

Section 4.2a

Title: Draft 1 Working Households

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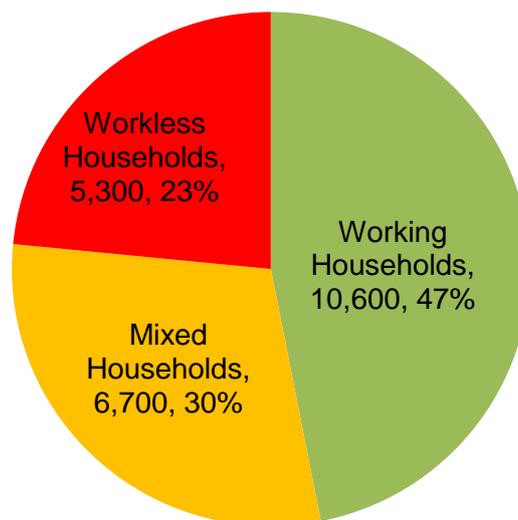
1. Overview

Working households are those where all people aged 16 – 64 are working; mixed households are where some people aged 16 -64 are in employment and others are not working; and workless households are those where all people aged 16 -64 are unemployed or economically inactive.

Figure W1 shows the household status of working age people (aged 16 - 64) in Blaenau Gwent as at 31 December 2015. The majority of households, 77% have at least some of the residents in employment i.e. 47% working households and 30% mixed. There are 23% workless households.

Figure W1:

Household Status 2015, Blaenau Gwent With At Least One Person of Working Age



Source: Annual Population Survey 2015

2. Story behind the data

Workless Households

Figure W2: shows that the percentage of workless households in the Gwent region in 2015 ranged from 10.8% in Monmouthshire to 23.6% in Blaenau Gwent. The authority also has the 3rd highest rate of 22 local authorities in Wales. The overall rate at a Wales level is 18.3%.

Figure W2

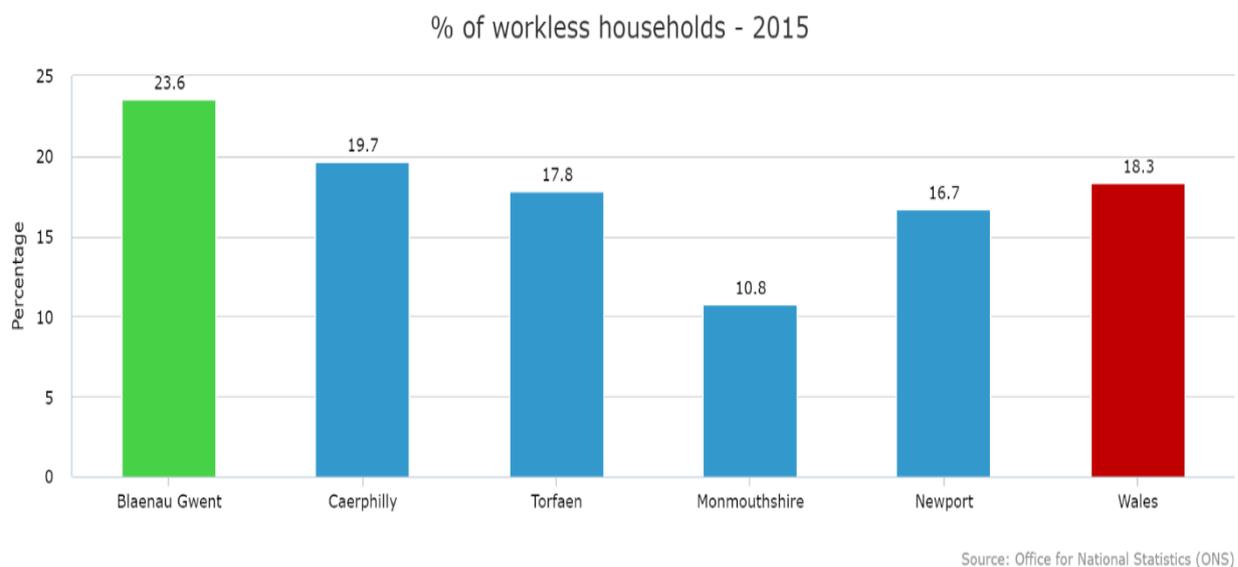
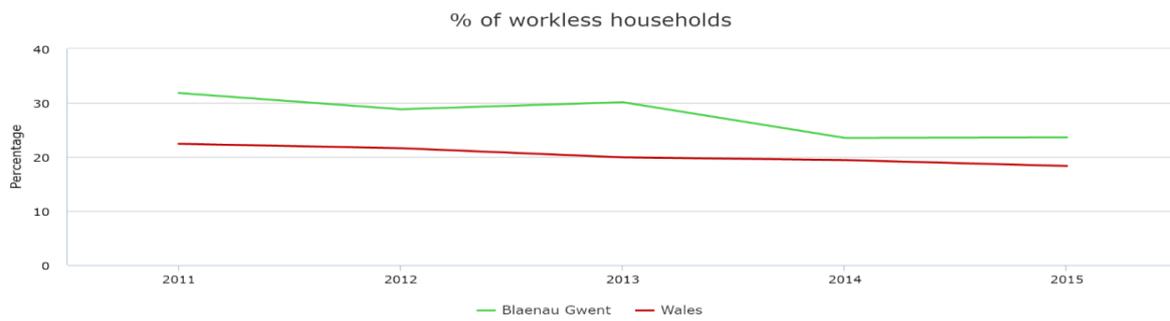


