

July 2019



**WARRINGTON**  
Borough Council

# **Economic Profile**

**July 2019**

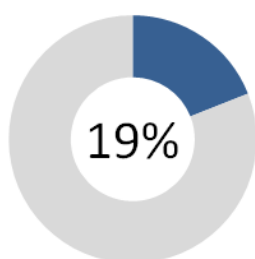
**Business Intelligence Service**

## Introduction and Background

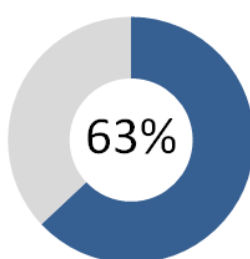
The economic profile considers a wide range of factors that affect the people of Warrington. The objective is to use the most recently available data to provide a view of the current economic situation within the borough. The majority of information is provided via the ONS (Office for National Statistics) and is licenced under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0. The population figures from the ONS are rounded to the nearest hundred and therefore they may not sum correctly and percentages may not equal 100%. <sup>1</sup>

## Summary:

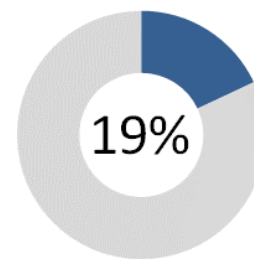
- Warrington's resident population estimate for mid-2018 was 209,500; of these 104,000 are male and 105,500 are female.
- Warrington's 0-15 population is 39,700 (19% of the total); Warrington's 16-64 population is 131,000 (63% of the total) and Warrington's 65 and over population is 38,900 (19% of the total). These figures and percentages are rounded and don't add up to 100%. Warrington's broad age percentages are very similar to those in the North West as a whole and nationally (England and Wales).



15 and under: 39, 700



16 to 64: 131, 000



65 and over: 38, 900

NB: Percentages rounded and don't equal 100%

- The latest employment levels (January to December 2018) for the 16 to 64 population is 77.1%, a slight fall from previous quarters.
- Unemployment levels in Warrington remain fairly stable, but have seen a recent increase from 3.7% to 4.0% in 2018.
- The largest areas for employment in Warrington are Professional, scientific and technical services, as well as Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles services.

<sup>1</sup> The population figures from the ONS are rounded to the nearest hundred and therefore they may not sum correctly and percentages may not equal 100%.

- Warrington (at 40.5%) has a higher rate of the population with a NVQ level 4 qualification than the North West (35.5%) and England (39.0%).
- The main occupations in Warrington are professional occupations and associate professional & technical.
- Regional Gross Value Added (GVA) is a measure of the increase in the value of the economy due to the production of goods and services. In Warrington the GVA was worth £6,848 million in 2017, with the largest area being Administrative & support services and Wholesale & retail and motor vehicle repair.
- The number of businesses active at any stage in 2017 was 11,245, significantly more than in 2016 (27% increase). Over 90% of businesses have nine or fewer employees.
- The average gross wage for people who reside in Warrington (£569.50) is higher than the North West (£529.60) but lower than England overall (£574.90). The difference in Warrington in wages between males and females who reside in the borough is 18.5% (Male: £632.40; Female: £515.70).
- The average gross wage for people who work in Warrington (£546.80) is higher than the North West (£529.60) but lower than England overall (£574.90). The difference in Warrington in wages between males and females who work in the borough is 10.3% (Male: £567.50; Female: £509.40).

## Population and Demographics:

The following information summarises the population of Warrington. Where possible, 2018 mid-year population estimates are used.

- The resident population of Warrington for mid-year 2018 is estimated at 209,500, lower than the mid-year 2017 estimate (of 209,700).
- There are an estimated 96,030 residential properties and 9,572 commercial properties in Warrington (as at September 2018).
- The population of children aged 0-15 in Warrington is estimated at 39,700 (19% of Warrington's population). Of the 0-15 year-olds in Warrington, 51.5% are male and 48.5% are female.
- The working age population (16 to 64) is estimated at 131,000 (63% of Warrington's population). Of the 16-64 year olds in Warrington, 50.3% are male and 49.7% are female.
- The population of older people (65 and over) is estimated at 38,900 (19% of Warrington's population). Of the 65 and over in Warrington, 45.7% are male and 54.3% are female.
- The median age is 42, and the largest age group, by 5-year band, is the 50-54 age group (16,300) accounting for 7.8% of the total Warrington population.
- There are 11.5 residents per hectare in 2018; this is an increase from the 2011 census figure of 11.2 residents per hectare.
- There are an estimated 104,000 males (49.7%) and 105,500 females (50.3%).

The breakdown by broad age band for Warrington by males and females is as follows:

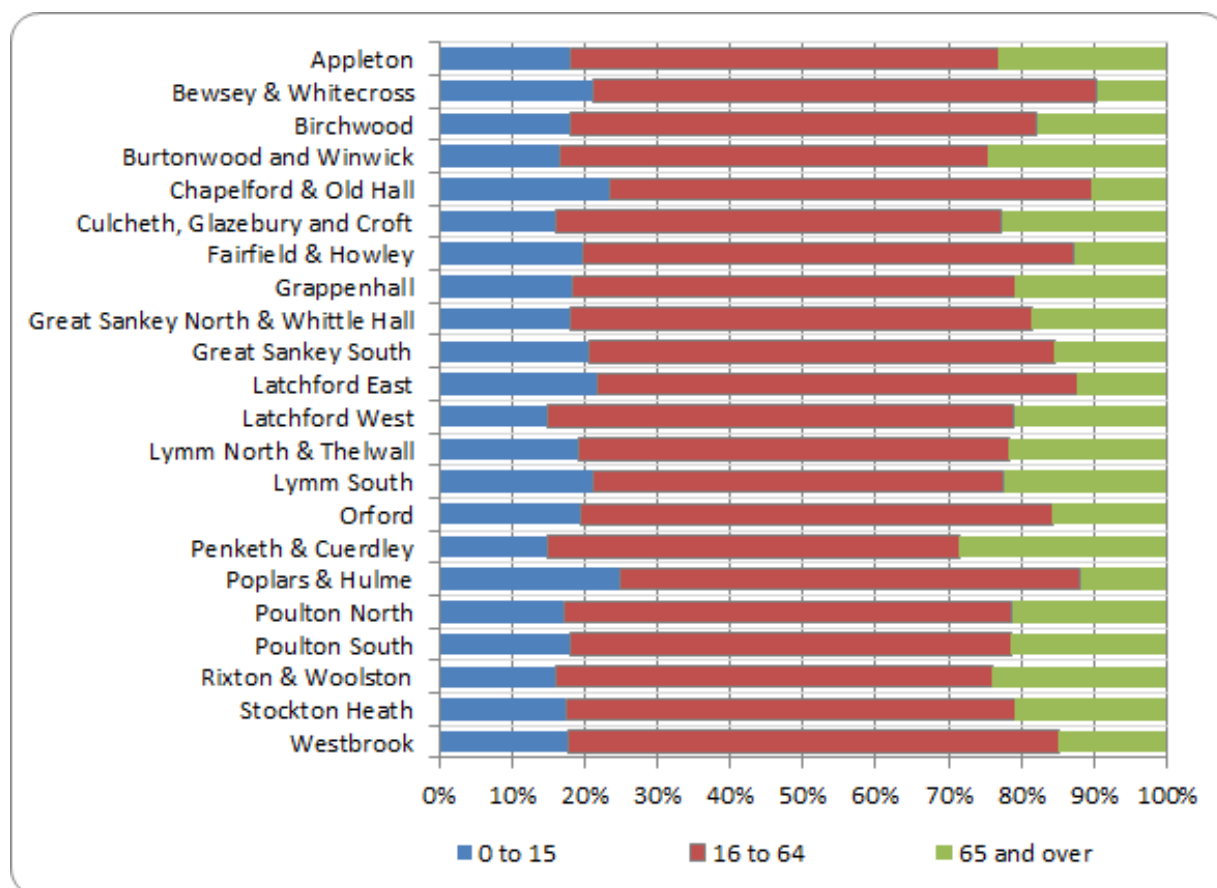
**Table 1: Warrington Resident Population Mid-2017, by Broad Age Group and Gender**

