

Key Business Statistics for Huntingdonshire

Business Demography – Enterprise Births & Deaths

Huntingdonshire saw a total decrease of 115 enterprises (VAT and/or PAYE registered businesses) in 2009, resulting in a total of 7,250 'active' enterprises at the year end. There were 665 enterprise 'births' and 780 enterprise 'deaths' during the year. However, enterprise deaths also outnumbered births nationally and across Cambridgeshire with the number of active enterprises in Huntingdonshire decreasing at a lower rate.

Business demography figures also show that 94.2% of 'newly born' Huntingdonshire enterprises in 2008 had survived after one year. This is slightly higher than the national average of 92.1% and the Cambridgeshire average of 93.5%. Survival rates at two years (for enterprises born in 2007), three years (born in 2006), four years (born in 2005) and five years (born in 2004) were all above the national average in Huntingdonshire.

Source: [Business Demography 2009: Enterprise Births & Deaths, Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#)

Business Activity, Turnover and Age

NUMBER OF VAT and/or PAYE BASED ENTERPRISES by BROAD INDUSTRY GROUP:

Agriculture, forestry & fishing	Production	Construction	Motor trades	Wholesale	Retail	Transport & storage (inc. postal)	Accommodation & food services	Information & communication
490	505	905	215	410	475	245	300	555
Finance & insurance	Property	Professional, scientific & technical	Business administration and support services	Public administration and defence	Education	Health	Arts, entertainment, recreation and other services	TOTAL
105	200	1,070	475	30	105	210	440	6,735

The industrial structure of Huntingdonshire businesses is broadly similar to the UK's industrial structure, with similar proportions of enterprises in each of the broad industry groups.

NUMBER OF VAT and/or PAYE BASED ENTERPRISES by EMPLOYMENT SIZE BAND:

0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 19	20-49	50-99	100-249	250+	TOTAL
5,165	855	365	220	75	30	25	6,735

94.8% of Huntingdonshire enterprises employed less than 20 people compared to 94.7% of UK enterprises.

NUMBER OF VAT and/or PAYE BASED ENTERPRISES by TURNOVER SIZE BAND (£ thousand):

0 - 49	50 - 99	100 - 249	250 - 499	500 - 999	1,000 - 4,999	5,000 +	TOTAL
1,235	1,545	1,930	850	510	525	140	6,735

The proportion of Huntingdonshire businesses in each turnover size band is broadly similar to the UK levels, with 9.9% of enterprises in this district having a turnover of £1 million plus compared to an average of 9.9%.

NUMBER OF VAT and/or PAYE BASED ENTERPRISES by AGE OF BUSINESS:

Less than 2 Years	2 - 3 Years	4 - 9 Years	10 or more Years	TOTAL
875	915	1,960	2,985	6,735

The proportion of Huntingdonshire enterprises that are at least four years old is 73.4%. This is slightly higher than the proportion of all UK enterprises in this age group, which is 70.3%.

Source: [UK Business: Activity, Size and Location – 2010, ONS](#)

Note: When comparing the data listed in this section with the Business Demography data used in the previous section, a higher number of Active enterprises will be reported by Business Demography. This is because the Business Demography methodology takes into account businesses that were active at any time during the reference year, whereas the data in this section is based on a snapshot of the IDBR at a point in time in March. Additionally Business Demography includes unmatched non-corporate PAYE businesses, which are excluded from this section.

Gross Value Added (GVA)

Estimated 2007 GVA levels for Cambridgeshire districts, Peterborough, the region and the UK are shown in the table below:

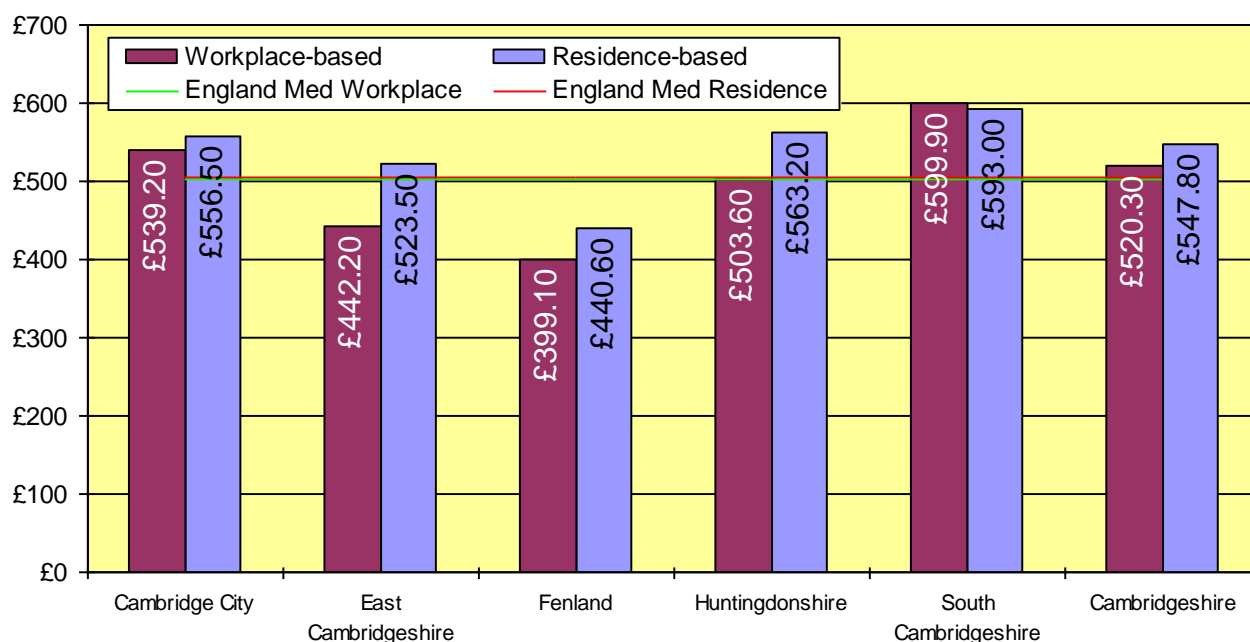
	UK	Eastern	Cambridge	East Cambs	Fenland	Huntingdonshire	South Cambs	Peterborough
GVA (£m, 2006 prices)	1,188,792	105,321	3,403	1,015	1,150	2,857	3,521	4,342
Population (mid-2007 estimate)	60,985,700	5,648,700	115,700	81,200	91,200	164,000	140,500	168,300
Labour productivity (£ per employee incl self employed)	37,798	37,379	36,858	31,165	28,396	34,410	44,975	38,544
GVA per capita (£ per resident)	19,493	18,645	29,412	12,500	12,610	17,421	25,060	25,797

GVA is an indicator of economic success. It is the difference between the value of the output of goods and services produced by an industry/sector and its intermediate consumption – that is, the difference between the value of goods/services produced and the cost of raw materials and other inputs used up in production.

Source: [East of England Forecasting Model \(Autumn 2010 data\)](#), [Insight East](#). GVA figures from ONS Regional Accounts / Oxford Economics calculations. Population figures from ONS Mid-2007 (revised) population estimates.

Earnings

The graph below shows *median* weekly full-time earnings in Cambridgeshire by district for 2010. The figures shown are gross earnings, meaning the total paid before deductions such as tax.



The *residence-based* median weekly earnings for full-time employees in Cambridgeshire are 8% higher than the England median of £506. There is substantial variation across the county, from just over £440 in Fenland to nearly £600 in South Cambridgeshire. The median weekly earnings for Huntingdonshire residents of £563.20 are more than 11% higher than the England median of £506.

The graph also shows *workplace* earnings. Median weekly earnings for workers in the district at £503.60 are 3% lower than the countywide median of £520.30 and more than £96 lower than median workplace earnings in South Cambridgeshire. Huntingdonshire median weekly workplace earnings are very close to the national median of £503.70.

Source: [Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2010](#), Office for National Statistics

Unemployment

Despite recent increases in unemployment due to the economic downturn, the Jobseekers Allowance claimant count unemployment rate in Huntingdonshire remains relatively low at 2.1% (November 2010) compared to 3.4% for England and 2.8% for the East of England region.

The map below shows unemployment by ward in Huntingdonshire.

Unemployment - JSA Claimants

Although relatively low overall for the district, unemployment rates (November 2010) are highest in the wards of:

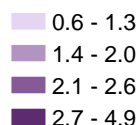
Huntingdon North.....	4.9%
Huntingdon East	2.6%
Ramsey.....	2.5%
St Neots Eynesbury	2.5%
St Ives South	2.4%
St Neots Priory Park	2.4%

Unemployment rates (November 2010) are lowest in the wards of:

Ellington	0.6%
Alconbury and The Stukeleys	0.7%
Little Paxton	0.9%
Elton and Folksworth	0.9%

The table below shows the unemployment rates in Huntingdonshire for November 2009 and November 2010 in comparison to the county's rate and the other districts within Cambridgeshire. The unemployment rate in Huntingdonshire has decreased by 0.5 percentage points over this period. This is the same as the change in the national rate and more than the decrease in regional rate.

