

Kent Economic Indicators 2017

Related Documents

[Kent Labour Force Profile](#) - includes a range of indicators such as the level of economic activity, self-employment, occupational and industrial structure, and qualifications of Kent's resident labour force

[Gross Value Added \(GVA\)](#) – looks at ONS GVA estimates and provides breakdowns by total GVA, GVA per head and GVA per industry at district level

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This bulletin presents a picture of the shape of the economy at county and district level based on eleven economic indicators.

The analysis uses two models; one at County level, the other at District level.

The County-level model summarises a range of indicators for all 152 County and Unitary Authorities in England.

The District-level model does the same for the 326 District and unitary Authorities in England.

In both models, the spider chart shows the “shape” of the economy of each area, based on these indicators. The 2017 charts are presented here.

The models also identify each area's nearest economic neighbour i.e. that area with the most similar shaped economy, based on these indicators. This comparison is helpful in identifying areas with a similar ranking score on each indicator.

Methodology

The County-level model summarises a range of indicators for all 152 County and Unitary Authorities in England, ranks the indicators and then converts the ranks to percent-ranks (a rank score out of 100). This standardises all the scores and enables direct comparison of what are very disparate indicator values.

The District-level model does the same for the 326 District and unitary Authorities in England. In the District-level model, two indicators have been changed slightly to reflect the scale of the local economy; total employees and the stock of VAT registered businesses, rather than employee change (since 2006) and net VAT registrations as a percentage of stock, which are used at County level.

In ranking the indicators, the order in which they are ranked has been set so that the higher the score the “better” the outcome. So, for example the earnings indicators are ranked in ascending order where the highest earnings (good) have a percent rank score of 100. In the case of unemployment however, the indicators are ranked in descending order, so that the lowest unemployment rates (good) have a percent rank score of 100. In short; the larger the economic “shape” in the chart (i.e. the closer to 100 the percent rank score is) the better.

In both models, the resulting spider chart therefore literally shows the “shape” of the economy of each area, based on these indicators. The 2017 charts are presented here.

The analysis also identifies each area’s nearest economic neighbour i.e. that area with the most similar shaped economy, based on these indicators. This comparison is helpful in identifying areas with a similar ranking score on each indicator.

Comparisons are available for the publication years of 2012 to 2017 for any district/unitary authority or county/unitary authority in England on request.

Indicators

11 indicators are used within the district and county models.

The 11 indicators used in the models are:

- **Unemployment** – taken from the ONS Jobseekers Claimant Count this shows the percentage of the population aged 16-64 who are claiming unemployment benefits.
- **Out of work benefits claimants** – this is defined as those people aged 16-64 who are claiming Jobseekers Allowance, lone parents claiming Income Support, those claiming incapacity benefits and others

claiming income related benefits. Using data from the Department for Work and Pensions this is a wider picture of those people who are not working often used as a proxy for worklessness.

- **Employees** – This looks at the change in number of employees over the previous five years. This indicator uses Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) and Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) data.
- **Percentage employees in the knowledge economy** – using figures from the ABI and the BRES this shows the proportion of employees who are employed in the knowledge economy. The knowledge economy is defined as “*a group of specific sectors within the economy that are knowledge intensive in their activity, that deal extensively with information/information technology and whose business is all about the distribution or exchange of the information that they hold*”. The knowledge economy has been identified as a key sector to drive future economic growth.
- **Employment rate** –In the county model this shows the proportion of those aged 16-64 who are in employment. This uses data taken from the Annual Population Survey.
- **Earnings** – Using data from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings this looks at the average (median) weekly earnings on a resident and workplace basis.
- **GVA** – Using Office for National Statistics estimates which shows the GVA (the value of the goods and services produced in the economy) which is used to measure the overall economic well-being of an area.
- **Business Stock** – at district level this gives a snapshot of the number of vat registered businesses in the area. At county level this is presented as the net change in stock of businesses as a proportion of all businesses. This data comes from the ONS Business Demography dataset.
- **3 Year Survival Rates** – this shows the proportion of new businesses which remain surviving after 3 years of trading. This data comes from the ONS Business Demography dataset.
- **NVQ4+** - Using figures from the Annual Population Survey this shows the proportion of the population aged 16-64 who are qualified to NVQ level 4 or above.

Publication dates/survey dates

The spider charts are available for the years 2012 to 2017. They are published on the basis of what is available at the beginning of each year. The spider chart for 2017 therefore shows the latest data that is available for each of the indicators. Some datasets lag behind others in terms of their release date compared to their actual survey date. The following table sets out the actual survey dates for each dataset that are used in each spider chart published.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	Feb 2011	Feb 2012	Feb 2013	Feb 2014	Feb 2015	Feb 2016
Unemployment Rate	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Employment Rate	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
5 year % change in employees	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Stock of businesses	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
3-year Business Survival Rate	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
GVA per Head	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
% NVQ4+	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016

Tables and charts

The following pages show:

Table

Time-series table of the indicator values

Nearest neighbour chart

Chart showing the shape of the local economy of each area and its nearest neighbour

Map

Showing the geographical location of each nearest neighbour

Performance chart

Chart showing how the shape of each area's economy has changed over the last five years.

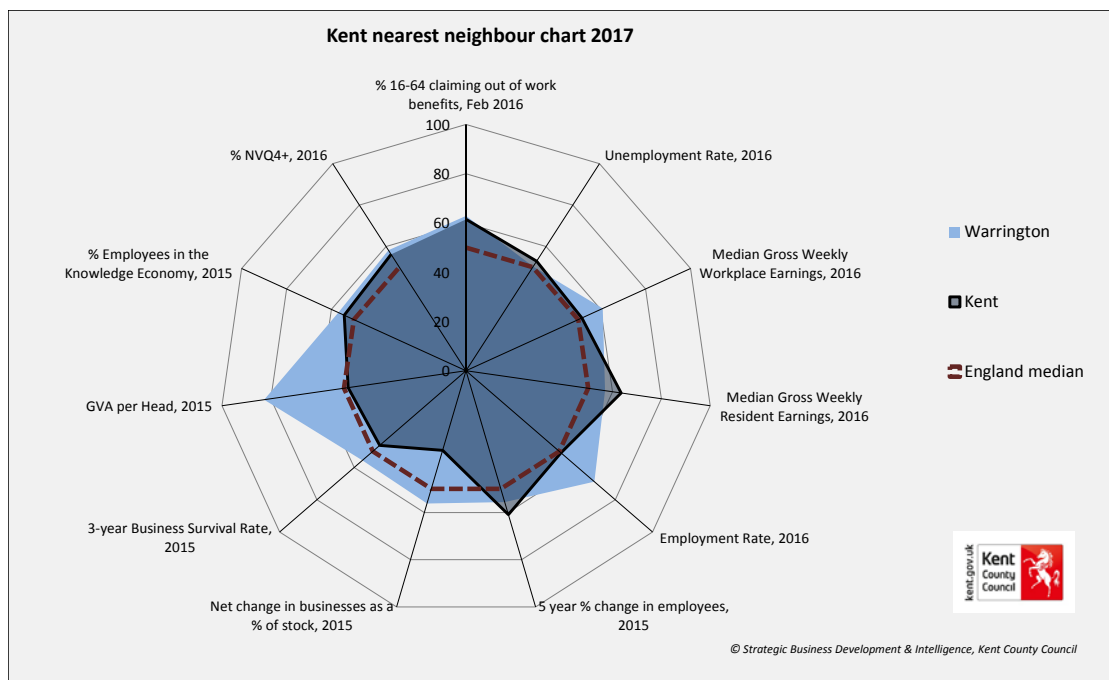
These are available for the twelve local authority districts in Kent, Medway and Kent County Council area.

Kent County Council area

Kent	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	13.1	10.6	10.2	9.2	8.4	7.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.0	1.5	1.6
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)	489.2	490.8	482.3	489.8	503.4	517.5
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)	546.8	538.9	540.7	541.7	551.5	553.3
Employment Rate (%)	71.9	71.2	72.6	73.9	73.8	74.7
5 year % change in employees	4.5	4.4	1.9	-0.1	4.2	7.7
Net change in businesses as a % of stock	-1.8	0.0	0.8	2.6	3.6	3.4
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	63.8	60.5	60.3	58.4	60.3	59.6
GVA per Head (£)	19,293	19,494	19,869	20,355	21,056	21,636
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	14.8	14.9	15.9	15.1	16.8	16.6
% NVQ4+	30.0	29.6	33.6	32.4	34.3	36.9

Kent ranks above the national average in the following indicators: workplace and resident earnings, employment rate and growth in employees over the last 5 years, employees in the Knowledge Economy and proportion of the population qualified to NVQ4 and above. It ranks above average for claimants of out of work benefits and unemployment rate (i.e. has a lower than average proportion of 16-64 population out of work).

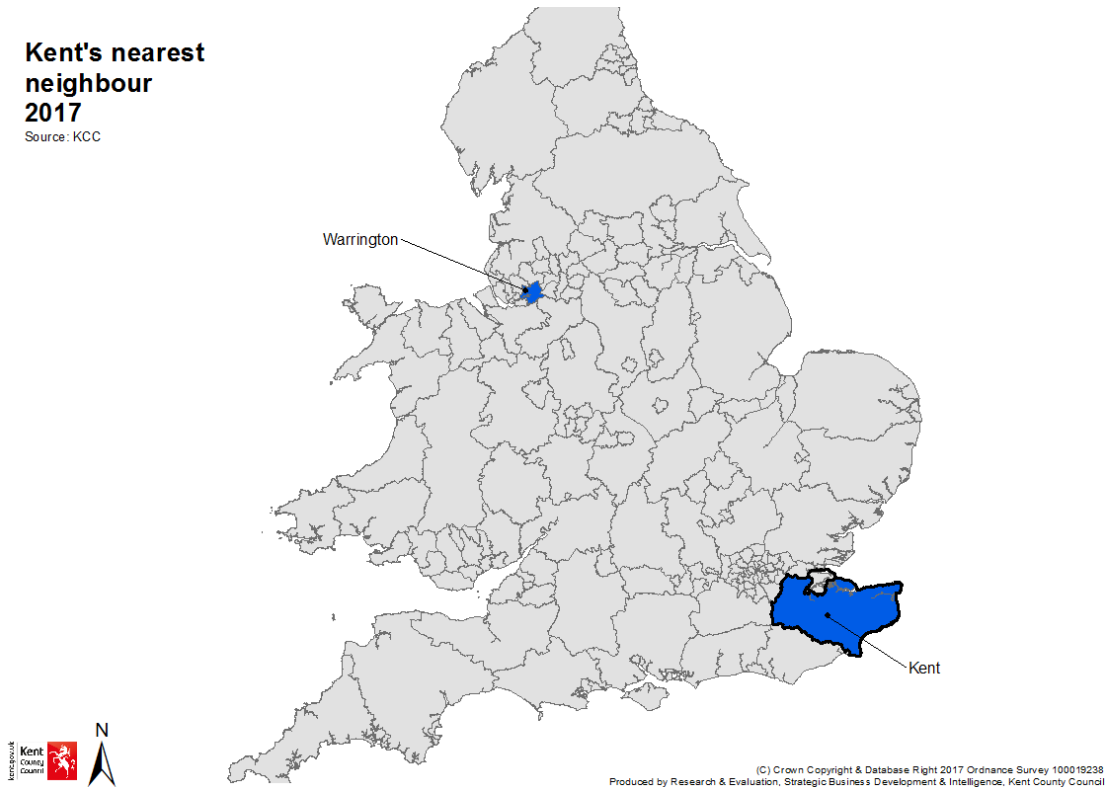
Kent ranks lower than the national average in net change in business stock, 3 year business survival rates and GVA per head.



The area with an economic profile most similar to Kent is Warrington in the North West of England, close to Liverpool and Manchester.

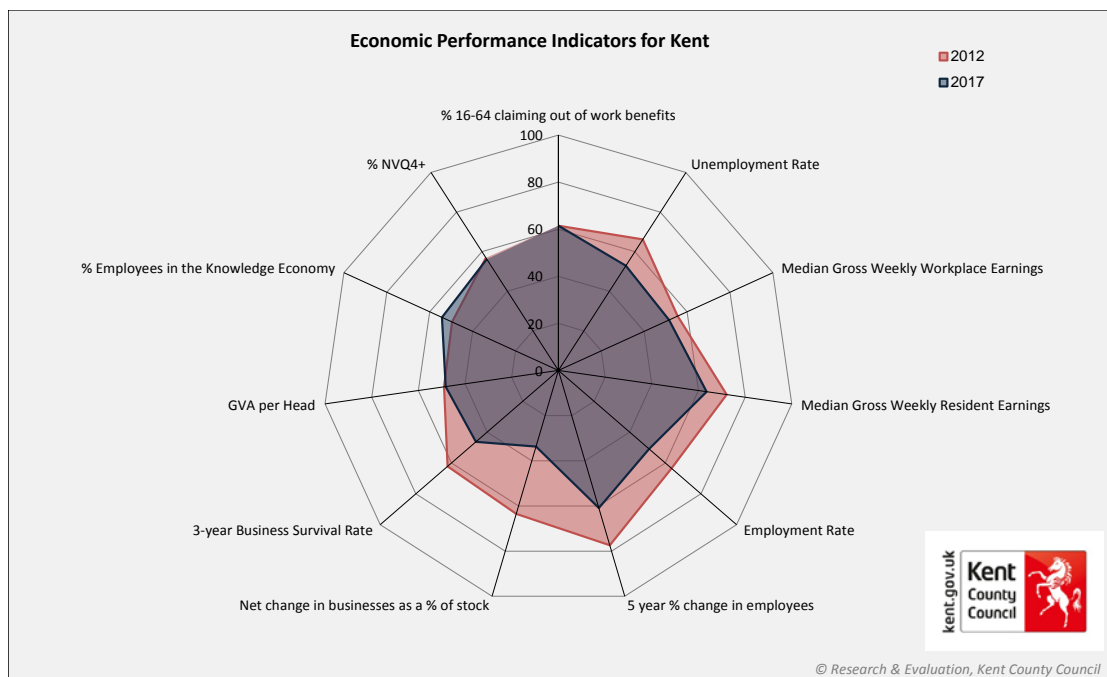
Kent's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



Over the last 5 years Kent has fallen in national ranking compared to other authorities in seven indicators: unemployment, resident and workplace earnings, employment rate, 5 year change in employees, net change in business stock and 3 year business survival rates.

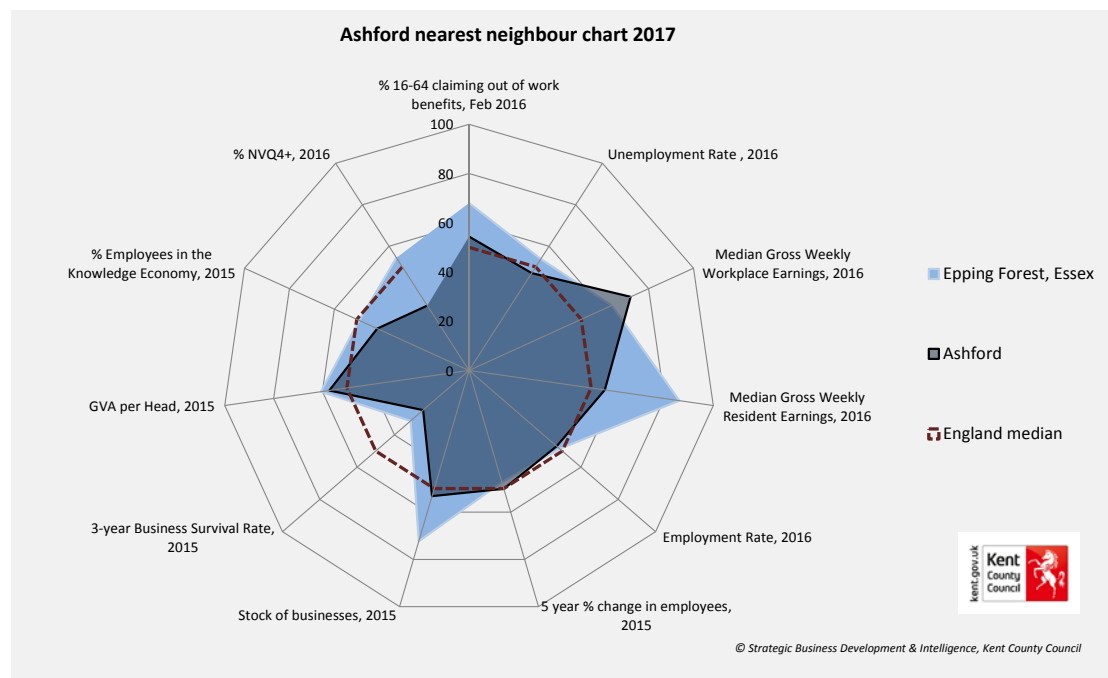
Kent performed better than 5 years ago ranking higher for percentage employees in the Knowledge Economy.