Age	Males		Females		Persons	
	No. People	% people	No. People	% people	No. People	% people
0 to 15	20,400	19.6%	19,300	18.3%	39,700	18.9%
16 to 64	65,900	63.3%	65,100	61.7%	131,000	62.5%
65 and over	17,800	17.1%	21,100	20.0%	38,900	18.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>104,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>105,500</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>209,500</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: ONS population estimates mid-2018, ©Crown copyright reserved. This information is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0. Figures rounded to the nearest hundred and may not sum exactly due to rounding.

Each ward within Warrington has a differing breakdown of the Broad Age Groups, for example Poplars and Hulme has a larger percentage of its population in the 0-15 age group while Penketh and Cuerdley has a larger percentage of its population in the 65 and over age group. Ward level data for mid-year 2018 estimates isn't available until late 2019. Chart 1 below shows the differences in Broad Age Group:

**Chart 1: Resident Warrington Ward Population by Broad Age Group, Mid-2017**



Source: ONS population estimates mid-2017, ©Crown copyright reserved. This information is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Warrington is projected to increase population over the next twenty years (between 2016 and 2036) by over 16,000. In the shorter term Warrington’s population is estimated to increase by 4.6% (between 2016 and 2026) and the working age population increasing by 0.5% during the same period. The table on the following page shows the projected increase in population:

**Table 2: Projected Population Change in Warrington from 2016 to 2026**

	To 2018	To 2020	To 2022	To 2024	To 2026
Aged 0 to 15	1.3%	2.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.0%
Aged 16 to 64	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Aged 65+	3.4%	7.2%	10.9%	15.6%	20.7%
<b>All Ages</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>

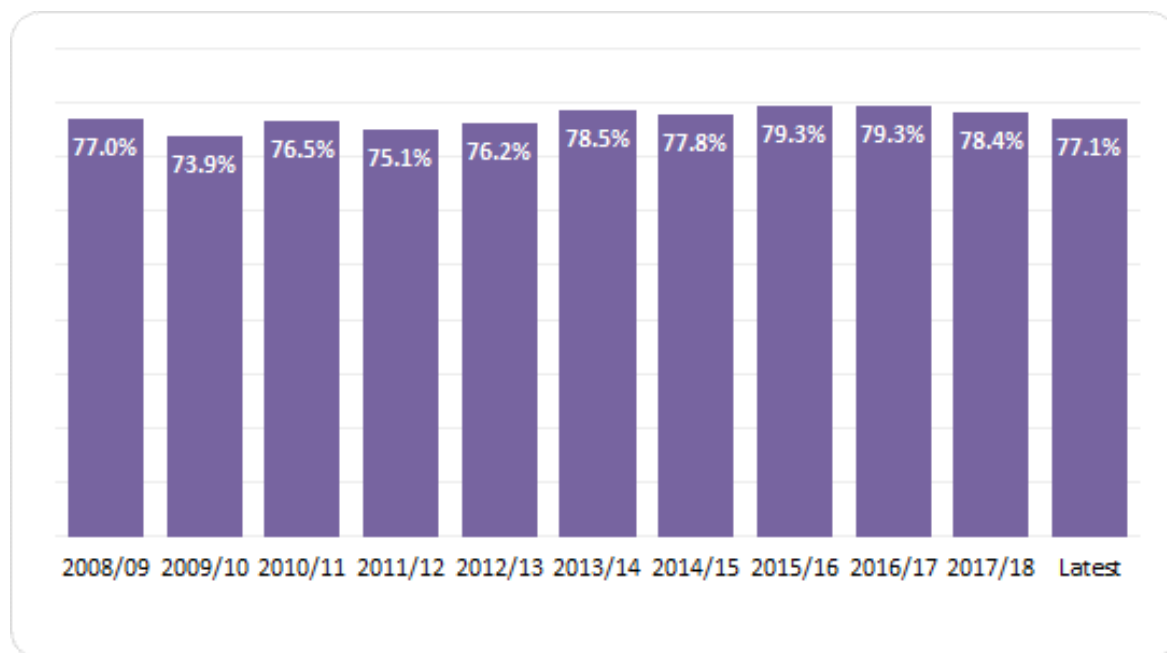
Source: ONS Interim Population Projections mid-2016 to 2026 licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Warrington’s life expectancy at birth has increased for males from 75.7 in 2001-2003 to 78.9 in 2015-2017 (a percentage increase 4.3%). The life expectancy of females in Warrington during the same period has increased from 80.0 to 82.4 (a percentage increase of 3.0%). The ages are rounded and therefore the percentage increases may not sum correctly.

## Employment and Unemployment:

Local employment and the types of jobs provided can be established with the Annual Population Survey and the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES). Warrington’s employment has seen slight falls in the last couple of years (see Chart 2 on the following page). Latest data relates to January 2018 to December 2018.

