



National Assembly for **Wales**
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol **Cymru**

Key Statistics for Merthyr Tydfil

Abstract

This paper provides key statistics for the Merthyr Tydfil Local Authority area, under a number of topic headings.

This is one of a series of Members' Research Service profiles for all Local Authorities in Wales which are updated on a regular basis.

April 2008



Key Statistics for Merthyr Tydfil

Finance and Statistics Team

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Summary

The following points provide a brief overview of Merthyr Tydfil, drawn from detailed statistics in the main body of this paper. Technical terms have been avoided, and in general the reference periods of the statistics are not mentioned as these vary. Details on reference periods can be found in the tables or notes at the end of the paper.

- Around 55,500 people live in Merthyr Tydfil, which with 502 people per square kilometre is more densely populated than Wales as a whole.
- Between 1996 and 2006, the local authority's population decreased by 4.5%, compared to a 2.6% rise in Wales overall.
- 92% of Merthyr Tydfil residents were born in Wales and 10% of people aged three or more can speak Welsh. Across Wales, 75% of all Welsh residents were born in Wales and 21% of people aged three or more can speak Welsh.
- Compared to the Welsh average, life expectancy in Merthyr Tydfil is lower for males and lower for females.
- Around 70% of the working age population of Merthyr Tydfil are economically active, and 3.4% claim Job Seekers' Allowance. This compares to an economically active population of 75% for Wales, and 2.2% claiming Job Seekers' Allowance.
- At £376, the median(i) weekly pay for full-time workers in Merthyr Tydfil is around £40 less than the Welsh median.
- Proportionally, more people in Merthyr Tydfil than in Wales reported having a limiting long term illness (30% and 23.3% respectively).
- A similar percentage of adults as in Wales met guidelines for undertaking physical activity, and a lower percentage than in Wales met guidelines for the consumption of fruit and vegetables.
- The rate of people waiting for their first outpatient appointment in Merthyr Tydfil is 674.3 per 10,000 people. The equivalent rate for Wales is 560.6 per 10,000 people.
- A lower proportion of pupils in their final year of compulsory education achieved five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, compared to the figure for Wales.
- There are around 23,100 households in Merthyr Tydfil, 67.1% of which are owner occupied. This compares to 71.3% for Wales.
- The median(i) house price in 2006 was around £85,000. This was £47,500 less than the Welsh median.
- The rate of accidents per length of road is noticeably higher in the area than the rate for Wales (46.1 per 100 km and 25.5 per 100 km respectively).
- Around 23% of municipal waste was recycled or composted in 2006-07. The percentage for Wales over the same period was 30%.
- The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2005 ranks specific small areas in Wales in terms of deprivation: 36% of Merthyr Tydfil's areas fall in the 10% most deprived areas in Wales, and the majority of its areas are more deprived than the Wales average.

(i) The median is the value with half of all values above it and half below (i.e. the middle value).

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Key Statistics for Merthyr Tydfil

Introduction

Background

This paper provides key statistics for Merthyr Tydfil Local Authority area, under a number of topic headings. This is part of a series of Members' Research Service profiles for all local authorities in Wales, updated in April 2008. The Members' Research Service will also update its series of profiles for Assembly constituencies in the near future.

Profiles for constituencies and local authorities will differ from each other. Constituencies do not form a standard statistical geography, so the availability of data at this level is limited; data are more readily available on local authorities. Two local authorities (Blaenau Gwent and Isle of Anglesey) are also constituencies, so as well as the local authority profiles in this series they will have separate profiles in the series for constituencies (which will include electoral statistics).

Structure of this paper

The preceding summary provides a brief overview of the key similarities and differences between Merthyr Tydfil and Wales as a whole. This introduction is followed by a map of the Merthyr Tydfil area and reference tables on statistics for seven topic areas. Some charts are included throughout the paper to show trends for selected figures. The information in each table is drawn from several different sources, with details on the sources (including links for further information) and definitions in use listed in the first annex. The tables also provide information on whether data items have been changed since the previous local authority profile. The symbols box below provides more information on this. Finally, the second annex shows a map of information on deprivation in the Merthyr Tydfil area.

Symbols

The following symbols have been used throughout this series of Local Authority profiles:

Status symbols (found in column marked St.)

n New - item was not in previous profile

r Revised - definition of item has changed

u Updated - figure updated since previous profile

Data symbols

. Not applicable

* Not sufficiently robust or reliable for publication

Sources for further information

Each statistic shown in this paper is sourced in the first annex. More information is available, and some general sources are described below:

- the Office for National Statistics has produced a report¹ of key statistics from the Census 2001 for local authorities;
- the official labour market statistics website 'Nomis'² provides local authority profiles;
- the Neighbourhood Statistics website³ provides local area statistics;
- the Welsh Assembly Government's Statistical Directorate⁴ publishes information on local authorities;
- the Local Government Data Unit Wales⁵ publishes some information for local authorities including local government performance indicators.

¹ <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=10151>

² <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

³ <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>

⁴ <http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics>

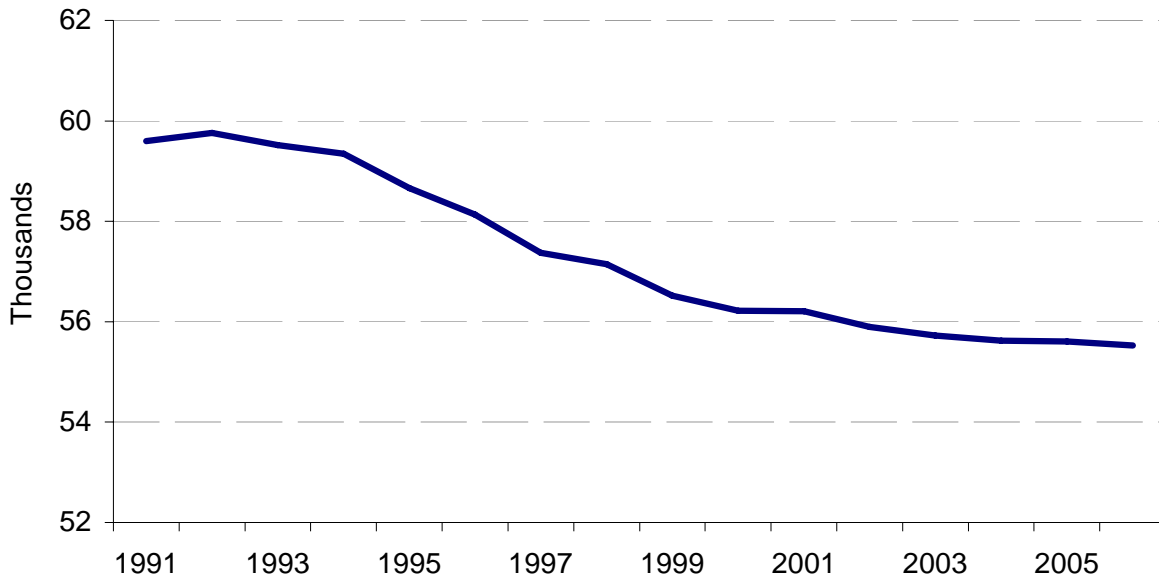
⁵ <http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/eng/Data.asp>