Ashford

Ashford	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	9.4	9.5	9.7	8.2	7.6	7.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.7	2.7	3.0	1.7	1.3	1.5
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	472.2	467.7	529.9	469.2	493.4	543.6
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	507.9	496.6	505.6	507.4	549.0	544.9
Employment Rate (%)	72.4	74.1	76.0	76.8	75.7	79.1
5 year % change in employees	6.0	7.5	-6.9	1.2	6.1	6.1
Stock of businesses	5,335	5,360	6,405	5,415	5,490	5,690
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	74.0	57.0	59.8	56.9	59.5	58.4
GVA per Head (£)	21,152	21,258	28,654	22,412	22,833	23,173
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	11.7	11.7	20.0	14.4	14.0	13.3
% NVQ4+	30.3	29.1	28.1	35.0	33.0	29.1

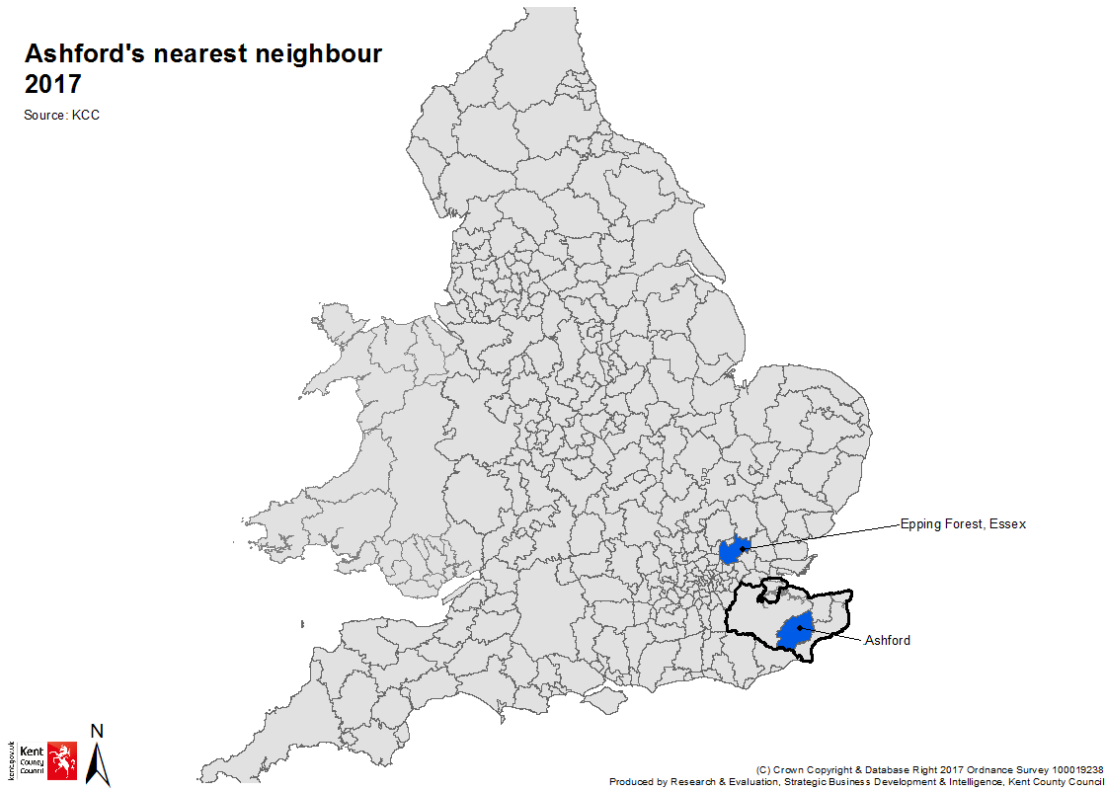
Ashford ranks above average for workplace and resident earnings, stock of businesses and GVA per head. It ranks best in workplace earnings. Ashford's lowest ranking indicator is 3 year business survival rates where it ranks among the bottom 25% of authorities in England.



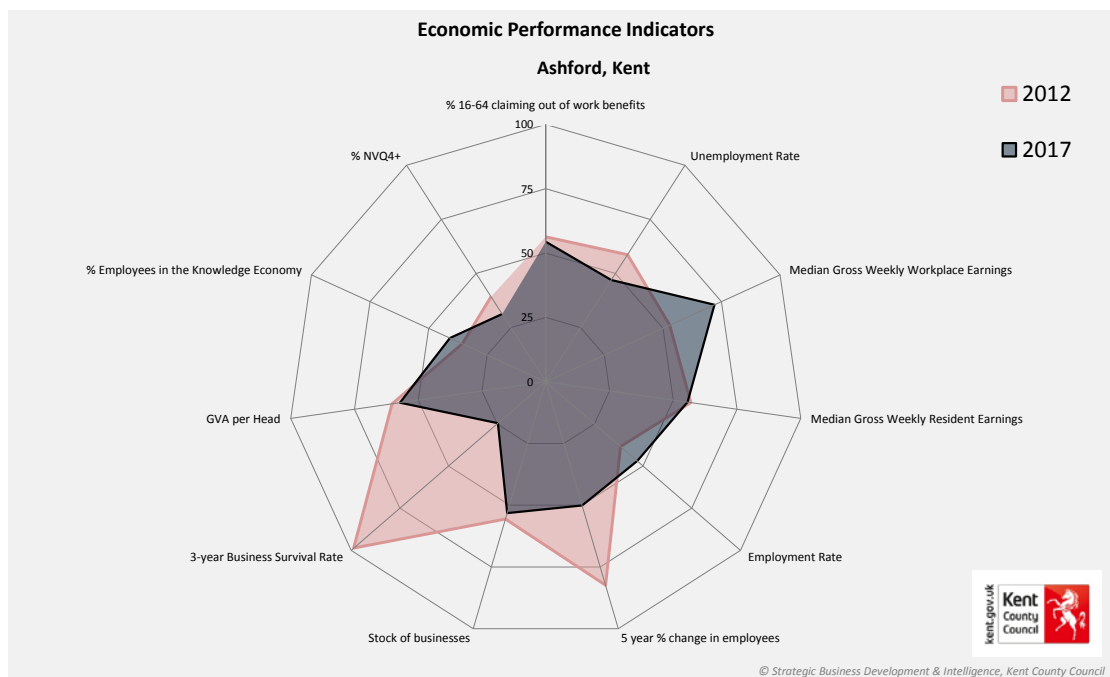
Ashford's nearest economic neighbour is Epping Forest in Essex.

Ashford's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



Ashford's economic shape has remained largely the same with the exception of two indicators, workplace earnings where Ashford performs better compared to other areas in 2017 than in 2012, and 3 year business survival rates where Ashford has fallen from one of the highest ranking authorities in 2012 to within the bottom 25% of authorities in 2017.

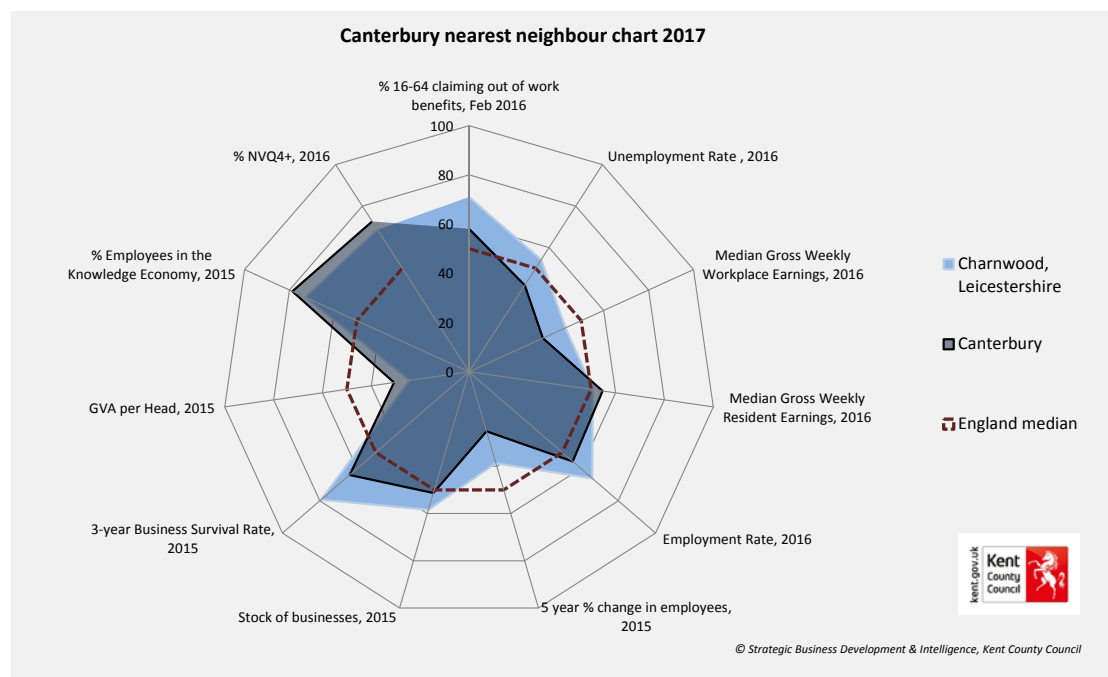


Canterbury

Canterbury	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	8.7	9.3	16.0	8.0	7.3	6.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.3	2.5	4.5	1.4	1.0	1.2
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	509.5	466.2	413.3	488.3	466.2	483.6
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	559.7	545.6	422.0	573.1	582.0	543.1
Employment Rate (%)	65.6	63.7	68.2	69.5	64.1	65.6
5 year % change in employees	3.0	0.4	-8.8	-2.1	5.8	2.1
Stock of businesses	5,005	5,105	6,035	5,280	5,405	5,560
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	59.5	64.2	60.3	56.3	61.9	62.6
GVA per Head (£)	18,493	18,648	14,866	19,317	19,617	19,066
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	21.4	21.1	9.8	23.1	25.6	22.0
% NVQ4+	31.9	30.2	23.4	29.4	40.1	45.9

Canterbury ranks particularly highly in Knowledge Economy employees and population qualified to NVQ4+. It also ranks above average resident earnings, employment rate, stock of businesses, business survival rates and out of work benefit claimants.

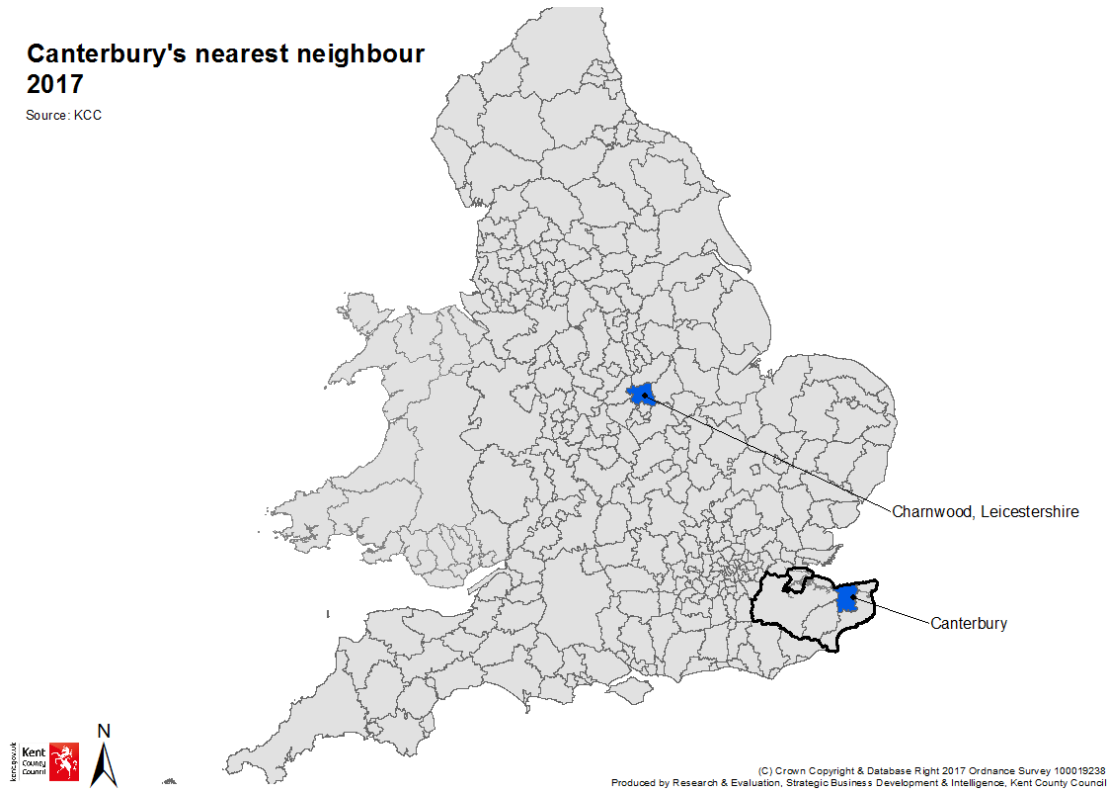
It ranks below average in workplace earnings, unemployment, GVA per head and 5 year change in employees.



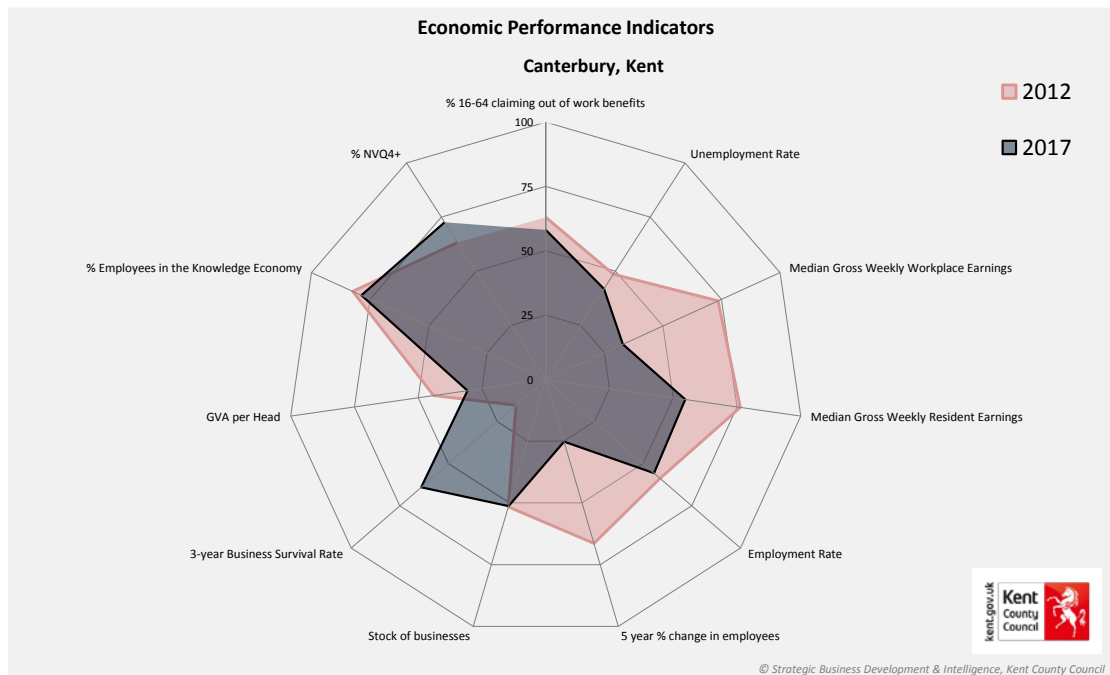
The authority with the closest economic profile to Canterbury is Charnwood in Leicestershire. Like Canterbury Charnwood is a university district home to Loughborough University.