**Chart 2: Warrington’s 16-64 population in employment is slightly falling**



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Warrington’s population (16 to 64) in employment has remained fairly stable, though the latest figures (January to December 2018) continues a recent trend of falling percentage in employment. As a percentage of the overall population Warrington currently has 48.4% in employment.

The largest areas of employment in Warrington are Professional, scientific and technical services (approximately 22,000 employees) and Wholesale and Retail Trade, Repair of Motor Vehicles services (approximately 21,000 employees).

Professional, scientific and technical services

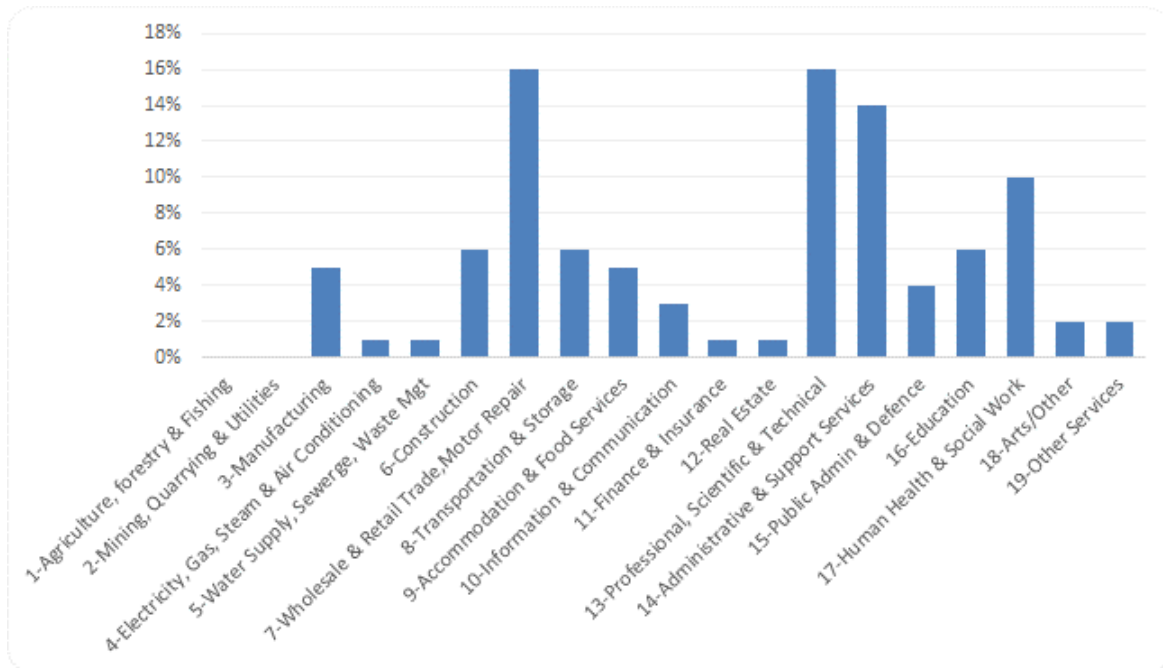
**16%**

Wholesale & Retail;  
Motor Vehicle Repair

**16%**

These two areas represent nearly a third of the workforce in Warrington. Chart 3 (on the following page) shows the percentage in employment in all industry types.

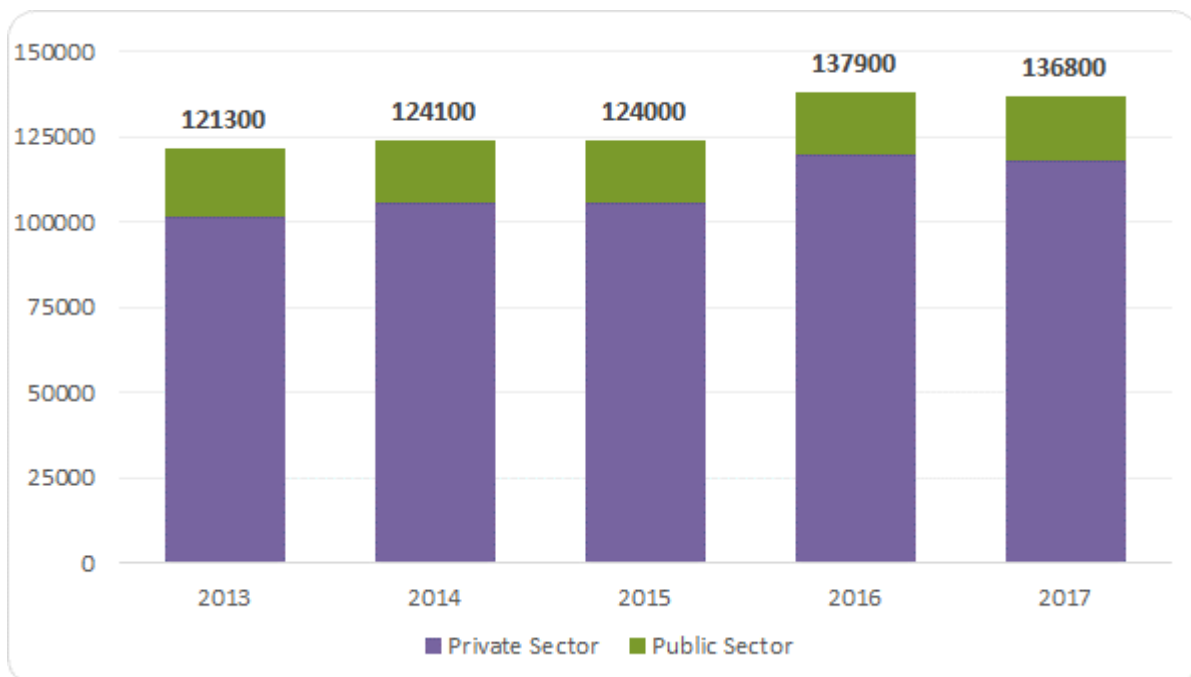
**Chart 3: Warrington’s employee jobs by Industry type**



Source: ONS Business Register and Employment Survey, ©Crown copyright reserved. This information is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0.

The total number of employed has increased over the last five years with the percentage working in the private sector increasing from 84% to 86%. Private sector employment has increased from 101,300 in 2013 to 118,100 in 2017 (conversely public sector employment has fell from 20,000 to 18,700 during the same period). During the last year (between 2016 and 2017) total employment has fell (see Chart 4 below).

