

Life Science 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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Life science industries contribute towards the health and well-being of the population.

This bulletin looks at the number of enterprises and employee jobs in life science industries in Kent.

Summary

- 2.9% of businesses in Kent as at 2018 were life science enterprises, slightly lower than the England average of 3.0%
- Maidstone district has the highest number of life science businesses (230) in Kent accounting for 3.2% of all enterprises
- In the wider Kent and Medway area Medway has 275 life science enterprises
- The majority of life science enterprises in Kent (77.7%) are human health industries (which includes hospitals, medical and dental practices)
- 8.7% of employee jobs in Kent are in life science (11.0% in Medway, 8.8% in England)
- Life science employee jobs have grown by 5.2% nationally since 2015. Kent saw a smaller percentage growth of 1.9% (+5.3% in Medway)
- The majority of life science employee jobs in Kent (85.8%) are in human health industries (90.0% in Medway)

Introduction

Life science industries are those which are involved with pharmaceuticals, medical technology (devices and diagnostics) and medical biotechnology. They contribute toward human health and the well-being of the population.

In 2017 the government launched its [Life Science Industrial Strategy](#) and subsequent [Life Sciences Sector Deals](#) to develop the existing strength of the life sciences sector, encourage the development of new pioneering treatments and medical technologies and to increase the economic growth in this sector.

ONS data on the pharmaceutical and medical technology sectors is based on Standard Industry Classification (SIC) codes (SIC 2007). This is the main classification system used for EU industrial statistics, however, the only categories for life science industries within the classification are those for companies whose primary activity is manufacturing (e.g. pharmaceuticals and medical devices) or those whose primary activity is research in biotechnology (which includes non-health biotechnology). The classification system does not adequately reflect the size and shape of the UK life science sector as a whole as many sub-sectors cannot be separately identified.

For the purposes of this bulletin we have extended the definition of life science to include:

2007 SIC	Life Science Industries
	Medical & Pharmaceutical Production
21	Manufacture Of Basic Pharmaceutical Products And Pharmaceutical Preparations
26.6	Manufacture of irradiation, electromedical & electrotherapeutic equipment
32.5	Manufacture of medical & dental instruments & supplies
	Human Health
86.1	Hospital activities
86.2	Medical and dental practice activities
86.9	Other human health activities (includes activities of nurses, midwives, physiotherapists or other paramedical practitioners, laboratories and diagnostic testing, Xray and imaging, blood banks)
	Wholesale & retail
46.46	Wholesale of pharmaceutical goods
46.75	Wholesale of chemical products
47.73	Dispensing chemist in specialist store
47.74	Retail of medical and orthopaedic goods in specialist store
	Research & experimental development
72.11	Research & experimental development on biotechnology
72.19	Other research & experimental development on natural sciences and engineering

This bulletin looks at the number of enterprises and the number of employee jobs created by the industry in Kent and Medway compared to the South East and England.

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 snap shot of businesses that were live at this point in time. It is broken down by size band, industry, turnover and age of business. Further information about the methodology used for producing these data is available from the [Office for National Statistics](#).

Employee jobs

The number of employee jobs in the 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 life science sector used in this bulletin is defined using the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification (2007SIC). Detailed information about the types of industry which make up each of the industrial sectors is available from the [UK Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities](#) published by the Office for National Statistics.

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

Life Science Industry Enterprises

The UK Business Counts dataset records the number of enterprises that were live as at March each year, giving a snap shot 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.

3% of enterprises in England were life science enterprises as at 2018. The South East region is just below the national figure at 2.9%.

The South East had the second highest number of life science enterprises (11,905) after London (15,240).

Table 1: Life science enterprises by region

Life Science enterprises			Change since last year		5 year change	
2018	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
England	69,545	3.0%	-6,245	-8.2%	16,100	30.1%
North West	8,940	3.3%	-860	-8.8%	1,865	26.4%
West Midlands	7,080	3.3%	-375	-5.0%	1,955	38.1%
Yorkshire and The Humber	5,785	3.2%	-535	-8.5%	1,305	29.1%
North East	2,145	3.1%	-150	-6.5%	305	16.6%
London	15,240	3.0%	-2,410	-13.7%	4,180	37.8%
South East	11,905	2.9%	-710	-5.6%	2,615	28.1%
East	7,710	2.9%	-660	-7.9%	1,670	27.6%
East Midlands	5,030	2.8%	-420	-7.7%	1,125	28.8%
South West	5,710	2.5%	-125	-2.1%	1,075	23.2%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

The number of life science enterprises has grown significantly over the last five years, up 30.1% nationally although there has been a decrease since last year.

The South East region saw a 28.1% increase in life science enterprises over the last five years despite a fall of 5.6% since last year.

Kent had the same proportion of life science enterprises as the regional average as at March 2018. 1,750 life science enterprises in the county accounted for 2.9% of all enterprises in Kent.

Maidstone district had the highest number of life science enterprises in the Kent County Council area (230) while Dover district had the highest proportion (3.6%, 120 enterprises). In the wider Kent and Medway area Medway unitary authority had 275 life science enterprises accounting for 3.3% of all enterprises in the area.

