

Economic Factsheet: Occupation and Earnings

August 2013



Occupational structure (March 2013)

% of all people in employment by occupation (Green = higher than UK, Red = lower than UK, Amber = Equal to UK)

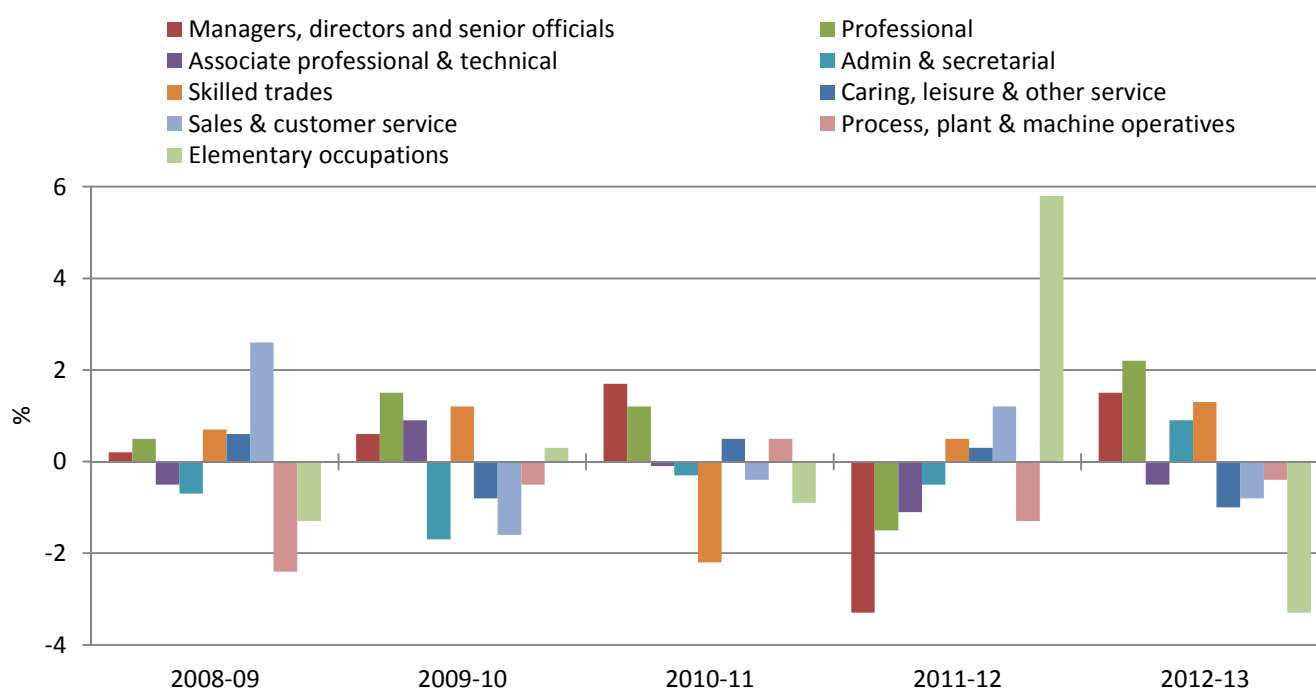
Area	Managers, directors & senior officials	Professional	Associate professional & technical	Admin & secretarial	Skilled trades	Caring, leisure & other service	Sales & customer service	Process, plant & machine operatives	Elementary occupations
Somerset	10.0%	17.4%	11.7%	9.6%	14.5%	9.8%	8.4%	5.8%	12.4%
Mendip	7.5%	19.0%	12.6%	7.8%	13.9%	7.5%	8.1%	6.3%	16.7%
Sedgemoor	10.7%	13.4%	11.8%	8.6%	15.1%	9.7%	8.6%	8.1%	14.0%
South Somerset	13.4%	14.8%	11.1%	8.7%	17.8%	8.8%	9.9%	5.5%	9.9%
Taunton Deane	6.3%	23.4%	11.9%	11.3%	10.4%	14.0%	7.6%	4.3%	9.5%
West Somerset	12.5%	17.6%	9.3%	17.9%	13.6%	7.5%	N/A*	N/A*	16.5%
Heart of the South West LEP	10.1%	17.5%	11.6%	10.5%	13.7%	10.2%	7.9%	5.7%	12.4%
UK	10.1%	19.4%	14.0%	10.9%	10.6%	9.0%	8.1%	6.3%	10.9%

Source: Annual Population Survey, NOMIS 2013 (*Some data unavailable due to small sample size)

Professional occupations and skilled trades are the largest occupational groups in Somerset, accounting for 17.4% and 14.5% of the workforce respectively. Compared to the national picture, Somerset has greater proportions of its workforce employed in skilled trades, elementary occupations, caring, leisure and service occupations, and sales and customer services. Managers, directors and senior officials are well represented in South Somerset and West Somerset compared to the UK as a whole. There have been recent fluctuations in Somerset's occupational structure with a large increase in elementary occupations and decrease in managerial positions between 2011 and 2012.