**Chart 4: Over 86% of Warrington’s employment is in the private sector**

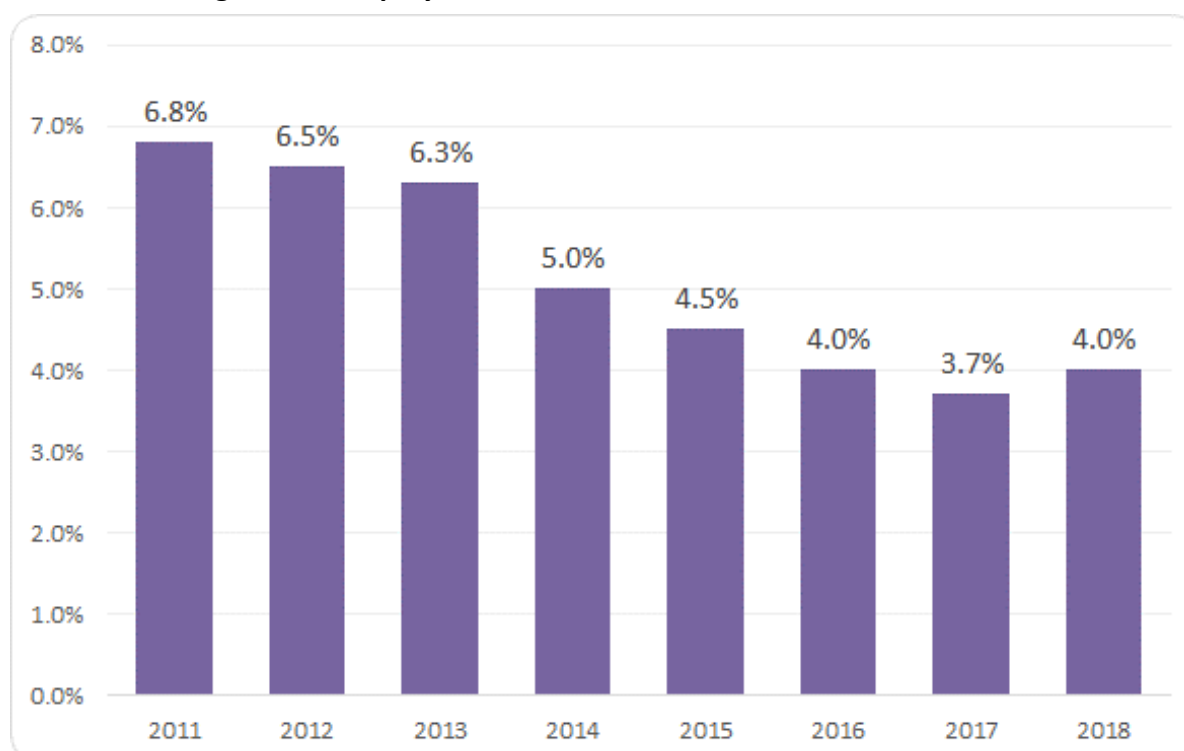


Source: ONS Business Register and Employment Survey, ©Crown copyright reserved. This information is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0.

In terms of Warrington's economically inactive (during 2018) there's 27,100, or 21.0% of those aged 16-64, which is lower than both the North West and Great Britain overall. The main categories of inactivity are Students (7,000), Looking after Family/Home (5,800) and Retired (5,600). The Retired percentage in Warrington (at 20.7% of those economically inactive) is considerably higher than the North West (13.5%) and Great Britain (13.2%).

The ONS Regional Labour Market has shown that Warrington's unemployment rate has fell in all years from 2011 up to 2017, though latest figures show a slight increase to 4.0%, see Chart 5.

**Chart 5: Warrington's unemployment rate remains stable**



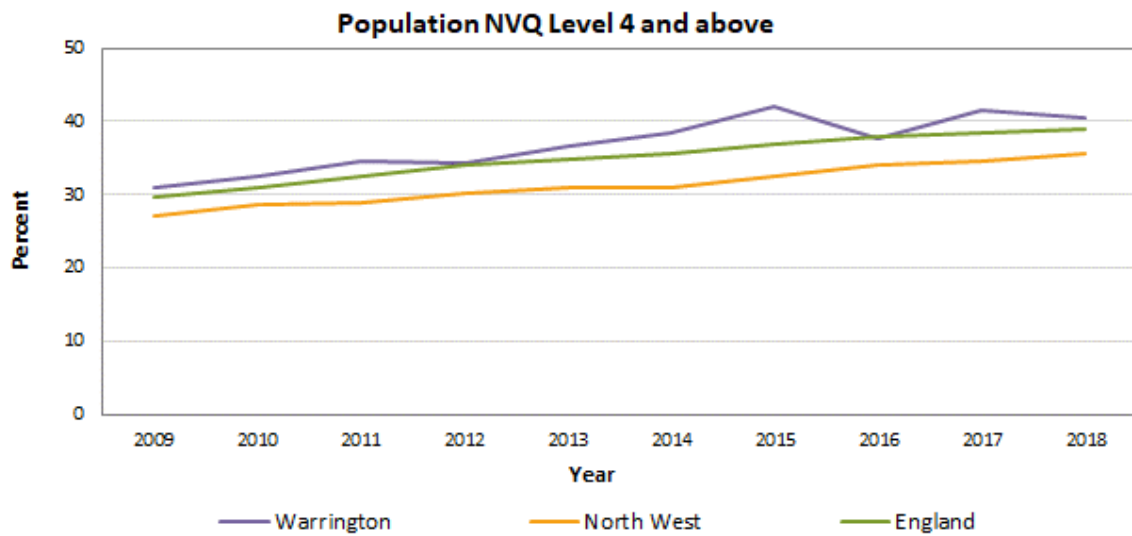
Source: ONS Regional Labour Market, ©Crown copyright reserved. This information is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0.

### Skills and Qualifications:

Warrington has a higher percentage of residents with and NVQ level 4 (Higher Education Certificate/BTEC) or above qualification when compared with the North West and England overall. Warrington has 40.5% of residents at NVQ4 and above compared to 39.0% in England and 35.5% in the North West. Over the last decade Warrington has nearly always been above the North West and England averages for residents having an NVQ4 or above qualification. The general trend has seen increases over the last ten years in Warrington, the North West and England (see Chart 6 on the following page).



**Chart 6: More than 40% of Warrington residents have a qualification at NVQ4 and above**



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In terms of all levels of education, Warrington is above both the North West (84.8%) and England (85.6%) with 87.3% having any qualification at NVQ1 and above. The chart below (Chart 7) shows that Warrington compares favourably at all levels.

