

# East Devon Local Economic Review 2026

## East Devon District Council

March 2026

### Contents

Introduction .....	2
Executive Summary .....	2
Technical Note .....	2
Population .....	5
Economic Activity .....	8
Employment .....	10
Jobs .....	15
Skills .....	18
Wages .....	20
Productivity .....	26
Businesses .....	28
Connectivity .....	33
Deprivation .....	35
Emissions .....	38

## Introduction

The purpose of the East Devon Local Economic Review (LER) is to provide an overview of the key economic indicators impacting the district of East Devon. This is the second update of the original LER published in 2023 and should be viewed in conjunction with that document.

## Executive Summary

- **Population still accelerating:** East Devon's population rose by 1.3% from 2023 to 2024, remaining the fastest-growing Devon district.
- **Labour market tightening:** economic inactivity fell from about 19.2% (2024) to 15.5% (2025), while a record 33% of economically inactive people say they want a job. The employment rate in 2025 was the highest in the sub-region and unemployment the lowest, although the average claimant count has nudged upward.
- **Shift back to payroll jobs:** employees now make up 72% of those in work (a decade high) and self-employment eased to 12% in 2025.
- **Pay up geographically, but lower in value:** workplace median wage reached £30,606 in 2024, now above the South West average, yet wages are struggling to keep up with inflation, and the share of jobs below the Real Living Wage climbed from 13.7% (2023) to 16.9% (2024).

## Technical Note

This document only covers datasets which update on a yearly basis and therefore have been re-released since the publication of the 2023 and 2025 LERs. The 2023 LER gave preference to 2021 Census data, with additional statistics drawn from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). Only ONS data has been used in this edition which is more reliant on estimates and less robust than Census data. Therefore, any comparisons drawn between the two documents should note the source of the data and ensure Census data and ONS estimate data are not being compared.

Comparisons can be drawn between the 2025 edition of the LER and this 2026 edition, as the same data sources have been used.

The 2023 LER remains the most up to date source for a range of economic indicators not covered in either the 2025 or 2026 editions. The most notable omission in the two updates is the absence of workspace data, as the datasets used in the 2023 edition have not been recommissioned. Further work on analysing the existing data has been carried out, and will be made available [online](#).

The 'Wellbeing' section has not been included in this edition because the ONS temporarily paused the annual wellbeing publication in 2025 due to data quality concerns.

Data from the 2023 LER excluded from this edition includes:

- Reasons for economic inactivity
- Economic activity amongst students
- Employment statistics by ward
- Forecast employee numbers by 2040
- Hours worked per week
- Travel to Work methods
- Highest level of qualification
- Annual pay by percentiles
- Expected GVA by 2040
- Current Employment Space Demand
- Current demand vs current supply of employment space
- Available vs non-available supply of employment space
- Employment space take up by hectare
- Future Employment Space Demand by Hectare
- Current and Future Employment Space by type of space

Data from the 2025 LER excluded from this edition include:

- Workplace Location of East Devon Residents
- Residence of East Devon Workers
- Wellbeing, measured by life satisfaction, worthwhileness, happiness, and anxiety levels

Skills data in this edition is measured on the Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF), which replaced the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Framework in 2015. Whilst previous editions measured qualifications levels against the NVQ Framework, this edition uses the RQF Framework. Publications by the ONS on national skills data now draw statistics from the RQF, so this change has been made to enable comparison with other statistical releases.

Median wage estimates (for all editions) are drawn from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) data. It should be noted that estimates for East Devon are only considered 'acceptable', as opposed to 'precise', so there is a reasonable margin for error in the statistics.

The ONS revises its methodology for calculating emissions data each year, with previous years updated in each new release. This means there may be discrepancies between historical emissions data included in this LER and previous editions.

Two new sections have been introduced for this edition of the Local Economic Review: Connectivity and Deprivation. In February 2026, the UK Government published the [Local Outcomes Framework](#) (LOF), defining the priority outcomes by which local government performance will be measured. Although many of the metrics selected for the Economic Prosperity and Regeneration priority outcome are already included in the LER, internet coverage and data from the Indices of Deprivation (IoD) have not previously been covered. The addition of these sections

in this edition creates alignment between the metrics measured in the LOF and the LER.

Connectivity data is drawn from Ofcom, the regulatory authority for communication services in the UK. No longitudinal data has been included for 5G coverage, as this measure was introduced for the first time in 2023.

Data from the Indices of Deprivation can only be used to measure levels of deprivation. Lower deprivation levels should not be equated to higher levels of affluence. IoD scores are relative, meaning they demonstrate how deprived an area is in comparison to all other areas in England. Due to changes in methodology, it is not accurate to compare 2025 levels of deprivation (the latest release) with 2019 levels of deprivation (the previous release).

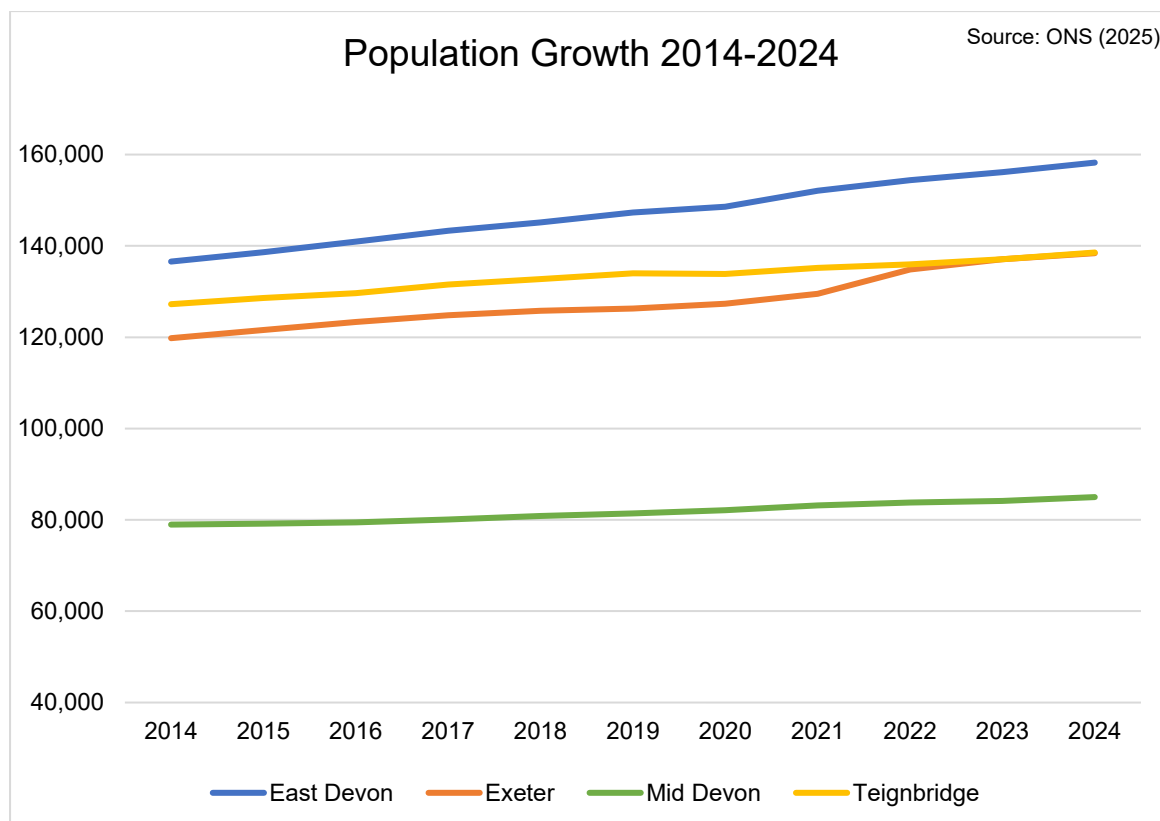
It has been noted that urban areas are consistently ranked as more deprived than rural areas by the IoD. To address this bias, the IoD adjusted their methodology to better capture the types of deprivation more likely to be experienced by rural areas than urban ones. A supplementary [rural report](#) was released to explain these changes and ongoing limitations in comparing deprivation across rural and urban areas.

Data will be shown primarily in graph format, with East Devon data usually illustrated in blue. Where data is presented in a longitudinal format, a ten-year timespan will typically be used unless there is a more appropriate data-specific baseline or where ten years' worth of data is not available.

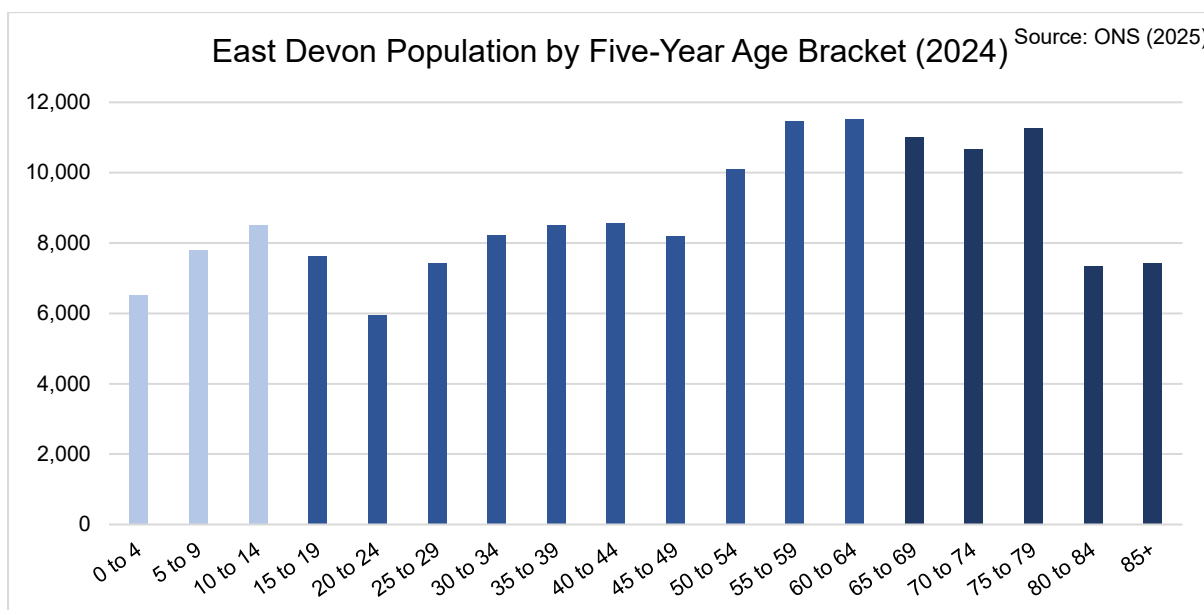
Where data is presented in a geographical format, Exeter, Mid Devon and Teignbridge will be used as the local comparator geographies, as these areas make up the wider Exeter and the Heart of Devon functioning economic market area (FEMA). A regional (South West England) and national comparator will also be displayed, with the UK used as the preferred national comparator, with England as the secondary preference.

## Population

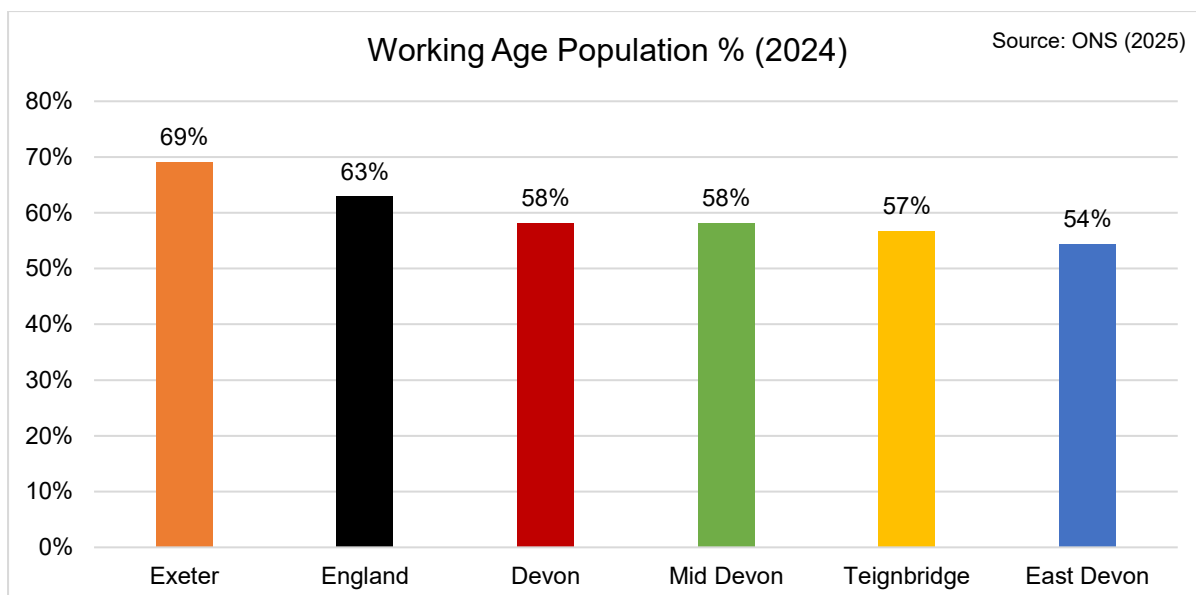
Estimates from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) place the 2024 population of East Devon at 158,239 residents. It remains the most populous district in Devon and the fastest growing, with a 16% increase in population over a 10-year period. Between 2023 and 2024, the population grew by 1.3%, with the overall Devon population increasing by 1.1%.



In 2024, East Devon had a working age population (those aged 16 to 64 years) of 85,987, or 55% of the total population. There were 47,753 people of retirement age (65 years of age or above) making up 30% of the population, with those aged 0-15 years of age making up 15% of the population. These percentages are unchanged from the 2025 edition. East Devon remains the Devon district with the lowest proportion of working age residents, below both regional and national averages.



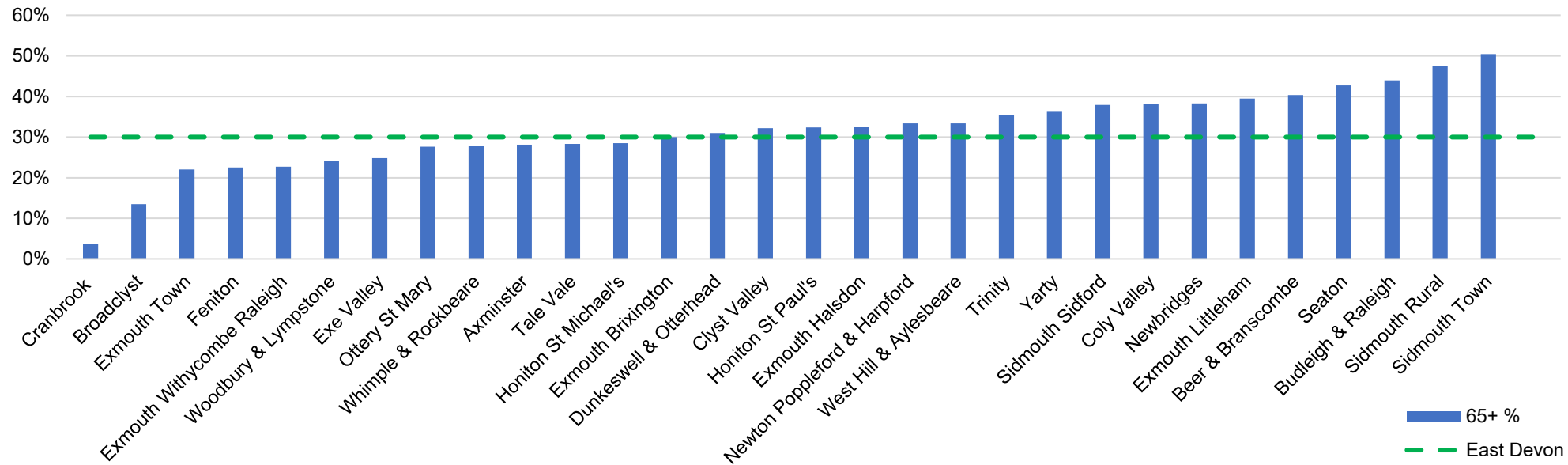
ONS population estimates indicate that the percentage of working age people in East Devon is consistently below the national and regional average. When compared against the 361 district and unitary local authority areas in the UK, East Devon has the 6th highest proportion of residents over 65 and the 3rd lowest proportion of working age people. This is similar to the placements seen in 2023, where East Devon was 6<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively.



Working age population varies across East Devon’s wards, with the percentage of residents over 65 ranging from 4% in Cranbrook to 50% in Sidmouth Town. Population change also differs significantly, with a far higher rate of population growth seen in the West End of East Devon (Cranbrook and Broadclyst) than elsewhere in the district.

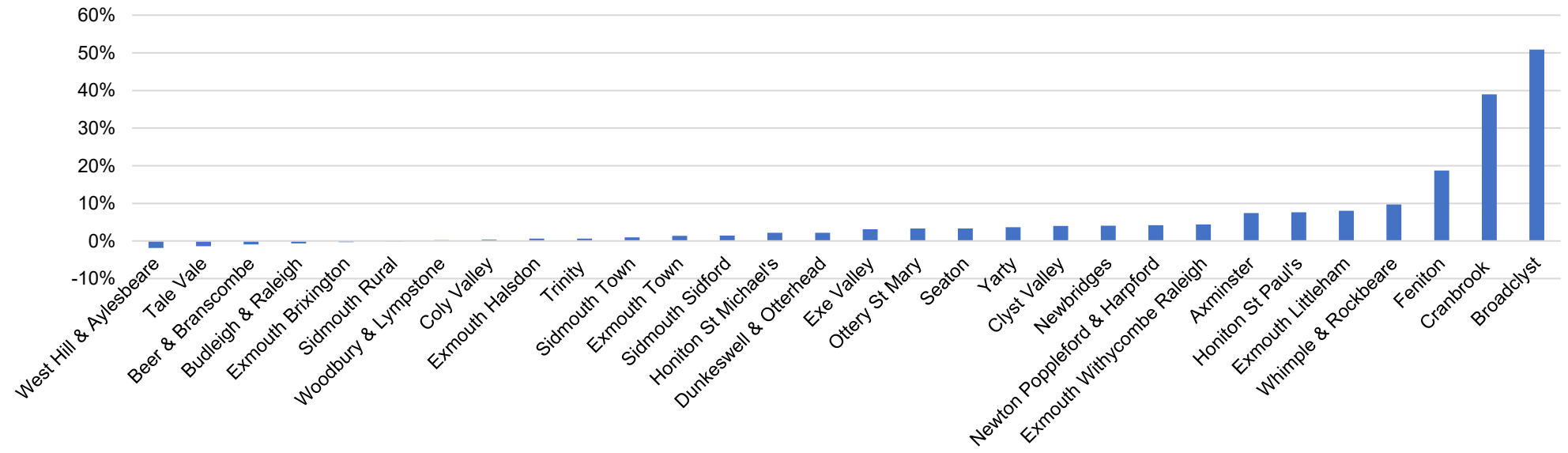
### 65+ Population by Ward % (2024)

Source: ONS (2025)



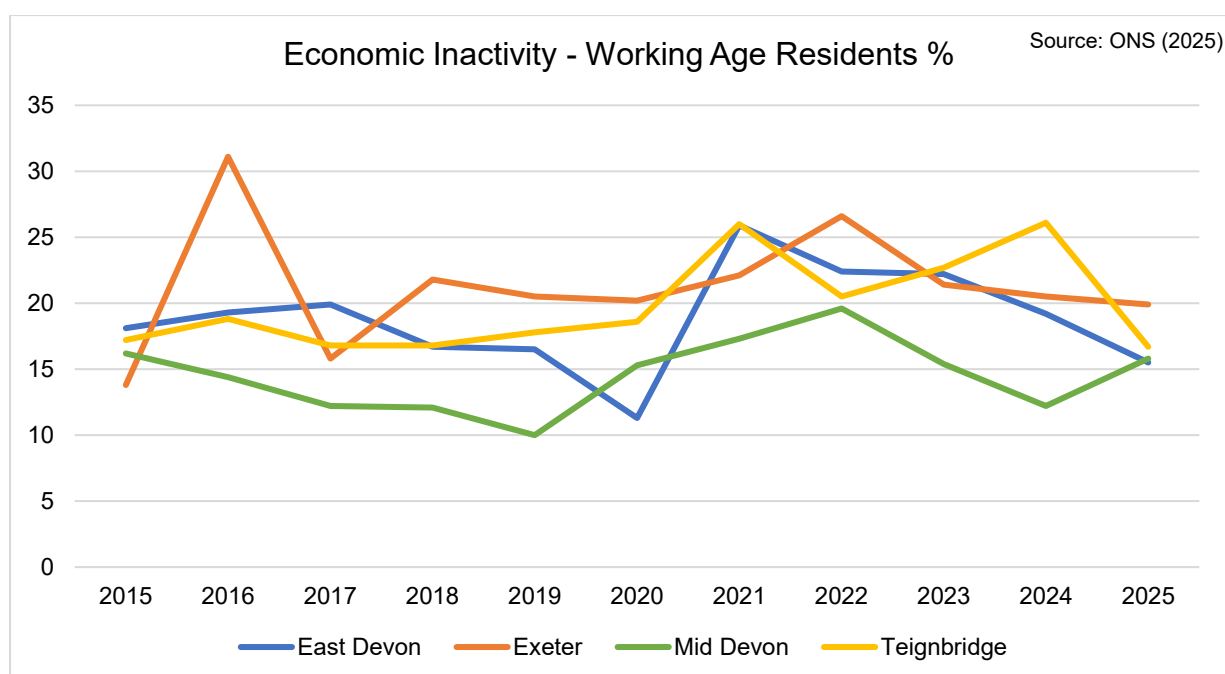
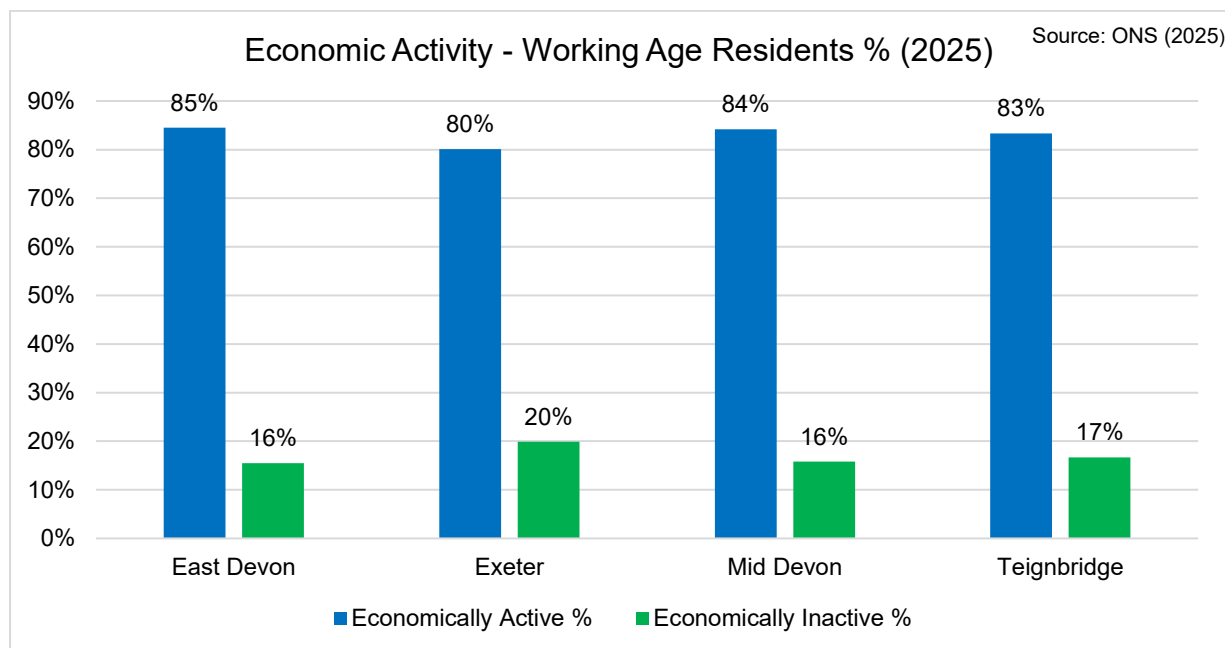
### 5 Year Population Change % (2020-24)