Canterbury's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



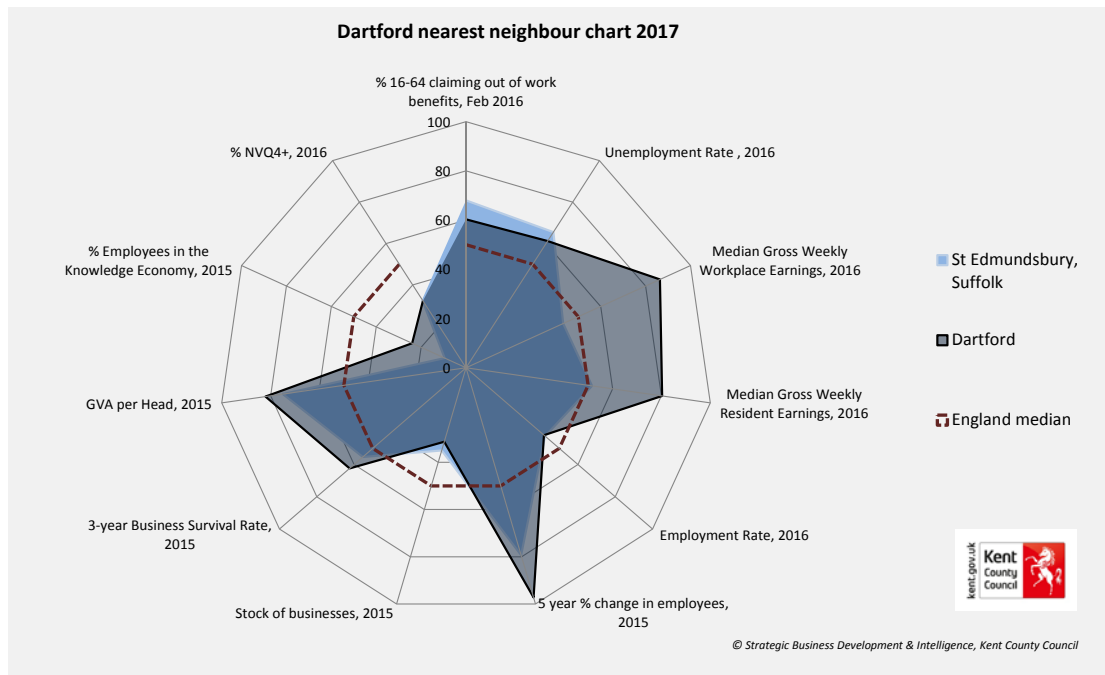
Canterbury has performed better compared to other local authorities in two indicators than was seen five years ago. It ranks higher for population who are qualified to NVQ4 and above and has seen a significant improvement in business survival rates since 2012. It ranks significantly lower in median workplace earnings than in 2012.



Dartford

Dartford	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	9.8	9.6	10.9	7.9	7.0	6.5
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.1	2.9	2.5	1.7	1.2	1.1
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)²	564.4	560.2	429.1	546.4	567.1	596.0
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)²	592.7	568.0	485.9	562.2	575.7	612.5
Employment Rate (%)	70.4	75.4	74.4	83.4	73.1	81.6
5 year % change in employees	2.8	7.5	-6.6	8.2	19.3	24.1
Stock of businesses	3,245	3,365	2,250	3,680	3,930	4,270
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	60.7	59.7	62.5	49.4	62.8	62.5
GVA per Head (£)	22,903	24,006	15,628	26,671	27,725	29,495
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	10.7	11.6	13.3	10.7	11.0	10.8
% NVQ4+	33.5	25.8	11.2	30.0	32.5	32.1

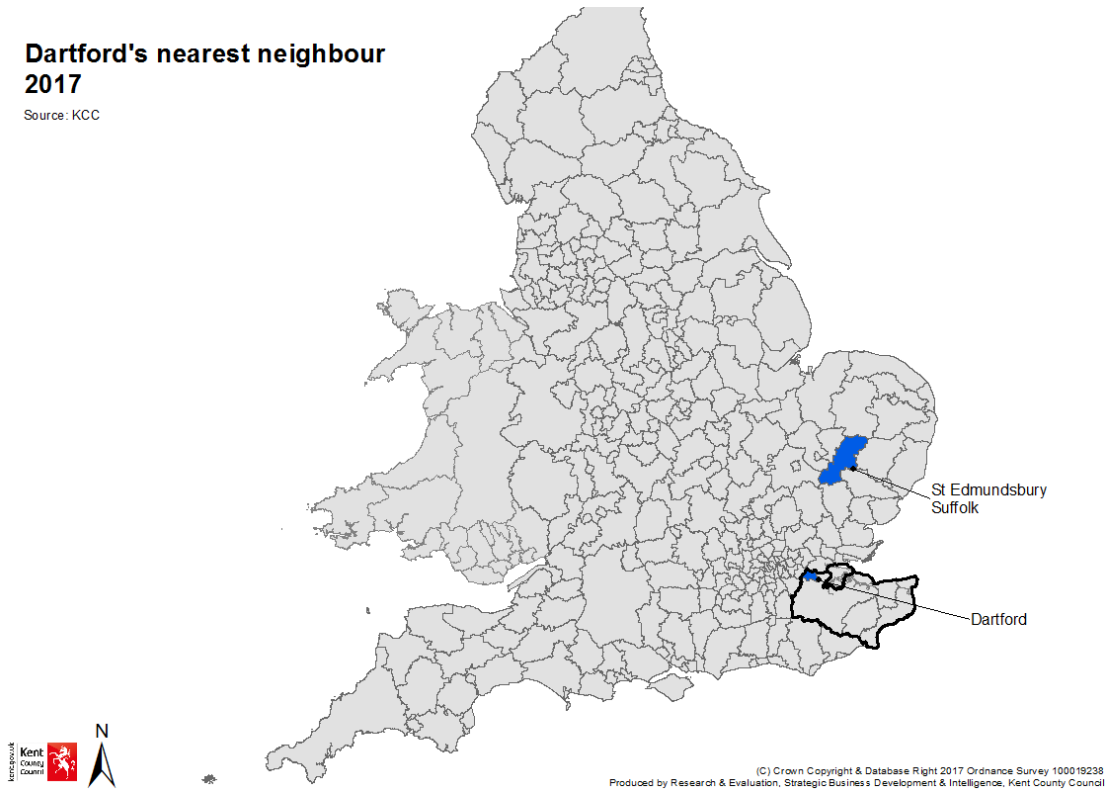
Dartford ranks above average in seven of the eleven indicators. It ranks particularly highly in four indicators; resident and workplace earnings and GVA per head where it ranks within the top 20% of authorities in the country, and 5 year change in employees where it ranks among the top 3% in the country.



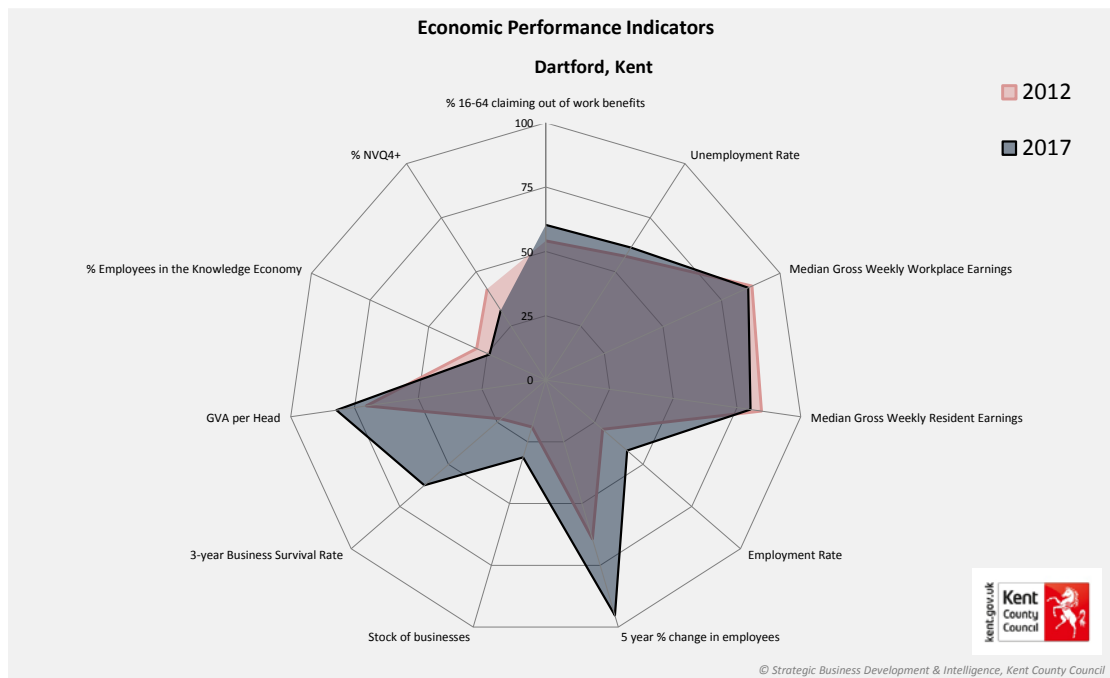
Dartford's closest economic neighbour is St Edmundsbury in Suffolk.

Dartford's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



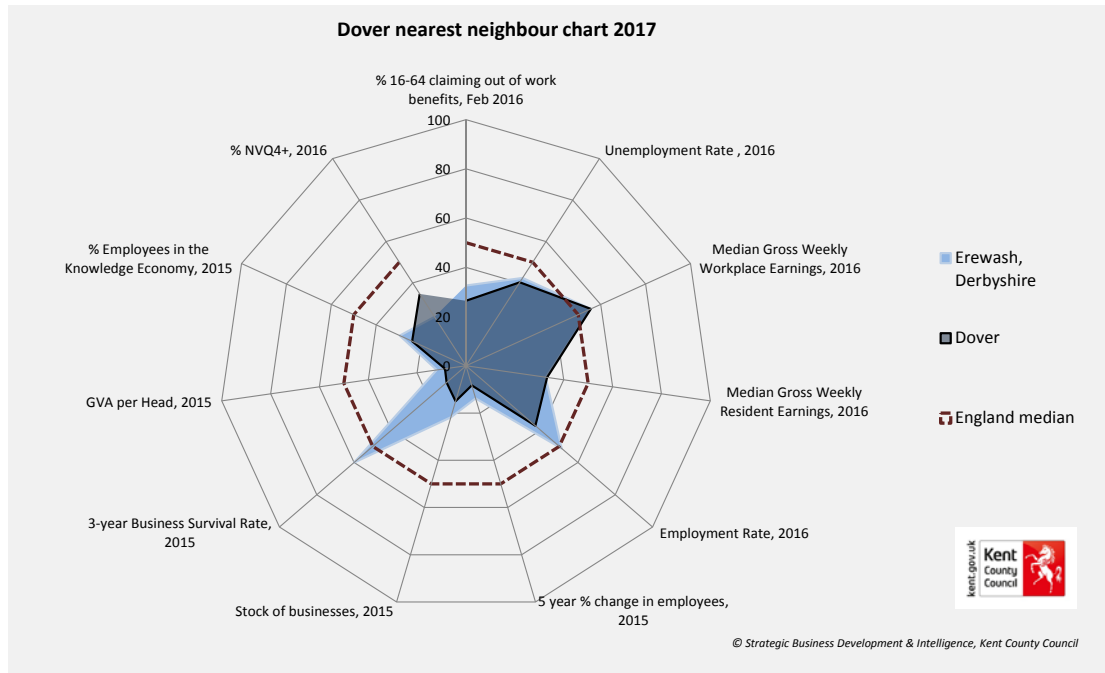
Overall Dartford's economic shape has remained largely the same however it has seen improvement in its ranking compared to other authorities in the following indicators: 3 year business survival rates and 5 year change in employees.



Dover

Dover	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	12.7	12.5	6.1	11.5	10.5	9.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.6	3.9	1.5	2.7	1.9	2.0
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	496.3	498.6	426.2	508.9	504.9	519.1
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	507.7	507.9	615.4	532.9	497.7	502.6
Employment Rate (%)	69.1	67.5	83.5	64.8	69.4	76.7
5 year % change in employees	-7.0	-12.9	-14.1	-12.2	-7.5	-2.0
Stock of businesses	3,025	3,115	4,810	3,305	3,345	3,390
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	60.9	59.1	65.1	53.8	55.1	55.9
GVA per Head (£)	15,215	14,989	23,609	15,271	15,330	15,715
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	13.6	11.7	14.7	10.1	11.1	10.8
% NVQ4+	27.3	18.4	45.3	28.6	27.8	32.8

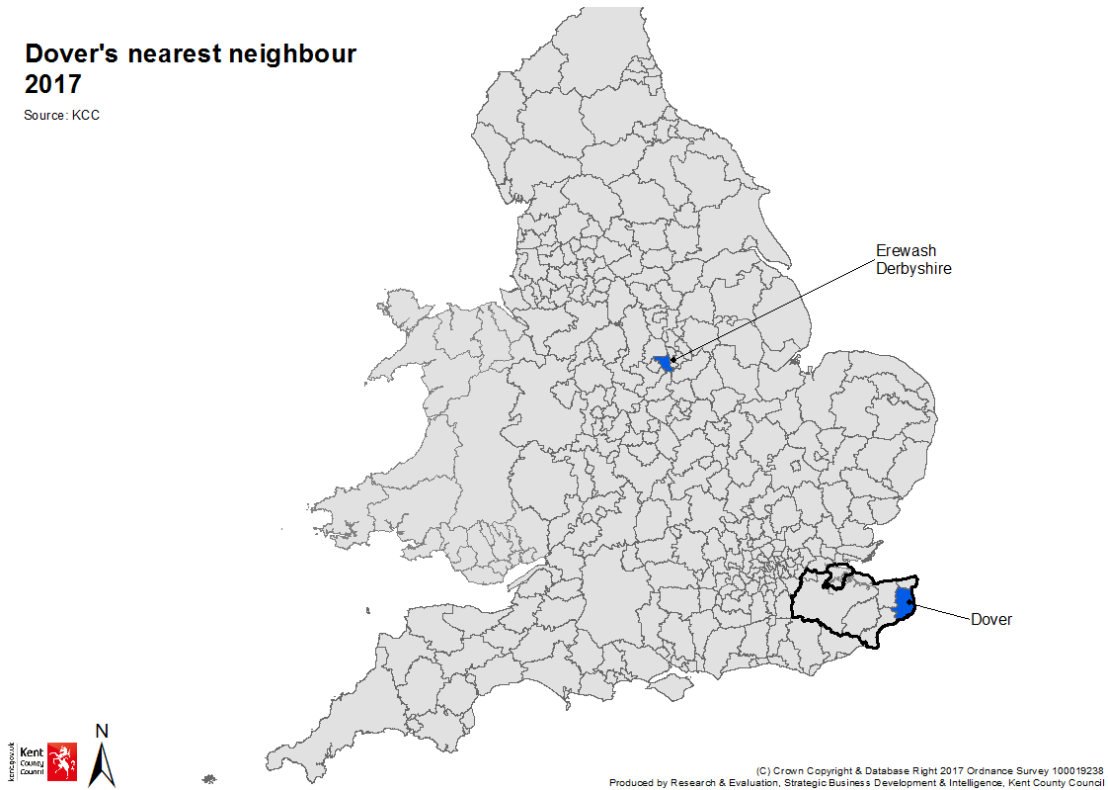
While Dover compares quite well compared to other areas for workplace earnings it ranks quite poorly in most of the remaining indicators. It ranks in the bottom 10% of the country for the following indicators: 5 year change in employees, 3 year business survival rates and GVA per head.