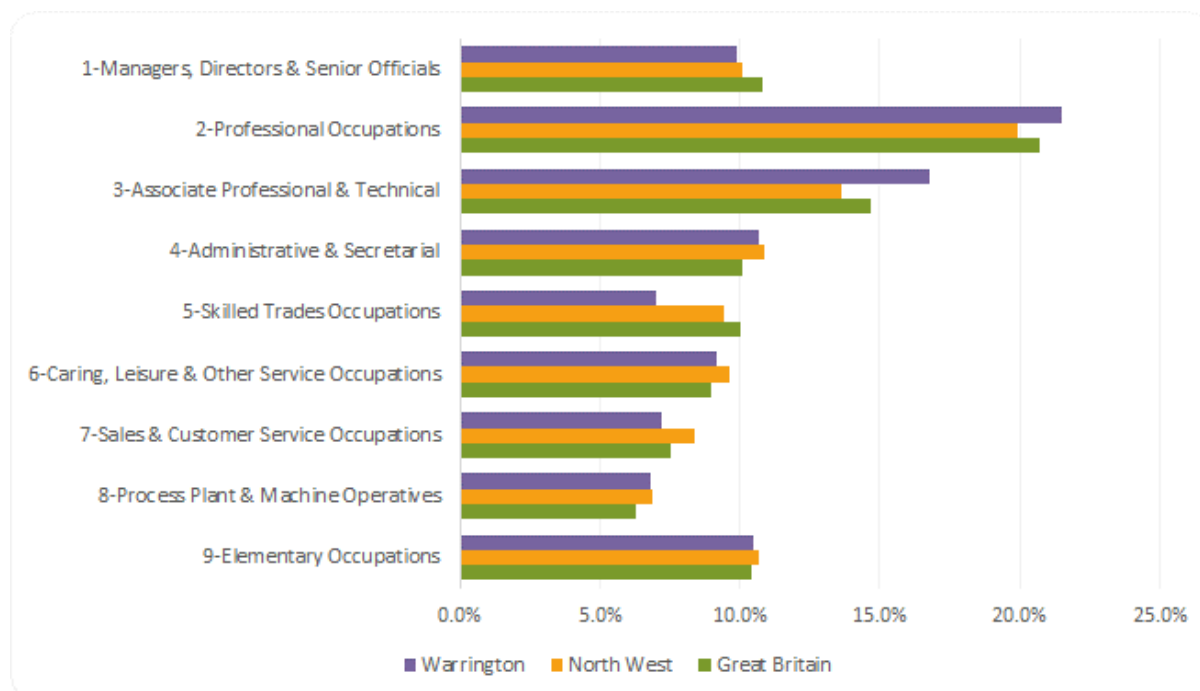
**Chart 7: Warrington is higher than comparators at all qualification levels**



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In terms of occupations (Standard Occupational Classification) in Warrington the largest areas are professional occupations and associate professional and technical. Warrington has lower numbers working in process plant and machine operatives. Chart 8, on the following page, shows how Warrington compares against the North West and Great Britain overall.

**Chart 8: Warrington’s main occupations are Professional and Associate Professional**



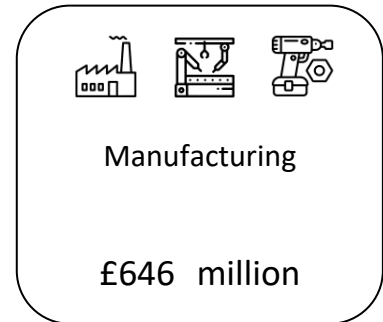
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Nearly half of Warrington’s employment (48.2%) is in the top three categories, again this is higher than both comparators.

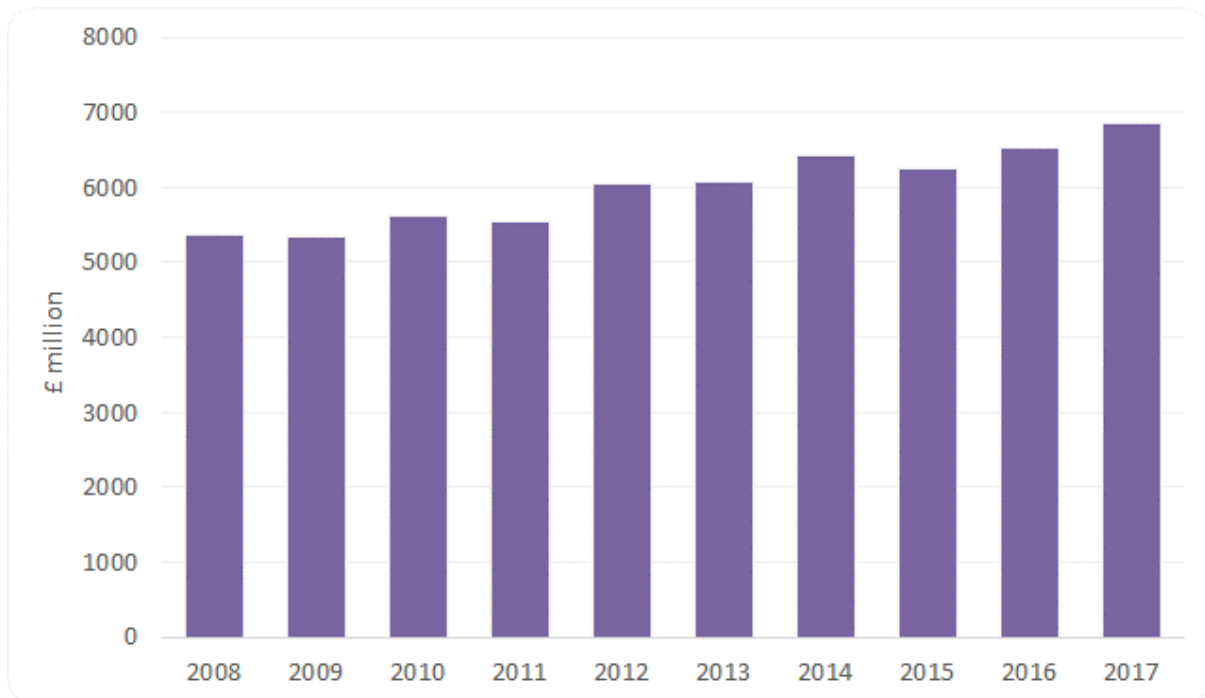
### Gross Value Added:

Regional Gross Value Added (GVA) is the value generated by any unit engaged in the production of goods and services, it relates to where people work rather than where they live. The total Gross Value Added for Warrington was £6,848 million in 2017, an increase of 28% in the ten year from the 2008 figure of £5,358 million. See Chart 9 on the following page.

