

Construction Industries in Kent

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NOTE: within this bulletin 'Kent' refers to the Kent County Council (KCC) area which excludes Medway

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The Construction Sector is an important industry that is relied upon to build homes, infrastructure, workplaces, schools, and hospitals.

This bulletin looks at the number of jobs in construction industries in Kent. It looks at the number of construction enterprises and the contribution that construction makes to the local economy and the number of people participating in a construction related apprenticeship.

Summary

- 17.4% of businesses in Kent in 2021 were construction-based enterprises.
- In 2020 there were an estimated 47,000 employee jobs in construction in Kent (7.6% of all jobs).
- 50.4% of construction workers were in skilled trades occupations.
- Construction contributed £4,081m towards the Kent economy in 2019.
- 1,017 people in Kent participated in a construction, planning, and built environment apprenticeship in 2018/19. In the same year 234 achieved their apprenticeship within the industry.

Introduction

In 2017 the UK government launched its Industrial Strategy White Paper. The aim of the Industrial Strategy is to enable strong economic growth.

As part of the strategy, the government launched a number of sector deals to help develop certain industries in the UK. The construction sector was identified as an important part of the economy. It has the potential to provide large numbers of high-skilled, well-paid jobs. In 2018 The Construction Sector Deal was launched.

More information on the Construction Strategy Sector Deal can be found on the [Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy website](#).

The construction sector used in this bulletin is defined using the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification (2007SIC). Information about the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification is available from the UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities published by [the Office for National Statistics](#).

The construction sector is made up of three main subsectors: Construction of Buildings, Civil Engineering and Specialised Construction.

SIC 2007	
Code	Industry Name
4	Construction
41	Construction of buildings
411	Development of building projects
412	Construction of residential and non-residential buildings
42	Civil engineering
421	Construction of roads and railways
422	Construction of utility projects
429	Construction of other civil engineering projects
43	Specialised construction activities
431	Demolition and site preparation
432	Electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities
433	Building completion and finishing
439	Other specialised construction activities n.e.c.

This bulletin looks at the number of construction enterprises, the number of employee jobs in construction, occupations within the construction industry, the GVA generated by construction in Kent and the number undertaking an apprenticeship in construction.

Enterprises

The estimated number of enterprises comes from information from the UK Business Counts dataset produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The UK Business Counts dataset is an extract compiled from the Inter Departmental Business Register (IDBR) which

contains information on VAT traders and PAYE employers. The UK Business Counts dataset records the number of enterprises that were live at a reference date in March each year giving a snapshot of businesses that were live at this point in time. It is broken down by size band, industry, and turnover. Further information about the methodology used for producing these data is available from [the Office for National Statistics](#).

The latest data is for 2021.

Employee jobs

The number of employee jobs in the manufacturing sector comes from information from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) produced by the ONS. The BRES is a sample survey which collects employment information from businesses across the whole of the Great Britain economy for each site that they operate. The survey covers all businesses in Great Britain registered for VAT and/or PAYE. BRES does not cover the very small businesses neither registered for VAT nor PAYE, neither does it include self-employed workers unless they are registered for VAT or PAYE.

The data provides us with an estimate of employee jobs and total employment (number of employees plus the number of working owners)

BRES is a sample survey and produces estimated employment figures. These estimates are of a good quality at higher levels of geography (for example region), however the quality of the estimates deteriorates as the geographies get smaller. This should be taken into account when considering the quality of county and district estimates.

The survey provides us with estimates of employees by industrial sector. The manufacturing sector used in this bulletin is defined using the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification (2007SIC).

In accordance with official guidelines the data is rounded to the nearest 100 prior to publication. Percentages are calculated using unrounded data.

The latest data is for 2020.

Impact of Coronavirus on BRES data

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) reference date of 11 September 2020 meant that coronavirus (COVID-19) had a tangible effect on producing estimates. This indicates lower levels of precision than in previous years. The response rate for the 2020 BRES was 72.6%, which was lower than the 2019 BRES response rate of 83.6%. For this reason, figures for 2020 should be considered with caution.

More information on how Coronavirus has affected labour market statistics can be found [here](#).

Occupations

This bulletin also looks at occupations within the construction Industry. Detailed information about the occupations in which residents work is available from the 2011 Census from ONS. This enables us to look at some industry specific occupations related to construction. This dataset gives us information about the occupations of Kent residents who were in employment at the time of the Census (27 March 2011).

GVA

Gross Value Added (GVA) is a measure of Output i.e., the value of the goods and services produced in the economy. It is primarily used to monitor the performance of the national economy and is now the measure preferred by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to measure the overall economic well-being of an area. GVA estimates are available by broad industrial group down to local authority district level and are available for the years 2000 to 2018.

More information is available about GVA estimates is available from [the Office For National Statistics](#).

Apprenticeships

The Department for Education (DfE) publishes figures on apprenticeship participation and achievements by sector subject area. Participation is counted as the number of people who have attended one day or more in the given academic year. Achievements is counted as the numbers of learners who successfully complete an individual apprenticeship in an academic year.

This bulletin presents three levels of apprenticeship:

- Intermediate - equivalent or 5 GCSE passes
- Advanced – equivalent to 2 passes at A-Level. The apprentice would generally need experience of working in the industry
- Higher - equivalent to a foundation degree, a Higher National Certificate (HNC), or the first year of an undergraduate degree up to a full degree. An apprentice would have to already show a high level of education e.g., have completed an advanced apprenticeship; have 2 passes at A level; have a BTEC qualification.

The latest annual data available is for academic year 2018/19.

Construction Industry Enterprises in Kent

The UK Business Counts dataset records the number of enterprises that were live as at March each year, giving a snapshot of businesses that were operating at this point in time. It is broken down by size band, industry, and turnover.

All numbers are rounded at source. Values may be rounded down to zero and so all zeros are not necessarily true zeros. Totals across tables may differ by minor amounts due to the disclosure methods used.

Kent had a higher proportion of construction enterprises than the national average as at March 2021. 11,230 construction enterprises in the county accounted for 17.4% of all enterprises in Kent as opposed to 13.0% in England. This is shown in table 1.

The highest concentration of construction enterprises in the county can be found in the Thames Gateway Kent districts of Gravesham (22.1%), Dartford (21.9%) and Swale (20.0%). The wider Thames Gateway is one of Europe's largest regeneration areas stretching from London, through Essex and Kent.

Table 1: Construction enterprises

2021			Change since last year		5 year change	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Ashford	1,000	15.1%	35	3.6%	240	31.6%
Canterbury	805	14.8%	0	0.0%	70	9.5%
Dartford	1,045	21.9%	40	4.0%	290	38.4%
Dover	650	17.7%	30	4.8%	180	38.3%
Folkestone & Hythe	585	15.5%	5	0.9%	45	8.3%
Gravesham	910	22.1%	20	2.2%	190	26.4%
Maidstone	1,530	19.1%	75	5.2%	250	19.5%
Sevenoaks	1,105	16.7%	15	1.4%	150	15.7%
Swale	1,010	20.0%	15	1.5%	165	19.5%
Thanet	740	17.7%	15	2.1%	160	27.6%
Tonbridge and Malling	1,105	18.0%	40	3.8%	265	31.5%
Tunbridge Wells	745	11.8%	-30	-3.9%	105	16.4%
Kent	11,230	17.4%	260	2.4%	2,110	23.1%
Medway	2,115	23.0%	40	1.9%	530	33.4%
Kent + Medway	13,345	18.1%	300	2.3%	2,635	24.6%
South East LEP	33,185	18.7%	785	2.4%	5,860	21.4%
South East Region	59,275	14.1%	1,295	2.2%	8,600	17.0%
England	313,985	13.1%	7,730	2.5%	52,440	20.1%
Great Britain	348,875	13.0%	8,170	2.4%	56,340	19.3%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Maidstone district has the highest number of construction enterprises in the county (1,530) accounting for 19.1% of all enterprises in the district. Folkestone & Hythe has the fewest number of construction enterprises (585) while Tunbridge Wells has the lowest proportion (11.8%).