Source: ONS (2025)



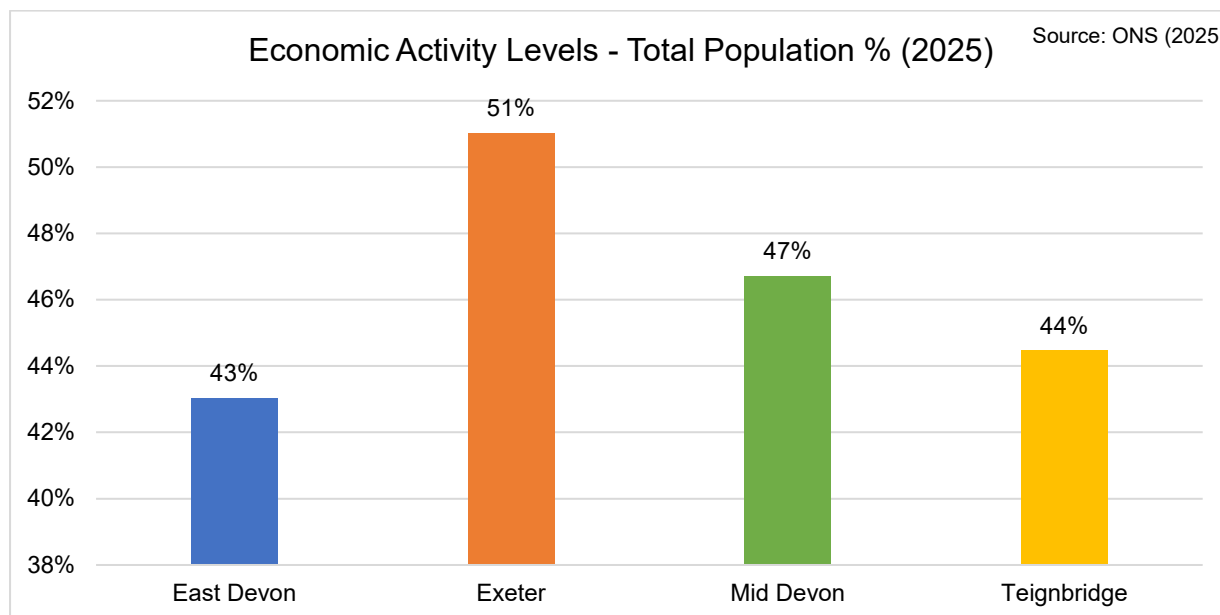
## Economic Activity

Economically active residents are either in employment, unemployed but looking for work, or unemployed and waiting to start a job that had been offered and accepted. Those who are economically inactive are neither in employment nor seeking employment. Economic activity levels of East Devon’s working age residents compare well against other EHoD areas, with economic inactivity amongst 16-64 years olds declining 3% since 2024<sup>1</sup>.

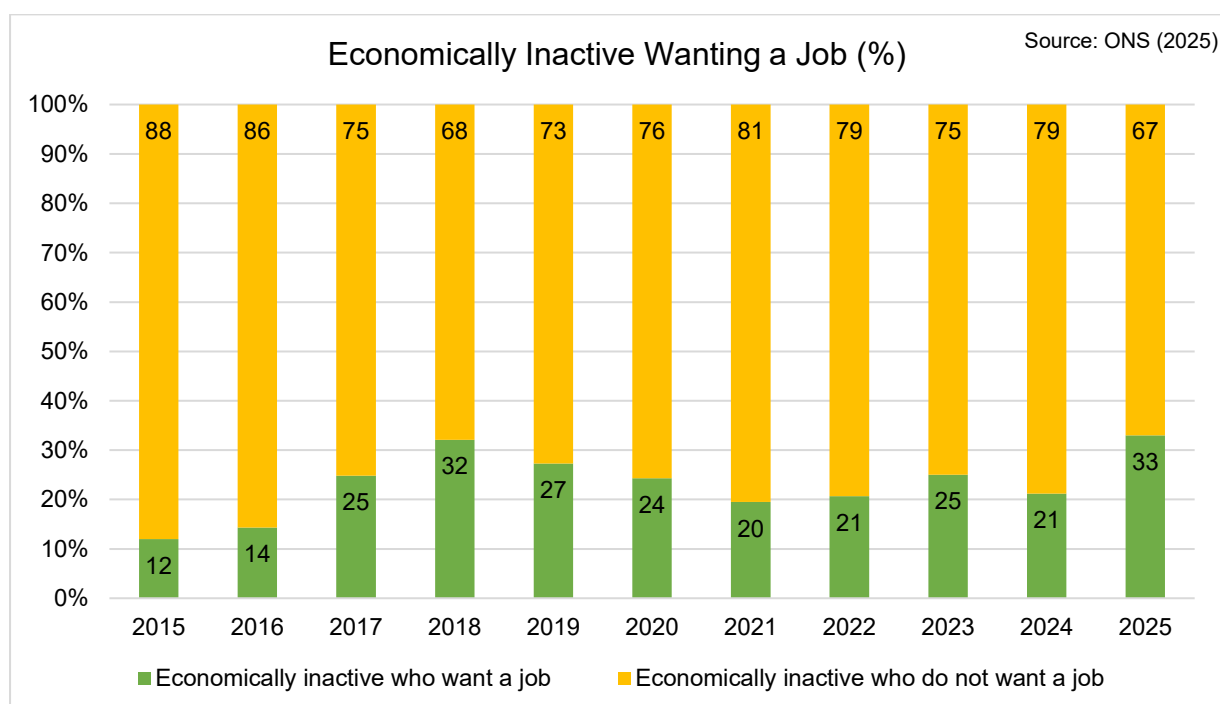


<sup>1</sup> Economic activity and inactivity levels in East Devon are 84.5% and 15.5% respectively. As both figures have been rounded, the graph shows a percentage total exceeding 100%.

Due to East Devon’s large 65+ population, when residents of all ages are considered, East Devon becomes the EHOD area with the lowest percentage of economically active residents.

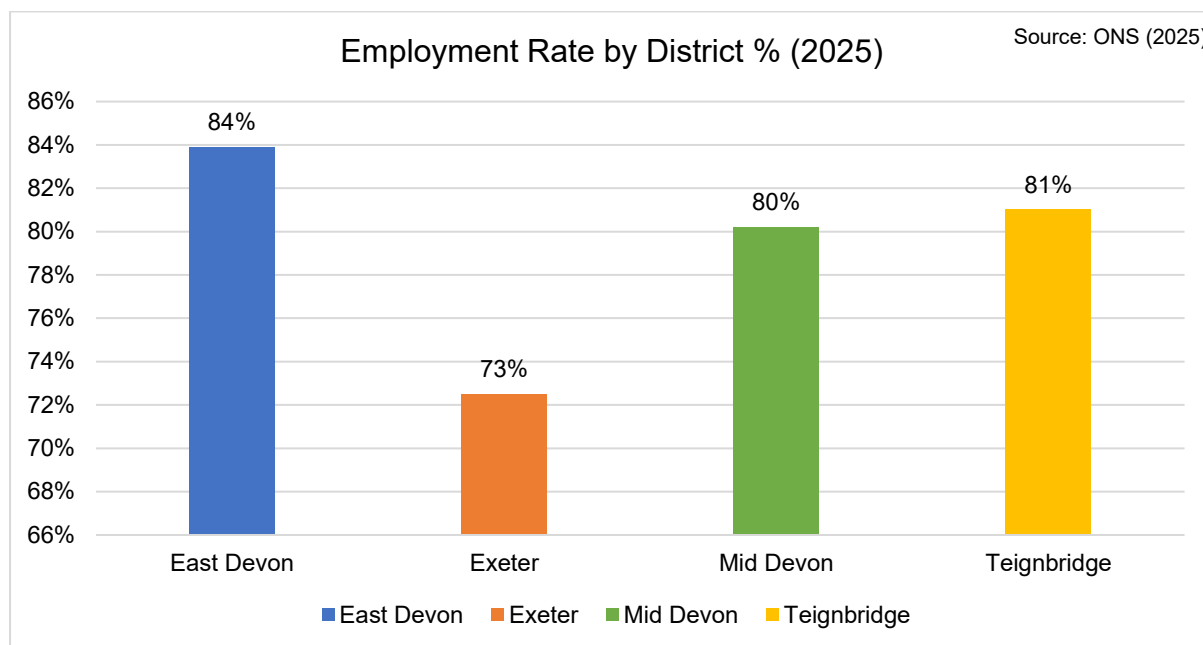


ONS estimates show that the majority of those who are economically inactive and are of working age do not want a job. In 2025, 33% of those who are economically inactive wanted a job, the highest percentage seen over the last 10 years.

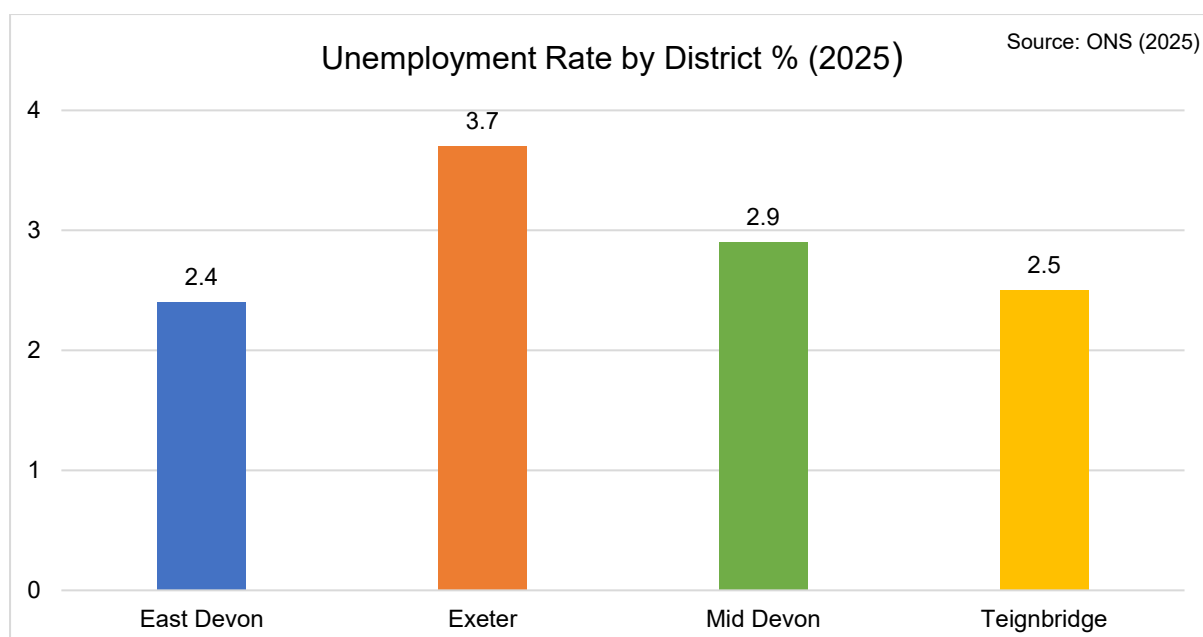


## Employment

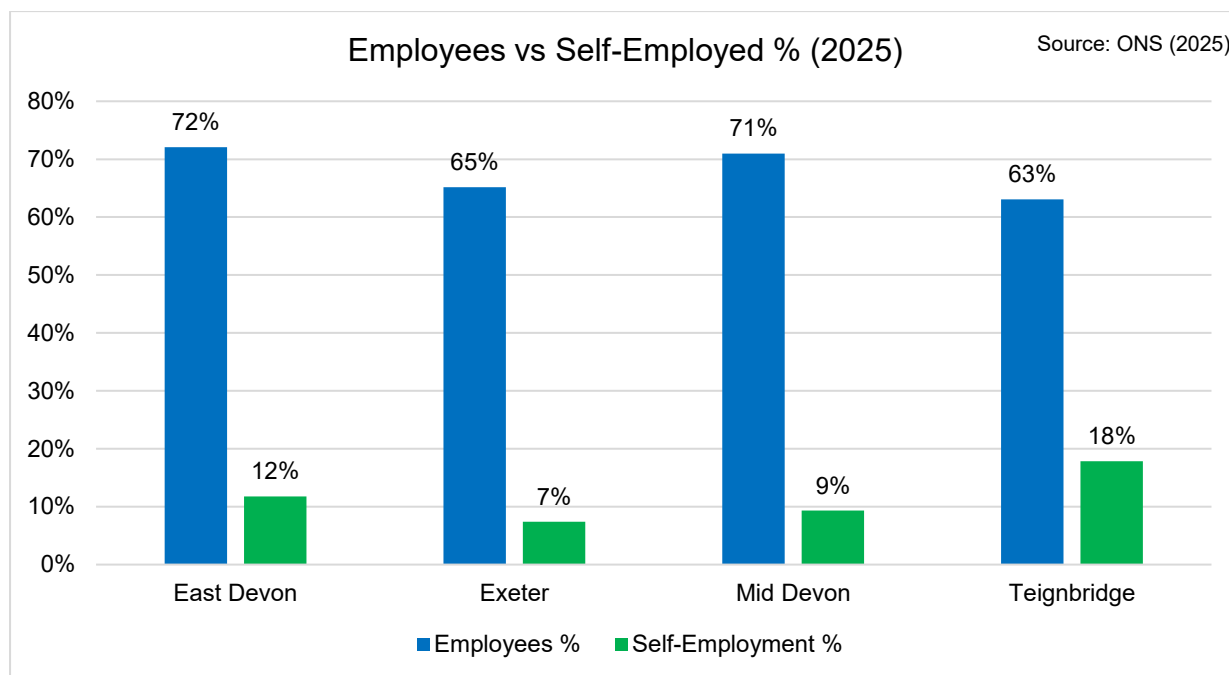
Those who are economically active can be further categorised into those who are employed and those who are unemployed. ONS data shows that that 84% of East Devon residents of working age were in employment in 2025, the highest of any of the EHoD areas.



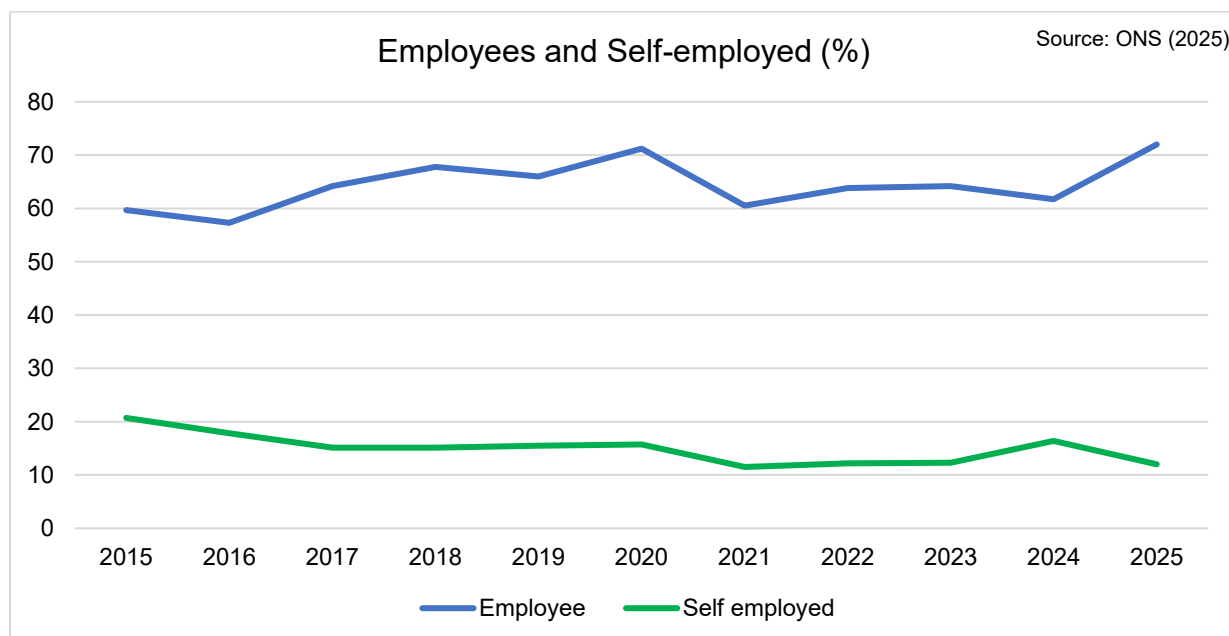
Data from the ONS' Annual Population Survey for unemployment in East Devon in 2025 was removed from as the sample size was disclosive. Instead, unemployment has been measured using model-based estimates from the ONS, which show the proportion of economically active people aged 16 years and over without a job who have been actively seeking work within the last four weeks. Alongside having the highest employment rate, East Devon has the lowest unemployment rate of all EHoD areas.



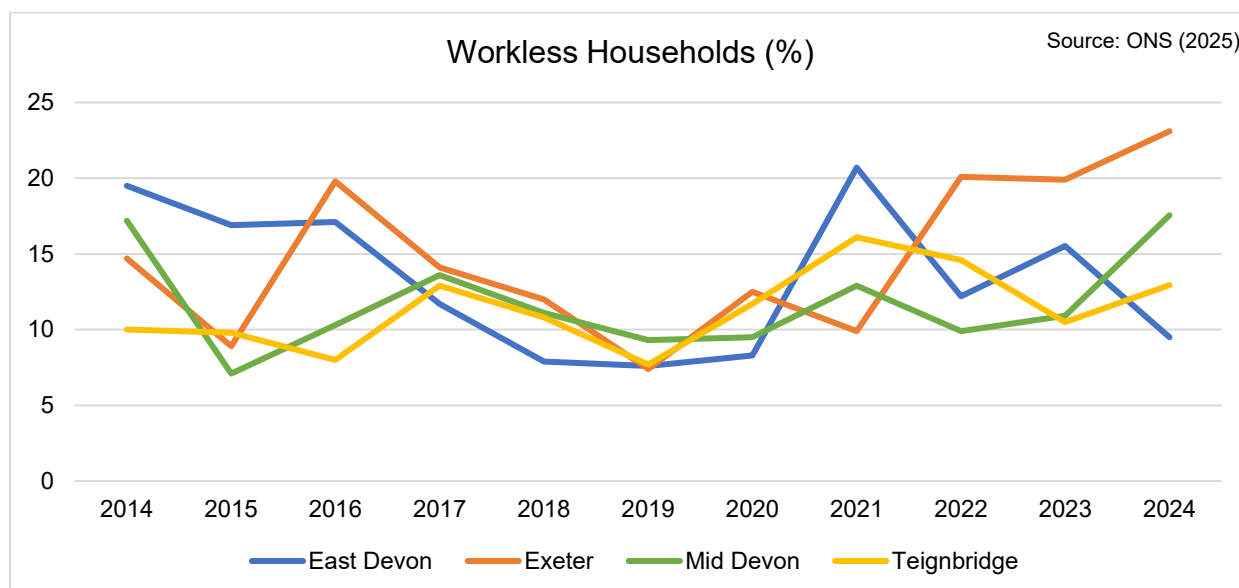
Those in employment can be divided into those who are employed and those who are self-employed. The graph below shows the proportion of people who are employees and self-employed as a percentage of those who are employed. The percentage of those who are self-employed in East Devon is the same as the South West, but higher than the national average of 9%.