The main business sectors which contribute to Warrington’s GVA figure are Administrative and support services and Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles. These two business sectors makes up almost a quarter of the total GVA (24.5%).



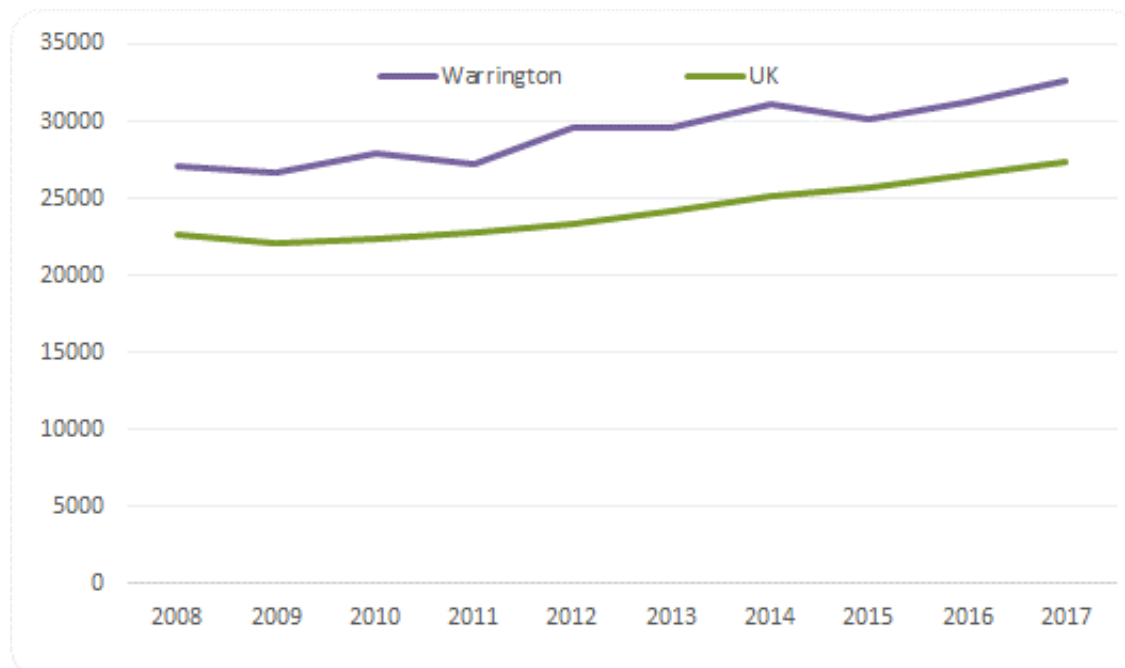
**Chart 9: Warrington's GVA has increased by 28% in the last 10 years**



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In terms of GVA per head, in 2017, Warrington’s figure was £32,654, an increase of 21% in the ten years from the 2008 figure of £27,033. The 2017 figure is higher than the overall UK figure of £27,298 per head, see Chart 10 below.

**Chart 10: Warrington’s GVA per head is consistently higher than the UK average**

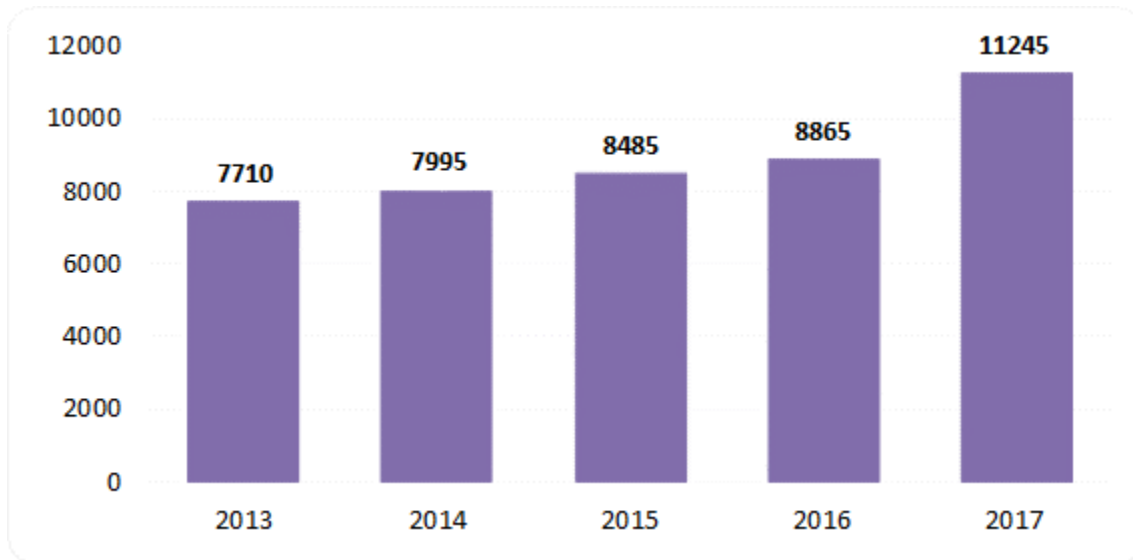


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## Business and Enterprise:

The number of business enterprises active in Warrington during 2017 was 11,245, significantly more (a 27% increase) on the 2016 figure. The number of enterprises had been steadily increasing in previous years but to a lesser extent (See Chart 11 on the following page). Warrington’s increase in active enterprises is much higher than the North West (7.7% increase) and England (3.3%).