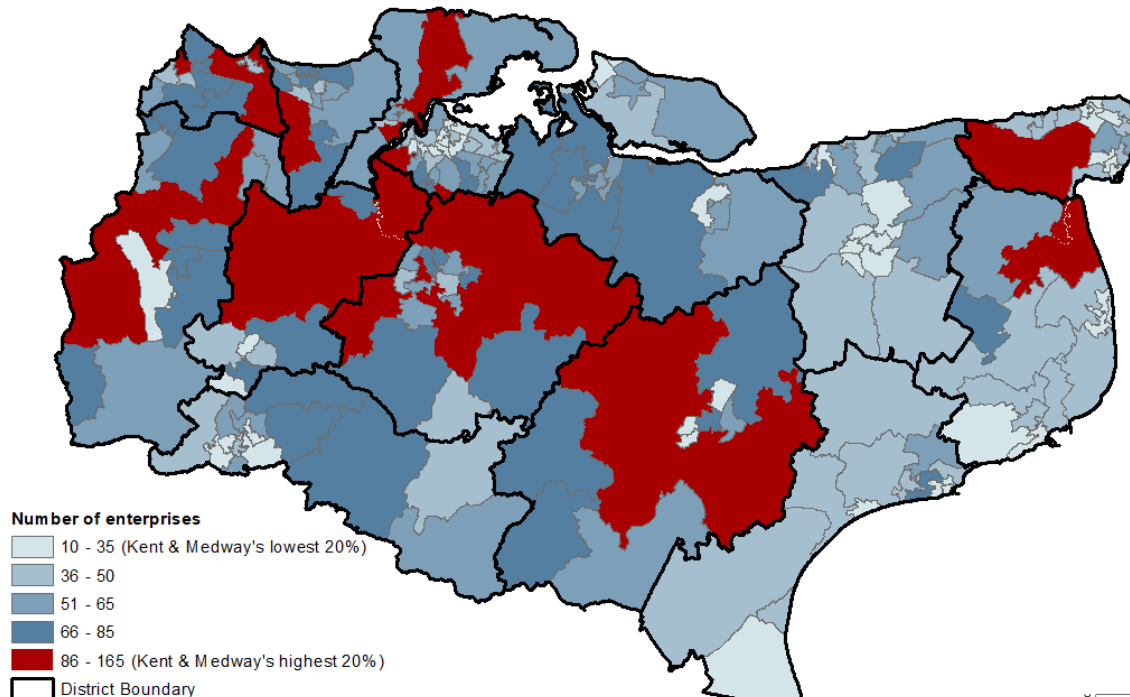
Dartford district has seen the largest growth in construction enterprises over the last five years with 290 more enterprises (+38.4%).

The distribution of construction enterprises in Kent and Medway is shown in map 1.

Map 1: Construction industry enterprises in Kent & Medway

Number of enterprises in Kent & Medway MSOAs in the Construction Industry, 2021

Source: UK Business Counts, ONS



Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council
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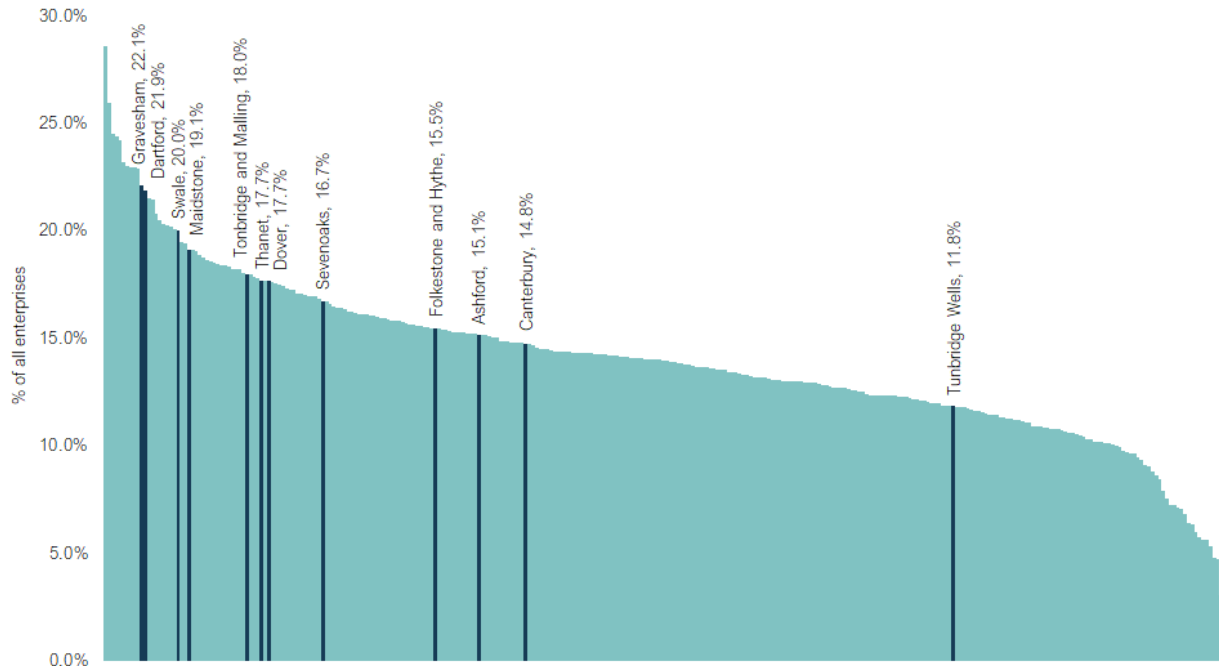
Chart 1 (overleaf) shows the proportion of construction enterprises in local authorities in England.

Kent as a whole has the second highest number of construction enterprises in England and the sixteenth highest proportion. Eight of Kent's local authority districts are within the top 20% of authorities in England with the highest proportion of construction enterprises (16.7% or more). In Medway 23.0% of enterprises are construction enterprises, the seventh highest in the country. In Kent Gravesham has the highest proportion of construction enterprises (22%), the tenth highest concentration in the country.

Over the last five years the number of construction industry enterprises has grown in all Kent local authorities. Dartford district saw the largest growth in Kent in percentage terms (+38.4%). This growth can largely be attributed to the announcement in 2014 of a new Garden City to be developed at Ebbsfleet, an area largely in Dartford but also taking in part of Gravesham. Dartford district also saw the biggest increase in number of construction enterprises (+290). This is shown in chart 2.

Chart 1: Construction industry enterprises in England

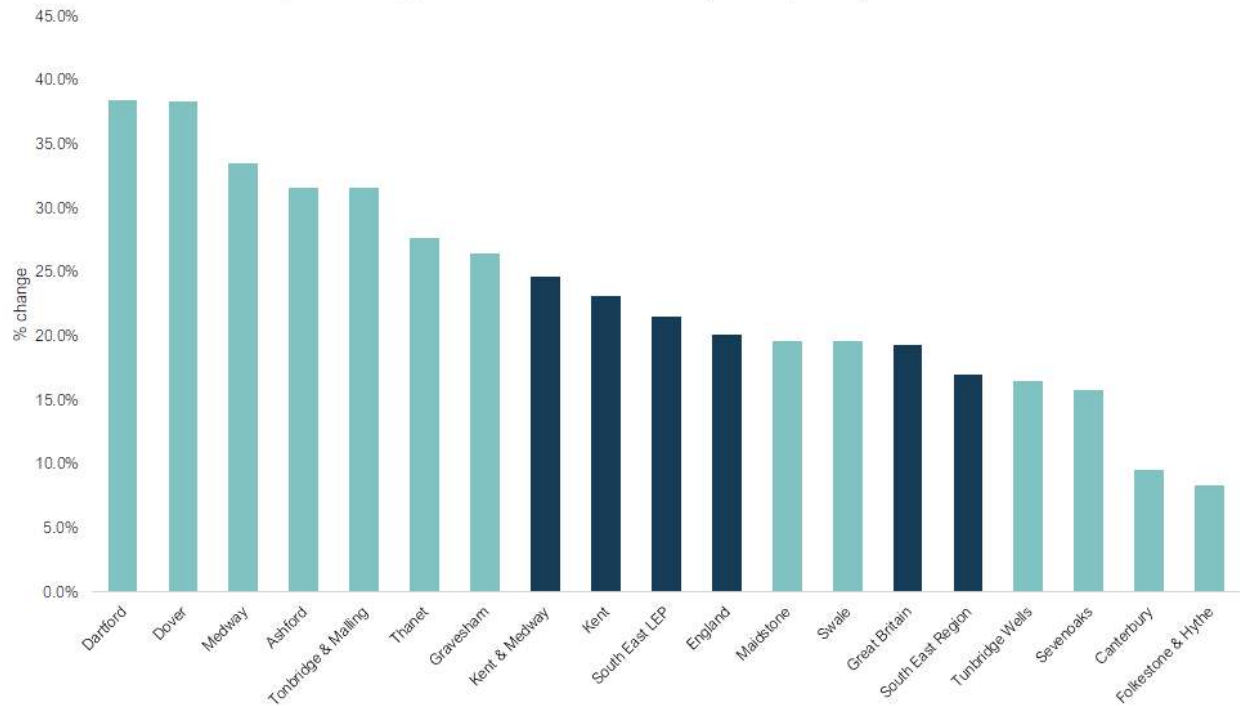
Concentration of Construction Industry enterprises in local authorities in England, 2021



Source: UK Business Counts, ONS
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 2: Five-year growth in construction enterprises

5 year change in Construction industry enterprises, 2016-2021



Source: UK Business Counts, ONS
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The construction sector is made up of three main subsectors: construction of Buildings (residential and non-residential), Civil Engineering (construction of roads, railways, and utilities projects) and Specialised Construction (demolition, electrical, plumbing, and other construction installation).

