

Food & Drink Production 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 food and drink industry is one of the UK's largest manufacturing sectors.

This bulletin looks at the number of food and drink production enterprises in Kent. It also looks at the number of jobs in food and drink production and the contribution of agriculture to the industry.

Summary

- Kent has 2,395 food and drink production enterprises as at 2018. This has grown by 3.5% over the last five years.
- Eight Kent districts have a higher proportion of food and drink production enterprises than the national average of 4.5%
- Farming enterprises account for 88.9% of food and drink production enterprises in Kent.
- As at 2017 there were an estimated 16,000 jobs in the food and drink production industry, two thirds of which work in crop and animal production.
- Swale (5.9%) and Dover (5.1%) have some of the highest proportions of employees in food and drink production in the country.
- Kent had 2,714 agricultural holdings as at 2016 employing 12,957 farm workers. This is the fourth highest number of farm workers in the country.
- Ashford district has the largest number of agricultural holdings in the county (537) covering 44,737 hectares and employing 1,738 workers.

Introduction

The Government's Industrial Strategy launched in 2017 included the development of the Food and Drink Sector Council. The aim of this council is to enable industry growth through innovation and skills and the enhancement of export opportunities.

The Food and Drink industry is defined as all companies involved in processing raw food materials, packaging, and distributing them. This includes fresh, prepared foods as well as packaged foods, and alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

This bulletin looks at food and drink production industries in Kent. This includes crop and animal production, fishing and aquaculture, manufacture of food products and manufacture of beverages.

The bulletin looks at the number of food and drink production enterprises using information from the UK Business Counts dataset from 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 and turnover.

Additionally, this bulletin also looks at the number of employee jobs in the food and drink production sector using information from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) from 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 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.

Finally this bulletin looks at agricultural holdings and labour force using information from the annual survey of agriculture and horticulture produced by

the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The survey takes place in June each year in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. While the survey takes place each year the sample changes each year depending on UK and EU requirements. In years such as 2013 and 2016, when the EU requires very detailed information on the structure of the UK agricultural industry, the sample size is increased. This enables DEFRA to produce good quality estimates for detailed geographies in those years. In other years the sample size is smaller to reduce the burden on farmers and detailed agriculture and horticulture statistics are not produced in those years.

Food & Drink Industry Enterprises in Kent

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.

3.9% of enterprises in Kent are concerned with food and drink production as at 2018. This is just below the national average of 4.5% but higher than the regional average (3.0%). This is shown in table 1.

The highest concentration of food and drink production enterprises in the county can be found in Ashford (425 enterprises accounting for 6.8% of all enterprises in the district).

Table 1: Food & Drink Production enterprises

Food & Drink industry			5 year change	
2018	Number	%	Number	%
Ashford	425	6.8%	10	2.4%
Canterbury	180	3.4%	10	5.9%
Dartford	30	0.7%	-5	-14.3%
Dover	210	6.2%	5	2.4%
Folkestone & Hythe	215	5.9%	10	4.9%
Gravesham	50	1.3%	10	25.0%
Maidstone	315	4.3%	-10	-3.1%
Sevenoaks	200	3.0%	0	0.0%
Swale	245	5.1%	25	11.4%
Thanet	90	2.3%	10	12.5%
Tonbridge and Malling	145	2.5%	5	3.6%
Tunbridge Wells	295	4.6%	15	5.4%
Kent	2,395	3.9%	80	3.5%
Medway	90	1.1%	10	12.5%
Kent + Medway	2,485	3.6%	90	3.8%
South East Region	12,330	3.0%	695	6.0%
England	105,125	4.5%	5,185	5.2%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

The distribution of food and drink production enterprises in Kent and Medway is shown in map 1.

