

Kent State of the Environment Report: Low Carbon Business Update

Last Updated: July 2020 Next update: Winter 2020

This data is published by the Sustainable Business and Communities Team of Kent County Council

You can contact us on KES@kent.gov.uk

The LCEGS database (Low Carbon Environmental Good and Services) monitors the number of employees in low carbon industries and the number of low carbon industry enterprises in each district. This data is collected from BRES and the UK Business Counts and is then filtered to show the low carbon industries using the 2007 SIC code classifications.

The low carbon economy can be described as a low-fossil-fuel economy or decarbonised economy; where the economy is based around low carbon power sources that therefore have a minimal output of greenhouse gas emissions (specifically CO_2) into the biosphere.

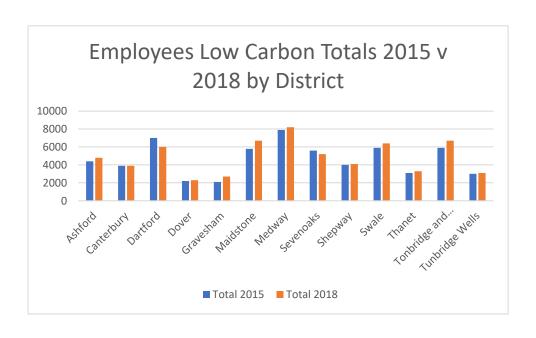
Key facts

Low Carbon Industry Employees

The Kent Environment Strategy target for the LCEGS employee indicator is for there to be a 10% increase in the number of jobs in the LCEGS sector by the end of 2020, using a 2012 baseline of 52,000.

As of 2018 there were 63,400 employees in the low carbon sector for Kent and Medway, and 55,000 for just Kent. Medway employs the most people in this sector with 8,200, followed by Maidstone (6,700) and Tonbridge and Malling (6,700).

Since the start of the database in 2015, Gravesham has had the biggest employee increase by 29% (2,100 - 2,700). While Dartford have seen a reduction of -14% in number of low carbon sectors jobs between 2015 and 2018.

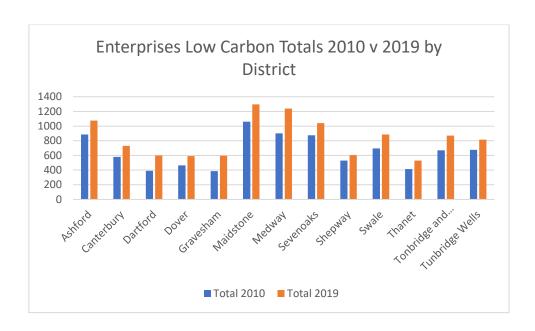


Low Carbon Industry Enterprises

The number of low carbon industry enterprises does not currently have a target associated to it, but since 2010 (-2019) there has been a 27% increase in the number of businesses in the Kent and Medway LCEGS sector, accounting for 38% of Kent & Medway's enterprises.

The highest increase since 2010 came from Gravesham where numbers have risen 55%, closely followed by Dartford which has grown 54%.

In 2019, Maidstone has the largest number of enterprises (1,295) followed by Medway (1,240) and Ashford (1,075). Whilst Thanet has the smallest sector (530) followed by Dover (590).



Further reading

UK Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES)

https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/businessregisterandemploymentsurveybresprovisionalresults/provisionalresults2017revisedresults2016

Data sources

UK business: activity, size and location (ONS)

https://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/activitysizeandlocation/datasets/ukbusinessactivitysizeandlocation

UK Business Counts 2018: Information on businesses in Kent (Strategic Commissioning Analytics, KCC) https://www.kent.gov.uk/ data/assets/pdf_file/0011/87428/UK-business-counts-statistics.pdf

Business Register & Employment Survey (BRES) results for 2017 (provisional) (Strategic Commissioning Analytics, KCC)

https://www.kent.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0017/8180/Business-Register-and-Employment-Survey-BRES.pdf