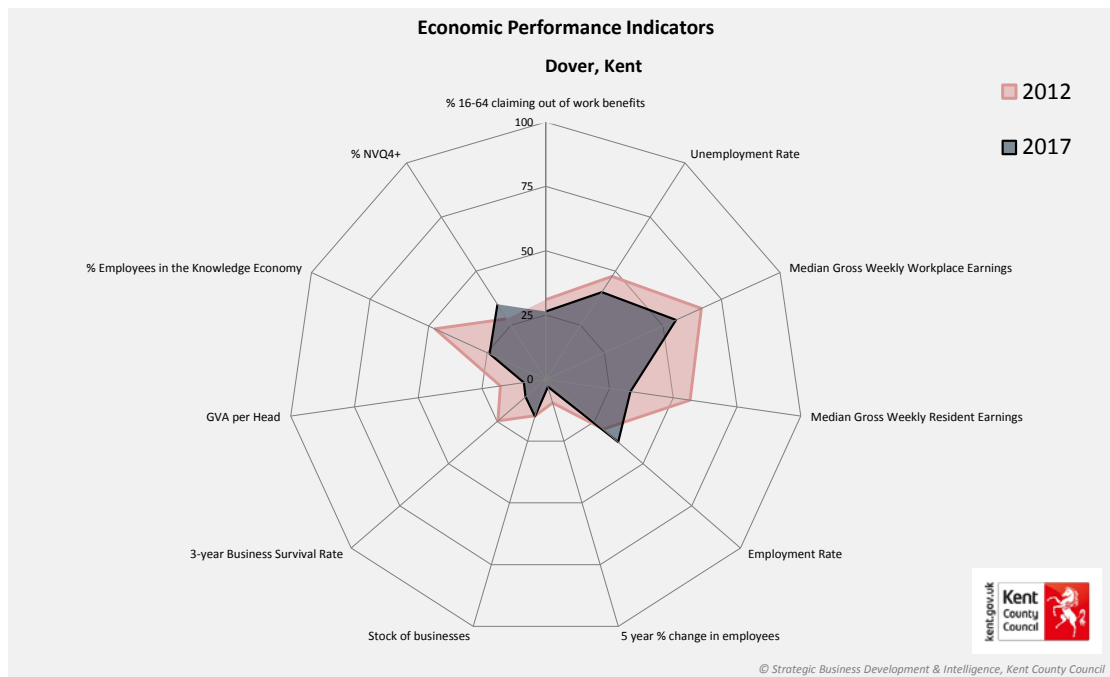
The authority which has the most similar shape to Dover is Erewash in Derbyshire.

Dover's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



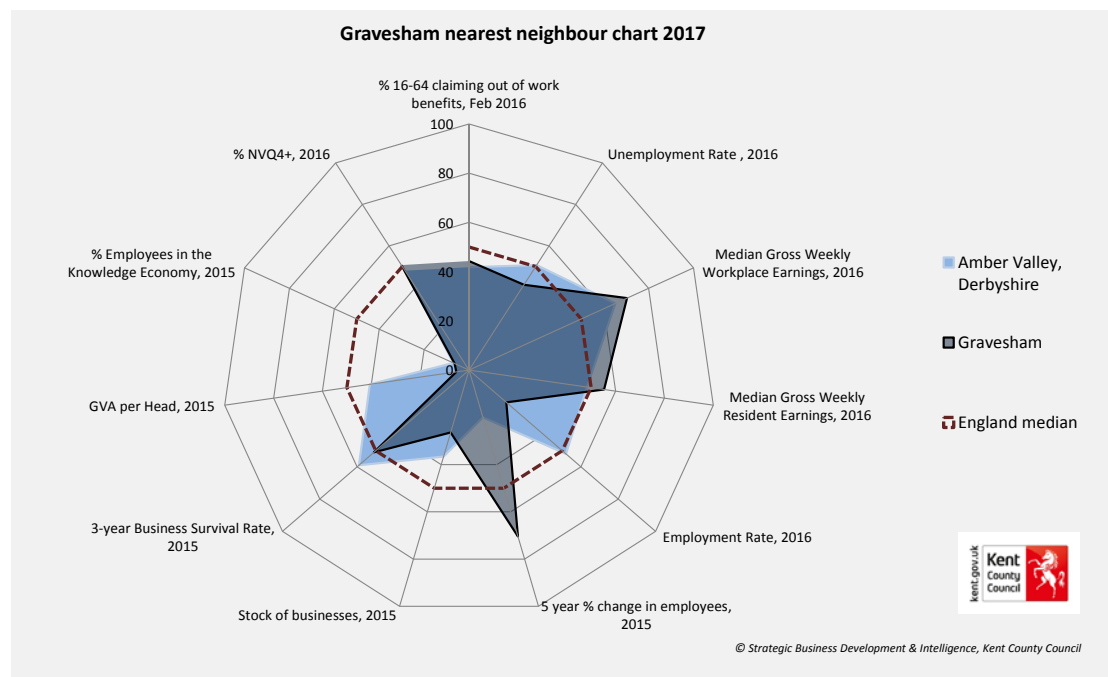
On the whole Dover's economic shape has contracted indicating that it is not performing as well in 2017 as it did five years earlier. There are two areas in which Dover's area has performed better than in 2012; population qualified to NVQ4 and above and employment rate.



Gravesham

Gravesham	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	12.0	12.2	9.4	10.1	8.9	8.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.1	4.2	2.1	2.6	2.0	2.0
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	604.6	530.8	467.8	541.8	535.5	540.5
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	548.5	552.5	483.6	536.6	546.2	544.5
Employment Rate (%)	65.4	65.8	79.5	73.7	69.3	63.0
5 year % change in employees	-4.0	-6.1	-5.1	-6.0	4.7	9.6
Stock of businesses	3,010	3,135	4,140	3,365	3,585	3,925
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	65.4	60.0	58.8	56.7	61.7	61.2
GVA per Head (£)	13,195	13,514	20,670	14,333	14,594	15,082
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	7.6	8.9	11.9	8.5	8.9	8.4
% NVQ4+	31.9	29.1	32.2	37.8	42.9	43.7

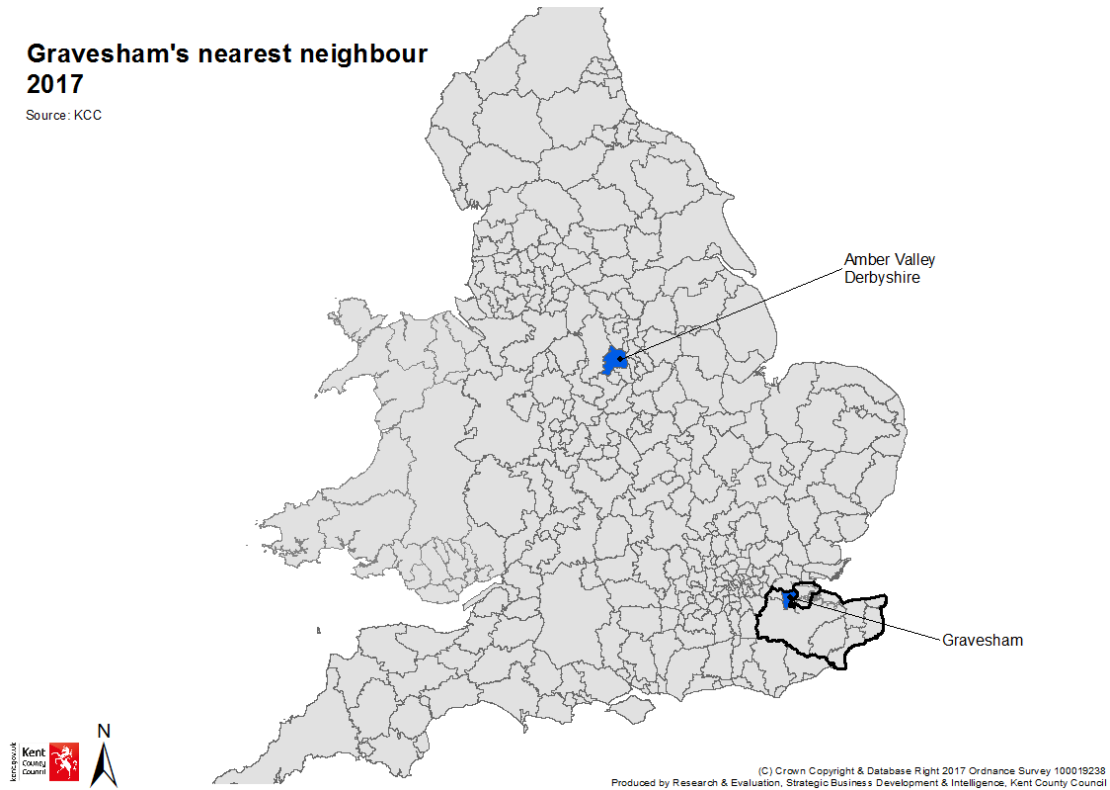
Gravesham performs well above the national average in the following indicators: workplace earnings and five year change in employees, however it is among the 20% of authorities in the country with the lowest GVA per head, smallest proportion of employees in the Knowledge Economy and lowest employment rate.



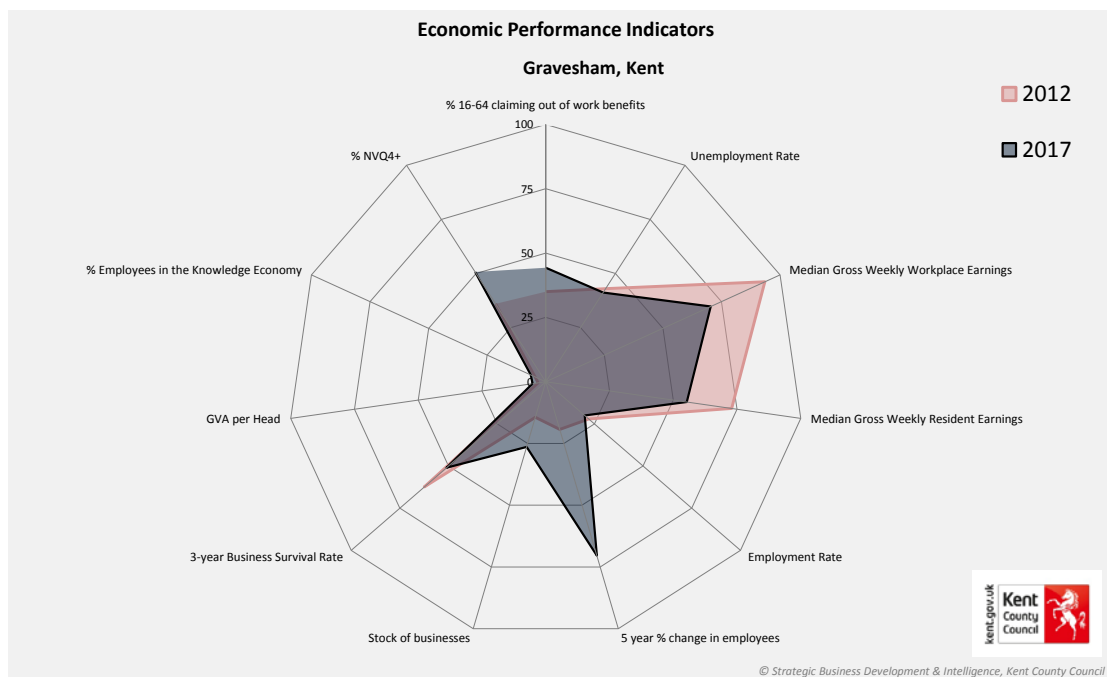
The authority which is most similar to Gravesham is Amber Valley in Derbyshire.

Gravesham's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



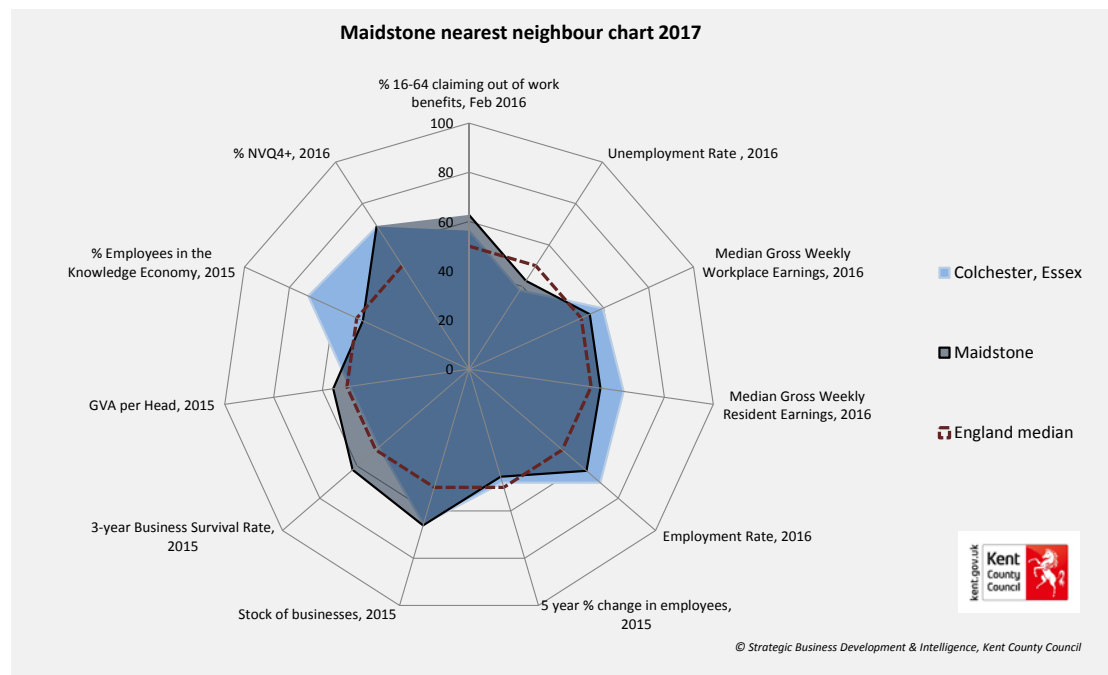
Since 2012 Gravesham's ranking compared to other authorities has improved when looking at the five year change in employees and the proportion of people qualified to NVQ4 and above. Its ranking has changed very little when looking at GVA per head, employees in the knowledge economy and employment.



Maidstone

Maidstone	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	8.6	8.7	8.8	7.3	6.9	6.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.5	2.5	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.2
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	461.8	479.9	421.0	455.8	498.6	517.7
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	538.3	542.9	466.1	518.5	558.2	541.9
Employment Rate (%)	83.6	76.8	78.6	76.8	80.9	74.0
5 year % change in employees	-4.8	-6.2	1.6	-5.4	-0.6	5.5
Stock of businesses	6,600	6,685	5,040	6,885	7,080	7,410
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	62.4	62.4	63.1	61.7	63.1	62.5
GVA per Head (£)	21,184	20,895	16,164	21,853	22,031	22,873
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	13.6	13.4	7.8	13.5	13.5	14.4
% NVQ4+	37.2	30.8	31.7	31.2	35.8	43.7

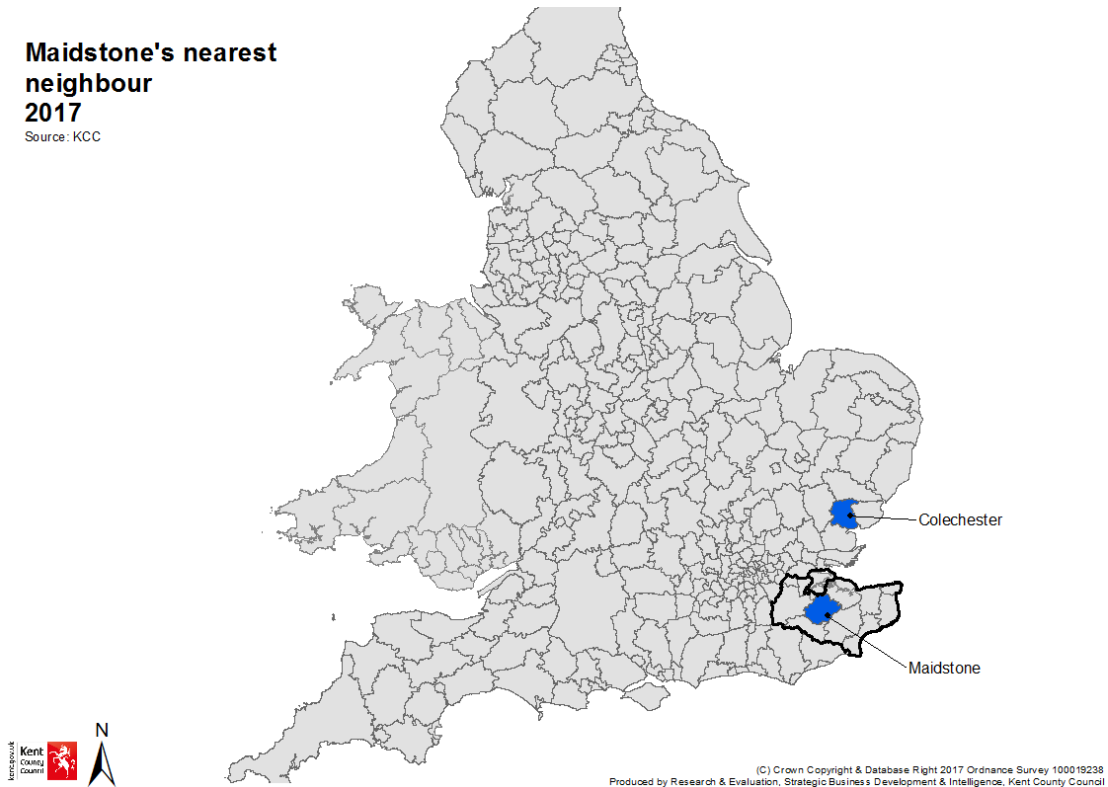
Maidstone ranks just above the national median in all indicators with the exception of unemployment rate, stock of businesses and proportion of employees in the Knowledge Economy where it ranks below the national average.



