

Local Area Summary Statistics

Merthyr Tydfil

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Merthyr Tydfil

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1.0 Summary

This document is a compendium of existing published statistics relating to Merthyr Tydfil and is updated in-line with updates to the source statistics. Almost all of the statistics included are official statistics published by the Welsh Government, the National Health Service, or other central government departments. However, as the statistics are not all classified as National Statistics, this document is not itself a National Statistic.

The following is a high level summary of the data for Merthyr Tydfil. The data behind each of the following points is shown in charts in the main body of the report.

1.1 Economy

- In 2013 the employment rate in Merthyr Tydfil was 63.6 per cent. This was the third lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. The rate fell over the year (down 0.9 percentage points) but overall has risen since 2001 (up 5.6 percentage points). Between 2001 and 2013 the employment rate has been below the Welsh average.
- GVA per head in 2012 stood at £12,989 in Merthyr Tydfil. This was below the Welsh average and the joint ninth lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. Between 1999 and 2012 GVA per head in Merthyr Tydfil has been below that for Wales as a whole, with the gap narrowing slightly over this period.
- In 2012 GDHI per head in Merthyr Tydfil stood at £13,511 and was the joint fourth lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. Between 1999 and 2012 GDHI per head in Merthyr Tydfil has been below the Welsh average.
- In 2013 average weekly earnings in Merthyr Tydfil stood at £491. This was the fourth lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. In 2003 earnings in Merthyr Tydfil were above the Welsh average, they moved below in 2008 and remained below in 2013 with the gap widening.
- In 2013 Merthyr Tydfil had the seventh highest rate of children living in workless households amongst the Welsh local authorities. The rate fell since 2012 and fell since 2004. The gap between the Wales average has narrowed from being 3.7 percentage points above the Wales average in 2004 to being 2.9 percentage points above the Wales average in 2013.

1.2 Health and well-being

- Male life expectancy for 2011-13 was lower than the Welsh average.
- Female life expectancy for 2011-13 was lower than the Welsh average.
- The percentage of obese adults for 2012 & 2013 was higher than the Welsh average.
- The percentage of adult smokers for 2012 & 2013 was not significantly different from the Welsh average.
- Merthyr Tydfil has seen a substantial fall in the under 18 conception rate since 2005 but remains above the Welsh average.
- The mean mental component summary score for 2012 & 2013 was lower than the Welsh average, indicating poorer mental health and well-being.
- Merthyr Tydfil's rate of older people supported in the community has generally decreased since 2005-06. The rate has consistently been above the Wales average.
- Merthyr Tydfil's percentage of looked after children with three or more placements in the year was the lowest in Wales in 2013-14.
- Merthyr has seen generally higher than average proportions of low birth weight babies since 2000.

- The MMR coverage rate in Merthyr Tydfil has increased 5.7 percentage points since 2012-13 to a rate of 97.5 per cent in 2013-14, which is above the Welsh average. Merthyr Tydfil had the largest percentage point increase since 2012-13 in Wales.
- The average dmft score for Merthyr Tydfil was 1.93 in 2011-12. Merthyr Tydfil has been higher than the Welsh average in the last two surveys.

1.3 Education and skills

- The percentage of working age adults with no qualifications has fallen since 2001. In 2013 the rate was 4.1 percentage points higher than the Welsh average and was the third highest local authority rate in Wales.
- The percentage of working age adults with qualifications at NQF level 4+ has risen since 2001. In 2013 the rate was 5.2 percentage points lower than the Welsh average and was the fifth lowest local authority rate in Wales.
- The attendance rate has risen since 1999. It was 0.7 percentage points below the Welsh average of 93.6 percent in 2014, making it the fourth lowest attendance rate.
- The average wider points score has risen since 2004. It was around the Welsh average in 2013.
- The percentage of pupils achieving the core subject indicator at key stage two has risen overall since 1999. It was 2.0 percentage points below the Welsh average of 86.1 per cent in 2014 and had the third lowest rate in Wales.

1.4 Housing

- The rate of homelessness acceptances in Merthyr Tydfil has fluctuated above and below the Wales average since 2001-02 to 2012-13. In 2013-14 the homelessness rate dropped further, remaining well below the Wales average and was the fifth lowest of all local authorities in Wales.
- The rate in Merthyr Tydfil increased substantially in 2012-13 but decreased substantially in 2013-14 bringing it below the Wales average. It is now the fourth lowest rate amongst all local authorities in Wales.

1.5 Transport

- In 2010-11, in Merthyr Tydfil, the proportion of A county roads in poor condition was lower than the proportion for Wales as a whole; and lower than the position in the previous two years. There were only 28 miles of these roads in Merthyr.
- In 2009, the proportion of people living in Merthyr Tydfil and travelling to work by car, van or minibus was similar to (between 2 percentage points above and 2 points below) the all-Wales average.
- In Merthyr Tydfil, the average rate (per head of population) between 2011-13 at which people were killed or seriously injured on roads was below the Wales average.

1.6 Crime and substance misuse

- Merthyr Tydfil has a crime rate six percentage points higher than the Wales average. It has fallen 50 per cent since 2002-03.
- The estimated number of individuals referred for alcohol treatment in Merthyr was the highest of all authorities in 2013-14.

1.7 Environment

- The rate in Merthyr Tydfil has generally been one of the highest among Welsh local authorities since 2005-06, with the exception of 2006-07 and 2009-10, when the rate fell below the average for local authorities in Wales. In 2013-14 the rate once again fell below the Welsh average.
- The ecological footprint in Merthyr Tydfil was the second lowest amongst Welsh local authorities in 2006.

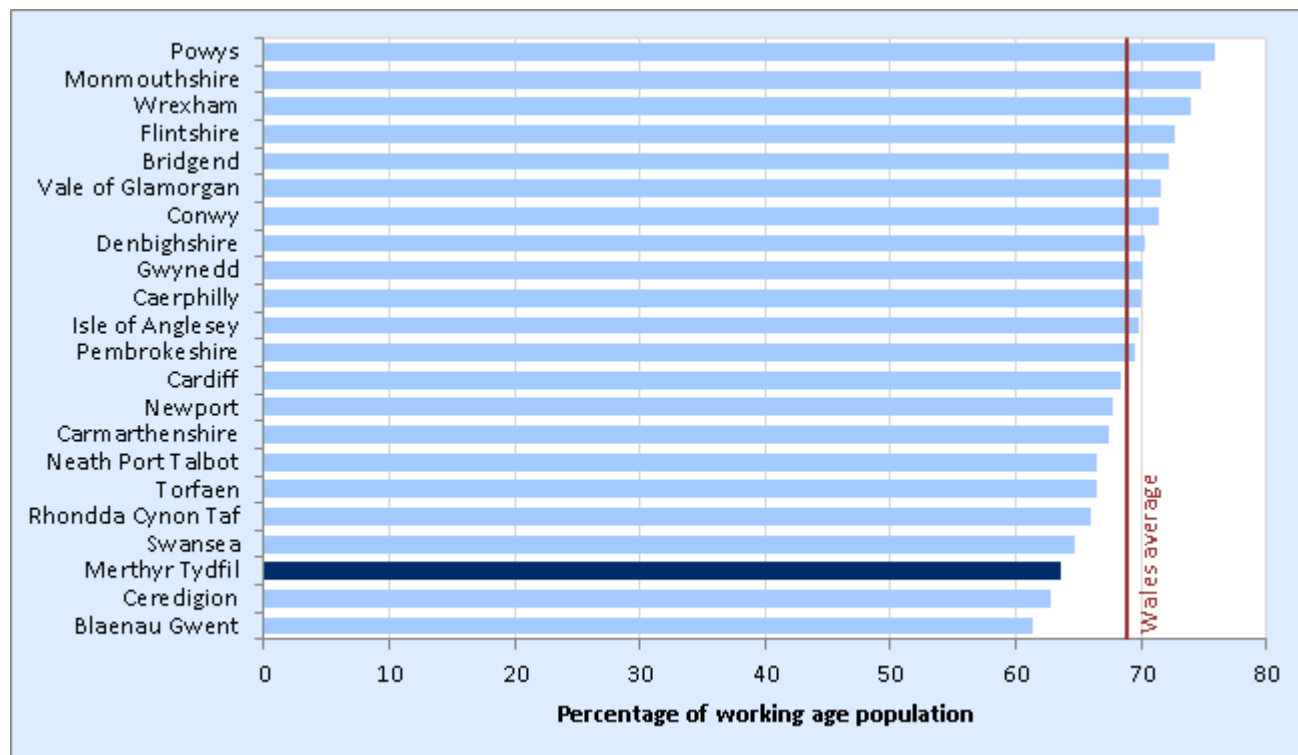
1.8 Heritage

- According to the 2011 Census the percentage of people age three and over who spoke Welsh in Merthyr Tydfil was 8.9 per cent, and was the second lowest rate amongst Welsh local authorities.
- The percentage of pupils assessed in Welsh first language at key stage two has increased by 2.0 percentage points since 2013 but has not changed overall since 1999.
- No pupils have been assessed in Welsh first language at key stage three since 1999. Merthyr Tydfil is one of four local authorities where this is the case.
- The number of visits to public libraries in Merthyr Tydfil in 2012/13 was around 4,000 per thousand, which was lower than the Welsh average and was the third lowest local authority rate.
- The percentage of adults who regularly participated in sport and active recreation in Merthyr Tydfil in 2008/09 was 27 per cent (a decrease from 2004/05), and was one of the lowest rates amongst Welsh local authorities. Since 1998/99 the figures have been below the Welsh average. The sampling method of the Active Adults Survey changed from a quota sample to a random probability sample in 2008/09, so care should be taken when making comparisons with previous years.

2.1 Employment rate

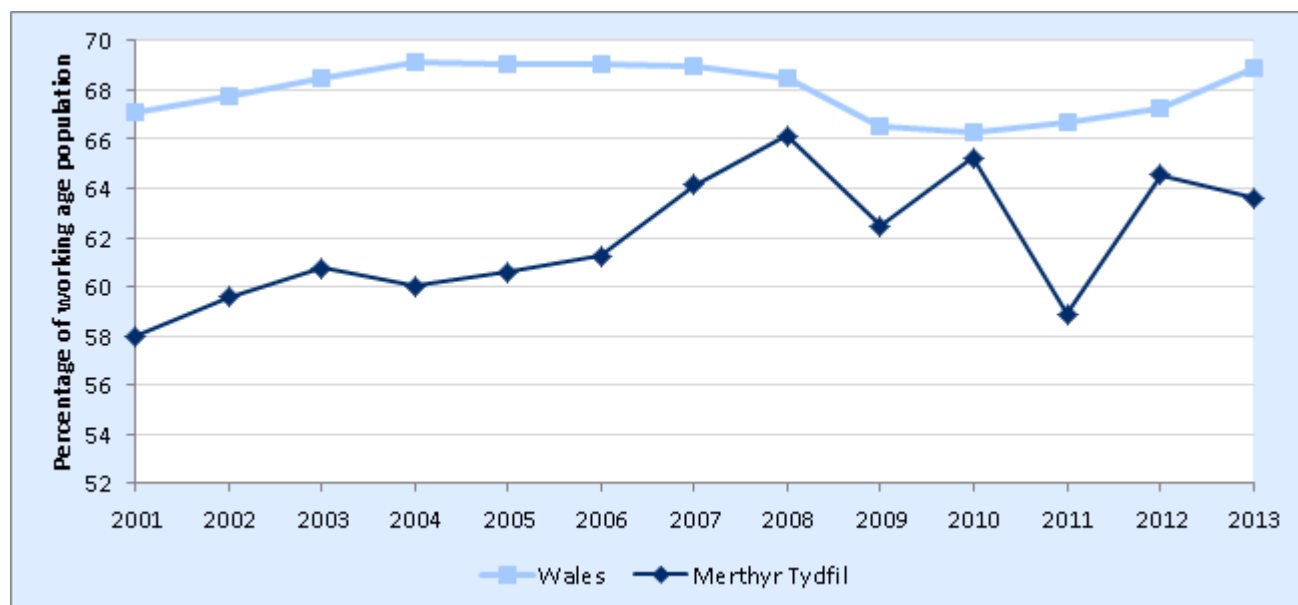
The employment rate is defined as the percentage of the resident working age population that is in employment. Figure 2.1 shows the latest annual data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 2.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 2.1: Employment rate, 2013



Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

Figure 2.2: Employment rate, 2001-2013



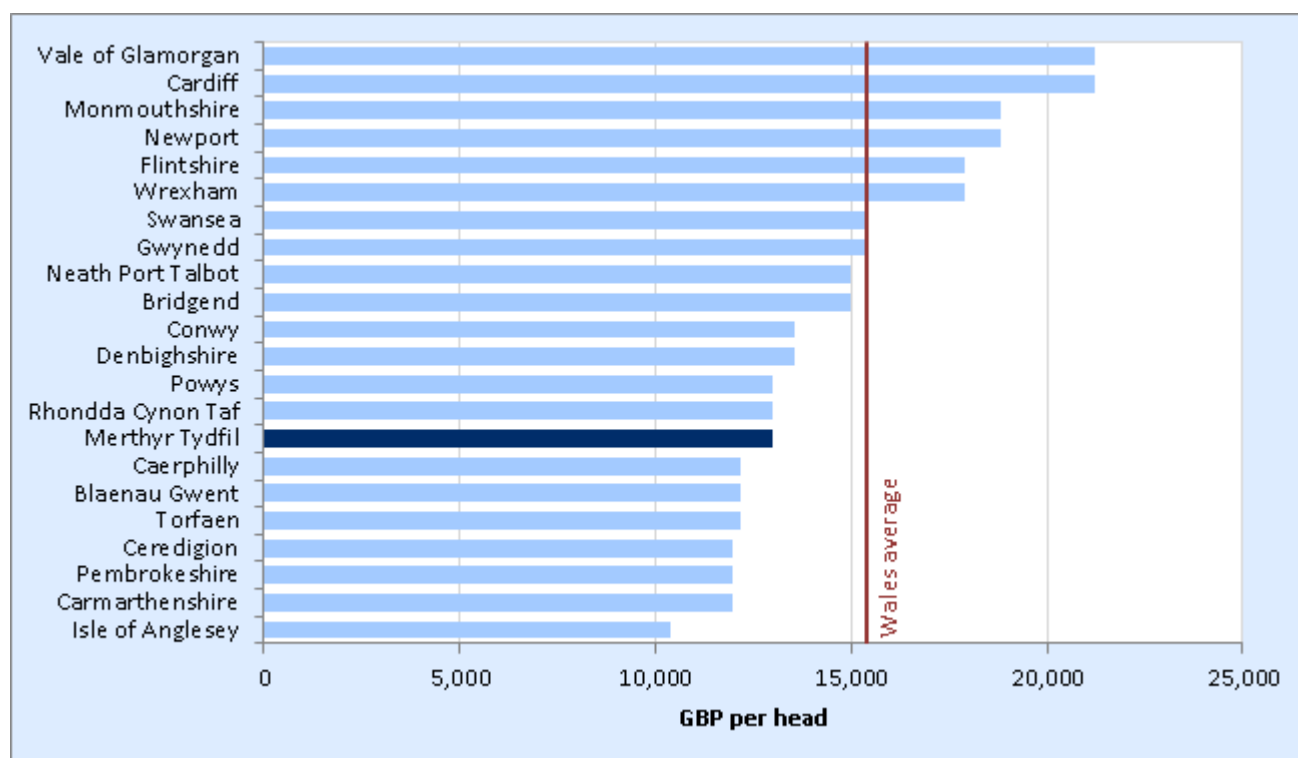
Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

In 2013 the employment rate in Merthyr Tydfil was 63.6 per cent. This was the third lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. The rate fell over the year (down 0.9 percentage points) but overall has risen since 2001 (up 5.6 percentage points). Between 2001 and 2013 the employment rate has been below the Welsh average.

2.2 Gross value added per head

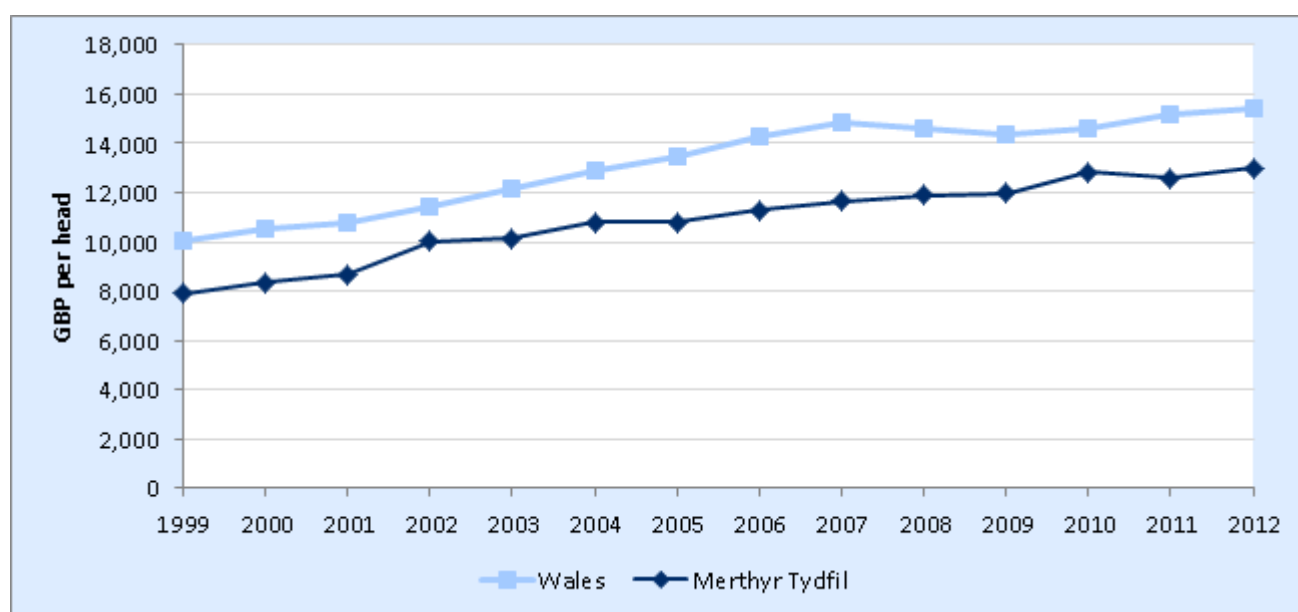
Gross value added measures the size of the economy of an area at NUTS3 level, which is a European Union geography representing small groups of local authorities. Local authority figures have been estimated by assuming they are the same as the figures for the NUTS3 area. Figure 2.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 2.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 2.3: Gross value added per head, 2012



Source: Regional Accounts, Office for National Statistics

Figure 2.4: Gross value added per head, 1999-2012



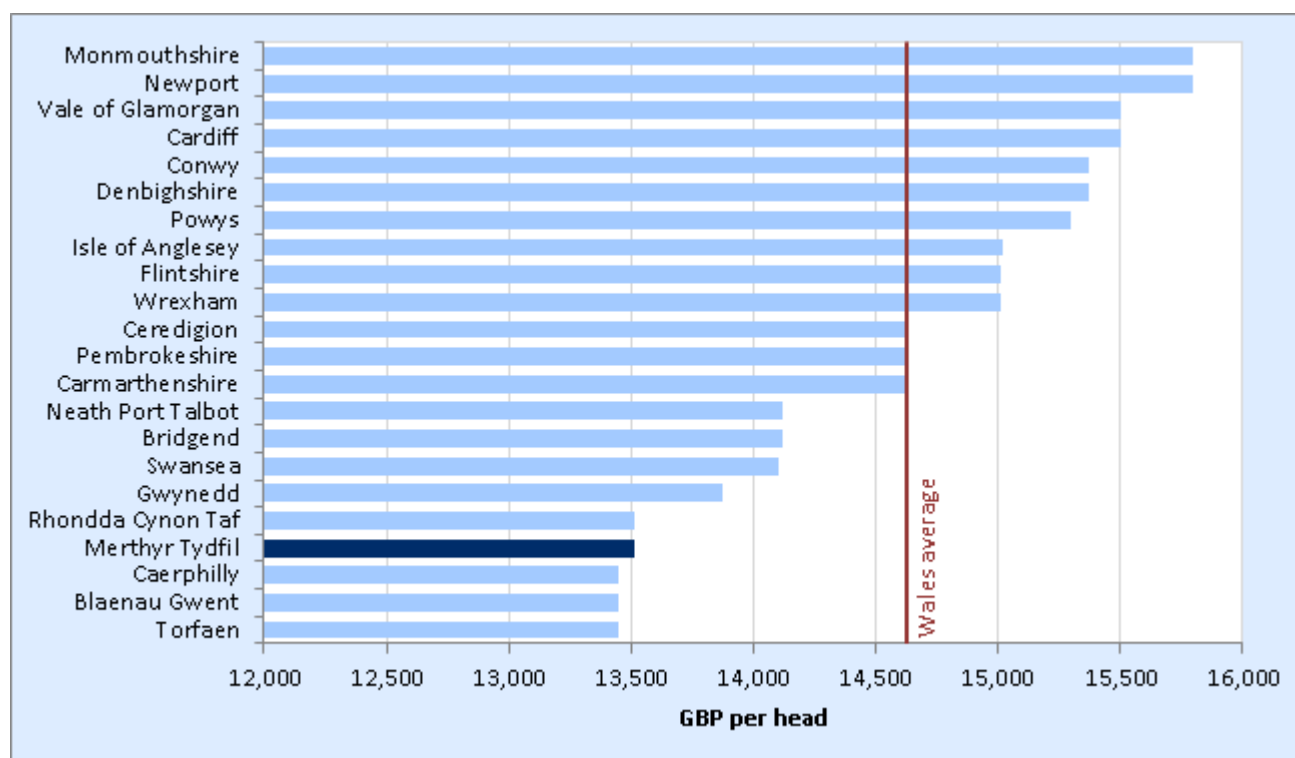
Source: Regional Accounts, Office for National Statistics

GVA per head in 2012 stood at £12,989 in Merthyr Tydfil. This was below the Welsh average and the joint ninth lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. Between 1999 and 2012 GVA per head in Merthyr Tydfil has been below that for Wales as a whole, with the gap narrowing slightly over this period.

2.3 Gross disposable household income per head

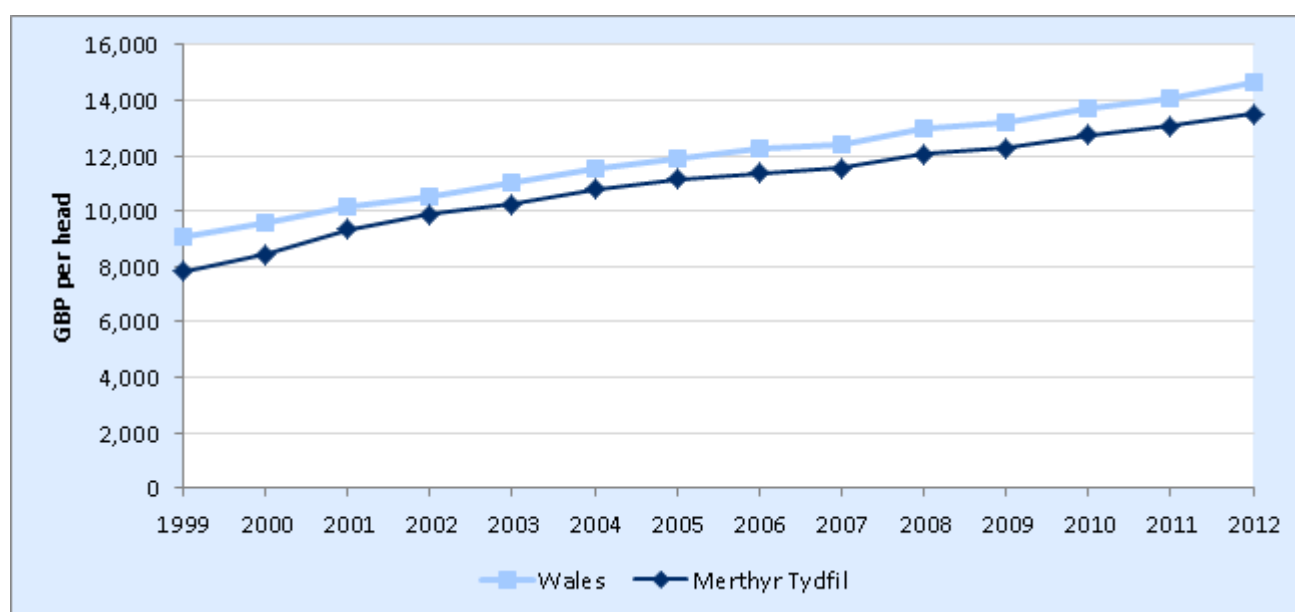
Gross disposable household income is measured at NUTS3 level, which is a European Union geography representing small groups of local authorities. Local authority figures have been estimated by assuming they are the same as figures for the NUTS3 area. Figure 2.5 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 2.6 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 2.5: Gross disposable household income per head, 2012



Source: Regional Accounts, Office for National Statistics

Figure 2.6: Gross disposable household income per head, 1999-2012



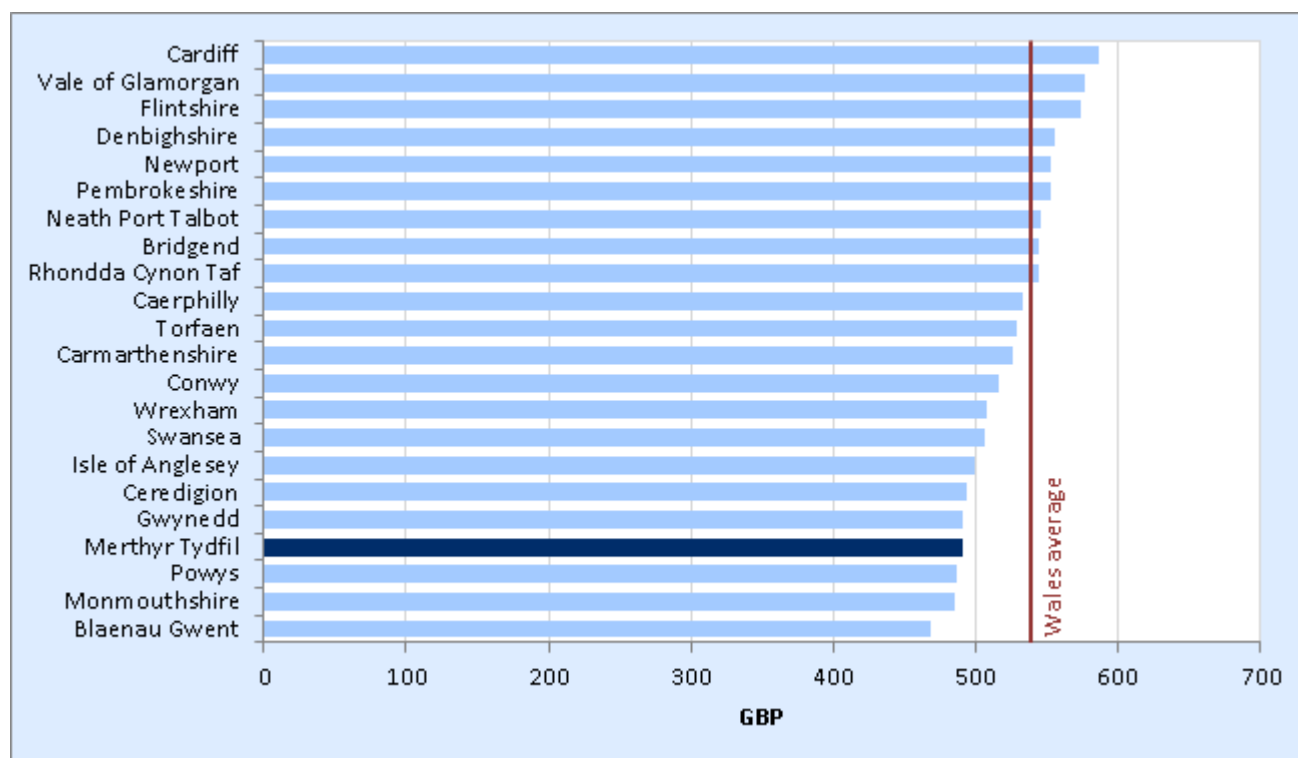
Source: Regional Accounts, Office for National Statistics

In 2012 GDHI per head in Merthyr Tydfil stood at £13,511 and was the joint fourth lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. Between 1999 and 2012 GDHI per head in Merthyr Tydfil has been below the Welsh average.