Table 1: Population and Vital Statistics

Data are for 2001 unless another year is given

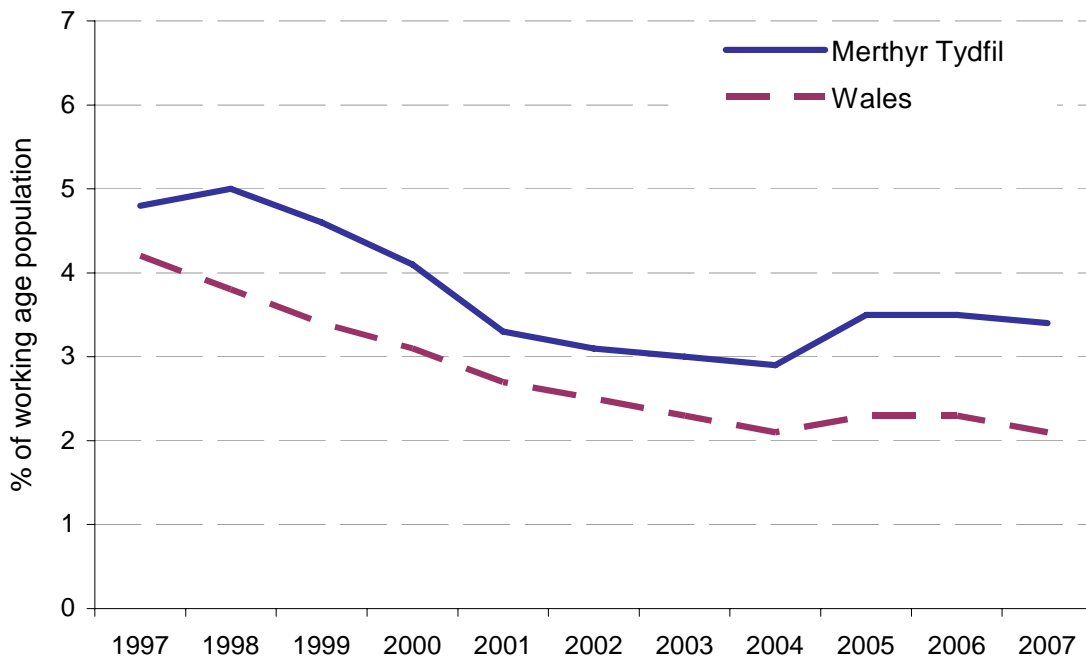
Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units	
Population, mid-2006:				
a r	Total population	55,530	2,965,885	Number
a r	Change in population, 1996-2006	-4.5	2.6	Per cent
b	Area	111	20,742	Square kilometres
c r	Population density	502	143	Number per sq km
Age and sex profile, mid-2006:				
a r	Males	48.6	48.7	Per cent
a r	Females	51.4	51.3	Per cent
a r	Aged 0-15	19.8	18.9	Per cent
a r	Working age	60.9	60.4	Per cent
a r	Retirement age	19.3	20.7	Per cent
Population groups				
b	Non-White Ethnic Group	1.0	2.1	Per cent
b	Single (never married)	28.2	28.0	Per cent of those aged 16+
d	Place of birth:			
	Wales	92.0	75.4	Per cent
	Other UK	6.6	21.4	Per cent
	Elsewhere in EU	0.6	1.3	Per cent
	Non-EU	0.9	1.9	Per cent
b	Religion:			
	Christian	69.8	71.9	Per cent
	Muslim	0.3	0.7	Per cent
	Other	0.6	0.8	Per cent
	No religion/Not stated	29.4	26.6	Per cent
e	Welsh:			
	Can speak Welsh	10.0	20.5	Per cent of those aged 3+
	One or more skills in Welsh	17.7	28.4	Per cent of those aged 3+
	Identified as Welsh	16.2	14.4	Per cent of those aged 3+
f	Life expectancy at birth, 2004-06:			
u	Males	75.5	76.6	Years
u	Females	79.1	81.0	Years
g	Deaths from all causes, 2005:			
u	Persons	11.5	10.9	Rate per 1,000
u	Males	11.3	10.5	Rate per 1,000
u	Females	11.7	11.2	Rate per 1,000
h	Standardised Mortality Ratio, 2001-2005:			
u	Persons	121	100	Ratio for those aged under 75
u	Males	145	124	Ratio for those aged under 75
u	Females	98	78	Ratio for those aged under 75
Vital statistics:				
i u	Live births, 2006	62.2	58.1	Rate per 1,000 females 15-44
j u	Underage conceptions, 2003-05	7.9	7.8	Rate per 1,000 females 13-15
k u	Low birth weight, 2005	7.3	7.2	Per cent of births

Figure 1. Mid year population estimates for Merthyr Tydfil



Source: Office for National Statistics (from StatsWales tables [003121](#) and [003122](#))

Figure 2. Job Seekers Allowance claimants in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales



Source: Department for Work and Pensions (from [Nomis](#))

Table 2: Economic and Labour Market Statistics

Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units
a u Economically active, 2006:	69.6	75.1	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u In employment	62.4	71.1	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Employees	56.5	62.0	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Self employed	5.9	8.6	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Unemployed	10.3	5.2	<i>Per cent of economically active</i>
a u Economically inactive, 2006:	30.4	24.9	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Wanting a job	7.3	5.8	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Not wanting a job	23.0	19.1	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
a National Statistics Socio-economic Classification, 2001:			
u Managerial and professional	16.8	22.0	<i>Per cent of those aged 16-74</i>
u Intermediate	12.0	15.1	<i>Per cent of those aged 16-74</i>
u Routine and Manual	32.4	30.0	<i>Per cent of those aged 16-74</i>
u Never worked and long-term unemployed	6.0	3.8	<i>Per cent of those aged 16-74</i>
u Not classifiable	32.9	29.1	<i>Per cent of those aged 16-74</i>
a Employee jobs by sector, 2006:			
u Manufacturing	17.9	13.4	<i>Per cent of employee jobs</i>
u Construction	2.7	5.3	<i>Per cent of employee jobs</i>
u Services	79.0	79.6	<i>Per cent of employee jobs</i>
u Tourism-related	7.8	8.9	<i>Per cent of employee jobs</i>
a Jobs density, 2005	0.68	0.78	<i>Jobs to working-age people</i>
b Pay for full-time employee jobs, 2007:			
u Median gross weekly pay	375.60	415.50	£, p
u Median gross annual pay	18,531	21,586	£
a Job-Seekers' Allowance claimants, 2007:			
u Persons	3.4	2.2	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Males	5.0	3.1	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Females	1.8	1.1	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Aged 24 and under	42.5	36.9	<i>Per cent of all claimants</i>
u Aged 25-49	47.6	49.5	<i>Per cent of all claimants</i>
u Aged 50+	9.9	13.6	<i>Per cent of all claimants</i>
u Up to 6 months duration	67.7	75.5	<i>Per cent of all claimants</i>
u Over 6 up to 12 months duration	15.9	13.1	<i>Per cent of all claimants</i>
u Over 12 months duration	16.4	11.4	<i>Per cent of all claimants</i>
c Claimants of other benefits, February 2007:			
d Incapacity Benefit and/or Severe Disablement Allowance:			
u Persons	18.3	11.0	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Males	20.3	12.3	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
u Females	16.2	9.7	<i>Per cent of the working age</i>
e u Income Support claimants	15.1	10.4	<i>Per cent of households</i>
f Pensions Credit claimants:			
u Guarantee credit only	9.9	7.6	<i>Per cent of those aged 60+</i>
u Guarantee & savings credit	17.2	14.8	<i>Per cent of those aged 60+</i>
g u National Insurance Number Registrations of non-UK Nationals, 2006-07	420	17,020	<i>Number</i>