Specialised Construction Activities counts for almost two thirds of construction enterprises in Kent.

Table 2: Construction enterprises - subsectors

2021	Total Construction Enterprises	Construction of buildings	Civil engineering	Specialised Civil construction activities	Construction of buildings	Civil engineering	Specialised Civil construction activities
Ashford	1,000	260	135	605	26.0%	13.5%	60.5%
Canterbury	805	235	90	485	29.2%	11.2%	60.2%
Dartford	1,045	255	65	725	24.4%	6.2%	69.4%
Dover	650	170	100	375	26.2%	15.4%	57.7%
Folkestone & Hythe	585	150	60	375	25.6%	10.3%	64.1%
Gravesham	910	225	85	600	24.7%	9.3%	65.9%
Maidstone	1,530	380	135	1,015	24.8%	8.8%	66.3%
Sevenoaks	1,105	380	40	685	34.4%	3.6%	62.0%
Swale	1,010	235	85	690	23.3%	8.4%	68.3%
Thanet	740	205	65	470	27.7%	8.8%	63.5%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,105	315	75	720	28.5%	6.8%	65.2%
Tunbridge Wells	745	260	50	440	34.9%	6.7%	59.1%
Kent	11,230	3,070	985	7,175	27.3%	8.8%	63.9%
Medway	2,115	430	175	1,510	20.3%	8.3%	71.4%
Kent & Medway	13,345	3,500	1,155	8,685	26.2%	8.7%	65.1%
South East LEP	33,185	8,875	2,395	21,920	26.7%	7.2%	66.1%
South East Region	59,275	17,565	3,930	37,780	29.6%	6.6%	63.7%
England	313,985	100,185	21,320	192,485	31.9%	6.8%	61.3%
Great Britain	348,875	108,465	24,245	216,170	31.1%	6.9%	62.0%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Looking in more detail at the enterprises which are classified as construction based it shows that in fact electrical, plumbing, and other construction installation activities make up the biggest proportion of construction businesses. Table 3 shows the proportion of construction enterprises in more detail.

Table 3: Detailed construction enterprises

2021	Kent	Medway	South East England	
Construction of buildings				
Development of building projects	10.2%	5.4%	11.3%	12.5%
Construction of residential and non-residential buildings	17.1%	14.9%	18.3%	19.4%
Civil engineering				
Construction of roads and railways	4.0%	3.3%	2.1%	2.1%
Construction of utility projects	0.4%	0.7%	0.3%	0.4%
Construction of other civil engineering projects	4.4%	4.3%	4.2%	4.3%
Specialised construction activities				
Demolition and site preparation	1.5%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
Electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities	28.9%	31.2%	29.0%	27.2%
Building completion and finishing	21.8%	24.8%	22.6%	22.8%
Other specialised construction activities n.e.c.	11.7%	14.2%	10.9%	10.1%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

A higher proportion of construction enterprises are micro enterprises (employing 0-9 people) than the average for total industries. Micro enterprises account for 95.3% of construction enterprises in Kent.

Table 4: Construction enterprises - size bands

2021	Employment sizeband					Percentage			
	Total	Micro (0 to 9)	Small (10 to 49)	Medium-sized (50 to 249)	Large (250+)	Micro (0 to 9)	Small (10 to 49)	Medium-sized (50 to 249)	Large (250+)
Ashford	1,000	950	45	0	0	95.0%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Canterbury	805	775	25	5	0	96.3%	3.1%	0.6%	0.0%
Dartford	1,045	985	50	5	0	94.3%	4.8%	0.5%	0.0%
Dover	650	615	30	0	0	94.6%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	585	560	25	0	0	95.7%	4.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	910	870	35	5	0	95.6%	3.8%	0.5%	0.0%
Maidstone	1,530	1,460	60	10	0	95.4%	3.9%	0.7%	0.0%
Sevenoaks	1,105	1,045	50	5	0	94.6%	4.5%	0.5%	0.0%
Swale	1,010	965	45	5	0	95.5%	4.5%	0.5%	0.0%
Thanet	740	710	25	5	0	95.9%	3.4%	0.7%	0.0%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,105	1,045	55	10	0	94.6%	5.0%	0.9%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	745	720	20	0	0	96.6%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Kent	11,230	10,700	465	55	5	95.3%	4.1%	0.5%	0.0%
Medway	2,115	2,025	80	10	0	95.7%	3.8%	0.5%	0.0%
Kent & Medway	13,345	12,725	545	65	5	95.4%	4.1%	0.5%	0.0%
South East LEP	33,185	31,745	1,275	150	15	95.7%	3.8%	0.5%	0.0%
South East Region	59,275	56,580	2,400	255	45	95.5%	4.0%	0.4%	0.1%
England	313,985	298,060	14,025	1,645	255	94.9%	4.5%	0.5%	0.1%
Great Britain	348,875	330,150	16,450	1,980	295	94.6%	4.7%	0.6%	0.1%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Two thirds of Kent construction enterprises (66.2%) have an annual turnover of up to £199,000, this reflects a similar picture to that seen nationally and regionally (66.8%). Almost one in five of the construction enterprises in the South East region who have an annual turnover higher than £199,000 are Kent based enterprises.

Table 5: Construction enterprise turnover

2021	Number of Construction enterprises				% of total Construction enterprises			
	Kent	Medway	South East	England	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Total	11,230	2,115	59,275	313,985	100%	100%	100%	100%
0 to 49 (£ thousand)	1,155	225	5,805	31,925	10.3%	10.6%	9.8%	10.2%
50 to 99 (£ thousand)	2,600	570	13,295	68,965	23.2%	27.0%	22.4%	22.0%
100 to 199 (£ thousand)	3,680	715	20,515	108,905	32.8%	33.8%	34.6%	34.7%
200 to 499 (£ thousand)	1,710	295	8,855	47,080	15.2%	13.9%	14.9%	15.0%
500 to 999 (£ thousand)	960	145	5,120	27,060	8.5%	6.9%	8.6%	8.6%
1000 to 1999 (£ thousand)	540	75	2,755	14,545	4.8%	3.5%	4.6%	4.6%
2000 to 4999 (£ thousand)	365	55	1,860	9,395	3.3%	2.6%	3.1%	3.0%
5000 to 9999 (£ thousand)	120	15	575	3,200	1.1%	0.7%	1.0%	1.0%
10000 to 49999 (£ thousand)	85	25	415	2,390	0.8%	1.2%	0.7%	0.8%
50000+ (£ thousand)	15	0	80	510	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Employee jobs in construction Industries

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) provides us with estimates of the number of employee jobs by industrial sector.

Covid-19 has had an impact on the BRES therefore figures for 2020 should be considered with caution, particularly at local authority level.

In 2020 there were 47,000 employee jobs in the construction industry in Kent accounting for 7.6% of all jobs in the county. This is a higher proportion than is seen both regionally (5.8%) and nationally (4.7%).

The highest number of construction jobs in 2020 was in Maidstone (7,000) while Sevenoaks had the highest proportion (12.5%).

Since 2015 construction jobs in Kent have increase by 36.2% (+ 30.1% in the South East and +8.5% in England).