2.4 Average gross weekly full-time earnings

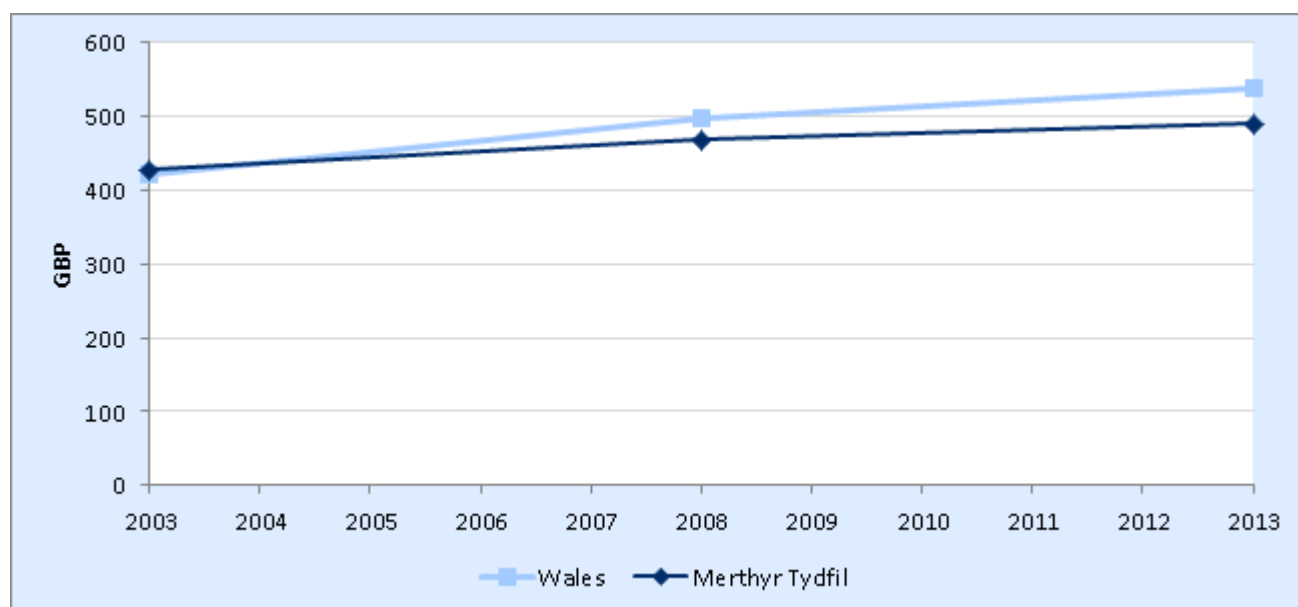
Mean average gross weekly full-time earnings data is based on workplaces in each local authority, for full-time employees only, and includes overtime. Figure 2.7 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 2.8 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 2.7: Average gross weekly full-time earnings, 2013



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, Office for National Statistics

Figure 2.8: Average gross weekly full-time earnings, 2003-2013



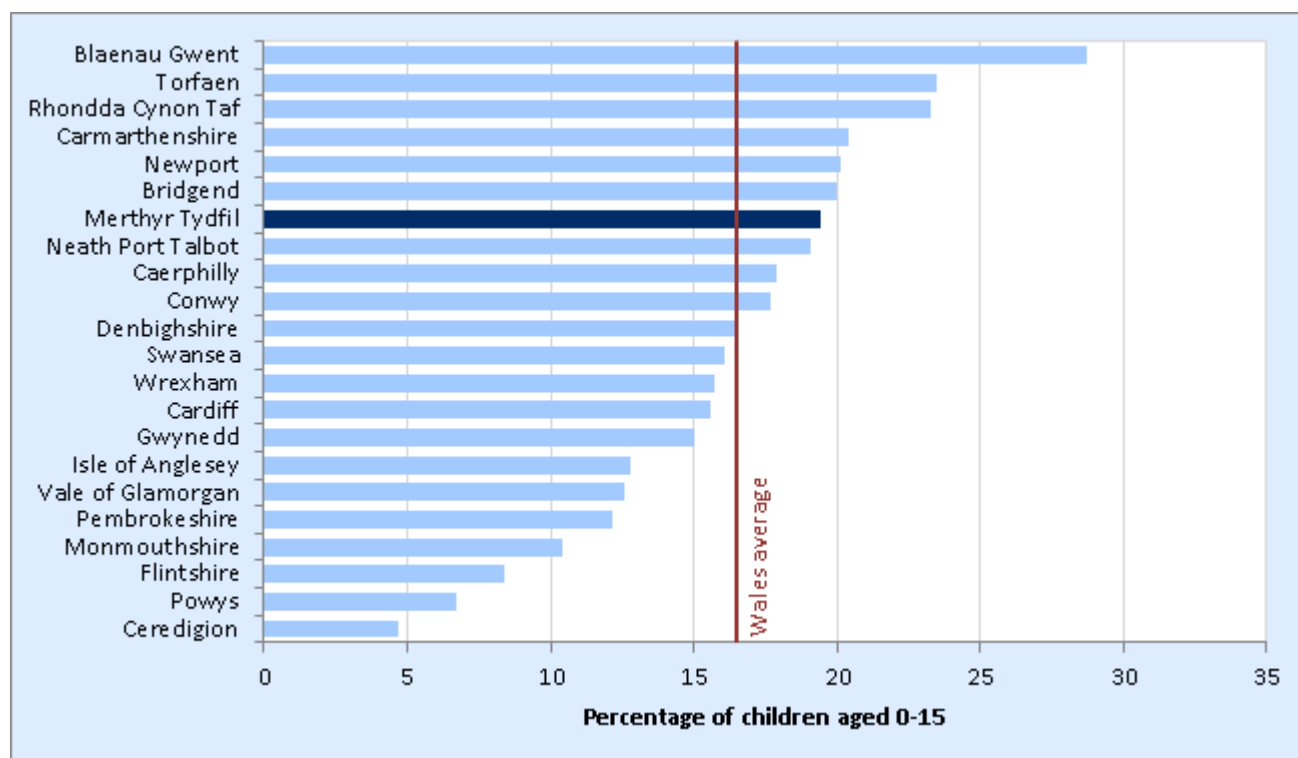
Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, Office for National Statistics

In 2013 average weekly earnings in Merthyr Tydfil stood at £491. This was the fourth lowest amongst the 22 Welsh local authorities. In 2003 earnings in Merthyr Tydfil were above the Welsh average, they moved below in 2008 and remained below in 2013 with the gap widening.

2.5 Children living in workless households rate

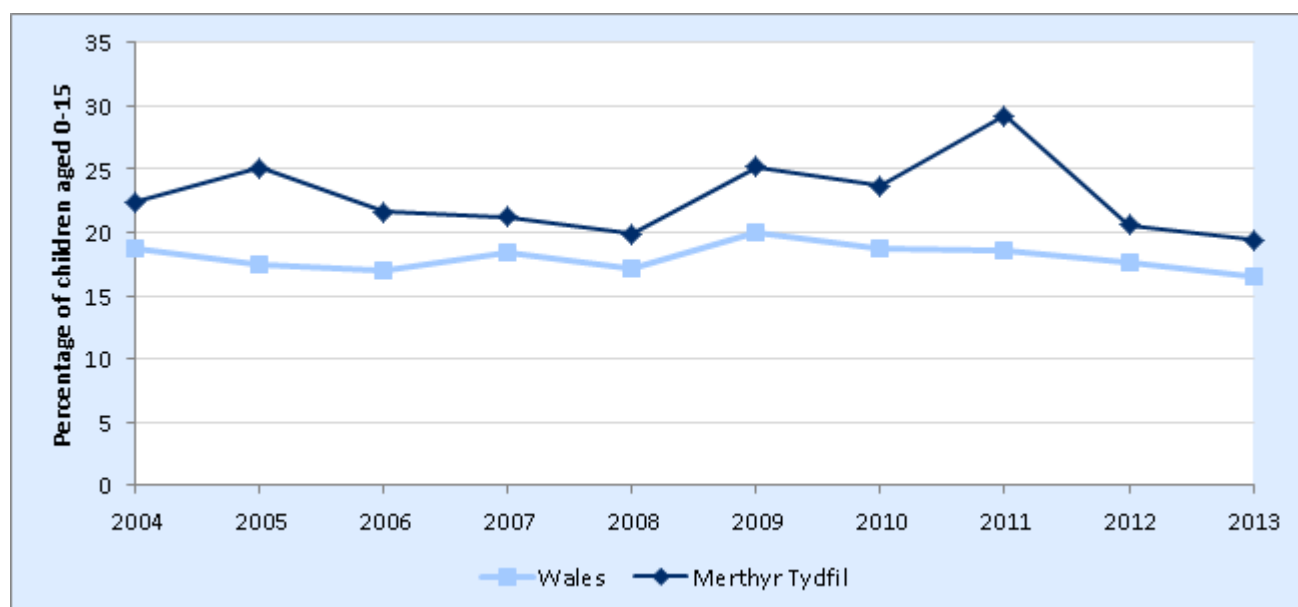
The children living in workless households rate is defined as the percentage of all children under 16 who are living in working age households with no-one in employment. Figure 2.9 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 2.10 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 2.9: Children living in workless households rate, 2013



Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

Figure 2.10: Children living in workless households rate, 2004-2013



Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

In 2013 Merthyr Tydfil had the seventh highest rate of children living in workless households amongst the Welsh local authorities. The rate fell since 2012 and fell since 2004. The gap between the Wales average has narrowed from being 3.7 percentage points above the Wales average in 2004 to being 2.9 percentage points above the Wales average in 2013.

2.6 General economic assessment

This section presents an economic assessment for Wales and, where appropriate, focuses on the regional differences apparent in the datasets above.

Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector. It is commonly used as an estimate of Gross Domestic Product, a key indicator on the state of the economy. GVA per head varies quite significantly across Wales, with all Welsh regions lagging behind the UK average, although estimates of sub-regional GVA should always be treated with caution as they can be distorted by commuting flows between local authorities and across the Welsh-English border.

Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI) is a measure of the amount of money individuals have available for spending or saving. It generally provides a more reliable indicator of living standards across different areas as it is based on where people live rather than where they work. GDHI figures per head for Welsh local authorities portray a more equitable picture of living standards across the country than is otherwise suggested by the GVA per head figures. However, similarly to GVA data, GDHI per head figures for each sub-region in Wales all lie below the UK average.

In broad terms, GVA per head in the North¹, Mid² and South West³ regions of Wales lie below the average for Wales as a whole whereas the figure for South East⁴ Wales lies above the Welsh average. Differences in GVA per head across Wales can be explained for the most part through varying rates of productivity, economic activity, out-commuting, and demographic differences across the regions.

The lower level of GVA per head in the North is largely explained by a higher proportion of elderly residents and out-commuting from the region but these effects are partially offset by the region's higher activity rates. GDHI per head in North Wales lies above the Welsh average, however average full-time earnings are below the Welsh average. Over the last year, both the employment and the economic inactivity rate increased in North Wales, whilst the unemployment rate fell. Looking over the longer term, the labour market in North Wales has seen improvement similar to that for Wales since 2001.

The level of GVA per head in Mid Wales also lies below the Welsh average – this is due to lower GVA per job, out-commuting from the region, and a higher proportion of elderly residents. However, these effects are partly offset by higher activity rates within the region. GDHI per head in the region is above the Welsh average, however average full-time earnings lie below the Welsh average. Over the latest year the employment rate increased in Mid Wales whilst the unemployment and inactivity rates fell. The average for Mid Wales generally hides differences between Ceredigion and Powys, partly because Ceredigion is affected by a large number of economically inactive students. Looking over the longer term, Mid Wales has seen improvement compared to Wales since 2001.

¹ Isle of Anglesey; Gwynedd; Conwy; Denbighshire; Flintshire; and Wrexham

² Powys; and Ceredigion, although the GVA and GDHI figures used in this context are for Powys only

³ Pembrokeshire; Carmarthenshire; Swansea; and Neath Port Talbot

⁴ Bridgend; Rhondda, Cynon, Taff; Merthyr Tydfil; Caerphilly; Blaenau Gwent; Torfaen; The Vale of Glamorgan; Monmouthshire; Newport; and Cardiff

GVA per head in South West Wales is also below the Welsh average. This difference is largely due to lower GVA per job in the region. GDHI per head in the South West is nearer the Welsh average, however average full-time earnings lie below the Welsh average. Over the latest year both the employment and the ILO unemployment rates increased in South West Wales whilst economic inactivity (excluding students) rate fell. Looking at the longer term, the labour market in South West Wales has generally seen a slight improvement compared to Wales since 2001.

As mentioned previously, South East Wales is the only Welsh region to report a GVA per head figure that is above the Welsh average. This largely reflects higher GVA per job in the region than elsewhere in Wales. The GVA per head figure however remains below that of the UK average. GDHI per head in South East Wales is similar to the Welsh average and average full-time earnings in the region lie above the average. Over the latest year the employment rate increased in South East Wales, whilst both the unemployment and economic inactivity rates fell. Looking at the longer term, the labour market in South East Wales has seen an improvement compared to Wales since 2001.

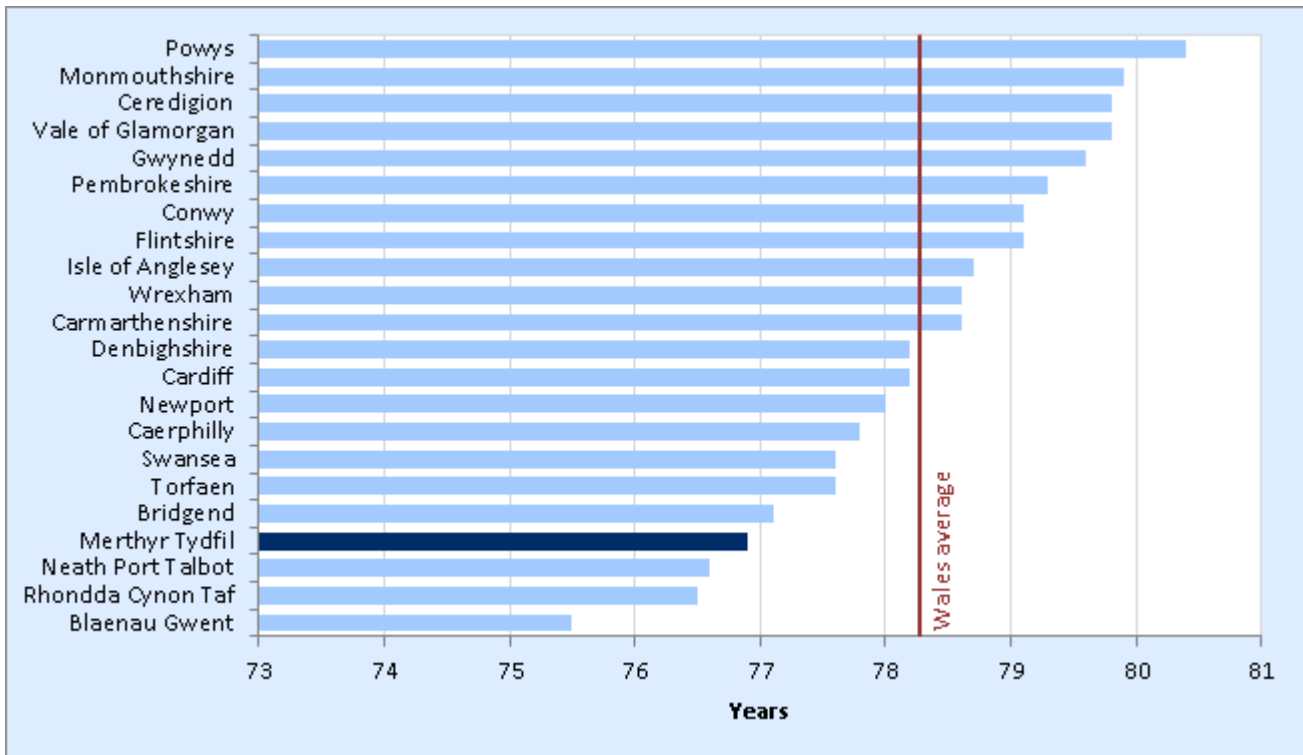
One further notable conclusion from the data is that the Heads of the Valleys⁵ region lags well behind the rest of Wales on almost all economic measures.

⁵ The Head of the Valleys programme area is defined as the whole of the local authorities of Merthyr Tydfil; and Blaenau Gwent, together with the northern and central elements of Rhondda, Cynon, Taff; Caerphilly; and Torfaen.

3.1 Male life expectancy

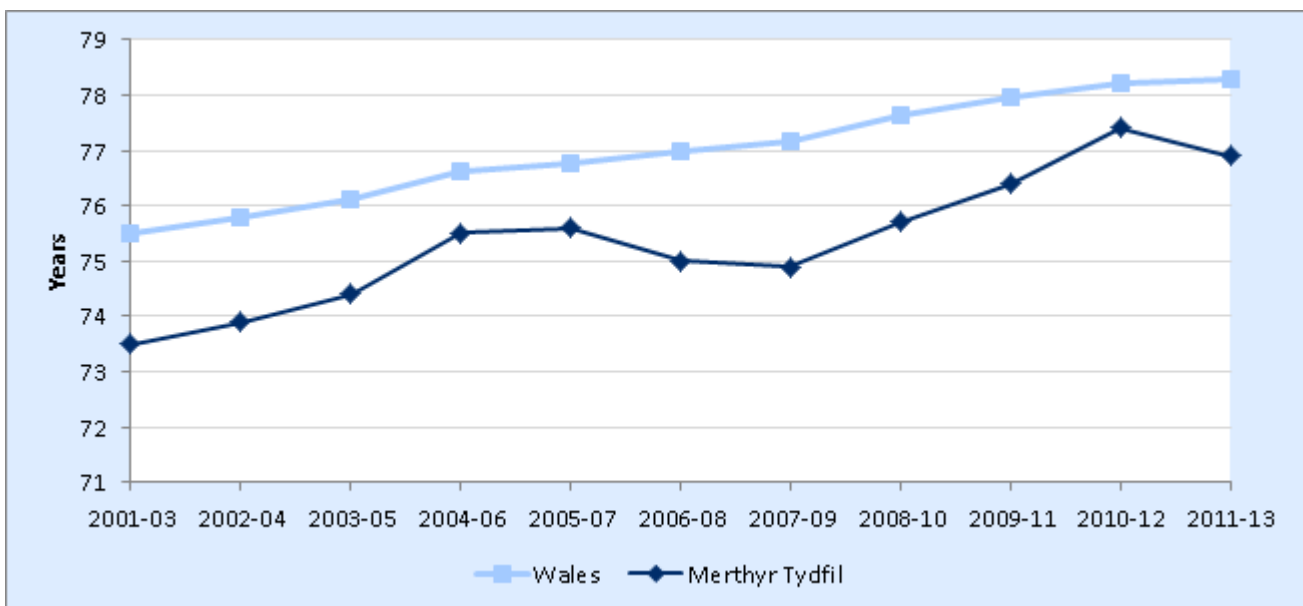
Male life expectancy is the expected number of years a male would live from birth, assuming that he will experience the given area's age-specific mortality rates for that time period throughout his remaining life (period life expectancy). Figures are based on the population estimates and deaths by date of registration for a period of three consecutive years. Figure 3.1 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.1: Male life expectancy, 2011-13



Source: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas in the United Kingdom, Office for National Statistics

Figure 3.2: Male life expectancy, 2001-03 – 2011-13



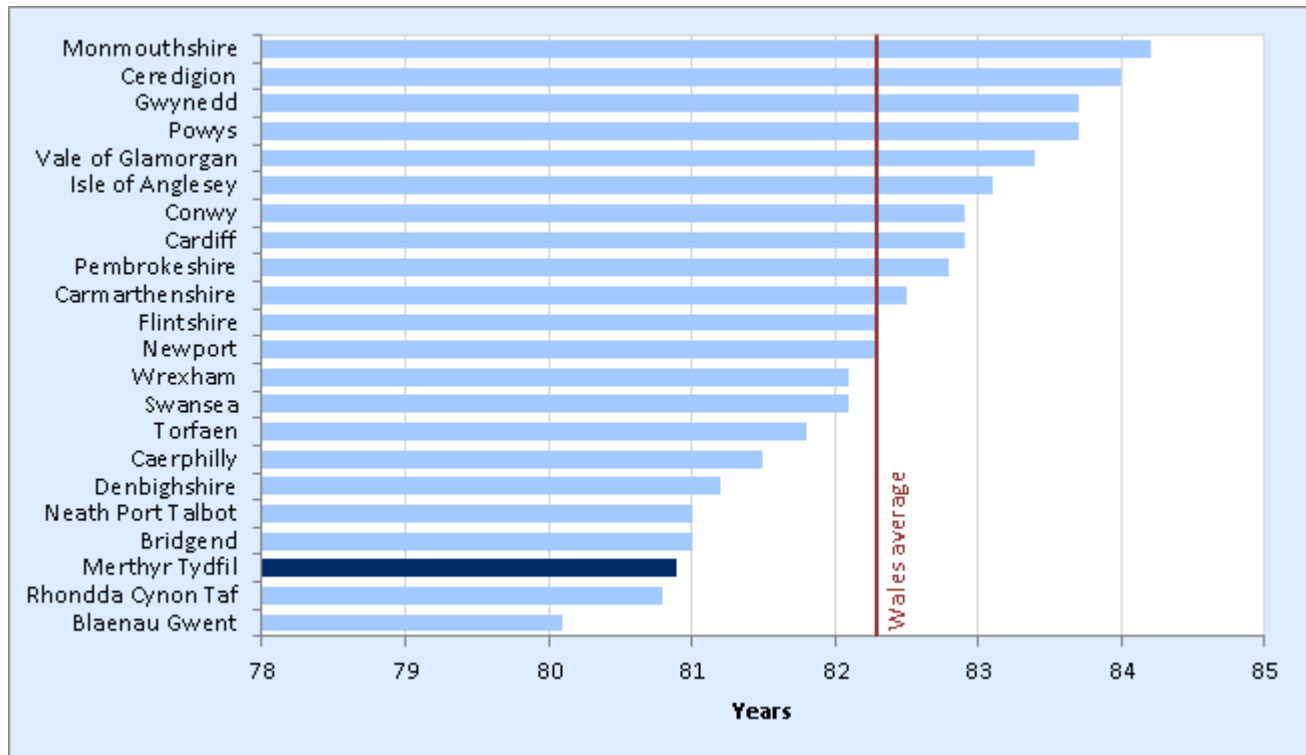
Source: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas in the United Kingdom, Office for National Statistics

Male life expectancy for 2011-13 was lower than the Welsh average.

3.2 Female life expectancy

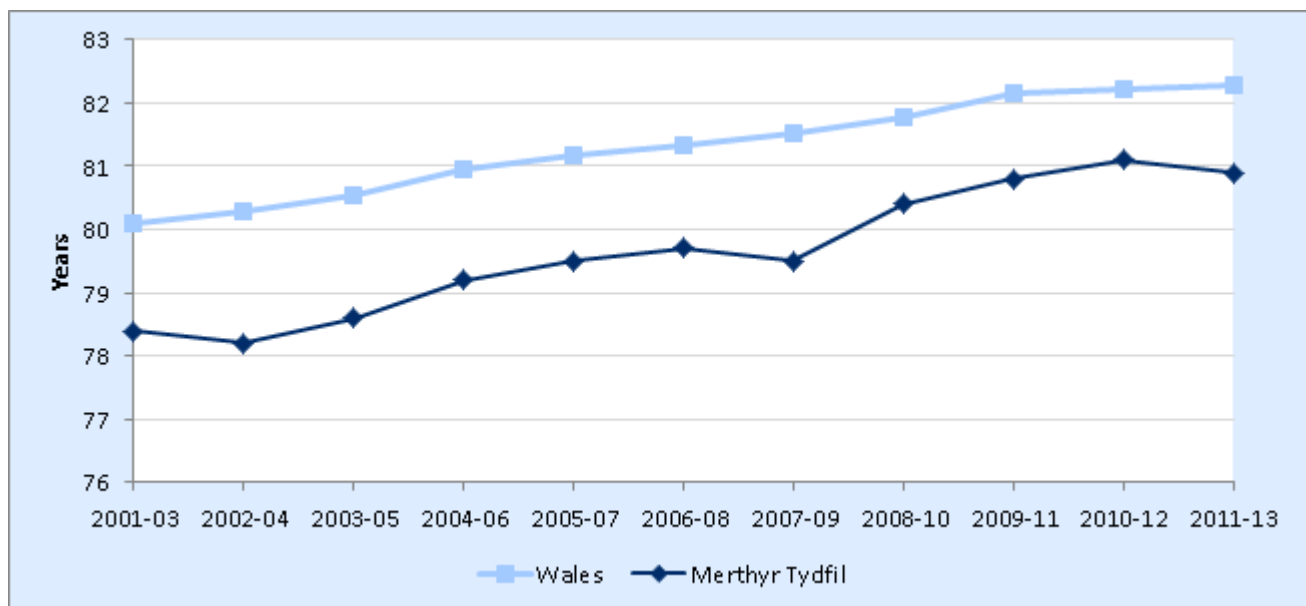
Female life expectancy is the expected number of years a female would live from birth, assuming that she will experience the given area's age-specific mortality rates for that time period throughout her remaining life (period life expectancy). Figures are based on the population estimates and deaths by date of registration for a period of three consecutive years. Figure 3.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.3: Female life expectancy, 2011-13



Source: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas in the United Kingdom, Office for National Statistics

Figure 3.4: Female life expectancy, 2001-03 – 2011-13



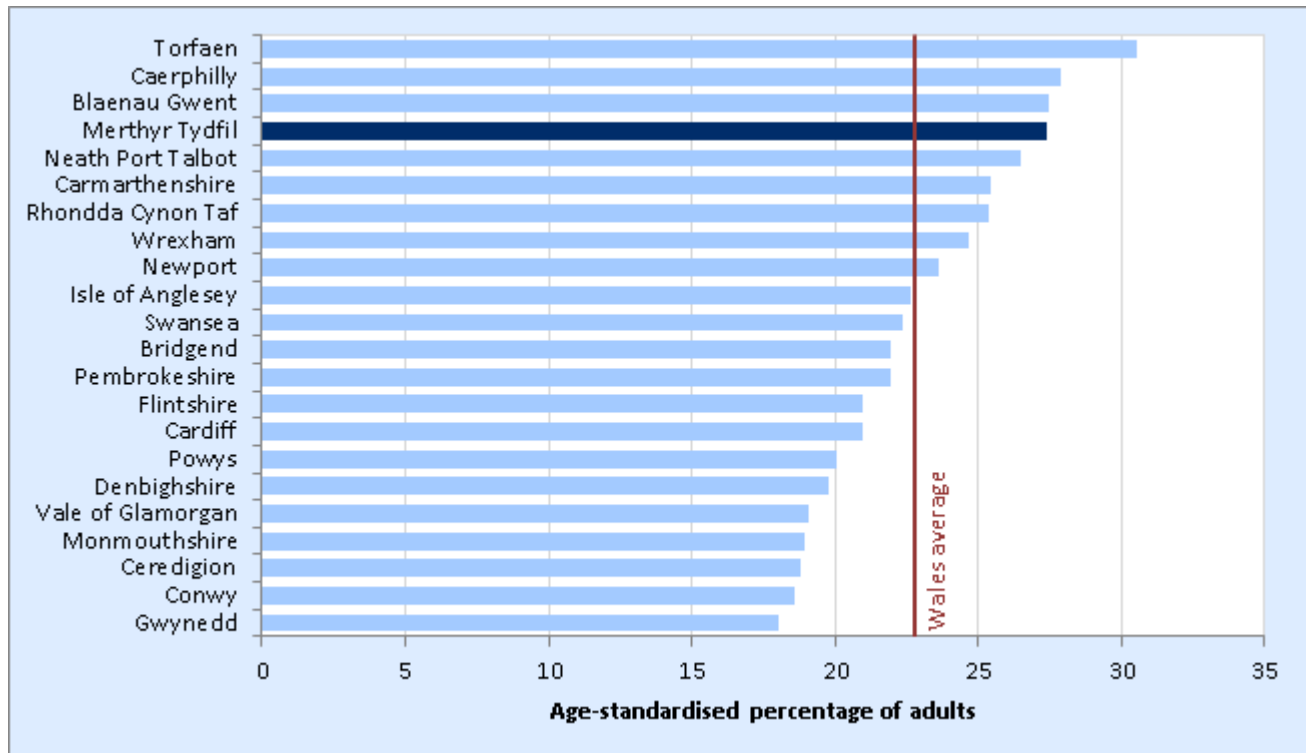
Source: Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by local areas in the United Kingdom, Office for National Statistics

Female life expectancy for 2011-13 was lower than the Welsh average.

