Sustainable Economy Strategy

District Profile

2025 – 2028

About this profile

This District Profile provides a summary of key indicators for Mid Sussex. It draws primarily from publicly available datasets and, where appropriate, compares Mid Sussex with West Sussex and England.

It has two main sections linked to the themes of the Sustainable Economy Strategy: People and Place. It has been used to form the associated Action Plan and to assist baselines and targets to monitor the impact of the supporting Action Plan.

Data provided throughout the document are the latest available for the purpose of the analysis, but not all current year. Sources are referenced under each table or description which presents findings. Where datasets contain gaps from source, such as due to a lack respondents, we use a '#' in the cell where data would have been.

About Mid Sussex

Mid Sussex is an affluent district in West Sussex in the South East of England with a total population of 155,000.

It covers an area of 33,400 hectares (129 square miles) and it has borders with Tandridge, Wealden, Lewes, Brighton & Hove, Horsham and Crawley. The majority of the district is well connected to the highway network and benefits from good railway linkages between London, Gatwick and the South Coast.

It has three main towns, Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath, together with a large number and wide variety of villages. However, the district is rural in character: nearly 50% is within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and over 10% is within the South Downs National Park.

It also has many sites valued for their biodiversity including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Sites of Nature Conservation Importance / Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Biodiversity Opportunity Areas.

Contents

People – Key Findings

- Mid Sussex has a population of 155,000 residents, 60% of whom are aged 16 to 64 years. It has slightly larger proportion of working age residents than West Sussex, but a smaller one than England. The District's population is projected to grow to 161,500 by 2033, and 167,200 by 2043. The share of working-age residents will shrink, while those aged 65+ will rise significantly.
- Life expectancy for both males and females have fallen since the last District Profile. Life expectancy for both groups is marginally higher than the West Sussex average. The gap between male and female life expectancy in higher in Mid Sussex (4.2 years) than the county as a whole (3.9 years).
- Having declined between 2016/17 and 2021/22, life satisfaction in the District rose considerably in 2022/23. In the last year it was higher than the West Sussex average and all other districts and boroughs. This is also the case when looking at the average over the past decade.
- Compared with the last District Profile, Mid Sussex no longer performs worse than the England average on the health indicators of early cancer diagnosis, diabetes diagnosis rate and emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm. Overall it performs well on health indicators however some have moved closer to the England average.
- From 2019 to 2021, the proportion of households fuel poor rose from 5.8% to 7.2%. This remains significantly lower than the England proportion of 13.1%.
- At 1.9%, Mid Sussex has one of the lowest claimant count unemployment rates in England. Only eight districts/boroughs had a lower recorded rate of unemployment.
- Earnings in Mid Sussex, linked to the high inflation seen in recent years, have risen significantly. Female earnings as a percentage of male earnings have improved considerably. Where in 2020 female full-time workers' gross weekly pay was 76% of males', in 2023 this figure was 99.6%.

Population

- Mid Sussex has a total population of around 155,000. Burgess Hill has a population of 33,400, East Grinstead has a population of 27,800, and Haywards Heath has a population of 40,200. 19.3% of the district's population is aged 0 to 15 years, 59.9% is aged 16 to 64 years, and 20.8% aged over 65 years.

- Proportionately the District has a slightly larger working age population (59.9%) than West Sussex (59.3%), but a smaller one than England (62.9%). Mid Sussex has a larger proportion of residents aged 0 to 15 years than both West Sussex and England.

2022	**Mid Sussex**		**West Sussex**		**England**	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Aged 0 to 15	29,939	19.3%	157,656	17.7%	10,575,320	18.5%
Aged 16 to 64	92,761	59.9%	528,885	59.3%	35,901,221	62.9%
Aged 65+	32,230	20.8%	205,795	23.1%	10,629,867	18.6%
All ages	154,930	100.0%	892,336	100.0%	57,106,398	100.0%
2033	**Mid Sussex**		**West Sussex**		**England**	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Aged 0 to 15	28,710	17.8%	150,274	16.1%	10,293,424	17.2%
Aged 16 to 64	92,539	57.3%	523,035	55.9%	36,090,124	60.4%
Aged 65+	40,297	24.9%	262,553	28.1%	13,408,398	22.4%
All ages	161,546	100.0%	935,864	100.0%	59,792,008	100.0%
2043	**Mid Sussex**		**West Sussex**		**England**	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Aged 0 to 15	29,652	17.7%	155,136	15.9%	10,650,360	17.2%
Aged 16 to 64	92,535	55.3%	523,904	53.8%	36,366,778	58.9%
Aged 65+	45,024	26.9%	294,903	30.3%	14,726,978	23.9%
All ages	167,212	100.0%	973,936	100.0%	61,744,108	100.0%

Population estimates – local authority based on single year of age Mid-2022 / Population projects – local authority, Office for National Statistics (Accessed 2024).