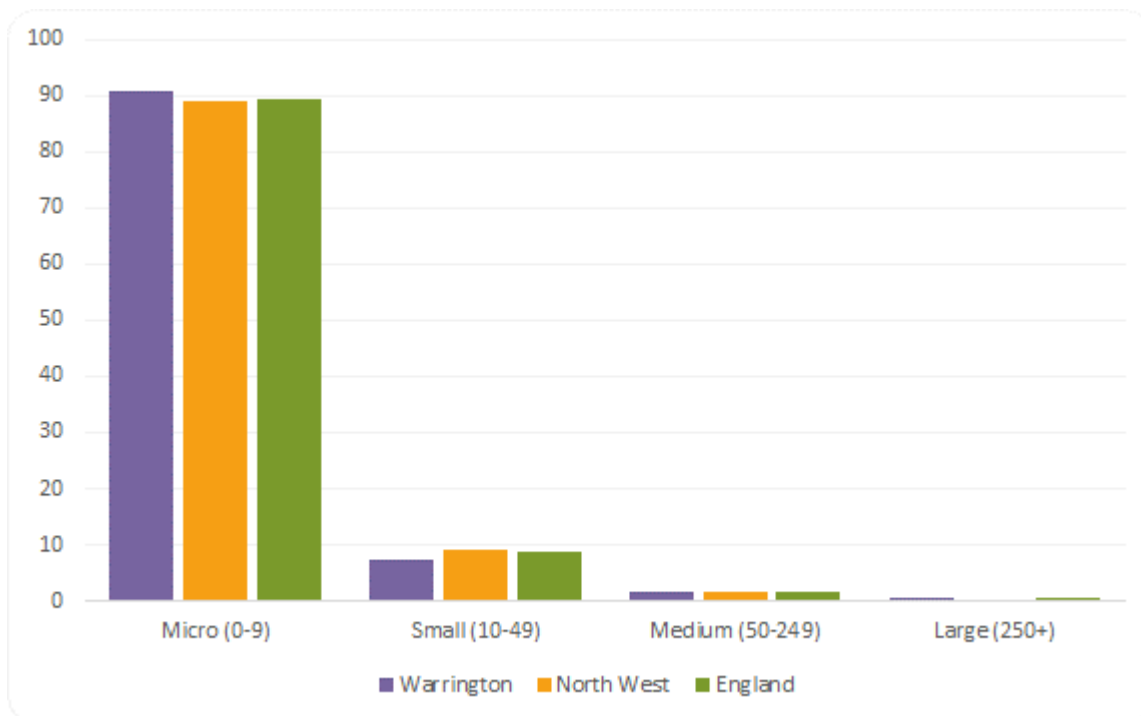
**Chart 11: Warrington's active enterprises have increased significantly from 2016 to 2017**



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In terms of the size, Warrington has a higher percentage of micro enterprises (those with 9 or fewer employees) than the North West and England. Warrington has over 90% in this category (90.7% in Warrington compared with 88.9% in the North West and 89.5% in England). Conversely, Warrington has a lower percentage in small enterprises (those employing between 10 and 49 people) with 7.2% in Warrington compared with 9.1% in the North West and 8.6% in England. Combining the micro and small enterprises Warrington (97.9%) and the North West (98.0%) and England (98.1%) are all very similar. See chart 12 on the following page.

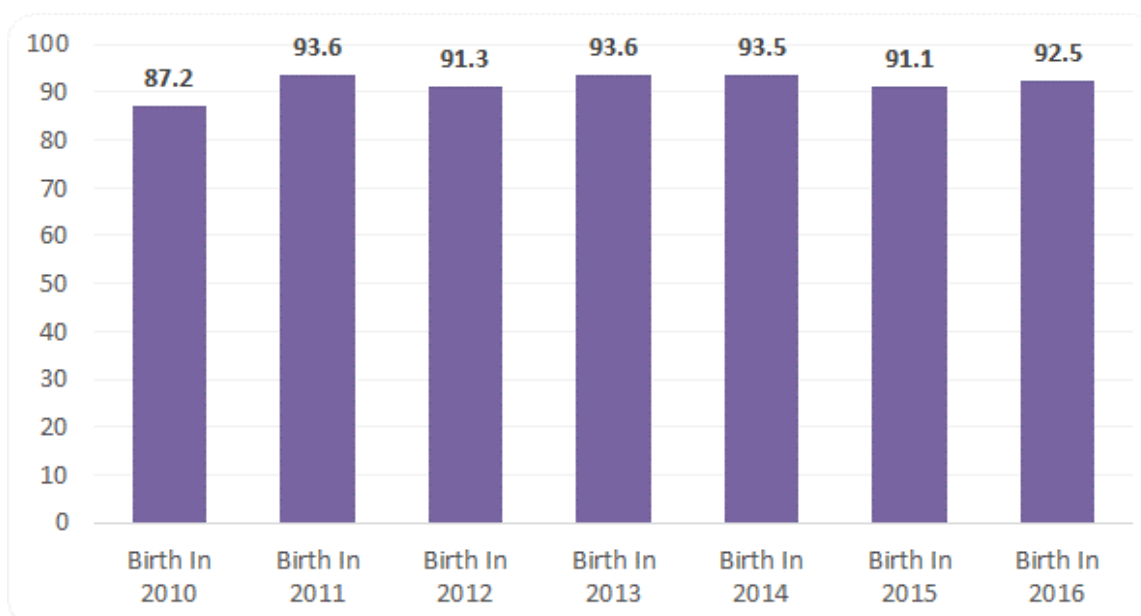
**Chart 12: Warrington has a higher percentage of micro enterprises than comparators**



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The one-year survival rate for new enterprises in Warrington over the last five years has been around the 90% mark with a high of 93.6% for businesses started in 2011 and 2013; the lowest survival rate was for businesses born in 2010 at 87.2%, see chart 13 below. Warrington has had a slightly higher average survival rate when compared with the North West and England over this time period.

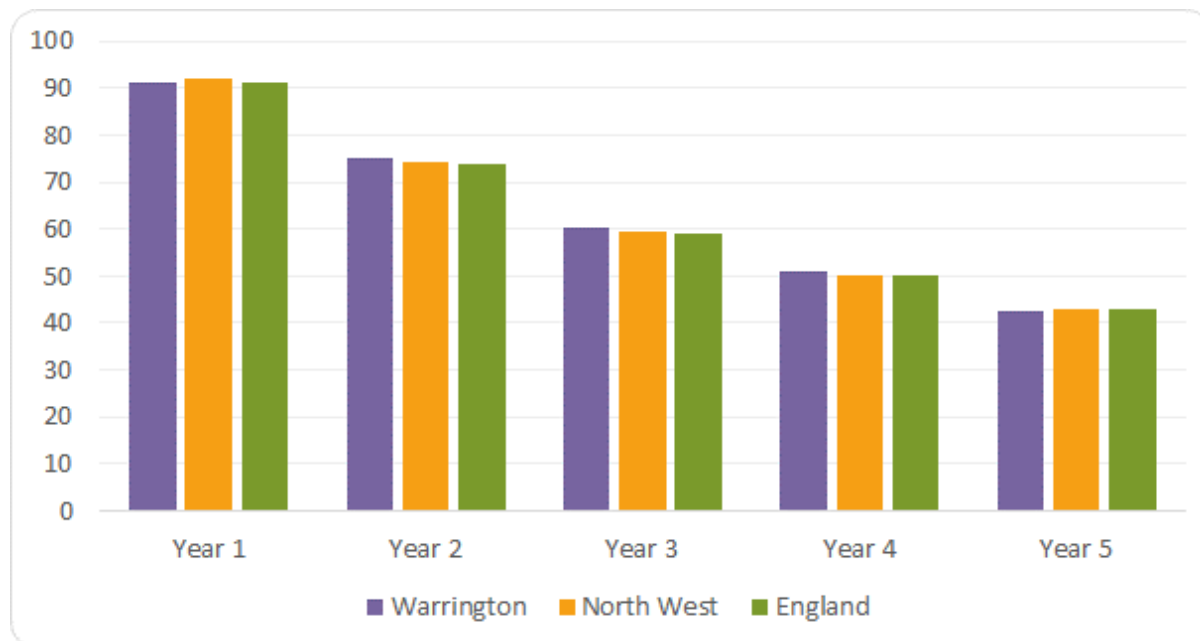
**Chart 13: Most recently over 90% of enterprises last for longer than one year.**



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Taking a longer term view, after three years Warrington has a survival rate at 60.1% - slightly better than the comparators, but after five years the survival rate is 42.6% - slightly worse than the comparators, see chart 14.