Table 2: Life science enterprises

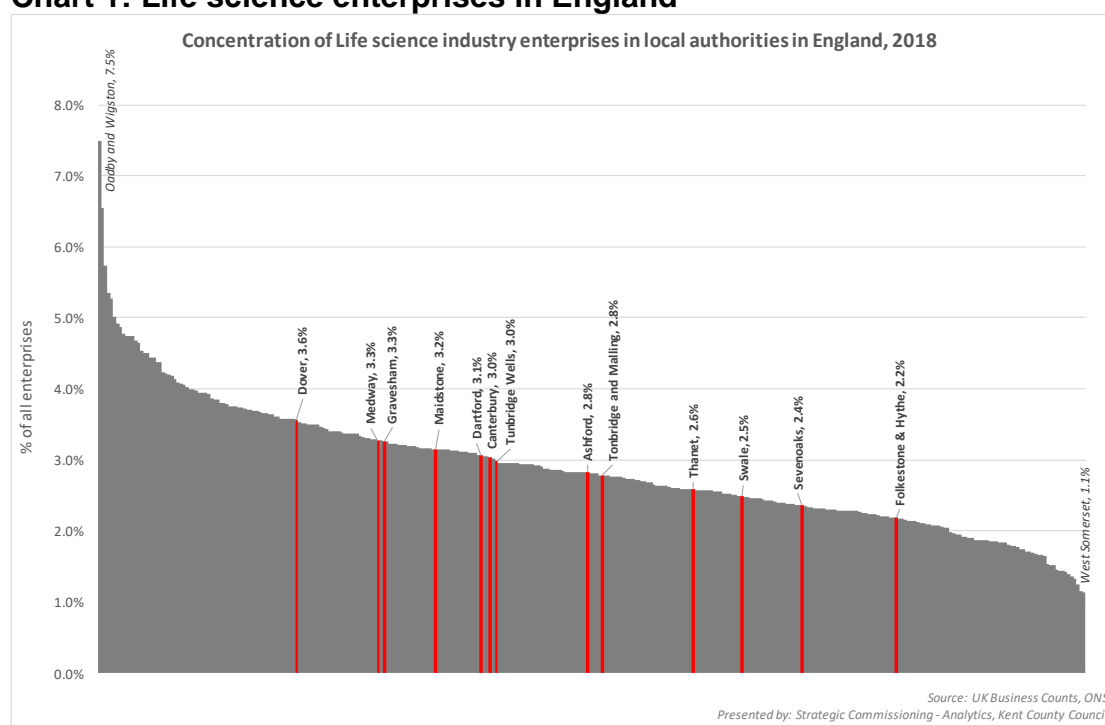
2018	Total enterprises	Life Science enterprises		Change since last year		5 year change	
	Number	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Ashford	6,205	175	2.8%	-5	-2.8%	60	52.2%
Canterbury	5,265	160	3.0%	-20	-11.1%	20	14.3%
Dartford	4,240	130	3.1%	-35	-21.2%	40	44.4%
Dover	3,370	120	3.6%	10	9.1%	35	41.2%
Folkestone & Hythe	3,670	80	2.2%	-15	-15.8%	5	6.7%
Gravesham	3,830	125	3.3%	-5	-3.8%	50	66.7%
Maidstone	7,295	230	3.2%	-10	-4.2%	45	24.3%
Sevenoaks	6,580	155	2.4%	0	0.0%	25	19.2%
Swale	4,820	120	2.5%	-15	-11.1%	30	33.3%
Thanet	3,865	100	2.6%	0	0.0%	5	5.3%
Tonbridge and Malling	5,745	160	2.8%	10	6.7%	40	33.3%
Tunbridge Wells	6,365	190	3.0%	-10	-5.0%	30	18.8%
Kent	61,255	1,750	2.9%	-85	-4.6%	390	28.7%
Medway	8,410	275	3.3%	-40	-12.7%	75	37.5%
Kent + Medway	69,660	2,025	2.9%	-125	-5.8%	465	29.8%
South East Region	404,555	11,905	2.9%	-710	-5.6%	2,615	28.1%
England	2,318,060	69,545	3.0%	-6,245	-8.2%	16,100	30.1%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 1 shows the proportion of life science enterprises in local authorities in England. Dover district is the only Kent local authority which appears within the top 20% of districts with the highest concentration of life science enterprises in the country (3.6% of enterprises or more). Folkestone & Hythe district was within the 20% of authorities with the lowest proportion.