Map 1: Food & Drink Production enterprises in Kent & Medway

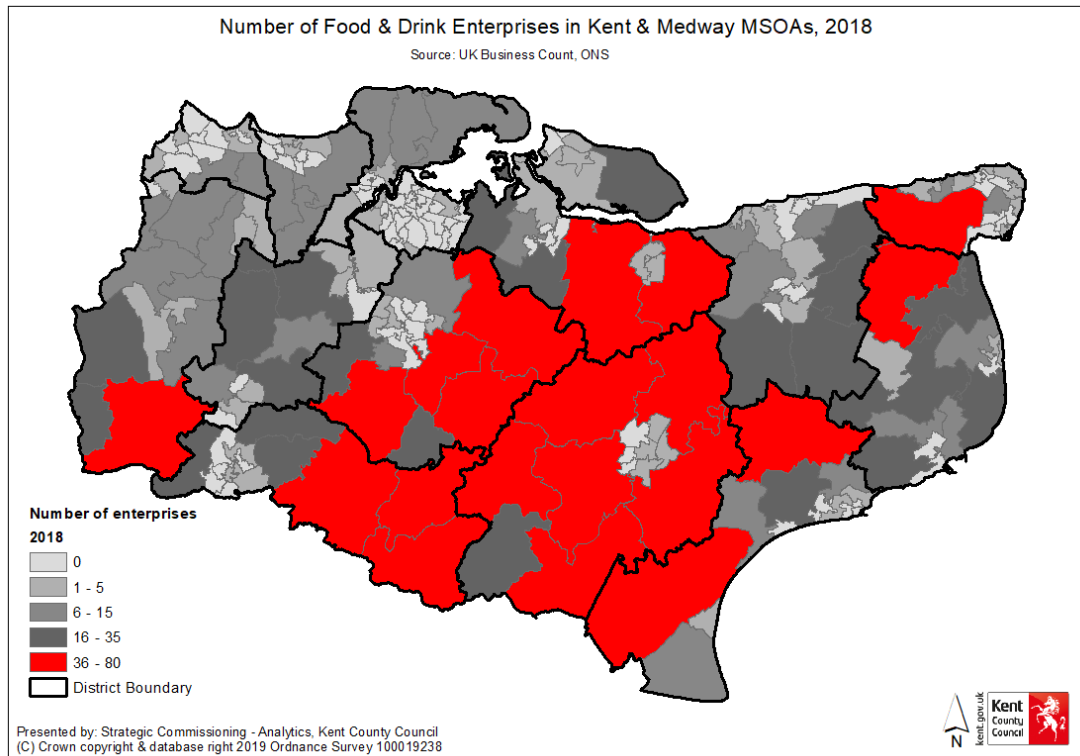
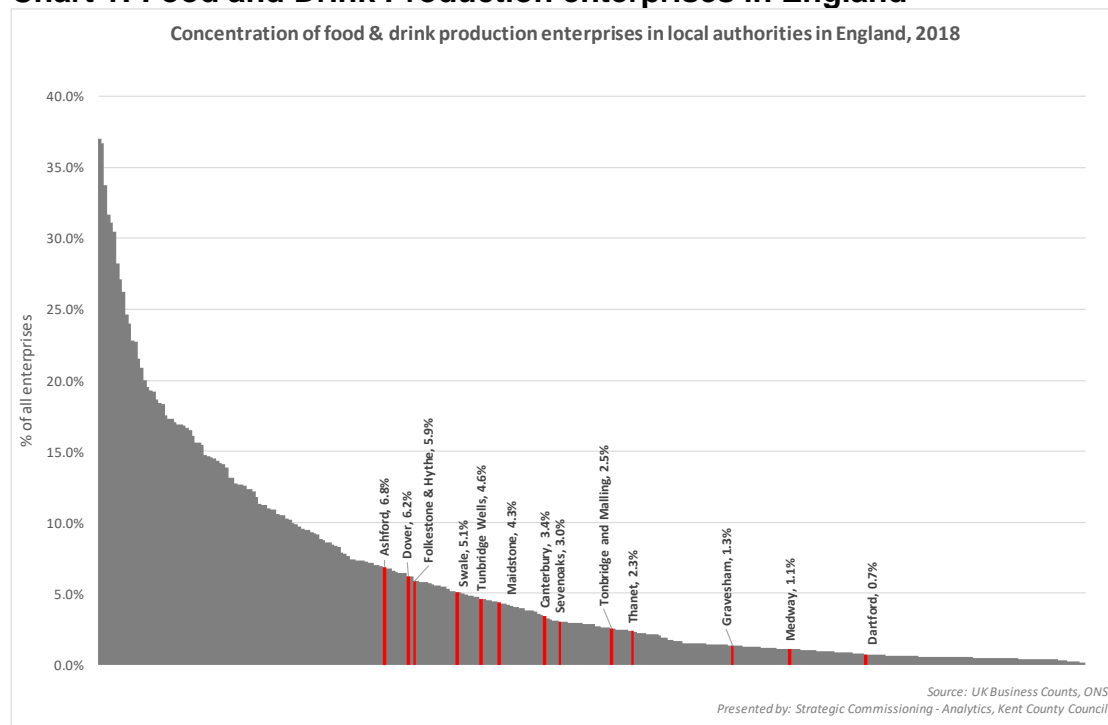


Chart 1 shows the proportion of food and drink production enterprises in local authorities in England. While no Kent district is within the top 20% of districts with the highest concentration of food and drink production enterprises in the country eight districts are above the national average.

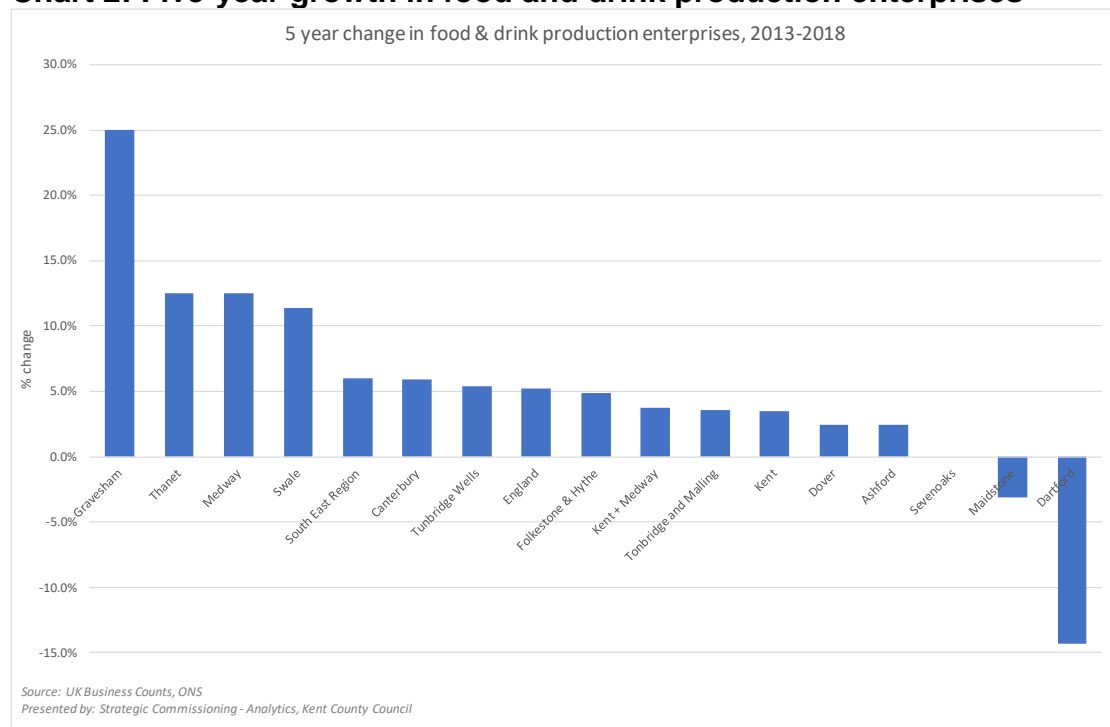
Chart 1: Food and Drink Production enterprises in England



