

Labour Market Profile of Herefordshire

Labour Market Profiles are available for local authorities from the National Statistics Nomis website: www.nomis.co.uk. Some of the information for Herefordshire's labour market profile is detailed in this article. This profile brings together data from various sources.

When looking at survey data such as the Annual Population Survey, some caution should be applied when making comparisons between areas. Due to confidence intervals around survey data we would need to see around 3 or 4 percentage points difference between Herefordshire's figures and those regionally and nationally before saying there was a statistically significant difference between these areas.

Working Age Population (including males aged 16 to 64 and females aged 16 to 59)

	Herefordshire		West Midlands %	England %
	Numbers	%		
All people - working age	104,300	58.3	61.1	62.1
Males - working age	54,800	62.7	65.0	65.8
Females - working age	49,500	54.1	57.4	58.6

Source: Midyear Population Estimates (2005)
Percentages are based on total population.

Economically active (all People)

	Herefordshire		West Midlands %	England %
	Numbers	%		
Economically active	89,700	81.5	76.8	78.4
In employment	85,900	77.9	72.7	74.4
Employees	66,500	61.4	64.1	64.5
Self employed	19,000	16.1	8.2	9.5
Unemployed	3,700	4.2	5.2	5.0
Economically inactive	19,200	18.5	23.2	21.6
Wanting a job	4,400	4.2	4.5	5.2
Not wanting a job	14,800	14.3	18.7	16.4

Source: Annual Population Survey (Apr 2005-Mar 2006)
Percentages are based on the total working age population that includes all males aged 16 to 64 and females aged 16 to 59.

Economically active is defined as people aged 16 years and over who are either in employment or unemployed and actively seeking work.

- 'In employment' is defined as being either an employee or as being self employed, it also includes those on government-supported training and employment programmes; and those doing unpaid family work.
- Unemployed is defined as those without a job and available to start work in the two weeks following their Annual Population Survey interview who had either looked for work in the four weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already. The figure given for the proportion of unemployed people aged 16 to 59/64 is expressed as a percentage of the working age population.

Economically inactive is defined as people who are neither in employment nor unemployed and actively seeking work. This group includes, for example, all those who were looking after the family, a home or retired. Absolute values are given for people who are of a working age and percentages are based on the total working age population. This includes people wanting a job (but not classed as unemployed because they have either not sought work in the last four weeks or are not available to start work) and also people not wanting a job.

Qualifications

Working age	Herefordshire		West Midlands %	England %
	Numbers	%		
NVQ4 equivalent and above	27,100	26.2	23.0	26.2
NVQ3 equivalent and above	45,500	44.0	39.9	43.9
NVQ2 equivalent and above	65,400	63.2	59.6	62.5
NVQ1 equivalent and above	79,500	76.8	74.1	77.1
Other Qualifications	9,700	9.3	8.0	8.7
No Qualifications	14,300	13.8	17.7	14.1

Source: Annual Population Survey (Jan 2005-Dec 2005)

Figures for National Vocational Levels (NVQs) and equivalent qualifications are given for people who are of a working age. Percentages are based on total working age population. Definitions of each NVQ equivalent level are as follows:

- **NVQ 4 equivalent and above:** e.g. HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent.
- **NVQ 3 equivalent:** e.g. 2 or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ 3, 2 or more higher or advanced higher national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent.
- **NVQ 2 equivalent:** e.g. 5 or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ 2, intermediate 2 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent.
- **NVQ 1 equivalent:** e.g. fewer than 5 GCSEs at grades A-C, foundation GNVQ, NVQ 1, intermediate 1 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent.
- **Other qualifications:** includes foreign qualifications and some professional qualifications.
- **No qualifications:** No formal qualifications held.

VAT registered businesses

There were 8,520 VAT registered businesses in Herefordshire at the end of 2005 with 550 deregistrations and 635 registrations during the year (7.5% and 6.5% of stock, respectively). Businesses with a turnover below the VAT threshold (£61,000 annually) are excluded, so a considerable number of small businesses and particularly sole traders are missing from these figures.

Source: Small Business Service

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Employment by occupation (Percentages are based on all persons in employment)

	Herefordshire		West Midlands %	England %
	Numbers	%		
Soc 2000 major group 1-3	33,400	38.9	37.7	42.4
1 Managers and senior officials	14,200	16.6	13.6	15.3
2 Professional occupations	10,500	12.2	11.6	12.8
3 Associate professional & technical	8,700	10.1	12.5	14.3
Soc 2000 major group 4-5	23,200	26.9	25.0	23.4
4 Administrative & secretarial	9,400	10.9	12.5	12.5
5 Skilled trades occupations	13,800	16.0	12.5	10.9
Soc 2000 major group 6-7	13,800	16.1	15.2	15.4
6 Personal service occupations	8,500	9.9	7.6	7.8
7 Sales and customer service occupations	5,300	6.2	7.7	7.5
Soc 2000 major group 8-9	15,000	17.5	21.7	18.6
8 Process plant & machine operatives	5,200	6.0	9.2	7.4
9 Elementary occupations	9,800	11.5	12.5	11.2

Source: Annual Population Survey (Apr 2005-Mar 2006)

For further information see www.nomis.co.uk or contact the Research Team on 01432 383634 or researchteam@herefordshire.gov.uk