% of resident people aged 16-64 who are unemployed



Source: NOMIS, November 2010

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	November 2009		November 2010		November 2009 – November 2010	
	Claimants	Rate%	Claimants	Rate%	Change in Claimants	Change in Rate
England	1,307,139	3.9	1,156,394	3.4	-150,745	-0.5
East of England	116,854	3.2	103,483	2.8	-13,371	-0.4
Cambridgeshire	9,520	2.4	7,930	2.0	-1,590	-0.4
Cambridge City	1,920	2.1	1,651	1.8	-269	-0.3
East Cambridgeshire	1,111	2.1	933	1.8	-178	-0.3
Fenland	2,214	3.9	1,882	3.3	-332	-0.6
Huntingdonshire	2,757	2.6	2,222	2.1	-535	-0.5
South Cambridgeshire	1,518	1.6	1,242	1.3	-276	-0.3
Peterborough	5,468	4.9	4,553	4.1	-915	-0.8

Source: [JSA Claimant Count, NOMIS](#). The unemployment rates quoted here are calculated by expressing the number of Jobseekers Allowance claimants in each area as a percentage of the resident 16-64 year old population in that area.

Summary of further key information about living and working in Huntingdonshire

Huntingdonshire has a population of 165,800. Almost half of the population is concentrated in the four market towns of Huntingdon, St Ives, St Neots and Ramsey. Huntingdonshire covers an area of over 900 square kilometres (approximately 350 square miles). A large proportion of Huntingdonshire is predominantly rural with village settlements providing the main focus for community facilities outside the market towns.

Deprivation in Huntingdonshire overall is relatively low. The ward of Huntingdon North has particularly high levels of deprivation indicators such as lone parents, no qualifications and the Department for Communities and Local Government's indices of deprivation. However, there are also small pockets of deprivation dispersed around Huntingdonshire that are difficult to detect at ward level.

Median weekly earnings for Huntingdonshire residents are around 11% higher than the national average. Economic activity is particularly high, with every ward in Huntingdonshire having a higher level than the national average. Unemployment remains relatively low at 2.1%, compared to the national average of 3.4%. Huntingdonshire has a low overall level of people claiming income support, job seekers allowance and pension credit. However, it should be noted that there are a few wards with high levels of claimants.

Huntingdonshire has a high level of out-commuting at 35.3%. The 2001 Census showed there has been a 4% increase in out-commuting since the 1991 Census. All of the districts in Cambridgeshire, with the exception of Cambridge City experienced an increase in out-commuting over this period. The average distance travelled to a fixed place of work for people living in Huntingdonshire is the 7th highest of all 48 local authority areas in the East of England. The East of England has the highest average distance of all the regions in England.

Of those people who work in the district, 22.8% commute in. A significant amount of people in employment in Huntingdonshire work from home (9.8%), the largest proportion of which are small employers and own account workers.

Almost a quarter of people aged 16-74 in Huntingdonshire have no formal qualifications. However, this remains lower than the county and national average. The level of qualifications attained by the people of Huntingdonshire is close to the national average.

Life expectancy in Huntingdonshire is high compared to the national average. In the 2001 Census, 73.37% of people described their health as 'good'. This is almost 5% higher than the national average. Huntingdonshire has lower levels of claimants for incapacity benefit and severe disablement allowance than the national averages and has a lower percentage of people with a limiting long-term illness than the national average.

Huntingdonshire's residents are predominantly white, with just 2.85% categorised as non-white in the 2001 Census. This is a much lower level than the national average of 9.08%. Since the 1991 Census, the level of non-white people in the district has increased by 0.49 percentage points from 2.36%. The total number of non-white residents increased by over 30% to nearly 4,500 people over this period.

The percentage of households in Huntingdonshire that have access to two or more cars or vans is significantly higher (+14%) than the national average. The district's rural wards generally have higher levels of vehicle ownership than urban wards.

The level of owner occupied housing is higher than the national average and hence there are lower levels of both private and social rented households. Average house prices in Huntingdonshire are below the national and regional averages.

Sources:

[Census 2001, Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#)

[Indices of Deprivation 2007, Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

[Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, ONS](#)

Unemployment data: [Jobseekers Allowance claimants, NOMIS](#)

Benefits: [Department for Work and Pensions, Huntingdonshire District Council](#)

Life Expectancy: [Life expectancy at birth \(2007-2009\), ONS](#)

UK house prices: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/in_depth/uk_house_prices/html/12ue.stm

More detailed information can be found in 'Huntingdonshire Today', a review and analysis of statistics about the district produced by Huntingdonshire District Council. A copy can be found on the Council's website (<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/Community+and+People/Facts+and+figures>).