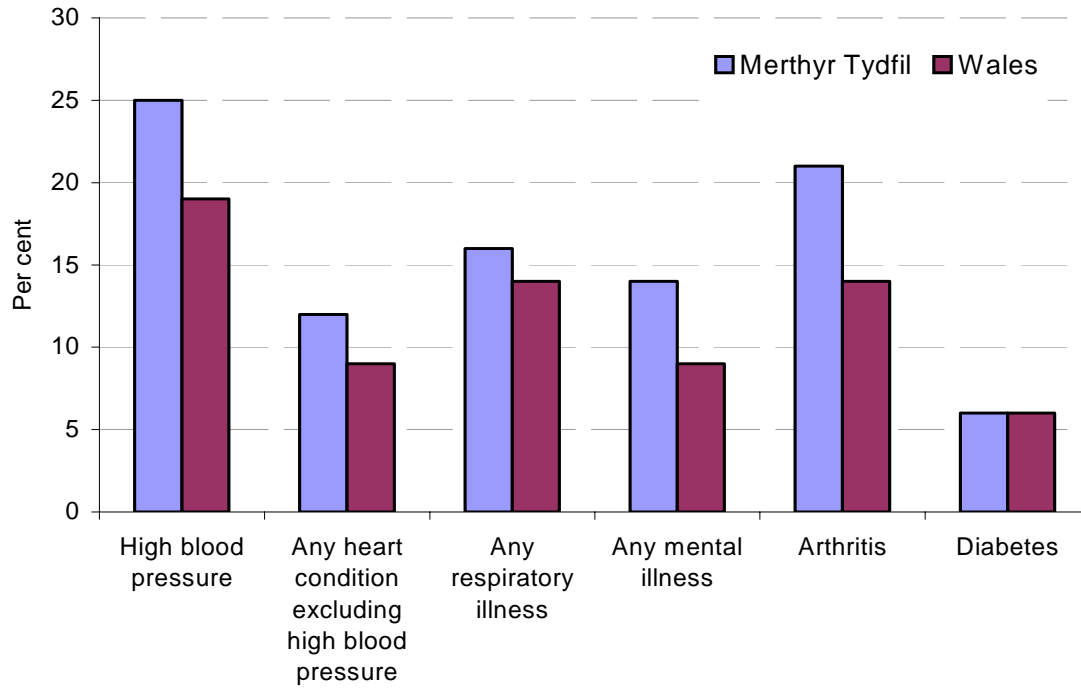
Table 3: Health and Social Services Statistics

Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units	
a	Key health information, 2001:			
	Limiting long-term illness	30.0	23.3	<i>Per cent of the population</i>
	General health 'not good'	18.1	12.5	<i>Per cent of the population</i>
	Providing unpaid care for 50+ hours a week	3.9	3.1	<i>Per cent of the population</i>
b	Currently being treated for, 2004/06:			
u	High blood pressure	25	19	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	Any heart condition excluding high blood pressure	12	9	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	Any respiratory illness	16	14	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	Any mental illness	14	9	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	Arthritis	21	14	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	Diabetes	6	6	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
c	SF-36 (higher scores mean better health), 2004/06:			
u	Physical Component Summary Score	46.4	48.8	<i>Mean for those aged 16+</i>
u	Mental Component Summary Score	47.2	49.7	<i>Mean for those aged 16+</i>
d	Deaths from selected causes (European standardised rate), 2005:			
	All malignant neoplasms:			
r	Males	236.9	218.6	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
r	Females	209.6	162.1	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
	Ischaemic heart disease:			
r	Males	104.7	166.6	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
r	Females	71.4	79.4	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
	Cerebrovascular disease:			
r	Males	44.2	58.4	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
r	Females	46.0	53.7	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
	Respiratory disease:			
r	Males	133.8	94.6	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
r	Females	32.2	71.0	<i>Rate per 100,000 people</i>
b	Health-related lifestyle, 2004/06:			
e u	Smoker	26	27	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
f u	Binge-drinking at least once in the past 7 days	21	19	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
g u	Met fruit and vegetable guidelines the previous day	38	42	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
h u	Met physical activity guidelines over the past 7 days	29	30	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
i u	Overweight or obese	58	55	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>

Table 3 (continued): Health and Social Services Statistics

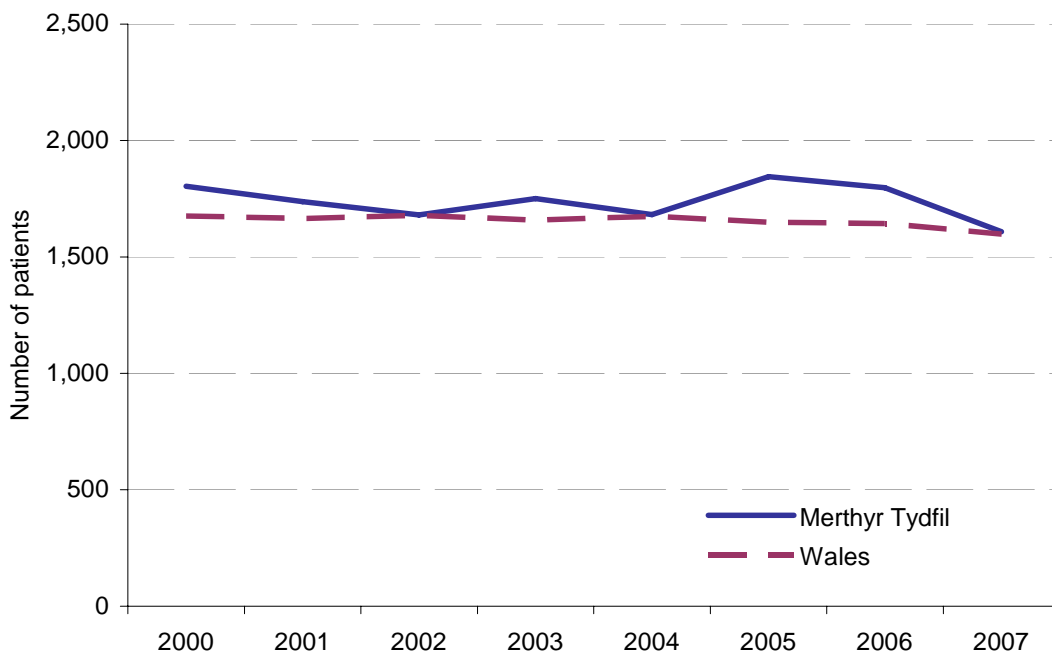
Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units
b	Use of health services, 2004/06:		
u	18	17	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	23	19	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	11	10	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	80	79	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	60	67	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
u	49	46	<i>Per cent of those aged 16+</i>
	Health facilities:		
j u	5.8	6.3	<i>Rate per 10,000 people</i>
k u	1,608	1,598	<i>Number of patients</i>
j u	6.1	3.8	<i>Rate per 10,000 people</i>
l	GP prescribing, 2005-06:		
u	22.3	18.7	<i>Number per person</i>
u	205.64	184.55	<i>£,p per person</i>
m	Waiting lists, 2007:		
	Waiting for:		
u	674.3	560.6	<i>Rate per 10,000 people</i>
u	131.2	105.5	<i>Rate per 10,000 people</i>
u	77.6	104.7	<i>Rate per 10,000 people</i>
	Waiting more than 3 months for:		
u	35.5	31.6	<i>Per cent of total waiting</i>
u	40.6	37.6	<i>Per cent of total waiting</i>
	Waiting more than 6 months for:		
u	7.5	6.2	<i>Per cent of total waiting</i>
u	10.4	7.9	<i>Per cent of total waiting</i>
n	Hospital activity, 2005-06:		
	Inpatient admissions:		
u	47.1	44.7	<i>Rate per 1,000 people</i>
u	170.6	116.3	<i>Rate per 1,000 people</i>
u	217.7	161.0	<i>Rate per 1,000 people</i>
u	39.6	40.0	<i>Rate per 1,000 people</i>
u	257.3	201.1	<i>Rate per 1,000 people</i>
o	Social Services for children aged under 18, 2005-06:		
u	13.9	7.2	<i>Rate per 1,000 children</i>
u	51.4	35.8	<i>Rate per 10,000 children</i>
o	Social Services for people aged 65+, 2005-06:		
u	171.4	122.2	<i>Rate per 1,000 aged 65+</i>
u	24.9	24.5	<i>Rate per 1,000 aged 65+</i>
u	10.2	13.3	<i>Rate per 1,000 aged 65+</i>

Figure 3. Adults who reported being treated for illnesses in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales, 2004/06



Source: [Welsh Health Survey](#)

Figure 4. Average GP list size in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales



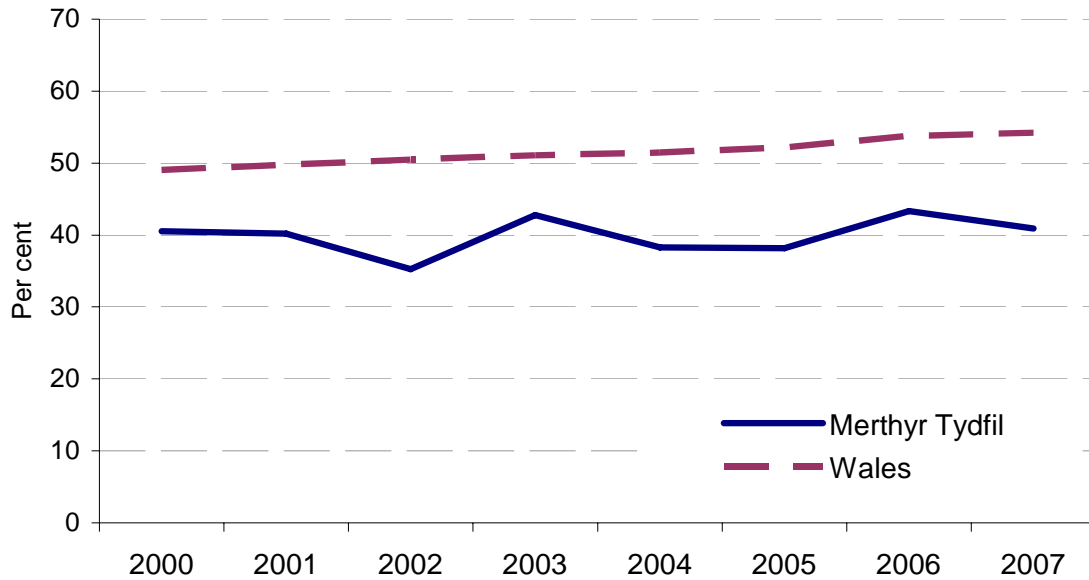
Source: Welsh Assembly Government (from StatsWales table [001202](#))

Table 4: Education and Training Statistics

Data are for 2006/07 unless another year is given

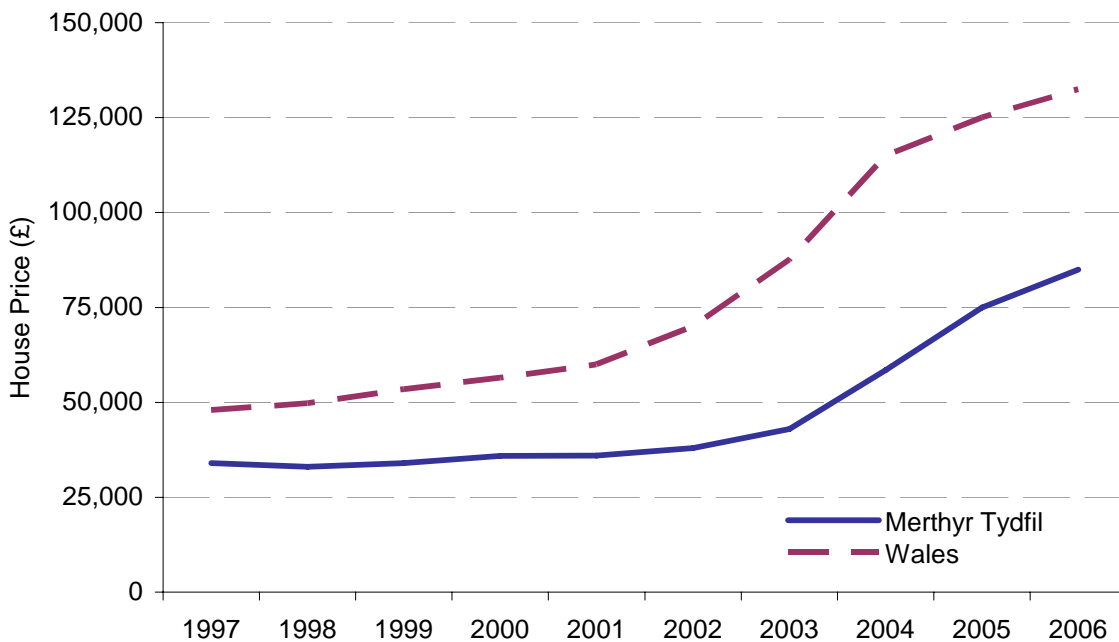
Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units	
a	Qualifications, 2006:			
u	NVQ4 and above	16.3	24.3	<i>Per cent of working age</i>
u	NVQ3 and above	32.7	42.8	<i>Per cent of working age</i>
u	NVQ2 and above	49.2	62.9	<i>Per cent of working age</i>
u	NVQ1 and above	68.7	76.7	<i>Per cent of working age</i>
u	Other Qualifications	9.2	7.0	<i>Per cent of working age</i>
u	No Qualifications	22.1	16.2	<i>Per cent of working age</i>
	Achievement at the expected level in teacher assessments:			
b n	Key Stage 1 (age 7)	77.0	80.1	<i>Per cent</i>
c n	Key Stage 2 (age 11)	69.2	74.1	<i>Per cent</i>
d n	Key Stage 3 (age 14)	48.6	56.7	<i>Per cent</i>
e	GCSE Examination Performance:			
u	5+ GCSE / Equivalent Grades A*-C	40.9	54.2	<i>Per cent</i>
u	5+ GCSE / Equivalent Grades A*-G	80.3	85.7	<i>Per cent</i>
u	Average GCSE / GNVQ points score	34.3	41.3	<i>Score</i>
f n	Pupils leaving full time education without a qualification:	1.3	1.7	<i>Per cent</i>
g	A Level Examination Performance:			
u	2+ A Level / Equivalent Grades A-C	58.1	67.5	<i>Per cent</i>
u	2+ A Level / Equivalent Grades A-E	96.1	93.9	<i>Per cent</i>
u	Average A Level / Equivalent points score	17.5	20.2	<i>Score</i>
h	Absence from maintained primary schools:			
n	Unauthorised absence	1.0	0.9	<i>Per cent of sessions missed</i>
n	All absence	7.8	6.9	<i>Per cent of sessions missed</i>
i	Absence from maintained secondary schools:			
n	Unauthorised absence	1.5	1.8	<i>Per cent of sessions missed</i>
n	All absence	10.4	9.3	<i>Per cent of sessions missed</i>
j	Pupil teacher ratios:			
u	Primary schools	20.8	19.9	<i>Ratio</i>
u	Secondary schools	17.2	16.6	<i>Ratio</i>
u	Special schools	8.7	6.4	<i>Ratio</i>
j	Average Class Sizes:			
u	Primary - Key Stage 1	25.3	24.3	<i>Number of pupils</i>
u	Primary - Key Stage 2	25.7	25.2	<i>Number of pupils</i>
u	Secondary - Years 7-11	23.1	22.3	<i>Number of pupils</i>
u	Secondary - Years 12-13	13.1	10.8	<i>Number of pupils</i>

Figure 5. Percentage of 15 year old pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs or equivalent at A*-C in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales



Source: Welsh Assembly Government (from StatsWales table [001897](#))

Figure 6. Median house prices in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales



Source: [Department for Communities and Local Government](#)