**Chart 14: Warrington's enterprise survival is worse than comparators over five years**

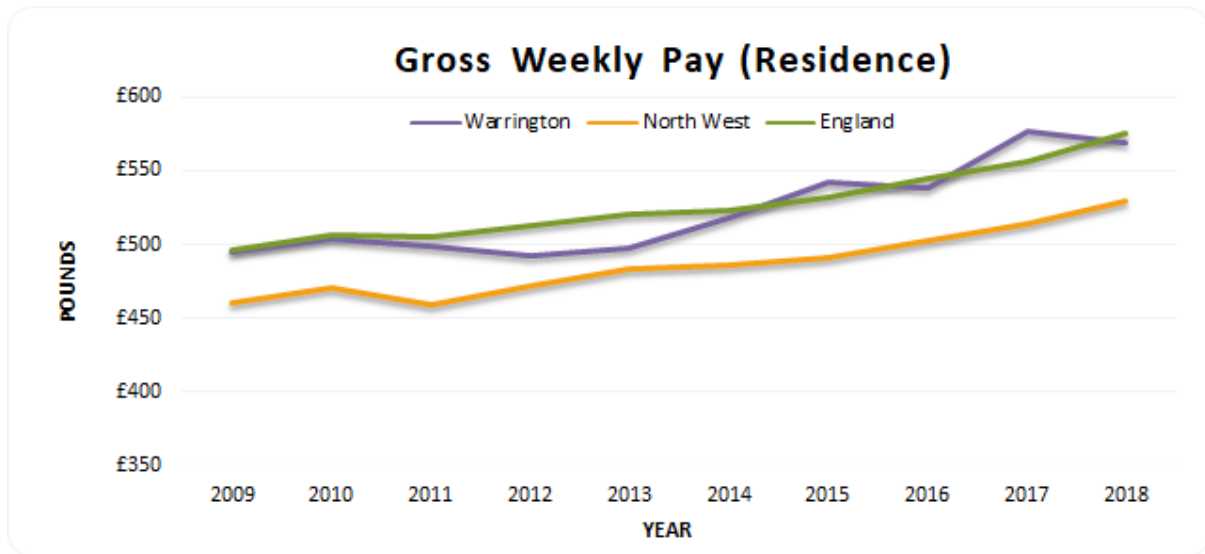


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## Wages and Earnings:

The average gross wage for people who reside in Warrington was £569.50 in 2018. The average male wage was £632.40 compared with a female average of £515.70 – a difference of £116.70 (18.5% lower). Warrington's average gross wage is 7.0% higher than the North West average (£529.60) but is 0.9% lower than the England average (£574.90). Over the last ten years Warrington has remained fairly similar to the England average and has been consistently above the North West average, see Chart 15 on the following page.

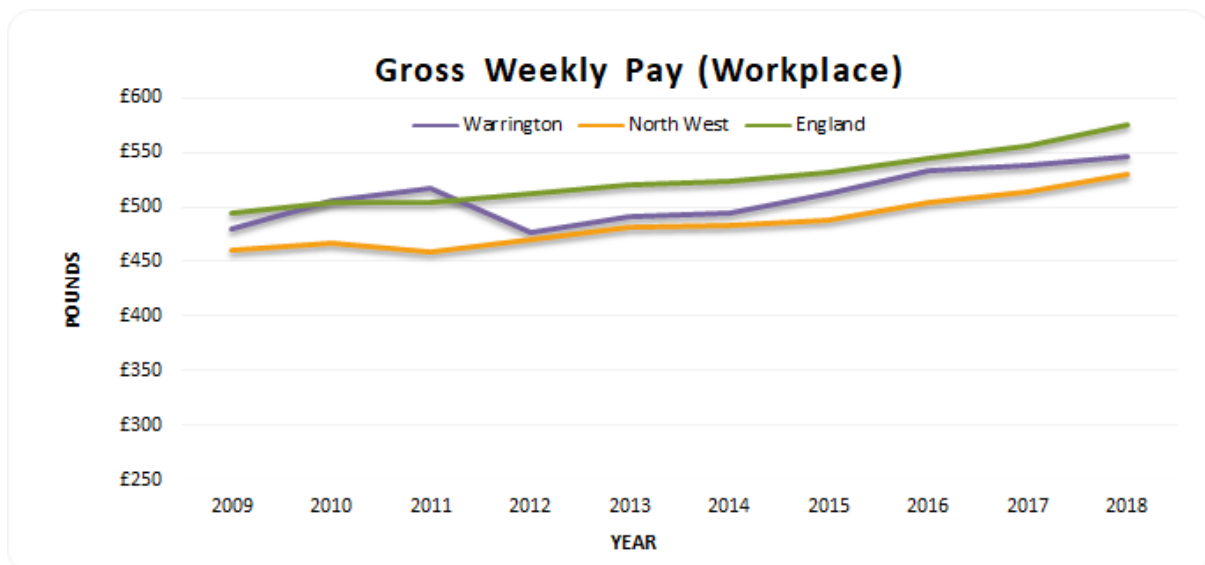
**Chart 15: Warrington’s weekly pay remains above the North West average**



Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings, ©Crown copyright reserved. This information is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0.

The average gross wage for people who work in Warrington was £546.30 in 2018. The average male wage was £567.60 compared with a female average of £509.40 – a difference of £58.20 (10.3% lower). Warrington’s average gross wage is 3.1% higher than the North West average (£529.60) but is 5.2% lower than the England average (£574.90). Over the last ten years Warrington has consistently been between the England and North West average figures, see Chart 16 below.

**Chart 16: Warrington’s weekly pay remains between England and North West averages**



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July 2019

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