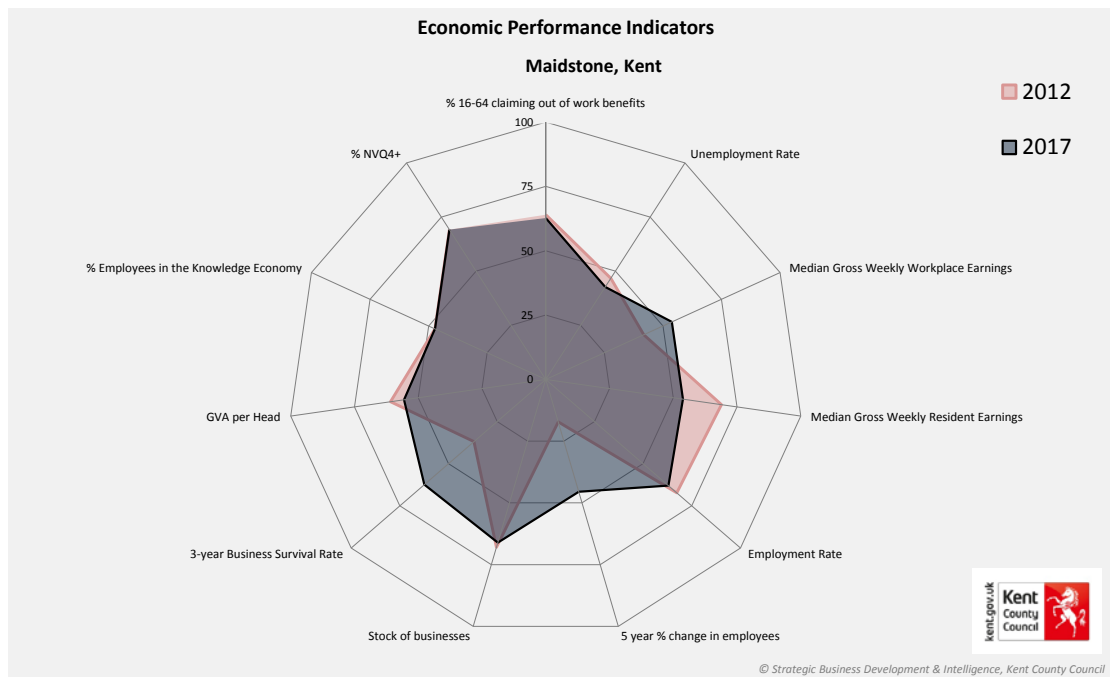
Colchester in Essex has the most similar economic shape as Maidstone.

Maidstone's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



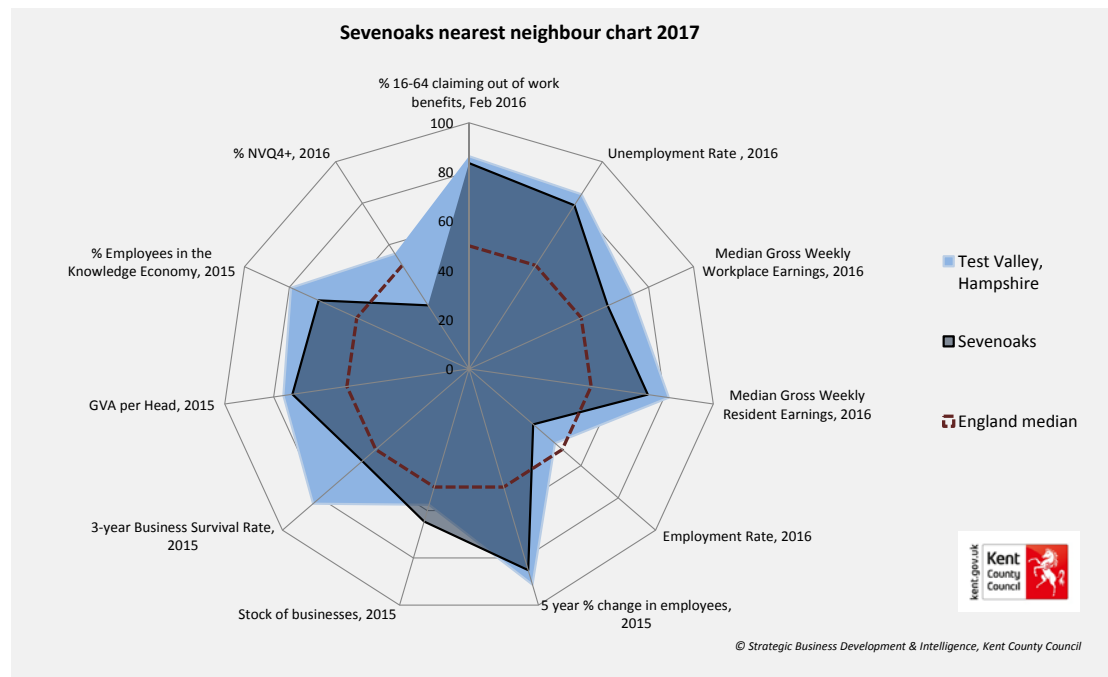
Over the last five years Maidstone's ranking has improved significantly compared to other authorities in five year employee change and three year business survival rate.



Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	6.6	6.7	13.1	5.7	5.3	4.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	1.8	1.8	3.8	1.1	0.8	0.7
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	503.0	507.4	483.7	535.8	490.9	526.5
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	650.8	582.9	469.9	628.6	592.4	584.5
Employment Rate (%)	76.4	78.1	71.4	72.5	74.5	71.7
5 year % change in employees	9.6	11.1	-5.5	5.7	11.1	13.3
Stock of businesses	6,355	6,565	4,645	6,730	6,745	7,010
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	64.8	59.7	62.7	63.9	62.1	61.9
GVA per Head (£)	21,784	22,843	21,047	24,482	25,121	26,469
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	18.0	18.7	14.0	20.1	20.4	18.6
% NVQ4+	41.9	37.4	27.1	41.0	49.6	30.4

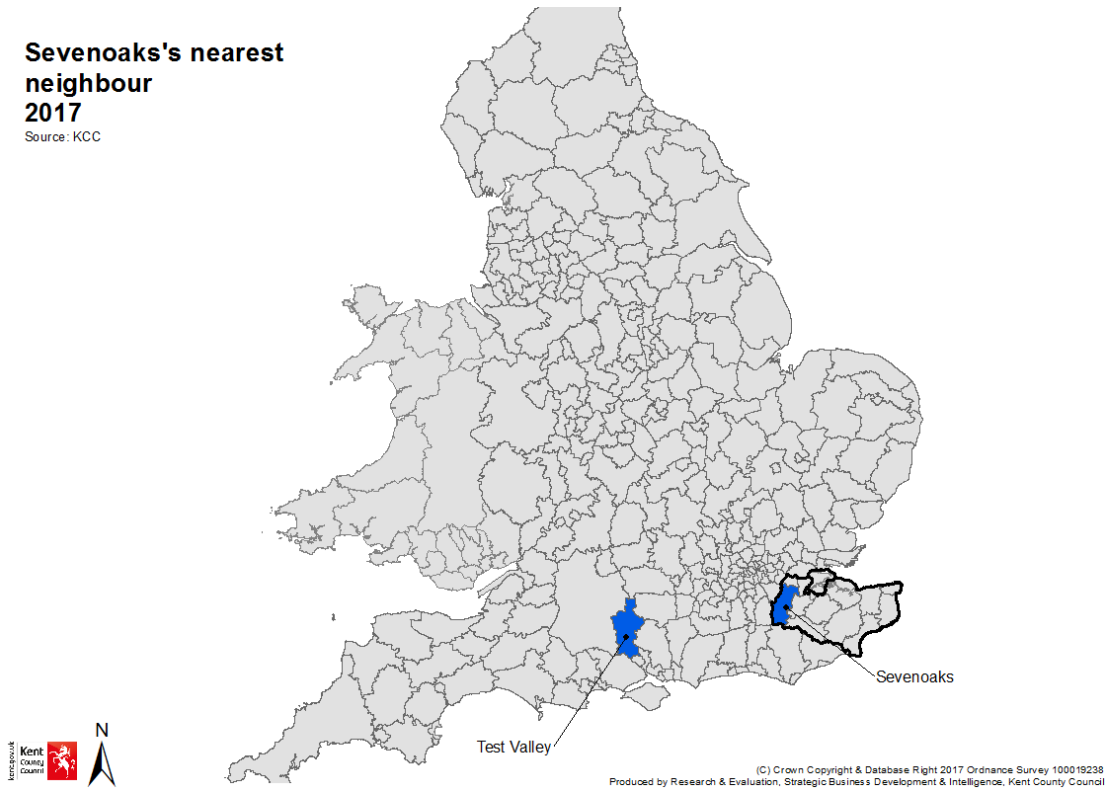
Sevenoaks ranks well above average in all indicators with the exception of proportion of the population qualified to NVQ4 and above and employment rate.



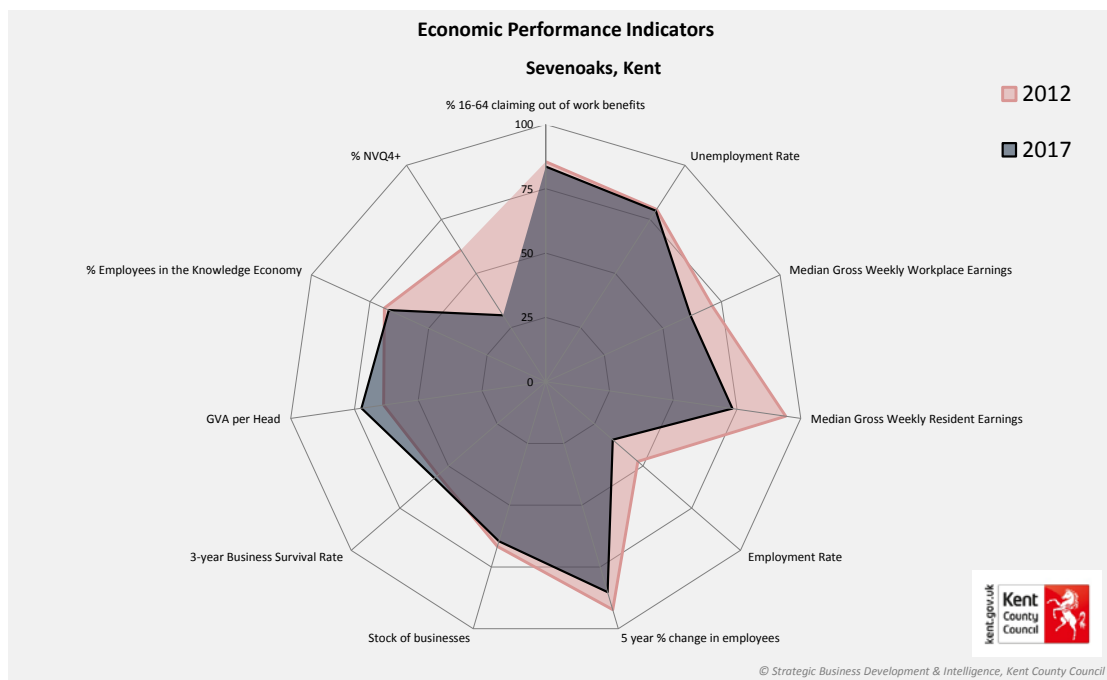
The authority which has the most similar economic shape to Sevenoaks is Test Valley in Hampshire.

Sevenoaks's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



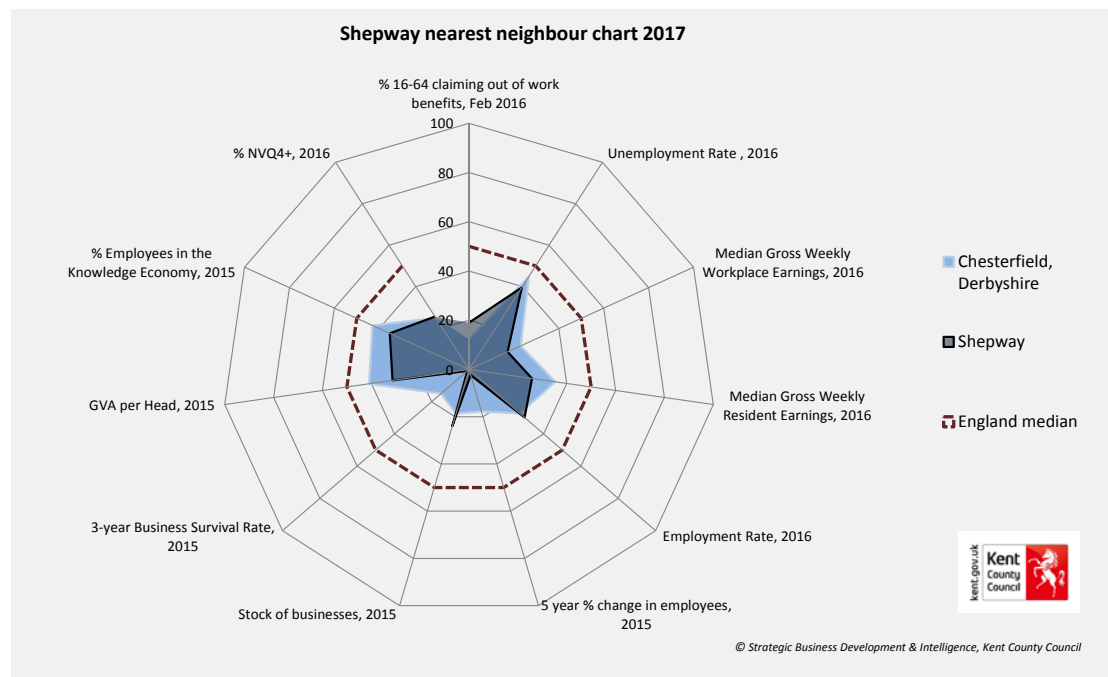
Over the last five years Sevenoaks' ranking compared to other authorities has improved in GVA per head and three year business survival rate however it's ranking has fallen in all other indicators but particularly those qualified to NVQ4 and above.