3.3 Adult obesity rate

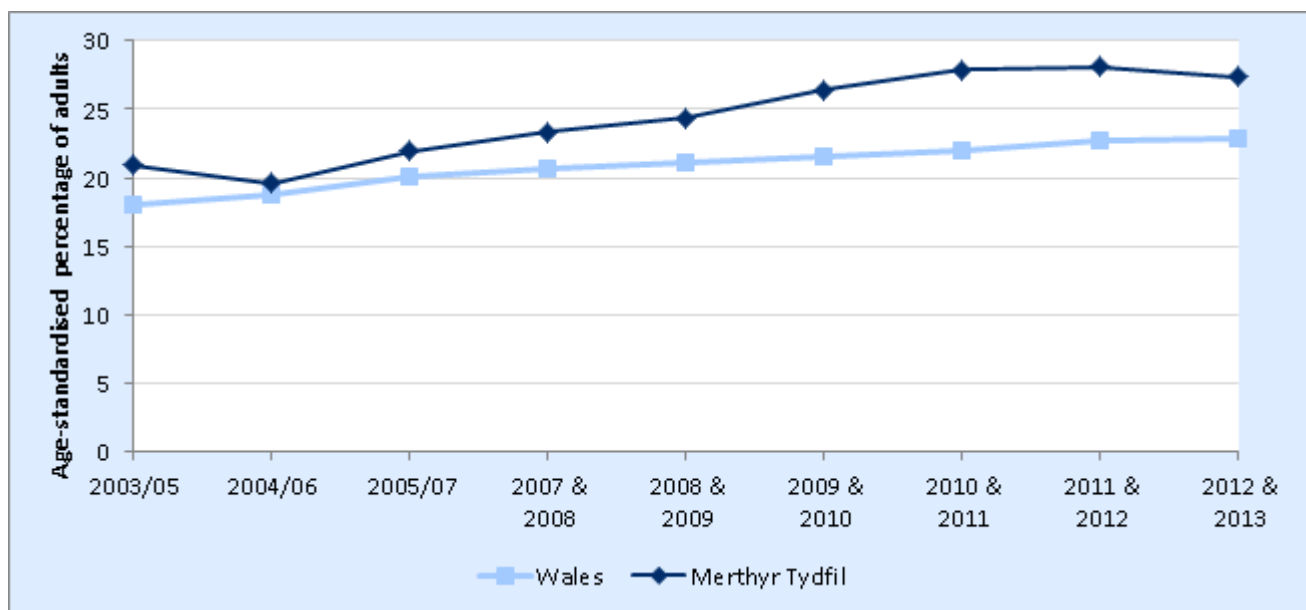
The adult obesity rate is the percentage of all adults (persons aged 16 and over) who have a body mass index of 30 or more. Body mass index is calculated as a person's weight in kilogrammes divided by the square of their height in metres. Figure 3.5 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.6 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.5: Adult obesity rate, 2012 & 2013



Source: Welsh Health Survey, Welsh Government

Figure 3.6: Adult obesity rate, 2003/05 – 2012 & 2013



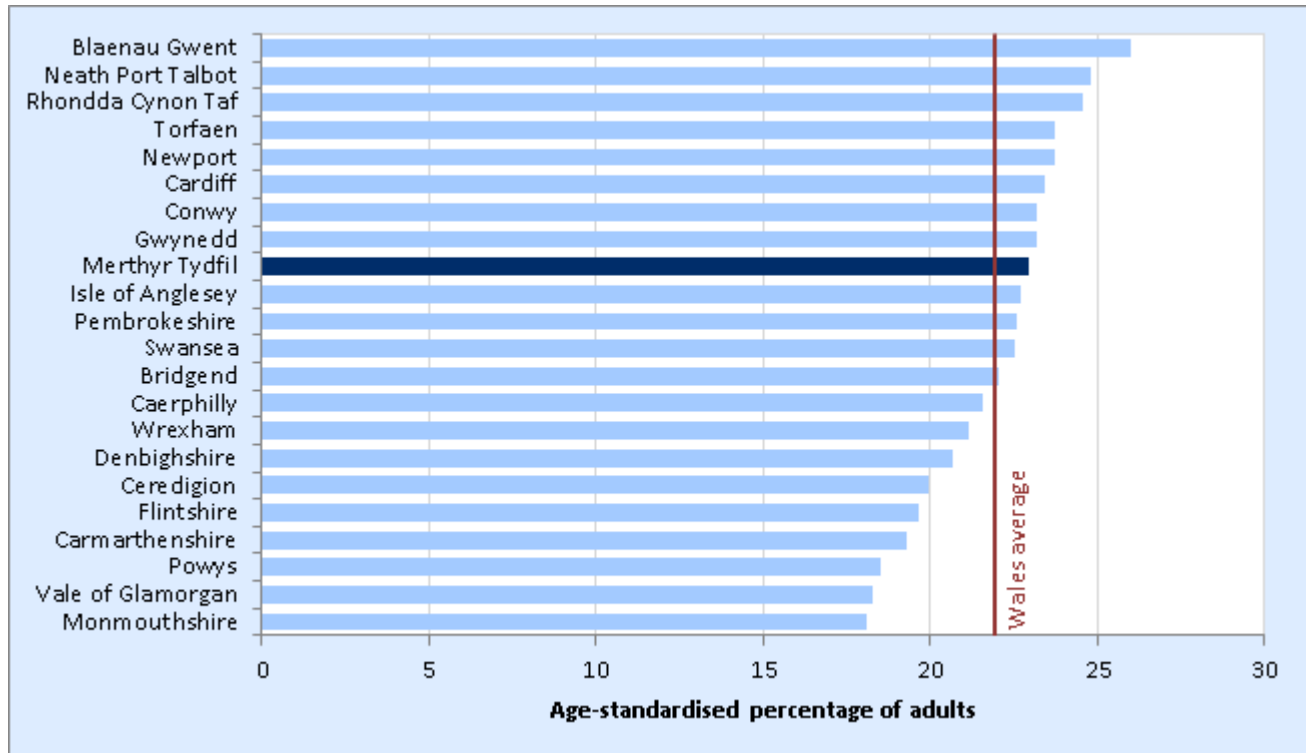
Source: Welsh Health Survey, Welsh Government

The percentage of obese adults for 2012 & 2013 was higher than the Welsh average.

3.4 Adult smoking rate

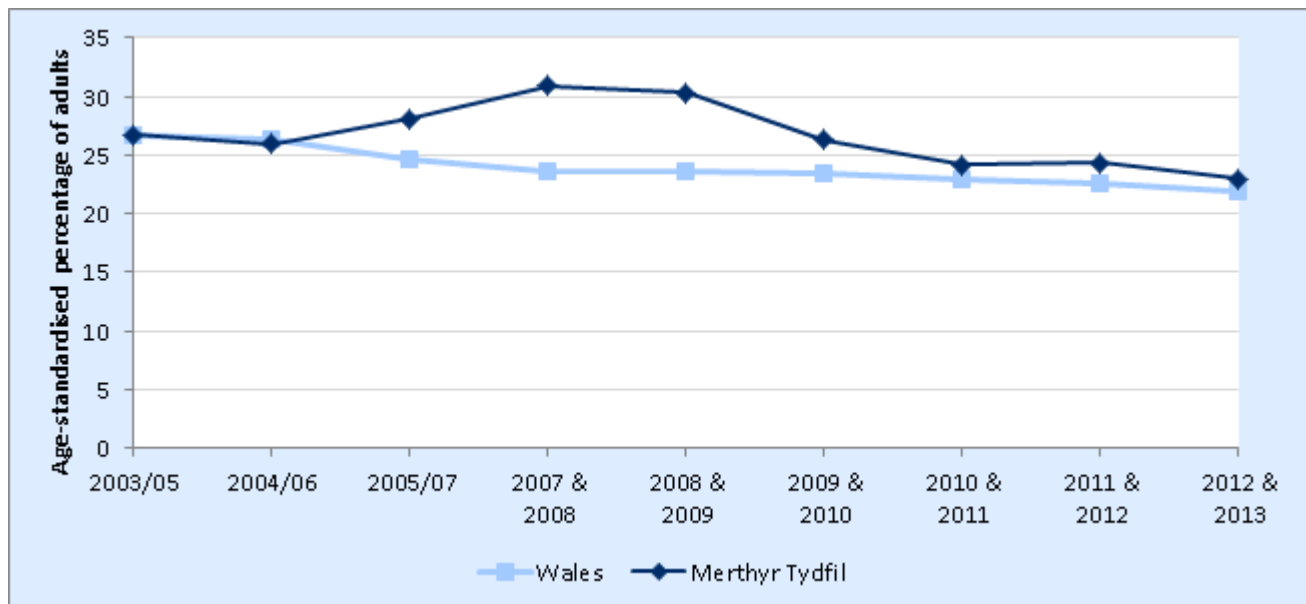
The adult smoking rate is the percentage of all persons aged 16 and over who reported that they smoke daily or occasionally. Figure 3.7 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.8 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.7: Adult smoking rate, 2012 & 2013



Source: Welsh Health Survey, Welsh Government

Figure 3.8: Adult smoking rate, 2003/05 – 2012 & 2013



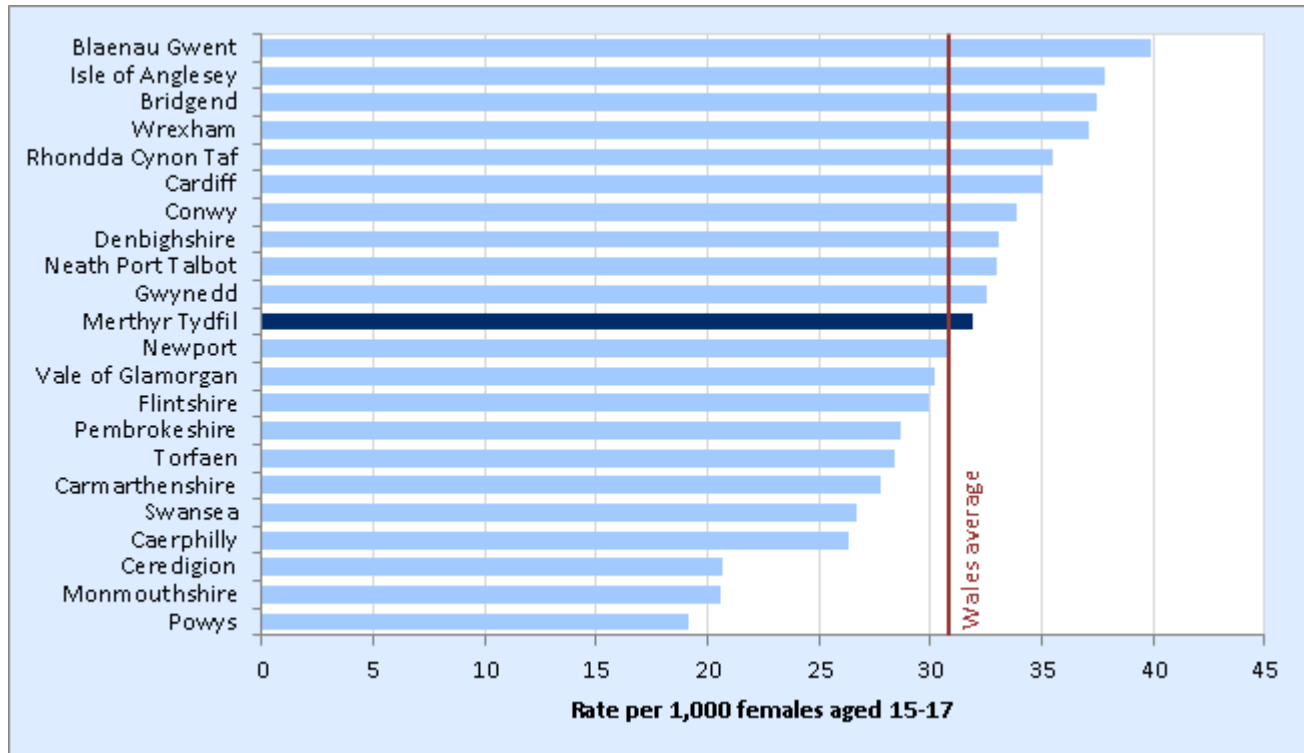
Source: Welsh Health Survey, Welsh Government

The percentage of adult smokers for 2012 & 2013 was not significantly different from the Welsh average.

3.5 Under 18 conception rate

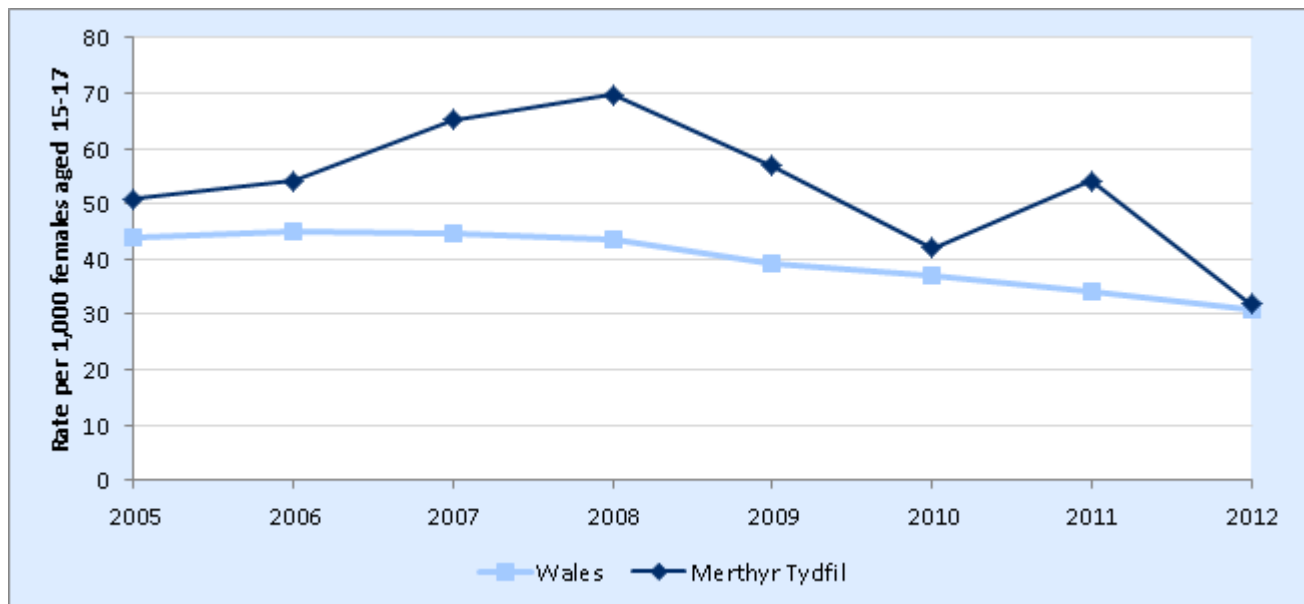
The under 18 conception rate is the number of births plus the number of abortions to females aged under 18 per 1,000 females aged 15-17. Figure 3.9 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.10 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.9: Under 18 conception rate, 2012



Source: Conception and Vital Statistics, Office for National Statistics

Figure 3.10: Under 18 conception rate, 2005-2012



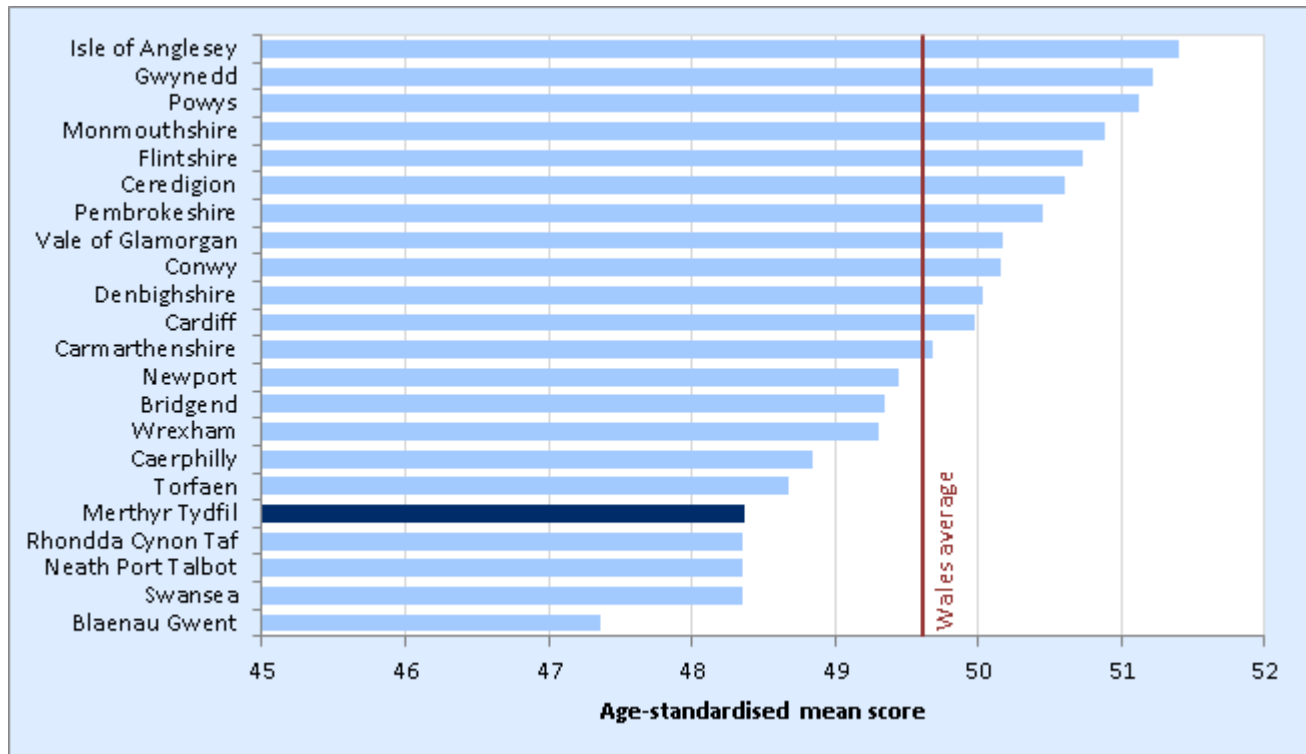
Source: Conception and Vital Statistics, Office for National Statistics

Merthyr Tydfil has seen a substantial fall in the under 18 conception rate since 2005 but remains above the Welsh average.

3.6 Mental component summary score

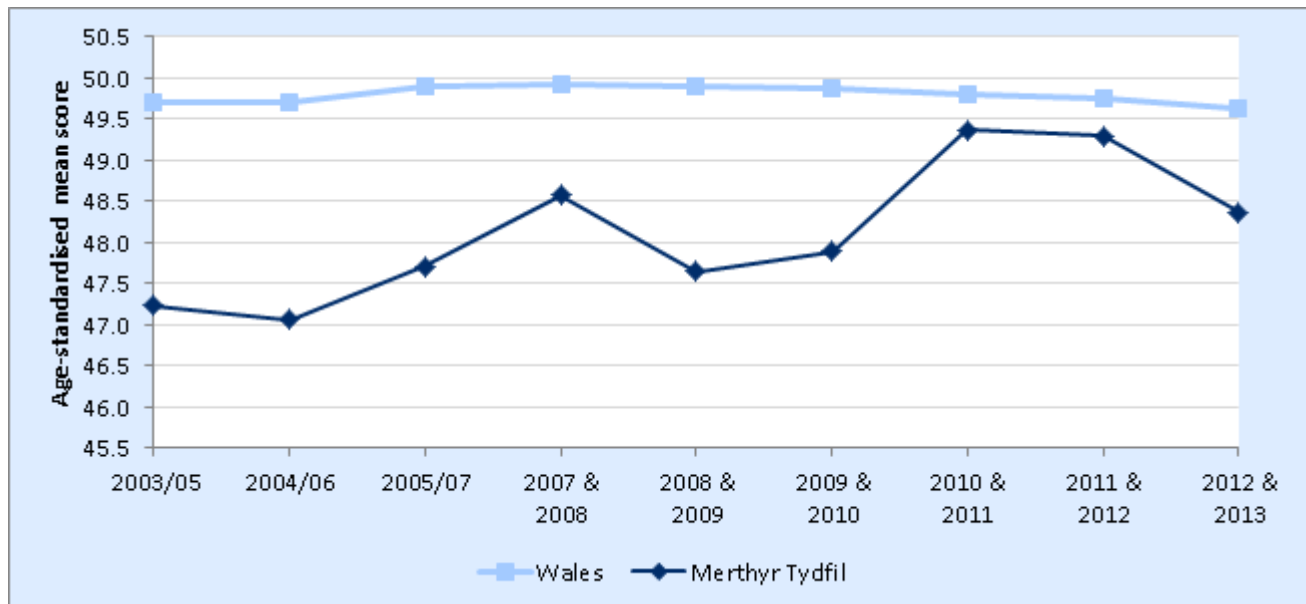
The mental component summary score is a relative measure of mental well-being. Figure 3.11 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.12 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.11: Mental component summary score, 2012 & 2013



Source: Welsh Health Survey, Welsh Government

Figure 3.12: Mental component summary score, 2003/05 – 2012 & 2013



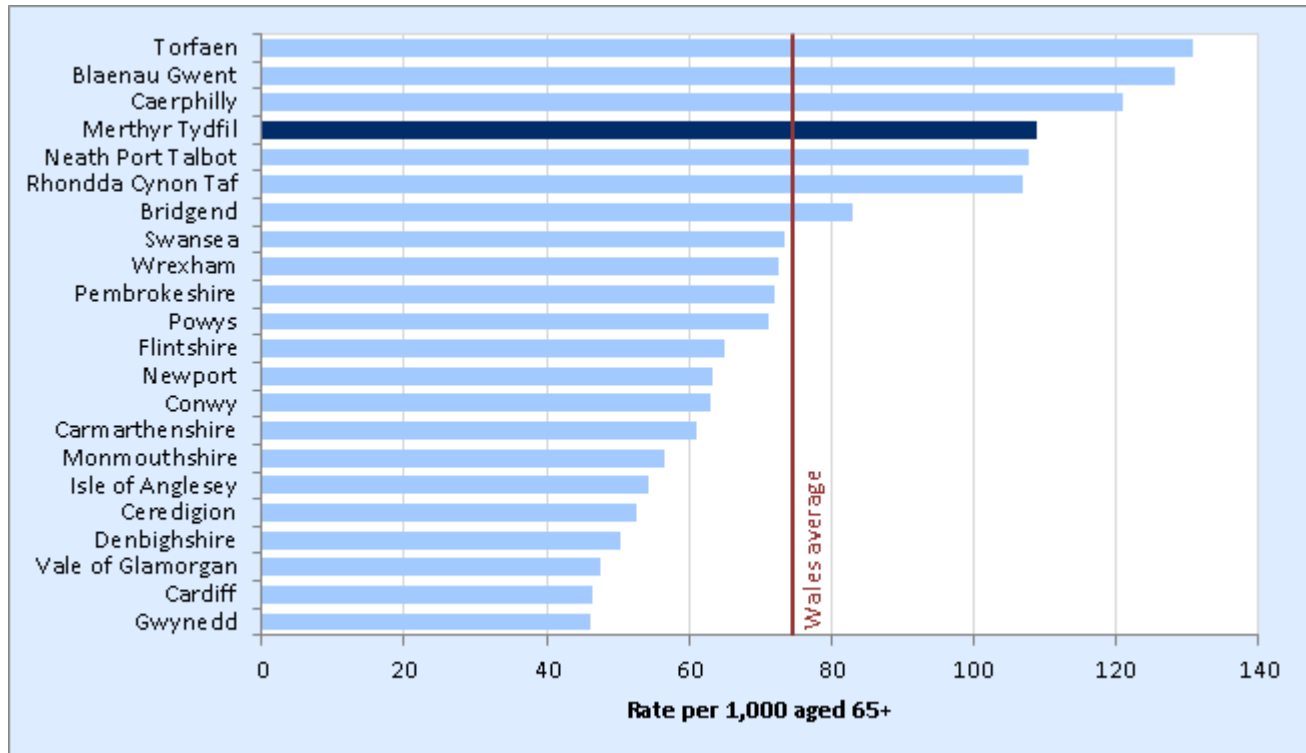
Source: Welsh Health Survey, Welsh Government

The mean mental component summary score for 2012 & 2013 was lower than the Welsh average, indicating poorer mental health and well-being.

3.7 Older people supported in the community

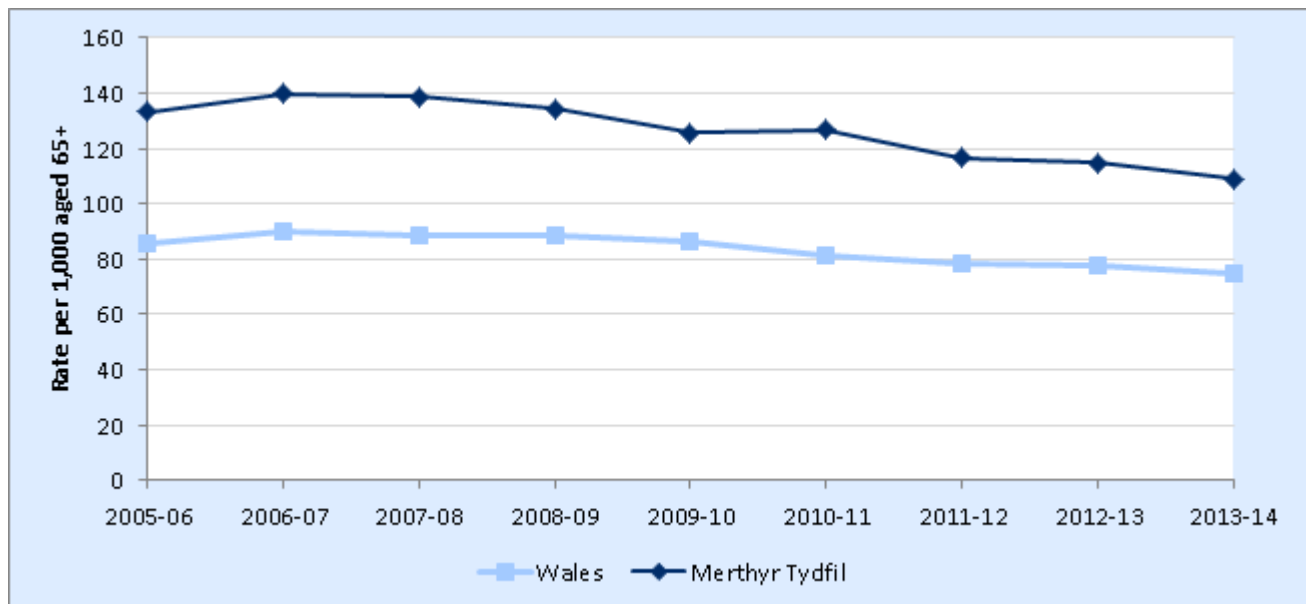
The rate of older people supported in the community is the count of social services clients receiving non-residential services per 1,000 population aged 65 and over. Figure 3.13 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.14 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.13: Older people supported in the community, 2013-14



Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

Figure 3.14: Older people in the community, 2005-06 – 2013-14



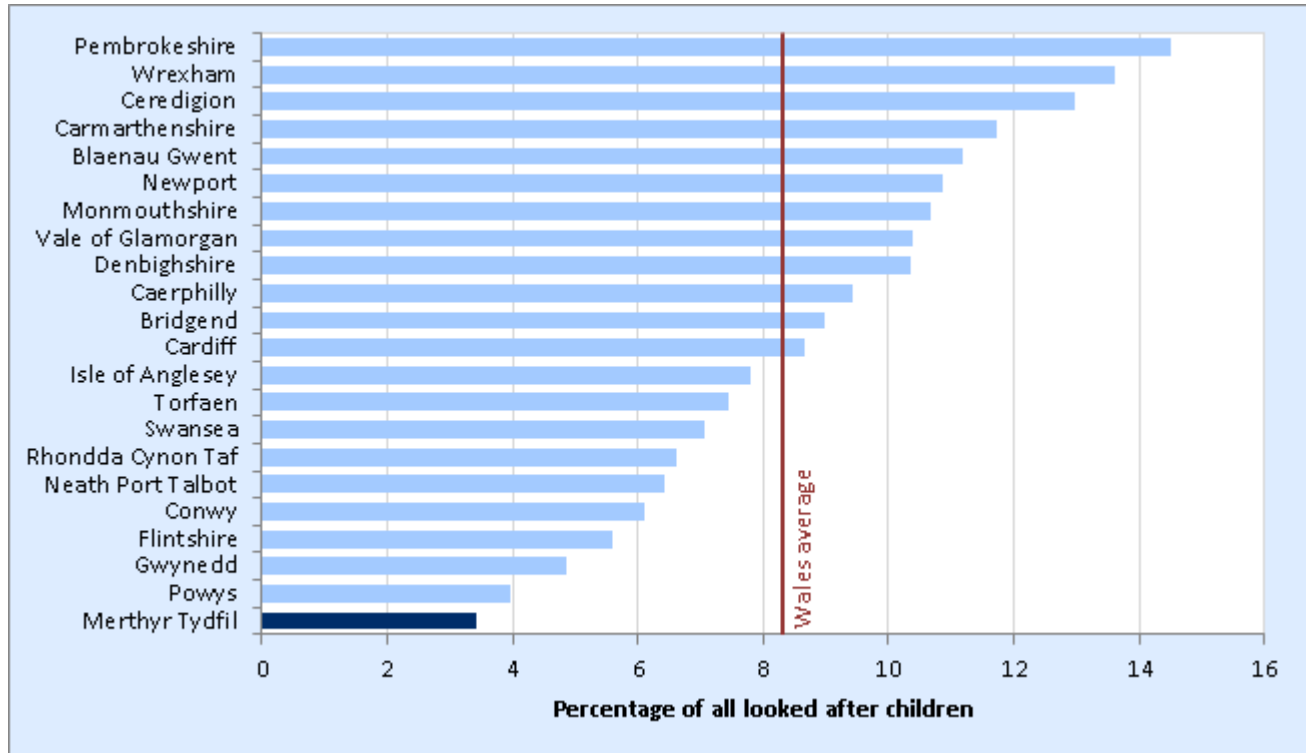
Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

Merthyr Tydfil's rate of older people supported in the community has generally decreased since 2005-06. The rate has consistently been above the Wales average.