Table 5: Housing Statistics

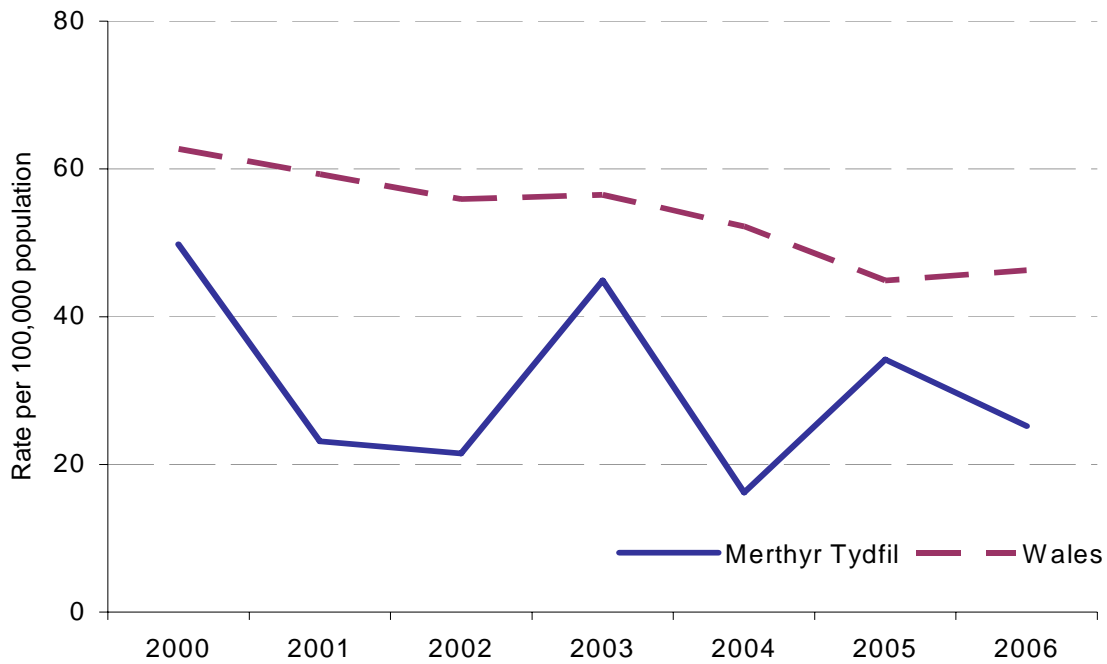
Data are for 2001 unless another year is given

Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units
a Households:			
Total	23,145	1,209,048	<i>Number</i>
Average size	2.4	2.4	<i>Number of members</i>
One person	28.9	29.1	<i>Per cent</i>
Lone parent with dependent children	9.6	7.3	<i>Per cent</i>
Pensioner	24.4	25.6	<i>Per cent</i>
One or more person with limiting long-term illness	53.6	42.4	<i>Per cent</i>
No central heating	4.5	7.5	<i>Per cent</i>
a Household spaces:			
Total household spaces	24,584	1,275,816	<i>Number</i>
Vacant	5.7	4.0	<i>Per cent</i>
Second home/holiday accommodation	0.2	1.2	<i>Per cent</i>
a Tenure:			
Owner Occupied	67.1	71.3	<i>Per cent</i>
Local Authority	17.4	13.7	<i>Per cent</i>
Housing Association/Registered Social Landlord	5.4	4.2	<i>Per cent</i>
Private Landlord	5.2	7.4	<i>Per cent</i>
Other	4.8	3.3	<i>Per cent</i>
b Homelessness decisions, 2005-06:			
r Eligible, unintentionally homeless and in priority need	5.9	6.3	<i>Per 1,000 households</i>
c Median house prices:			
u 2005	75,000	125,000	£
u 2006	85,000	132,500	£
u Change 2005-06	13.3	6.0	<i>Per cent</i>
d u Average Council Tax per dwelling, 2008-09	816	908	£

Table 6: Transport, Crime and Environment Statistics

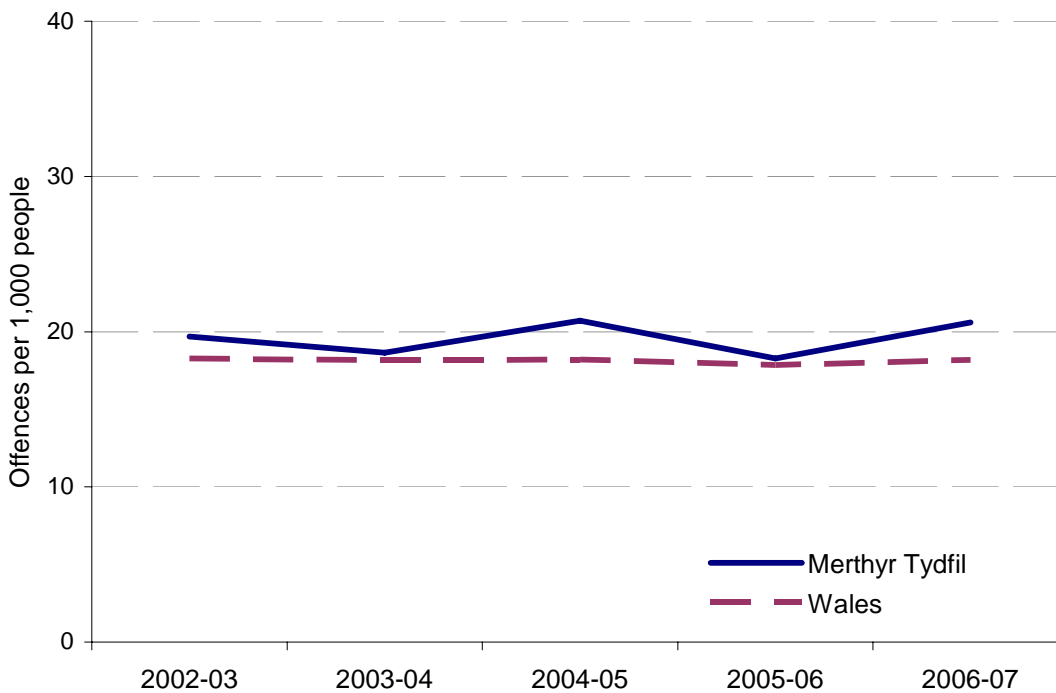
Ref. St.	Merthyr Tydfil	Wales	Units
Transport			
a Use of transport, 2001:			
Households without a car or van	35.2	26.0	Per cent of households
Households with 2 or more car/vans	20.3	28.5	Per cent of households
Travel to work by car	72.5	70.7	Per cent of 16-74 in employment
Travel to work by public transport	9.3	6.5	Per cent of 16-74 in employment
b Road accidents, 2006:			
u Accidents	46.1	25.5	Rate per 100km road
u Casualties	71.2	37.3	Rate per 100km road
u Casualties - slight	389.0	381.6	Rate per 100,000 population
u Casualties - killed or seriously injured	25.2	46.3	Rate per 100,000 population
c u Volume of traffic (billion vehicle km)	1.22	0.82	Per 1,000 km of road
d u Years of life lost by death due to motor vehicle accident, 2000-2004	13.4	15.3	Per 10,000 population
Crime			
e n Recorded crime, 2006-07:			
n Violence against the person	20.6	18.2	Rate per 1,000 population
n Burglary from a dwelling	3.6	3.6	Rate per 1,000 population
n Theft of a vehicle	8.8	3.8	Rate per 1,000 population
n Theft from a vehicle	12.6	8.6	Rate per 1,000 population
Environment			
f u Municipal waste recycled or composted, 2006-07	22.7	29.9	Per cent
g Chemical river quality, 2006			
u Good quality	92.7	94.9	Per cent of river length
u Good or fair quality	100.0	98.1	Per cent of river length
g Biological river quality, 2006			
u Good quality	92.7	82.6	Per cent of river length
u Good or fair quality	100.0	99.2	Per cent of river length

Figure 8. Casualties killed or seriously injured in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales



Source: [Welsh Assembly Government](#)

Figure 9. Violence against the person offences recorded in Merthyr Tydfil and Wales



Source: [Home Office](#)

Deprivation Statistics

The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2005 (WIMD⁶) is a measure of deprivation for small areas in Wales. It ranks statistical geographies known as Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in terms of deprivation across various domains such as health and employment, as well as providing an overall deprivation rank. Although WIMD does not provide deprivation ranks for local authorities as a whole it is possible to look at the rank of LSOAs within a local authority.

