



Hampshire Local Authority District Profiles Hart

July 2025

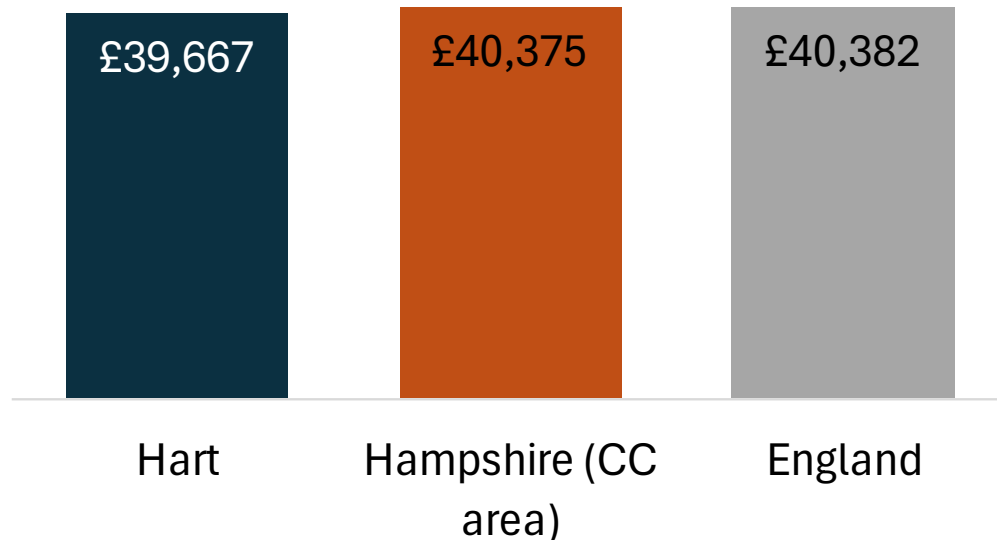
Economic Performance

Hart's economy is worth **£3.61bn** in **Gross Value Added (GVA)** in current (2023) prices. After other indirect taxes on products (£0.46bn) are added, and subsidies on products (£0.04bn) subtracted, Hart's economy amounted to **£4.03bn in nominal GDP terms**, while **GDP per head is 2% below the national average**.

Productivity

Productivity is the main driver of competitiveness, growth and economic prosperity over the long run. Since most economies face barriers (for instance ageing population and skills) to higher employment, increasing productivity is an important economic policy objective at both national and local level. **Hart is over two fifths (44.7%) more productive than the UK** on the preferred GVA per hours measure.