Over the last five years the number of food and drink production enterprises has grown in all local authorities except Maidstone (-10, -3.1%) and Dartford (-5, -14.3%) which saw a reduction in food and drink production enterprises and Sevenoaks which saw no change at all. Gravesham district saw the biggest growth in percentage terms with 25.0% more food and drink production enterprises, however Swale saw the biggest increase in number of enterprises with 25 more food and drink enterprises than was seen five years previously.

The five-year change in food and drink production enterprises can be seen in chart 2.

Chart 2: Five-year growth in food and drink production enterprises



The food and drink production sector is made up of four main subsectors: crop and animal production, fishing and aquaculture, manufacture of food products and manufacture of beverages.

Crop and animal production are by far the largest part of the food and drink production industry accounting for 88.9% of the food and drink production enterprises in Kent. Enterprises involved with the manufacture of beverages make up the smallest proportion with 50 enterprises in Kent accounting for 2.1% of food and drink production enterprises in the county.

Fishing and aquaculture has a similarly small number of enterprises in Kent and these are largely located unsurprisingly in coastal districts.

Table 2: Subsectors of food & drink production industry enterprises

2018	Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities					Manufacture of food products and beverages				
	Food and Beverage	Fishing and aquaculture	Manufacture of food products	Manufacture of beverages		Food and Beverage	Fishing and aquaculture	Manufacture of food products	Manufacture of beverages	
Ashford	425	395	5	20	5	92.9%	1.2%	4.7%	1.2%	
Canterbury	180	150	10	15	5	83.3%	5.6%	8.3%	2.8%	
Dartford	30	25	0	5	5	83.3%	0.0%	16.7%	16.7%	
Dover	210	185	5	10	5	88.1%	2.4%	4.8%	2.4%	
Folkestone & Hythe	215	185	10	10	5	86.0%	4.7%	4.7%	2.3%	
Gravesham	50	45	0	5	0	90.0%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%	
Maidstone	315	285	5	15	15	90.5%	1.6%	4.8%	4.8%	
Sevenoaks	200	185	0	10	0	92.5%	0.0%	5.0%	0.0%	
Swale	245	215	5	15	5	87.8%	2.0%	6.1%	2.0%	
Thanet	90	55	15	15	5	61.1%	16.7%	16.7%	5.6%	
Tonbridge and Malling	145	130	0	10	5	89.7%	0.0%	6.9%	3.4%	
Tunbridge Wells	295	270	5	20	5	91.5%	1.7%	6.8%	1.7%	
Kent	2,395	2,130	65	150	50	88.9%	2.7%	6.3%	2.1%	
Medway	90	65	0	20	5	72.2%	0.0%	22.2%	5.6%	
Kent + Medway	2,485	2,195	65	170	55	88.3%	2.6%	6.8%	2.2%	
South East Region	12,330	10,855	305	870	295	88.0%	2.5%	7.1%	2.4%	
England	105,125	95,160	1,710	6,430	1,820	90.5%	1.6%	6.1%	1.7%	

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Looking in more detail at the enterprises which are classified as food and drink production industries the growing of non perennial crops and animal production make up the largest proportion of food and drink production enterprises in Kent.

Table 3: Detailed food & drink production industry enterprises

Food and Drink Industries	Kent	Medway	South East Region	England
Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities	2,130	65	10,855	95,160
<i>DEFRA/Scottish Executive Agricultural Data</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Growing of non-perennial crops</i>	745	30	3,480	27,825
<i>Growing of perennial crops</i>	210	5	350	1,170
<i>Plant propagation</i>	20	0	120	570
<i>Animal production</i>	685	15	4,450	46,055
<i>Mixed farming</i>	335	5	1,790	15,010
<i>Support activities to agriculture and post-harvest crop activities</i>	125	5	635	4,325
<i>Hunting, trapping and related service activities</i>	5	0	35	205
Fishing and aquaculture	65	0	305	1,710
<i>Fishing</i>	50	0	245	1,475
<i>Aquaculture</i>	10	0	65	235
Manufacture of food products	150	20	870	6,430
<i>Processing and preserving of meat and production of meat products</i>	10	0	75	775
<i>Processing and preserving of fish, crustaceans and molluscs</i>	0	0	15	155
<i>Processing and preserving of fruit and vegetables</i>	15	0	75	510
<i>Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats</i>	0	0	10	55
<i>Manufacture of dairy products</i>	10	0	75	555
<i>Manufacture of grain mill products, starches and starch products</i>	0	0	20	130
<i>Manufacture of bakery and farinaceous products</i>	55	10	300	2,275
<i>Manufacture of other food products</i>	40	5	255	1,605
<i>Manufacture of prepared animal feeds</i>	15	0	55	370
Manufacture of beverages	50	5	295	1,820
<i>Manufacture of beverages</i>	50	5	295	1,820

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Food and drink production enterprises by sizeband are shown in table 4. 90.4% of food and drink production enterprises in Kent are micro enterprises (employing 0-9 people) below the national average. A higher proportion employ 10 to 49 people than the national average.