3.8 Looked after children with three or more placements in year

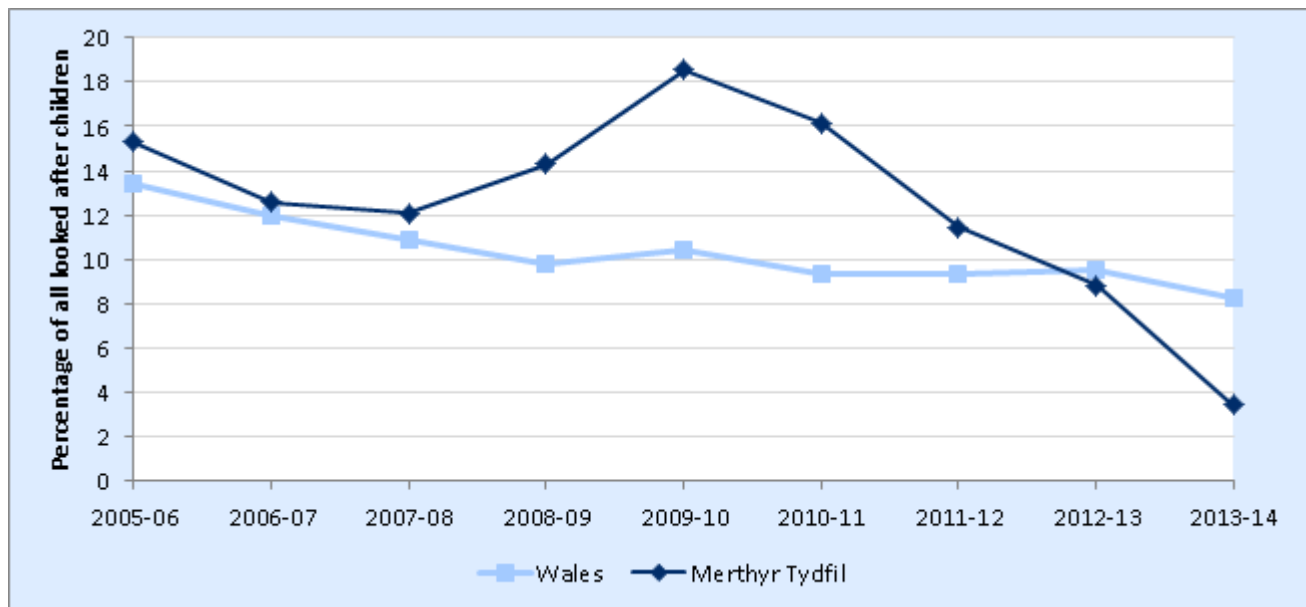
The percentage of looked after children with three or more placements in the year is the percentage of all those children with a looked after status at the end of the year with three or more placements during that year. Figure 3.15 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.16 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.15: Looked after children with three or more placements in year, 2013-14



Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government

Figure 3.16: Looked after children with three or more placements in year, 2005-06 – 2013-14



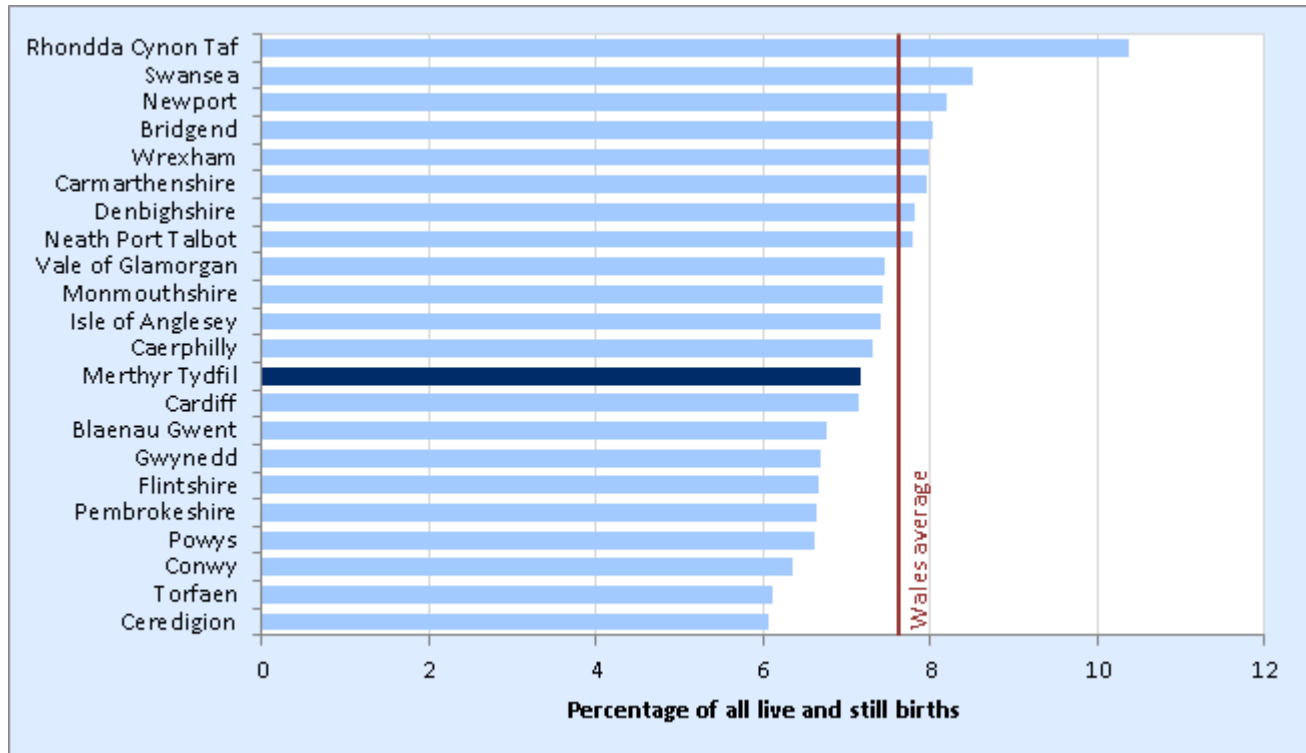
Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government

Merthyr Tydfil's percentage of looked after children with three or more placements in the year was the lowest in Wales in 2013-14.

3.9 Low birth weight babies

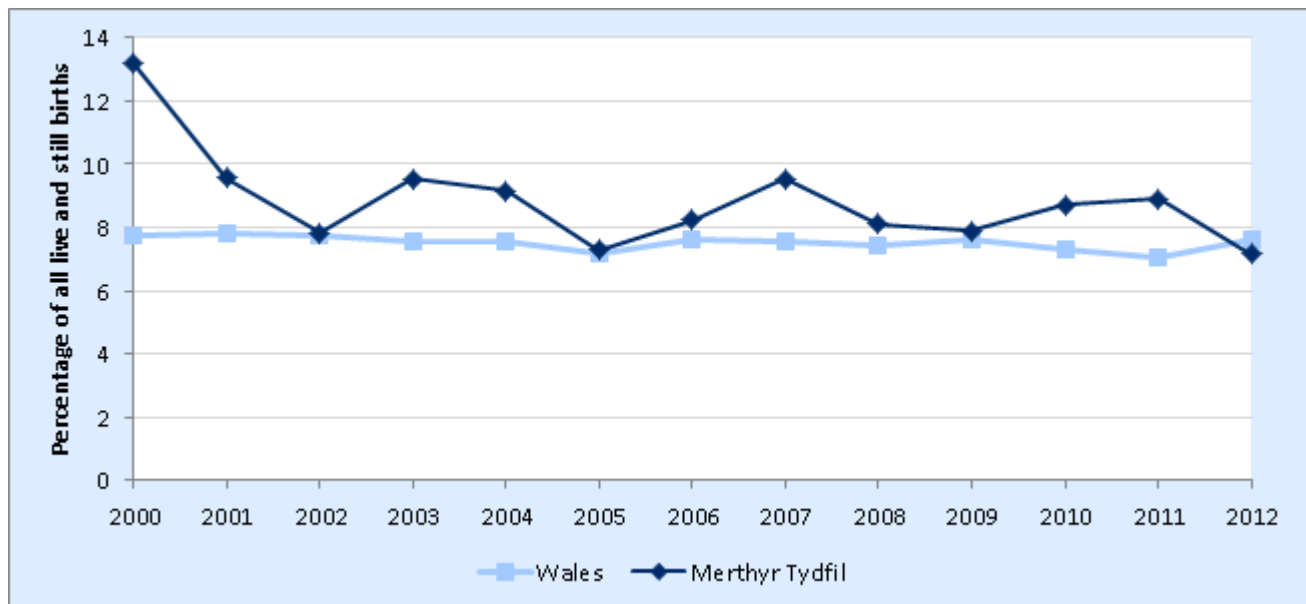
The low birth weight babies measure is the number of live and still births which are below 2.5kg as a percentage of all live and still births with a stated birth weight. Figure 3.17 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.18 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.17: Low birth weight babies, 2012



Source: Vital Statistics, Office for National Statistics

Figure 3.18: Low birth weight babies, 2000-2012



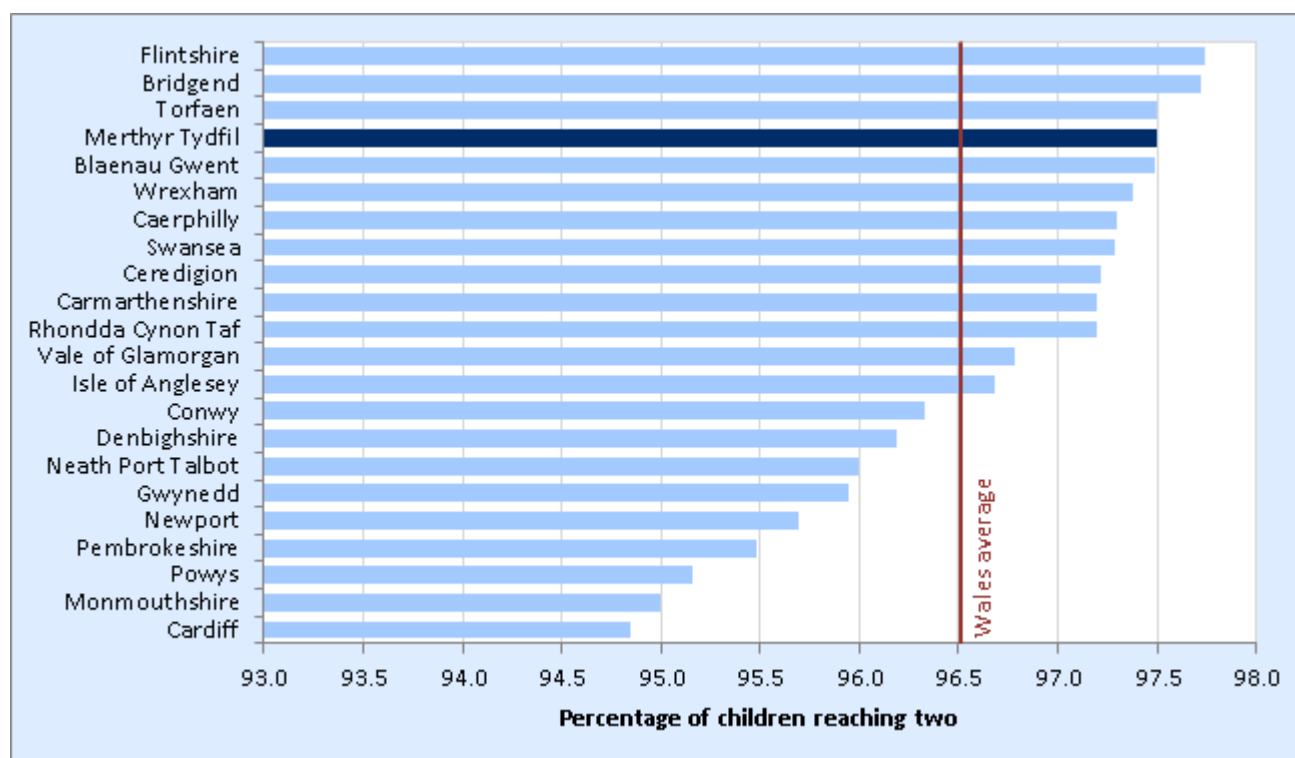
Source: Vital Statistics, Office for National Statistics

Merthyr has seen generally higher than average proportions of low birth weight babies since 2000.

3.10 Uptake rate for primary MMR vaccine at age two

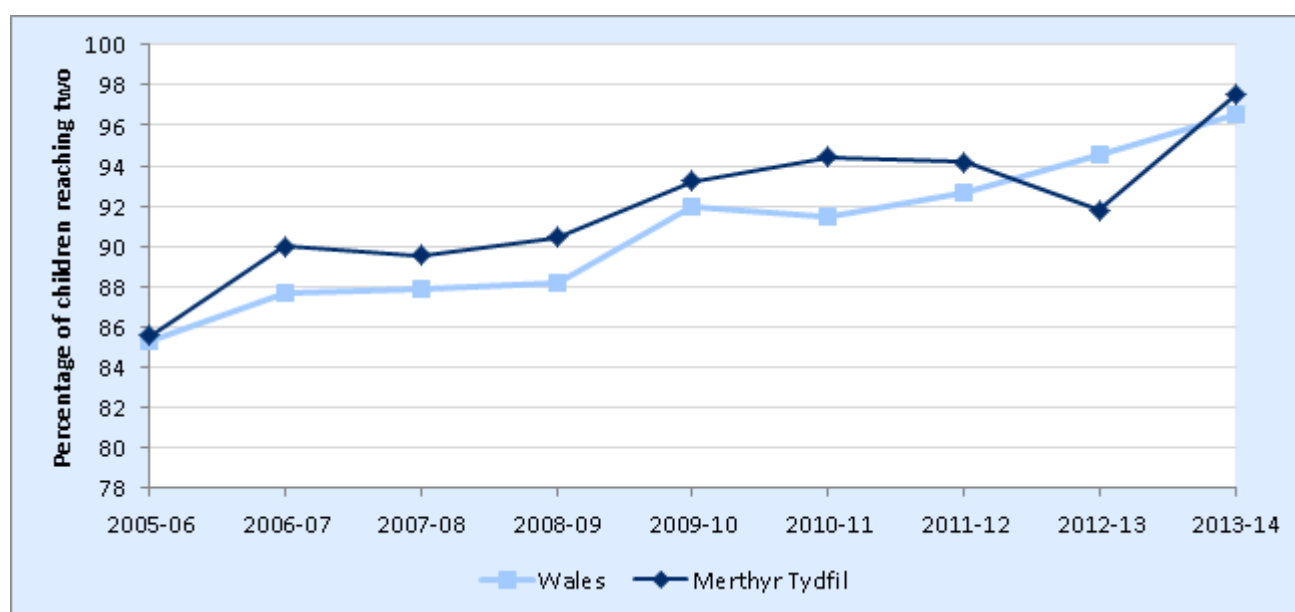
The uptake rate for primary MMR vaccine at age two measure is the percentage of all children reaching the age of two in the time period who were immunised against MMR by their second birthday (i.e. had received the primary vaccination). Figure 3.19 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.20 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.19: Uptake rate for primary MMR vaccine at age two, 2013-14



Source: COVER Statistics, Public Health Wales

Figure 3.20: Uptake rate for primary MMR vaccine at age two, 2005-06 – 2013-14



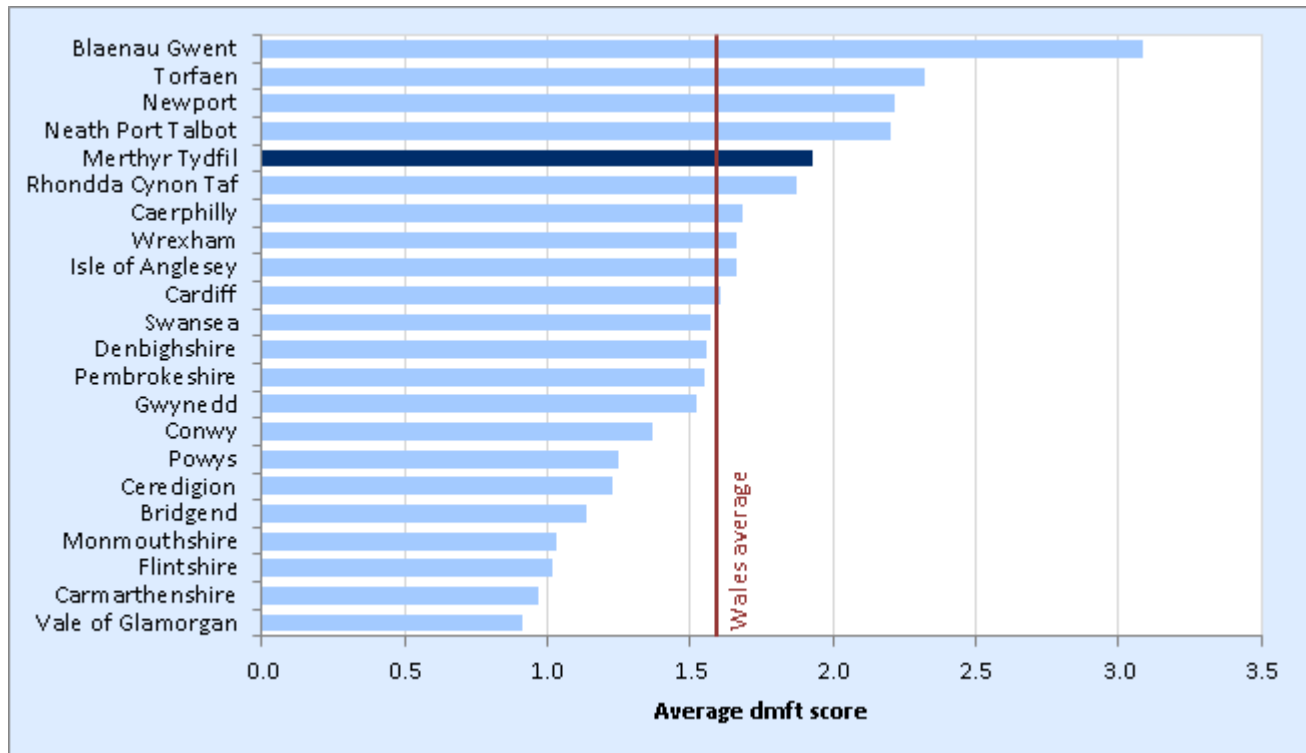
Source: COVER Statistics, Public Health Wales

The MMR coverage rate in Merthyr Tydfil has increased 5.7 percentage points since 2012-13 to a rate of 97.5 per cent in 2013-14, which is above the Welsh average. Merthyr Tydfil had the largest percentage point increase since 2012-13 in Wales.

3.11 Average dmft score for five year old children

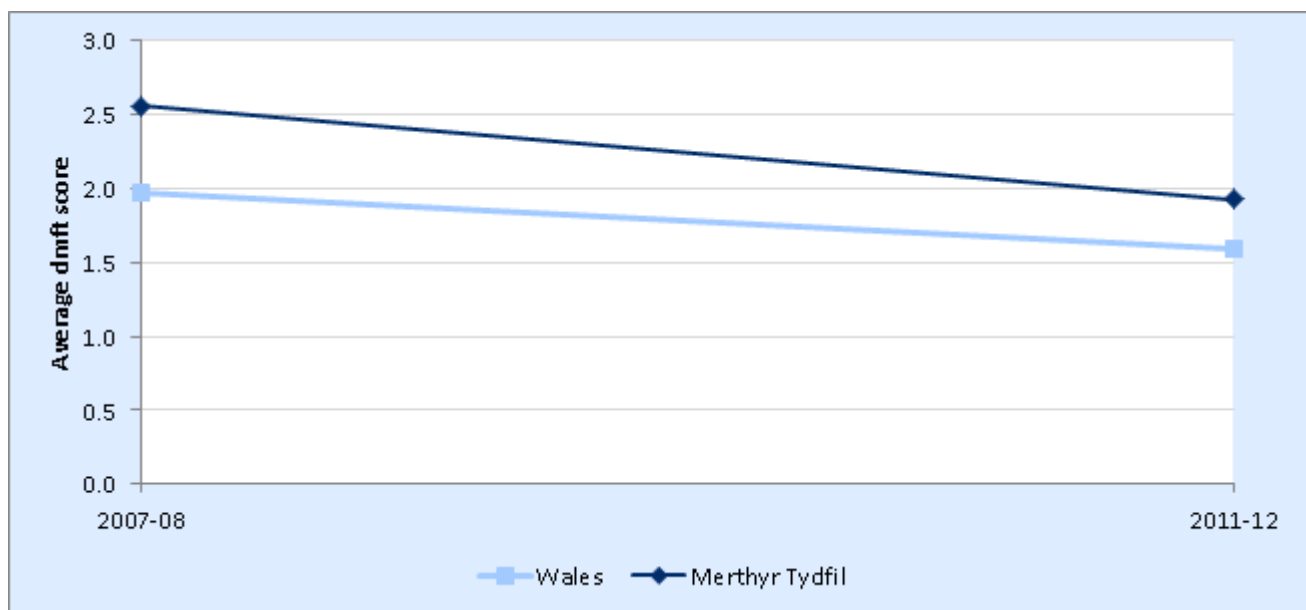
The average dmft score for five year old children is the average number of teeth decayed, missing or filled per child aged five, and therefore a lower score is preferable. The data is sourced from surveys of oral health of five year olds. Figure 3.21 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 3.22 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 3.21: Average dmft score for five year old children, 2011-12



Source: Welsh Oral Health Information Unit, School of Dentistry, University of Cardiff

Figure 3.22: Average dmft score for five year old children, 2007-08 and 2011-12



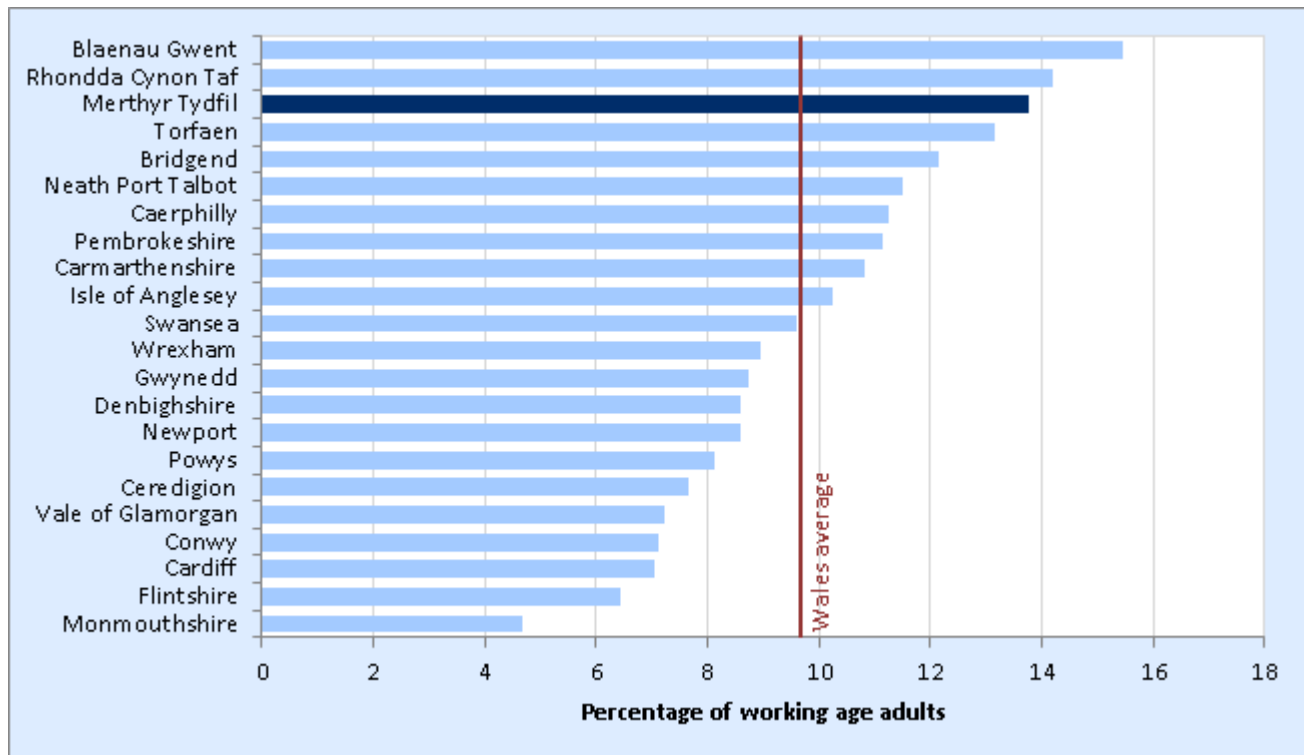
Source: Welsh Oral Health Information Unit, School of Dentistry, University of Cardiff

The average dmft score for Merthyr Tydfil was 1.93 in 2011-12. Merthyr Tydfil has been higher than the Welsh average in the last two surveys.

4.1 Working age adults with no qualifications

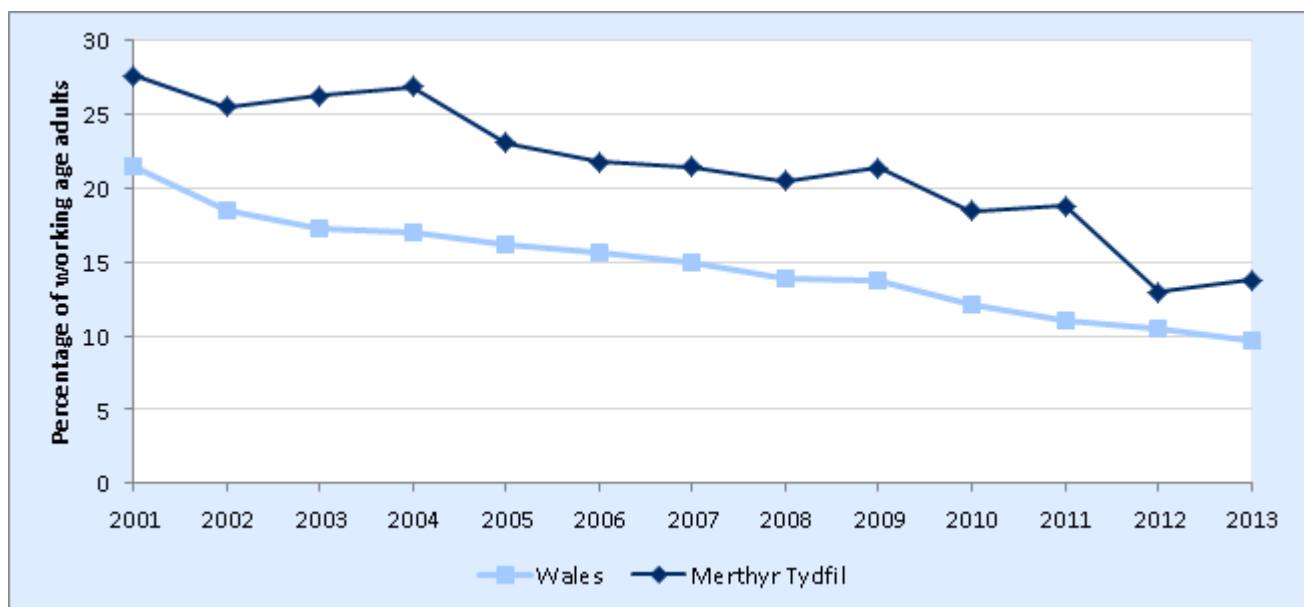
The working age adults with no qualifications measure is the percentage of all persons aged 18 to 59 for women and 18 to 64 for men who have no qualifications. Figure 4.1 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 4.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 4.1: Working age adults with no qualifications, 2013



Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

Figure 4.2: Working age adults with no qualifications, 2001-2013



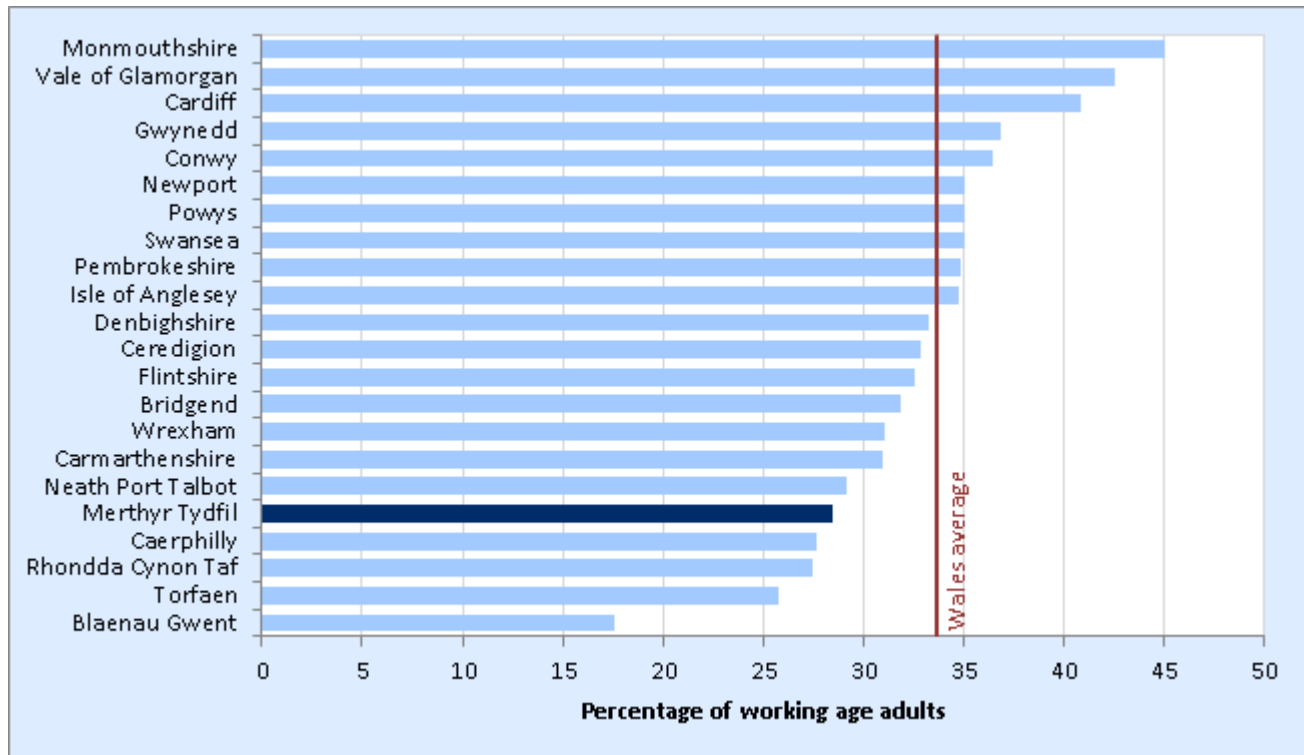
Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

The percentage of working age adults with no qualifications has fallen since 2001. In 2013 the rate was 4.1 percentage points higher than the Welsh average and was the third highest local authority rate in Wales.