Shepway

Shepway	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	13.9	13.4	15.8	12.0	11.3	10.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.2	4.1	4.0	2.7	2.0	2.1
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	465.1	482.3	463.9	467.8	473.0	458.3
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	491.0	474.9	493.8	481.6	540.4	490.6
Employment Rate (%)	74.9	75.8	64.9	77.1	78.4	77.3
5 year % change in employees	12.7	18.0	0.2	0.0	-2.0	-5.6
Stock of businesses	3,470	3,575	4,225	3,675	3,735	3,855
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	58.8	55.7	66.2	56.7	46.6	42.5
GVA per Head (£)	18,498	19,051	14,158	18,857	18,764	19,130
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	13.4	16.7	7.6	12.7	13.5	12.4
% NVQ4+	20.5	21.5	18.5	25.7	22.8	32.1

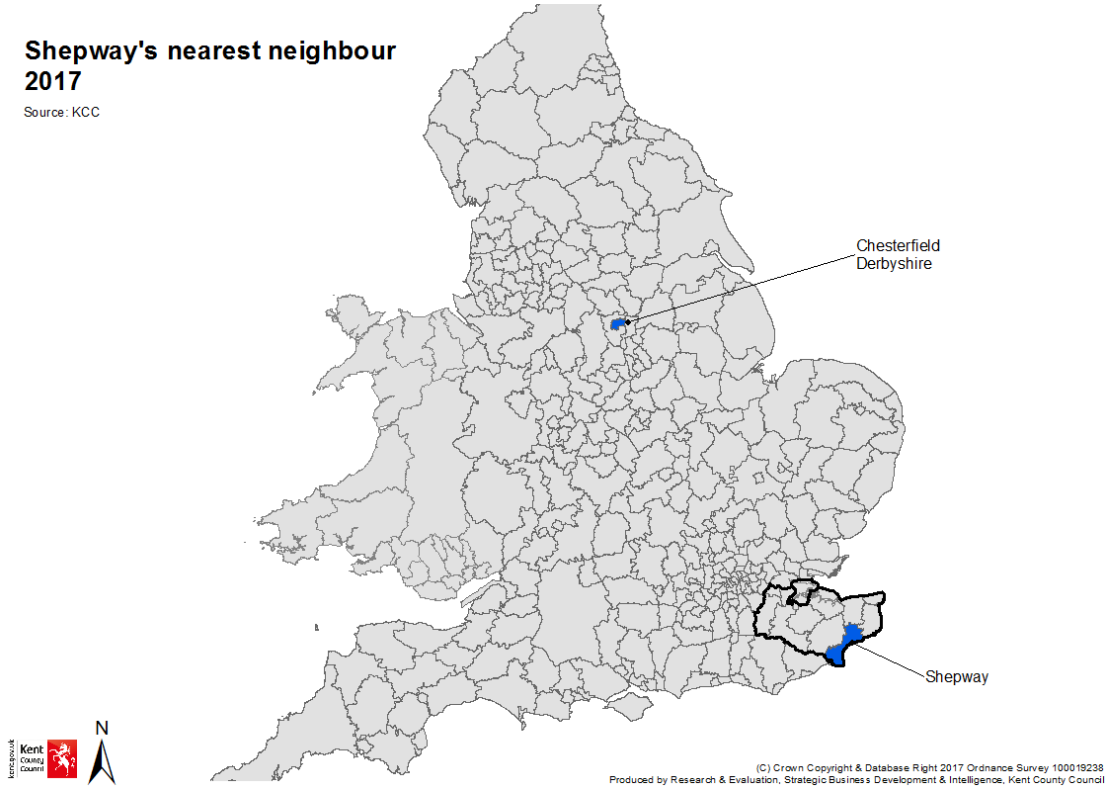
Shepway ranks below the national average in all indicators. It ranks best in the following indicators: unemployment rate and proportion of employees in the Knowledge Economy. It ranks lowest in the country in three year business survival rates and second lowest in five year percentage change in employees.



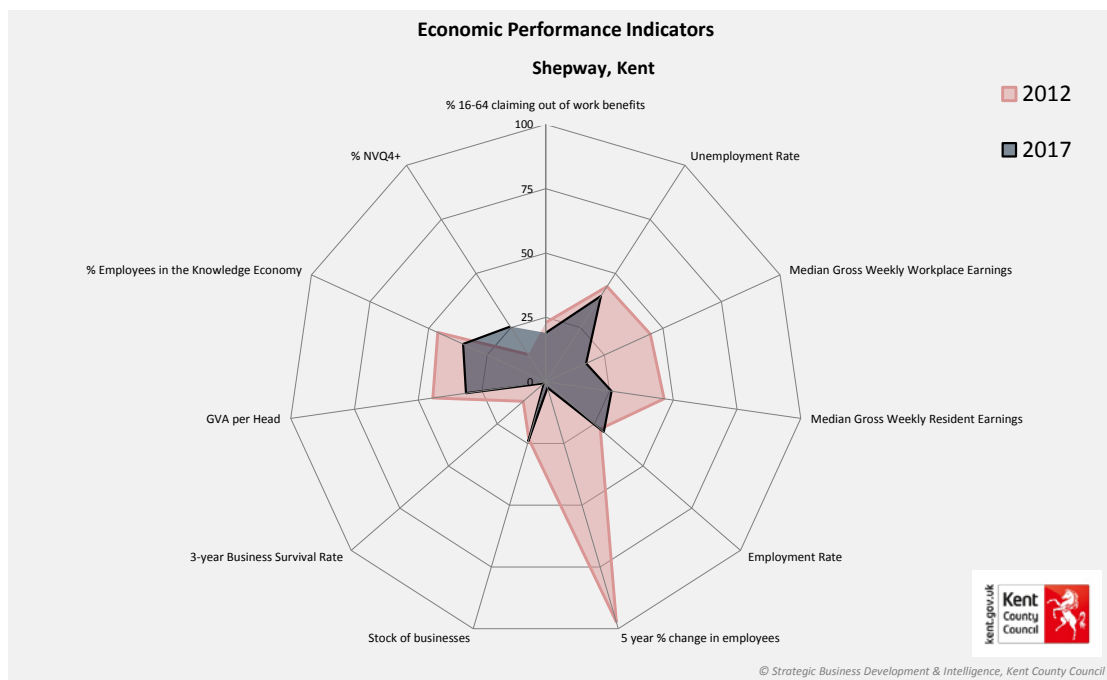
Chesterfield in Derbyshire has the most similar economic profile to Shepway.

Shepway's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



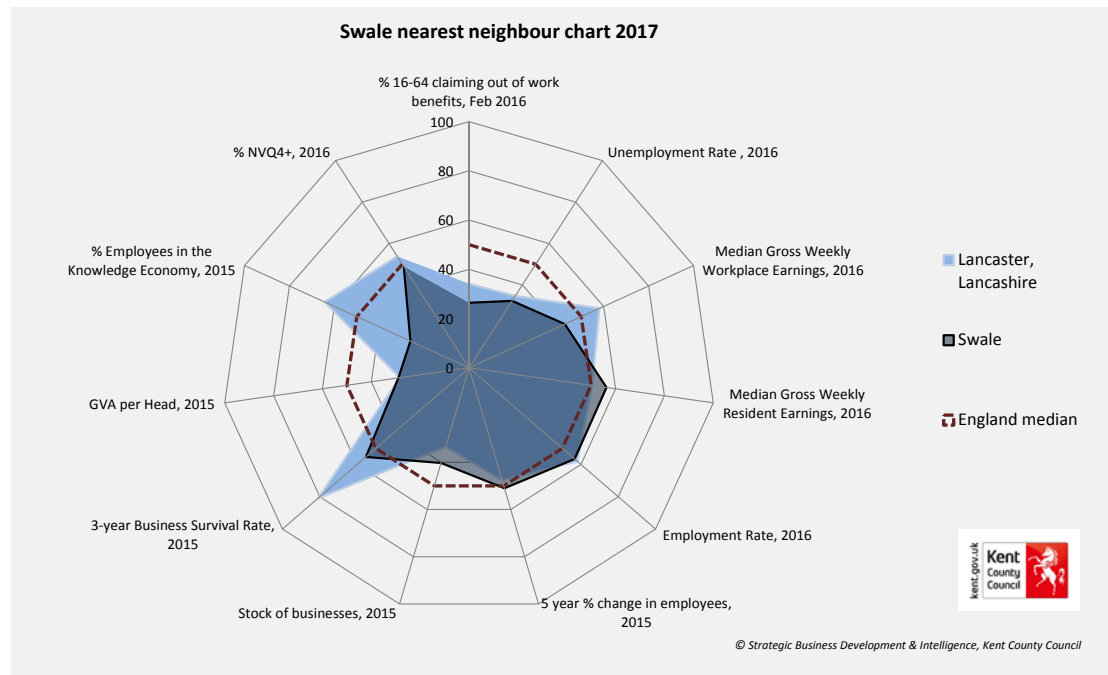
Shepway's ranking compared to other authorities has fallen most significantly in five year employee change. In 2012 Shepway saw one of the largest percentage increases in employees in the country while the chart for 2017 shows that Shepway saw one of the largest percentage decreases over the last five years.



Swale

Swale	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	13.1	13.4	6.0	11.6	10.7	9.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.8	4.1	1.4	2.6	2.0	2.2
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	457.1	427.2	518.5	466.7	501.6	497.0
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	538.4	536.6	520.4	538.5	537.8	546.2
Employment Rate (%)	74.4	75.5	77.6	78.2	73.6	76.5
5 year % change in employees	4.5	0.1	1.1	4.5	9.7	6.2
Stock of businesses	4,330	4,350	5,435	4,405	4,545	4,780
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	60.5	55.3	65.9	62.8	61.1	61.8
GVA per Head (£)	16,199	16,031	26,546	17,429	18,229	18,916
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	10.3	10.7	18.1	10.3	11.1	11.1
% NVQ4+	25.6	25.2	46.3	27.9	23.8	33.5

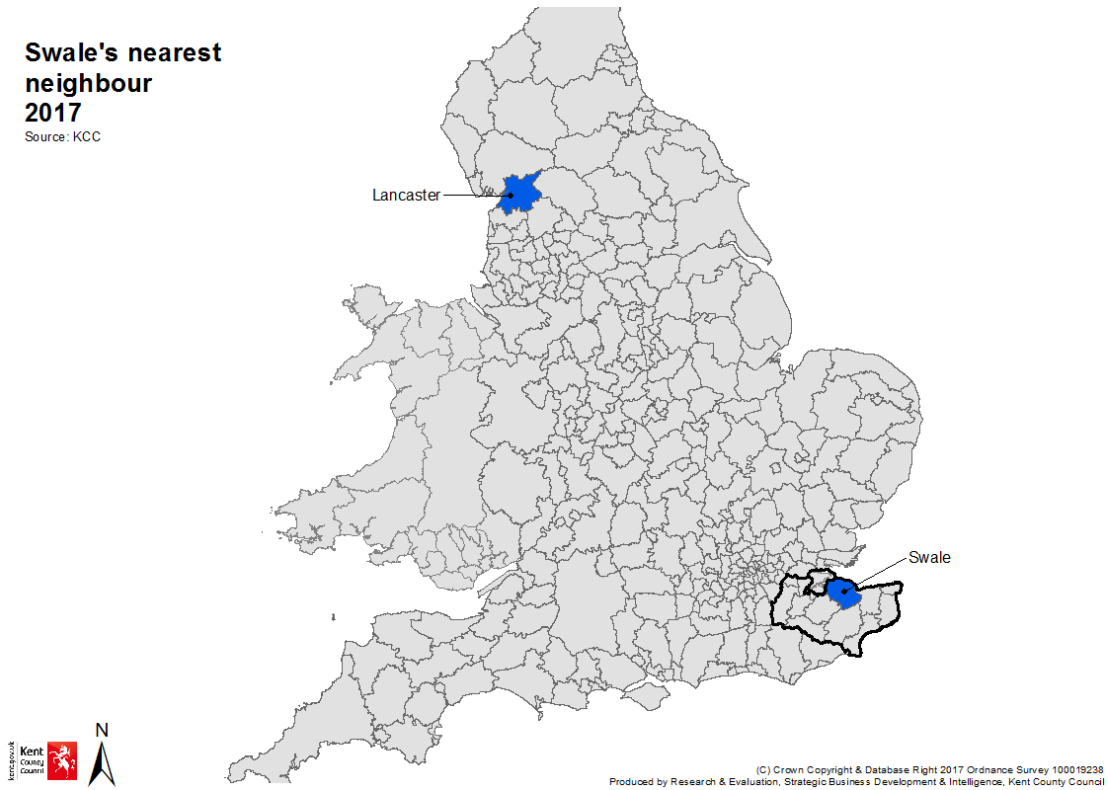
Swale ranks above average in resident earnings, employment rate and three year business survival rates, and around average population qualified to NVQ4 and above and five year employee change.



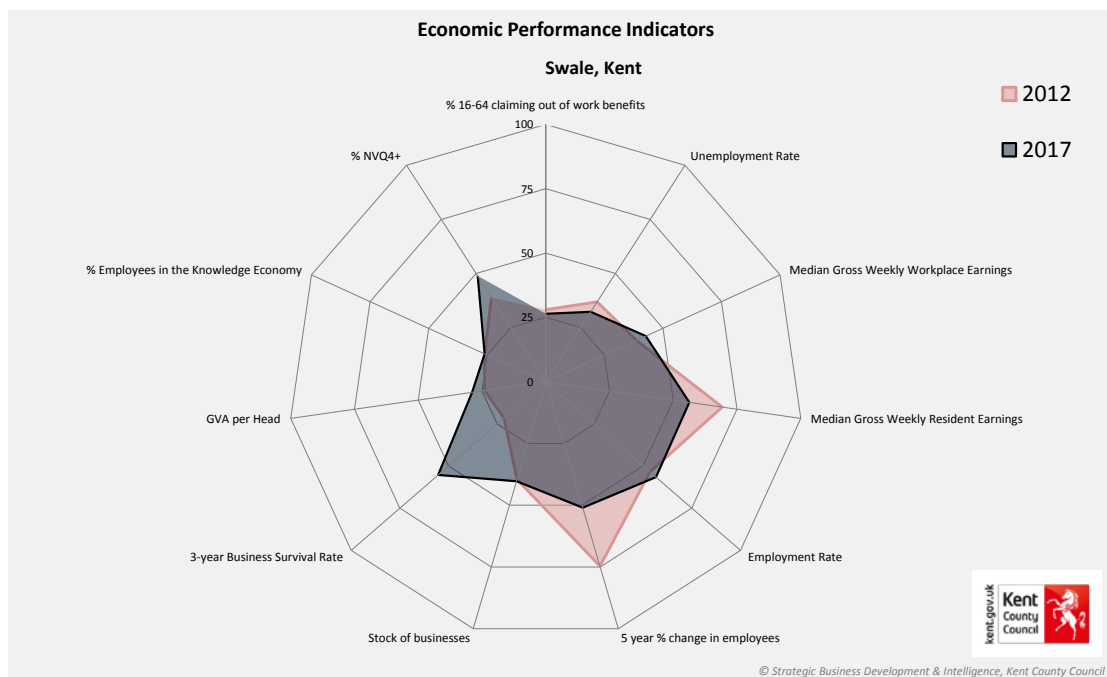
Lancaster in Lancashire is the authority with the most similar economic shape to Swale.