Table 6: Construction employee jobs

	Employee jobs in construction		Change 2019-20		Five year change 2015-2020	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Ashford	4,000	7.0%	500	14.3%	1,800	77.8%
Canterbury	2,800	4.2%	0	0.0%	400	15.8%
Dartford	6,500	10.6%	500	8.3%	-1,000	-13.3%
Dover	2,000	6.0%	400	23.1%	800	60.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,000	5.3%	300	14.3%	400	23.1%
Gravesham	3,000	9.2%	300	9.1%	1,100	60.0%
Maidstone	7,000	9.3%	1,000	16.7%	3,300	86.7%
Sevenoaks	6,000	12.5%	0	0.0%	1,800	41.2%
Swale	4,000	7.9%	800	23.1%	1,000	33.3%
Thanet	2,500	6.0%	300	11.1%	800	42.9%
Tonbridge and Malling	5,500	8.9%	1,000	22.2%	2,300	69.2%
Tunbridge Wells	2,300	4.5%	300	12.5%	800	50.0%
Kent	47,000	7.6%	5,500	13.3%	12,500	36.2%
Medway	7,000	7.3%	500	7.7%	2,000	40.0%
Kent + Medway	54,500	7.7%	6,500	13.5%	15,000	38.0%
South East LEP	237,500	7.7%	12,000	10.7%	26,500	27.0%
South East	124,500	5.8%	17,500	8.0%	55,000	30.1%
England	1,218,500	4.7%	-52,500	-4.1%	95,500	8.5%
Great Britain	1,407,500	4.8%	-58,000	-4.0%	101,000	7.7%

Source: BRES

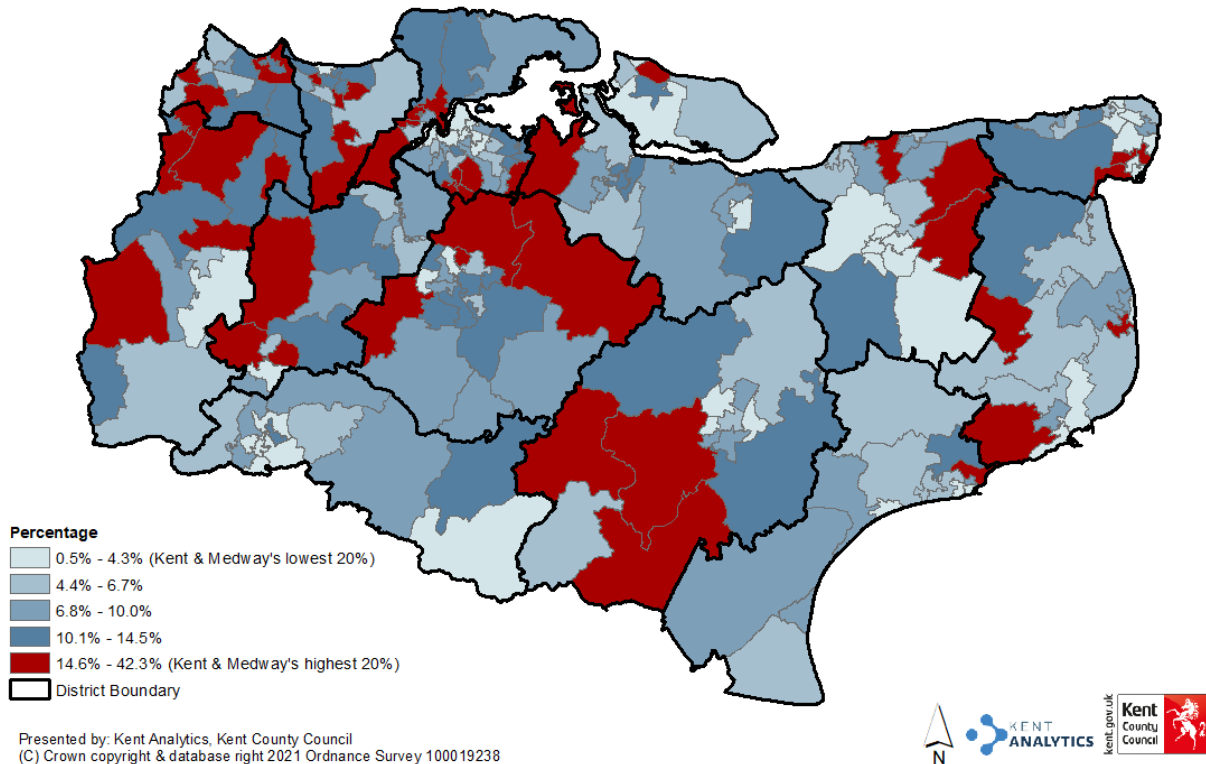
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Dartford, Maidstone, and Sevenoaks have the highest number of construction jobs in Kent. The proportion of workers in the construction industry in Kent and Medway is shown in map 2 (overleaf).

Map 2: Percentage of employee jobs in the Construction Industry in Kent & Medway

Proportion of employee jobs in Kent & Medway MSOAs in the Construction Industry, 2020

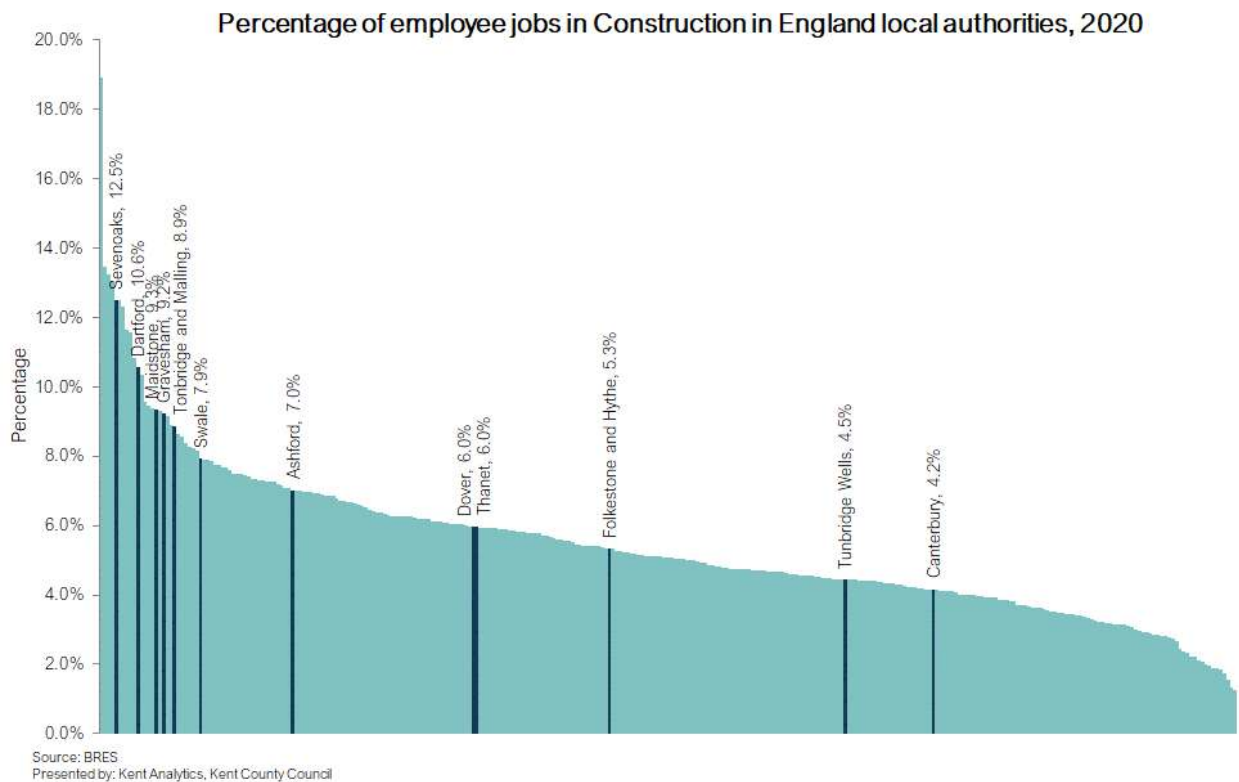
Source: BRES, ONS



When compared to all other authorities in England, Sevenoaks (12.5%) and Dartford (10.6%) have the fifth and eleventh highest proportion of employees in the construction industry in the country (out of 309 local authorities).

Seven Kent districts are within the top 20% of authorities in England with the highest proportion of construction employee jobs (6.9% or more). This is shown in chart 3 overleaf.

Chart 3: Employee jobs in construction in English authorities



Just over a half of all construction jobs in Kent (54.3%) are within Specialised construction activities, largely in electrical, plumbing, and other construction installation jobs.

A large proportion of construction jobs in Canterbury, Dartford and Tonbridge & Malling are involved with the construction of buildings. Ashford, Sevenoaks, Maidstone, and Dartford have a larger proportion of civil engineering jobs than the Kent average. This is shown in table 7 overleaf.