Change in Somerset's occupational structure

% annual change in occupation of people in employment



Source: Annual Population Survey, NOMIS 2013

Public/private sector employment (March 2013)

% of people in employment who work in the public sector

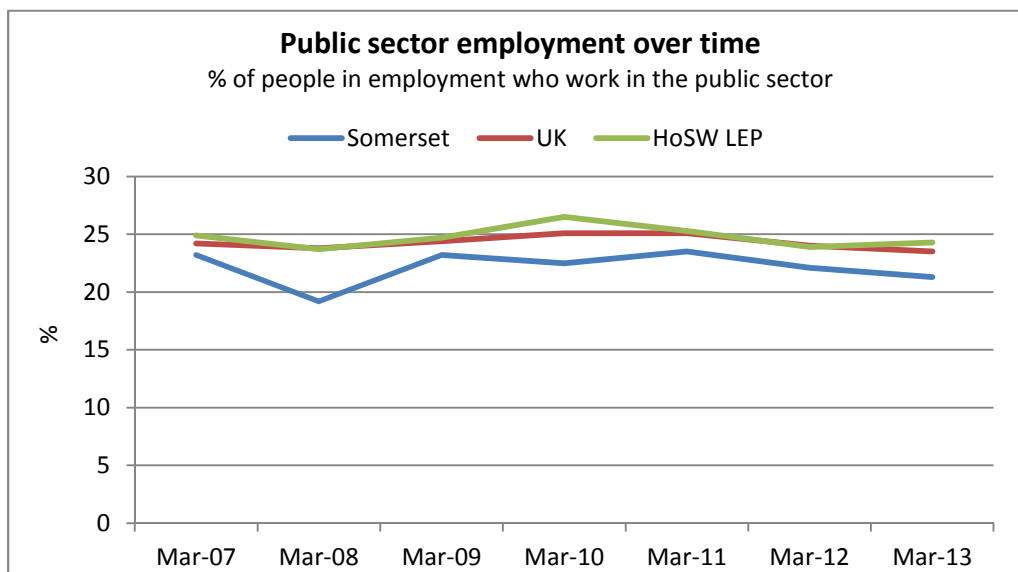
Area	% Public Sector March 2007	% Public Sector March 2013	Change 2007-2013
Somerset	23.2%	21.3%	-1.9%
Mendip	18.5%	11.8%	-6.7%
Sedgemoor	27.0%	17.9%	-9.1%
South Somerset	21.8%	18.7%	-3.1%
Taunton Deane	28.3%	34.9%	6.6%
West Somerset*	16.4%	31.5%	15.1%
Heart of the South West LEP	24.9%	24.3%	-0.6%
UK	24.2%	23.5%	-0.7%

Source: Annual Population Survey, NOMIS 2013 (*Figures have a confidence interval greater than 10% and should be used with caution).

Somerset has a slightly smaller proportion of people employed in the public sector than the UK and Heart of the South West area; 21.3% compared to 23.5% and 24.3% respectively.

Within the County there are concentrations of public sector employment in Taunton Deane (34.9%) and West Somerset (31.5%).

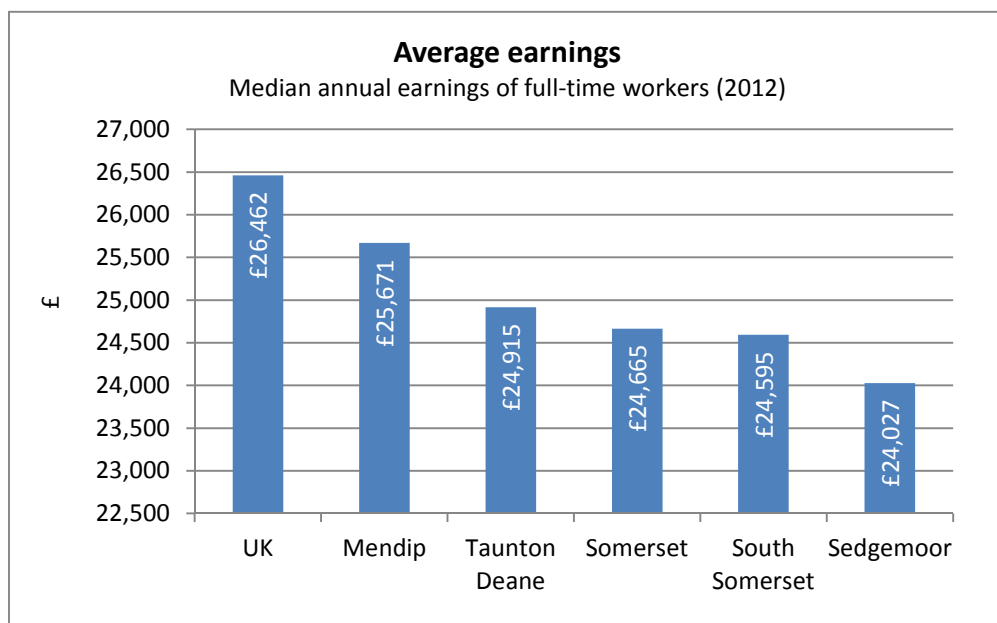
Public sector employment in Somerset has decreased by 1.9% since 2007, a faster rate than nationally (-0.7%). However, West Somerset and Taunton Deane have bucked this trend, showing increases of 15.1% and 6.6% respectively. This is more likely due to a relative decrease in private sector employment rather than an increase in public sector jobs.



Source: Annual Population Survey, NOMIS 2013

Earnings (2012)

Average earnings in Somerset consistently lag behind the UK level, with a deficit of 7.3% in 2012. Mendip has the highest median earnings in the County (£25,671) and Sedgemoor has the lowest (£24,027). The median is the value below which 50% of employees' earnings fall. It is preferred over the mean for earnings data as it is influenced less by extreme values and because of the skewed distribution of earnings data.



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), NOMIS 2013 (updated annually). Figures not available for West Somerset due to statistical unreliability. ASHE data is not produced for LEP areas.