8%), the region (9.6%) and England (7.6%).

(Source: APS, ONS)



#### Skills Gaps

The UK Commission for Employment and Skills Employer Skills Survey provides comprehensive analysis of the skills businesses need and identifies areas of skill deficiency. The biennial survey reports that 11% of Northumberland's establishments have staff not fully proficient and 4% have a skills shortage vacancy. This is marginally better than the North of Tyne CA (12% and 6%) and North East LEP (13% and 5%). The national average is 13% of establishments without fully proficient staff and 6% have a skills shortage vacancy.

(Source: UKCES ESS 2017)

#### GCSE Results

In 2017, pupils sat reformed GCSEs in English language, English literature and mathematics for the first time, graded on a 9-1 scale. New GCSEs in other subjects are being phased in over 3 years.

There are a number of headline accountability measures, but for the purposes of this bulletin we will look at attainment in English and mathematics. 63.5% of pupils in Northumberland achieved a grade 4 or above, compared with 62% across the North East and 59.1% across England. Due to changes in methodology, these figures cannot be compared with other years. (Source: DfE (provisional) 2017/18)

**NEET**

Northumberland’s 2016 NEET for 16-17 year olds of 4.6% is one of the lowest in the North East LEP area. North Tyneside had the lowest at 4.2%. The North East average was 5.4% and the England average was 6.0% for the same period. This cannot be compared with previous years because from September 2016 DfE relaxed the requirement on authorities to track academic age 18 year olds. LAs are now only required to track and submit information about young people up to the end of the academic year in which they have their 18th birthday. (Source: DfE 2016-17 - latest available)

**Further learning and higher education**

The percentage of Northumberland’s KS4 students going to a sustained education destination in 2016/17 was 82%. This is lower than the national average (86%) and 1 percentage point less than the regional average. In the same year 7% of the students went onto apprenticeships, compared with 6% regionally and 5% nationwide. At KS5, 58% of Northumberland’s students went onto a UK Higher Education Institution that year. This was 3 percentage points less than the regional average and 1 percentage point less than national averages. (Source: DfE 2018)

**Job related training**

Between July 2017 and June 2018 15.2% of the population aged 16-64 in Northumberland received job related training (13 week parameter). This was less than the North East region (16.6), England (18.3), the North East LEP (17.1) and North of Tyne CA (15.8). For Northumberland this was an increase on the equivalent time period for the previous two years. The figures vary between male and female, with 15.4% of males and 14.9% of females in Northumberland receiving training. (Source: Annual Population Survey)

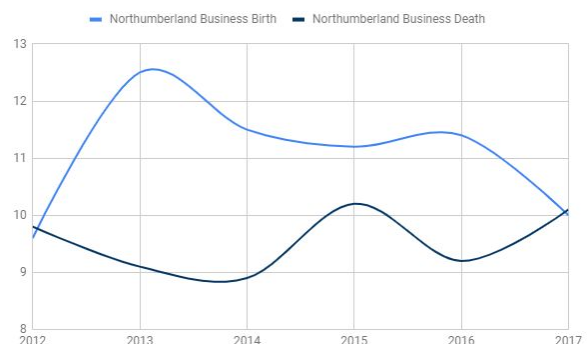
**Business Stock, Economic Growth and Spending**

The table below provides an indication of volume of employment by sector. In terms of employment numbers, Northumberland has a stronger agricultural, tourism and health sector. (Source: BRES 2017)

Sector size (employ)	N'land	NTCA	LEP	NE	Eng
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	5%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Mining, quarrying & utilities	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Manufacturing	11%	7%	11%	11%	8%
Construction	6%	4%	4%	5%	5%
Motor Trades	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Wholesale	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%
Retail	11%	10%	10%	10%	9%
Transport/storage	3%	2%	3%	3%	4%
Info & communication	1%	4%	3%	3%	4%
Financial & insurance	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%
Property	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%
Professional, sci & tech	4%	6%	5%	5%	9%
Business admin & support	6%	9%	9%	8%	9%
Public admin & defence	3%	6%	6%	6%	4%
Education	8%	9%	9%	9%	9%
Health	16%	16%	15%	15%	13%
Arts, ent, rec & other	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Tourism	15%	14%	12%	11%	11%

In 2017 the rate of start-ups (births) of enterprises (as a proportion of active enterprises in Northumberland was 10%. This was lower than the NTCA (11.9%), North East LEP (12.7%), the region (12.6%) and England (15%). The rate of closures (deaths) in Northumberland was 10.1%. Again less than the NTCA (11.5%), North East LEP (11.7%), the region (12%) and the England figure of 11.7%. The number of closures has exceeded start-ups in Northumberland for the first time since 2012.