Figure W3 shows the percentage of workless households over the period 2011 to 2015. Blaenau Gwent saw a decrease of 8.2% points, compared with a decrease of 4.1% points for Wales over the same period.

Figure W3

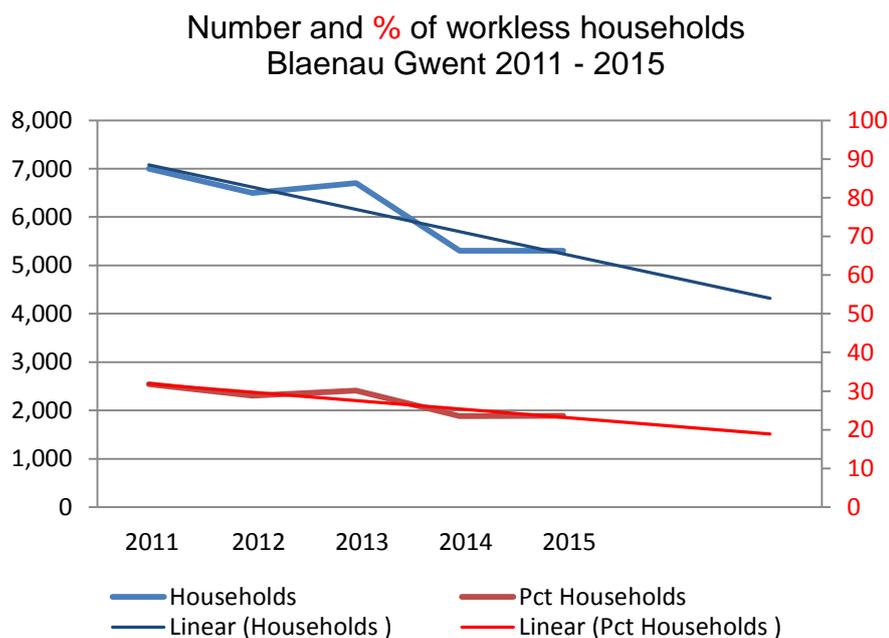


	Blaenau Gwent	Wales
2011	31.8	22.4
2012	28.8	21.6
2013	30.1	19.9
2014	23.5	19.4
2015	23.6	18.3

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Figure W4 shows the extent to which both the number and percentage of workless households has reduced in Blaenau Gwent since 2011, from 7,000 to 5,300 and from 31.8% to 23.6% respectively. Based on the trajectory of the recent trend the reduction in workless households should continue over the next few years.

Figure W4:



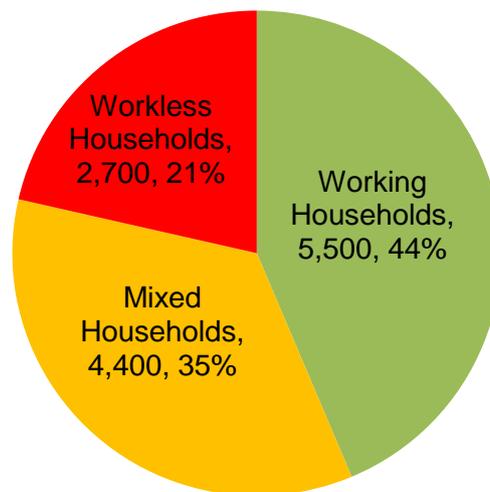
Dependent Children Household Status

What do we know about the economic well-being of young people in Blaenau Gwent?

Figure W5 shows the number and percentage of dependent children (aged 0 – 15) per household status in Blaenau Gwent in 2015. The majority of dependent children, 79%, live in a household with at least some of working age in employment i.e. 44% working households and 35% mixed. There are 21% living in workless households.

Figure W5:

Dependent Children, 2015 in Blaenau Gwent Living in Household With At Least One Person of Working Age



Source: Annual Population Survey 2015

As shown in Figure W6 the percentage of children in the Gwent region living in workless households in 2015 ranged from 6.6% in Monmouthshire to 21.6% in Blaenau Gwent. The authority also had the 3rd highest rate of 22 local authorities in Wales. The overall rate at a Wales level in 2015 was 13.6%.