Table 4: Food & Drink production enterprises - sizebands

Food & Drink enterprises	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+)
2018									
Ashford	425	400	20	5	0	94.1%	4.7%	1.2%	0.0%
Canterbury	180	155	20	0	0	86.1%	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Dartford	30	30	5	0	0	100.0%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Dover	210	190	15	5	0	90.5%	7.1%	2.4%	0.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	215	200	10	0	0	93.0%	4.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Gravesham	50	45	5	0	0	90.0%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Maidstone	315	285	20	5	5	90.5%	6.3%	1.6%	1.6%
Sevenoaks	200	185	15	0	0	92.5%	7.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Swale	245	210	20	10	5	85.7%	8.2%	4.1%	2.0%
Thanet	90	75	10	5	0	83.3%	11.1%	5.6%	0.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	145	125	15	5	0	86.2%	10.3%	3.4%	0.0%
Tunbridge Wells	295	265	25	5	0	89.8%	8.5%	1.7%	0.0%
Kent	2,395	2,165	175	45	10	90.4%	7.3%	1.9%	0.4%
Medway	90	75	10	5	0	83.3%	11.1%	5.6%	0.0%
Kent + Medway	2,485	2,240	185	50	10	90.1%	7.4%	2.0%	0.4%
South East Region	12,330	11,450	705	140	35	92.9%	5.7%	1.1%	0.3%
England	105,125	99,375	4,590	905	255	94.5%	4.4%	0.9%	0.2%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

72% of Kent food and drink production enterprises have an annual turnover of up to £199,000, this reflects a similar picture to that seen nationally (74.9%) and regionally (73.9%).

Table 5: Food & Drink production enterprises - turnover

2018	Number of Food & Drink industry enterprises				% of Food & Drink enterprises			
	Kent	Medway	South East	England	Kent	Medway	South East	England
Total	2,395	90	12,330	105,125	100%	100%	100%	100%
0 to 49 (thousand)	575	15	3,085	28,935	24.0%	16.7%	25.0%	27.5%
50 to 99 (thousand)	495	15	2,450	20,885	20.7%	16.7%	19.9%	19.9%
100 to 199 (thousand)	655	25	3,575	28,875	27.3%	27.8%	29.0%	27.5%
200 to 499 (thousand)	260	10	1,465	12,950	10.9%	11.1%	11.9%	12.3%
500 to 999 (thousand)	195	10	945	7,280	8.1%	11.1%	7.7%	6.9%
1000 to 1999 (thousand)	110	0	425	3,160	4.6%	0.0%	3.4%	3.0%
2000 to 4999 (thousand)	65	0	210	1,645	2.7%	0.0%	1.7%	1.6%
5000 to 9999 (thousand)	20	0	70	565	0.8%	0.0%	0.6%	0.5%
10000 to 49999 (thousand)	25	5	75	575	1.0%	5.6%	0.6%	0.5%
50000+ (thousand)	0	0	25	255	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%

Source: UK Business Counts

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Employee jobs in Food and Drink Production

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

As at 2017 there were 16,000 employee jobs in food and drink production in Kent, accounting for 2.6% of all jobs in the county. This is a higher proportion than is seen both regionally and nationally.

Table 5: Food and drink production employee jobs

	Number			Percentage		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
Ashford	1,900	1,600	1,800	3.4%	2.9%	3.1%
Canterbury	1,000	900	1,100	1.5%	1.4%	1.7%
Dartford	500	500	900	0.8%	0.8%	1.5%
Dover	1,600	1,500	1,800	4.7%	4.5%	5.1%
Folkestone & Hythe	300	300	400	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%
Gravesham	600	600	600	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%
Maidstone	2,300	2,100	2,400	3.0%	2.8%	3.2%
Sevenoaks	800	600	700	1.6%	1.1%	1.3%
Swale	2,800	2,500	3,000	5.6%	5.0%	5.9%
Thanet	400	400	400	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	1,800	1,500	1,800	3.0%	2.6%	3.0%
Tunbridge Wells	1,600	1,300	1,500	2.6%	2.3%	2.9%
Kent	15,500	14,000	16,000	2.5%	2.3%	2.6%
Medway	1,600	1,600	1,800	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%
Kent + Medway	17,000	15,500	18,000	2.4%	2.2%	2.6%
South East	56,000	50,500	57,500	1.4%	1.2%	1.4%
England	476,000	490,000	491,500	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%