- Office for National Statistics' (ONS) projections show the overall population of Mid Sussex rising to 161,546 by 2033 and 167,212 by 2043. That denotes a 4.3% increase to 2033 and a 7.9% rise in the District's population from 2022 to 2043. This compares to respective rises of 4.9% and 9.1% in West Sussex, and 4.7% and 8.1% across England.

- How population increases distribute among age groups will differ among Mid Sussex, the county and England. While reducing to 2033 and 2043, Office for National Statistics' (ONS) projections show the District's proportion of residents aged 0 to 15 will shrink to a lesser degree than West Sussex as a whole. Despite this, the falling share of young residents will feed into a smaller working-age population in real terms as well as by proportion. Whereas in 2022 Mid Sussex had 92,761 residents aged 16 to 64, by 2043 the ONS estimate this population to number just 92,535. That represents a 0.2% decrease to 2033 and the same to 2043.

- A corresponding rise in residents aged 65+, by number and share of total population, is present across all three geographies. While making up 20.8% of Mid Sussex's population in 2022, this is estimated to rise to 24.9% in 2033 and 26.9% in 2043. In numerical terms that will mean an additional 8,067 residents in this age group by 2033, and 12,794 by 2043. The percentage increase in residents aged 65+ in Mid Sussex is estimated to be 25.0% by 2033 and 39.7% in 2043 compared to 2022. Respective figures for West Sussex are 27.6% and 43.3%, and for England 26.1% and 38.5%.

Health and Wellbeing

Life Expectancy and Mortality

- Life expectancy at birth is 80.7 years for males and 84.9 years for females. This has fallen since the last District Profile was produced. For males and females in Mid Sussex, life expectancy is marginally higher than for West Sussex as a whole (80.4 and 84.3 years, respectively). The gap between male and female life expectancy is however higher in Mid Sussex (4.2 years) than the county (3.9 years). This discrepancy between male and female life expectancy at birth in Mid Sussex is the third highest of all the West Sussex districts and boroughs, after Arun and Worthing.

- Mid Sussex has better under 75 mortality rates per 100,000 than the wider county from all causes, from circulatory diseases and from cancer. After Horsham, the District has the second lowest under 75 mortality rate from all causes within West Sussex. From circulatory diseases it ranks the highest among the districts and boroughs, and from cancer it ranks third.

	Males	Females	Difference
Mid Sussex	80.7	84.9	4.2
West Sussex	80.4	84.3	3.9
England	79.3	83.2	3.9
Adur	80.7	84.0	3.3
Arun	79.2	84.0	4.8
Chichester	80.0	83.8	3.8
Crawley	80.7	83.9	3.2
Horsham	82.1	85.2	3.1
Worthing	79.5	83.8	4.3

Life expectancy at birth, Office for Health Improvements and Disparities (2022). Available at: https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data

	From all causes	From circulatory diseases	From cancer
Mid Sussex	251.5	44.2	107.0
West Sussex	296.0	63.5	117.9
England	342.3	77.8	122.4
Adur	291.4	77.3	98.2
Arun	338.8	81.7	123.1
Chichester	309.2	70.7	124.9
Crawley	333.7	71.8	133.3
Horsham	244.2	46.4	105.9
Worthing	324.1	61.3	129.7

Under 75 mortality rate (per 100,000), Office for Health Improvements and Disparities (2022). Available at: https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data

Health Indicators

Mid Sussex performs better than the England average on the following health indicators:

- Admission for alcohol-related conditions (narrow)
- Percentage of physically active adults
- Percentage of adults overweight or obese
- Under 18s conception rate / 1,000
- Year 6 prevalence of obesity (including severe)

Mid Sussex performs similar to the England average on the following health indicators:

- Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm
- Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over
- Cancers diagnosed at stages 1 and 2

- Estimated diabetes diagnosis rate
- Smoking prevalence in adults (current smokers)
- Smoking status at time of delivery
- Infant mortality rate

Mid Sussex performs worse than the England average on the following health indicators:

- Suicide rate

Mid Sussex				
	Age	**Time period**	**Value**	**Compared to England**
Suicide rate	10+ years	2020-22	12.6	Worse
Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self-harm*	All ages	2021/22	185.5	Similar
Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over	65 years and over	2022/23	544.0	Similar
Cancers diagnosed at stages 1 and 2	All ages	2021	55.3%	Similar
Estimated diabetes diagnosis rate	65 years and over	2023	64.0%	Similar
Admission for alcohol-related conditions (narrow)	All ages	2021/22	339.0	Better
Smoking prevalence in adults - current smokers (APS)	18+ years	2022	10.7%	Similar
Percentage of physically active adults	19+ years	2021/22	78.1%	Better
Percentage of adults overweight or obese	18+ years	2021/22	51.7%	Better
Under 18s conception rate / 1,000	Under 18 years	2021	6.8	Better
Smoking status at time of delivery	All ages	2022/23	7.9%	Similar
Infant mortality rate	Under 1 years	2022-22	2.6**	Similar
Year 6 prevalence of obesity (including severe)	10-11 years	2022/23	13.2%	Better