Figure W6

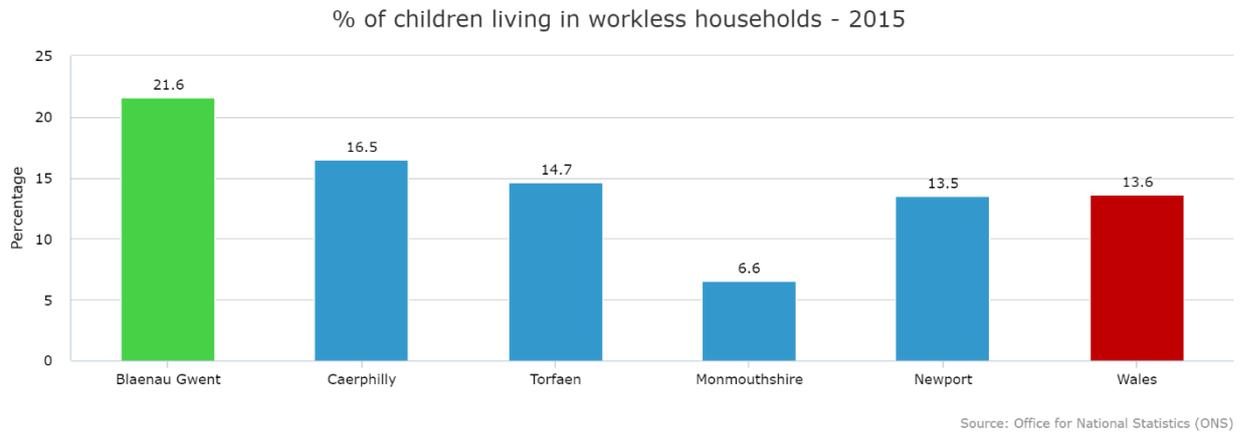
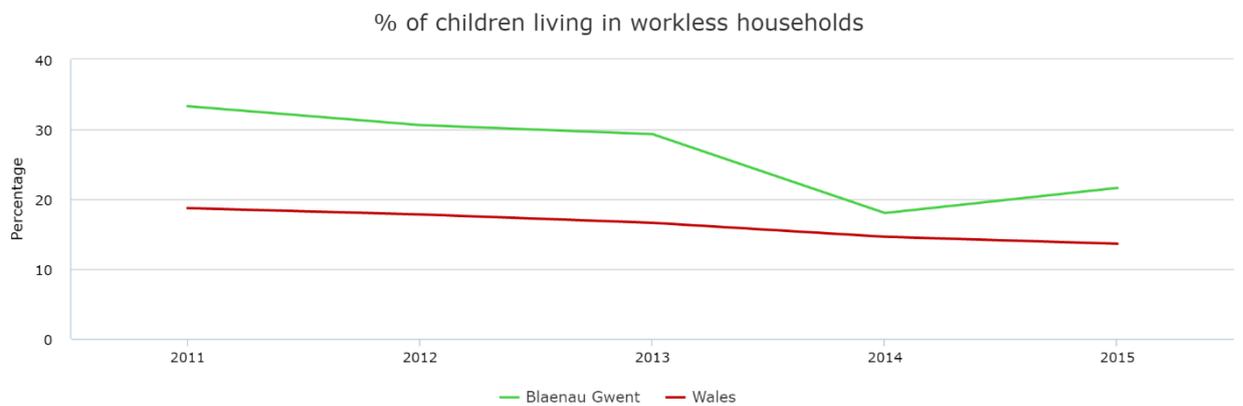


Figure W7 shows the percentage of children living in workless households between 2011 and 2015. Blaenau Gwent saw a decrease of 11.7 percentage points over the period. This compared with a decrease of 5.1 percentage points for Wales over the same period.