Chart 1: Life science enterprises in England



Source: UK Business Counts, ONS

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

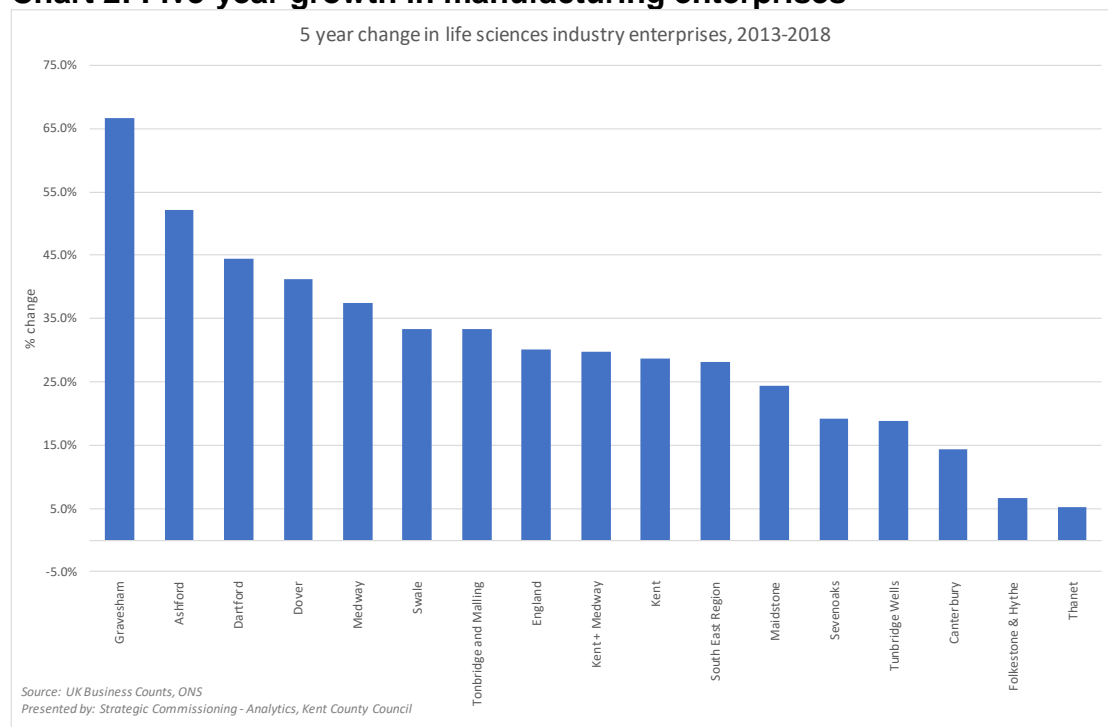
The number of life science enterprises in Kent has increased by 28.7% over recent years. In Kent Ashford saw the biggest number increase with 60 more life science enterprises than five years ago, an increase of 52.2%.

Medway unitary authority saw an increase of 75 life science enterprises, equivalent to an increase of 37.5% over the last five years.

Over the last year eight local authorities in Kent saw the number of life science enterprises fall and two authorities saw no change. Only Dover and Tonbridge and Malling saw any growth in this sector over the last year each increasing by 10 additional enterprises.

Medway unitary authority saw a 12.7% fall in life science enterprises since 2017 (40 fewer businesses).

Chart 2: Five-year growth in manufacturing enterprises



To look at the industry in greater detail we have subdivided the life science industry into six broad groups:

Medical & Pharmaceutical Production – including the manufacture of pharmaceutical products and preparations, manufacture of therapeutic medical equipment and the manufacture of medical and dental instruments and supplies

Human Health – activities involved directly with human health such as hospitals and medical practice activities, diagnostic testing and blood banks

Wholesale & Retail – wholesale and retail of pharmaceutical and chemicals goods, dispensing chemists and sale of medical and orthopaedic goods

Research & Experimental Development – including development on biotechnology and other natural sciences and engineering research and development.

Human health accounts for the majority of life science enterprises in all areas. They account for 77.7% of all life science enterprises in Kent (80.0% in Medway).

Table 3: Make up of life science enterprises

2018	Total Life science	Medical & pharmaceutical production	Human health	Medical & pharmaceutical wholesale & retail	Research & experimental development
Ashford	175	5	140	20	10
Canterbury	160	5	125	15	10
Dartford	130	5	100	25	5
Dover	120	5	75	10	30
Folkestone & Hythe	80	0	65	15	0
Gravesham	125	10	95	20	0
Maidstone	230	10	190	30	5
Sevenoaks	155	5	120	20	10
Swale	120	5	90	15	10
Thanet	100	5	80	10	5
Tonbridge and Malling	160	5	135	15	5
Tunbridge Wells	190	5	155	25	5
Kent	1,750	60	1,360	225	100
Medway	275	10	220	40	5
Kent + Medway	2,025	70	1,580	265	110
South East	11,905	495	8,795	1,590	1,025
England	69,545	2,420	53,345	9,475	4,300

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

In Dover research & experimental development enterprises account for a quarter of all life science enterprises, significantly higher than anywhere else in Kent. This is largely due to the location of the Discovery Park enterprise zone at Sandwich, the former Pfizer site.

In Dartford and Folkestone and Hythe medical and pharmaceutical wholesale and retail account for a higher proportion of life science enterprises than other parts of the county (19.2% and 18.8% respectively).

Medical and pharmaceutical production enterprises account for a higher than average proportion of life science enterprises (8.0%) in Gravesham.