4.2 Working age adults with qualifications at NQF level four or above

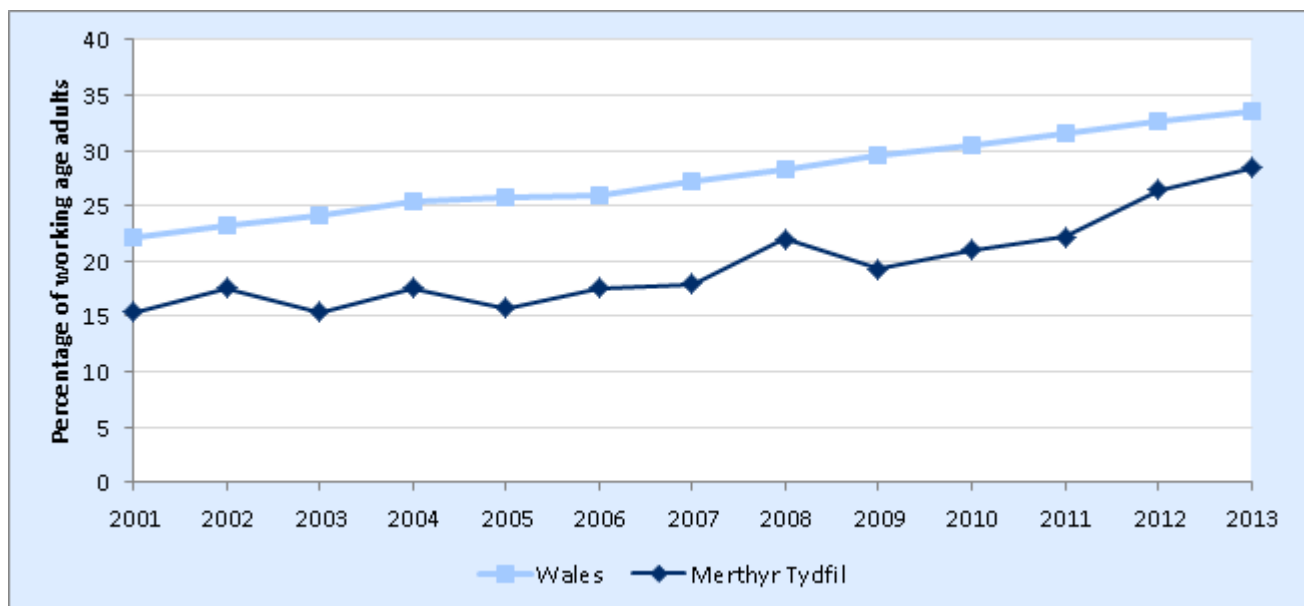
The working age adults with qualifications at National Qualification Framework (NQF) level four or above measure is the percentage of all persons aged 18 to 59 for women and 18 to 64 for men who have a qualification at level four or higher in the NQF. Level four in the NQF represents a graduate degree level qualification or equivalent. Figure 4.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 4.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 4.3: Working age adults with qualifications at NQF level four or above, 2013



Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

Figure 4.4: Working age adults with qualifications at NQF level four or above, 2001-2013



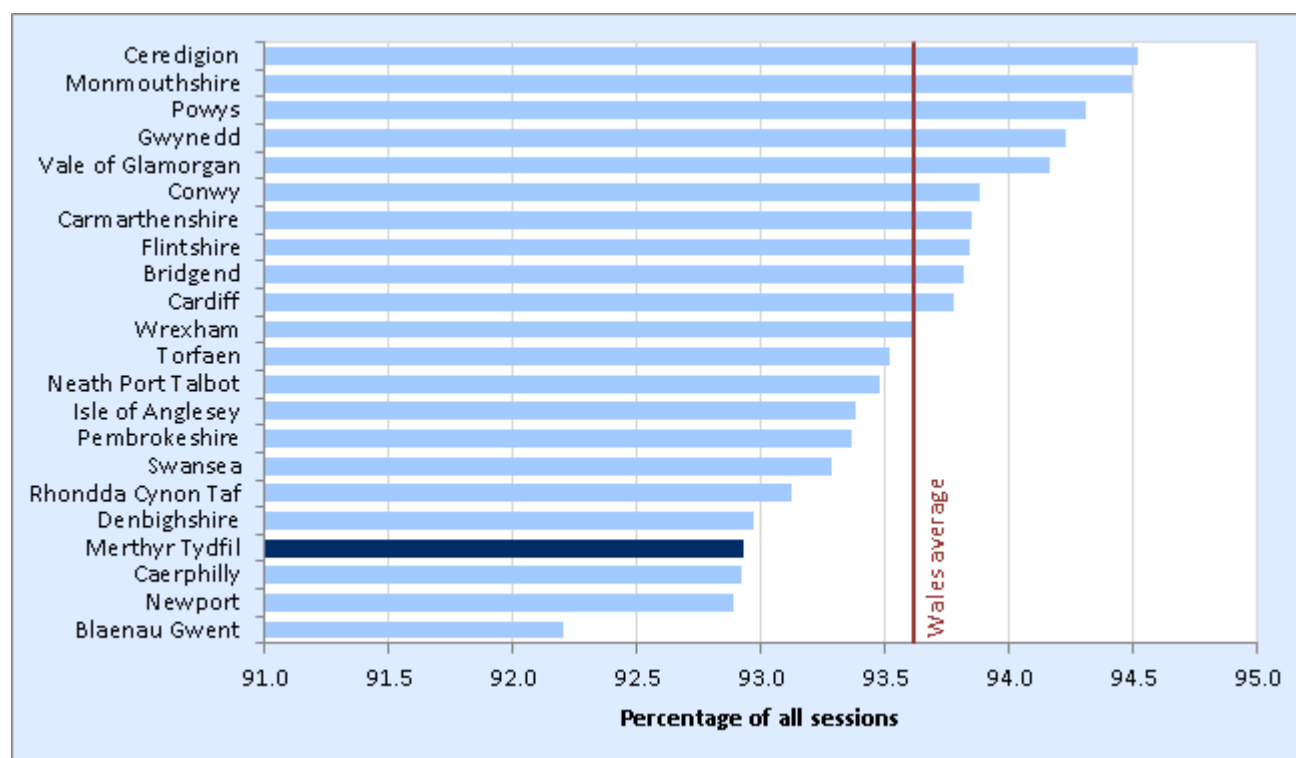
Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

The percentage of working age adults with qualifications at NQF level 4+ has risen since 2001. In 2013 the rate was 5.2 percentage points lower than the Welsh average and was the fifth lowest local authority rate in Wales.

4.3 Secondary school pupil attendance rate

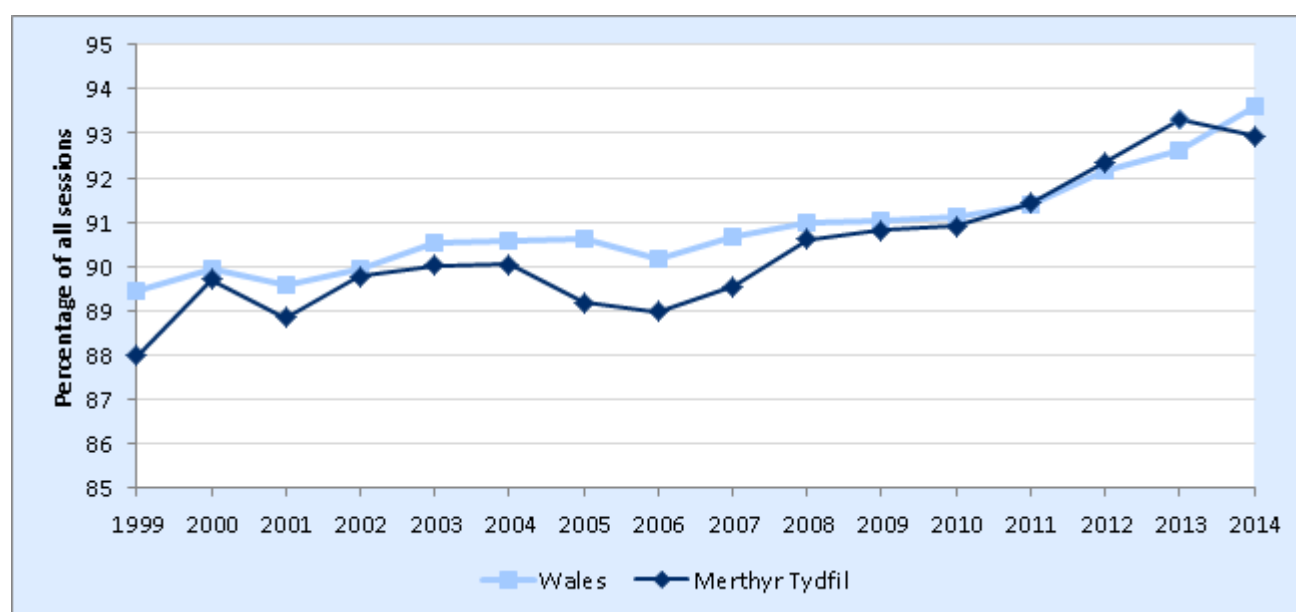
The secondary school pupil attendance rate is the percentage of all half-day sessions for all pupils of compulsory school age in maintained secondary and special schools that are missed due to both authorised and unauthorised absence. Figure 4.5 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 4.6 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 4.5: Secondary school pupil attendance rate, 2014



Source: School attendance returns to Welsh Government

Figure 4.6: Secondary school pupil attendance rate, 1999-2014



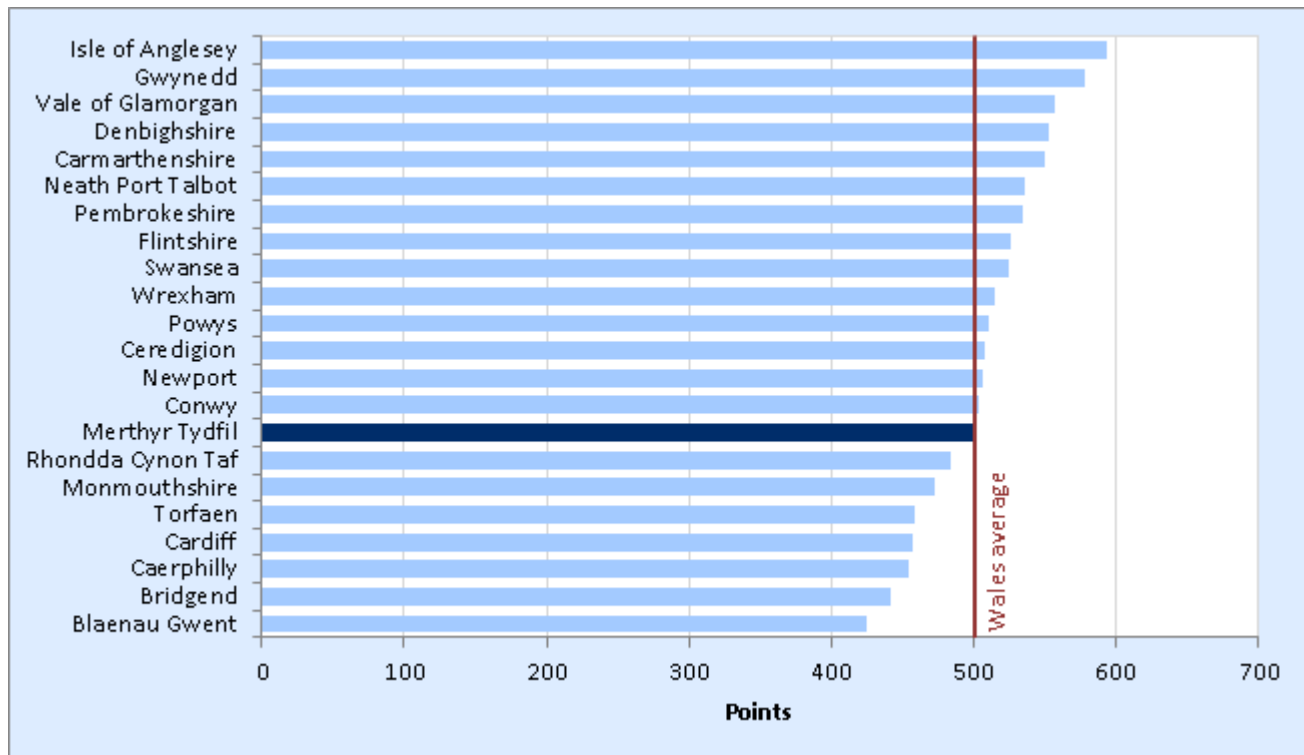
Source: School attendance returns to Welsh Government

The attendance rate has risen since 1999. It was 0.7 percentage points below the Welsh average of 93.6 percent in 2014, making it the fourth lowest attendance rate.

4.4 Average wider points score for 15 year olds

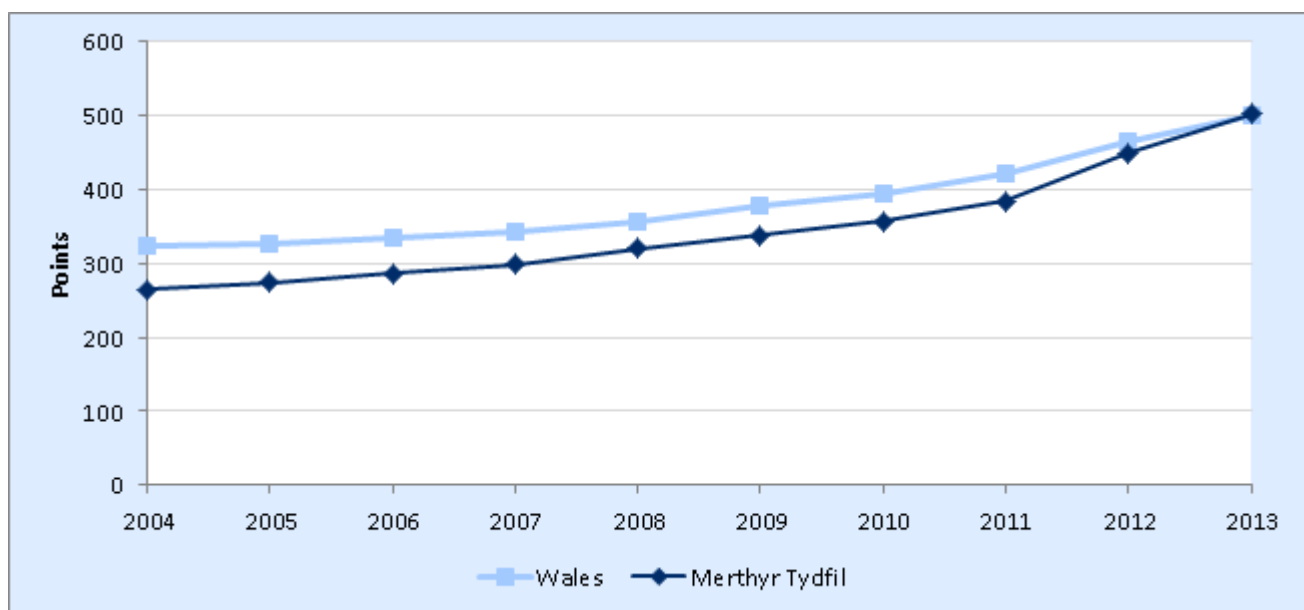
The average wider points score for 15 year olds is an aggregate of all the examination scores achieved in maintained schools (using scores allocated to every qualification approved for use in Wales for pupils aged under 16) divided by the total number of pupils aged 15. Figure 4.7 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 4.8 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. The Welsh average includes pupils in independent schools and pupils from a non-English or Welsh-based education system. These pupils are excluded from local authority figures.

Figure 4.7: Average wider points score for 15 year olds, 2013



Source: Pupil level annual school census and school examination performance, Welsh Government

Figure 4.8: Average wider points score for 15 year olds, 2004-2013



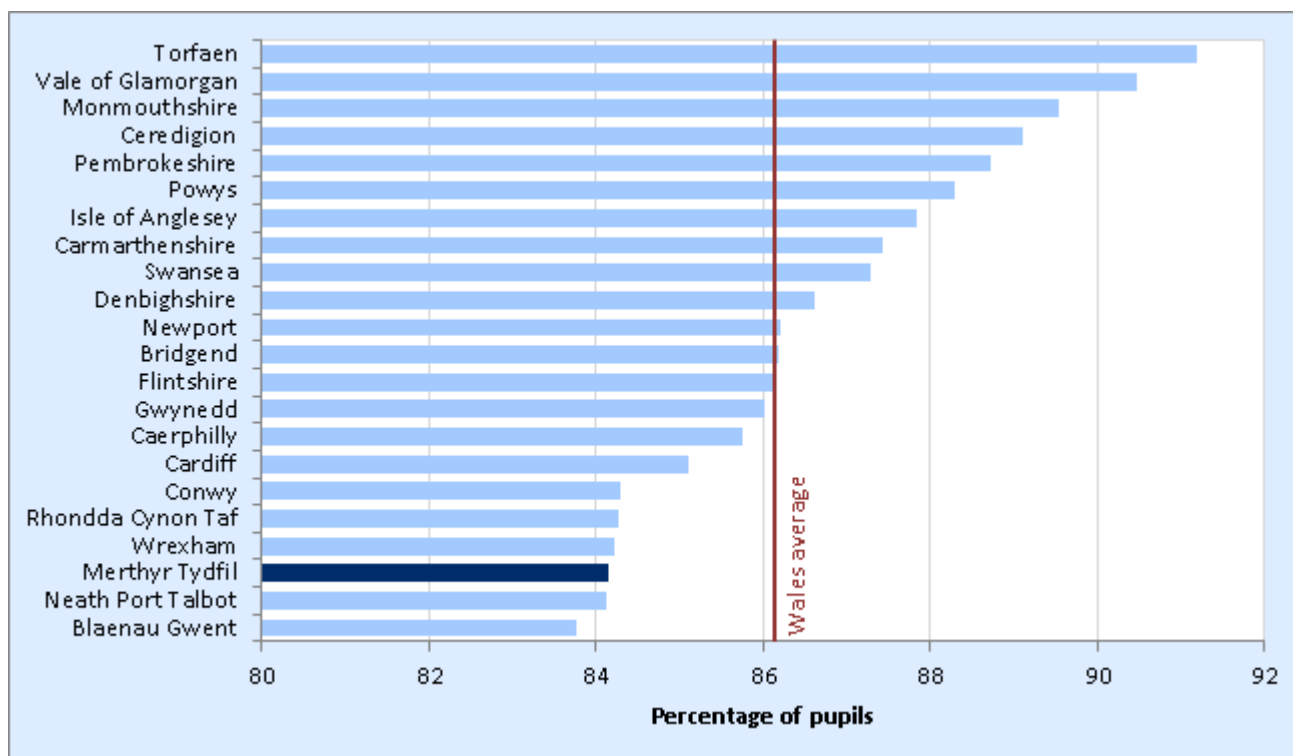
Source: Pupil level annual school census and school examination performance, Welsh Government

The average wider points score has risen since 2004. It was around the Welsh average in 2013.

4.5 Core subject indicator attainment at key stage two

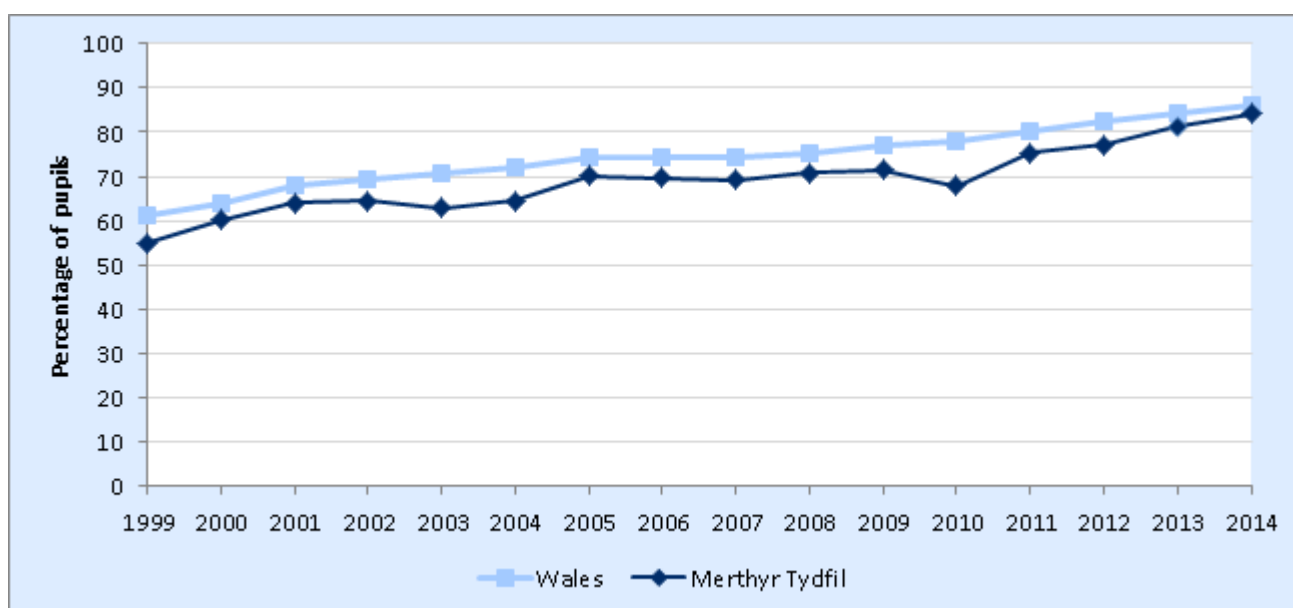
Core subject indicator attainment at key stage two is the percentage of year group six pupils who achieve the expected level in English or Welsh first language, mathematics and science. Figure 4.9 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 4.10 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. The Welsh average includes pupils in independent schools and pupils from a non-English or Welsh-based education system. These pupils are excluded from local authority figures.

Figure 4.9: Core subject indicator attainment at key stage two, 2014



Source: National teacher assessment data collection, Welsh Government

Figure 4.10: Core subject indicator attainment at key stage two, 1999-2014



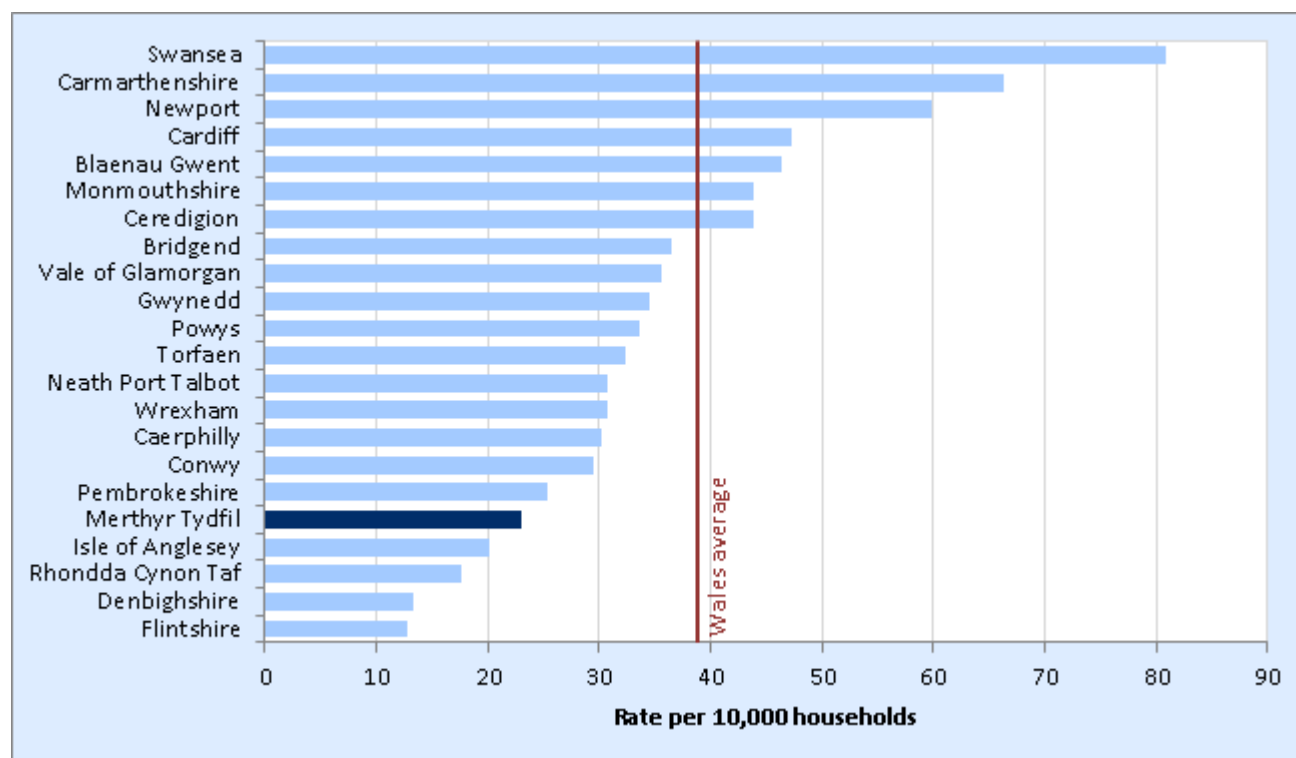
Source: National teacher assessment data collection, Welsh Government

The percentage of pupils achieving the core subject indicator at key stage two has risen overall since 1999. It was 2.0 percentage points below the Welsh average of 86.1 per cent in 2014 and had the third lowest rate in Wales.