Swale's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



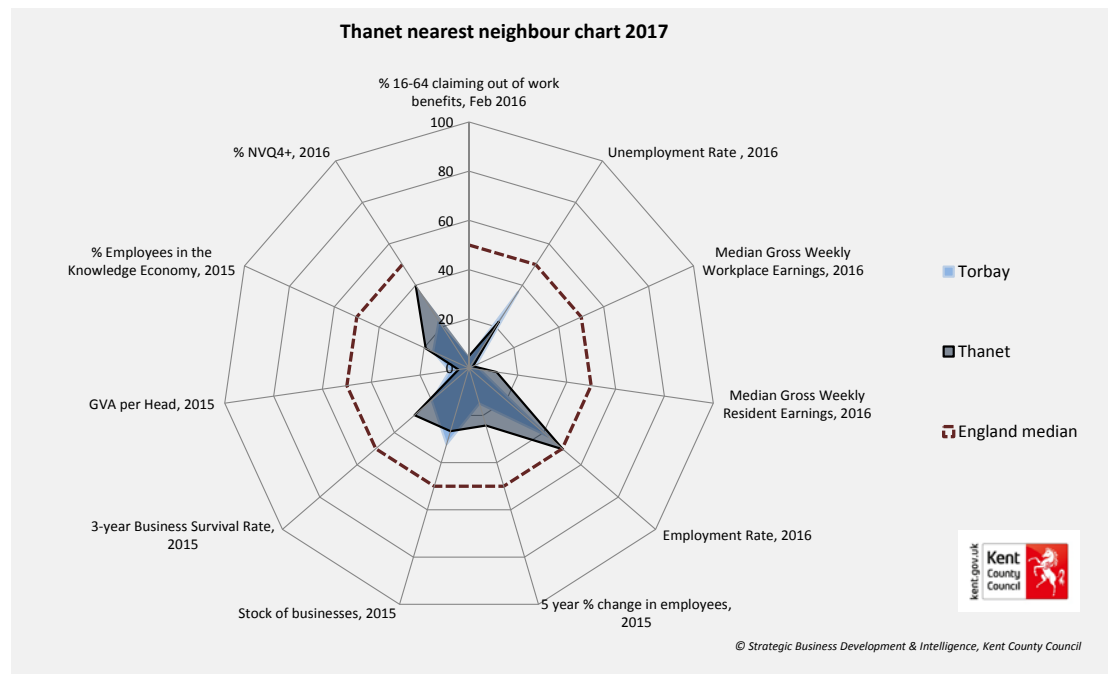
Swale ranks higher than five years ago in population qualified to NVQ4 and above, and five years business survival rates, however ranks lower in resident earnings and five year employee change.



Thanet

Thanet	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	17.3	17.8	7.1	16.3	14.6	13.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.6	6.1	2.0	4.4	3.1	3.3
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	396.1	383.3	528.1	391.0	411.0	414.5
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	419.6	414.6	550.8	450.4	438.0	462.5
Employment Rate (%)	58.9	63.6	77.4	62.4	71.9	75.0
5 year % change in employees	3.3	2.1	7.8	-2.0	-0.6	1.9
Stock of businesses	3,560	3,580	3,610	3,655	3,775	3,935
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	60.4	59.5	64.4	54.5	58.8	59.0
GVA per Head (£)	15,150	15,073	26,886	14,651	14,641	15,021
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	9.4	10.7	18.5	9.5	9.4	10.2
% NVQ4+	29.0	30.6	33.8	22.1	22.7	30.0

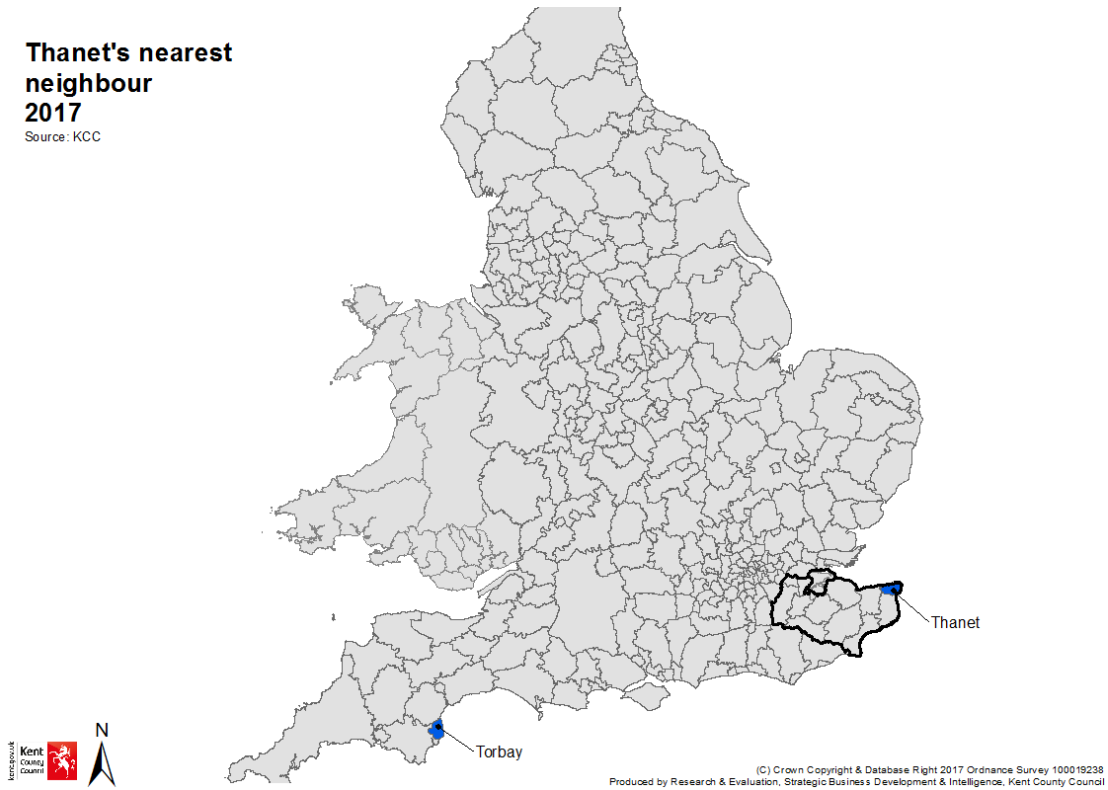
Thanet ranks most strongly in employment rate. Thanet ranks below the national average in all other indicators.



The authority with the most similar economic shape to Thanet is Torbay, a coastal district in Devon.

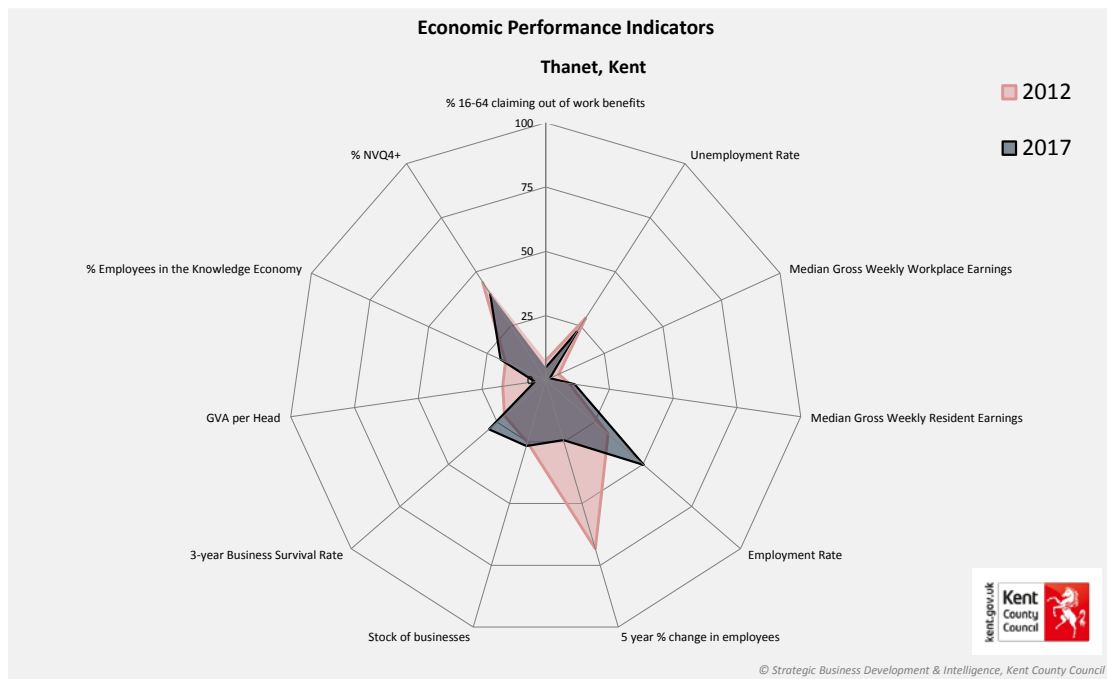
Thanet's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



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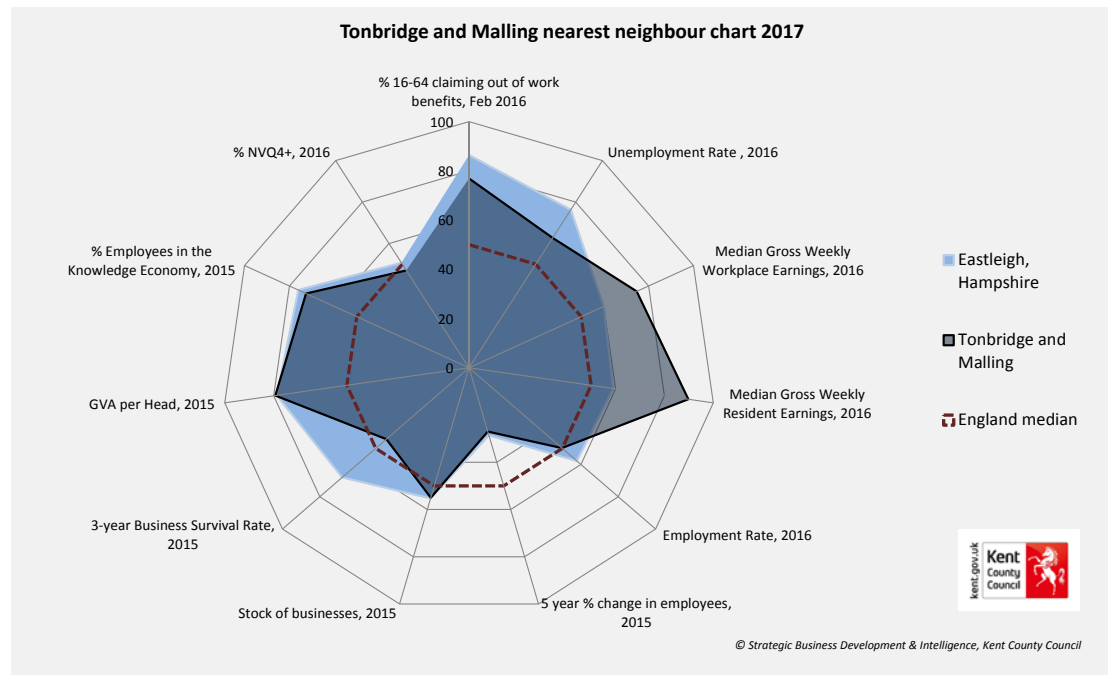
Over the last five years Thanet's ranking has increased in the following indicators: Employment rate, three year business survival rates, employees in the Knowledge Economy and resident earnings.



Tonbridge & Malling

Tonbridge and Malling	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	7.1	7.4	17.4	6.2	5.8	5.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.0	2.1	5.7	1.2	1.0	0.9
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	491.9	527.7	402.8	529.2	517.1	550.8
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	600.0	600.2	446.5	573.4	636.2	655.1
Employment Rate (%)	72.7	63.3	61.4	81.2	81.4	76.9
5 year % change in employees	2.4	5.3	-2.6	0.0	1.6	2.5
Stock of businesses	5,145	5,250	3,565	5,410	5,595	5,875
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	67.4	65.0	54.2	60.2	63.6	60.6
GVA per Head (£)	25,085	25,891	14,876	26,343	27,298	28,108
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	18.4	17.3	11.8	17.5	19.1	19.9
% NVQ4+	32.8	34.2	21.4	43.1	36.2	34.9

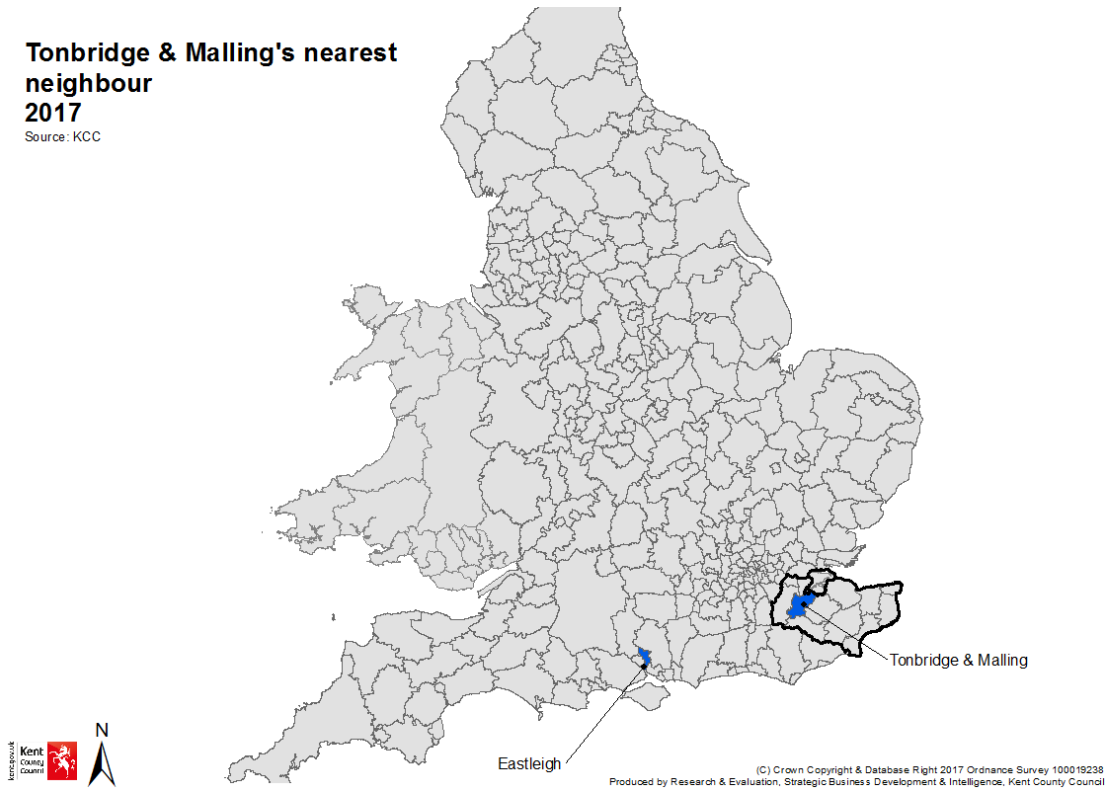
Tonbridge and Malling ranks within the top 25% of authorities in the following indicators: out of work benefit claimants, workplace and resident earnings and GVA per head.



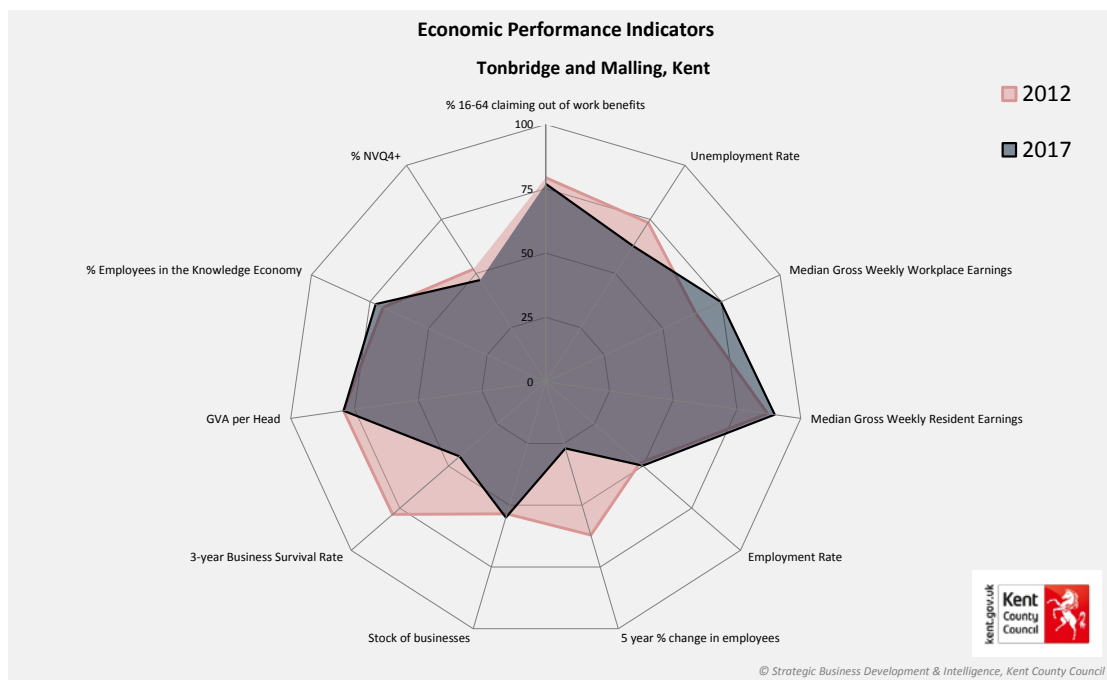
The area with the closest economic profile to Tonbridge and Malling is Eastleigh in Hampshire.