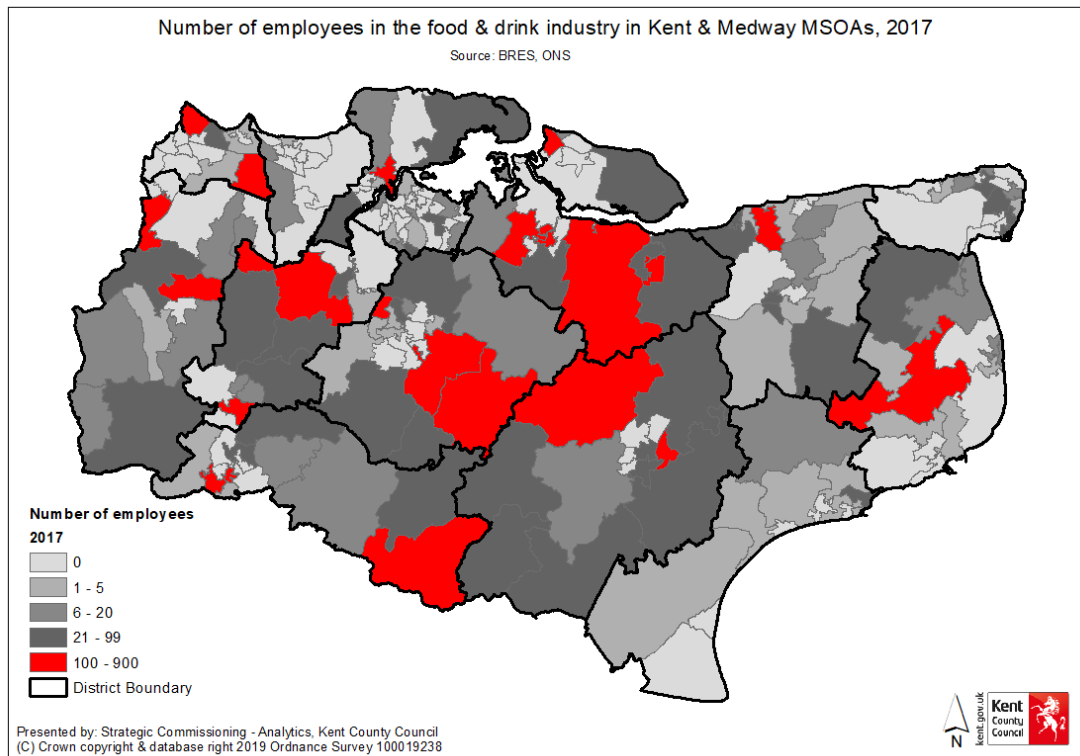
Source: BRES

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Swale and Maidstone have the highest number of food and drink production jobs in Kent (Swale 3,000 and Maidstone 2,400 employees) accounting for 5.9% and 3.2% of the employee jobs within each district respectively.

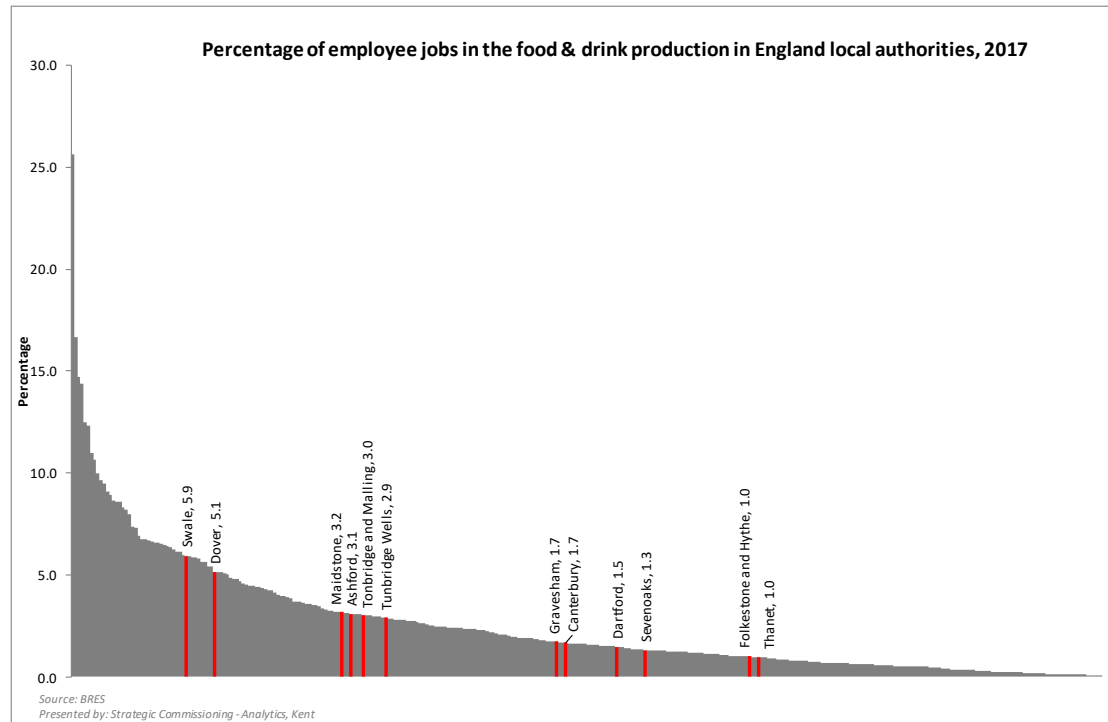
The number of workers in the food and drink production industry in Kent and Medway is shown in map 2.

Map 2: Workers in the food and drink production in Kent & Medway



When compared to other authorities in England, Swale (5.9%) and Dover (5.1%) are within the top 20% of local authorities with the highest proportion of employee jobs in the food and drink production industry in the country.