5.1 Rate of households for whom homelessness was accepted

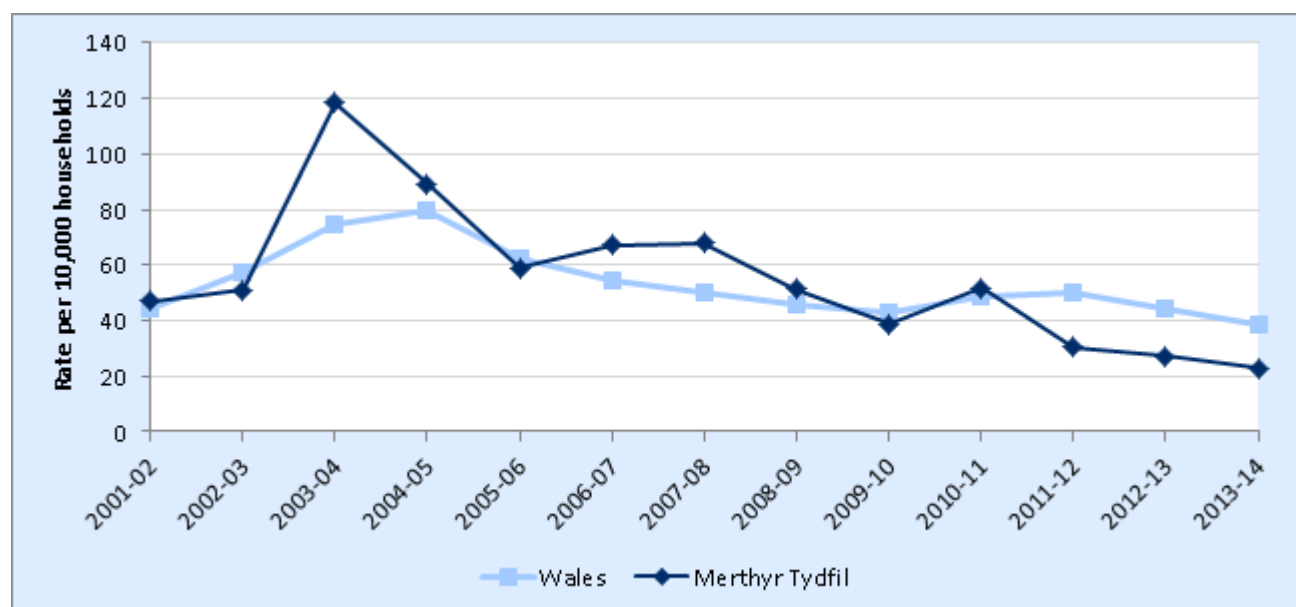
The rate of households for whom homelessness was accepted is the number of households accepted as eligible, unintentionally homeless and in priority need per 10,000 households. Figure 5.1 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 5.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 5.1: Rate of households for whom homelessness was accepted, 2013-14



Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government

Figure 5.2: Rate of households for whom homelessness was accepted, 2001-02 – 2013-14



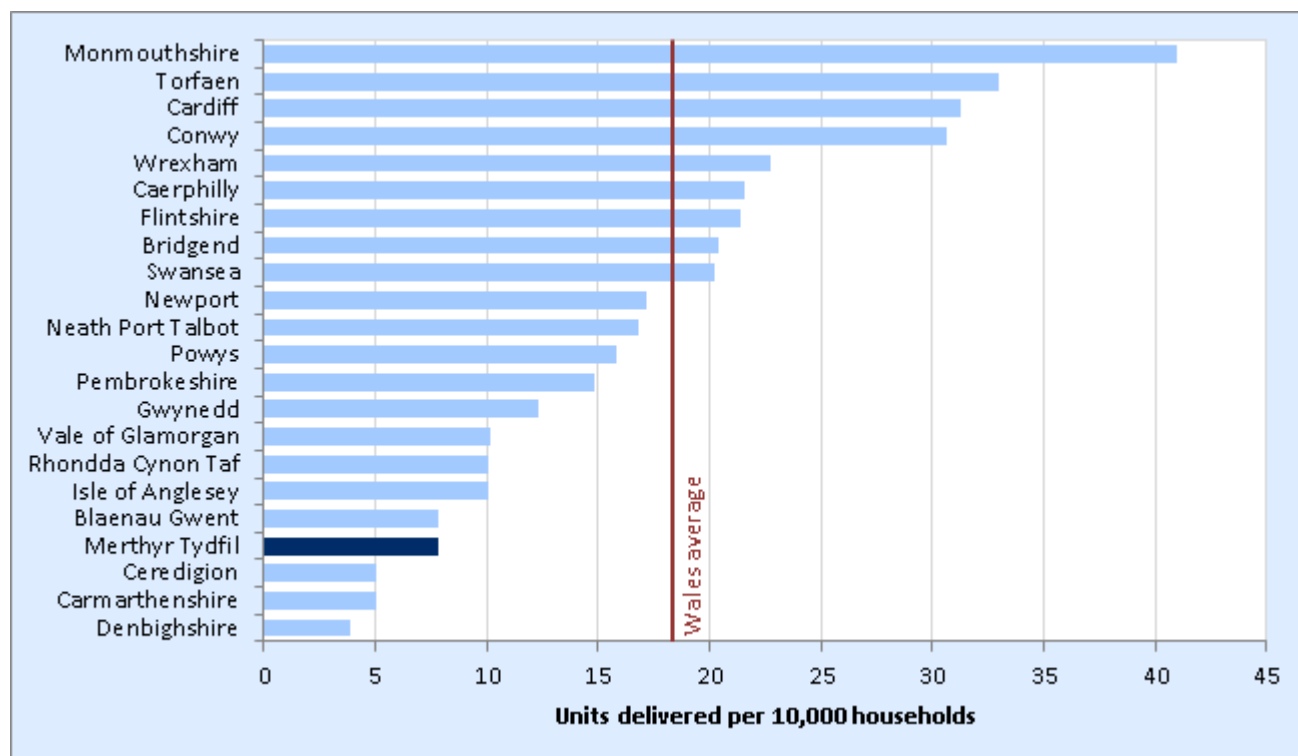
Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government

The rate of homelessness acceptances in Merthyr Tydfil has fluctuated above and below the Wales average since 2001-02 to 2012-13. In 2013-14 the homelessness rate dropped further, remaining well below the Wales average and was the fifth lowest of all local authorities in Wales.

5.2 Additional affordable housing provision rate

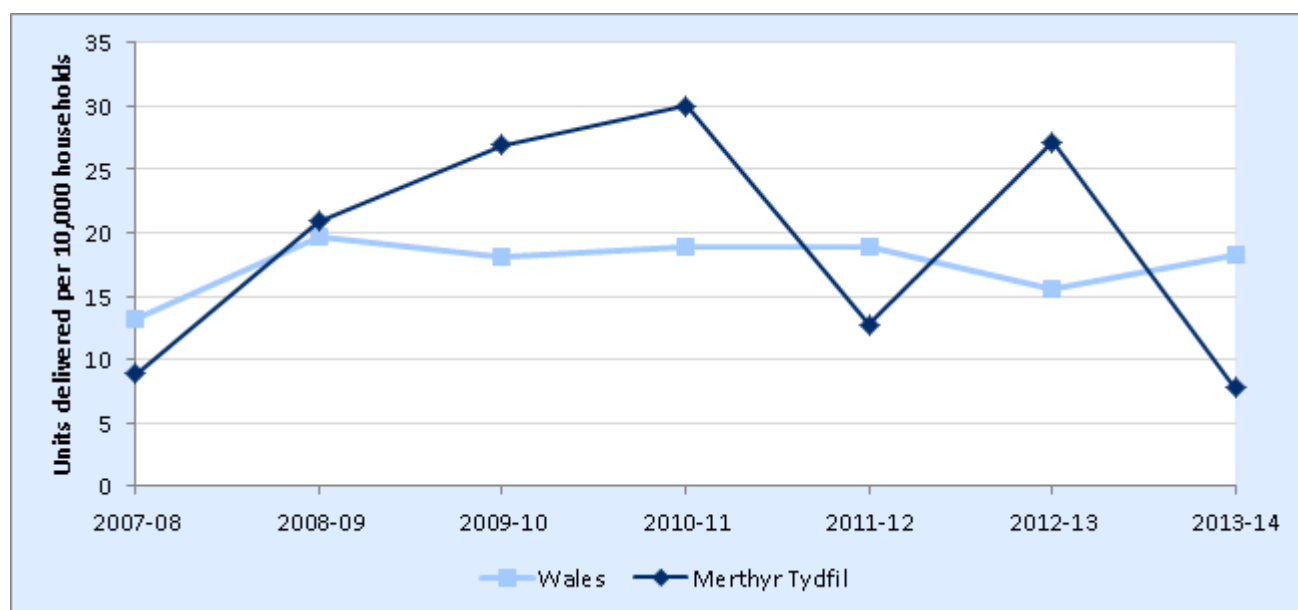
The additional affordable housing provision rate is the number of additional housing units delivered during the year that were classed as affordable per 10,000 households. Affordable housing is housing provided to those whose needs are not met by the open market. Figure 5.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 5.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 5.3: Additional affordable housing provision rate, 2013-14



Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government

Figure 5.4: Additional affordable housing provision rate, 2007-08 – 2013-14



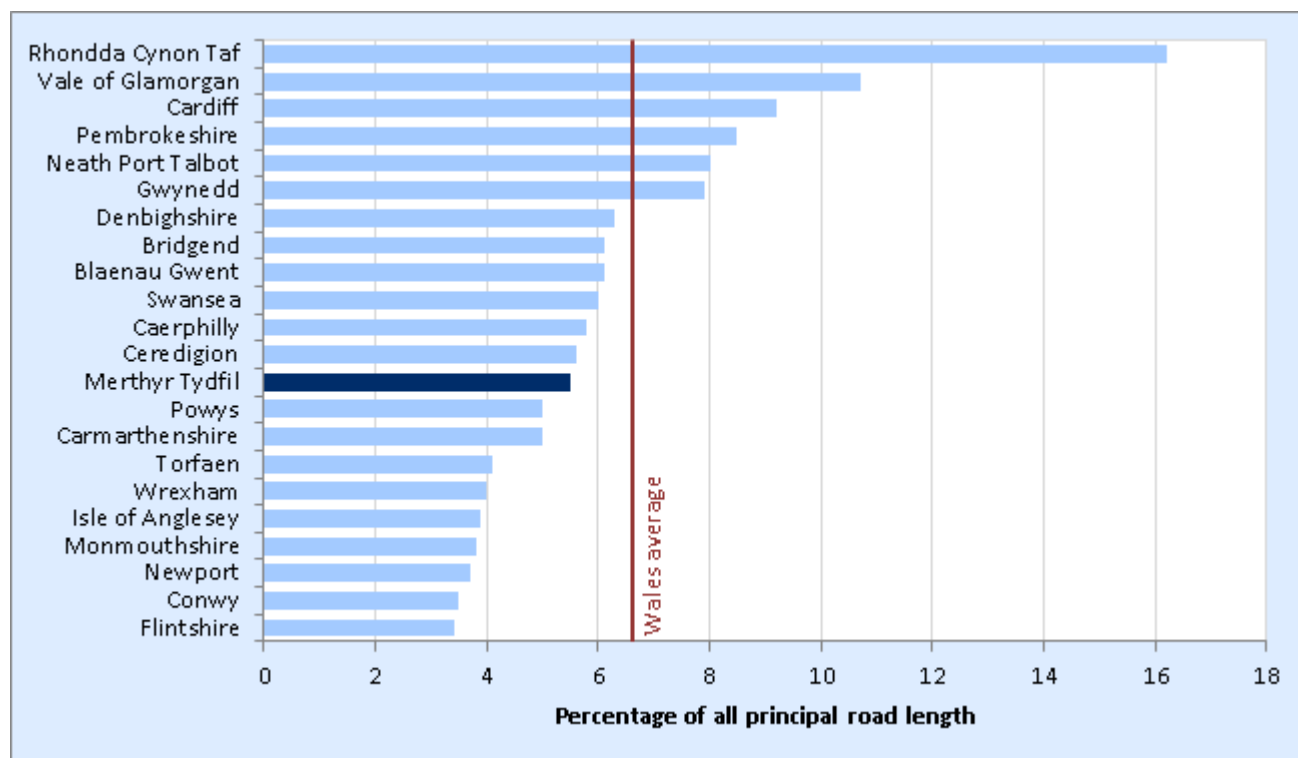
Source: Local authority data returns to Welsh Government

The rate in Merthyr Tydfil increased substantially in 2012-13 but decreased substantially in 2013-14 bringing it below the Wales average. It is now the fourth lowest rate amongst all local authorities in Wales.

6.1 Principal (A) roads in poor condition

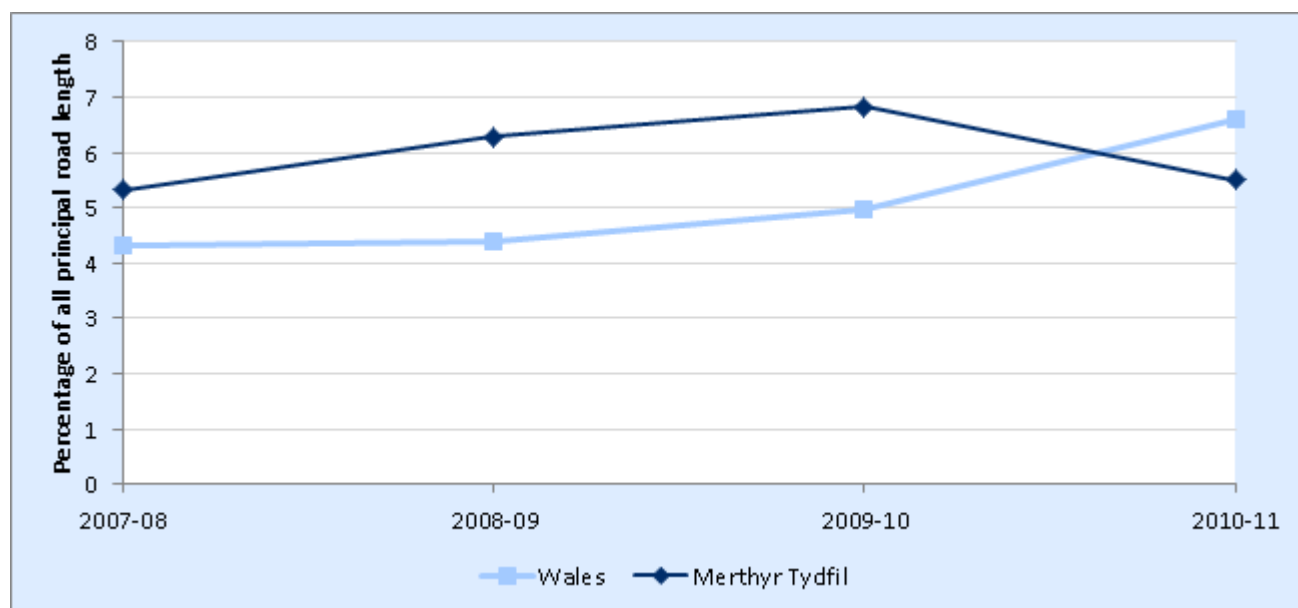
The principal A roads in poor condition measure is the percentage of the surveyed length of local authority owned A roads that are classed as in poor condition (above the RED threshold and in need of planned maintenance within a year). It is derived from road condition surveys which use road surface scanning equipment. Figure 6.1 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 6.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. This indicator is no longer updated.

Figure 6.1: Principal (A) roads in poor condition, 2010-11



Source: SCANNER surveys of road condition, Welsh Government

Figure 6.2: Principal (A) roads in poor condition, 2007-08 – 2010-11



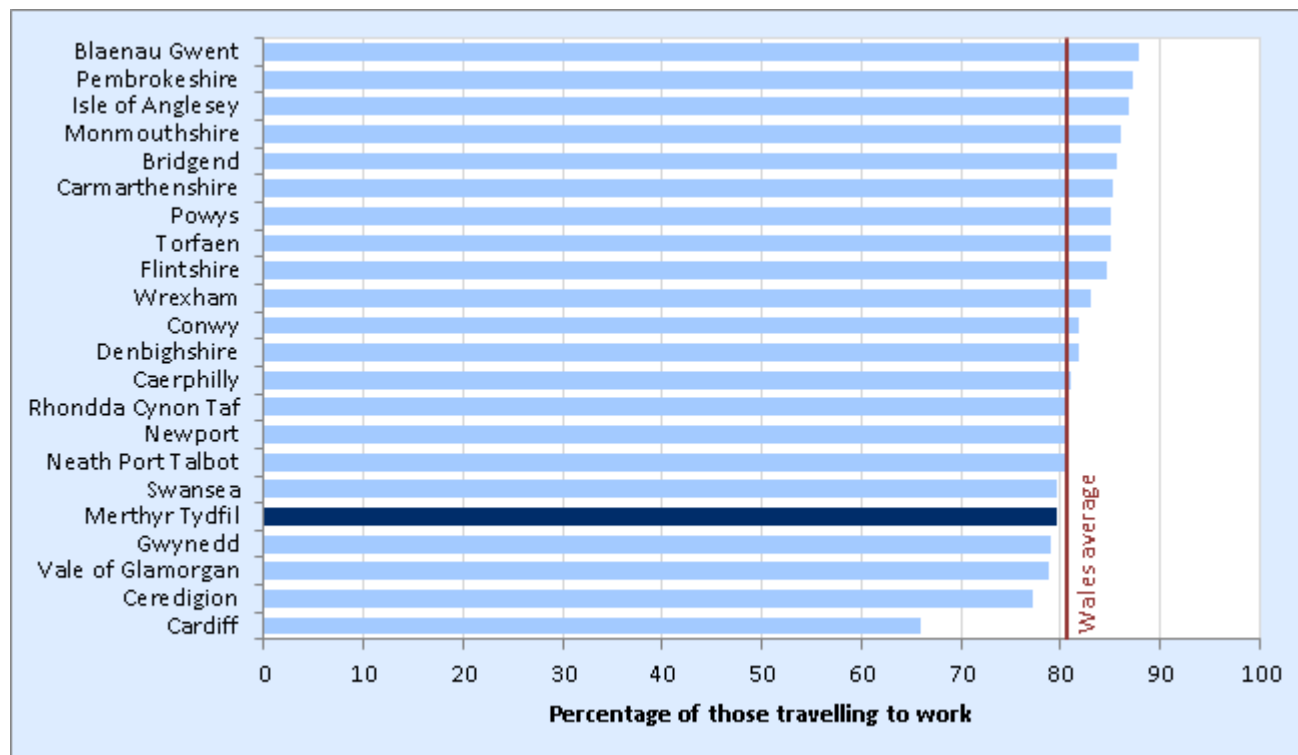
Source: SCANNER surveys of road condition, Welsh Government

In 2010-11, in Merthyr Tydfil, the proportion of A county roads in poor condition was lower than the proportion for Wales as a whole; and lower than the position in the previous two years. There were only 28 miles of these roads in Merthyr.

6.2 Persons travelling to work by car, van or minibus

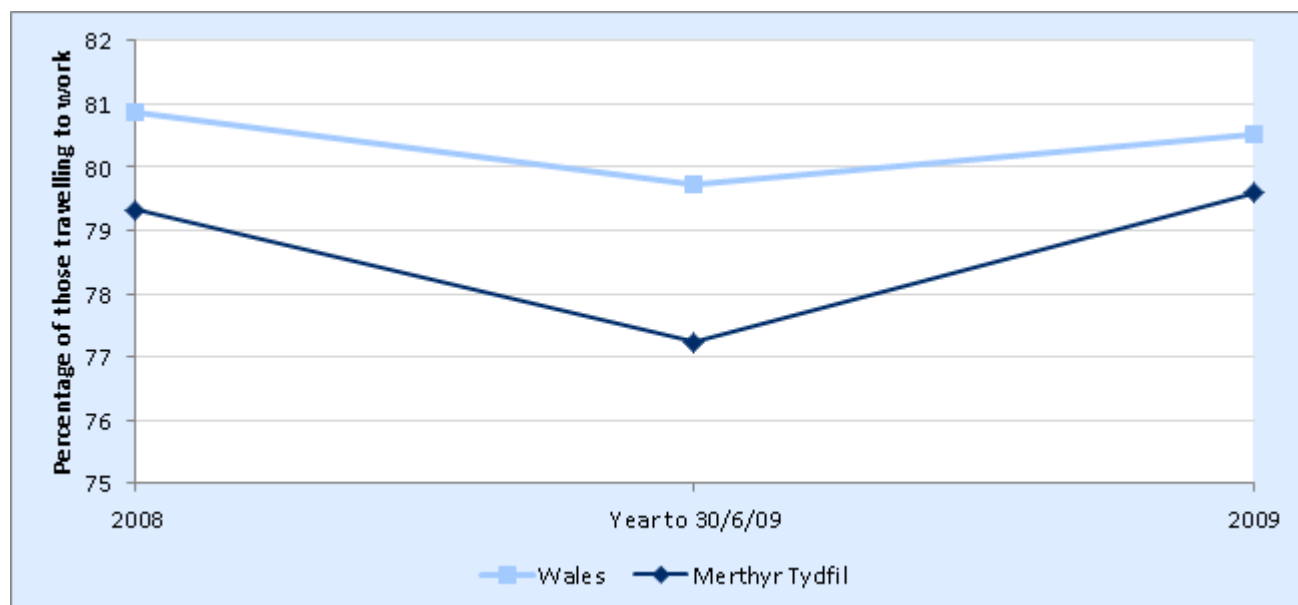
The persons travelling to work by car, van or minibus measure is the percentage of all people who travel to work that travel by car, van or minibus. Figure 6.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 6.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 6.3: Persons travelling to work by car, van or minibus, 2009



Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

Figure 6.4: Persons travelling to work by car, van or minibus, 2008-2009



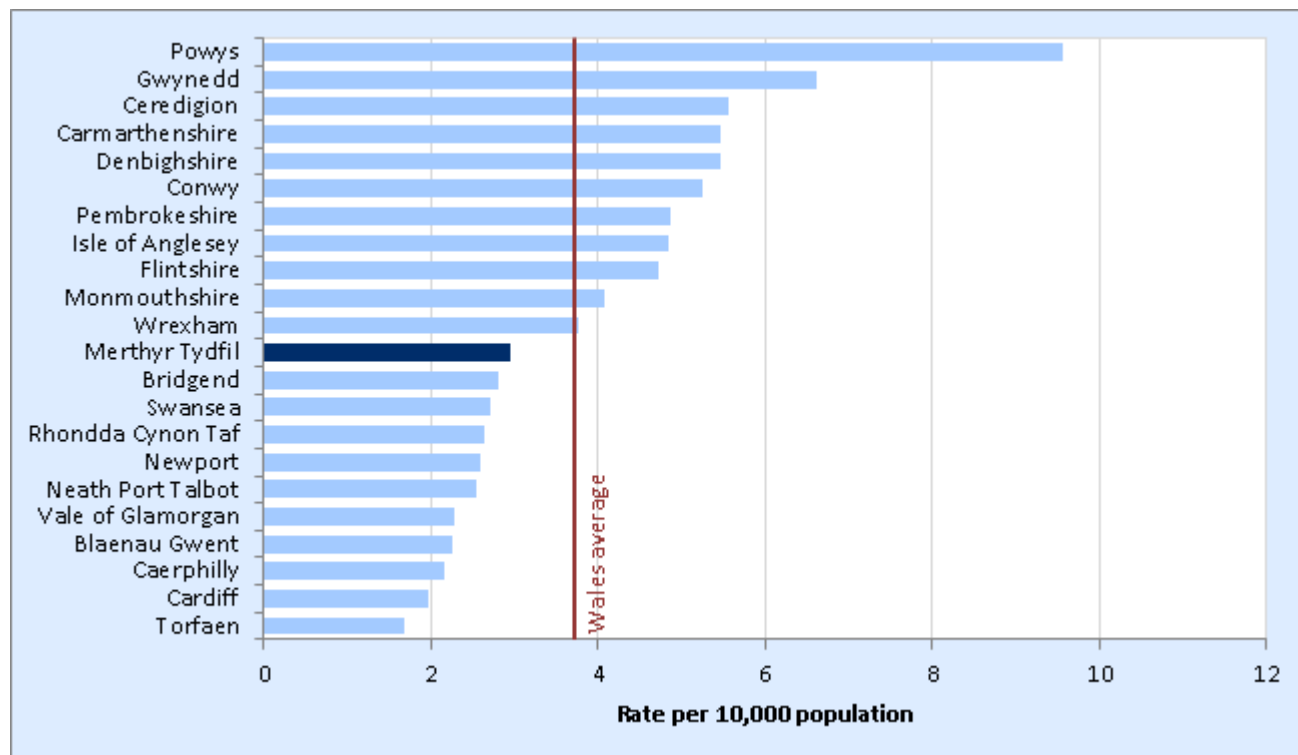
Source: Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics

In 2009, the proportion of people living in Merthyr Tydfil and travelling to work by car, van or minibus was similar to (between 2 percentage points above and 2 points below) the all-Wales average.

6.3 People killed and seriously injured on roads

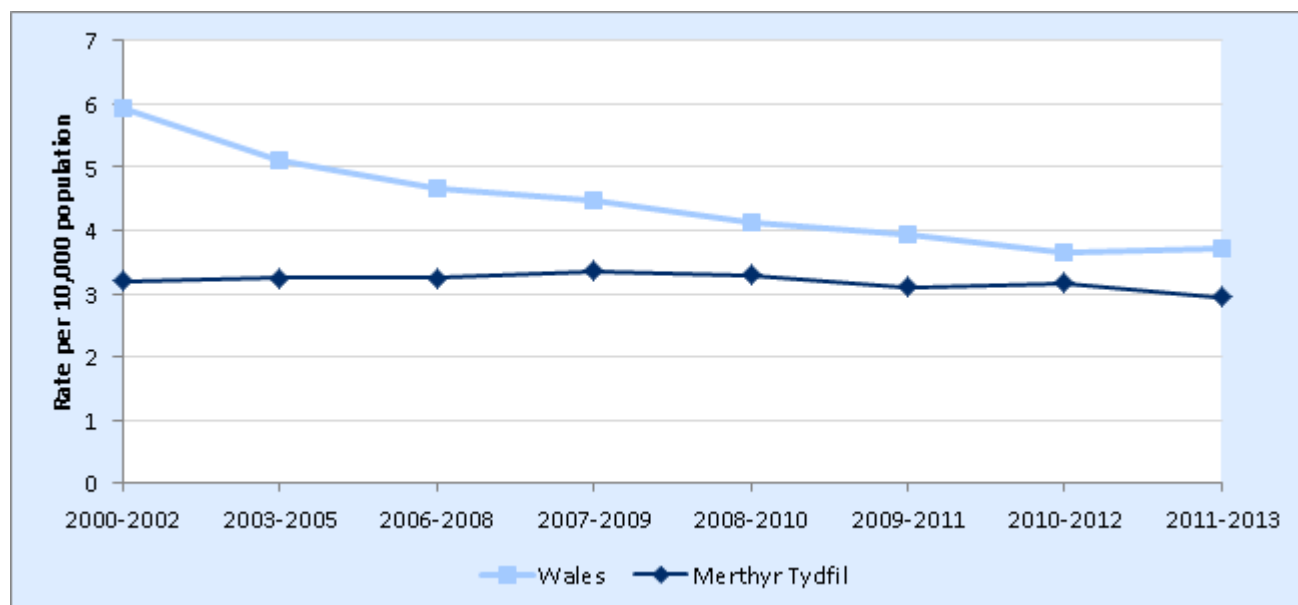
The number of people killed and seriously injured on roads is sourced from road accident and casualty statistics recorded by police authorities. The rate is given per 10,000 population. Figure 6.5 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 6.6 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 6.5: People killed and seriously injured on roads, 2011-13



Source: Police authority data returns to Welsh Government; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

Figure 6.6: People killed and seriously injured on roads, 2000-02 – 2011-13



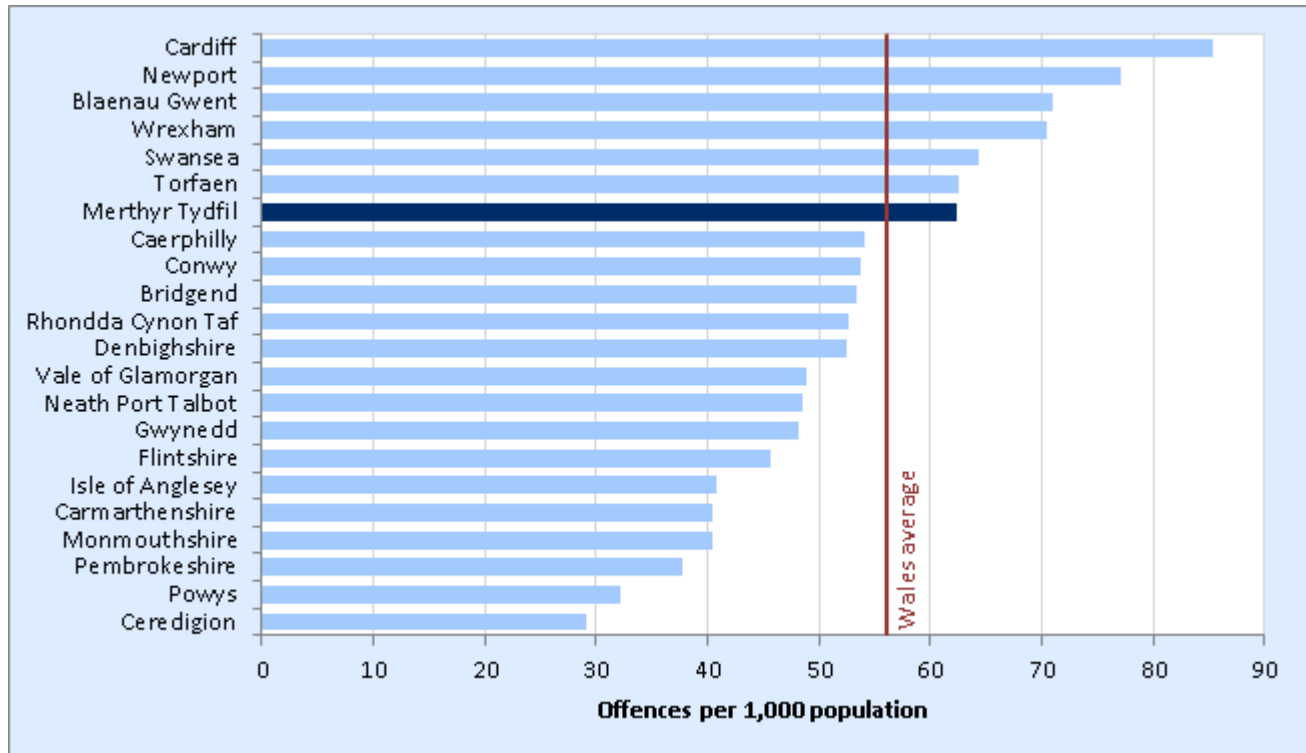
Source: Police authority data returns to Welsh Government; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

In Merthyr Tydfil, the average rate (per head of population) between 2011-13 at which people were killed or seriously injured on roads was below the Wales average.