Economic Prosperity (GDP per head) - 2023

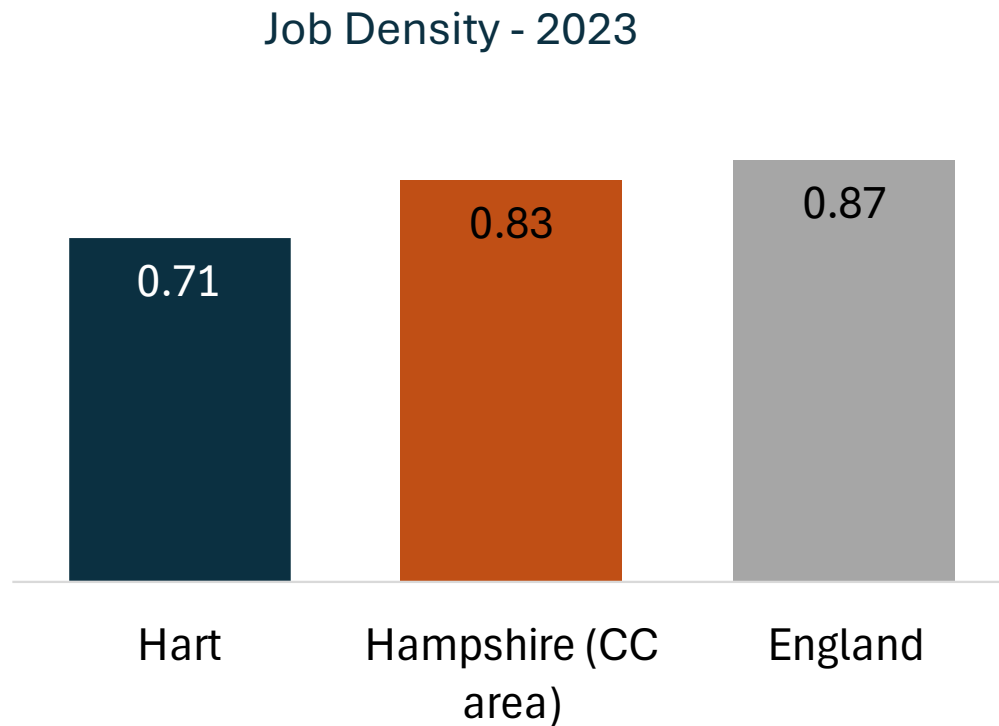


Labour Productivity - 2023

	GVA per hour (£) – preferred ONS measure	GVA per filled job (£)
Hart	£60.6	£84,852
Hart (Index UK=100)	144.7	127.8
Hampshire (CC area)	£52.8	£76,232
England	£42.4	£67,338
United Kingdom	£41.9	£66,402

Total jobs and Job Density

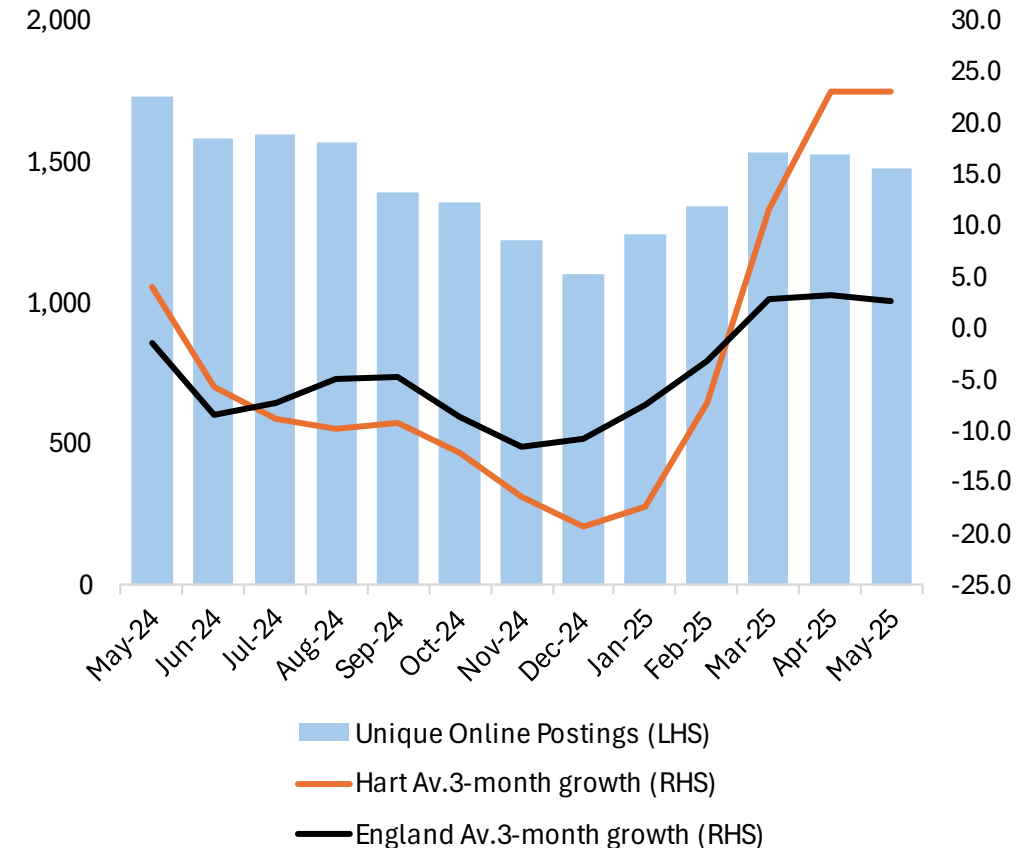
Hart has a **44,000 total jobs** using the workplace-based measure of jobs that includes data on employees, self-employment, government-supported trainees and HM Forces, to give a **job density of 0.71**, which is the number of jobs in an area divided by the resident population aged 16-64 in that area. This is lower than the Hampshire and England averages. For example, a job density of 1.00 would mean that there is one job for every resident aged 16-64.