In Merthyr Tydfil (which has 36 LSOAs):

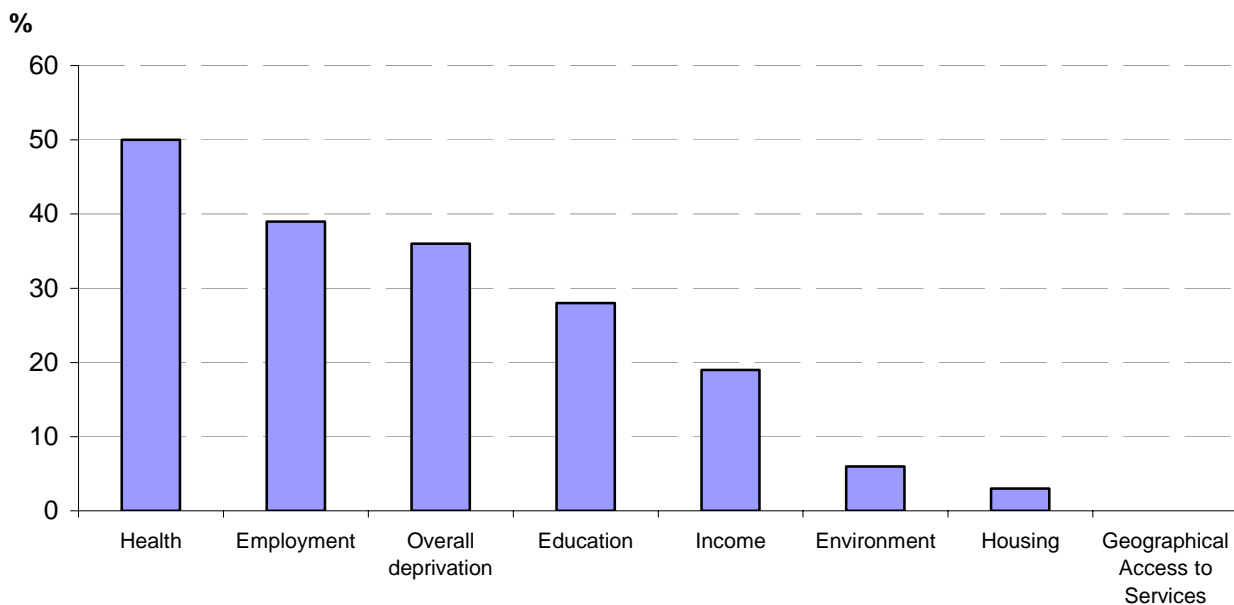
- 13 LSOAs (36%) fall within the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales;
- The majority (86%) of LSOAs are more deprived than the Wales average.

In relation to Wales as a whole, this means that a relatively high proportion of areas in Merthyr Tydfil are among the 10% most deprived, and overall the majority of areas fall in the more deprived half of Wales.

The map of Merthyr Tydfil in Annex 2 shows LSOAs within the area shaded according to their overall level of deprivation, seen in relation to Electoral Division boundaries.

Figure 1 shows what proportion of Merthyr Tydfil's LSOAs are in the 10% most deprived in Wales for each individual domain as well as for overall deprivation.

Figure 1: The percentage of LSOAs in Merthyr Tydfil that are in the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales, for overall deprivation and by domain, 2005



Source: [Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation](#)

For more details on these statistics, please see the WIMD 2005 report for local authorities⁷.

⁶ <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/wimd2005>

⁷ <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/wimd2005/results/analysis-revised>

Annex 1: Sources and Notes

Small discrepancies in Census statistics

In the sources listed above, similar Census statistics may be available from more than one table, and there are rare but occasional discrepancies in counts between tables. For example the counts of households in table KS16 (household spaces and accommodation type) and KS20 (household composition) differ by one or two households (out of a typical 50,000) for some local authorities. This is usually because cells in tables are randomly adjusted to avoid the release of confidential data.

Ref Source & Notes

Table 1: Population and Vital Statistics

- 1-a StatsWales (tables 003121 and 003122) - 1996 and 2006 mid year estimates of the population
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3121>
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3122>
- 1-b Neighbourhood Statistics, 2001 Census: Key Statistics (tables KS01, KS04, KS06A & KS07)
<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>
Area measurements are based on the 2001 version of the Ordnance Survey Boundary-Line data-set, amended where district boundaries have changed since 2001, and do not include inland water. Area is on Census Day (29th April 2001).
'Non-white ethnic group' includes people from a mixed white-other ethnic group.
- 1-c Figures are constructed from area measurements from 2001 Census table KS01 and mid 2006 estimates of the population.
- 1-d Neighbourhood Statistics, 2001 Census: Key Statistics (table KS05)
<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>
The EU is as defined on Census day (29 April 2001).
- 1-e Neighbourhood Statistics, 2001 Census: Key Statistics (table KS06A & KS25)
<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>
One or more skills in Welsh means speaks, reads, writes and/or understands Welsh.
Identified as Welsh means those who have written 'Welsh' or 'Cymraeg' or similar in one or more of the write-in boxes in the ethnic group question.
- 1-f StatsWales (table 003311)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3816>
The figures are constructed from the estimated population and total deaths by single year/quinary age each year, based on a three year average. The "expected years of life" is the lifetime of a newborn person, if they were subject throughout their lives to the average recorded death rate of the three year period. Such a calculation excludes future improvements to mortality rates.
- 1-g StatsWales (table 003384)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3384>
Death rate is calculated as the number of deaths occurring in each calendar year per 1,000 residents, estimated at 30 June of each year.
- 1-h StatsWales (table 003396)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3396>
Standardised Mortality Ratios are calculated as the number of actual deaths in each area in a given period of years, as a percentage of deaths which would have been expected if the local population had experienced the age-specific mortality rates in Wales as a whole during that period.
- 1-i ONS, Births 2006
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=14408>
- 1-j ONS, Underage conceptions: Numbers and rates by area of usual residence and outcome, 2000-02 and 2003-05
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/ssdataset.asp?vlnk=9571&More=Y>
Underage means aged under 16 years old. Numbers and rates for 2005 conceptions are provisional.
- 1-k Health Statistics Wales 2007 (table 1.6)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

Live and still births under 2,500g per 100 births with a stated birth weight.

Table 2: Economic and Labour Market Statistics

- 2-a NOMIS official labour market statistics
<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>
<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038432110/report.aspx?town=merthyr%20tydfil>
Information on economically active/inactive from the Annual Population Survey January - December 2006. Information on the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification is from Census Area Statistics table CAS042. The 3 class version is used, for further details please see the link below:
http://www.statistics.gov.uk/nsbase/methods_quality/ns_sec/downloads/NS-SEC_User.pdf
Information on employee jobs is from the Annual Business Inquiry employee analysis 2006, included in the Local Authority profile at April 2008. Tourism-related jobs are a subset of the Services category.
Information on jobs density is from Jobs Density 2005, included in the Local Authority profile at April 2008. Jobs density is the total number of filled jobs in an area divided by the resident population of working age in that area. The number of jobs in an area is composed of jobs done by residents (of any age) and jobs done by workers (of any age) who commute into the area. The working-age population comprises residents of working age who work in the area plus workers of working age who commute out of the area to work in other areas and those who are unemployed or economically inactive of working age.
JSA claimant counts averaged over the twelve month period January - December 2007.
- 2-b ONS, 2007 Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (tables 8.1a & 8.7a)
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/ashe>
The median is the value with half of all values above and half below (i.e.: the middle value).
- 2-c Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Tabulation Tool
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/tabtool.asp>
- 2-d DWP, Working age claimants of incapacity benefits, February 2007
http://83.244.183.180/100pc/wapop/ccla/ccstatgp/a_cnpop_r_ccla_c_ccstatgp_feb07.html
Includes those receiving Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance. Incapacity Benefit is paid to people who are assessed as being incapable of work and who meet certain contribution conditions. Until April 2001, people who were incapable of work and did not satisfy the contribution conditions for Incapacity Benefit could get Severe Disablement Allowance.
- 2-e DWP, Income Support, February 2007
http://83.244.183.180/100pc/is/ccla/ccgor/a_carate_r_ccla_c_ccgor_feb07.html
Income Support is intended to help people on low incomes who do not have to be available for employment. The main types of people who receive it are lone parents, the long and short-term sick, people with disabilities and other special groups. Rates are calculated using 2001 Census estimates of numbers of households from <http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/> (table KS16).
- 2-f DWP, Pension Credit, February 2007
http://83.244.183.180/100pc/pc/ccla/pctype/a_benefic_r_ccla_c_pctype_feb07.html
Pension Credit is designed to help pensioners at the lower end of the income scale by ensuring a guaranteed minimum weekly income (guaranteed credit) and, in addition, to reward those people who have made modest provision for their retirement (savings credit). Rates are calculated using mid-2006 estimates of the population aged 60+, from StatsWales table 003122.
- 2-g DWP, National Insurance Number (NINo) Registrations of non-UK Nationals, 2006-07
100% sample at 14 May 2007 from the National Insurance Recording System (NIRS). Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten. Local Authority counts are based on the most recently recorded address of the NINo recipient, assigned to an Authority by matching postcodes against the relevant postcode directory.
Information supplied by DWP. See the following DWP report for further information on NINo allocations made to overseas nationals entering the UK.
http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/niall/registration_tables2007.xls