Table 4: Proportion of life science enterprises by manufacturing type

2018	Total Life science	Medical & pharmaceutical production	Human health	Medical & pharmaceutical wholesale & retail	Research & experimental development
Ashford	100%	2.9%	80.0%	11.4%	5.7%
Canterbury	100%	3.1%	78.1%	9.4%	6.3%
Dartford	100%	3.8%	76.9%	19.2%	3.8%
Dover	100%	4.2%	62.5%	8.3%	25.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	100%	0.0%	81.3%	18.8%	0.0%
Gravesham	100%	8.0%	76.0%	16.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	100%	4.3%	82.6%	13.0%	2.2%
Sevenoaks	100%	3.2%	77.4%	12.9%	6.5%
Swale	100%	4.2%	75.0%	12.5%	8.3%
Thanet	100%	5.0%	80.0%	10.0%	5.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	100%	3.1%	84.4%	9.4%	3.1%
Tunbridge Wells	100%	2.6%	81.6%	13.2%	2.6%
Kent	100%	3.4%	77.7%	12.9%	5.7%
Medway	100%	3.6%	80.0%	14.5%	1.8%
Kent + Medway	100%	3.5%	78.0%	13.1%	5.4%
South East	100%	4.2%	73.9%	13.4%	8.6%
England	100%	3.5%	76.7%	13.6%	6.2%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Looking in more detail at the enterprises which are classified as life science based it shows that medical and dental practice activities account for the majority of total life science enterprises. They account for 44.9% of all life science enterprises in Kent.

Largely the make up of life science enterprises in Kent and Medway reflects the regional and national profile.

Table 5: Detailed life science enterprises

2018	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Total Life science	1,750	275	11,905	69,545
Medical & pharmaceutical production	3.4%	3.6%	4.2%	3.5%
<i>Manufacture Of Basic Pharmaceutical Products And Pharmaceutical Preparatio</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>1.0%</i>	<i>0.8%</i>
<i>Manufacture of irradiation, electromedical & electrotherapeutic equipment</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>0.3%</i>	<i>0.2%</i>
<i>Manufacture of medical & dental instruments & supplies</i>	<i>2.9%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>2.9%</i>	<i>2.5%</i>
Human health	77.7%	80.0%	73.9%	76.7%
<i>Hospital activities</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>7.3%</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>4.8%</i>
<i>Medical and dental practice activities</i>	<i>44.9%</i>	<i>43.6%</i>	<i>41.1%</i>	<i>43.0%</i>
<i>Other human health activities</i>	<i>28.0%</i>	<i>27.3%</i>	<i>27.9%</i>	<i>28.9%</i>
Medical & pharmaceutical wholesale & retail	12.9%	14.5%	13.4%	13.6%
<i>Wholesale of pharmaceutical goods</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>4.4%</i>	<i>3.6%</i>
<i>Wholesale of chemical products</i>	<i>1.7%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>2.1%</i>	<i>2.0%</i>
<i>Dispensing chemist in specialist store</i>	<i>5.4%</i>	<i>7.3%</i>	<i>3.9%</i>	<i>6.2%</i>
<i>Retail of medical and orthopaedic goods in specialist store</i>	<i>2.0%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>2.9%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>
Research & experimental development	5.7%	1.8%	8.6%	6.2%
<i>Research & experimental development on biotechnology</i>	<i>2.0%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>1.7%</i>	<i>1.2%</i>
<i>Other research & experimental development on natural sciences & engineering</i>	<i>4.0%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>5.0%</i>

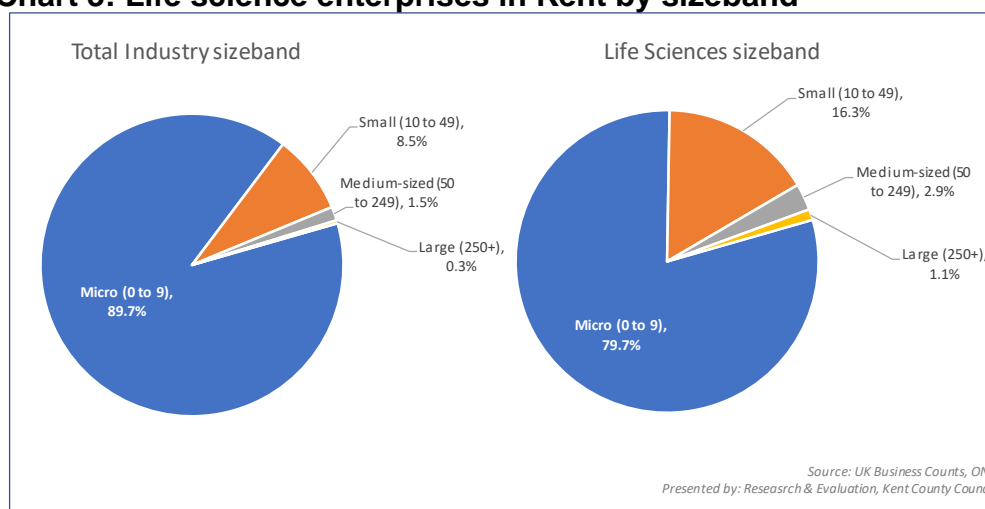
Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

An enterprise can be classified as a micro, small, medium sized or large depending upon the number of workers it employs.