Online Job Postings

Labour demand can also be measured by using number of online job postings as a proxy. The data is not seasonally adjusted. Demand has been easing as labour costs have risen (wage inflation, employer NI, National Living Wage) although hiring intentions rising locally in 2025.

Job Postings and Growth Rates



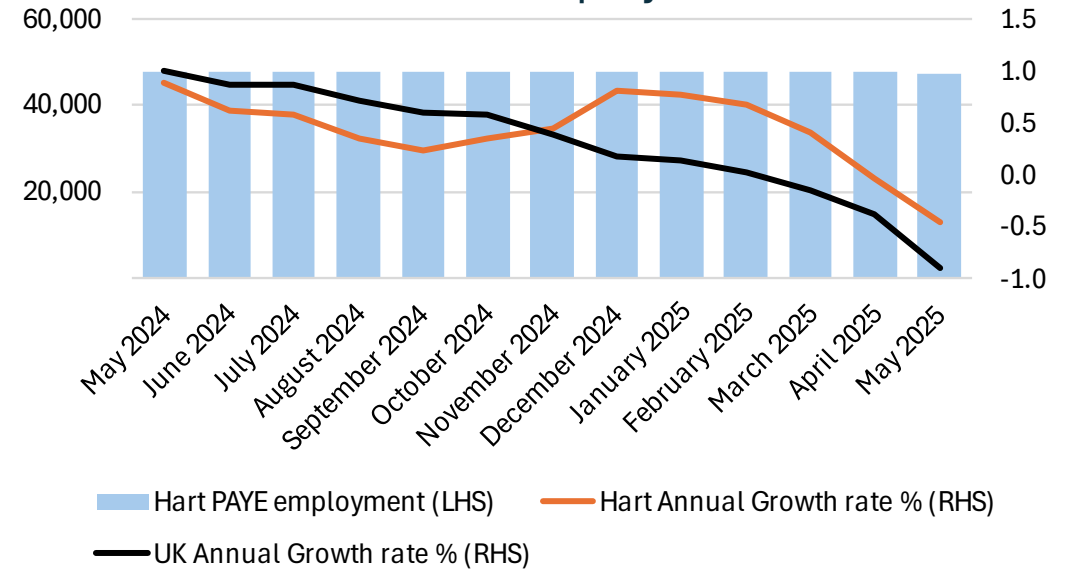
Resident (16-64 years) Economic Activity

Rolling Annual Quarter: 12-months to December 2024	Hart Number	Hart %	Hampshire %	England%
Economic activity rate	47,700	84.3	81.4	78.9
Employment rate	44,300	78.3	79.3	75.7
% aged 16-64 who are employees	40,300	71.3	71.0	66.0
% aged 16-64 who are self employed	4,000	7.1	8.0	9.5
Unemployment rate	1,600	3.0	2.6	4.0