Table 3: Health and Social Services Statistics

- 3-a Neighbourhood Statistics, 2001 Census: Key Statistics (table KS08)
<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>
- 3-b Welsh Health Survey, 2004/06
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/health-survey200506/?lang=en>

Figures for local authorities are based on a sample of between 1,100 and 2,200 adults.

Results are age-standardised, to take account of possible differences in the age distributions of areas being compared.

Data collection is through self-completion questionnaire, so results reflect people's own understanding of their health rather than a clinical assessment of their medical condition.

3-c See source and notes at 3-b.

The SF-36 is a standard set of 36 health status questions asking respondents about their own perception of their physical and mental health and the impact it has on their daily lives. Responses can be combined to produce summary scores for both physical and mental health. For further details, please see the Welsh Health Survey link above, or:

www.sf-36.org

3-d Health Statistics Wales 2007 (table 1.13)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

European standardised death rates are a way of comparing death rates for populations whose age and sex distribution vary. It eliminates from the trends the increase or decrease that may be due to changes in the age/sex structure of the population. In this case they are calculated by applying the age-specific death rates for 5 year age bands and by sex for the Welsh population in a given year to a standard European population to estimate the rates for the standard population had the Welsh age-specific rates by sex applied in that standard population.

Due to changes in the published source material, rates have been provided for deaths at all ages. In previous publications (including Members' Research Service local authority profiles) rates were given for deaths under the age of 75 only.

3-e The figure includes daily and occasional smokers.

3-f Refers to the most units drunk on any one day in the past seven days. Binge-drinking is defined as men drinking more than 8 units a day, women more than 6 units. For example, a small glass of wine is one unit, and a pint of normal strength lager is two. The proportion is based on all adults (including non-drinkers).

3-g Guidelines recommend eating at least five portions of a variety of fruit and vegetables each day. Examples of portions are one apple, or three tablespoons of vegetables.

3-h Guidelines currently recommend that adults do at least 30 minutes of at least moderate intensity physical activity (such as heavy gardening or fast walking), on five or more days a week.

3-i The Body Mass Index (BMI) is a measure of overweight and obesity, allowing for differences in weight due to height. Adults are defined as being overweight or obese if they have a BMI of 25 or more.

3-j Health Statistics Wales 2007 (tables 5.6 and 5.7)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

General Practitioners at 30 September 2006, excluding GP registrars, GP retainers, and locums.
General dental practitioners (principals, assistants and vocational trainees) at 30 September 2006.
Rates are calculated using 2006 mid-year estimates of population from StatsWales table 003122.

3-k General Medical Practitioners in Wales, September 2007

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/health2008/hdw20080314>

Average GP list size is the number of registered patients divided by the number of all practitioners.

3-l Health Statistics Wales 2007 (table 5.17)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

Prescriptions in the year ending 31 March 2006.

3-m Health Statistics Wales 2007 (tables 6.2, 6.3 & 6.4)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

Waiting lists for all specialities, at 31 March 2007.

Waiting lists reported by Local Health Boards include all those resident in the area who are waiting for NHS-funded treatment. This will include those waiting for treatment at NHS hospitals outside Wales and at private hospitals where the Local Health Board is providing funding for the treatment.

3-n Health Statistics Wales 2007 (table 8.1)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

Data relating to in-patients and day cases are obtained from the Patient Episode Database for Wales (PEDW). Some NHS activity undertaken using the U.K. independent sector is not included in these figures.

3-o Personal Social Services Statistics Wales 2006-07 (tables 1.2, 1.22 & 2.1)

<http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/eng/Project.asp?nc=MNHL&id=4120>

"Looked after" is the term used to describe all children who are the subject of a care order, or who are provided with accommodation on a voluntary basis for more than 24 hours.

Child protection registers contain information on all children in the area who are considered to be suffering from or are likely to suffer significant harm.

Figures for looked after children and children on the child protection register are rounded to the nearest five. Figures for residential care include local authority and independent sector residential care.

Table 4: Education and Training Statistics

- 4-a NOMIS official labour market statistics
<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>
Information from the Annual Population Survey, January - December 2006. The link below provides detailed definitions of the qualification levels.
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/tableviewer/document.aspx?FileId=690>
- 4-b StatsWales (table 003451)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3899>
Figures relate to the percentage of pupils in National Curriculum Year 2 who were assessed as achieving level 2 or above in each of the Core Subjects (English or Welsh first language, Science and Maths).
- 4-c StatsWales (table 003298)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3901>
Figures relate to the percentage of pupils in National Curriculum Year 6 who were assessed as achieving level 4 or above in each of the Core Subjects (English or Welsh first language, Science and Maths).
- 4-d StatsWales (table 003300)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3903>
Figures relate to the percentage of pupils in National Curriculum Year 9 who were assessed as achieving level 5 or above in each of the Core Subjects (English or Welsh first language, Science and Maths).
- 4-e StatsWales (table 001897)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=3506>
GCSE/GNVQ data relate to the examination achievements of pupils in their final year of compulsory education (i.e. aged 15 at the beginning of the academic year) at maintained schools. Figures for Wales include independent schools.
- 4-f Pupils aged 15 leaving education without a recognised qualification, 2007 (table 3)
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools-2007/schools-2006/hdw200612213>
Figures relate to maintained secondary and special schools, and pupil referral units. Figures for Wales include independent schools.
- 4-g StatsWales (table 001892)
<http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=1892>
A Level / equivalent results relate to the examination achievements of pupils in maintained schools, aged 17 at the start of the academic year, entering two or more A/AS levels or a vocational equivalent. Figures for Wales include independent schools, but exclude further education institutions.
- 4-h Absenteeism from Primary Schools, 2007
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools2008/hdw200802262>
Figures relate to maintained primary schools. Figures for Wales include independent schools.
- 4-i Absenteeism from Secondary Schools, 2007 (table 6)
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/schools-2007/hdw200710311>
Figures relate to maintained secondary schools and special schools with pupils of secondary school age. Figures for Wales include independent schools.
- 4-j Schools in Wales: General Statistics 2007 (tables 11.4, 11.5 & 11.6)
new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/swgs2007
Results for maintained schools, at January 2007.
Primary Key Stage 1 includes reception and mixed nursery/reception classes.

Table 5: Housing Statistics

- 5-a Neighbourhood Statistics, 2001 Census: Key Statistics (tables KS16, KS18, KS19, KS20 & KS21)
<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>
A household comprises one person living alone, or a group of people living at the same address with common housekeeping (sharing a living room/sitting room or at least one meal a day). 'Total households' refers to households with residents; 'total household spaces' to households with or without residents.