7.1 Total recorded crime rate

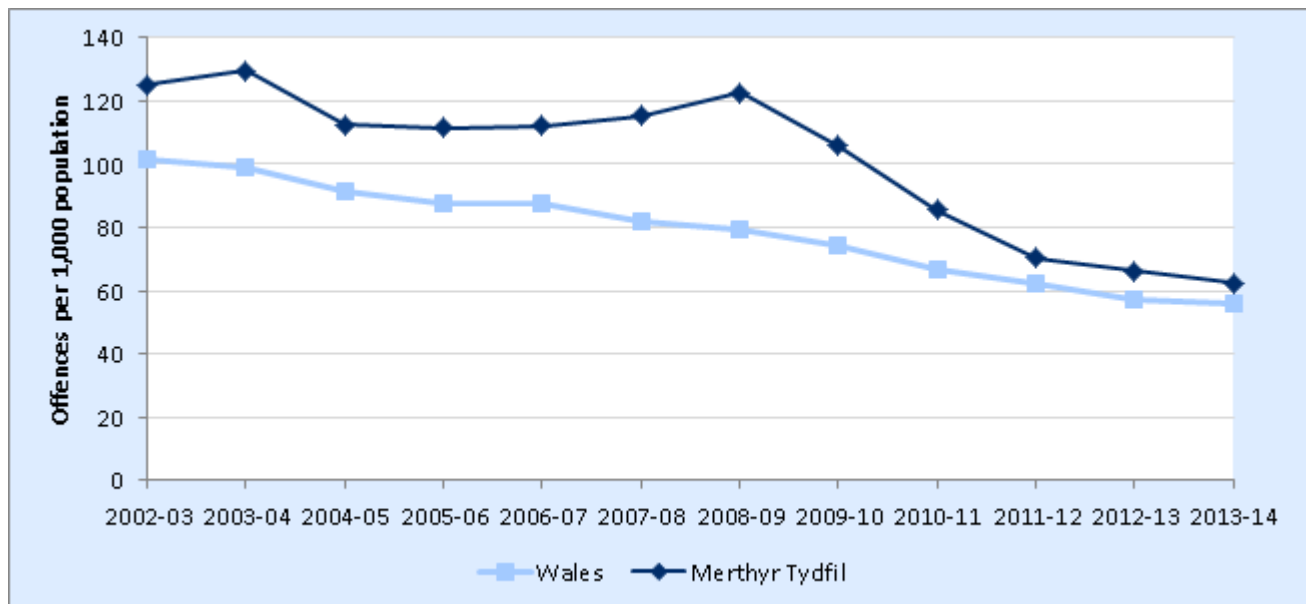
The total recorded crime rate is the total number of offences recorded by the police per 1,000 population. Figure 7.1 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 7.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 7.1: Total recorded crime rate, 2013-14



Source: Home Office Police recorded crime figures, Office for National Statistics

Figure 7.2: Total recorded crime rate, 2002-03 – 2013-14



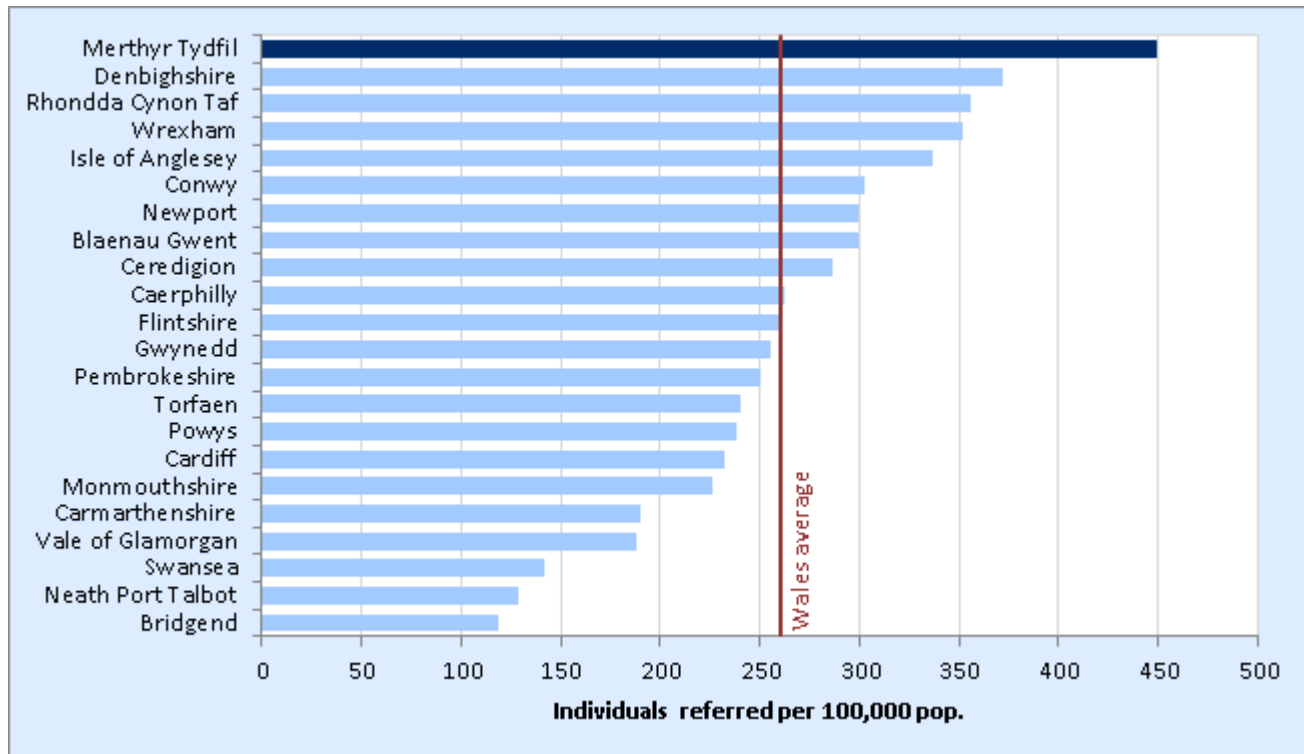
Source: Home Office Police recorded crime figures, Office for National Statistics

Merthyr Tydfil has a crime rate six percentage points higher than the Wales average. It has fallen 50 per cent since 2002-03.

7.2 Rate of individuals referred to treatment for alcohol misuse

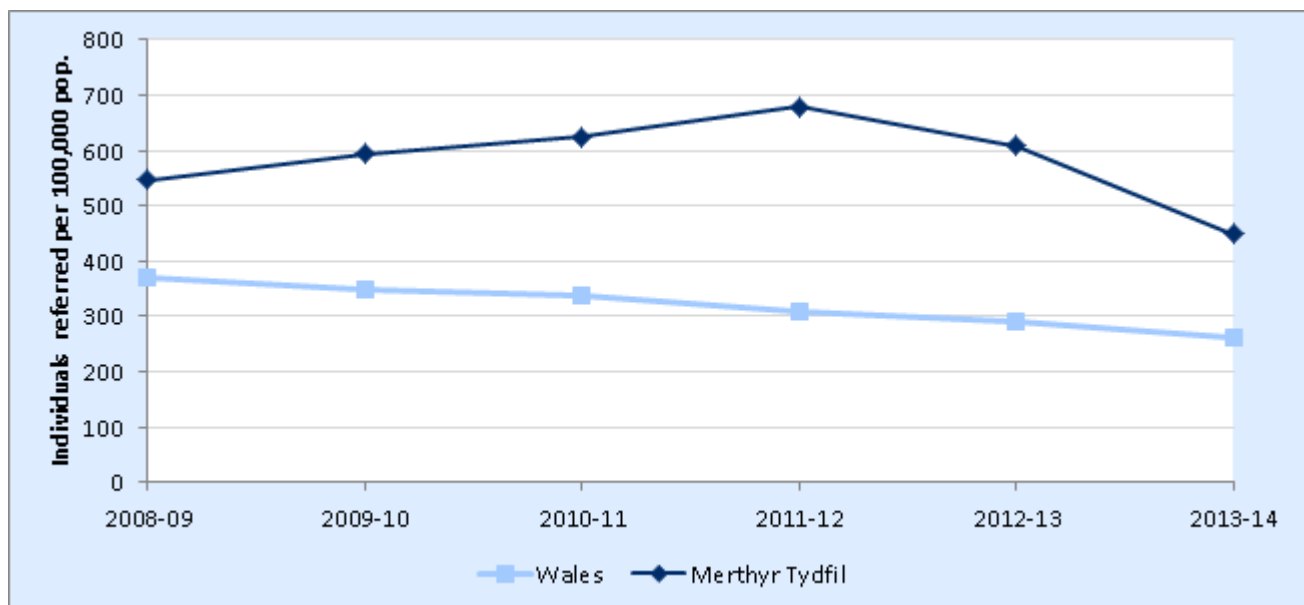
The rate of individuals referred for alcohol misuse is the number of individuals referred to treatment services for main substance alcohol misuse per 100,000 population in the previous year. Individuals receiving multiple referrals are counted only once. Figure 7.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 7.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 7.3: Rate of individuals referred to treatment for alcohol misuse, 2013-14



Source: Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse, NHS Wales Informatics Service; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

Figure 7.4: Rate of individuals referred to treatment for alcohol misuse, 2008-09 – 2013-14



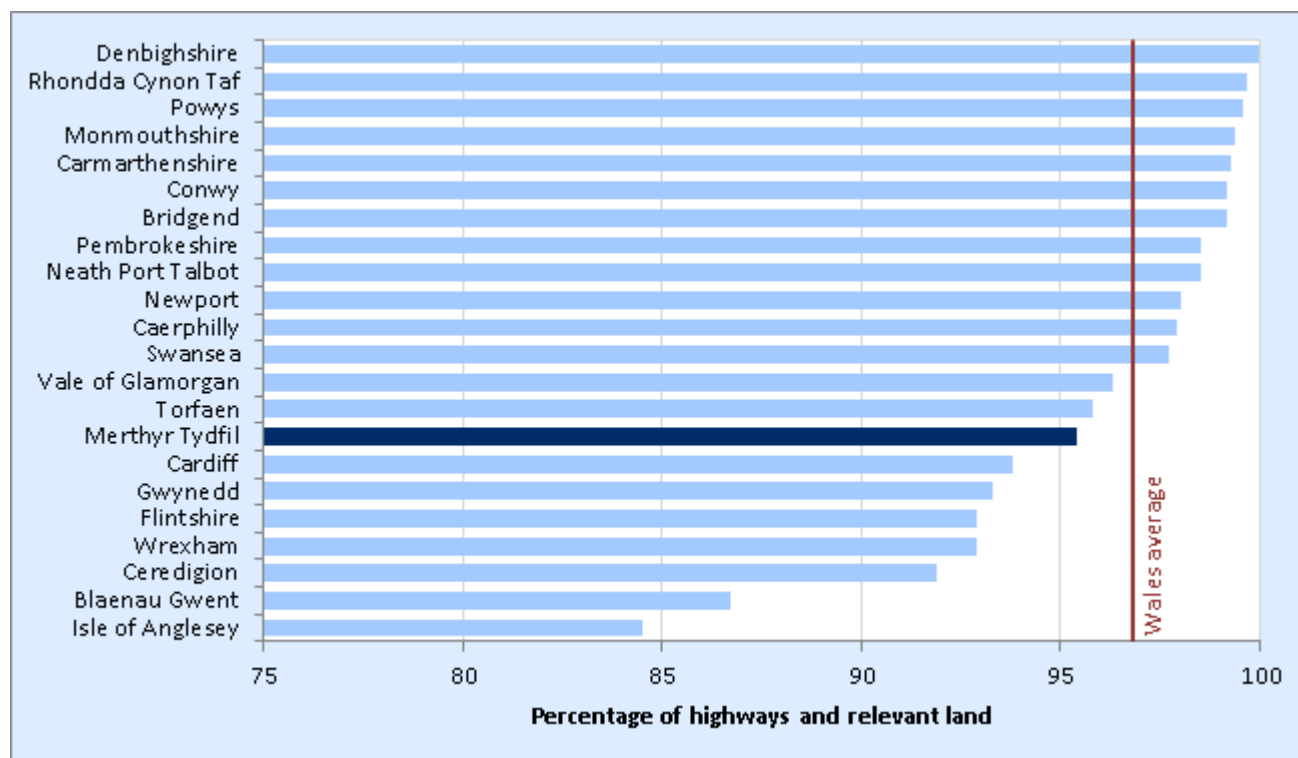
Source: Welsh National Database for Substance Misuse, NHS Wales Informatics Service; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

The estimated number of individuals referred for alcohol treatment in Merthyr was the highest of all authorities in 2013-14.

8.1 Cleanliness rate of highways and relevant land

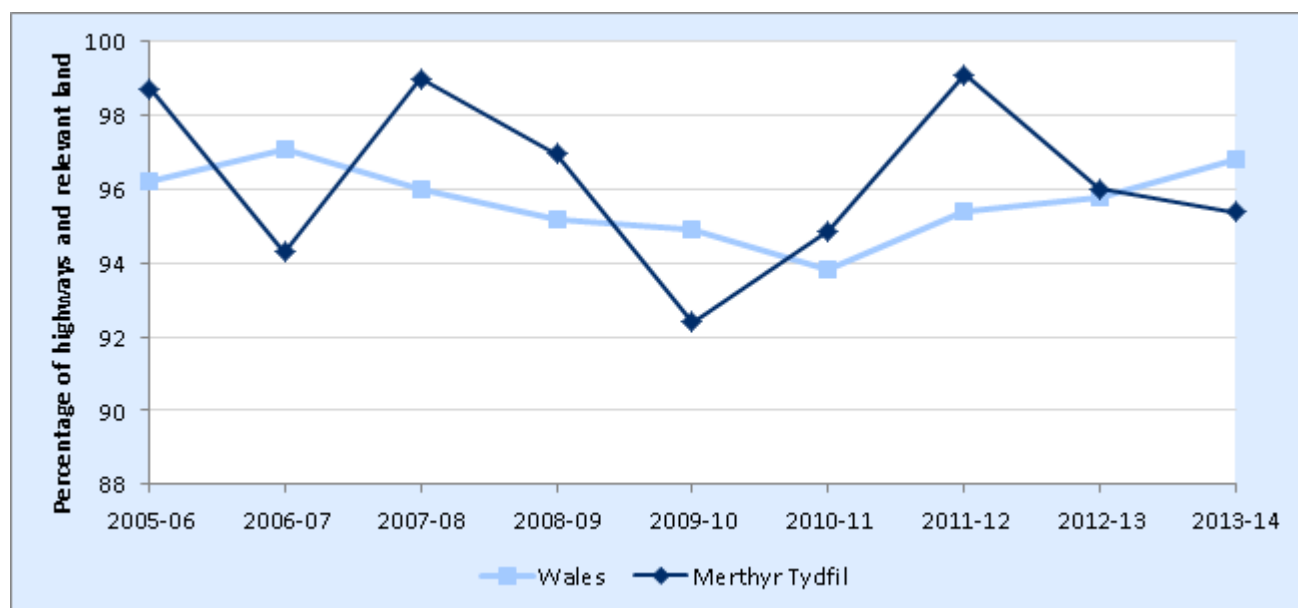
The cleanliness rate measure is the percentage of highways and relevant land inspected that exhibited a high or acceptable level of cleanliness. Figure 8.1 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 8.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. The Welsh average is calculated by considering all the inspections across Wales, although these are disproportionate across local authorities.

Figure 8.1: Cleanliness rate of highways and relevant land, 2013-14



Source: Data Unit Wales

Figure 8.2: Cleanliness rate of highways and relevant land, 2005-06 – 2013-14



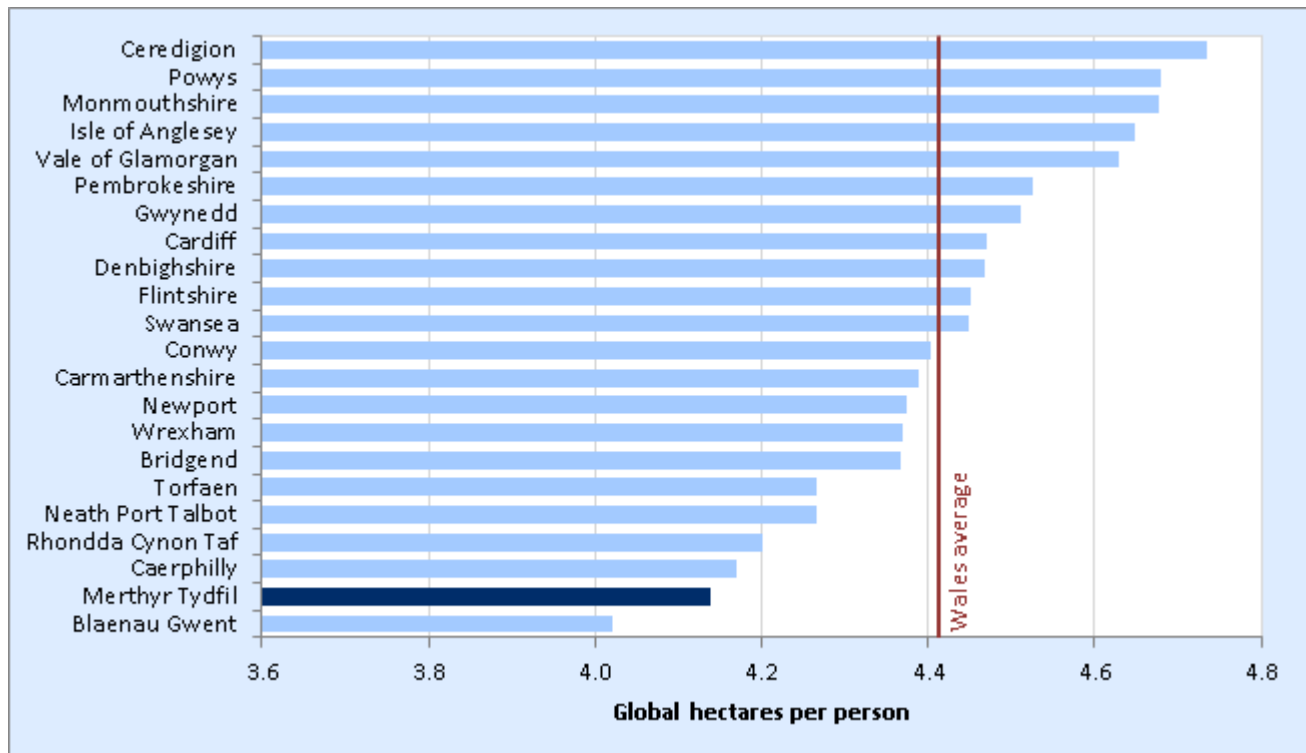
Source: Data Unit Wales

The rate in Merthyr Tydfil has generally been one of the highest among Welsh local authorities since 2005-06, with the exception of 2006-07 and 2009-10, when the rate fell below the average for local authorities in Wales. In 2013-14 the rate once again fell below the Welsh average.

8.2 Ecological footprint

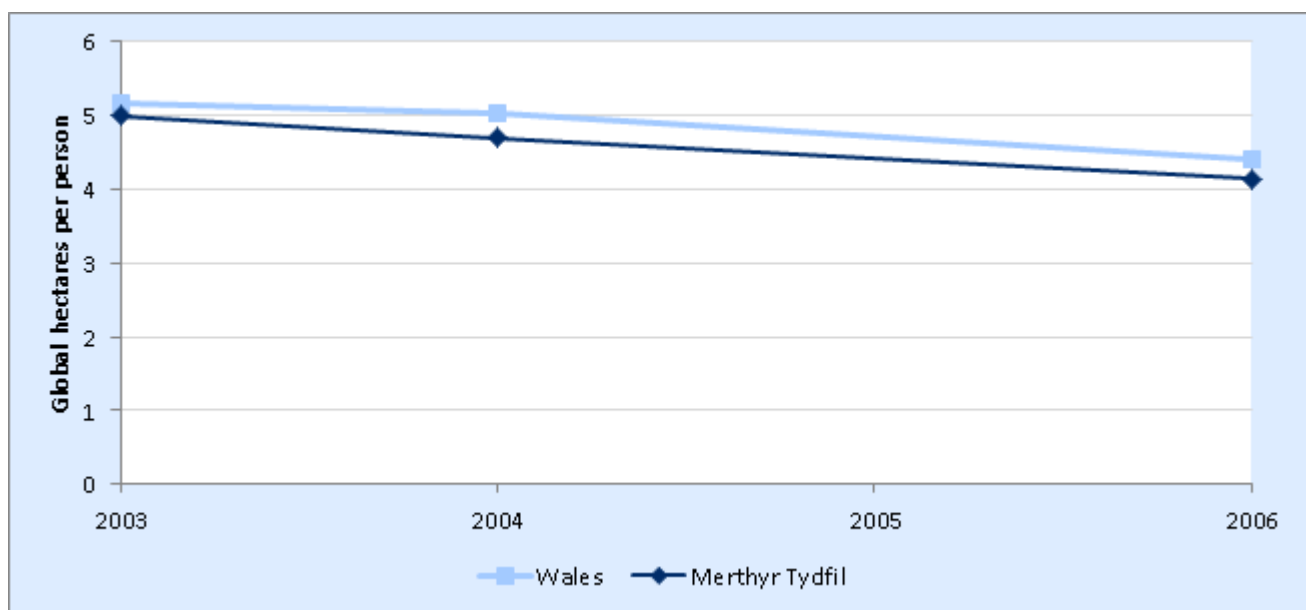
The ecological footprint measures our impact on the Earth. It shows us how much productive land and water that we require to support our current levels of consumption and waste production, measured in global hectares per person. Data show that the ecological footprint for Wales is more than double the resources which are currently available across the world (which is just over two global hectares per person). Figure 8.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 8.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. This indicator is no longer updated.

Figure 8.3: Ecological footprint, 2006



Source: Welsh Government

Figure 8.4: Ecological footprint, 2003-2006



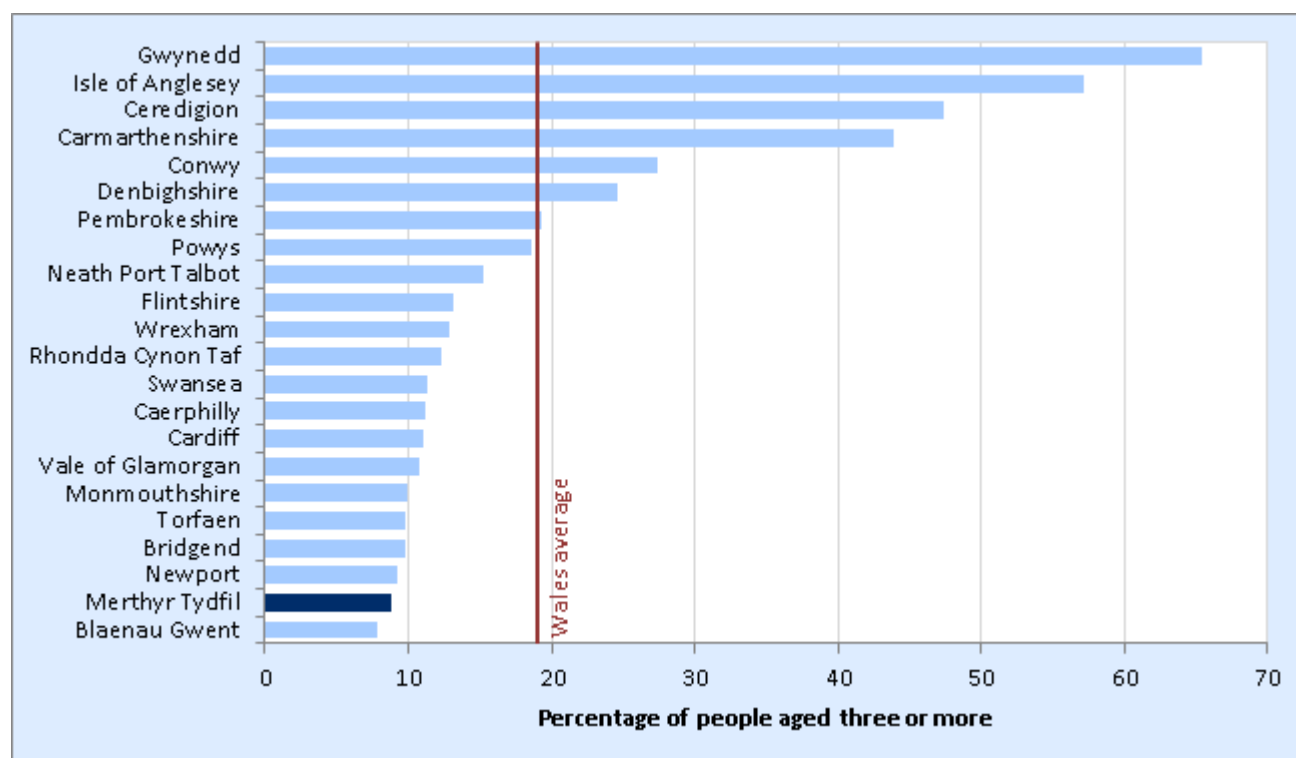
Source: Welsh Government

The ecological footprint in Merthyr Tydfil was the second lowest amongst Welsh local authorities in 2006.

9.1 Welsh speakers

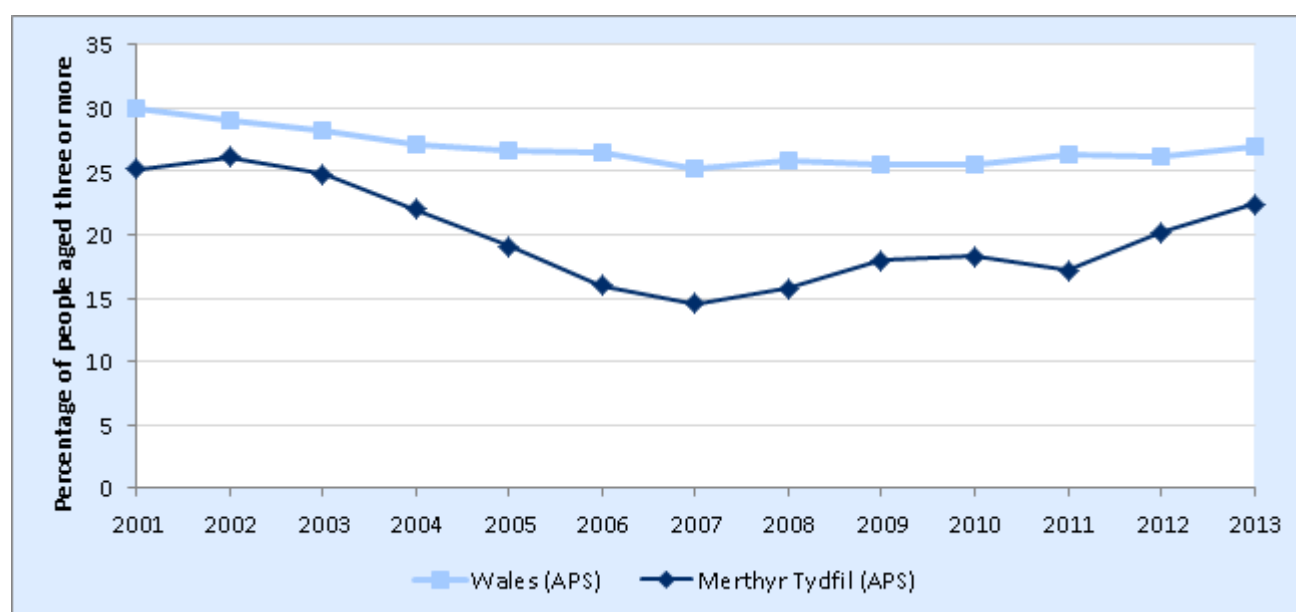
The Welsh speakers measure is the percentage of the population aged three and over who can speak Welsh. Figure 9.1 shows the 2011 Census data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 9.2 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales using Annual Population Survey data. Information on the different sources is available in the key quality information section.

Figure 9.1: Welsh speakers, 2011



Source: 2011 Census

Figure 9.2: Welsh speakers, 2001-2013



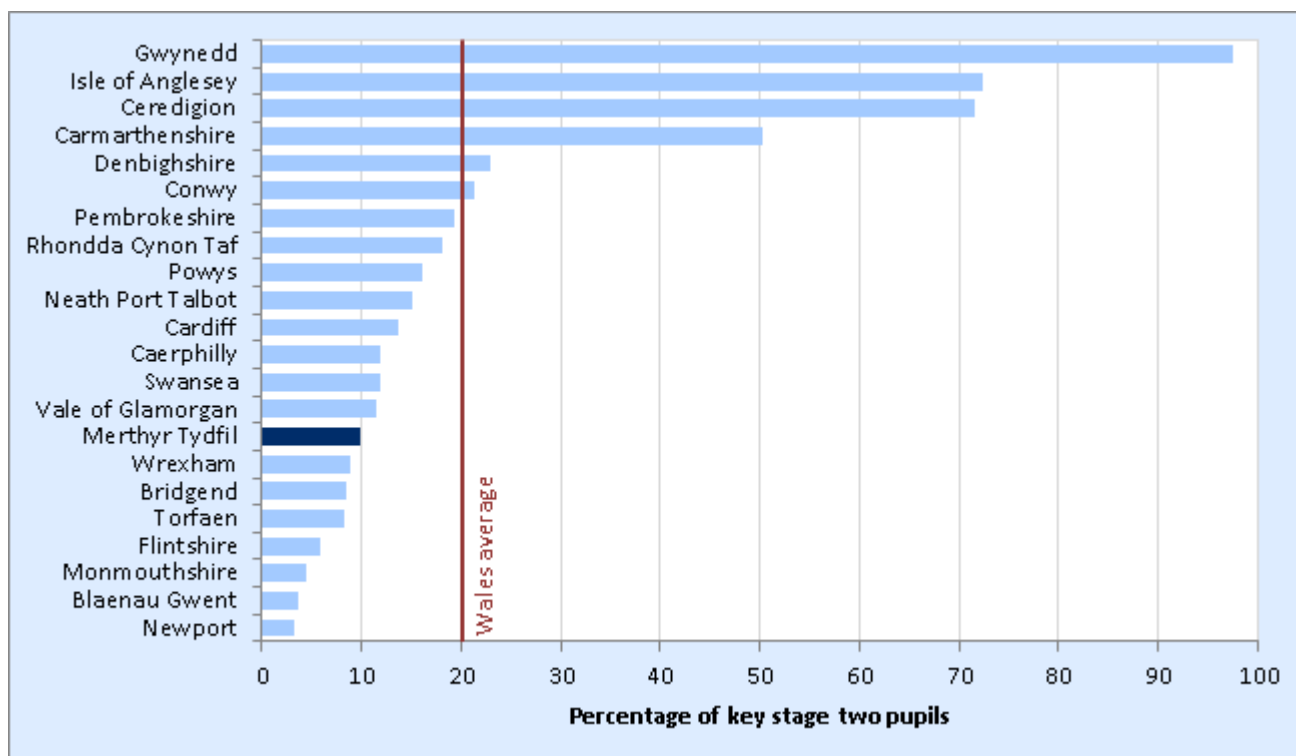
Source: Annual Population Survey

According to the 2011 Census the percentage of people age three and over who spoke Welsh in Merthyr Tydfil was 8.9 per cent, and was the second lowest rate amongst Welsh local authorities.