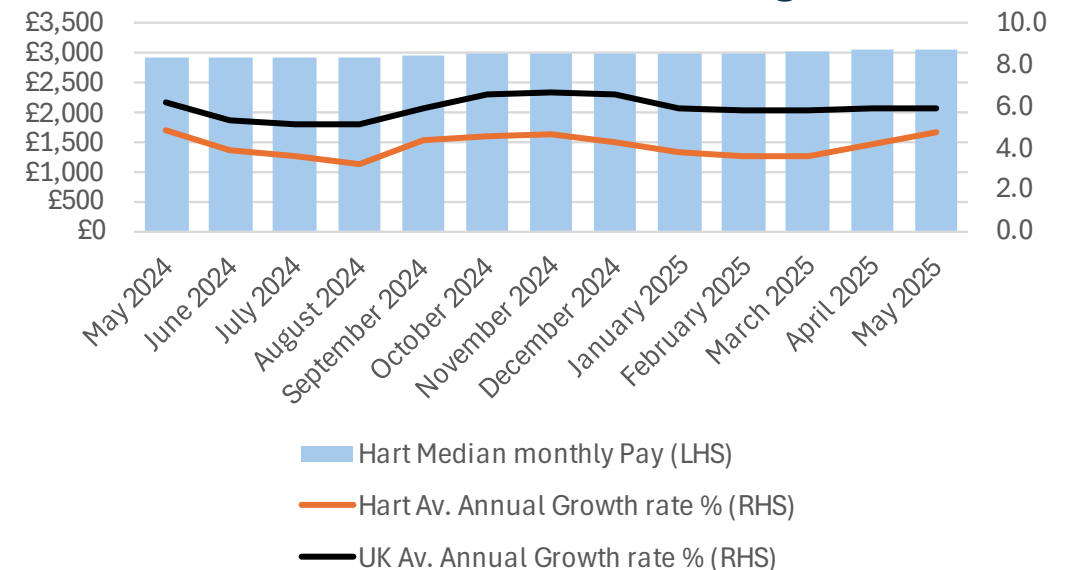
In economic terms, higher employment leads to an increase in income, translating to more disposable income, opportunities for higher consumption and a rise in demand for goods and services, thereby stimulating the production of goods and services and driving forward economic growth.

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (2025). HMRC/ONS Real Time Indicator Employment and Earnings (2025). Hampshire earnings based on median of LA median earnings, so only indicative. Note that England data is not currently published

Hart PAYE employment



Hart PAYE Median Earnings



Residents (16-64 years) by Highest Qualification

Rolling Annual Quarter: 12-months to December 2024	Hart (numbers)	Hart (%)	Hampshire (%)	England (%)
% with RQF4+ - aged 16-64	27,000	50.4	47.2	47.1
% with RQF3 only - aged 16-64	11,500	21.5	23.8	20.5
% with RQF2 only - aged 16-64	12,100	22.5	18.7	19.1
% with no qualifications (RQF) - aged 16-64	2,200	4.1	5.3	6.4

Note: Due to small sample sizes there is no reliable data for RQF/NVQ 1 equivalent or other qualifications. Census 2021 will provide an estimate but not comparable to the APS.

No qualifications

No formal qualifications held.

RQF/NVQ 2 equivalent

e.g. 5 or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ 2, intermediate 2 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent.

RQF/NVQ 3 equivalent

e.g. 2 or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ 3, 2 or more higher or advanced higher national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent.