A dependent child is a person in a household aged 0-15 (whether or not in a family) or a person aged 16-18 who is a full time student in a family with parent(s).

- 5-b Welsh Housing Statistics 2006 (table 7.2)

<http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/eng/Project.asp?nc=Q8F6&id=3890>

Based on decisions taken by the local authority under Part VII of the Housing Act 1996. Households are accepted as homeless by a local authority if they are eligible, unintentionally homeless and in one of the priority need groups specified in legislation.

Due to changes in the published source material, rates have been calculated per 1,000 *households*. In previous publications (including Members' Research Service local authority profiles) rates were calculated per 1,000 *population*.

- 5-c Department for Communities and Local Government Housing Statistics (table 586)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/xls/table-586>

Median house prices based on Land Registry data. Excluded from the above figures are sales at less than market price (e.g. Right To Buy), sales below £1,000 and sales above £20m. The median is the value with half of all values above and half below (i.e. the middle value).

- 5-d Council Tax Levels, 2008-09 (table 1)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/40382313/statistics/locgov/locgov2008/sdr44-2008.pdf?>

Average council tax per dwelling is calculated from all chargeable dwellings before disabled discounts and reductions are taken into account. Exempt dwellings are excluded.

Table 6: Transport, Crime and Environment Statistics

- 6-a Neighbourhood Statistics, 2001 Census: Key Statistics (tables KS15 & KS17)

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/>

Travel to work by car means driving (or as a passenger in) a car or van, or by taxi/minicab. Travel to work by public transport means by underground, metro, light rail, tram, train, bus, mini bus or coach.

- 6-b 2006 Road Casualties Wales (tables 3.6 & 6.8)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/rcw2006/?lang=en>

Total road length is as at 1 April 2006, excluding green lanes and footpaths.

- 6-c 2006 Road Casualties Wales (tables 3.6 & 14.1)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/rcw2005>

Volume of traffic excluding pedal cycles. Vehicle kilometre: One vehicle times one kilometre travelled. For example, 1 vehicle travelling 1 kilometre a day for a year would be 365 vehicle kilometres.

- 6-d Health Statistics Wales 2007 (table 1.15)

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/publications/publication-archive/hsw2007/>

The number of deaths of people aged under 75 in each 5 year age-group is multiplied by the difference between the midpoint of the age group and 74.5. The average annual years of life lost are obtained by summing across the age groups and dividing by 5.

- 6-e Crime in England and Wales 2006/07

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimeew0607.html>

These statistics are drawn from police recorded crime figures, and have not been seasonally adjusted. Further details on crime type definitions can be found through the link above.

Previous Members' Research Service profiles covered the period January - March. Owing to changes in the source material, figures in this profile cover different crime categories and relate to the period April 2006 to March 2007. Figures on all recorded crime were obtained from the Home Office. Rates in this profile may differ from rates published by the Home Office due to revisions made to the mid-year estimate population figures.

- 6-f Municipal Waste Management Survey 2006-07

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/env-2007/hdw200711211>

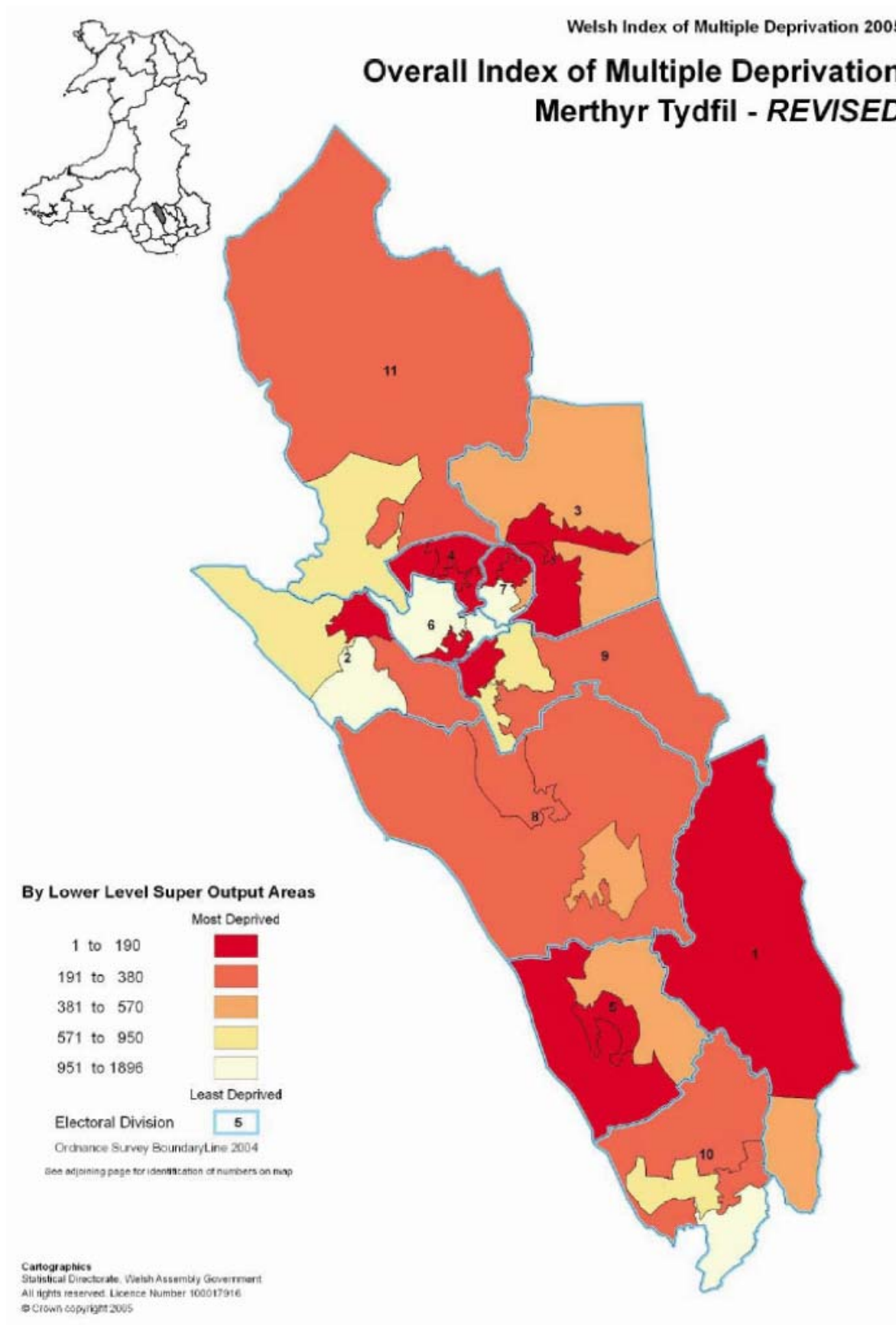
Data from the Municipal Waste Management Survey 2006-07 (excludes abandoned vehicles). Municipal waste is household waste plus waste from non-household sources.

- 6-g Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, River Quality Database 2006

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/inlwater/iwriverquality.htm#tableslist>

These data are best estimates of monitored river water quality. River courses and catchment areas often cross local authority boundaries and therefore the quality of some river waters within a single area may be affected by factors outside the borders of the authority. The same is true to a lesser extent for Wales.

Annex 2: Overall Index of Multiple Deprivation map for Merthyr Tydfil⁸



⁸ <http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/theme/wimd2005/results/analysis-revised>



Cynulliad National
Cenedlaethol Assembly for
Cymru Wales

Members' Research Service: Research Paper
Gwasanaeth Ymchwil yr Aelodau: Papur Ymchwil

Key to map:

1. Bedlinog
2. Cyfarthfa
3. Dowlais
4. Gurnos
5. Merthyr Vale
6. Park
7. Penydarren
8. Plymouth
9. Town
10. Treharris
11. Vaynor