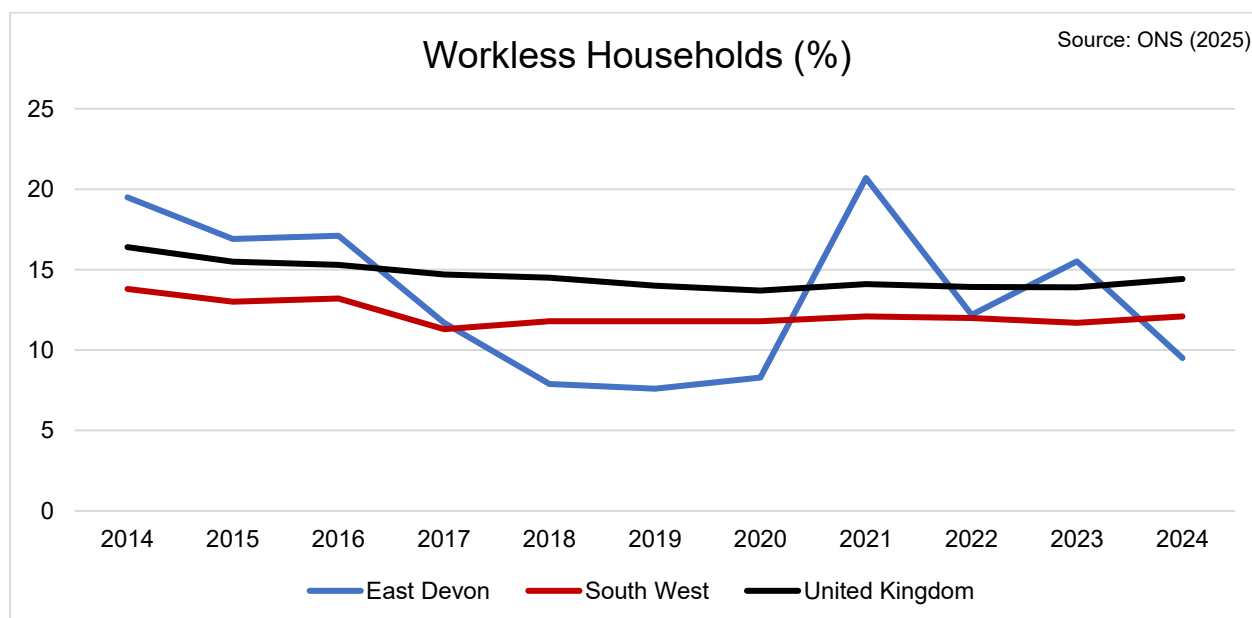
Since 2024, all EHoD areas have seen an increase in the percentage of employees corresponding to lower levels of self-employment. The percentage of economically active residents classed as ‘employees’ is at its highest point for the last decade, although self-employment levels are similar to those recorded in the 2021-23 period.



The ONS collates data from workless households, which are households where at least one person is aged 16 to 64, but no-one is in employment, whether due to unemployment or economic inactivity. District level data shows year to year variation both within and between areas, with no clear pattern emerging.



However, when the percentage of workless households is viewed on larger geographies, local fluctuations even out and demonstrate a small decline in the overall percentage of workless households. The ONS cautions against longitudinal comparisons of local authority data due to the use of small sample sizes to derive estimates, which is the likely cause of volatility seen at a local level.



A more reliable source of data for tracking those who are unemployed is the claimant count statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions. This data is published monthly and removes the annual swings frequently observed in ONS data.

The Claimant Count is the number of people claiming benefits, principally for the reason of being unemployed. This is measured by combining the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits with the number of people receiving Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed.

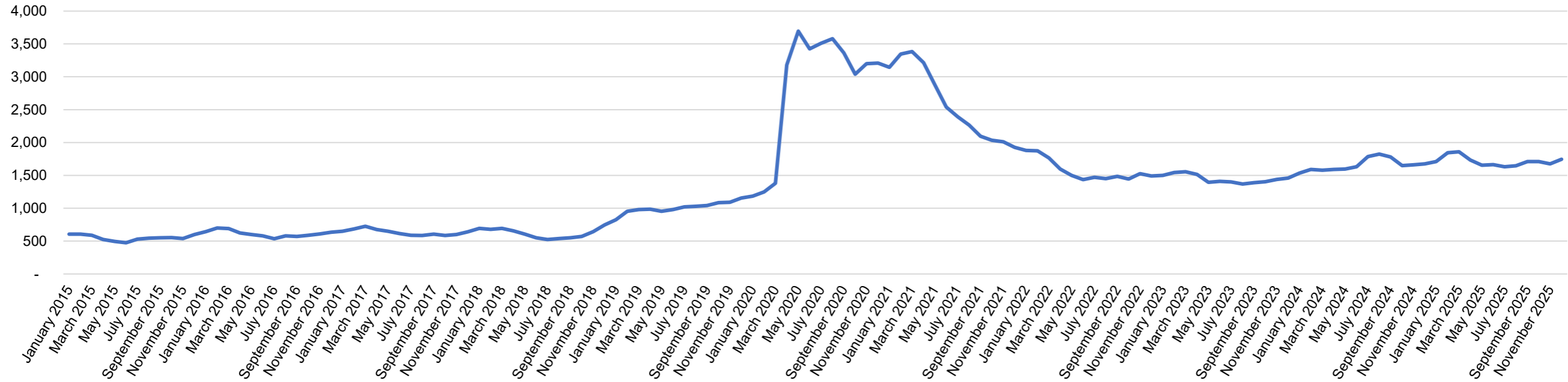
The latest figures for East Devon (December 2025) show that there are 1,745 claimants, around 2% of the working population. Although figures have generally stabilised since the pandemic, they remain higher than pre-2020 levels. In 2024, the average claimant count for East Devon was 1,658, which rose slightly to 1,715 for 2025.

The claimant count in East Devon has remained consistently below both the regional and national average. District trends map closely to those seen at a regional and national level, indicating fluctuations in East Devon figures are related to the wider economic conditions.

Graphs showing the change in claimant count at a local, national, and regional level are displayed on the next page.

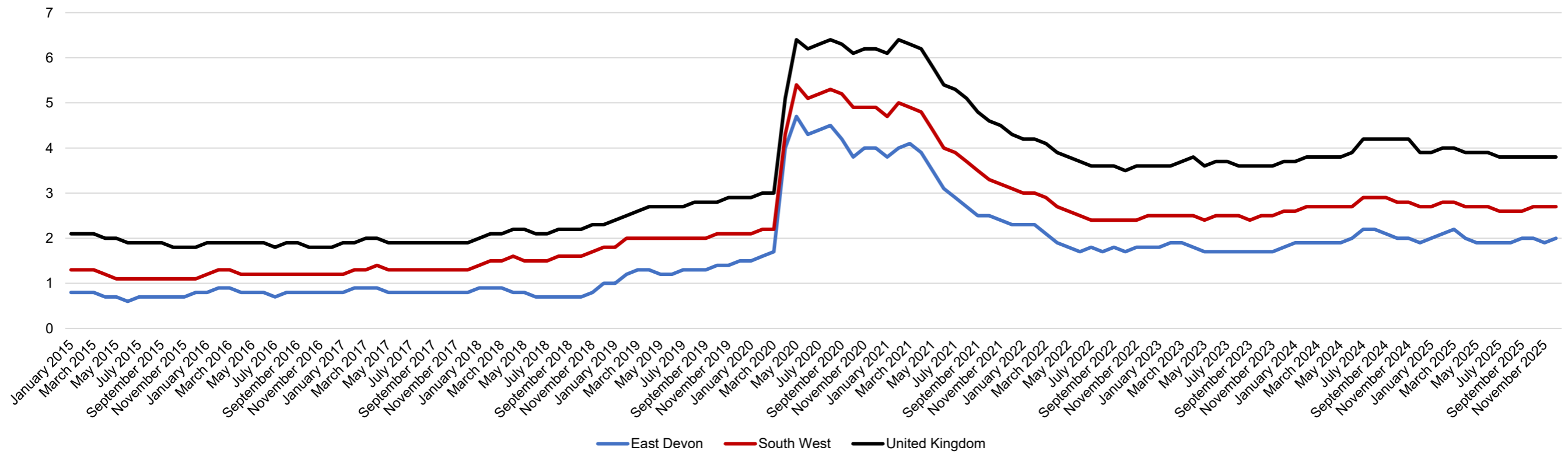
East Devon Claimant Count

Source: DWP (2026)



Claimant Count (%)

Source: DWP (2026)



## Jobs

The types of job filled can be viewed by both occupation and broad industry class.

The table below displays jobs by occupation as a percentage of all filled jobs, with the South West and UK figures displayed as a comparison. The table has been colour coded to show which occupations made up the largest share of the workforce in 2025.

Occupation	East Devon %	South West %	UK %
Managers, directors and senior officials	6.5	11.5	11.3
Professional occupations	22.0	26.7	27.0
Associate professional occupations	18.5	14.7	14.8
Administrative & secretarial occupations	9.2	8.1	9.2
Skilled trades occupations	9.0	10.0	8.5
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	9.6	8.3	8.7
Sales and customer service occupations	4.2	5.8	5.8
Process plant & machine operatives	8.2	5.3	5.6
Elementary occupations	12.9	9.3	8.9

East Devon has fewer managers, directors and senior officials, and professional occupations than the regional and national figures, although the largest percentage of East Devon residents work in professional occupations. Higher percentages of East Devon residents work in elementary occupations and as process plant and machine operatives compared to regional and national figures.

The table below shows the number of employees by broad industry class based on 2024 figures. These figures are produced based on estimates and rounded to the nearest 50, so should only be taken as indicative figures. The highest numbers of residents work in retail, accommodation and food services, and health.

Sector	East Devon (number)
Agriculture, forestry & fishing (A)	1,000
Mining, quarrying & utilities (B,D and E)	600
Manufacturing (C)	3,500
Construction (F)	3,500
Motor trades (Part G)	1,250
Wholesale (Part G)	2,250
Retail (Part G)	6,000
Transport & storage (inc postal) (H)	3,000
Accommodation & food services (I)	7,000
Information & communication (J)	1,500
Financial & insurance (K)	350

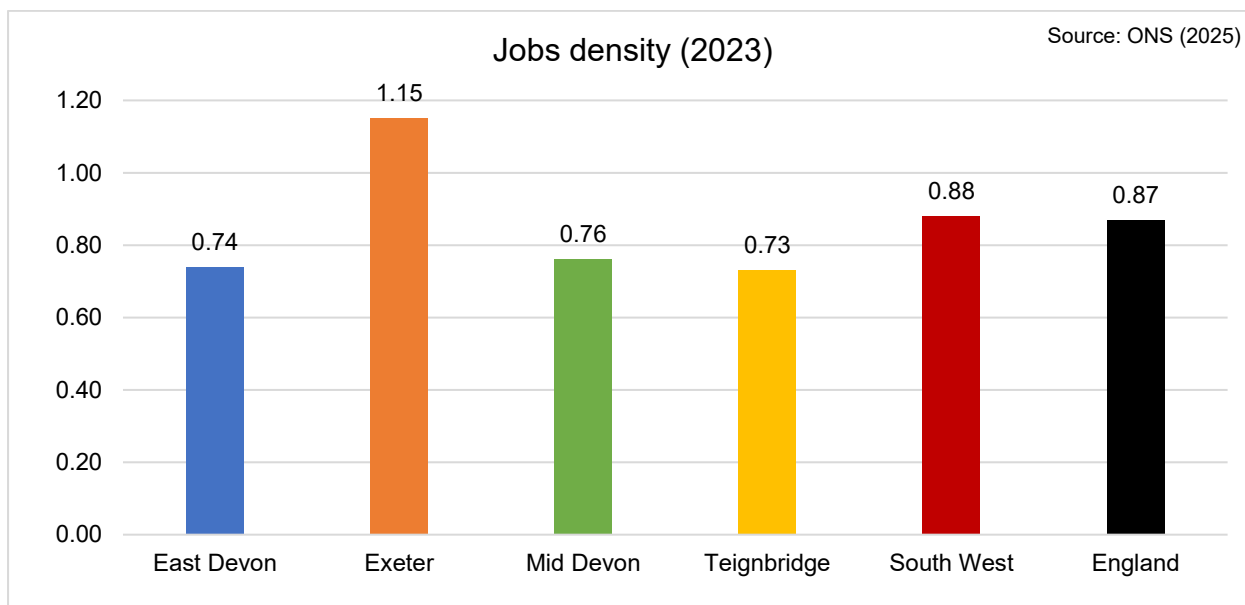
Property (L)	1,500
Professional, scientific & technical (M)	3,000
Business administration & support services (N)	2,500
Public administration & defence (O)	1,500
Education (P)	4,500
Health (Q)	7,000
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services (R,S,T and U)	3,000

The table below shows jobs by sector as a percentage of all jobs for 2024, with the South West and UK displayed as comparisons. This shows that East Devon's sectoral distribution of jobs is mostly aligned with regional and national averages, but with higher percentages in farming, accommodation and food services, and retail, and lower percentages of jobs in finance, business administration and support, and professional, scientific, and technical sectors.

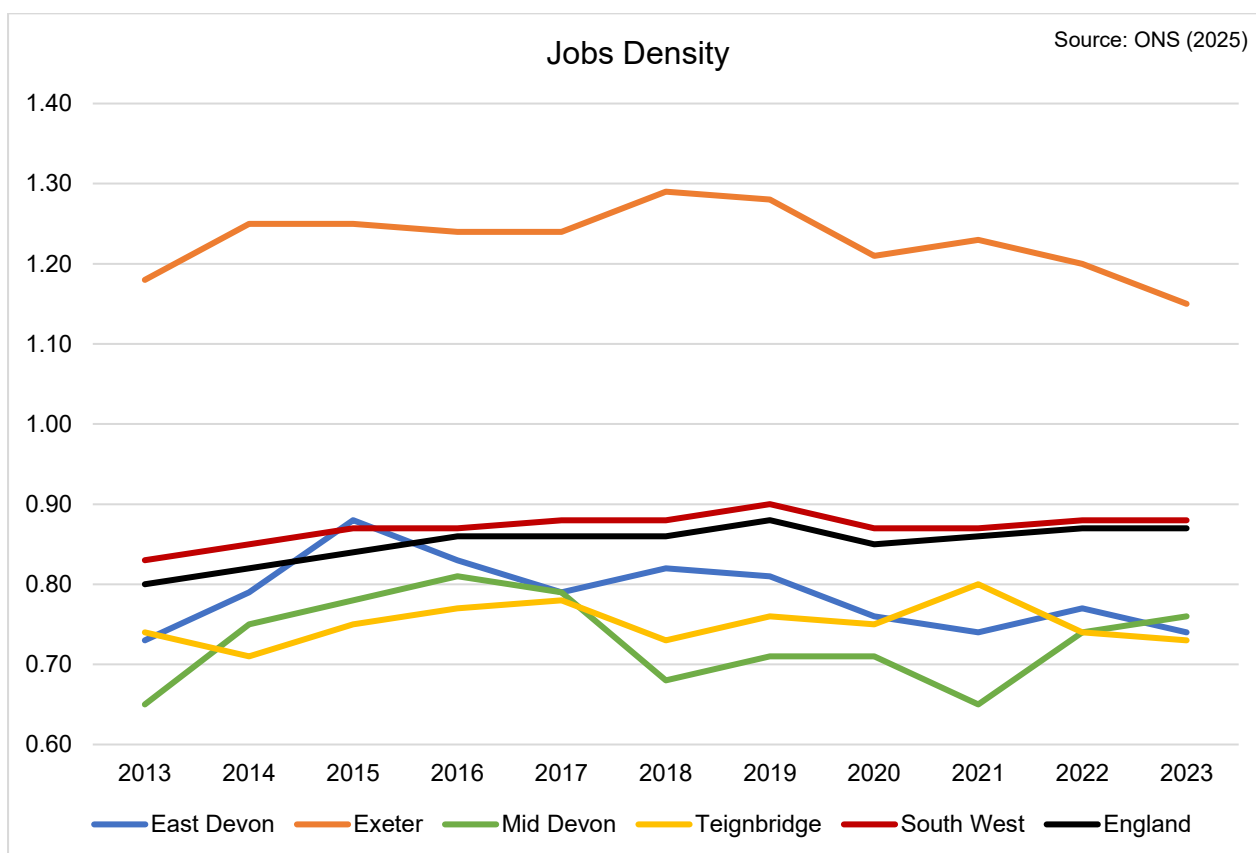
Industry	East Devon %	South West %	UK %
Agriculture, forestry & fishing (A)	1.9	1	0.6
Mining, quarrying & utilities (B,D and E)	1.1	1.4	1.3
Manufacturing (C)	6.6	8.2	7.2
Construction (F)	6.6	5	5
Motor trades (Part G)	2.4	1.9	1.8
Wholesale (Part G)	4.2	2.7	3.6
Retail (Part G)	11.3	9.1	8.2
Transport & storage (inc postal) (H)	5.7	4.4	4.9
Accommodation & food services (I)	13.2	10.3	7.8
Information & communication (J)	2.8	3.9	4.5
Financial & insurance (K)	0.7	2.8	3.4
Property (L)	2.8	1.6	1.9
Professional, scientific & technical (M)	5.7	8.6	9.2
Business administration & support services (N)	4.7	6.7	8.5
Public administration & defence (O)	2.8	4.7	4.9
Education (P)	8.5	8.6	8.6
Health (Q)	13.2	14.9	14.1
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services (R,S,T and U)	5.7	4.2	4.4

Jobs density figures show how many jobs are occupied in a given area compared to the overall working age population. A job density of 1.0 would mean that there is one job for every resident aged 16-64. 2023 data shows East Devon has a jobs density

of 0.74, slightly below both the 2022 figure of 0.76, and the figures for the South West and England.



The graph below shows how jobs density figures changed in the 2013-2023 period. Jobs density for the South West correlates strongly to national figures, with both staying between the 0.8 to 0.9 range over the decade. National and regional changes do not appear to impact jobs density figures at a local level.



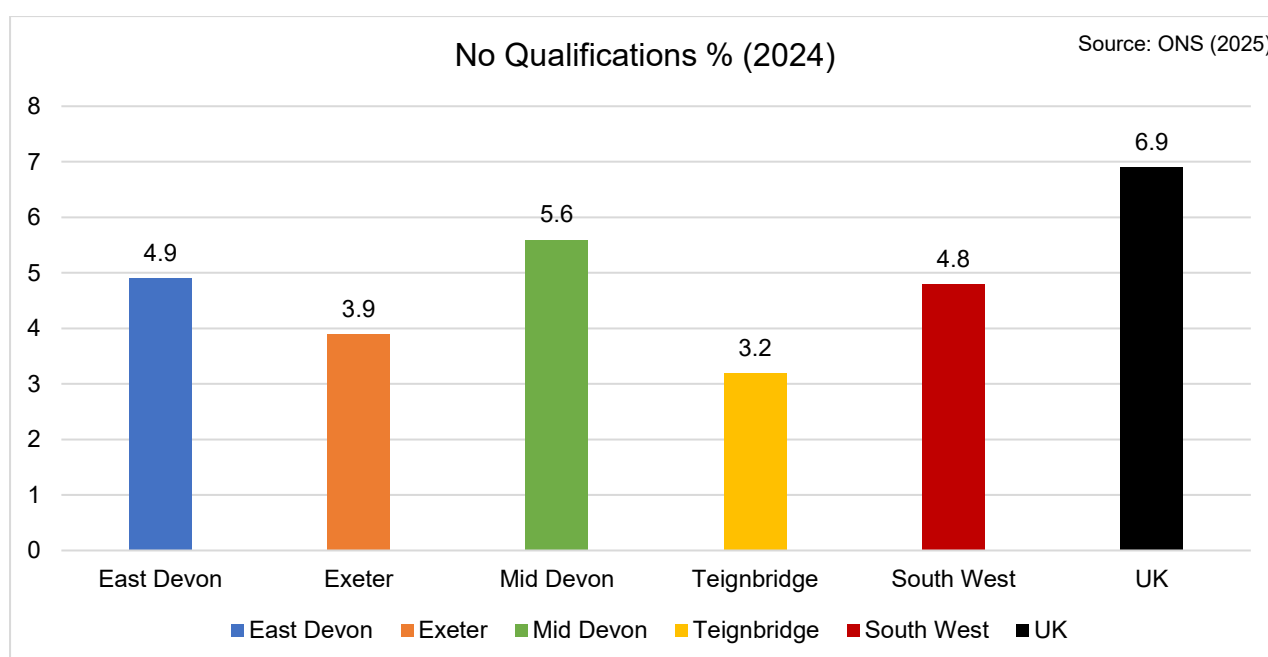
## Skills

ONS data records the Registered Qualification Framework (RQF) levels for East Devon residents aged 16 to 64.