Tonbridge & Malling's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



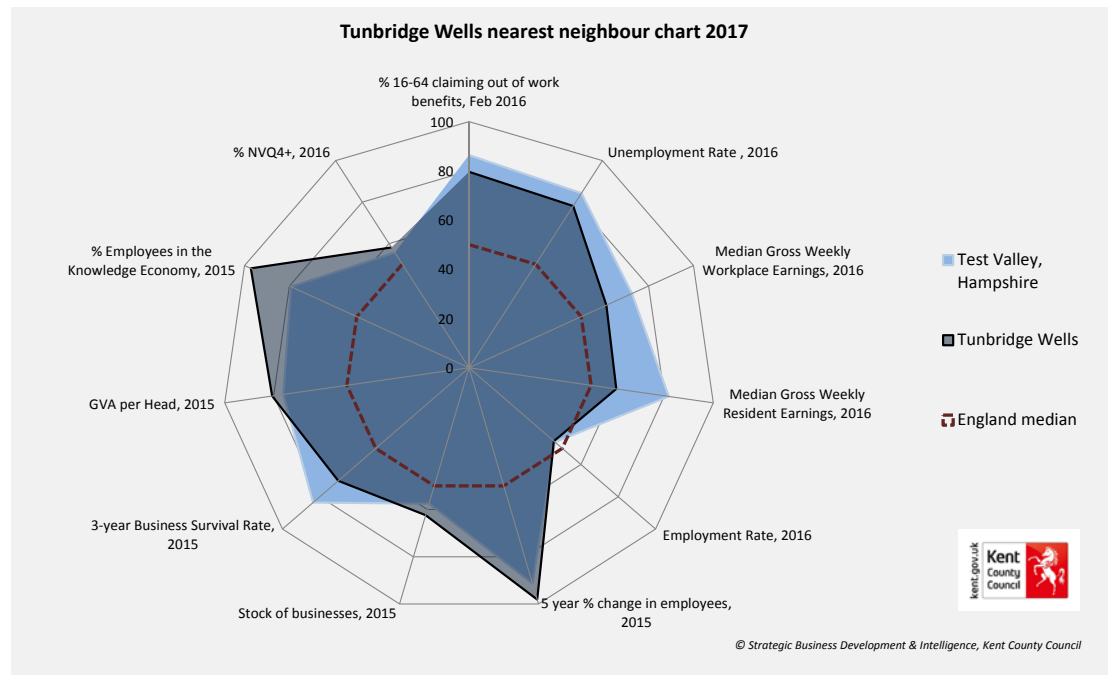
While Tonbridge and Malling has performed well in a number of indicators when compared to five years earlier, it now ranks lower compared to other authorities in the following indicators: three year business survival, 5 year employee change, unemployment rate and population qualified to NVQ4 and above.



Tunbridge Wells

Tunbridge Wells	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	7.4	6.8	6.6	6.0	5.5	5.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	1.7	1.5	1.8	0.9	0.7	0.7
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	488.7	555.1	607.0	520.5	517.9	524.0
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	613.4	613.3	631.3	640.3	562.1	551.7
Employment Rate (%)	78.2	77.8	71.2	72.6	73.1	81.9
5 year % change in employees	3.9	4.4	6.3	-0.8	25.8	26.4
Stock of businesses	6,030	6,225	4,820	6,460	6,585	6,715
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	65.2	63.7	59.6	60.0	62.4	63.4
GVA per Head (£)	22,855	22,314	26,694	23,498	27,747	28,256
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	23.0	21.0	24.9	23.4	32.9	35.7
% NVQ4+	35.3	41.1	39.0	40.1	44.5	49.4

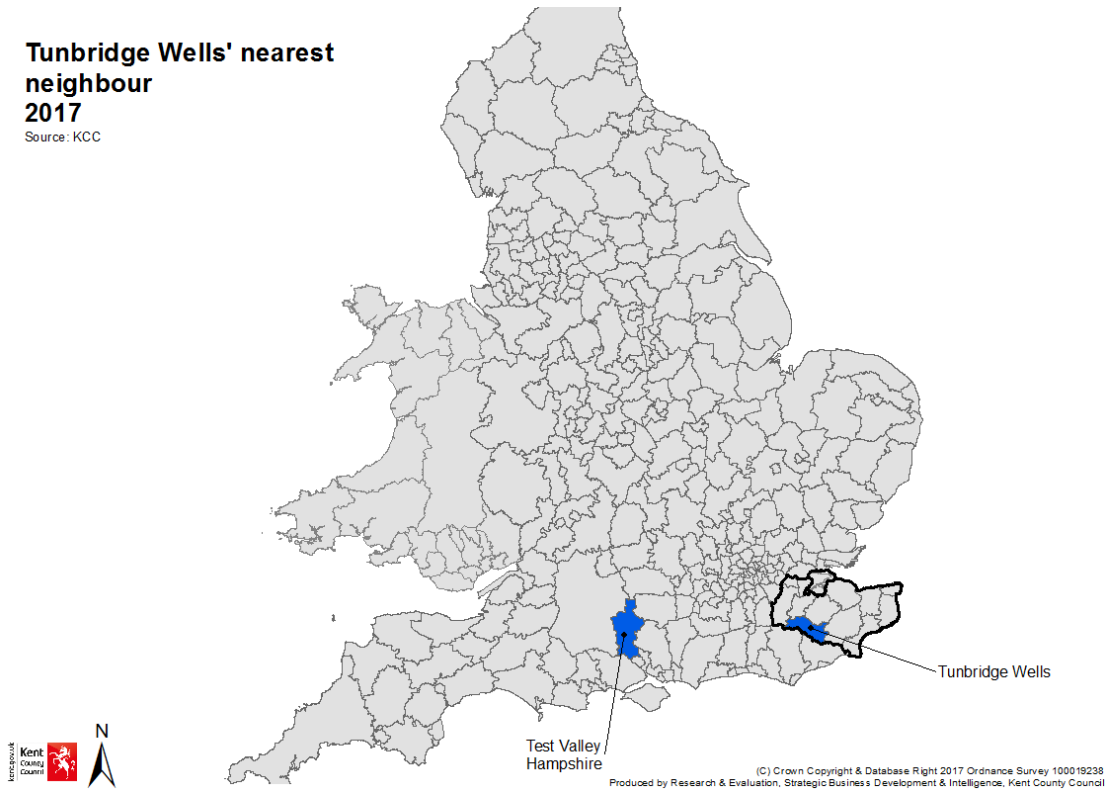
Tunbridge Wells ranks above the national average in all indicators with the exception of employment rate. It ranks among the top 10% of authorities in the country in five year change in employees and proportion of employees in the Knowledge Economy.



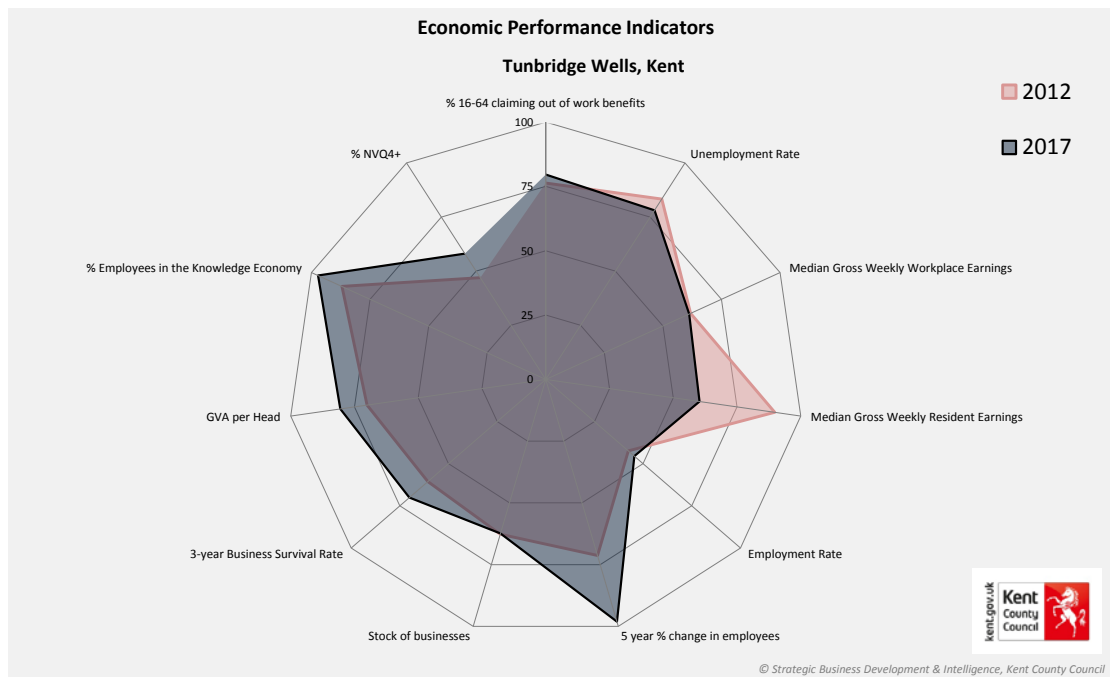
The authority with the most similar economic shape to Tunbridge Wells is Test Valley in Hampshire.

Tunbridge Wells' nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



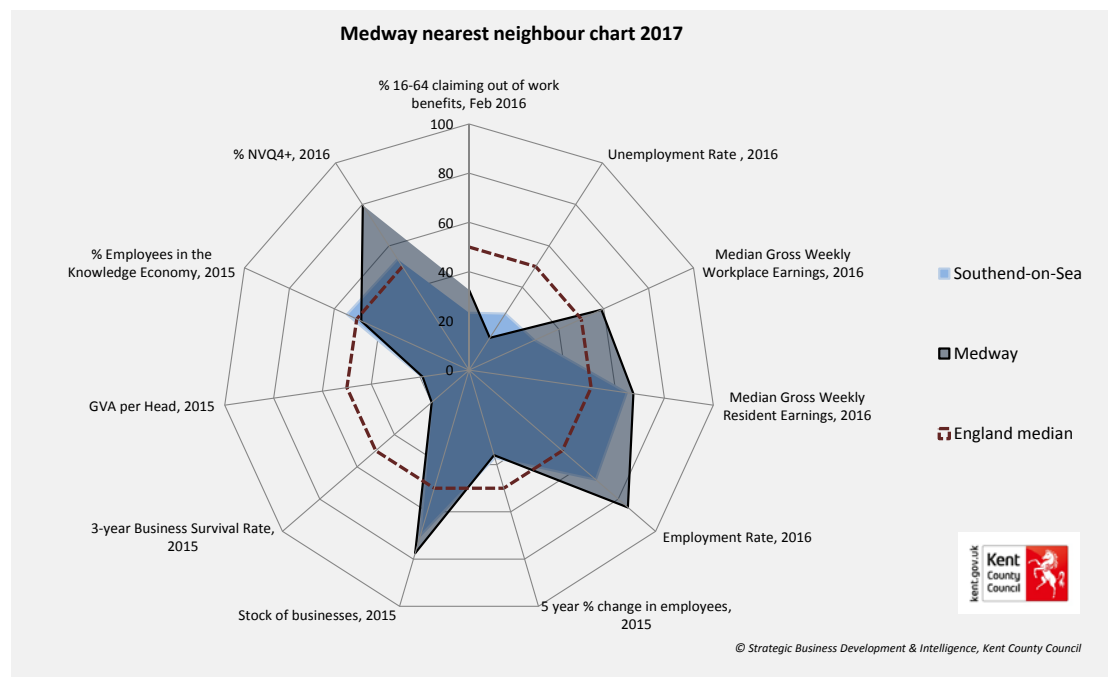
While Tunbridge Wells ranks higher than 5 years ago in eight indicators it position has fallen most notably in resident earnings, with a smaller fall in its rank in workplace earnings and unemployment rate.



Medway

Medway	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
% 16-64 claiming out of work benefits	12.2	12.4	12.8	10.6	9.7	8.9
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.1	4.1	3.6	2.6	2.1	2.0
Median Gross Weekly Workplace Earnings (£)☒	502.3	488.0	468.7	505.0	504.9	522.2
Median Gross Weekly Resident Earnings (£)☒	532.3	527.2	538.3	548.6	547.9	566.1
Employment Rate (%)	69.5	70.6	71.1	71.1	69.8	74.8
5 year % change in employees	-2.9	-6.5	-3.4	-1.9	3.1	3.7
Stock of businesses	7,170	7,340	4,330	7,780	8,225	8,765
3-year Business Survival Rate (%)	61.6	56.7	57.3	61.7	60.6	58.0
GVA per Head (£)	15,282	14,922	16,574	16,570	16,655	17,338
% Employees in the Knowledge Economy	11.5	11.9	11.4	13.3	14.5	14.5
% NVQ4+	20.8	23.5	27.1	25.9	25.9	30.3

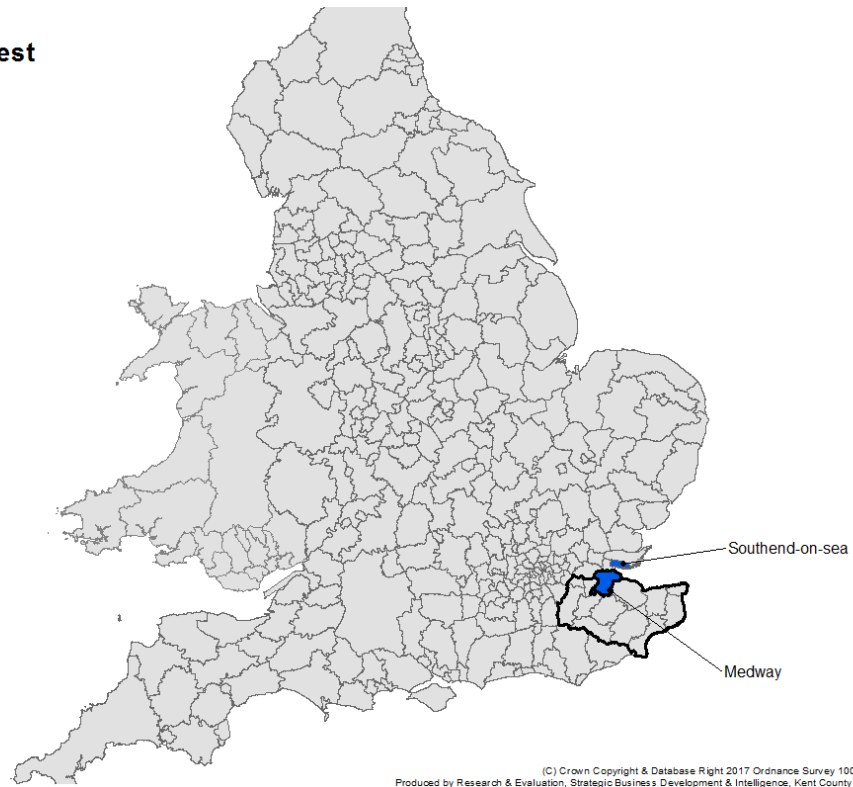
Medway ranks highly five indicators: Population qualified to NVQ4 and above, workplace and resident earnings, employment rate and stock of businesses, however it ranks within the bottom 20% in the country in GVA per head, three year business survival and unemployment.



Medway's closest economic neighbour is Southend-on-Sea.

Medway's nearest neighbour 2017

Source: KCC



Medway's ranking in all indicators has changed very little over the last five years.