Chart 3: Employee jobs in food and drink production in English authorities



The majority of food and drink production jobs in Kent (67.7%) are within crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities. This is significantly higher than is seen nationally where crop and animal production account for a far smaller proportion of jobs (31.2%). This reflects the importance of the agricultural industry to food and drink production within Kent. Further information about the agricultural industry in Kent can be found in the final section of this bulletin.

Table 6: Makeup of food & drink production employee jobs

	Number					% of total food & drink employees			
	Total Food & Drink	Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities	Fishing and aquaculture	Manufacture of food products	Manufacture of beverages	Crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities	Fishing and aquaculture	Manufacture of food products	Manufacture of beverages
2017									
Ashford	1,900	1,300	0	500	100	66.7%	0.5%	26.7%	6.9%
Canterbury	1,000	800	100	100	0	84.2%	7.4%	9.5%	0.5%
Dartford	500	300	0	200	0	60.0%	0.0%	38.0%	1.0%
Dover	1,600	800	0	800	0	46.2%	1.2%	49.2%	0.3%
Folkestone & Hythe	300	200	0	100	0	73.8%	9.2%	18.5%	0.0%
Gravesham	600	600	0	0	0	100.0%	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%
Maidstone	2,300	1,800	0	500	0	77.8%	1.3%	22.2%	0.7%
Sevenoaks	800	600	0	200	0	75.0%	0.0%	25.0%	1.3%
Swale	2,800	1,800	0	600	300	63.6%	0.0%	21.8%	10.9%
Thanet	400	200	0	200	0	46.7%	5.3%	48.0%	2.7%
Tonbridge and Malling	1,800	1,400	0	400	0	78.6%	1.7%	20.0%	0.3%
Tunbridge Wells	1,600	900	0	700	0	55.4%	1.8%	40.0%	1.2%
Kent	15,500	10,500	200	4,300	500	67.7%	1.5%	27.4%	3.1%
Medway	1,600	1,300	0	300	0	76.9%	0.0%	18.5%	0.3%
Kent + Medway	17,000	11,500	200	4,500	500	67.6%	1.4%	26.5%	2.9%
South East	56,000	31,500	1,000	21,500	2,000	56.3%	1.8%	38.4%	3.6%
England	476,000	148,500	3,000	300,000	25,000	31.2%	0.6%	63.0%	5.3%

Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding

Source: BRES

Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Agricultural Industry in Kent

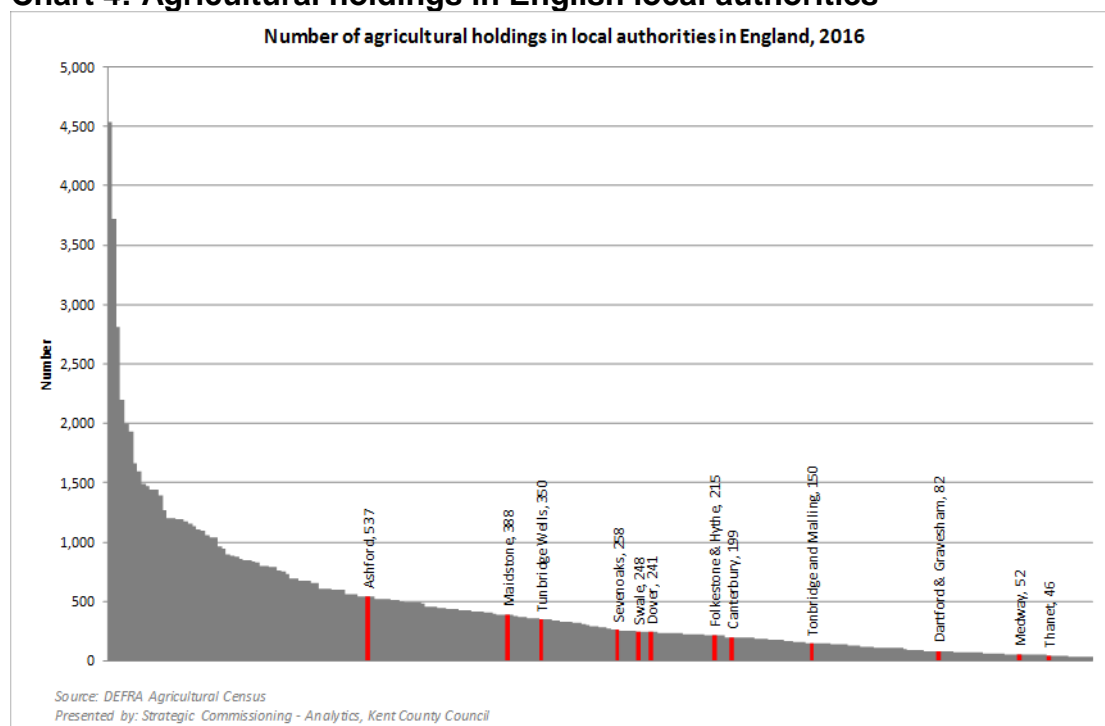
This bulletin has shown that agriculture accounts for a huge part of the food and drink production sector in both the number of enterprises and the number of people it employs.

This section looks at information from the survey of agriculture and horticulture produced by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA). It provides estimates of agricultural holdings and workers. The latest data is for 2016.

As at June 2016 there were 2,714 agricultural holdings in Kent.

Chart 4 shows the number of agricultural holdings in Kent and Medway local authorities in 2016 compared to other authorities in England.

Chart 4: Agricultural holdings in English local authorities



More than half the agricultural holdings in Kent (52.6%) were involved with growing of plants and vegetables (cereals, cropping and horticulture) and 39.2% with animal production.