RQF/NVQ 4 equivalent and above

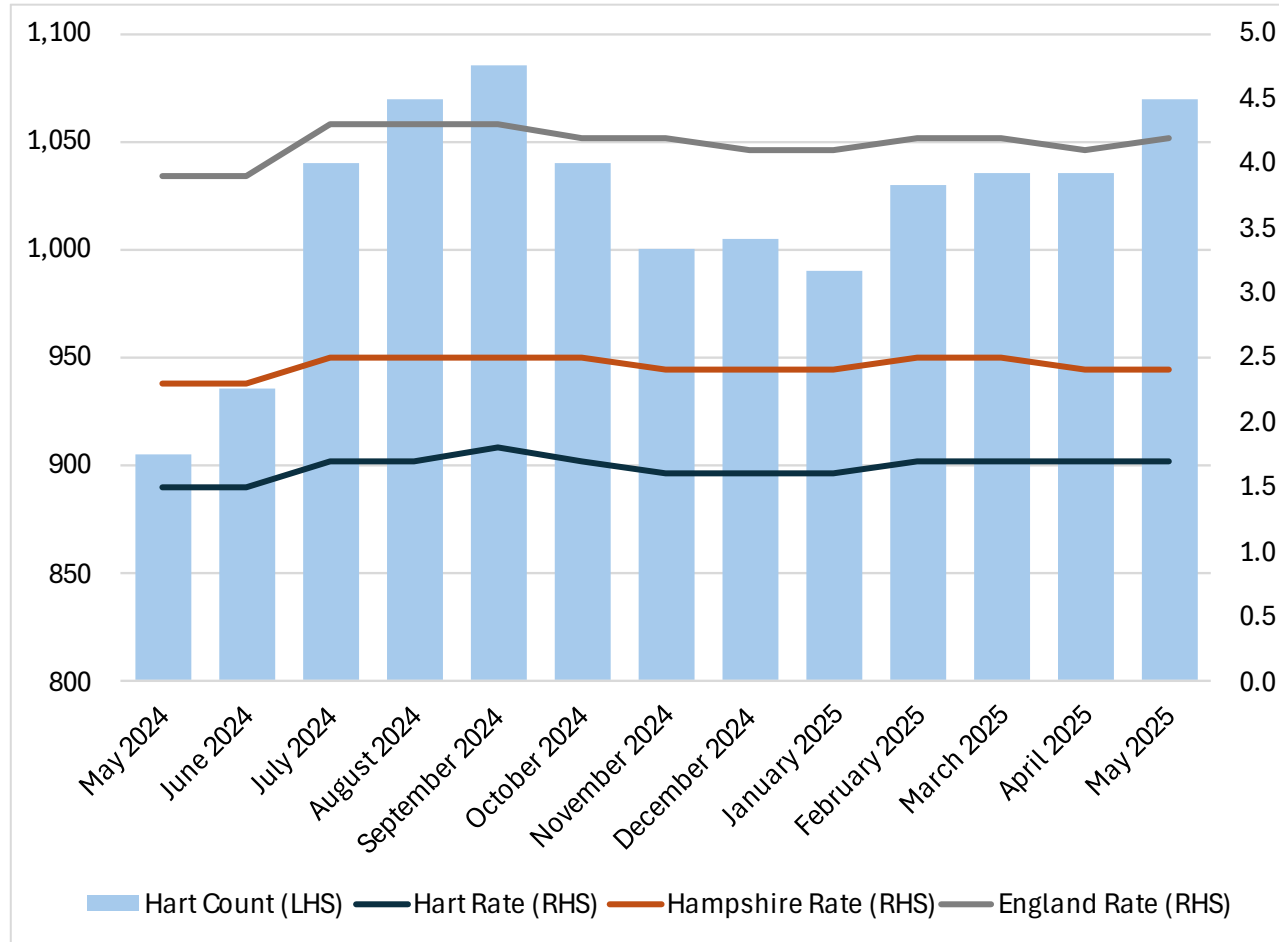
e.g. HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent.

Residents (16-64 years) in Employment by Occupation

Rolling Annual Quarter: 12-months to December 2024 SOC 2020	Hart (numbers)	Hart (%)	Hampshire (%)	England (%)
1: managers, directors and senior officials	9,500	18.6	12.8	11.4
2: professional occupations	16,300	31.9	26.9	27.2
3: associate professional occupations	6,700	13.1	14.9	15.4
4: administrative and secretarial occupations	4,200	8.2	9.2	9.2
5: skilled trades occupations	5,000	9.8	8.8	8.5
6: caring, leisure and other service occupations	1,700	3.3	9.2	8.2
7: sales and customer service occupations	!	!	6.1	5.8
8: process, plant and machine operatives	!	!	4.5	5.4
9: elementary occupations	5,600	11.1	7.5	8.6

! Estimate and confidence interval not available since the group sample size is zero or disclosive (0-2).