The majority of enterprises in Kent (89.7%) are micro enterprises employing 0-9 workers. Life science enterprises are less likely to be micro enterprises than the average for total industries (79.7%) and more likely to be classified as a small enterprise employing 10-49 workers (16.3%) or medium sized employing 50-249 workers (2.9%) than the average for total enterprises.

Chart 3: Life science enterprises in Kent by sizeband



Canterbury, Maidstone, Tonbridge and Malling and Medway have a higher proportion of life science enterprises which are classified as large (employing 250 workers or more) than the national (0.9%) or regional (1.1%) average.

Table 6: Life science enterprises - sizebands

2018	Employment sizeband - Life Sciences enterprises					Percentage of all enterprises			
	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	175	150	20	10	0	85.7%	11.4%	5.7%	0.0%
Canterbury	160	125	20	10	5	78.1%	12.5%	6.3%	3.1%
Dartford	130	110	15	5	0	84.6%	11.5%	3.8%	0.0%
Dover	120	95	20	0	0	79.2%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	80	60	15	0	0	75.0%	18.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	125	100	25	5	0	80.0%	20.0%	4.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	230	180	40	10	5	78.3%	17.4%	4.3%	2.2%
Sevenoaks	155	135	25	0	0	87.1%	16.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Swale	120	95	20	5	0	79.2%	16.7%	4.2%	0.0%
Thanet	100	80	20	5	0	80.0%	20.0%	5.0%	0.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	160	130	25	5	5	81.3%	15.6%	3.1%	3.1%
Tunbridge Wells	190	140	45	5	0	73.7%	23.7%	2.6%	0.0%
Kent	1,750	1,395	285	50	20	79.7%	16.3%	2.9%	1.1%
Medway	275	205	55	5	5	74.5%	20.0%	1.8%	1.8%
Kent + Medway	2,025	1,600	345	55	20	79.0%	17.0%	2.7%	1.0%
South East	11,905	9,495	1,920	360	130	79.8%	16.1%	3.0%	1.1%
England	69,545	55,300	12,005	1,630	610	79.5%	17.3%	2.3%	0.9%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

37.4% of life science enterprises in Kent have an annual turnover of £200,000 or more. This reflects a similar picture to that seen nationally (37.3%) and regionally (37.7%), however a higher proportion of Medway life science enterprises (43.6%) see £200,000 or more turnover.

17.5% of the life science enterprises in the South East region who have an annual turnover higher than £500,000 are based in either Kent or Medway.

Table 7: Life science enterprise turnover

2018	Number of Life Science enterprises				% of total Life Science enterprises			
	Kent	Medway	South East	England	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Total	1,750	275	11,905	69,545	100%	100%	100%	100%
0 to 49 (thousand)	130	15	860	4,920	7.4%	5.5%	7.2%	7.1%
50 to 99 (thousand)	490	95	3,415	20,680	28.0%	34.5%	28.7%	29.7%
100 to 199 (thousand)	480	45	3,150	18,025	27.4%	16.4%	26.5%	25.9%
200 to 499 (thousand)	220	40	1,550	8,705	12.6%	14.5%	13.0%	12.5%
500 to 999 (thousand)	140	45	1,010	6,835	8.0%	16.4%	8.5%	9.8%
1000 to 1999 (thousand)	150	20	855	5,335	8.6%	7.3%	7.2%	7.7%
2000 to 4999 (thousand)	95	5	610	3,045	5.4%	1.8%	5.1%	4.4%
5000 to 9999 (thousand)	20	5	140	740	1.1%	1.8%	1.2%	1.1%
10000 to 49999 (thousand)	15	0	190	740	0.9%	0.0%	1.6%	1.1%
50000+ (thousand)	15	5	130	530	0.9%	1.8%	1.1%	0.8%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Employees in Life Science Industries

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) provides us with estimates of the number of employees by industrial sector. The life science sector used in this bulletin is defined using the 2007 Standard Industrial Classification (2007SIC).

Nationally life science supplies over two million employee jobs, accounting for 8.8% of all jobs in the country.

London Has the highest number of life science employee jobs, the South East has the second highest. The East of England has the highest proportion with life science jobs accounting for better than one in five of all jobs in the region.

London has seen the biggest increase in life science employee jobs in recent years. Life science jobs have increased in all regions with the exception of the North East, the South West and Yorkshire and the Humber.