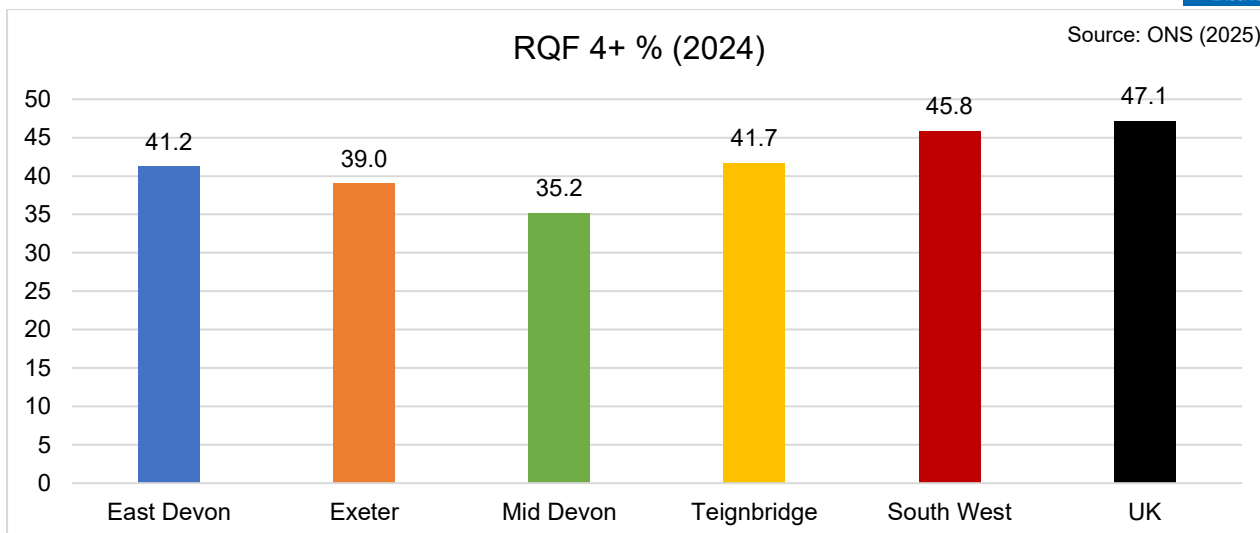
Levels of qualifications are defined as follows:

- Level 1: GCSEs at grades A\*-C or equivalent.
- Level 2: GCSEs at grades A\*-C or equivalent.
- Level 3: A Levels and T Levels
- Level 4 or above: Certificate of Higher Education, foundation degree, Bachelor's degree or equivalent, higher degree, professional qualifications

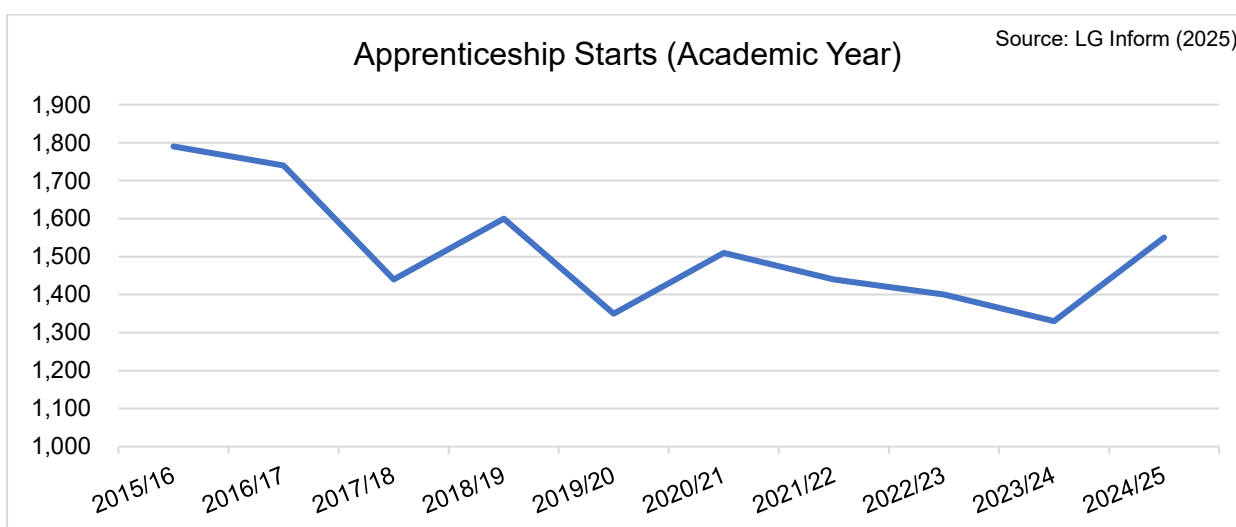
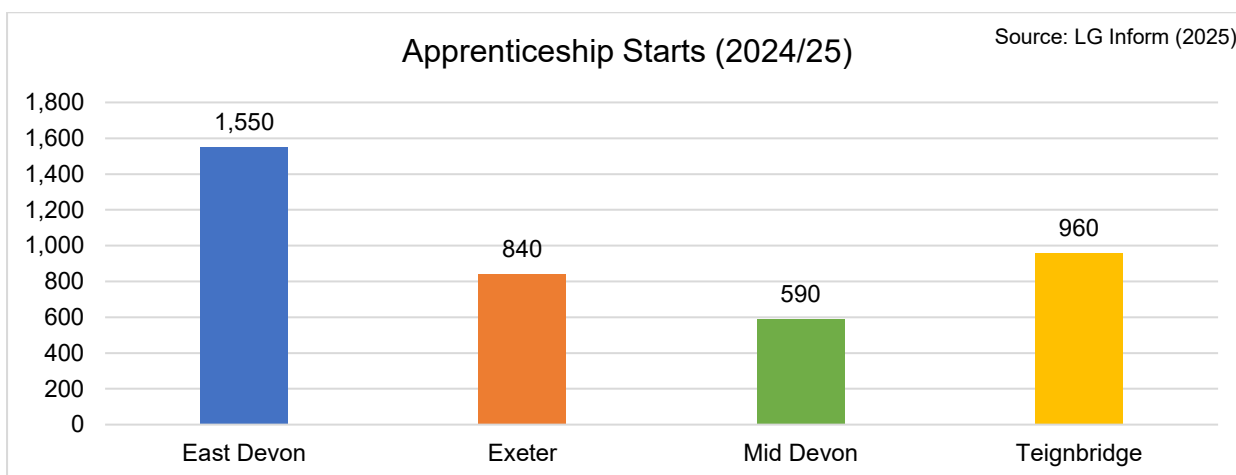
The percentage of East Devon residents with no qualifications remains in line with regional levels and below national levels, as indicated on the graph below.



Whilst East Devon has a lower proportion of residents with no qualifications than the UK as a whole, a smaller percentage of East Devon residents are educated to RQF Level 4 or above. However, East Devon compares well against the other EHoD areas, with a higher percentage of residents with a qualification level of 4 or above than both Exeter and Mid Devon.

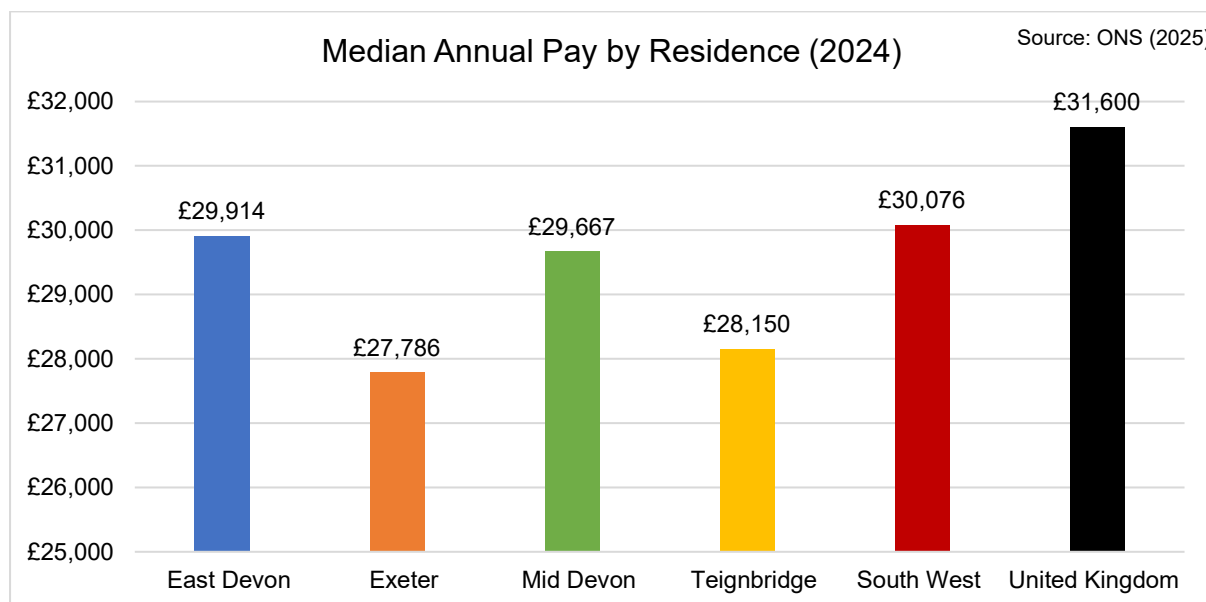


Data is also available on the number of residents starting an apprenticeship each year, which shows a significantly higher number of apprenticeship starts in East Devon than local comparators. After declining numbers in recent years, the 2024/25 academic year saw an uptick in the number of East Devon residents commencing an apprenticeship.

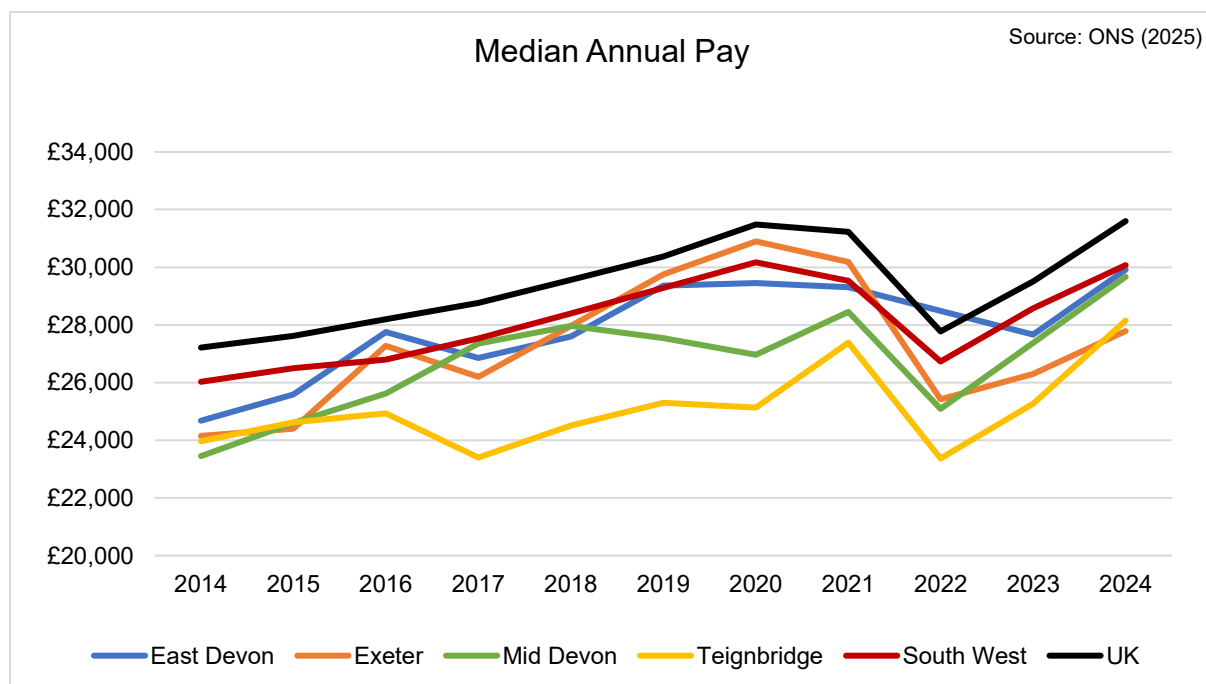


## Wages

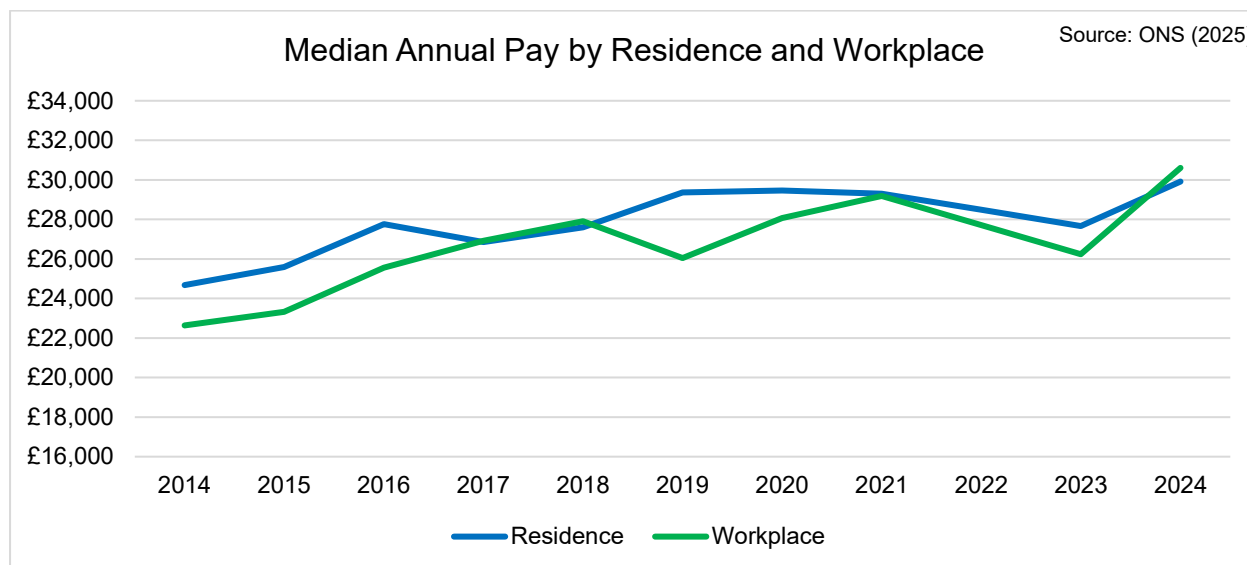
The ONS publishes median and mean wage data by both place of residence and place of work. The graphs below compare the median annual wage (by place of residence) between different areas. It shows that East Devon residents earn less than the national average but compare well to local comparators.



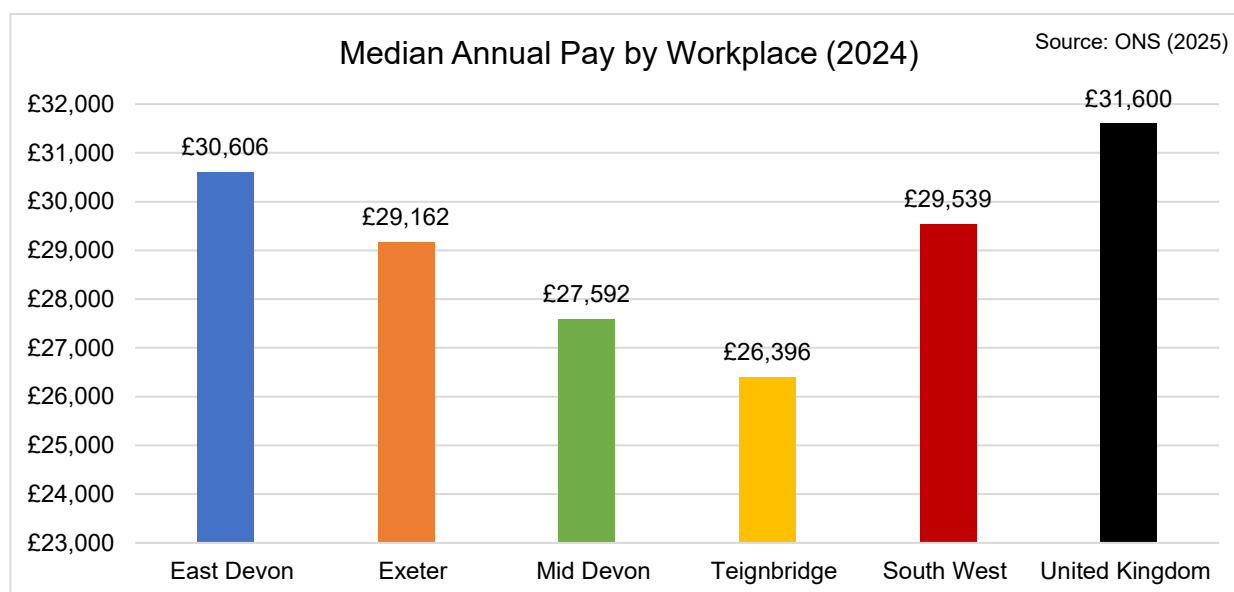
As the graph below indicates, the median annual pay in East Devon is consistently below the national average, but has been both above and below the South West average over the last decade. For the last three years, East Devon has had the highest median salary amongst the EHoD areas.



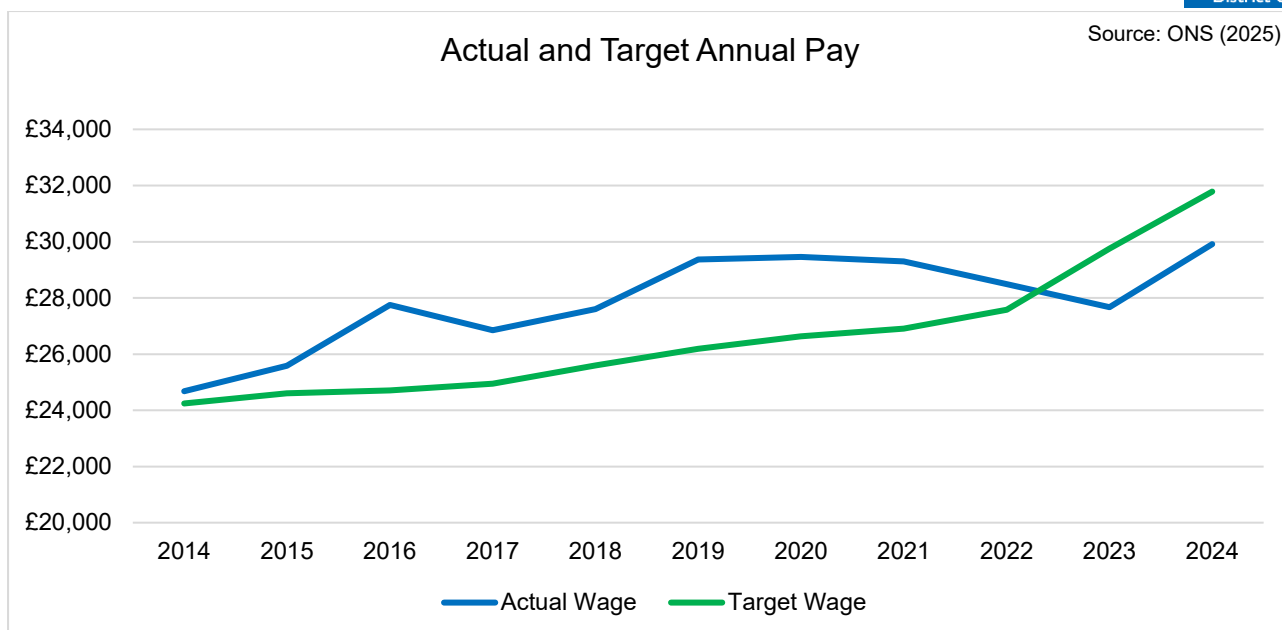
The graph below shows East Devon wages for those who reside in East Devon and those who work in East Devon. In 2024, those who worked in East Devon earned a higher median wage than East Devon residents for the first time since 2018.



Those who work in East Devon also have the highest median salary out of all EHoD areas. Although it remains below the national average, in 2024, the median wage for East Devon workers exceeded the South West average. This is only the second time this has occurred in the last 25 years.



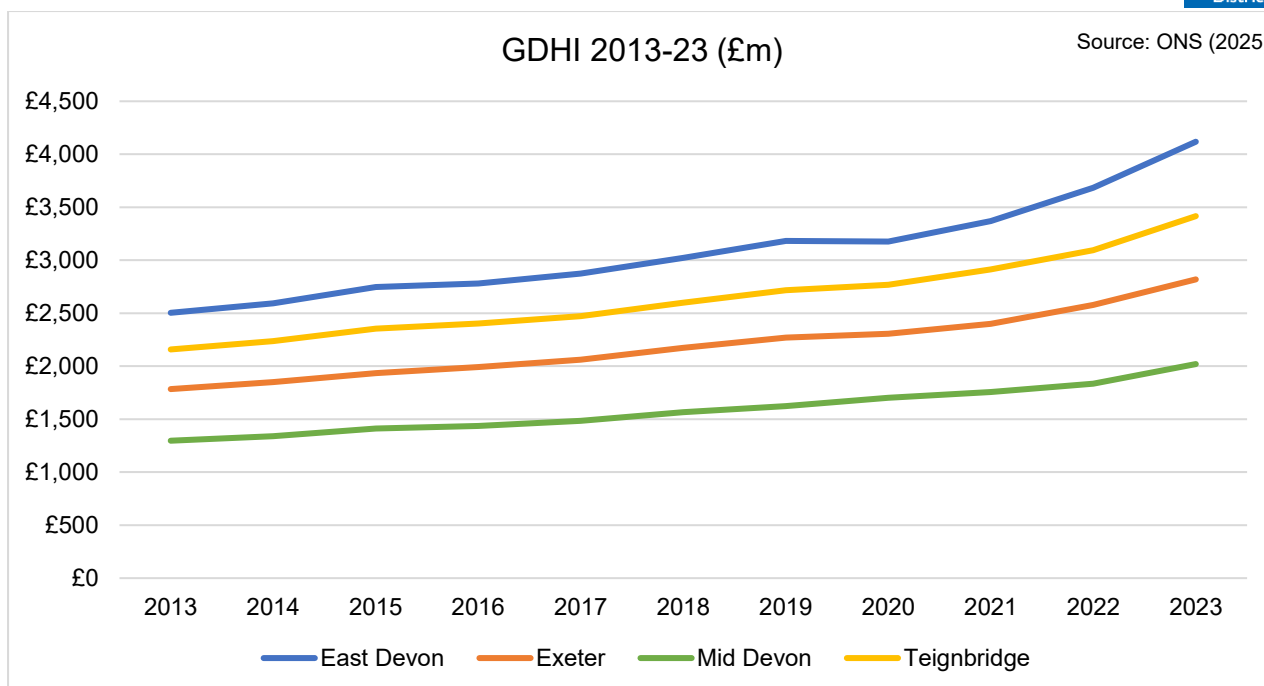
East Devon’s median annual pay by residence can also be compared against an inflation-adjusted rate of pay, or a ‘target’ annual wage. The target wage takes the actual annual salary and increases it each year by the rate of inflation, as measured by the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers’ housing costs (CPIH). Although wages in East Devon have risen faster than inflation for most of the last decade, sharp increases in inflation levels mean the actual wage is now well below target levels.