Table 7: Agricultural holdings

2016	Kent	Medway	South East Region	England
Total holdings	2,714	52	13,252	106,853
<i>Cereals</i>	554	17	2,628	19,118
<i>General Cropping</i>	495	-	2,358	17,728
<i>Horticulture</i>	378	11	914	4,259
<i>Specialist Pigs</i>	35	0	170	1,953
<i>Specialist Poultry</i>	49	0	262	2,495
<i>Dairy</i>	48	0	321	6,470
<i>Grazing Livestock</i>	0	0	0	12,559
<i>Grazing Livestock (Lowland)</i>	933	13	5,322	32,369
<i>Mixed</i>	197	-	1,161	8,833
<i>Unclassified</i>	25	0	116	1,069

Source: DEFRA Agricultural Census: Structure of the agricultural industry
Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Ashford district has the largest number of agricultural holdings covering some 44,737 hectares. Arable and cereal crops cover a large proportion of that land. It also has the highest head of cattle, sheep and pigs. Dartford and Gravesham have the lowest amount of farmed land. Tunbridge Wells district has the highest number of poultry having at least 6 times as many as any other local authority.

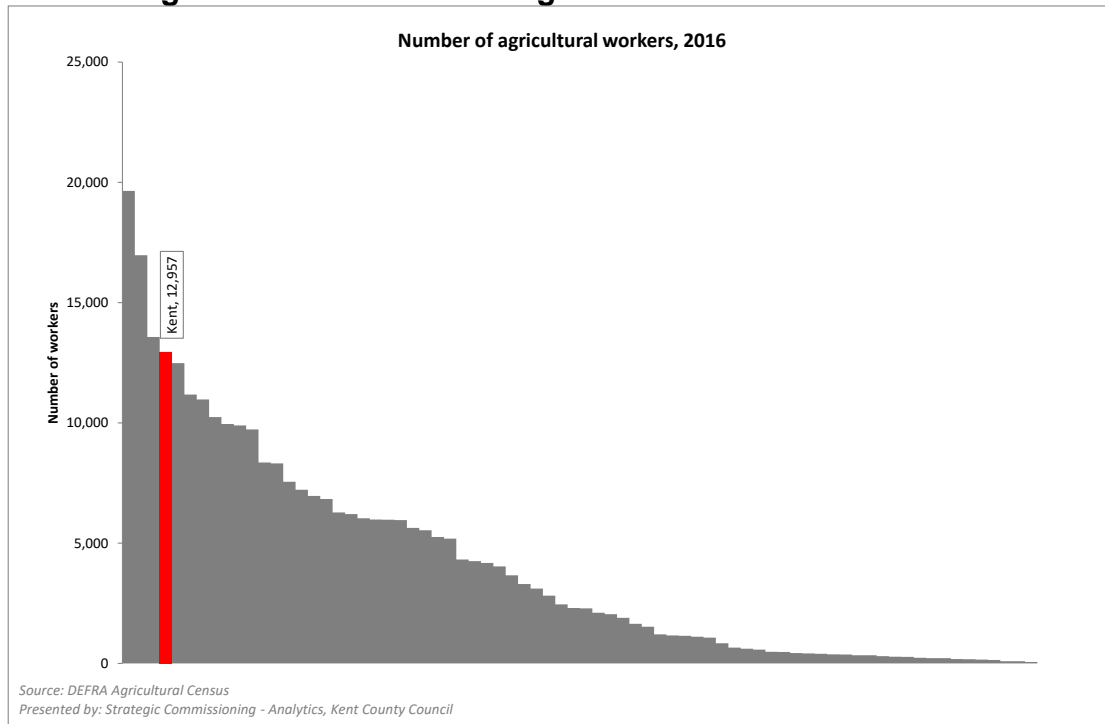
Table 8: Agricultural holdings in Kent & Medway local authority districts

2016	Number of holdings	Hectares					Number of livestock			
		Total farmed area	Cereals	Arable crops (excl cereals)	Fruit and vegetables	Grassland	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Poultry
Ashford	537	44,737	14,989	7,874	662	16,061	12,648	93,979	6,392	245,667
Canterbury	199	19,029	6,693	2,737	1,994	4,923	4,775	15,618	2,430	85,948
Dartford & Gravesham	82	6,055	2,666	1,141	434	1,252	1,084	1,771	123	1,050
Dover	241	24,858	9,432	5,259	1,069	6,009	6,908	12,547	1,665	16,655
Folkestone & Hythe	215	23,634	9,016	5,183	151	7,817	5,216	56,795	396	63,119
Maidstone	388	24,261	7,594	3,483	1,998	8,008	5,091	33,108	926	32,915
Sevenoaks	258	20,038	4,714	2,320	94	9,548	9,015	18,969	678	54,532
Swale	248	24,018	8,162	4,641	2,075	7,041	4,890	21,530	1,701	68,123
Thanet	46	7,073	3,040	2,199	255	803	-	2,094	-	-
Tonbridge And Malling	150	10,295	2,917	1,558	1,088	2,706	1,950	4,320	1,295	13,900
Tunbridge Wells	350	17,334	3,735	2,091	1,551	7,779	5,697	31,934	2,580	1,491,207
Medway	52	8,252	2,380	881	848	3,522	2,229	8,649	-	664

Source: DEFRA Agricultural Census: Structure of the agricultural industry
Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

With 12,957 farm workers Kent has the fourth highest agricultural workforce in the country after Devon, North Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

Chart 5: Agricultural workers in English counties



40% of the agricultural workers in Kent are employed as casual workers, those employed for seasonal work, a far higher proportion than the national average of 14.6%.