Table 8: Regional life science employee jobs

	Number of employee jobs in life science			Percentage of employee jobs in life science			Change 2015-2017	
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	No.	%
Ashford	6,500	6,000	6,500	11.9%	10.7%	11.5%	0	0.0%
Canterbury	6,500	6,000	6,500	10.3%	9.2%	9.6%	0	0.0%
Dartford	8,000	8,500	6,500	12.8%	13.6%	11.3%	-1,500	-18.8%
Dover	2,800	2,300	2,800	8.0%	6.8%	8.1%	0	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,900	1,800	2,100	5.1%	4.8%	6.0%	300	13.3%
Gravesham	1,600	1,400	1,800	5.6%	4.5%	5.5%	100	7.7%
Maidstone	7,000	8,500	8,500	9.3%	11.3%	11.3%	1,500	21.4%
Sevenoaks	2,800	2,400	2,100	5.4%	4.7%	4.0%	-600	-22.7%
Swale	2,500	2,800	3,300	5.1%	5.4%	6.4%	800	30.0%
Thanet	4,300	4,500	4,800	10.2%	11.0%	11.3%	500	11.8%
Tonbridge and Malling	2,800	2,300	2,500	4.8%	3.8%	4.3%	-300	-9.1%
Tunbridge Wells	5,500	5,500	6,000	8.9%	10.3%	11.7%	500	9.1%
Kent	52,000	51,000	53,000	8.4%	8.3%	8.7%	1,000	1.9%
Medway	9,500	9,500	10,000	10.8%	10.3%	11.0%	500	5.3%
Kent + Medway	61,500	60,500	63,000	8.7%	8.6%	9.0%	1,500	2.4%
South East	373,000	366,000	381,000	9.2%	8.8%	9.3%	8,000	2.1%
England	2,167,000	2,257,500	2,279,500	8.7%	8.9%	8.8%	112,500	5.2%

Source: BRES

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

As at 2017 there were 53,000 employees working in life science industries in Kent, accounting for 8.7% of all employees in the county. This is slightly lower than the regional (9.3%) and national average (8.8%). Medway has a higher proportion of life science employee jobs (11.0%).

In Kent Maidstone district has the highest number of life science employee jobs.

All local authorities in Kent have seen an increase in life science employee jobs since 2015 with the exception of Dartford (-1,500 employees, -18.8%), Sevenoaks (-600, -22.7%) and Tonbridge and Malling (-300, -9.1%).

Maidstone district saw the biggest increase with 1,500 more employee jobs in life science industries, equivalent to an increase of 21.4%.

Table 9: Life science employees

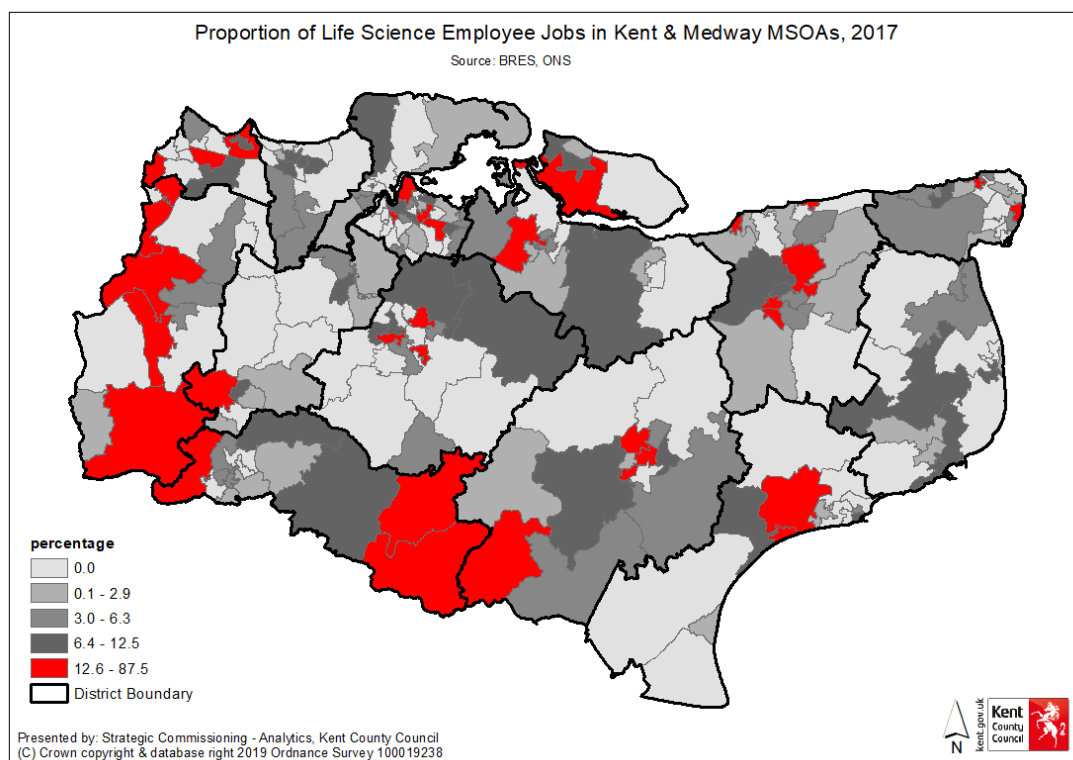
	Number of employee jobs in life science			Percentage of employee jobs in life science			Change 2015-2017	
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	No.	%
Ashford	6,500	6,000	6,500	11.9%	10.7%	11.5%	0	0.0%
Canterbury	6,500	6,000	6,500	10.3%	9.2%	9.6%	0	0.0%
Dartford	8,000	8,500	6,500	12.8%	13.6%	11.3%	-1,500	-18.8%
Dover	2,800	2,300	2,800	8.0%	6.8%	8.1%	0	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,900	1,800	2,100	5.1%	4.8%	6.0%	300	13.3%
Gravesham	1,600	1,400	1,800	5.6%	4.5%	5.5%	100	7.7%
Maidstone	7,000	8,500	8,500	9.3%	11.3%	11.3%	1,500	21.4%
Sevenoaks	2,800	2,400	2,100	5.4%	4.7%	4.0%	-600	-22.7%
Swale	2,500	2,800	3,300	5.1%	5.4%	6.4%	800	30.0%
Thanet	4,300	4,500	4,800	10.2%	11.0%	11.3%	500	11.8%
Tonbridge and Malling	2,800	2,300	2,500	4.8%	3.8%	4.3%	-300	-9.1%
Tunbridge Wells	5,500	5,500	6,000	8.9%	10.3%	11.7%	500	9.1%
Kent	52,000	51,000	53,000	8.4%	8.3%	8.7%	1,000	1.9%
Medway	9,500	9,500	10,000	10.8%	10.3%	11.0%	500	5.3%
Kent + Medway	61,500	60,500	63,000	8.7%	8.6%	9.0%	1,500	2.4%
South East	373,000	366,000	381,000	9.2%	8.8%	9.3%	8,000	2.1%
England	2,167,000	2,257,500	2,279,500	8.7%	8.9%	8.8%	112,500	5.2%