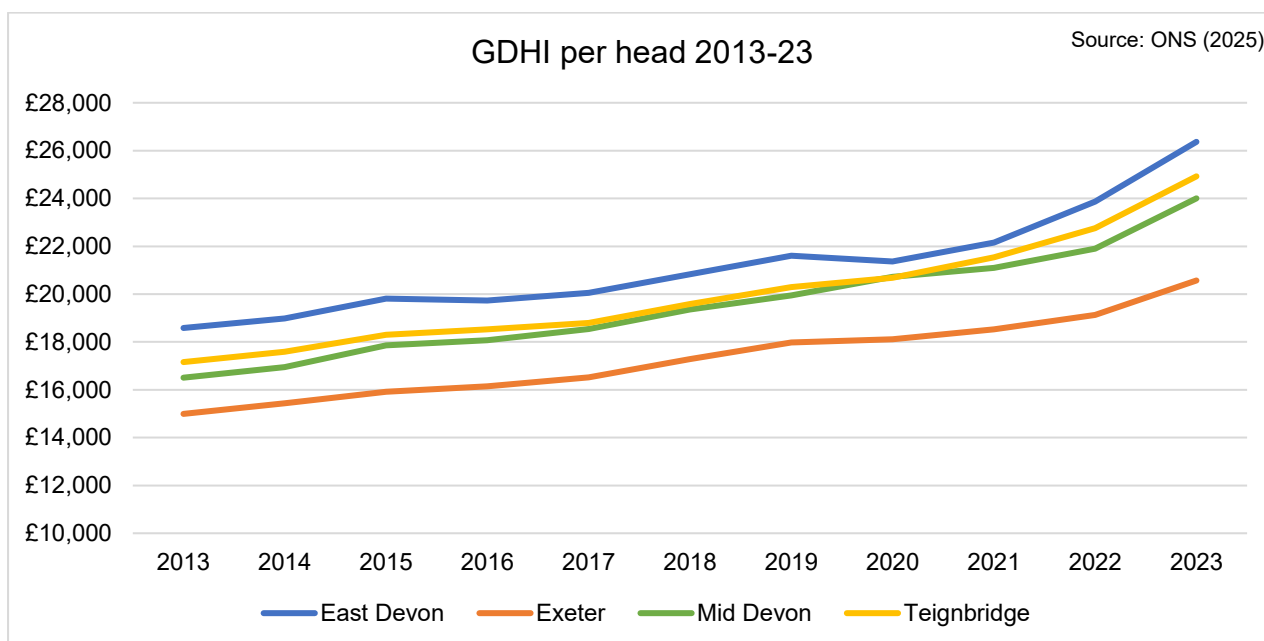
The ONS, in partnership with the Living Wage Foundation, produces statistics on the percentage of jobs which pay below the hourly living wage. For those working outside of London, this equated to £12.60 per hour in 2024. Since 2023, the percentage of jobs paying below the real living wage has increased across all comparator areas, with East Devon’s relative position to local, regional, and national percentages remaining consistent.



In addition to wages, income levels can be measured in terms of household income. At a local authority level, household income is measured in Gross Disposable Household Income (GDHI), which is the amount of money remaining to all of the individuals in the household after they have paid taxes. In 2023, GDHI for East Devon was £4,118,000,000, the highest of all EHoD areas. As shown on the graph below, GDHI has risen across all areas over the last decade.

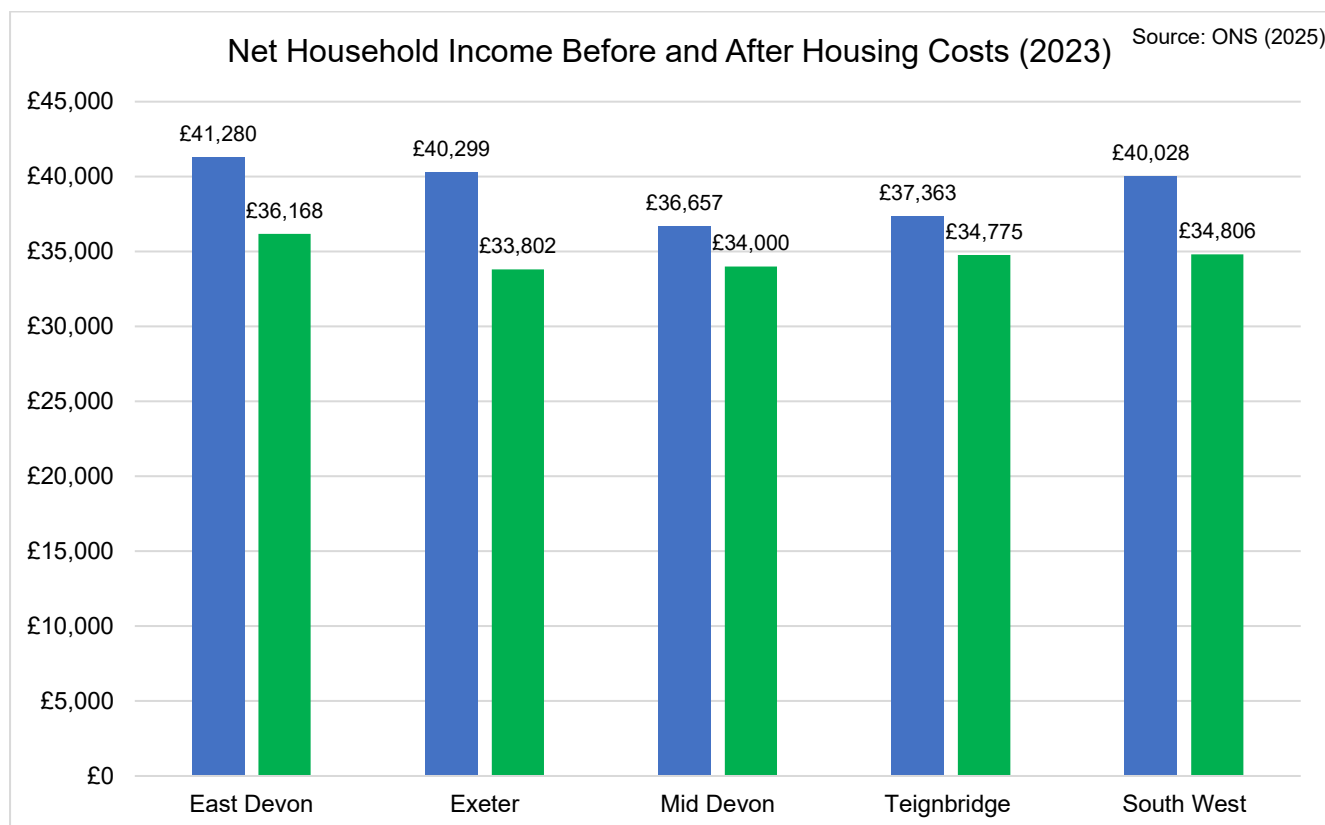


GDHI can also be calculated per head of population, which accounts for East Devon’s larger population relative to other EHoD areas. This also shows that East Devon has the highest GDHI of all EHoD areas, with each individual having £26,367 to spend or save.



Household income is also measured at a Middle Super Output Area (MSOA) level. This uses a different methodology, with income calculated as averages per household, rather than amounts for each individual in a household. It can be measured in total annual income, net annual income, and net annual income after housing costs. Net annual household income is calculated after income tax payments, National Insurance contributions, council tax, contributions to occupational pension schemes, and child support contributions have been paid.

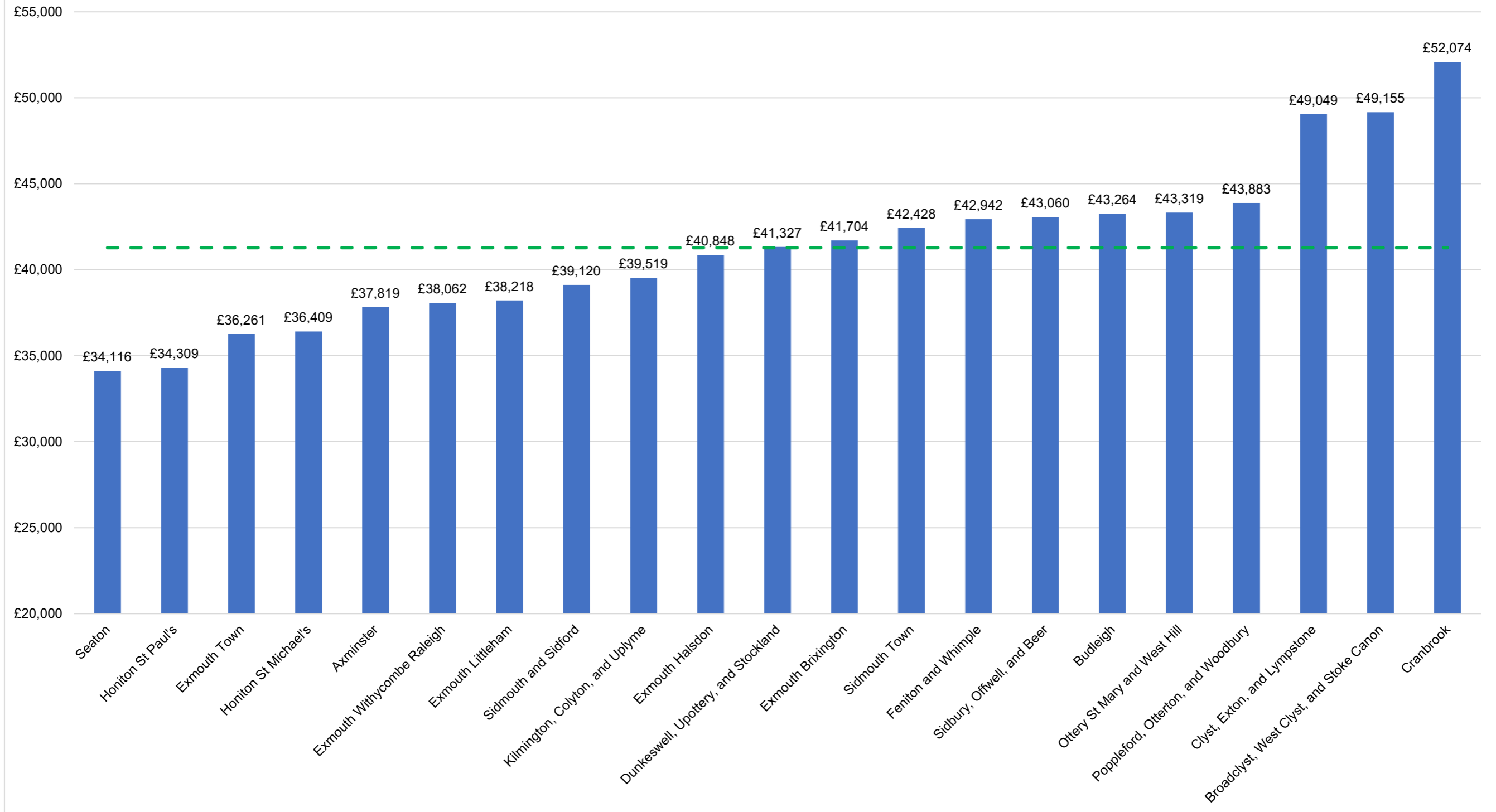
East Devon has the highest average net annual income before housing costs of all EHoD areas, also exceeding the South West average. When housing costs - defined as rent and mortgage payments, water rates, and ground rent and service charges - are excluded, the average net household income falls from £41,280 to £36,168 for East Devon, a 12% decrease. Although East Devon still has the highest net income of all comparison areas, East Devon households spend a higher percentage of their income on housing costs than Mid Devon and Teignbridge.



The MSOA with the highest average net income before housing costs is Cranbrook, which, at £52,074 is the highest of any MSOA in Devon. At the other end of the range is Seaton, where the net annual income is £34,166. As demonstrated on the graph below, a greater number of MSOAs are below the average than above, with a small number of MSOAs pushing up average net income levels.

Net Annual Income before Housing Costs by MSOA (2023)

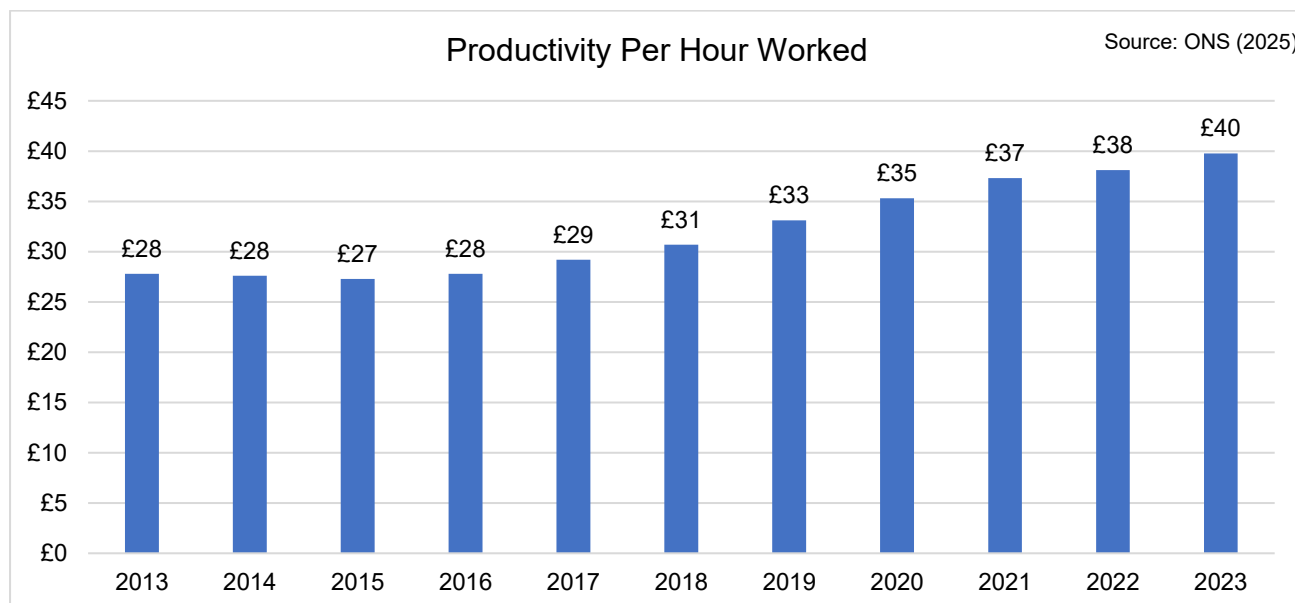
Source: ONS (2025)



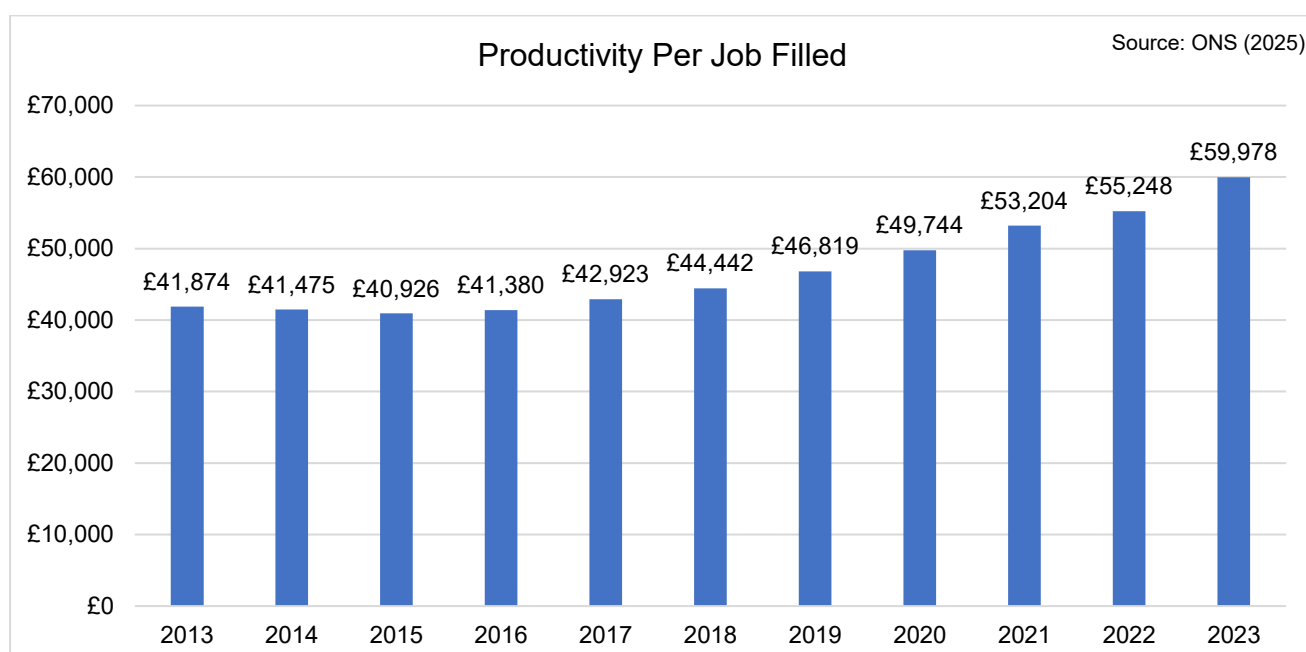
## Productivity

One way to measure the economic performance of a given area is by analysing gross value added (GVA) data, which calculates productivity levels. GVA measures the value generated in the production of goods and services.

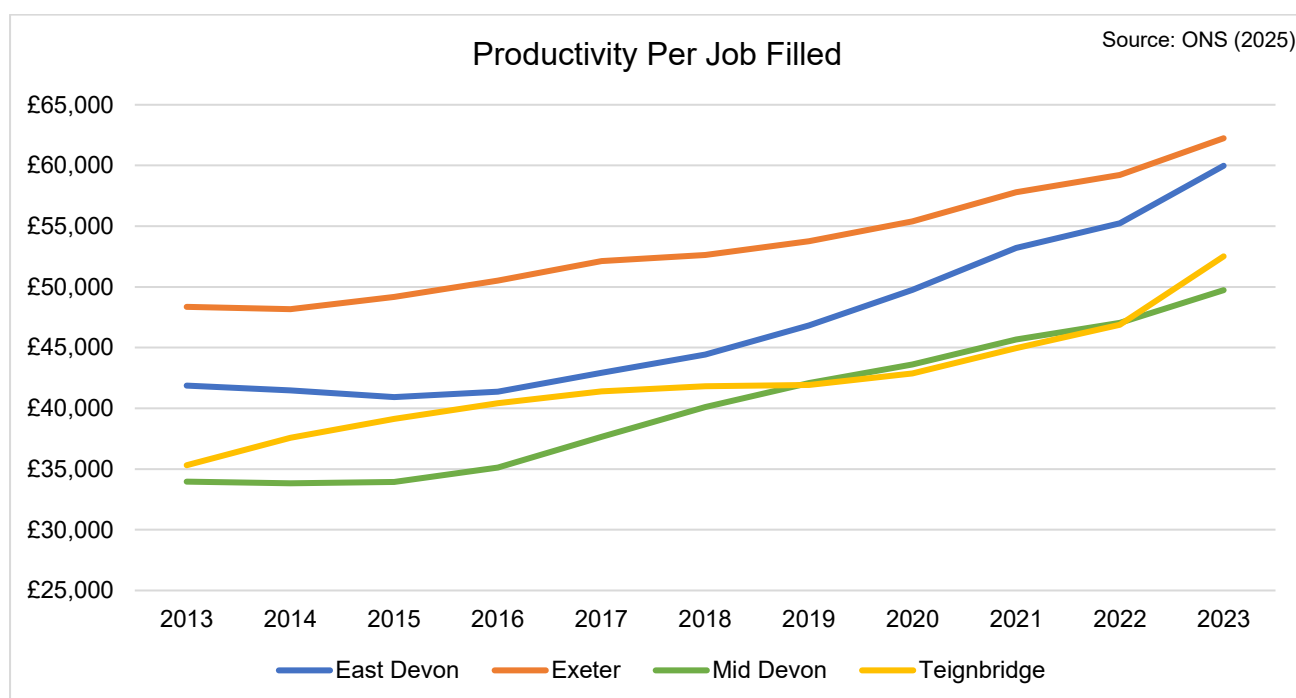
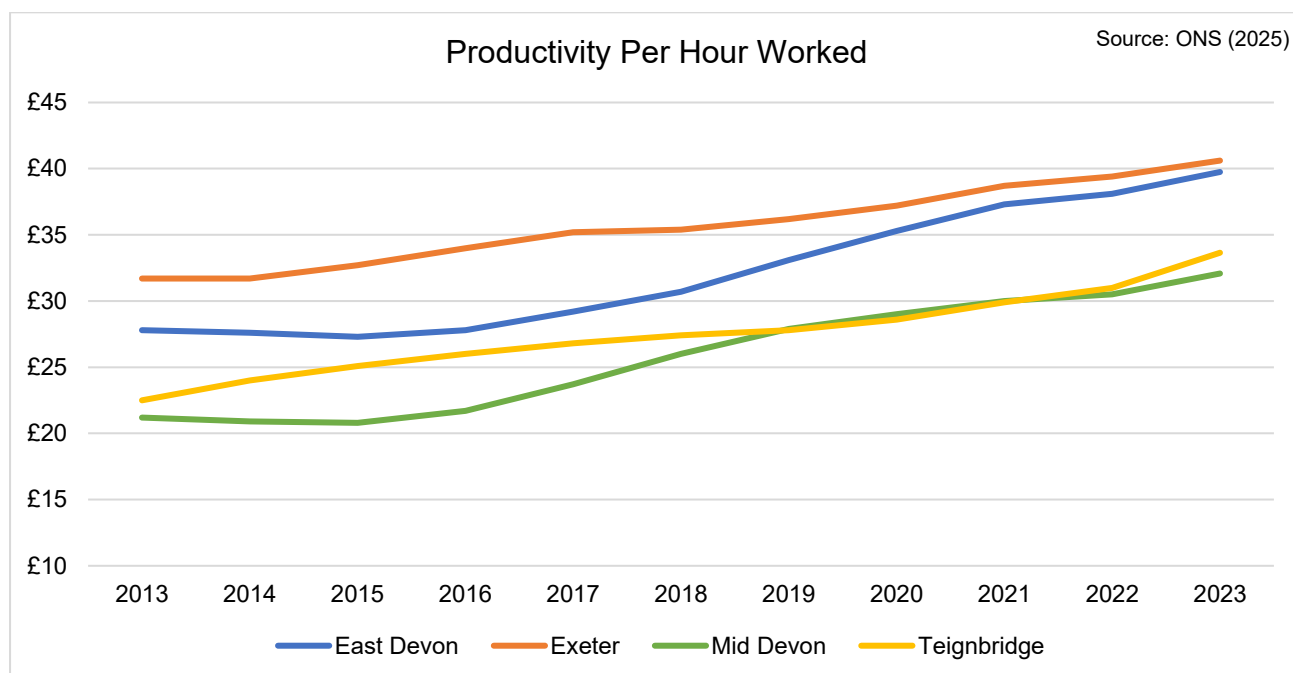
The graph below shows the average value added per hour worked in East Devon. As of 2023, the average worker produced £40 per hour worked. Local authority datasets are not adjusted for inflation, so although it appears as though productivity is increasing, this could be due to the effect of inflation, rather than real terms productivity growth.