Table 7: Makeup of construction Industry employee jobs

2020	Total Construction	Construction of buildings	Civil engineering	Specialised construction activities	Construction of buildings	Civil engineering	Specialised construction activities
Ashford	4,000	700	1,300	1,900	17.5%	31.3%	46.9%
Canterbury	2,800	900	500	1,500	32.7%	17.3%	54.5%
Dartford	6,500	2,500	400	3,500	38.5%	6.2%	53.8%
Dover	2,000	500	400	1,100	22.5%	20.0%	56.3%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,000	600	400	1,100	27.5%	17.5%	56.3%
Gravesham	3,000	600	500	2,000	18.3%	15.8%	66.7%
Maidstone	7,000	1,500	1,600	3,800	21.4%	23.2%	53.6%
Sevenoaks	6,000	2,000	1,500	2,800	33.3%	25.0%	45.8%
Swale	4,000	700	700	2,500	17.5%	17.5%	62.5%
Thanet	2,500	600	400	1,500	22.0%	17.0%	60.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	5,500	1,800	800	2,800	31.8%	13.6%	50.0%
Tunbridge Wells	2,300	700	300	1,400	28.9%	13.3%	61.1%
Kent	47,000	12,500	8,500	25,500	26.6%	18.1%	54.3%
Medway	7,000	1,300	1,100	4,800	17.9%	16.1%	67.9%
Kent + Medway	54,500	14,000	10,000	30,500	25.7%	18.3%	56.0%
South East LEP	124,500	30,500	17,500	76,000	24.5%	14.1%	61.0%
South East	237,500	66,000	43,500	128,000	27.8%	18.3%	53.9%
England	1,218,500	369,000	185,000	664,500	30.3%	15.2%	54.5%
Great Britain	1,407,500	423,500	219,500	764,500	30.1%	15.6%	54.3%

Source: BRES

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

29.8% of construction jobs in Kent are in electrical, plumbing, and other installation, and 22.3% are in the construction of residential and non-residential buildings.

Table 8: Detailed construction industry employee jobs

2020	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Construction of buildings				
Development of building projects	4.3%	2.4%	4.6%	6.1%
Construction of residential and non-residential buildings	22.3%	16.1%	22.9%	24.2%
Civil engineering				
Construction of roads and railways	9.6%	8.6%	6.3%	4.7%
Construction of utility projects	0.7%	0.9%	1.2%	1.5%
Construction of other civil engineering projects	8.0%	6.8%	10.7%	9.0%
Specialised construction activities				
Demolition and site preparation	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	1.4%
Electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities	29.8%	33.9%	30.3%	28.6%
Building completion and finishing	13.8%	19.6%	14.7%	15.8%
Other specialised construction activities n.e.c.	10.1%	13.6%	8.2%	8.8%

Source: BRES

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Construction Industry Occupations

Detailed information about the occupations in which residents work is available from the 2011 Census from ONS. This enables us to look at some industry specific occupations related to construction.

As of 2011 9.7% of the working population of Kent were working in construction industry occupations. This is above the national average. More than a quarter of those were resident in the Thames Gateway Kent districts of Dartford, Gravesham, and Swale.

Table 9: Employment in construction occupations, 2011

2011 Census	All in employment	Employed in Construction	% employed in construction
Ashford	57,956	5,954	10.3%
Canterbury	66,079	5,446	8.2%
Dartford	49,818	5,357	10.8%
Dover	50,716	4,263	8.4%
Folkestone and Hythe	48,639	4,699	9.7%
Gravesham	47,868	5,709	11.9%
Maidstone	78,511	8,340	10.6%
Sevenoaks	56,499	5,305	9.4%
Swale	63,118	6,693	10.6%
Thanet	55,589	5,228	9.4%
Tonbridge and Malling	60,326	5,703	9.5%
Tunbridge Wells	57,630	4,478	7.8%
Kent	692,749	67,175	9.7%
Medway	127,127	13,890	10.9%
South East LEP	1,901,179	185,909	9.8%
South East	4,288,569	341,685	8.0%
England	25,308,888	1,941,767	7.7%

Source: 2011 Census; Table DC6604EW - Occupation by Industry
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 9 shows the occupational groups of Kent residents working in construction. Just over half of those working in the construction industry were in skilled trade occupations.

These occupations include:

Construction Building Trades – from building foundations, scaffolding, brick laying to roof covering. This also includes activities such as plumbing, electrical installation and carpentry.

Building completion activities - glazing, plastering, painting, floor, and wall tiling or covering with other materials like parquet, carpets, wallpaper.

Tables 10 and 11 shows the skilled construction trade occupations in more detail.

Table 10: Occupations of those working in construction industry, 2011

2011 Census	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Total construction occupations	67,175	13,890	341,685	1,941,767
Managers, directors and senior officials	10.8%	8.7%	11.2%	9.7%
Professional occupations	8.3%	7.5%	8.6%	8.0%
Associate professional and technical occupations	4.3%	3.9%	4.4%	4.3%
Administrative and secretarial occupations	7.4%	6.6%	7.2%	6.8%
Skilled trades occupations	50.4%	51.6%	51.9%	52.6%
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.7%
Sales and customer service occupations	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%
Process, plant and machine operatives	9.7%	12.1%	8.5%	9.4%
Elementary occupations	7.5%	8.3%	6.7%	7.4%

Source: 2011 Census; Table DC6604EW - Occupation by Industry
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 11: People working in skilled construction trade occupations, 2011

2011 Census	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Skilled construction and building trades	30,981	6,414	168,339	976,710
Construction and Building Trades	76.9%	73.8%	76.1%	76.0%
Building Finishing Trades	18.4%	20.2%	20.3%	20.4%
Construction and Building Trades Supervisors	4.7%	6.0%	3.6%	3.6%

Source: 2011 Census; Table QS606EW - Occupation (Minor Groups)
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

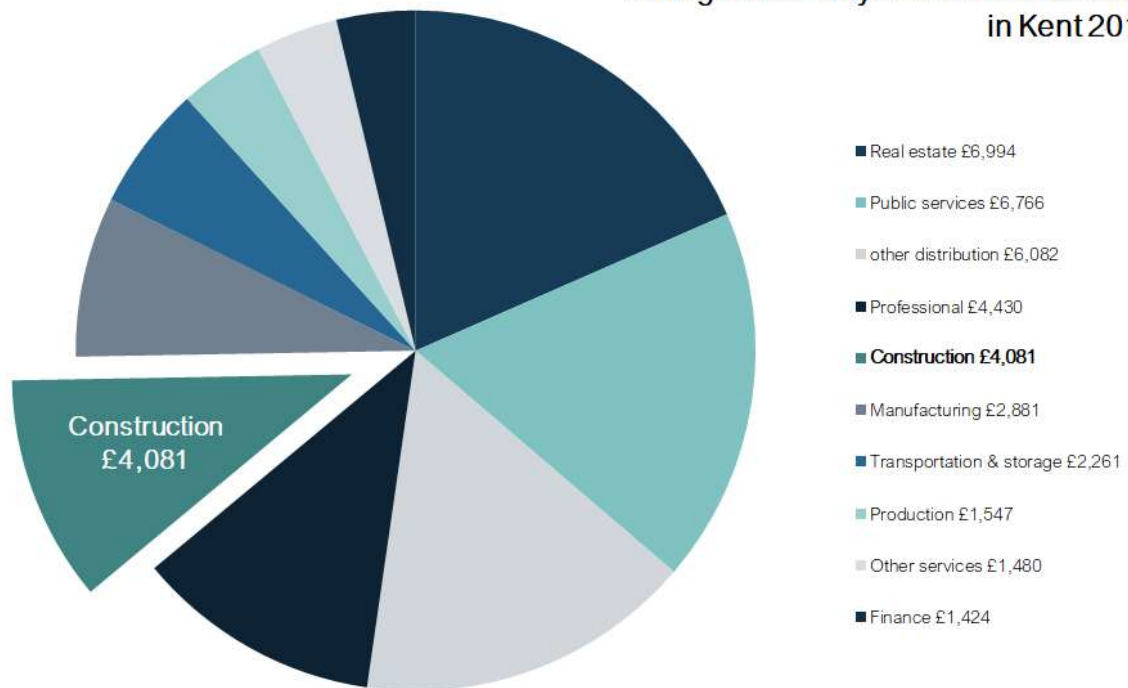
Construction GVA

Gross Value Added (GVA) is a measure of Output i.e., the value of the goods and services produced in the economy. It is primarily used to monitor the performance of the national economy and is now the measure preferred by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to measure the overall economic well-being of an area. GVA estimates are available by broad industrial group down to local authority district level. The latest estimates are for 2019.