Figure W7

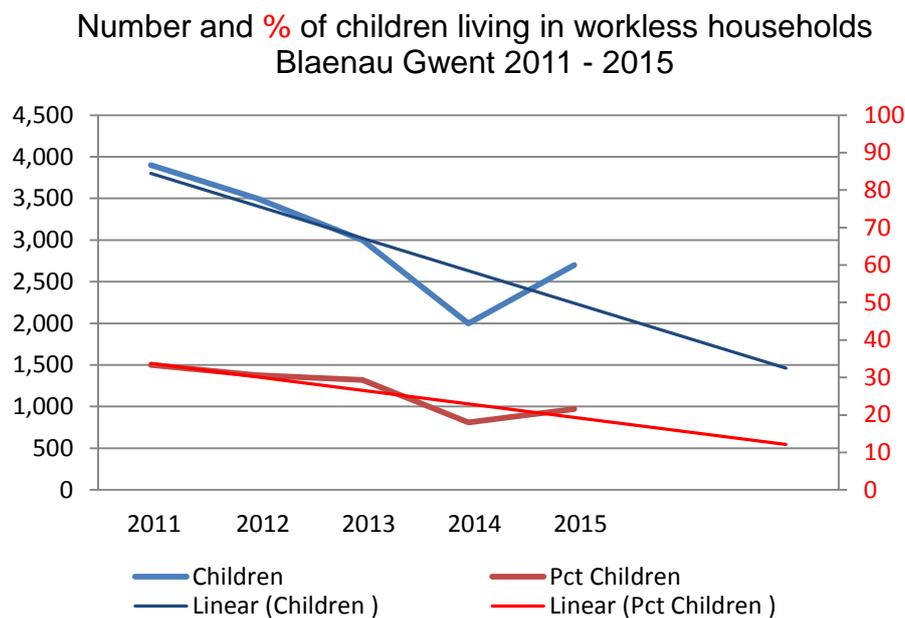


	Blaenau Gwent	Wales
2011	33.3	18.7
2012	30.6	17.8
2013	29.3	16.6
2014	18.0	14.6
2015	21.6	13.6

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Figure W8 shows the extent to which both the number and percentage of children living in workless households has reduced in Blaenau Gwent since 2011, from 3,900 to 2,700 and from 33.3% to 21.6% respectively. Based on the trajectory of the recent trend the reduction in children living in workless households should reduce over the next few years.

Figure W8:



3. What we know from engagement



During the Blaenau Gwent We Want Engagement exercise, the partnership undertook and attended numerous engagement activities and events throughout the borough to gather people's views.

Residents also took part via the Blaenau Gwent We Want Facebook page and partnership websites. Links to an online questionnaire were also distributed to many residents known to the partnership, such as members of the Blaenau Gwent Citizen Panel.

Residents were encouraged via the methods above to answer a range of questions that sought to capture:

- Citizen values, aspirations and priorities;
- Citizen needs – insight into the needs they and their communities encounter within daily life and what the best solutions may be and
- Citizen assets – what people can and already contribute themselves such as self-care, citizen and community action and volunteering.

These questions were:

Q1. What do you think is special about BG?

Q2. What things are important to you to live well and enjoy life?

Q3. What would make BG a better place?

Q4. What can you do to help make BG a better place?

Approximately 1,000 residents were engaged with (across all groups) during the engagement phase providing more than 2,600 'statements' in response to the 4 questions mentioned. Statements were categorised within a main theme and also a topic area.

For '**Employment and Income**' as a main theme this yielded:

- the 4th highest number, 193 or 7% of all statements.
- The highest number of statements, 56 or 14% in response to 'What things are important to you to live well and enjoy life?'
- The 3rd highest number of statements, 130 or 8% in response to 'What would make BG a better place?'

For **‘Availability of Employment and Income’** as a topic area this yielded:

- The 2nd highest number, 32 or 8% of statements in response to ‘What things are important to you to live well and enjoy life?’
- The 3rd highest number of statements, 61 or 4% in response to ‘What would make BG a better place?’

Where respondents provided a more specific response in relation to availability of employment and income, the following ‘wordle’ or ‘word cloud’ was produced. ‘Wordles’ give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently as a response. This shows that ‘more jobs’ figures prominently.



4. What we know from existing research

Research to date has mainly focussed on information sourced from the Local Government Data Unit and other public domain sources. Further research will be conducted depending on the priorities set by the Public Service Board on the 21s March 2017 to inform the response analysis element.

5. What this tells us about Well-being in Blaenau Gwent

The majority of households with working age residents in Blaenau Gwent, 77%, are 'working' or 'mixed' households, where some or all are in employment. The remaining 23% or 5,300 are workless households.

The authority has the 3rd highest rate of workless households of 22 local authorities in Wales and compares with the overall rate at a Wales level of 18.3%. However, 8.2% or 1,700 less households are workless in the authority since 2011, narrowing the gap between local and national levels. The trajectory of the recent trend suggests a further reduction in workless households over the next few years.

The majority of dependent children, 79%, live in working or mixed household with 21% or 2,700 living in a workless household, the 3rd highest rate in Wales. The overall rate for Wales is 13.6%.

However, 11.7% or 1,200 less dependent children live in workless households in the authority compared to 2011, narrowing the gap between local and national levels. The trajectory of the recent trend suggests a further reduction of children living in workless households.

In a recent series of engagement activities and events throughout the borough to gather people's views on the 'Blaenau Gwent We Want' 'Employment and Income' as a main theme yielded a notable number of responses, and in particular for 'what things are important to you to live well and enjoy life', which received the highest number of responses.

Where respondents provided a more specific response in relation to availability of employment and income, 'more jobs' figured prominently.