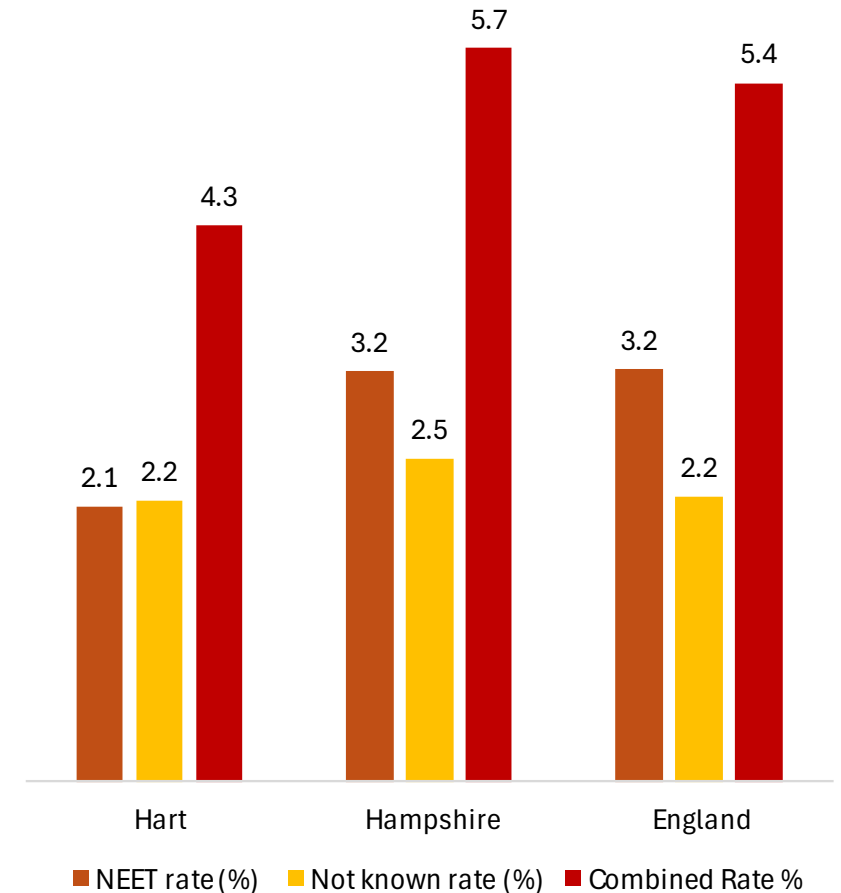
Monthly Unemployed Benefit Claimants



Hart’s working age unemployment rates have been consistently much lower than the England and lower than the Hampshire trendlines. The May 2025 rate is 1.7% with 1,070 claimants.

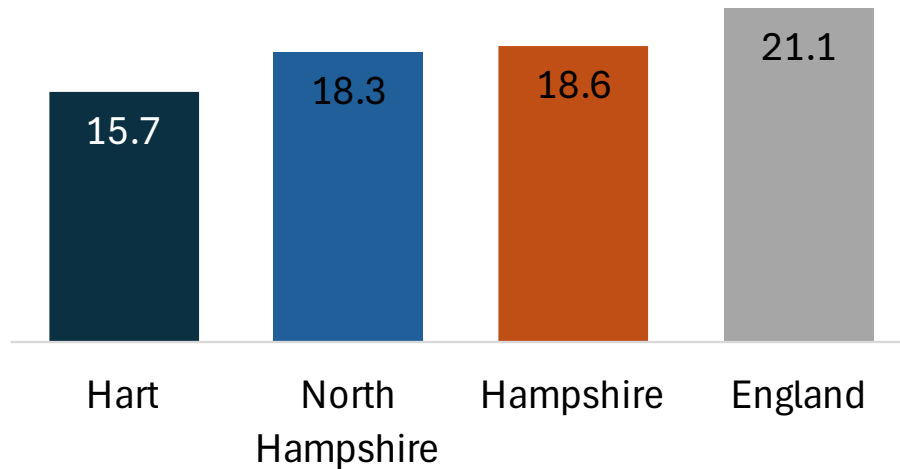
Source: ONS (2025). DfE, Hampshire County Council (2025)

16-17-Year-Old NEET, Not Known & Combined Rates (%), 2023/24



Source: DfE (2024), Hampshire County Council (2025). Note that the rates are 3-month average (Dec 23, Jan 24 and Feb 24) as percentage of the 16-17 age cohort. The Combined rate should be used as the primary measure when comparing against benchmarks.