The graph below shows the average value added per job filled in East Devon. As of 2023, the average worker produced £59,978 of added economic value. This figure is also not adjusted for inflation.



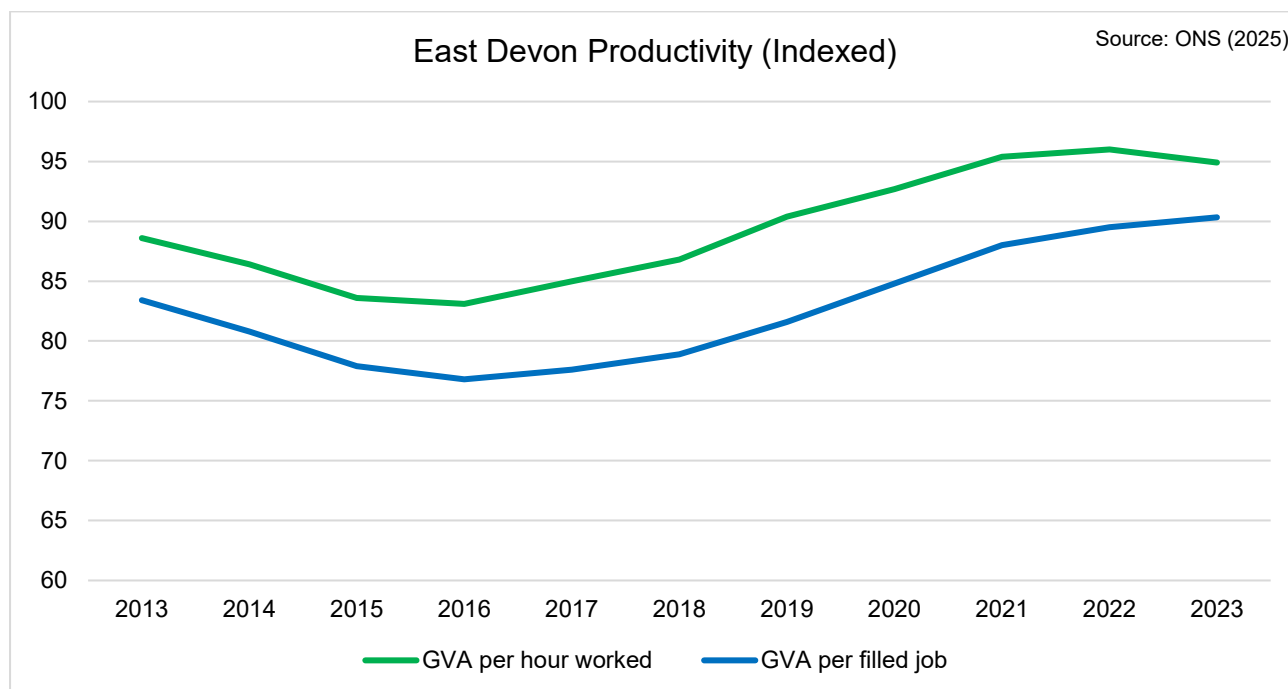
The graphs below compare East Devon’s productivity levels to the other EHoD areas. The productivity per hour worked and per job filled both continue to follow established trends, with East Devon slightly behind Exeter, albeit with the gap narrowing, and well above both Mid Devon and Teignbridge.



Current price indexed data from the ONS can be used to show how levels of productivity differ from the UK average for any region for a given year. If an area’s productivity index is 115, its labour productivity is estimated to be 15% higher than the UK average, while an area with a productivity index of 85 is estimated to be 15% lower than the UK average. These figures can only be used to measure an area’s productivity relative to the UK average, so an area’s productivity index number could

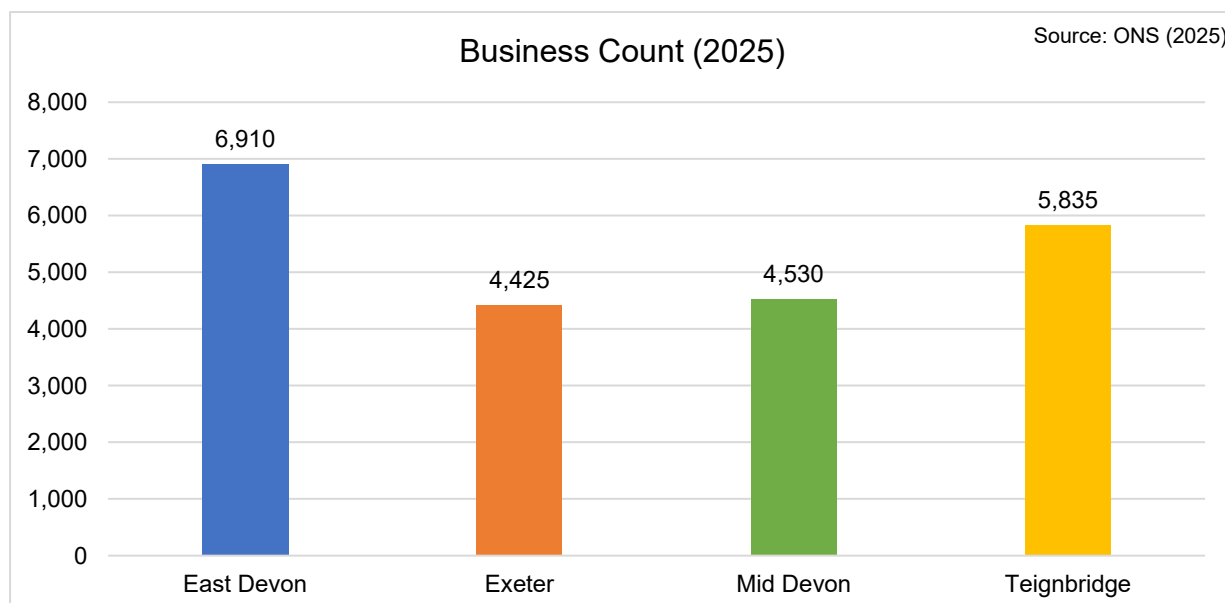
reduce whilst its productivity increases if the UK overall experiences faster growth than the given area.

At 95 and 90 respectively, the graph below shows that East Devon’s productivity per hour worked and per job filled remains below the national average, consistent with all years in the previous decade.

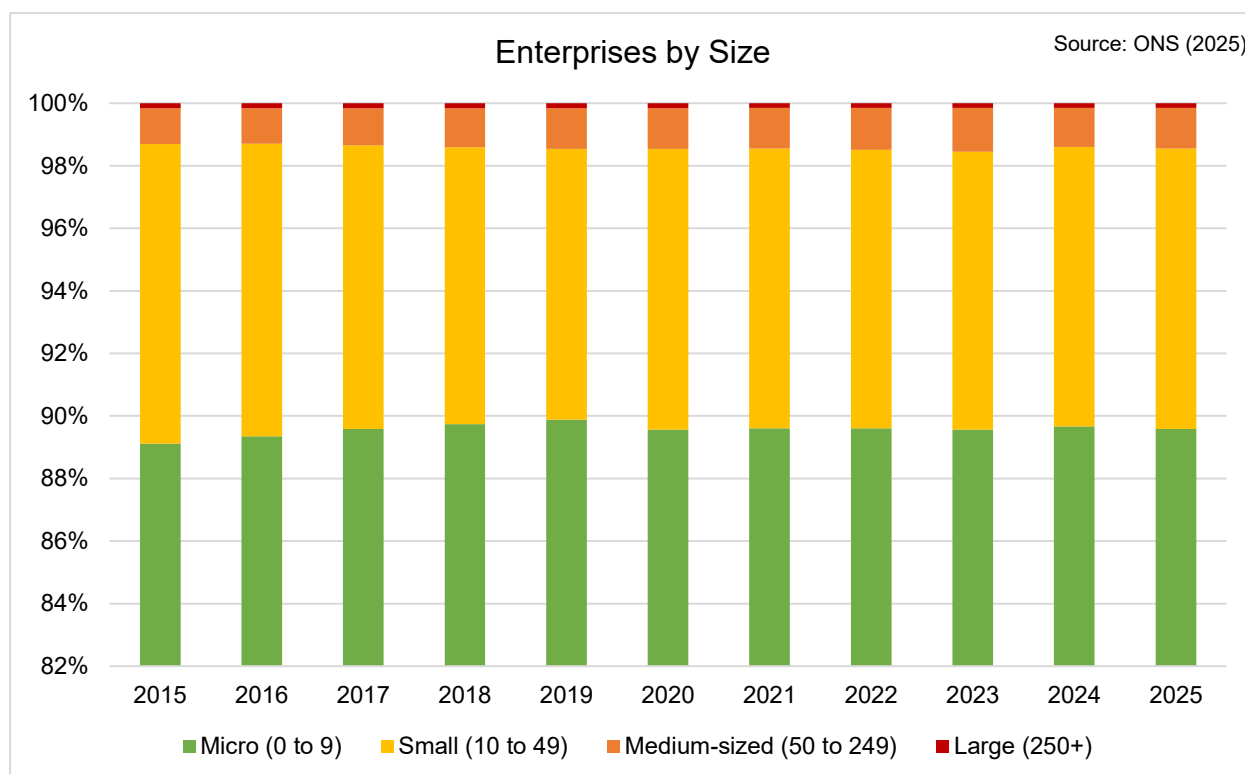


## Businesses

ONS business demography data shows the number and types of enterprises operating within local authority areas. As well as having the largest population of the EHoD authorities, East Devon has the highest number of businesses, which is consistent with previous editions of the LER.



The ONS also counts the number of enterprises of each size at a district level, distinguishing between micro enterprises (0-9 employees), small (10-49 employees), medium (50-249 employees) and large enterprises (250+ employees). Over 98% of East Devon’s businesses are considered small or micro category, with 90% having fewer than 10 employees. There has been little variation in these percentages over the last decade, with the number of ‘large’ businesses remaining consistent at a count of 10.

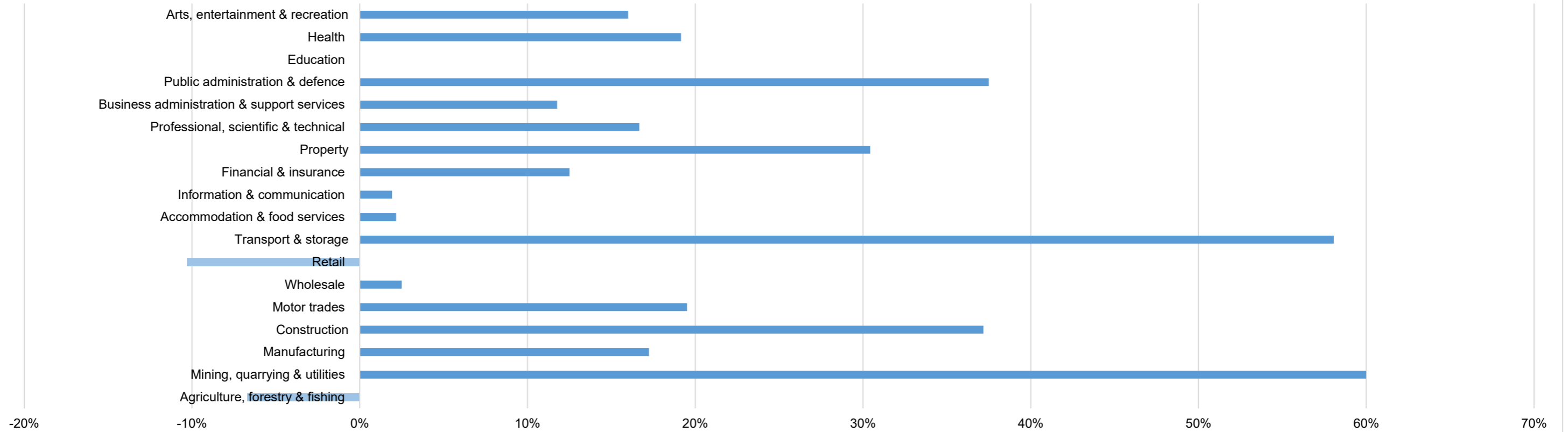


The graphs on the next page show changes in industry by business count over the last decade. The first graph shows the percentage change in the number of enterprises by broad industry type over the ten-year period 2015 to 2025. Most industries have experienced an increase in the number of businesses as the overall business count has grown. The two exceptions are Retail and Agriculture, which have both declined over the last decade.

The number of businesses by industry can also be presented as a percentage of all businesses, which adjusts for the overall increase in business count. The second graph shows the change over the 2015 to 2025 period in the percentage of all East Devon businesses of each broad industry type. As above, the decline in retail and agricultural businesses is evident, with wholesale and accommodations and food services also reducing proportionally. The biggest growth is witnessed in construction.

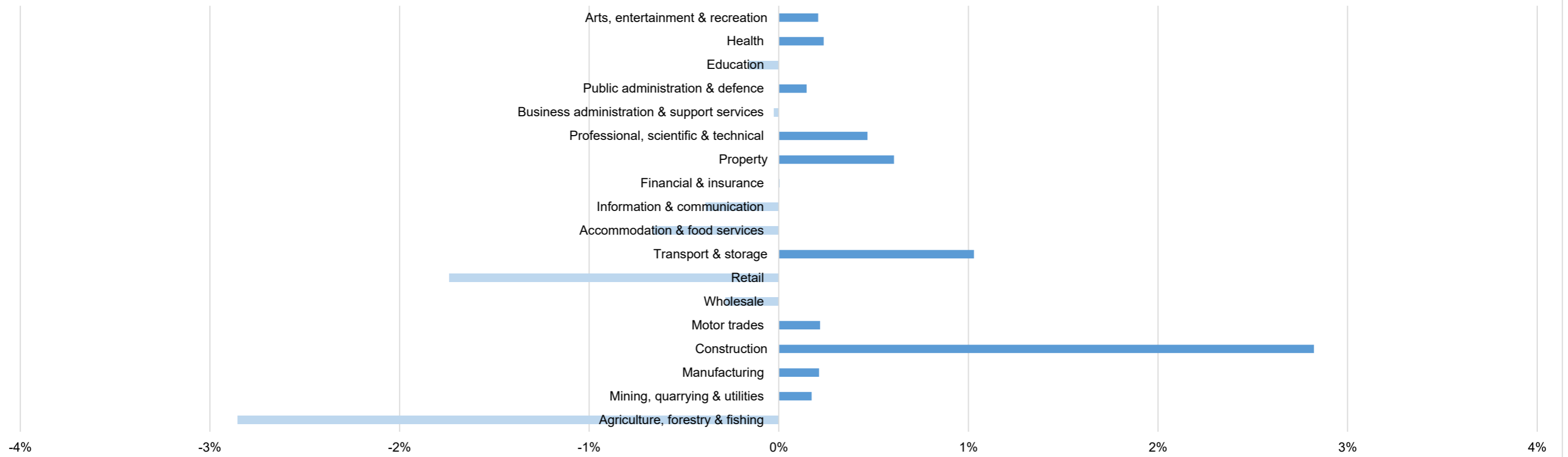
### Change in Number of Businesses by Industry % 2015-2025

Source: ONS (2025)

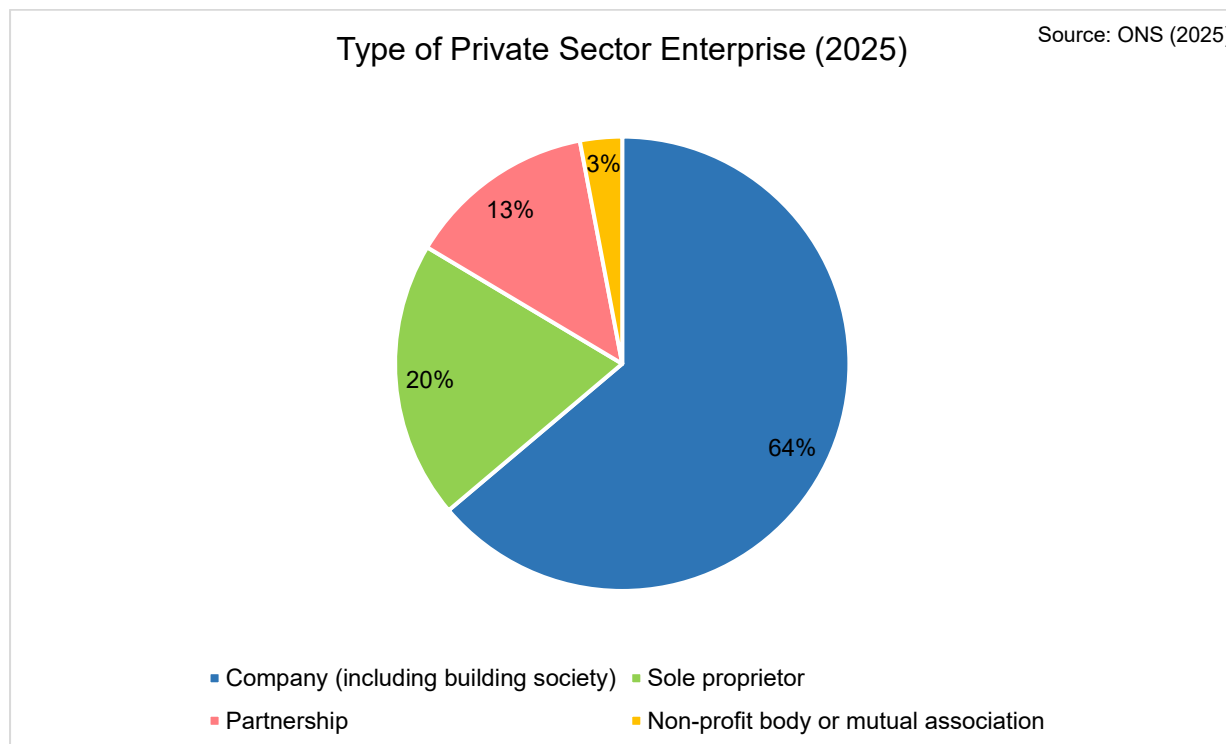


### Change in % of Businesses by Industry % 2015-25

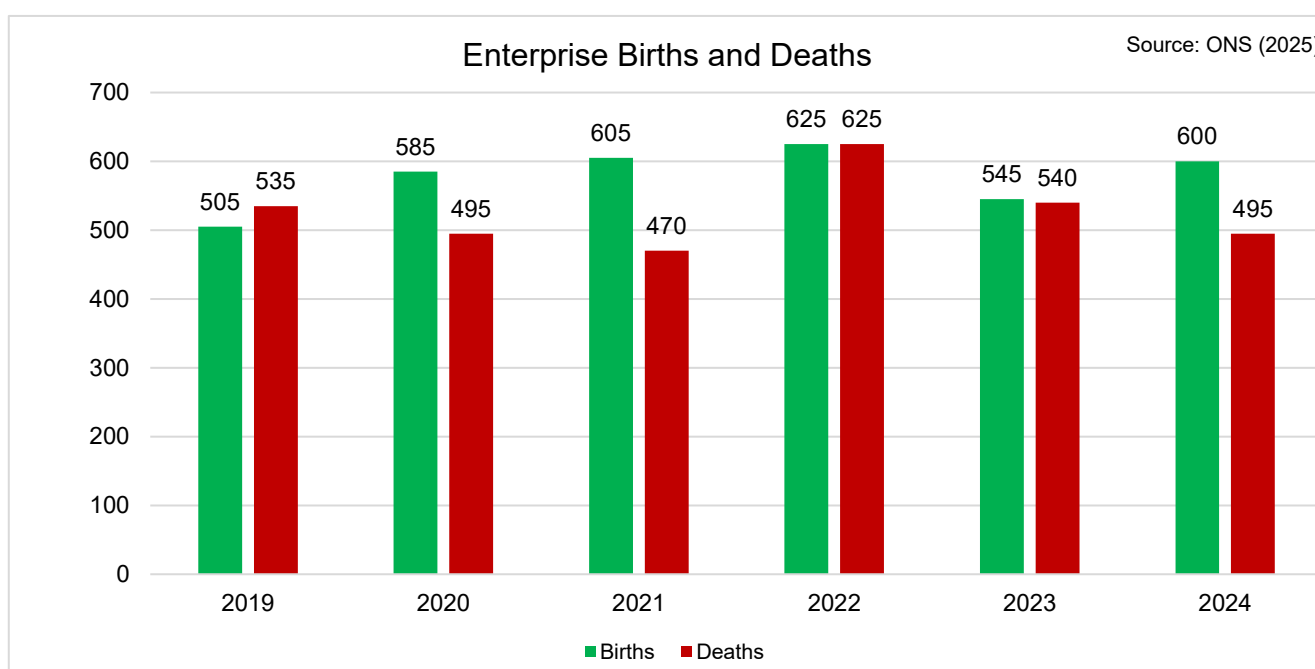
Source: ONS (2025)



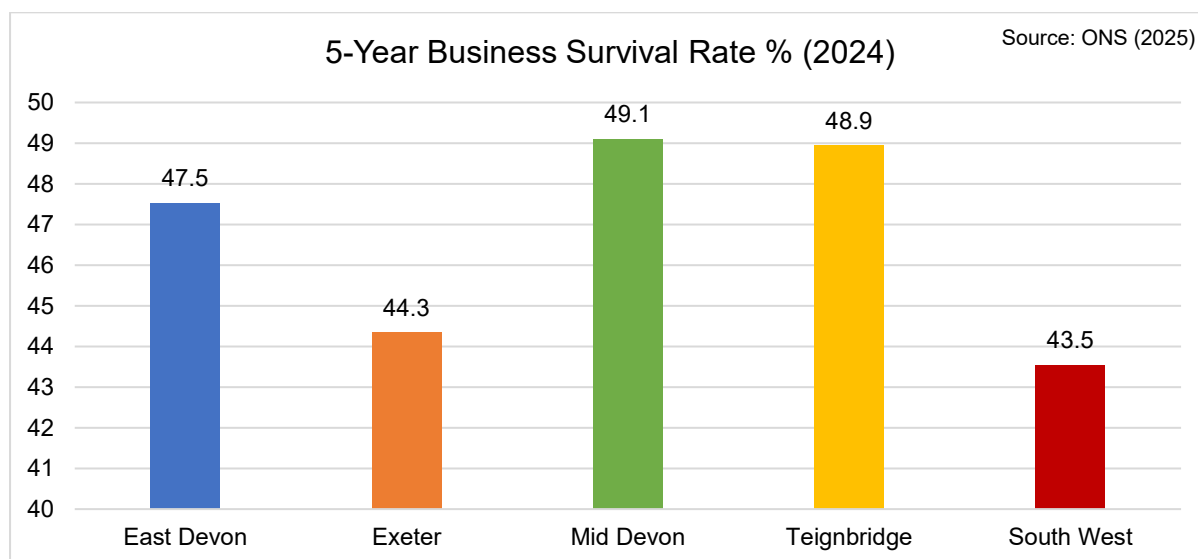
The pie chart below shows the percentage of each type of private sector enterprise. Almost two thirds are conventional businesses, with 1,350 sole proprietors and 920 partnerships making up 20% and 13% of enterprises respectively. 205 enterprises are classed as non-profit or mutual organisations. These remain similar to 2024 figures, although a 2% increase in companies has reduced the number of all other types of private sector enterprise.