It is estimated that GVA generated by the construction industry (£4,081m) accounted for 10.4% of the total GVA in Kent in 2019. Construction GVA per head of population in Kent was £2,580 above the regional (£2,151) and national (£1,934) average.

Chat 4: Construction GVA in Kent

GVA generated by construction industry in Kent 2019

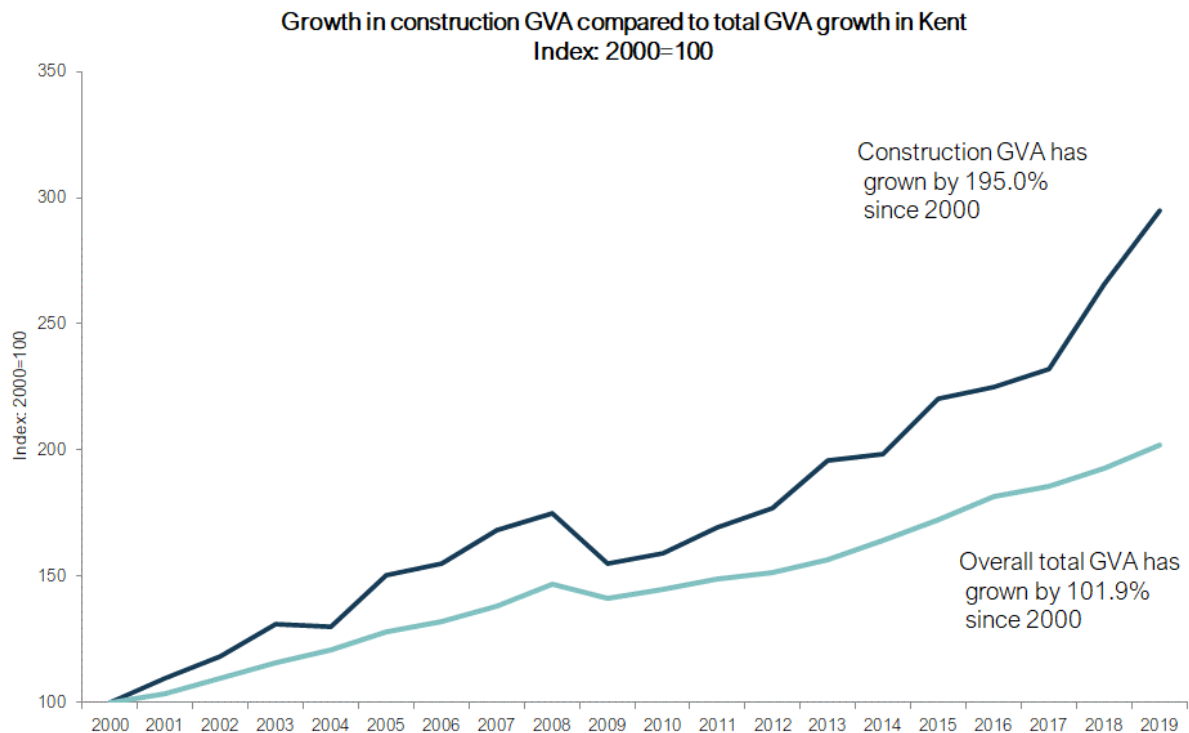


Source: ONS
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Construction GVA has grown considerably since 1998. By setting the same starting point for both construction and total GVA (1998=100) we can more clearly see the differences in growth.

Chart 5 (overleaf) shows that construction GVA has grown at a much faster rate than total GVA in Kent. It shows that construction was particularly badly hit during the recession but has grown at a faster rate following a recovery in 2010.

Chart 5: Growth in construction GVA compared to total GVA in Kent



Source: ONS
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Dartford district had the highest estimated construction GVA in Kent in 2019 at local authority level (£770m) accounting for almost a fifth (19.4%) of the total GVA within the district, and the highest construction GVA per head of population (£6,838).

Dover district had the lowest construction GVA in Kent (£124m) and Tunbridge Wells district had the smallest proportion of construction GVA, accounting for 4.3% of the overall GVA generated in the district.

Table 12 overleaf shows construction GVA in Kent districts, Medway, The South East Region and England in 2019.

Table 12: Construction GVA in Kent local authorities

2019	Total GVA (£m)	Total GVA per head (£)	Construction (£m)	Construction GVA per head (£)
Ashford	3,247	24,971	264	2,030
Canterbury	3,428	20,726	243	1,469
Dartford	3,978	35,327	770	6,838
Dover	2,614	22,128	124	1,050
Folkestone & Hythe	2,253	19,939	148	1,310
Gravesham	1,812	16,944	184	1,721
Maidstone	4,507	26,230	506	2,945
Sevenoaks	4,066	33,673	627	5,193
Swale	2,946	19,629	255	1,699
Thanet	2,229	15,706	175	1,233
Tonbridge and Malling	4,680	35,413	630	4,767
Tunbridge Wells	3,584	30,188	155	1,306
Kent	39,344	24,877	4,081	2,580
Medway	5,866	21,060	649	2,330
Kent & Medway	45,211	24,306	4,730	2,543
South East	291,770	31,783	19,744	2,151
England	1,702,078	30,239	108,881	1,934

Source: ONS

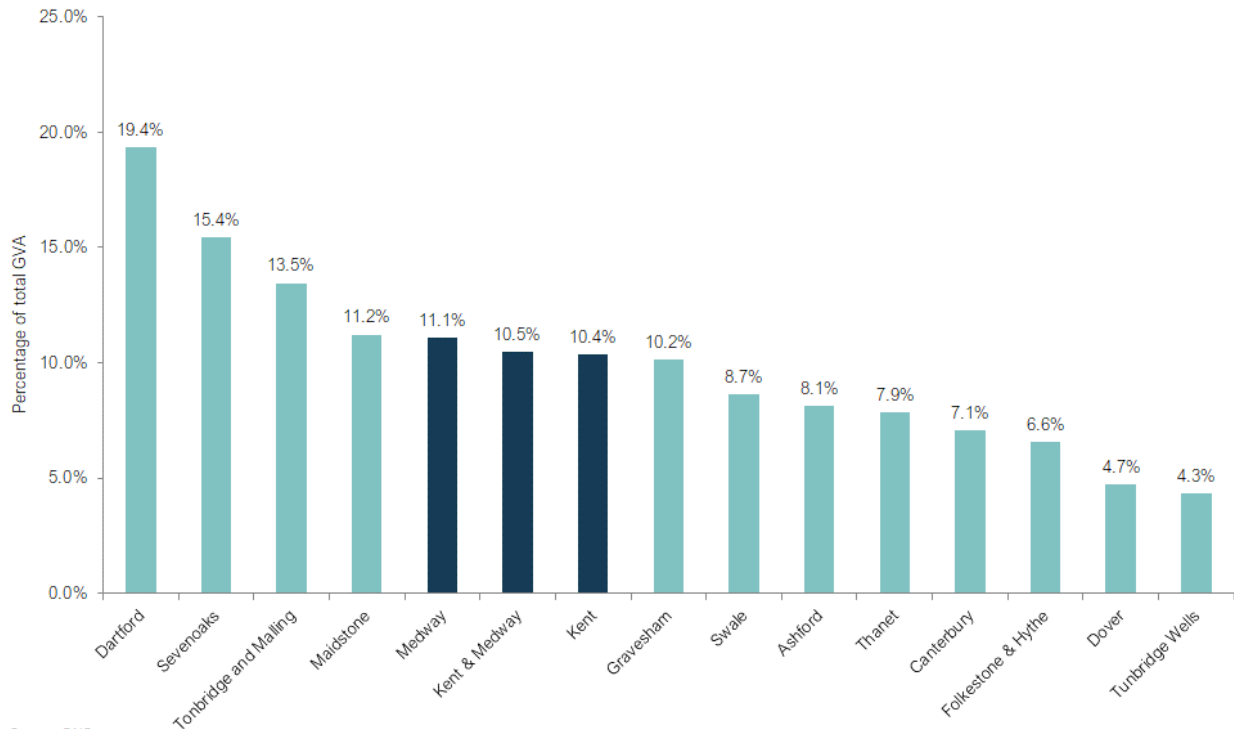
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 6 overleaf shows the proportion of GVA generated by construction industries in Kent local authorities.