Economic Inactivity Rate (%), 2024



Economically Inactive working age population of Hart stands at **8,900 residents in the 12 months to December 2024**.

The **inactive rate is 15.7%**, around 1-in-6 working age Hart residents, lower than the Hampshire (18.6%), North Hampshire economic sub-area (18.3%) and national (21.1%) averages. Inactivity estimates by reason are unreliable and largely incomplete at district level. Hampshire ITL3 subarea estimates are more reliable.

North Hampshire Sub-area Inactivity by Reason

Reason	North Hampshire Number	North Hampshire (%)	Hampshire (%)	England (%)
Student	11,700	27.5	26.7	27.5
Looking after family/home	6,700	15.7	16.7	19.0
Long-term sick	10,400	24.3	24.5	27.0
Inactive retired	7,700	18.1	19.2	12.5
Inactive other	4,000	9.4	10.3	11.5
Inactive (total)	42,700	18.3	18.6	21.1
Inactive (minus students)	31,000	13.3	13.6	15.3

Long term sick is one of the primary causes of economic inactivity across Hampshire. Reasons for economic inactivity caused by long-term sickness or disability are complex – see Hampshire’s Local Get Britain Working Plan report.

Overall health in Hart improved between 2015 and 2021 and it stands above the national average. Hart’s **Overall Health Index Score in 2021 was 122.9** (a score over 100 is an improvement). For more health data please see the interactive [JSNA](#) database.

Hart Population 2023

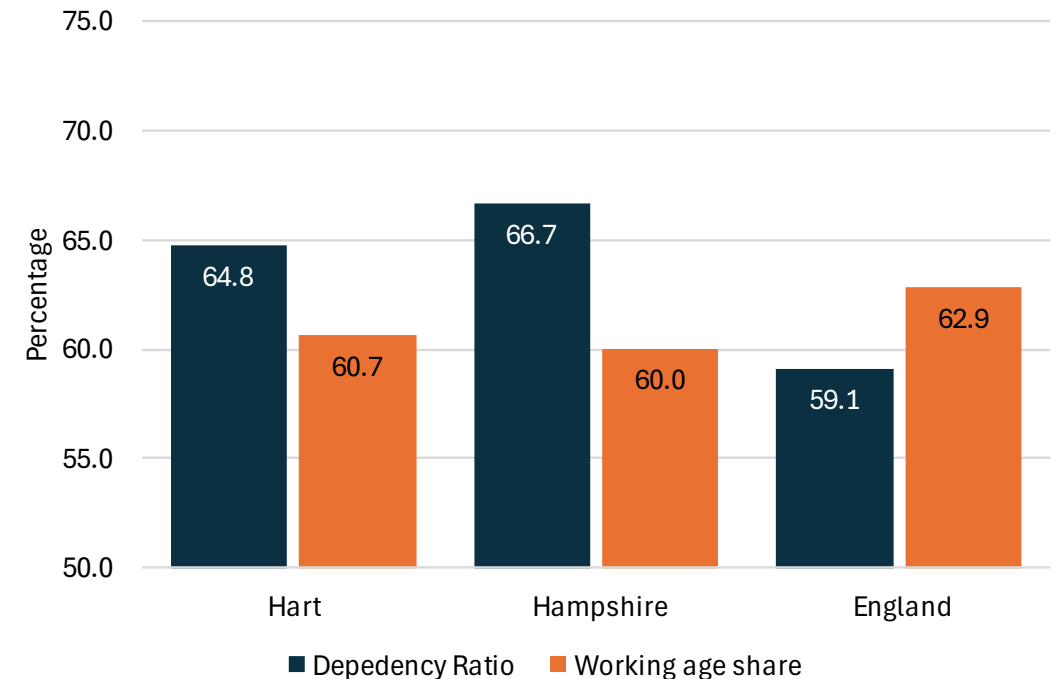
MYE 2023	All Ages	Aged 16 to 64	Aged 0 to 15	Aged 16 to 24	Aged 25 to 49	Aged 50 to 64	Aged 65+
Total (Number)	101,542	61,621	19,127	8,974	31,429	21,218	20,794
Total (%)	100.0	60.7	18.8	8.8	31.0	20.9	20.5
Male (Number)	50,167	30,971	9,760	5,077	15,346	10,548	9,436
Male (%)	49.4	61.7	19.5	10.1	30.6	21.0	18.8
Female (Number)	51,375	30,650	9,367	3,897	16,083	10,670	11,358
Female (%)	50.6	59.7	18.2	7.6	31.3	20.8	22.1