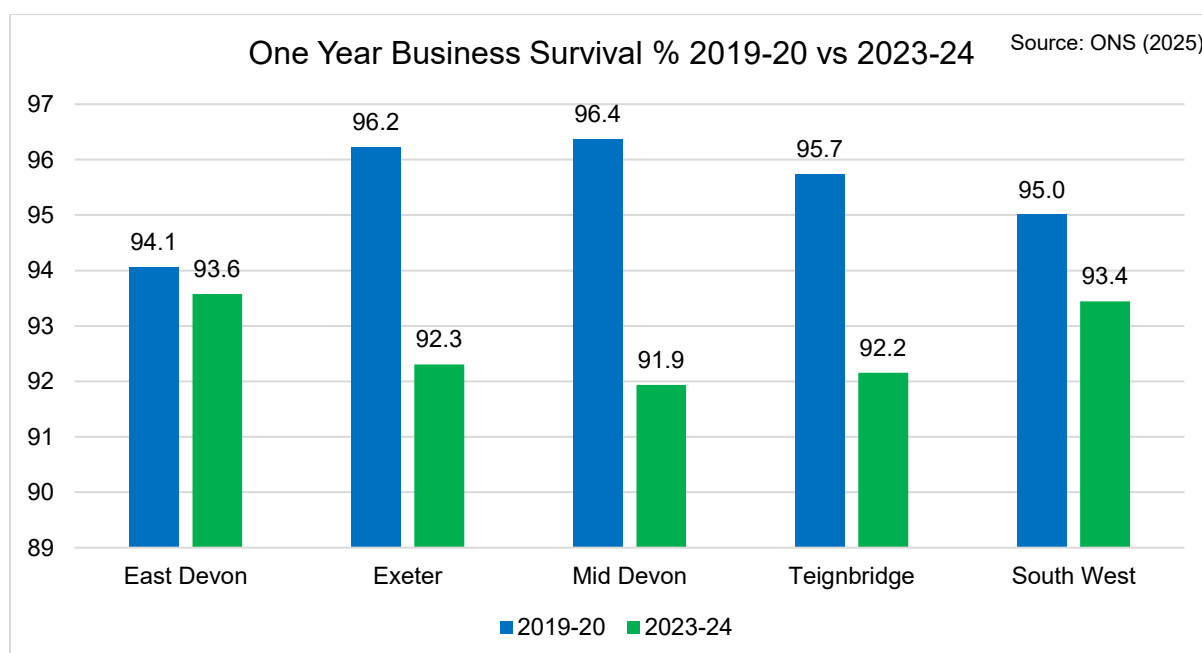
Since 2018, the ONS has recorded the number of new businesses created (births) and businesses ceasing to operate (deaths) each year. 2024 data shows that 105 more businesses were created than closed, following two years where birth and death numbers were similar.



The five-year business survival rate shows what percentage of businesses started in 2019 were still operating in 2024. East Devon’s business survival rate is comparable to the other EHoD areas and higher than the regional figure but is 2% lower than in 2023.

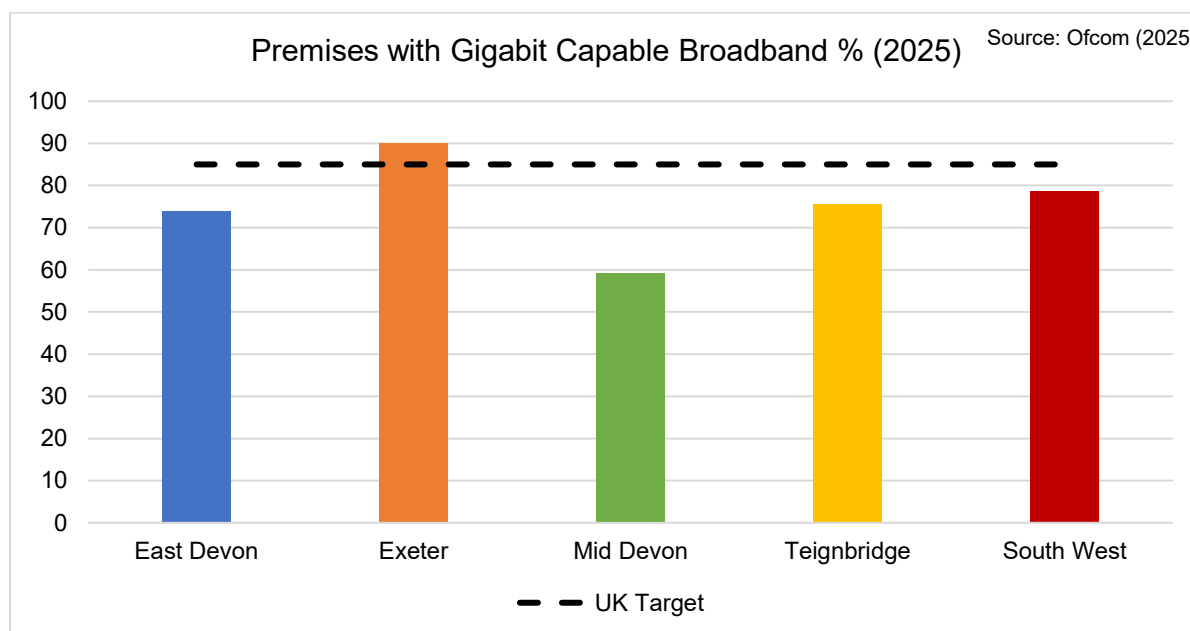


The graph below compares one year survival rate for 2019-20 and 2023-24. Although the one-year survival rate has decreased, East Devon’s percentage is in line with the regional average and higher than Exeter, Mid Devon, and Teignbridge.

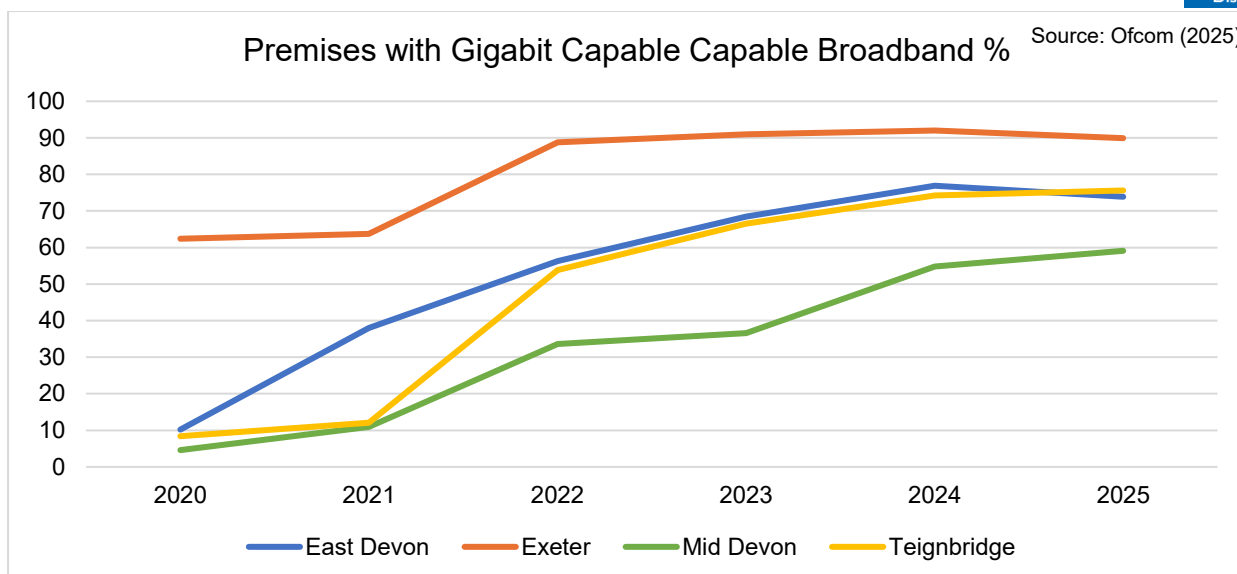


## Connectivity

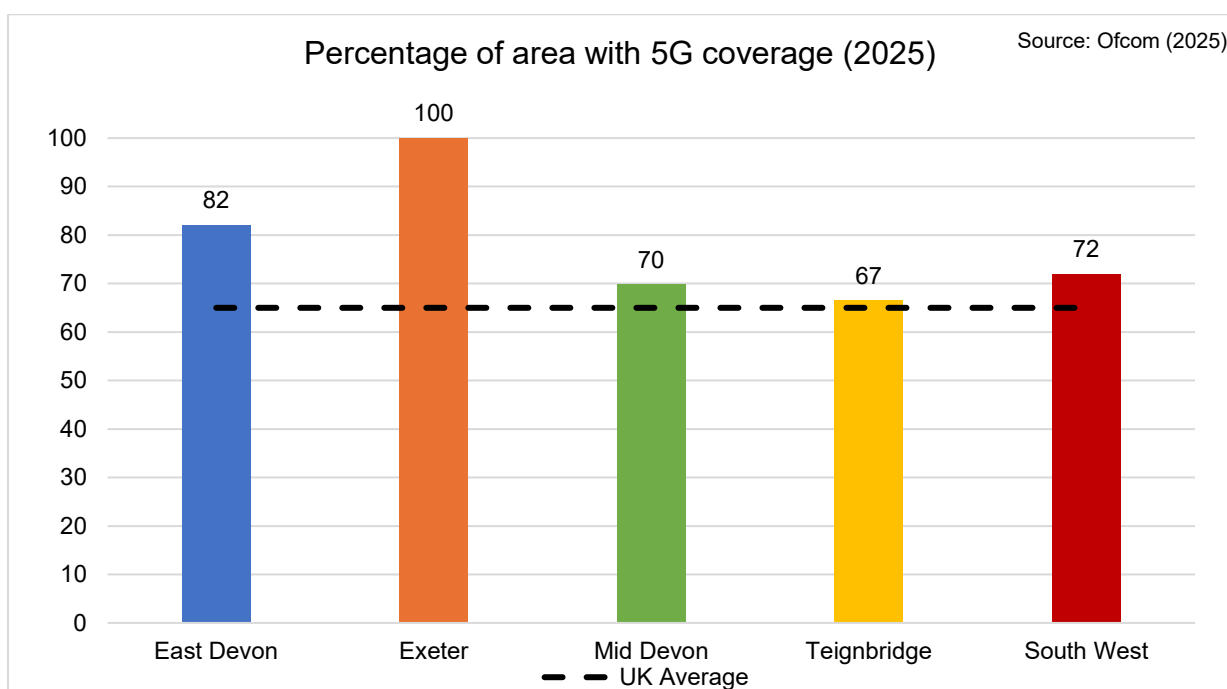
Ofcom provide data on broadband speeds and mobile internet coverage across the UK. One measure of connectivity is the percentage of premises with gigabit-capable broadband coverage. ‘Gigabit-capable’ means a broadband connection with download speeds of at least 1 gigabit-per-second. 74% of premises in East Devon are gigabit-capable, below the South West figure of 79% but above the other rural EHoD areas. The UK Government target was for 85% of homes to have gigabit-capable broadband by the end of 2025, as shown on the graph below.



Gigabit-capability has grown significantly since 2020 - the first year of data available – although the pace of the rollout has slowed considerably over time. Exeter has remained the EHoD authority with the highest percentage of gigabit capable premises, but the gap with East Devon, Mid Devon, and Teignbridge has closed considerably. A slight drop in the percentage of households with gigabit capability can be seen between 2024 and 2025. It is likely that the number of gigabit capable premises has remained stable, but increased housing numbers in areas without gigabit capability have lowered the percentage.



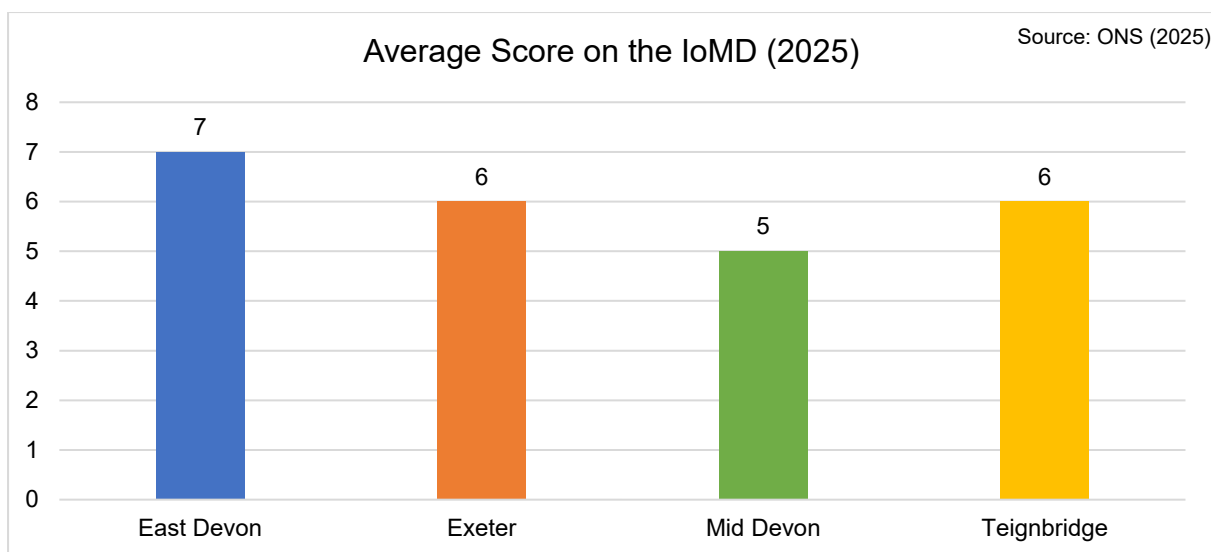
Another method of measuring connectivity is by the percentage of a given area which has 5G coverage from at least one provider. The UK Government’s target is for all populated areas of the UK to have 5G coverage by 2030, with 65% coverage achieved by 2025. 82% of East Devon is covered by 5G from at least one provider, higher than both Mid Devon and Teignbridge, but lower than Exeter.



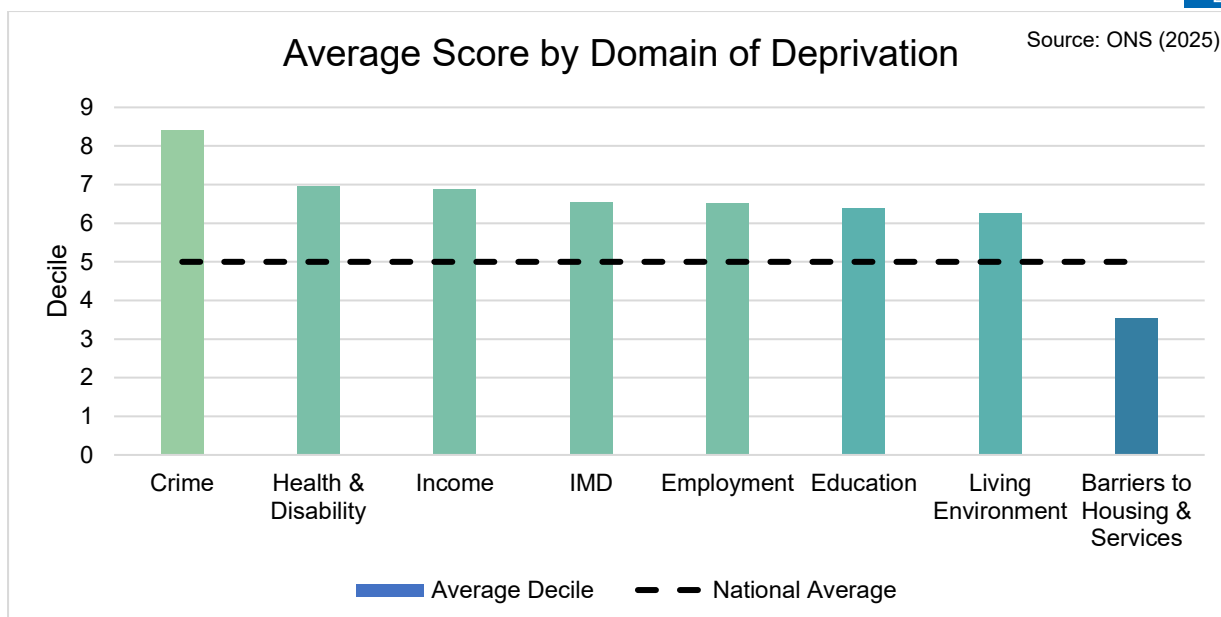
## Deprivation

The Indices of Deprivation (IoD25) measure relative levels of deprivation across all Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England. All LSOAs are measured against seven domains of deprivation and ranked, after which a score between 1 and 10 is assigned. A score of 1 signifies that the LSOA is in the top 10% of most deprived areas and a score of 10 signifies that the LSOA is in the bottom 10% of most deprived areas. The scores from all domains of deprivation are then averaged to give each LSOA a score on the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IoMD).

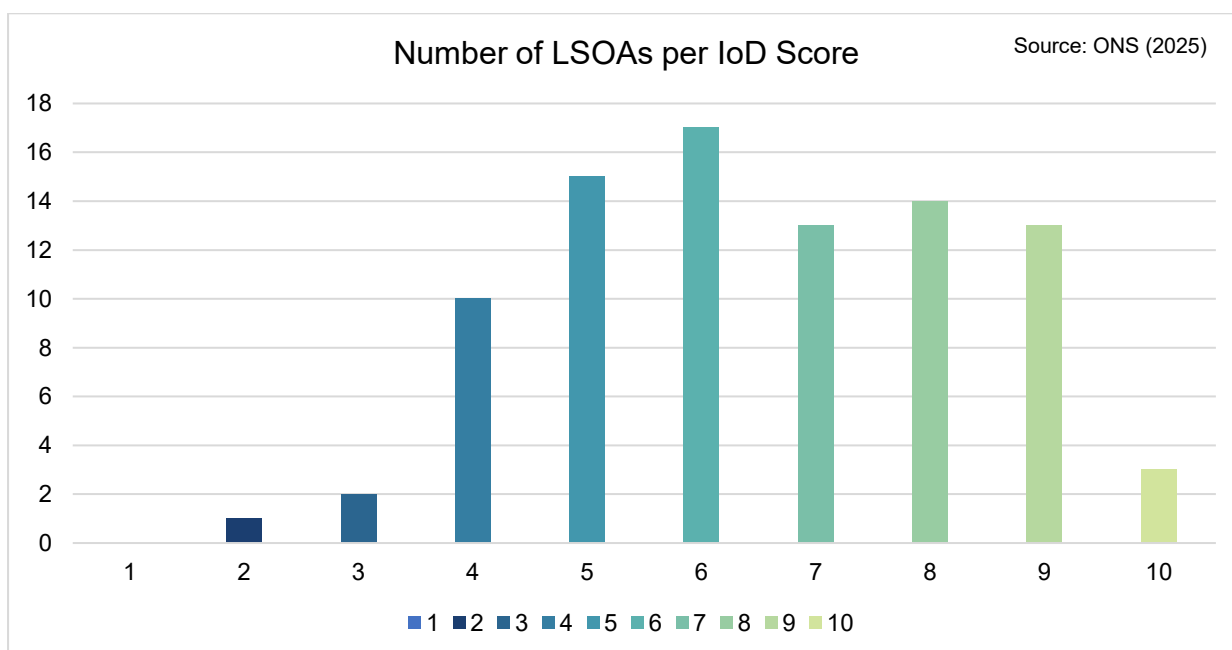
East Devon is the least deprived local authority in Devon and is less deprived than 66% of authorities in England, with the 88 LSOAs receiving an average score of 7 on the IoMD.