Chart 7 shows the amount of construction GVA generated in Kent local authorities compared to other authorities in the South East Region. Three of the top five authorities with highest construction GVA are Kent authorities (Dartford, Tonbridge & Malling, and Sevenoaks) and between them account for a tenth of the construction GVA generated in the South East. Medway unitary authority has the third highest construction GVA in the region.

Chart 6: Percentage of GVA generated by construction industries in Kent

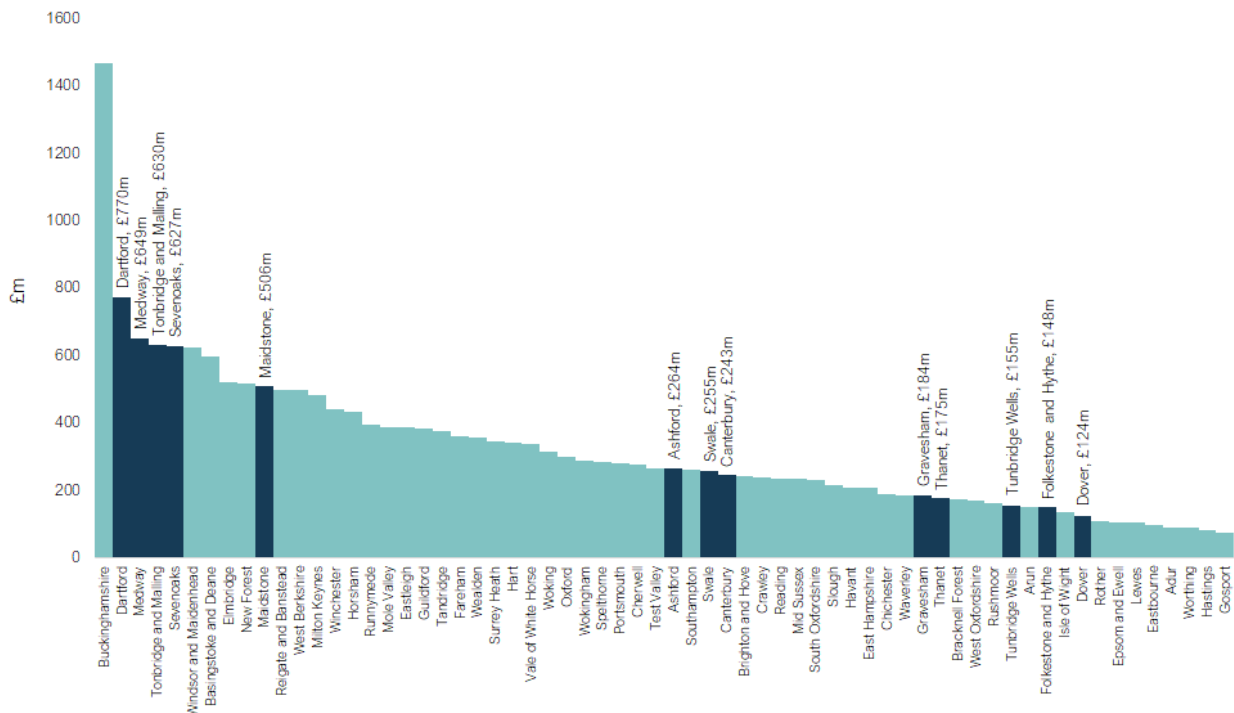
Proportion of GVA generated by construction industries in Kent, 2019



Source: ONS
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 7: GVA generated by construction industries in Kent

Construction GVA (£m) in South East local authorities, 2019



Source: ONS
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Apprenticeships in Construction, planning and built environment

The Department for Education (DfE) publishes figures on apprenticeship participation and achievements by sector subject area. Participation is counted as the number of people who have attended one day or more in the given academic year. Achievements is counted as the numbers of learners who successfully complete an individual apprenticeship in an academic year.

This bulletin presents three levels of apprenticeship:

- Intermediate - equivalent or 5 GCSE passes
- Advanced – equivalent to 2 passes at A-Level. The apprentice would generally need experience of working in the industry
- Higher - equivalent to a foundation degree, a Higher National Certificate (HNC), or the first year of an undergraduate degree up to a full degree. An apprentice would have to already show a high level of education e.g., have completed an advanced apprenticeship; have 2 passes at A level; have a BTEC qualification.

The latest annual data available is for academic year 2018/19.

1,017 people in Kent over the age of 16 participated in an apprenticeship in construction, planning and built environment in 2018/19. From 2017/18 the numbers participating in an advanced or a higher apprenticeship increased while those participating in an intermediate apprenticeship fell.

Table 13: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship participation

Kent	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
total	838	973	1,068	1,015	1,017
Intermediate Apprenticeship	732	809	879	753	702
Advanced Apprenticeship	106	159	181	210	241
Higher Apprenticeship	0	5	8	52	74
Intermediate Apprenticeship	87.4%	83.1%	82.3%	74.2%	69.0%
Advanced Apprenticeship	12.6%	16.3%	16.9%	20.7%	23.7%
Higher Apprenticeship	0.0%	0.5%	0.7%	5.1%	7.3%

Source: Department for Education

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 8: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship participation in Kent