Hart has a total population of 101,542 according to ONS 2023 mid-year estimates. Three fifths (61,621) are of working age (16-64 years).

Overall, there are marginally more females than males. There are more males than females in the younger age groups (0-15 and 16-24 years) and working age but more females from age 25 onwards and especially over 65 years.

Source: ONS MYE 2023 (2024)

Working Age and Dependency Ratio



Hart has a working age population close to the Hampshire average but lower than England and a lower dependency ratio to Hampshire but higher than England.

If the age dependency ratio is 50%, then there are two working-age people in the local population for every dependent. High dependency ratio's mean those of working age, and the overall economy, are likely to be subject to a greater tax burden to support an aging population.

Economy Performance (GDP/GVA) and Productivity (per GVA): Data for this metric is published by ONS. Gross value added (GVA) is a measure of the increase in the value of the economy due to the production of goods and services. While GDP per head is often referred to as a measure of prosperity. It can be a useful way of comparing regions of different size, comparisons can be affected by commuting flows into or out of the region. They should therefore be used with caution. **Good to be high.**

Productivity (GVA per hour worked): A measure of productivity: GVA divided by the number of hours worked to create it. This is the preferred measure of productivity. **Good to be high.**

Productivity (GVA per job filled): A measure of productivity: GVA divided by the number of filled jobs used to create it. **Good to be high.**

Total jobs and Job Density: This is an historic measure of labour demand. The number of jobs is not the same as the number people with jobs. This is because a person can have more than one job. **Good to be high on both measures.**

Economic Activity: Measures of labour supply. **Good to be high for employment, good to be low for unemployment.**

Skills: Survey estimates of highest qualification and occupations. **Good to be high for Levels 4+ and 3 but generally good to be low Level 2 or less. Good to be high for more skilled occupations (1-3) although occupations required across all groups for a balanced economy.**

PAYE employment and Median earnings: HMRC real time indicators based on PAYE of residents. **On both measures good to be high and growing.**

Unemployed claimants: DWP administrative data of benefit claimants seeking work. **Good to be low.**

Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS): Annual 3-month Dec-Feb average published by Department for Education. Data showing the proportions of 16- and 17-year-olds in education and training and an estimate of those not in education, employment or training (NEET) and the Not knowns. Some caution should be taken if using these figures due to the estimates being based on management information and there being considerable variation at local authority level in how well 16- and 17-year-olds are tracked and hence not known proportions can impact on the estimates of the proportion NEET. We include 'Not knowns' to account for this but of itself can also create large variations. **Good to be low.**

Economic Inactivity: Measure of labour exclusion. Survey estimate of those not seeking work according to ILO definition. **Good to be low.**

Working age and Age Dependency ratio: Working age is recognised by ILO as aged 16-64, even though State Pension Age has moved to 65 and 66 and moving to 67 next decade. The age dependency is the relationship between the working age population and dependents (children and retired). While those aged 0-15 can be seen as dependent there are many retirees who are still active or financially comfortable. **Good to be high for Working age, and good to be low for Age Dependency.**

This publication is produced by Economy and Intelligence, Economy and Skills Team, Hampshire 2050, Hampshire County Council



The information and views set out in this note are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Hampshire County Council. The Council nor any person acting on their behalf may not be held responsible for the use of the information contained therein. © Economy Intelligence Team, Hampshire County Council.