Source: BRES

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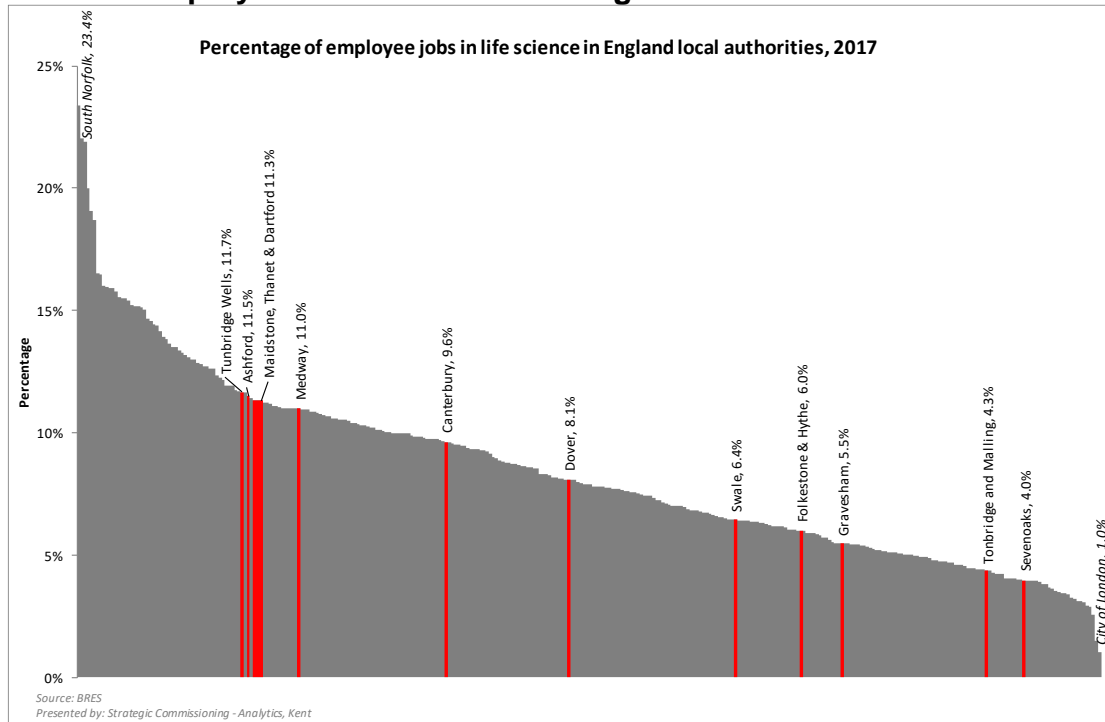
The proportion of employee jobs in life science in Kent and Medway MSOAs is shown in the following map. MSOAs are a geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales.

Map 1: Proportion of employee jobs in life science industries in Kent & Medway



When compared to other authorities in England, five Kent authorities (Tunbridge Wells, Ashford, Maidstone, Thanet and Dartford) are within the top 20% with the highest percentage of employee jobs in life science, these are those areas where the industry provides more than 11.1% of employee jobs. Tonbridge and Malling and Sevenoaks districts are within the bottom 20% in the country (those with less than 5.0% employee jobs in life science).

Chart 4: Employees in life science in English authorities



The majority of life science employees work within human health activities. More specifically it is hospitals that provide the highest proportion of life science jobs.

Human health activities accounts for the highest proportion of life science employee jobs in all areas. Dover district has a significantly higher proportion of life science employee jobs in research and experimental development (36.4%) than anywhere else in Kent, significantly higher than the national proportion of 5.0%.