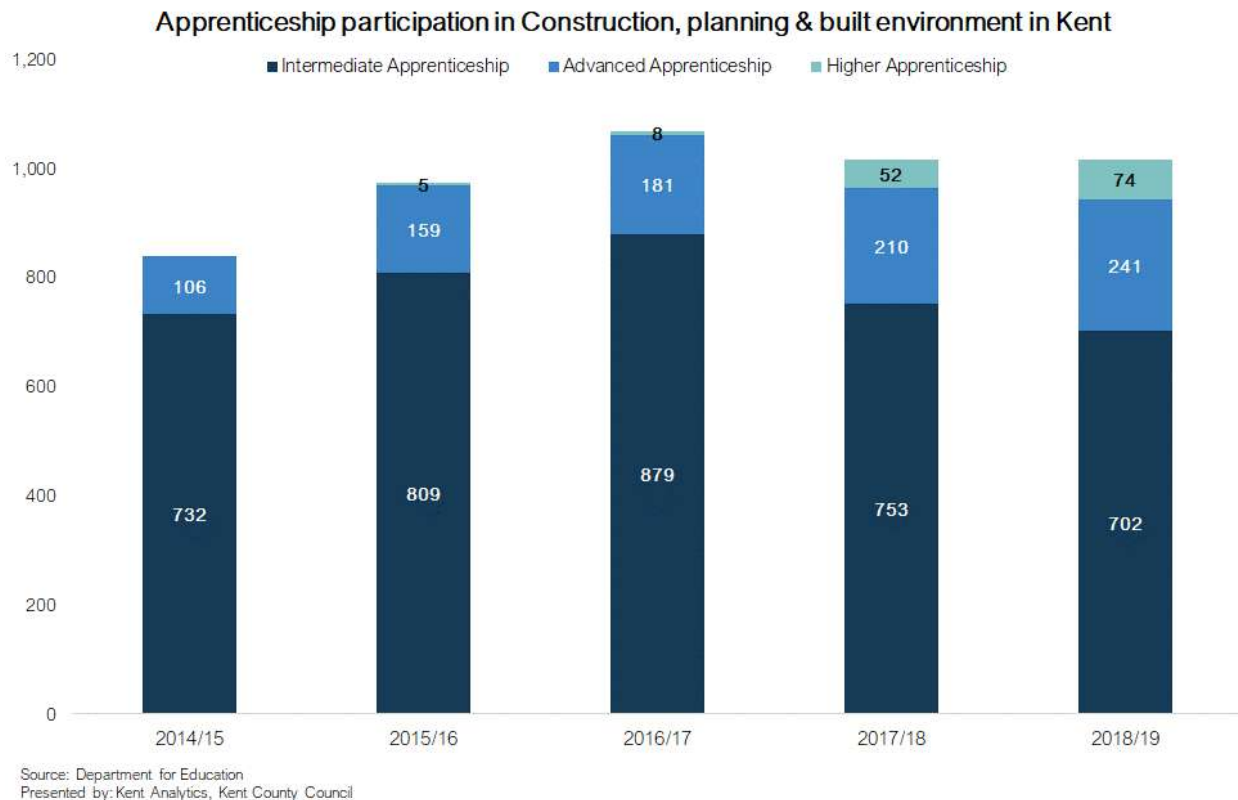


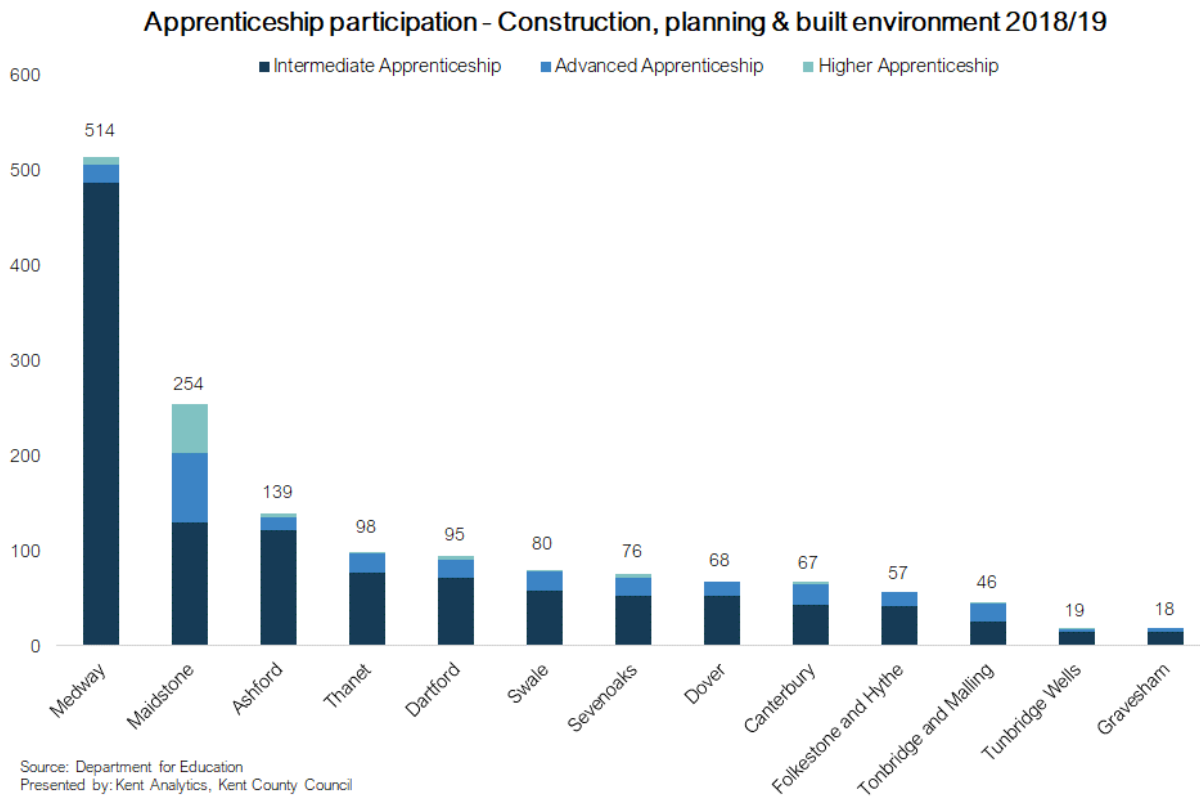
Table 14 shows the apprenticeship participation in Kent districts.

In 2018/19 Maidstone had the highest number of people participating in an apprenticeship in construction, planning and built environment and accounted for a quarter of all Kent construction, planning, and built environment apprenticeships.

Table 14: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship participation

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Ashford	56	62	68	91	139
Canterbury	67	65	57	53	67
Dartford	123	141	150	129	95
Dover	42	46	58	47	68
Folkestone and Hythe	67	92	104	48	57
Gravesham	24	31	28	24	18
Maidstone	86	155	162	224	254
Sevenoaks	25	48	70	73	76
Swale	202	182	195	198	80
Thanet	97	100	124	81	98
Tonbridge and Malling	30	32	38	29	46
Tunbridge Wells	19	19	14	18	19
Kent	838	973	1,068	1,015	1,017
Medway	335	396	520	608	514

Chart 9: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship participation in Kent districts



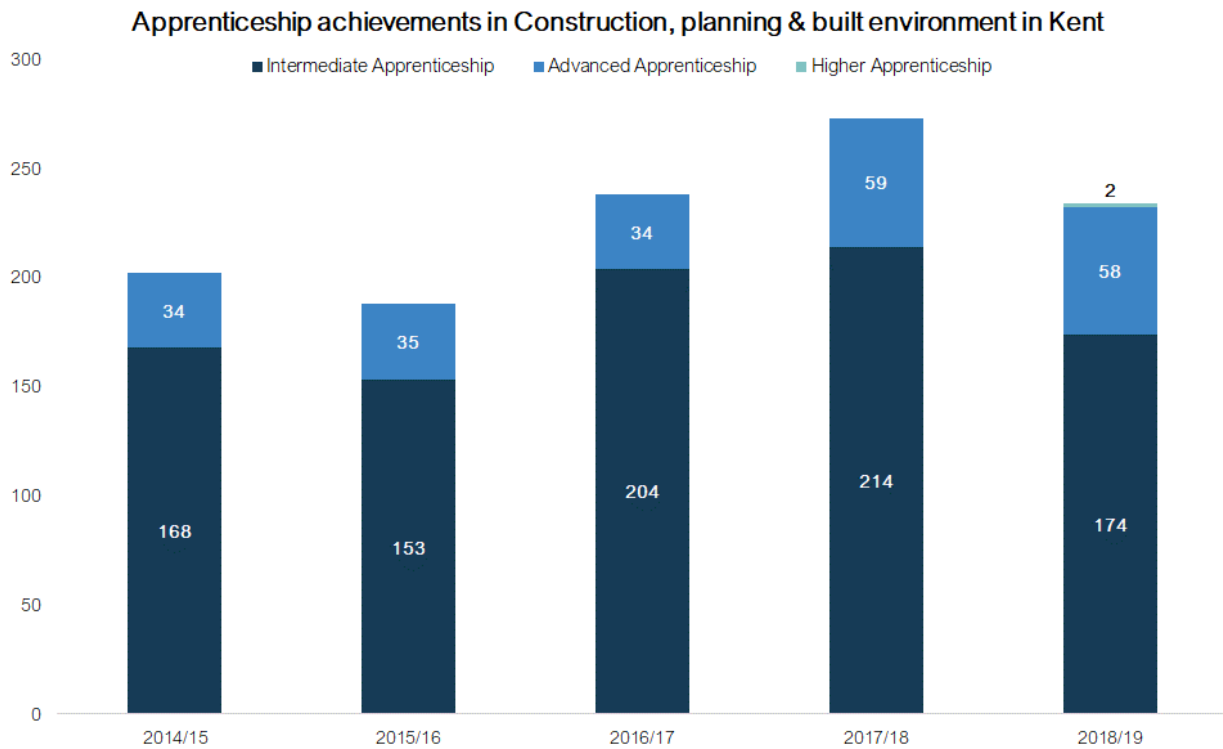
There were 234 Kent apprenticeship achievements in construction, planning and built environment in 2018/19. This was lower than the previous year. From 2017/18 the number achieving an advanced or a higher apprenticeship increased while those achieving an intermediate apprenticeship fell.

Table 15: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship achievements

Kent	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
total	202	188	238	273	234
Intermediate Apprenticeship	168	153	204	214	174
Advanced Apprenticeship	34	35	34	59	58
Higher Apprenticeship	0	0	0	0	2
Intermediate Apprenticeship	83.2%	81.4%	85.7%	78.4%	74.4%
Advanced Apprenticeship	16.8%	18.6%	14.3%	21.6%	24.8%
Higher Apprenticeship	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%

Source: Department for Education
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 10: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship achievements in Kent



Source: Department for Education
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 16 and chart 11 overleaf show the number of apprenticeship achievements in construction, planning and built environment in Kent districts and Medway in 2018/19.

Maidstone district saw the highest number of apprenticeship achievements in construction, planning and built environment in 2018/19. This accounted for almost a quarter of all Kent construction, planning, and built environment apprenticeships.

Table 16: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship achievements

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Ashford	13	10	21	16	30
Canterbury	26	14	15	17	23
Dartford	36	23	45	53	35
Dover	10	8	13	21	12
Folkestone and Hythe	12	26	19	16	14
Gravesham	8	8	4	6	4
Maidstone	13	26	37	43	56
Sevenoaks	5	7	13	22	21
Swale	57	49	38	39	17
Thanet	14	9	20	24	11
Tonbridge and Malling	4	5	10	9	7
Tunbridge Wells	4	3	3	7	4
Kent	202	188	238	273	234
Medway	57	40	82	188	241

Source: Department for Education

Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 11: Construction, planning & built environment apprenticeship achievements in Kent districts