(Source: ONS Business Demography)

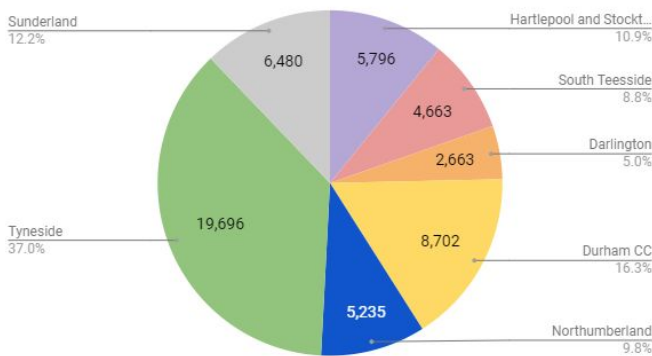




### GVA

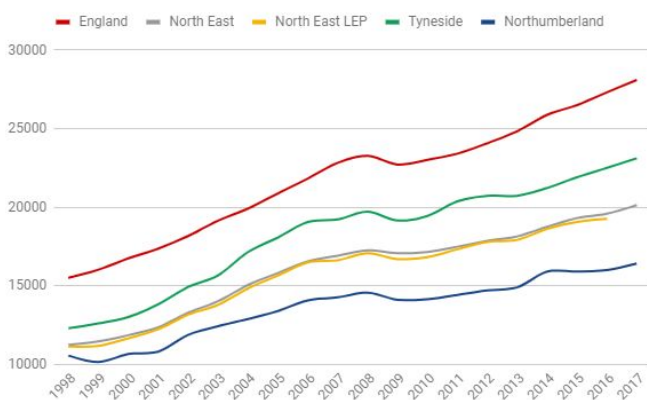
Gross Value Added provides a value for the amount of goods and services that have been produced, less the cost of all inputs and raw materials that are directly attributable to that production. It is used to monitor the performance of the national economy and is now the measure preferred by the Office for National Statistics. The total GVA for Northumberland in 2017 (£5,235m) represents less than 10% of the total GVA for the North East region (£53,235m).

Share of GVA (balanced) at current basic prices (2017)



Between 1998 and 2017, the total GVA for Northumberland increased at an average nominal rate of just over 2.5% per year. This is less than the average annual change in the North East (3.6%) and England (4%).

### GVA per head



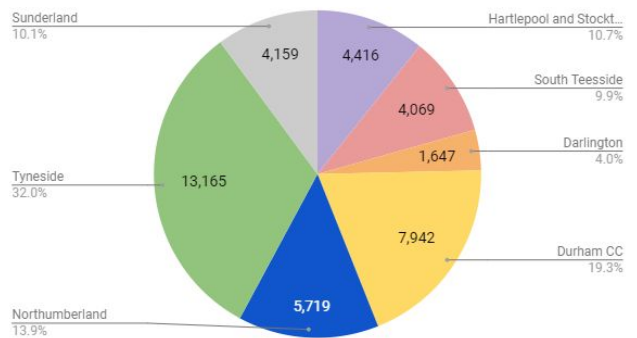
GVA per head is a useful way of comparing regions of different sizes. It is not, however, a measure of regional productivity as the population estimates used to calculate it include the economically inactive population. Northumberland's GVA per head in 2017 was £16,408 compared to £23,109 for Tyneside, £20,129 for the North East and £28,096 for England. (Source: Regional Accounts, ONS)

### Gross disposable household income

Household disposable income represents the amount of money left available within the household sector for spending or saving, after expenditure associated with income (e.g. taxes and social contributions), property ownership (e.g. interest paid on mortgages and other borrowings) and provision for future pension income.

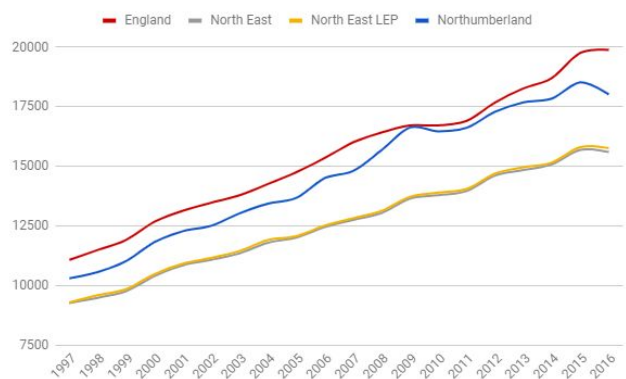
The total GDHI for Northumberland in 2016 (latest available) - £5,719m, represents almost 14% of the total GDHI for the North East (£41,117m).

Share of GDHI at current basic prices (2016)



Between 1997 and 2016, the total GVA for Northumberland increased at an average nominal rate of 3% per year. This is slightly more than the average annual change in the North East (2.9%) but less than England (4%).

### GDHI per head



In 2016 the GDHI per head in Northumberland was £18,016, which had been close to the England average (currently (£19,878) since 2009, but is now diverging. The North East region and LEP figures of £15,595 and £15,763 respectively, have remained substantially lower.

(Source: Regional Accounts, ONS)

End.