9.2 Key stage two pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh

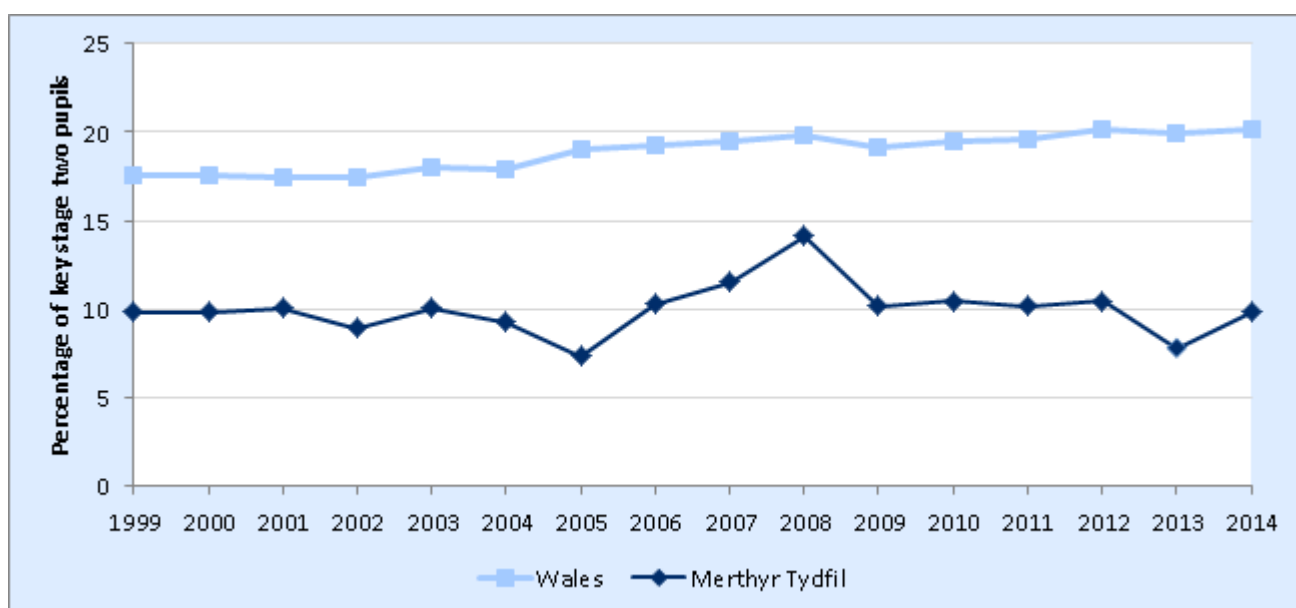
The percentage of key stage two pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh is the percentage of all pupils assessed at the end of year group six who studied Welsh as a first language. Figure 9.3 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 9.4 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. The Welsh average includes data for pupils in independent schools and pupils from a non-English or Welsh-based education system. These pupils are excluded from local authority figures.

Figure 9.3: Key stage two pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh, 2014



Source: National teacher assessment data collection, Welsh Government

Figure 9.4: Key stage two pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh, 1999-2014



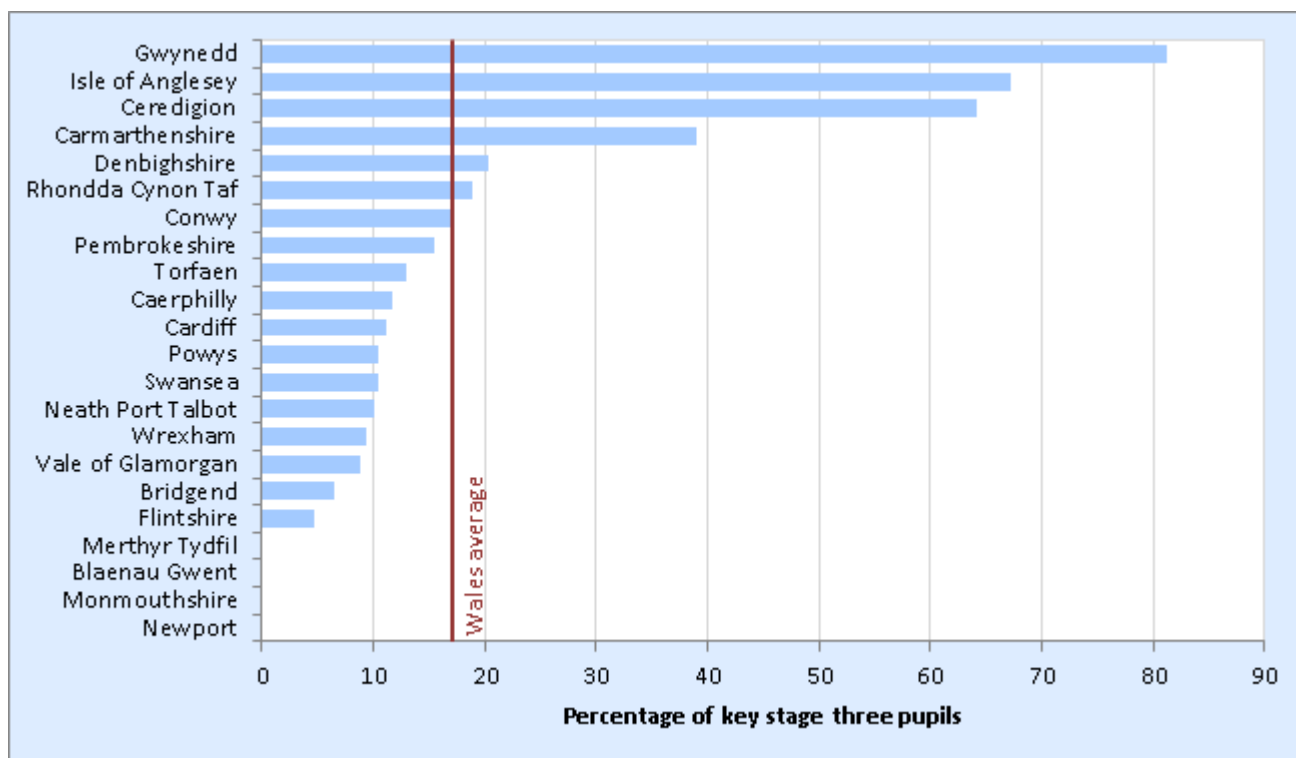
Source: National teacher assessment data collection, Welsh Government

The percentage of pupils assessed in Welsh first language at key stage two has increased by 2.0 percentage points since 2013 but has not changed overall since 1999.

9.3 Key stage three pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh

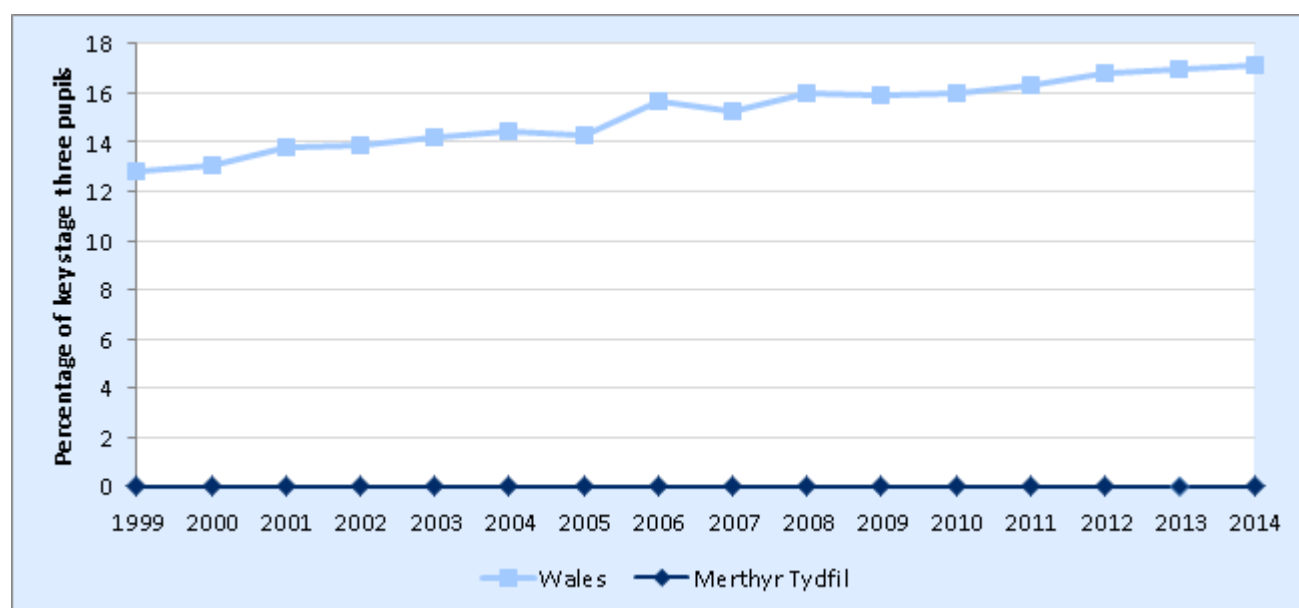
The percentage of key stage three pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh is the percentage of all pupils assessed at the end of year group nine who studied Welsh as a first language. Figure 9.5 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 9.6 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales. The Welsh average includes data for pupils in independent schools and pupils from a non-English or Welsh-based education system. These pupils are excluded from local authority figures.

Figure 9.5: Key stage three pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh, 2014



Source: National teacher assessment data collection, Welsh Government

Figure 9.6: Key stage three pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh, 1999-2014



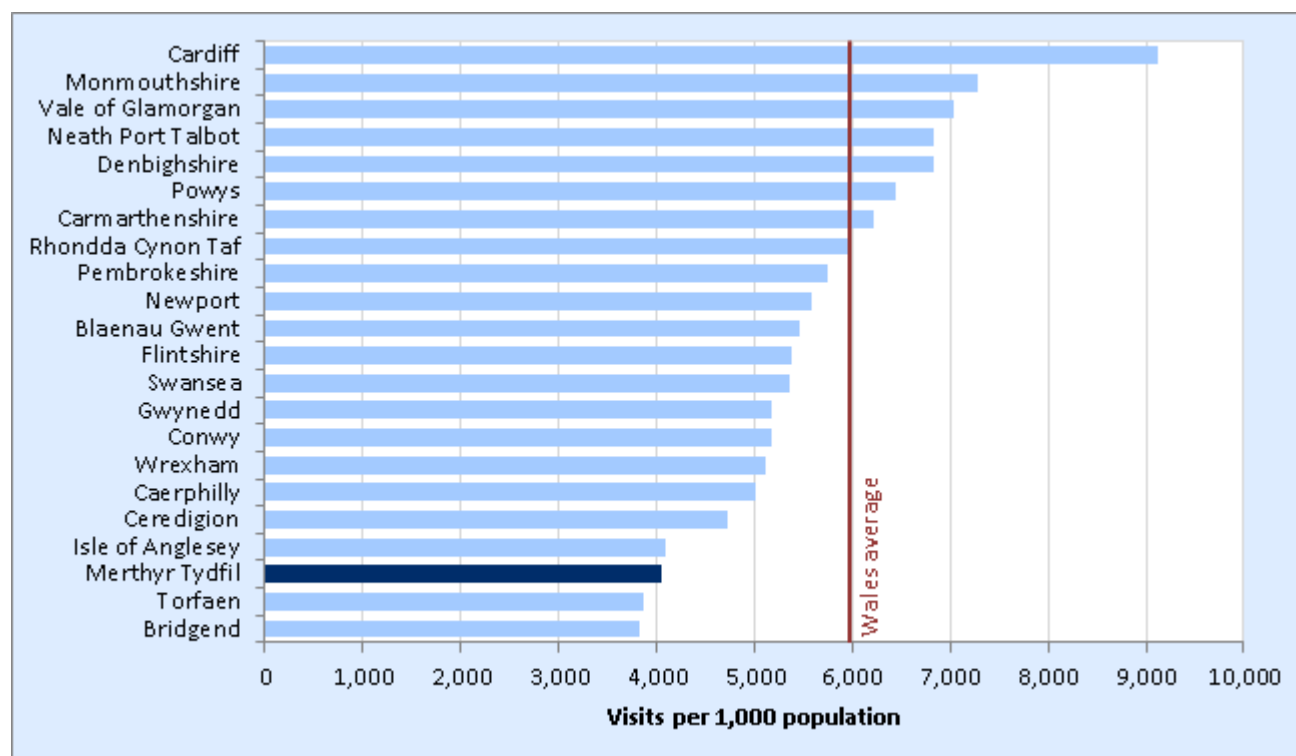
Source: National teacher assessment data collection, Welsh Government

No pupils have been assessed in Welsh first language at key stage three since 1999. Merthyr Tydfil is one of four local authorities where this is the case.

9.4 Visits to public libraries

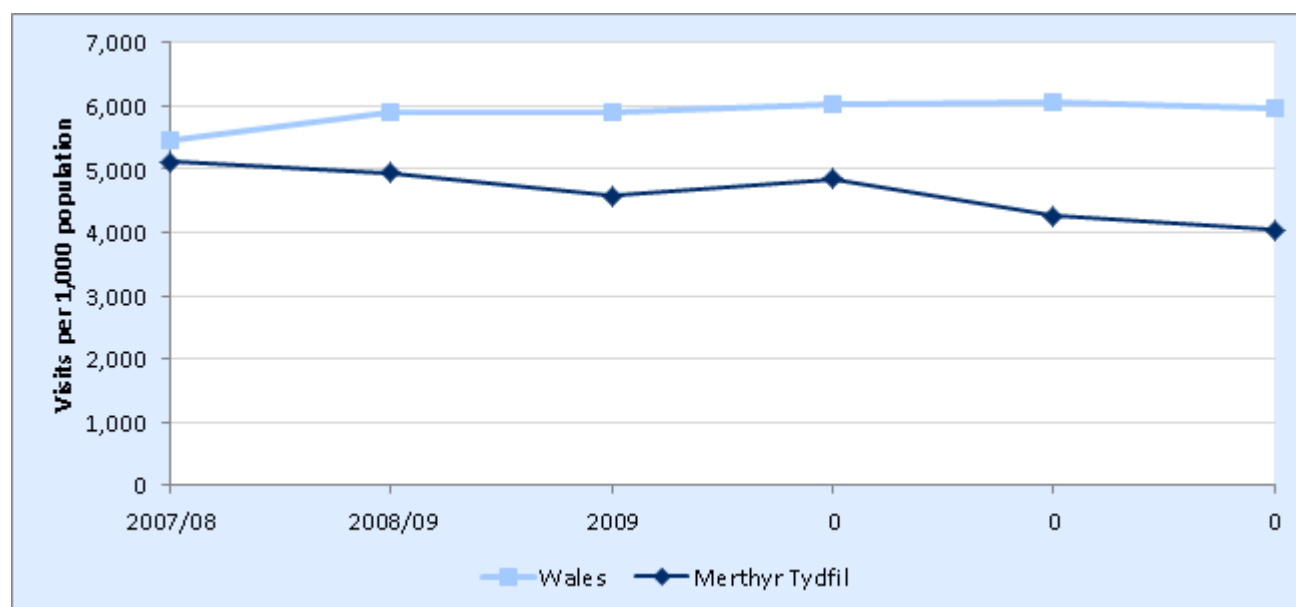
The visits to public libraries measure is the total number of physical and virtual (i.e. on-line) visits to public libraries including mobile libraries per 1,000 population. Figure 9.7 shows the latest data for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 9.8 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 9.7: Visits to public libraries, 2012/13



Source: Local authority data returns to Local Government Data Unit; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

Figure 9.8: Visits to public libraries, 2007/08 – 2012/13



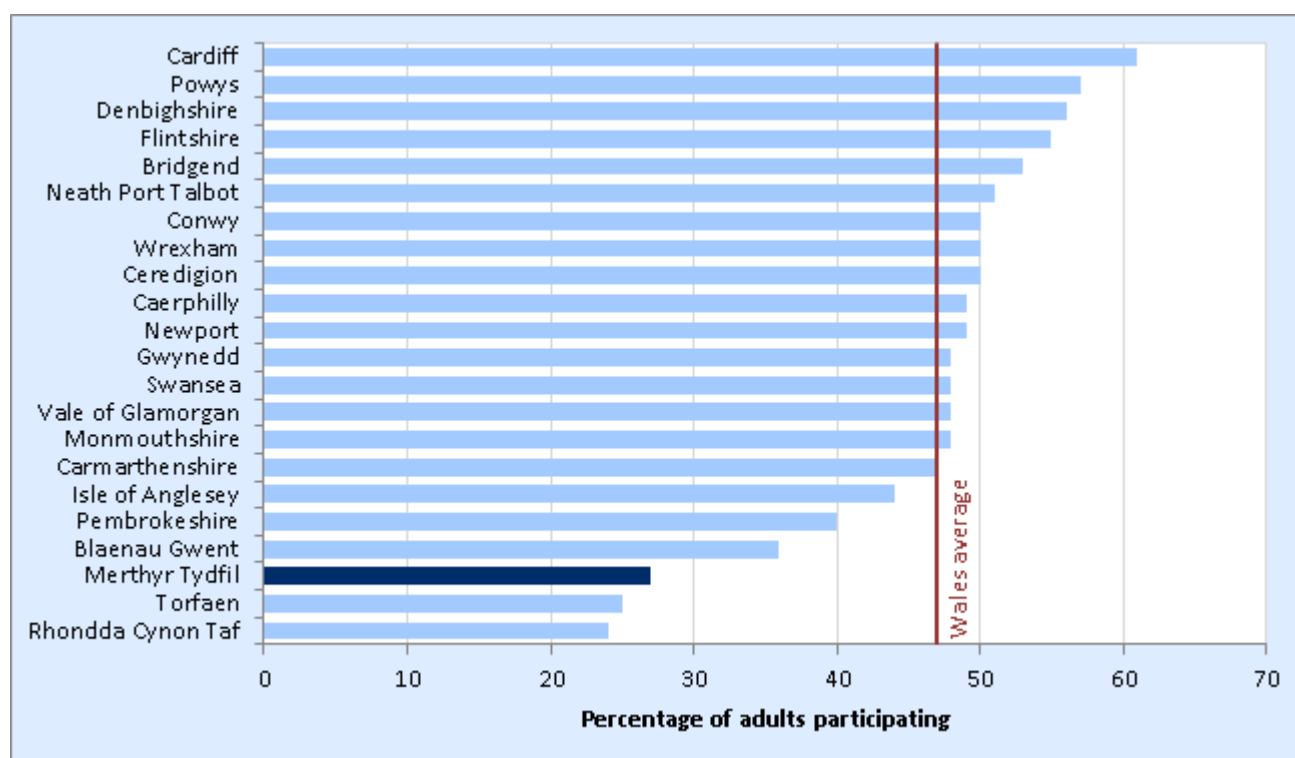
Source: Local authority data returns to Local Government Data Unit; Mid-Year Population Estimates, Office for National Statistics

The number of visits to public libraries in Merthyr Tydfil in 2012/13 was around 4,000 per thousand, which was lower than the Welsh average and was the third lowest local authority rate.

9.5 Regular participation in sport and active recreation

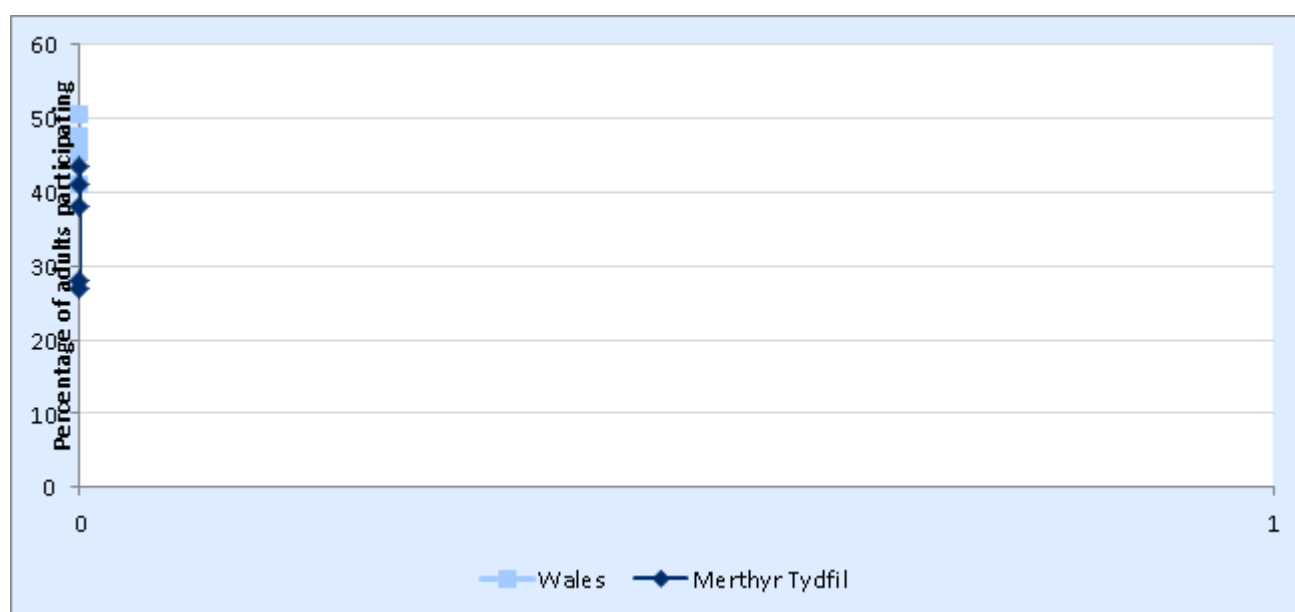
The regular participation in sport and active recreation measure is the percentage of the adult population (aged 15 and over) that reported participation at least once a week on average in the previous four week period. This measure has been superseded by a *hooked on sport* measure, which provides the average number of occasions of participation in sport per week by local authority area. This data can be accessed from the link in Section 10.0. Figure 9.9 shows regular participation data for the period March 2008 to February 2009 for Merthyr Tydfil, relative to the other Welsh local authorities and the Welsh average. Figure 9.10 shows the change over time in Merthyr Tydfil compared to the change in Wales.

Figure 9.9: Regular participation in sport and active recreation, period March 2008 - February 2009



Source: Active Adults Survey, Sports Council for Wales

Figure 9.10: Regular participation in sport and active recreation, 1998/99 – 2008/09



Source: Adult's Sport and Physical Activity Participation Survey (1998/99-2004/05)
Active Adults Survey (2008/09), Sports Council for Wales

The percentage of adults who regularly participated in sport and active recreation in Merthyr Tydfil in 2008/09 was 27 per cent (a decrease from 2004/05), and was one of the lowest rates amongst Welsh local authorities. Since 1998/99 the figures have been below the Welsh average. The sampling method of the Active Adults Survey changed from a quota sample to a random probability sample in 2008/09, so care should be taken when making comparisons with previous years.

10.0 Key quality information

This document is a compendium of existing published statistics and is updated in-line with updates to the source statistics. Almost all of the statistics included are official statistics published by the Welsh Government, the National Health Service, or other central government departments. However, as the statistics are not all classified as National Statistics, this document is not itself a National Statistic.

Key quality information and more detail behind each of the datasets provided in this publication can be obtained via the following links.

Indicator	Link to Source and Quality Information
2.1 Employment rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/?topic=Business+and+economy&lang=en
2.2 Gross value added per head	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/?topic=Business+and+economy&lang=en
2.3 Gross disposable household income per head	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/regional-gross-disposable-household-income/?lang=en
2.4 Average gross weekly full-time earnings	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/?topic=Business+and+economy&lang=en
2.5 Children living in workless households rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/labour-market-statistics-households/?lang=en
2.6 General economic assessment	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/regional-economic-labour-market-profiles/?lang=en
3.1 Male life expectancy	http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lifetables/national-life-tables/2011-2013/stb-uk-2011-2013.html
3.2 Female life expectancy	http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lifetables/national-life-tables/2011-2013/stb-uk-2011-2013.html
3.3 Adult obesity rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/welsh-health-survey/?lang=en
3.4 Adult smoking rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/welsh-health-survey/?lang=en
3.5 Under 18 conception rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/teenage-conceptions/?lang=en
3.6 Mental component summary score	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/welsh-health-survey/?lang=en
3.7 Older people supported in the community	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/adults-services-performance-management-data-collection/?lang=en
	https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Social-Services/Adult-Services/Service-Provision/AdultsReceivingServices-by-LocalAuthority-Measure

Indicator	Link to Source and Quality Information
3.8 Looked after children with three or more placements in year	http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/local-authority-performance See <i>Public Accountability Measures Guidance</i> at link
3.9 Low birth weight babies	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/births-infant-mortality/?lang=en http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/vsob1/characteristics-of-birth-1--england-and-wales/2012/index.html
3.10 Uptake rate for primary MMR vaccine at age two	http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=457&pid=27778
3.11 Average dmft score for five year old children	http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/dentl/research/themes/appliedclinicalresearch/epidemiology/oralhealth/index.html
4.1 Working age adults with no qualifications	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/levels-highest-qualification-held-working-age-adults/?lang=en
4.2 Working age adults with qualifications at NQF level four or above	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/levels-highest-qualification-held-working-age-adults/?lang=en
4.3 Secondary school pupil attendance rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/absenteeism-secondary-schools/?lang=en
4.4 Average wider points score for 15 year olds	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/examination-results/?lang=en
4.5 Core subject indicator attainment at key stage two	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/end-foundation-phase-outcomes-national-curriculum-teacher-assessment-core-subjects-key-stages-2-3/?lang=en
5.1 Rate of households for whom homelessness was accepted	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/homelessness/?lang=en http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/household-estimates/?lang=en
5.2 Additional affordable housing provision rate	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/affordable-housing-provision/?lang=en http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/household-estimates/?lang=en
6.1 Principal (A) roads in poor condition	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/road-lengths-conditions/?lang=en
6.2 Persons travelling to work by car, van or minibus	http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lmac/commuting-to-work/2011/index.html
6.3 People killed and seriously injured on roads	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/road-safety/?lang=en http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/welsh-transport-statistics/?lang=en

Indicator	Link to Source and Quality Information
7.1 Total recorded crime rate	http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/period-ending-march-2014/stb-crime-stats.html
7.2 Rate of individuals referred to treatment for alcohol misuse <i>See table note a</i>	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/substance-misuse/?lang=en
8.1 Cleanliness rate of highways and relevant land	http://www.dataunitwales.gov.uk/local-authority-performance See <i>Public Accountability Measures Guidance</i> at link
8.2 Ecological footprint	https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Environment-and-Countryside/State-of-the-Environment/Addressing-Climate-Change
9.1 Welsh speakers <i>See table note b</i>	https://statswales.wales.gov.uk/Catalogue/Welsh-Language
9.2 Key stage two pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/national-curriculum-teacher-assessments-non-core-subjects/?lang=en
9.3 Key stage three pupils receiving teacher assessment in Welsh	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/national-curriculum-teacher-assessments-non-core-subjects/?lang=en
9.4 Visits to public libraries <i>See table note c</i>	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/national-strategic-indicators-data-collection/?lang=en
9.5 Regular participation in sport and active recreation	http://www.sportwales.org.uk/research--policy/surveys-and-statistics/active-adults-survey.aspx
n/a Population data used as a denominator for many of the indicators	http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/mid-year-estimates-population/?lang=en

- (a) In Abertawe Bro-Morgannwg University area (Swansea, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend), the number of individuals referred to treatment services is lower as they report on a client not referral based system; work is ongoing to ensure that it is consistently recorded across Wales.
- (b) There are currently two main sources for Welsh language data - the decennial Census and the Annual Population Survey providing less detail but more frequent annual updates. The APS estimates of Welsh language ability are historically considerably higher than those produced by the Census. Potential reasons for this are explored in a research paper by ONS at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/census/census-2001/data-and-products/data-and-product-catalogue/reports/report-on-the-welsh-language/differences-in-estimates-of-welsh-language-skills.pdf>.
- (c) There is more than one source of data for visits to public libraries. This report uses the National Strategic Indicator data as its source. Previous versions of this report included 2009-10 figures from the CIPFA source. This data has now been amended so that all data is sourced from the National Strategic Indicators. The 2009-10 and 2010-11 data is based on a sample week aggregated to 52 weeks. The 2011-12 data is based on a sample week aggregated to 50 weeks.