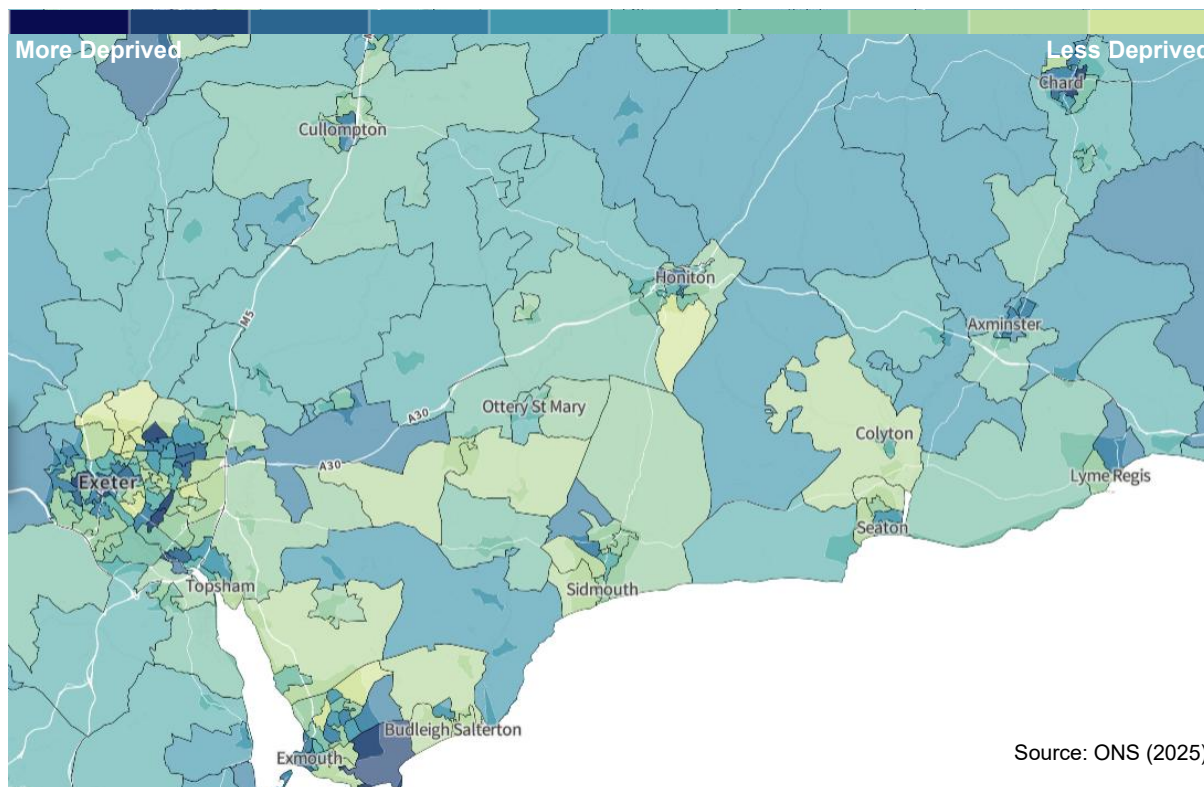
The graph below shows the average score received by East Devon LSOAs for each domain of deprivation. Aside from Barriers to Housing and Services, the average score received by East Devon LSOAs shows a lower level of deprivation than the national average across all domains.



Although 65% of local authorities contain at least one neighbourhood in the top 10% of most deprived areas, there are none in East Devon. 32% of East Devon neighbourhoods are in the 50% most deprived areas, with 68% in the least deprived 50%. The graph below shows how many of East Devon's 88 LSOAs received each IoMD score.

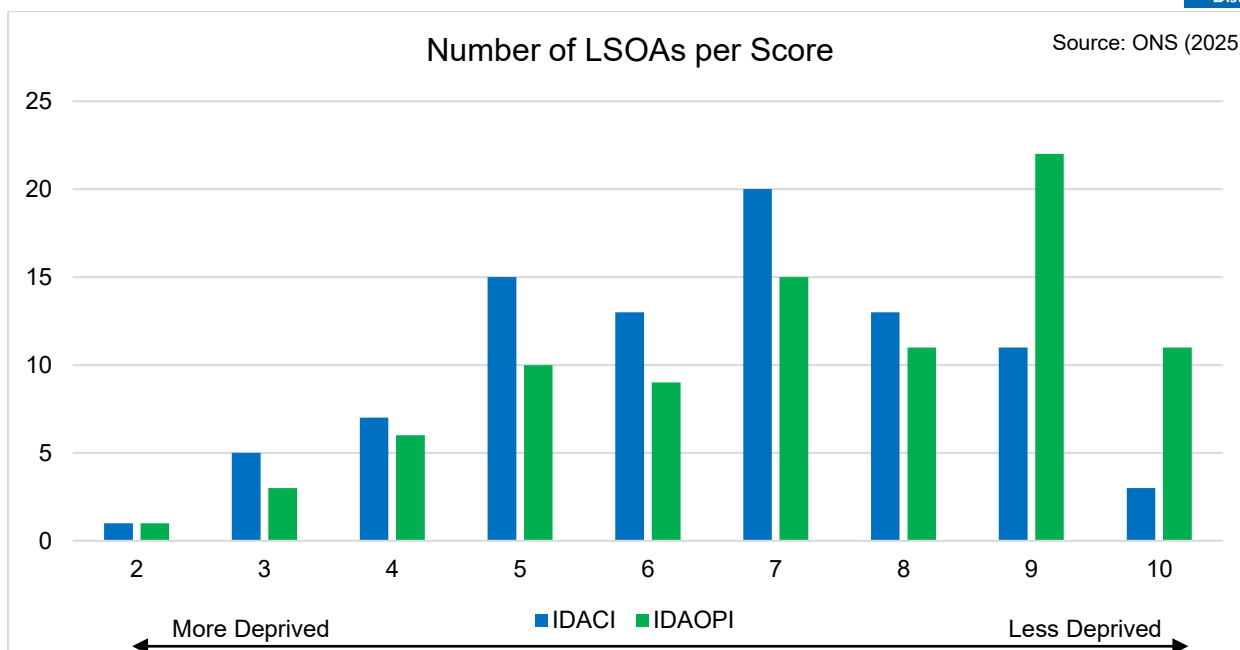


The most deprived neighbourhood in East Devon is located in Exmouth Littleham, which is the only area to receive a score of 2. The three least deprived areas – all receiving a score of 10 – are in Honiton St Michaels, Exmouth Hulham, and Exmouth Brixington. [The map](#) below shows the deprivation levels of all LSOAs in East Devon, with dark blue areas the most deprived and light green areas the least.



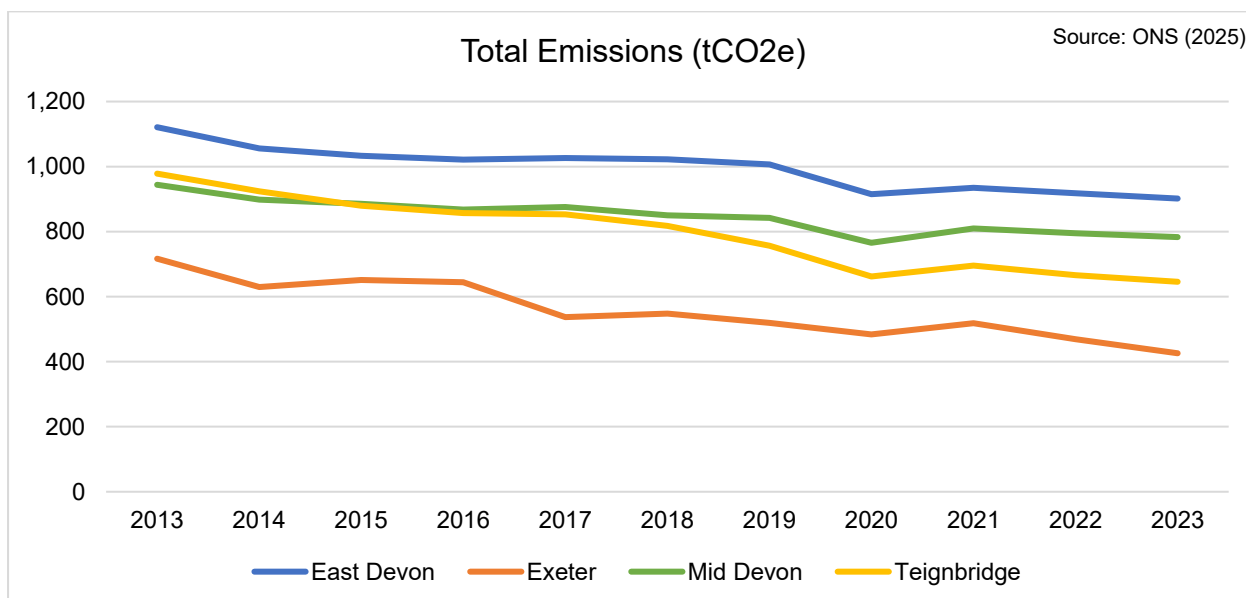
Source: ONS (2025)

Supplementary indices are produced which measure income deprivation affecting children (IDACI) and older people (IDAOP). The average score received for income deprivation affecting older people is 7, in line with overall income deprivation levels. The average score for income deprivation affecting children is 6, indicating that children are worse affected by income deprivation than older people in East Devon. The graph below shows the number of LSOAs in East Devon receiving each score on income deprivation for both children and older people.

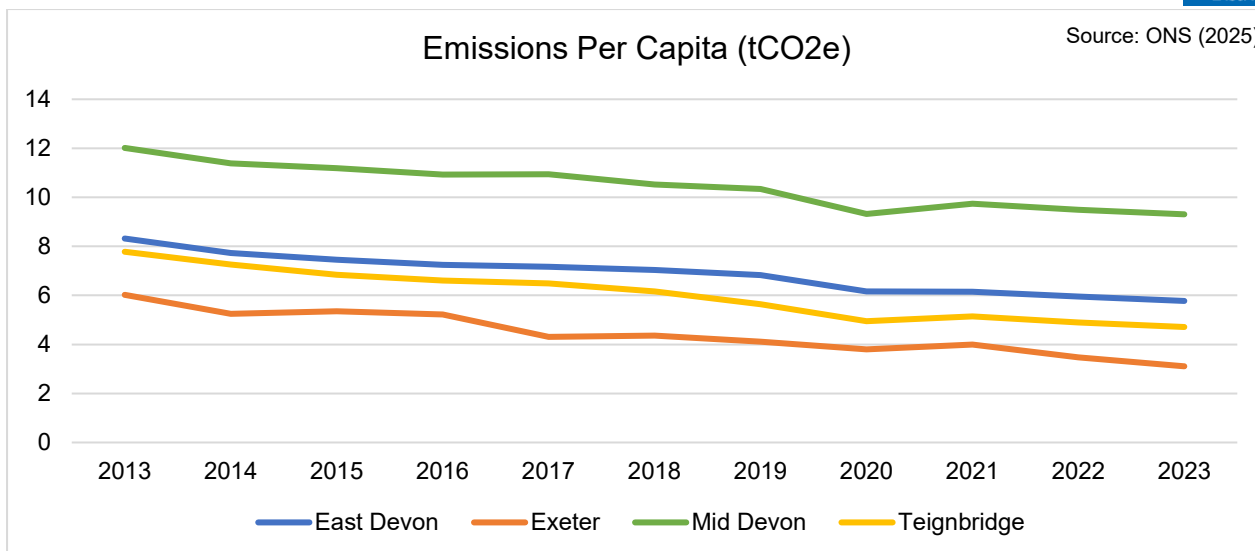


## Emissions

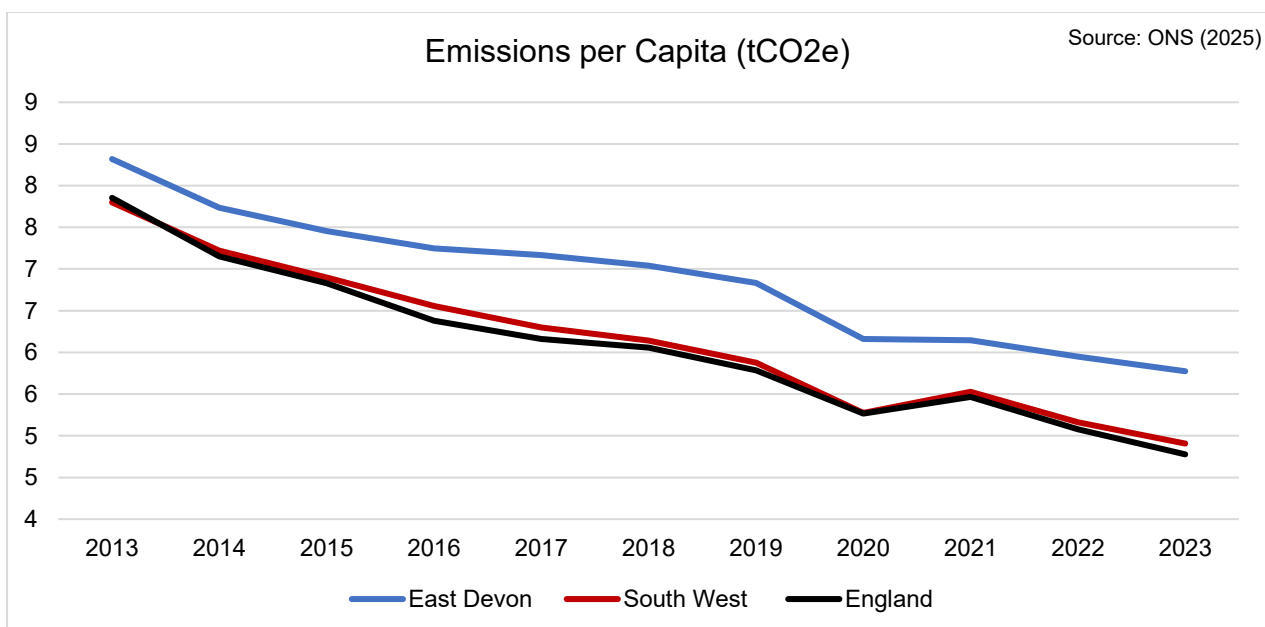
ONS data monitors greenhouse gas emissions at a local authority level, which are measured in equivalent tonnes of carbon dioxide (tCO<sub>2</sub>e). The graph below shows that tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emitted in East Devon have decreased from 1,056 tonnes in 2013 to 902 tonnes in 2023. This amounts to a 15% reduction in tCO<sub>2</sub>e over the last decade.



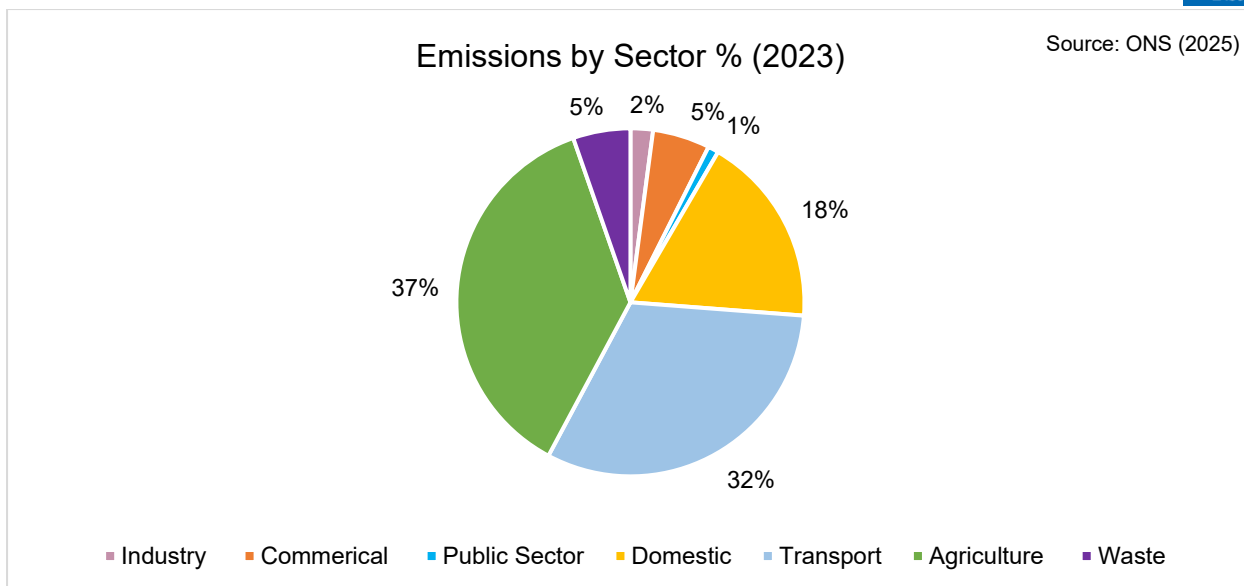
Carbon emissions can also be measured on a per capita basis, showing the average carbon emitted per person. Carbon per capita has decreased from around 8 tonnes per person in 2013 to 6 tonnes in 2023. Whilst East Devon has the highest overall emissions of all the EHoD areas, it also has the largest population. When this is accounted for, East Devon becomes the second highest emitter after Mid Devon.



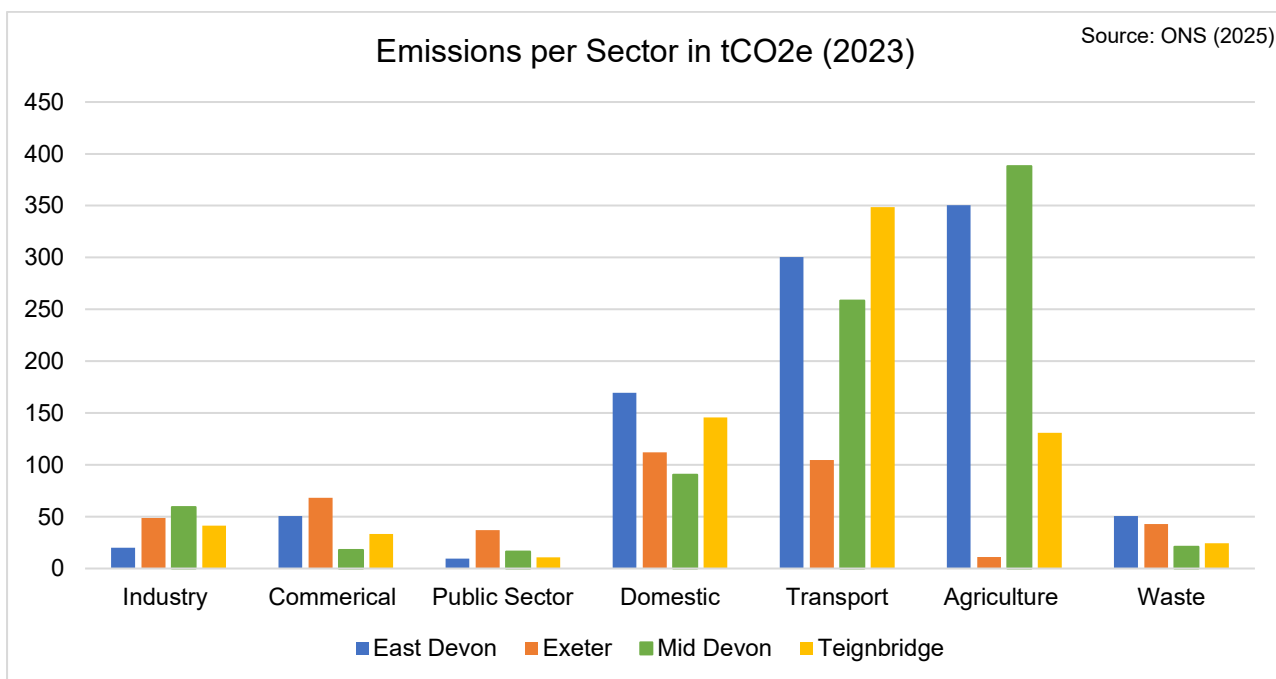
As the graph below illustrates, carbon emitted per capita is on average higher in East Devon than the national and regional levels.



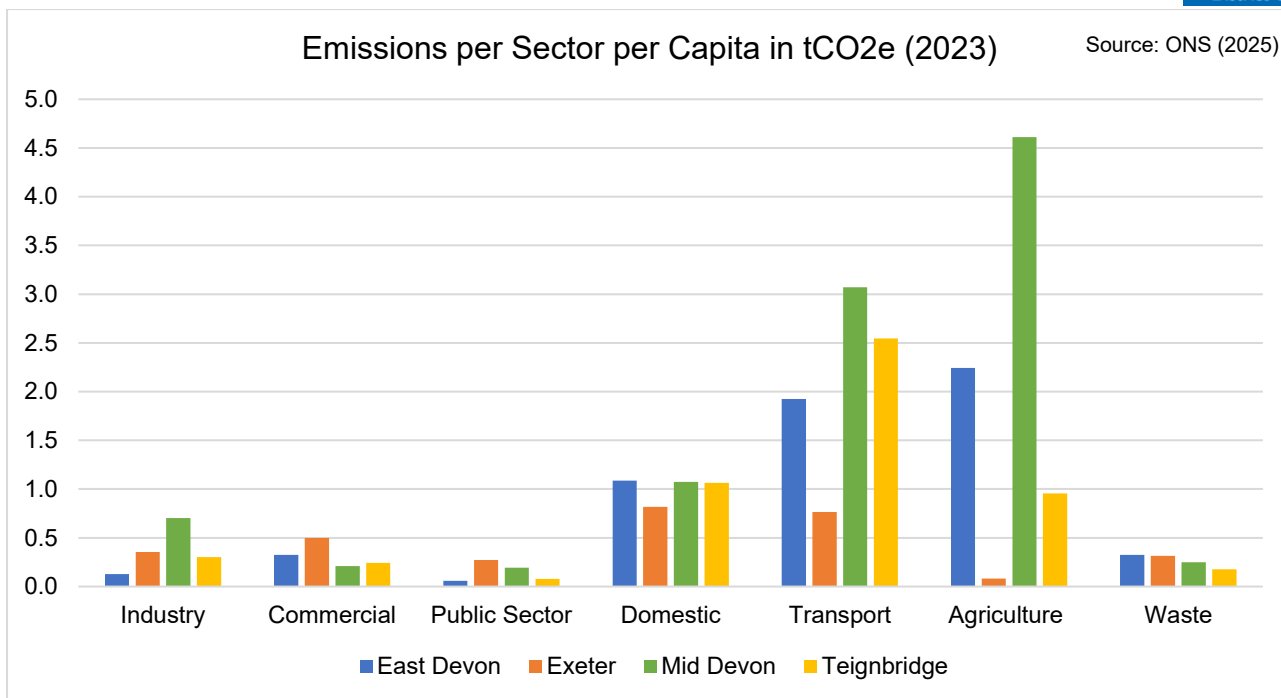
The graphs below show emissions by sector as a percentage of total emissions in East Devon. It shows that the largest emitters proportionally are agriculture, transport and within domestic residences.



When compared against the other EHoD areas, both in terms of total emissions and emissions per capita, East Devon’s largest emitters are relatively similar to the other rural districts (Mid Devon and Teignbridge).



Source: ONS (2025)



East Devon’s target is to reach Net Zero by 2040. By analysing previous years of emissions data for East Devon, a trend line can be produced forecasting the emissions by 2040 if emissions continue to reduce at the current rate. The graph below compares the current reduction rate to the reduction rate required to reach net zero by 2040.