Swale district has a much higher proportion of life science employee jobs in medical and pharmaceutical production (18.5%).

Table 10: Makeup of life science employees

	Number				
	Total Life science	Medical & pharmaceutical production	Human health	Medical & pharmaceutical wholesale & retail	Research & experimental development
2017					
Ashford	6,500	600	5,500	200	0
Canterbury	6,500	0	6,000	400	100
Dartford	6,500	0	6,000	400	100
Dover	2,800	100	1,500	200	1,000
Folkestone & Hythe	2,100	0	1,900	200	0
Gravesham	1,800	200	1,500	200	0
Maidstone	8,500	100	7,500	700	0
Sevenoaks	2,100	100	1,600	200	200
Swale	3,300	600	2,000	300	300
Thanet	4,800	0	4,500	200	100
Tonbridge and Malling	2,500	100	1,900	400	200
Tunbridge Wells	6,000	100	5,500	300	100
Kent	53,000	1,900	45,500	3,800	2,100
Medway	10,000	100	9,000	1,000	0
Kent + Medway	63,000	2,000	54,000	4,800	2,100
South East	381,000	19,000	298,500	35,500	28,500
England	2,279,500	68,000	1,927,500	170,500	113,000

Source: BRES

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Table 11: Proportion of life science jobs by type

	% of total life science employees				
	Total Life science	Medical & pharmaceutical production	Human health	Medical & pharmaceutical wholesale & retail	Research & experimental development
2017					
Ashford	100.0%	9.2%	84.6%	3.7%	0.5%
Canterbury	100.0%	0.2%	92.3%	5.8%	0.8%
Dartford	100.0%	0.5%	92.3%	5.4%	1.4%
Dover	100.0%	2.7%	54.5%	6.5%	36.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	100.0%	0.0%	88.2%	10.4%	0.5%
Gravesham	100.0%	8.6%	85.7%	9.7%	2.3%
Maidstone	100.0%	1.3%	88.2%	8.2%	0.1%
Sevenoaks	100.0%	2.4%	76.5%	11.3%	11.3%
Swale	100.0%	18.5%	61.5%	9.2%	9.2%
Thanet	100.0%	0.7%	94.7%	4.6%	1.1%
Tonbridge and Malling	100.0%	5.2%	75.0%	14.0%	9.6%
Tunbridge Wells	100.0%	1.7%	91.7%	5.0%	1.3%
Kent	100.0%	3.5%	85.8%	7.1%	4.0%
Medway	100.0%	0.9%	90.0%	10.0%	0.2%
Kent + Medway	100.0%	3.2%	85.7%	7.5%	3.4%
South East	100.0%	5.0%	78.3%	9.3%	7.5%
England	100.0%	3.0%	84.6%	7.5%	5.0%

Source: BRES

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

The majority of life science enterprises are within human health so it is unsurprising that this group provides the highest number of life science employee jobs. However, where most of the enterprises are medical and dental practices the majority of life science employee jobs are found within hospitals.

The proportion of employee jobs in each of the individual life science industries in Kent reflects the national picture with a couple of exceptions. Kent has a lower proportion of life science jobs in hospital activities but a higher proportion in medical and dental practices than the national average.

Medway unitary authority has a higher proportion of life science jobs in wholesale of pharmaceutical goods and a lower proportion in research and experimental development industries.

Table 12: Detailed life science employees

2018	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Total Life science	53,000	10,000	381,000	2,279,500
Medical & pharmaceutical production	3.5%	0.9%	5.0%	3.0%
<i>Manufacture Of Basic Pharmaceutical Products And Pharmaceutical Preparations</i>	1.5%	0.1%	1.4%	1.4%
<i>Manufacture of irradiation, electromedical & electrotherapeutic equipment</i>	0.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.2%
<i>Manufacture of medical & dental instruments & supplies</i>	1.9%	0.4%	2.9%	1.4%
Human health	85.8%	90.0%	78.3%	84.6%
<i>Hospital activities</i>	46.2%	55.0%	46.6%	56.2%
<i>Medical and dental practice activities</i>	23.6%	20.0%	19.8%	14.1%
<i>Other human health activities</i>	16.0%	15.0%	11.8%	14.3%
Medical & pharmaceutical wholesale & retail	7.1%	10.0%	9.3%	7.5%
<i>Wholesale of pharmaceutical goods</i>	1.4%	6.0%	5.2%	2.6%
<i>Wholesale of chemical products</i>	0.7%	0.3%	0.7%	0.7%
<i>Dispensing chemist in specialist store</i>	4.0%	3.8%	3.0%	3.9%
<i>Retail of medical and orthopaedic goods in specialist store</i>	0.8%	0.1%	0.4%	0.3%
Research & experimental development	4.0%	0.2%	7.5%	5.0%
<i>Research & experimental development on biotechnology</i>	0.1%	0.0%	0.6%	0.3%
<i>Other research & experimental development on natural sciences & engineering</i>	4.0%	0.2%	6.8%	4.6%

Source: BRES

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council