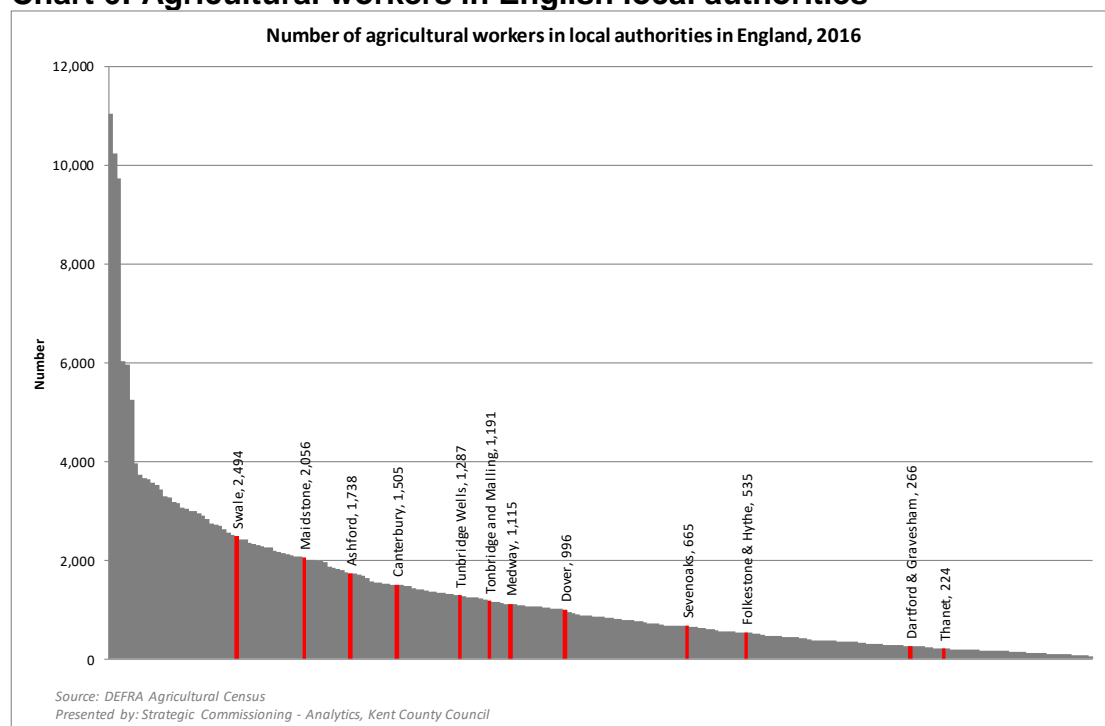
Table 9: Agricultural labour

2016	Kent CC	Medway	South East (incl. London)	England
Total labour	12,957	1,115	46,046	301,507
<i>Farmers, partners, directors and spouses full time</i>	1,833	55	8,924	88,833
<i>Farmers, partners, directors and spouses part time</i>	2,290	45	11,164	84,250
<i>Salaried managers</i>	501	22	2,344	11,315
<i>Regular workers full time</i>	1,803	263	8,759	46,581
<i>Regular workers part time</i>	1,013	20	4,088	26,634
<i>Casual workers</i>	5,517	709	10,768	43,894

Source: DEFRA Agricultural Census: Structure of the agricultural industry
Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Swale and Maidstone are within the top 20% of local authorities in England with the highest number of agricultural workers. Thanet and Dartford and Gravesham are within the 20% with the fewest.

Chart 6: Agricultural workers in English local authorities



Swale district has the highest number of agricultural workers in the county with 2,494 workers. This has grown by a third over the last three years. Thanet district has the fewest agricultural workers (224) and has seen very little change over recent years.

Seven districts now have fewer agricultural workers than in 2013. Dartford and Gravesham have seen the biggest reduction with 436 fewer people employed in agriculture, a fall of 62.1% over the last three years.

Table 10: Agricultural labour in Kent districts

Agricultural workers	2013	2016	Change 2013-2016	
			Number	%
Ashford	1,712	1,738	26	1.5
Canterbury	981	1,505	523	53.3
Dartford & Gravesham	702	266	-436	-62.1
Dover	1,044	996	-48	-4.6
Folkestone & Hythe	551	535	-16	-2.9
Maidstone	2,098	2,056	-43	-2.0
Sevenoaks	677	665	-11	-1.7
Swale	1,867	2,494	626	33.6
Thanet	218	224	6	2.9
Tonbridge And Malling	1,219	1,191	-28	-2.3
Tunbridge Wells	1,402	1,287	-115	-8.2
Medway	1,041	1,115	74	7.1

Source: DEFRA Agricultural Census: Structure of the agricultural industry
Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

Looking at the ratio of farm workers to farm holdings Kent has a higher ratio than that seen nationally, with 4.8 workers for every holding in Kent compared to 2.8 in England as a whole. Medway has a ratio of 21.4 workers per holding.

Table 11: Ratio of agricultural labour to holdings

2016	Kent	Medway	South East Region	England
Total holdings	2,714	52	13,252	106,853
Total labour	12,957	1,115	46,046	301,507
Ratio of labour to holdings	4.8	21.4	3.5	2.8

Source: DEFRA Agricultural Census: Structure of the agricultural industry
Presented by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council