Local Authority Health Profiles, Office for Health Improvements and Disparities. Available at https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/data

Most values per 100,000 apart from otherwise noted, percentages per 100
*Impacted by the pandemic
**Interpret with caution (some errors in collection, very small impact however)
'Narrow' = the primary of secondary diagnoses is an alcohol-related condition

Life satisfaction

- In the ten years to 2022-23, residents in Mid Sussex have had, on average, higher life satisfaction levels (7.85) than residents across West Sussex as a whole (7.71) and among all the districts and boroughs which constitute the county.
- There have been notable dips in life satisfaction in Mid Sussex across this time. 2017-18 and 2021-22 being the most apparent. However, life satisfaction rose by a significant margin in 2022-23, and was the highest across the county by a considerable margin.

Life Satisfaction	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Average
Mid Sussex	7.86	7.85	8.05	8.02	7.79	7.83	7.74	7.78	7.41	8.14	7.85
West Sussex	7.64	7.85	7.8	7.76	7.77	7.89	7.83	7.37	7.69	7.54	7.71
Adur	7.52	7.9	7.64	7.31	7.83	7.31	#	7.57	7.35	7.57	7.54
Arun	7.6	7.86	7.86	7.64	7.85	7.87	8.08	7.65	7.83	7.57	7.80
Chichester	7.75	7.94	7.55	8.17	8.05	8.1	7.49	6.61	7.4	7.18	7.63
Crawley	7.77	7.72	7.74	7.63	7.68	7.88	7.85	7.17	7.55	7.59	7.68
Horsham	7.47	7.94	8.13	7.66	7.52	8.1	7.92	7.44	8.03	7.59	7.80
Worthing	7.48	7.73	7.4	7.64	7.67	7.9	7.82	7.26	8.05	6.97	7.62

Personal wellbeing estimates by local authority (2013 to 2023), Office for National Statistics.
Available at: https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/wellbeing-local-authority/editions/time-series/versions/4

Deprivation

- There are 83 Lower Level Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Mid Sussex, 38 (46%) of these are in the least deprived decile in England and 70% are in the least deprived quintile.

- There are no LSOAs in the top quintile of the most deprived local areas in England and only one in the top tertile of deprived local areas. This is located in the Haywards Heath Bentswood ward. The only other LSOA that is in the top half of the most deprived local areas in England is located in the Burgess Hill Victoria ward.

- The domains where there is the most deprivation area:

  - Geographical barriers to housing (12 LSOAs in the most deprived decile).
  - Indoor living environment (5 LSOAs in the most deprived decile).
  - Young people's education and skills (4 LSOAs in the most deprived decile).

- Indoor living environment deprivation is the most acute in parts of Hurstpierpoint & Downs, High Weald and Bolney wards.

- Young people's education deprivation is the most acute in parts of Burgess Hill St Andrews, Burgess Hill Victoria, East Grinstead Ashplats and Haywards Health Bentswood wards.

A consultation on updating the English indices of multiple deprivation was held by the government in 2022. OCSI have been commissioned to do this however the data is not expected to be released until late 2025.

IMD Overall		Income	Employment	Education & Skills			Health & Disability	Crime	Barriers to Housing			Living Environment		
				Overall	Children & Young People	Adult Skills			Overall	Geog. barriers	Wider barriers	Overall	Indoors	Outdoors
Decile		LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs	LSOAs
1	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	3	12	0	4	5	0
2	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	5	18	0	2	2	4
3	1	2	1	4	2	0	0	2	10	12	0	2	3	4
4	1	3	6	2	7	2	1	1	7	6	4	3	3	3
5	3	4	3	5	7	4	0	5	10	10	8	6	6	14
6	7	3	6	7	9	8	1	8	10	8	11	5	7	10
7	3	14	6	14	11	13	4	14	6	9	21	8	6	16
8	10	9	10	13	20	14	4	18	14	6	21	11	9	19
9	20	19	20	24	13	26	21	15	11	2	13	19	18	13
10	38	29	31	11	7	14	51	20	7	0	5	23	23	0

English Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2019), Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.
Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-201

Fuel Poverty

- There are 4,627 households in the district that are fuel poor (2021). This represents 7.2% of all the district's households. This is much lower than the level of fuel poverty in England (13.1%) and below the West Sussex level (8%). However, the proportion of households fuel poor has increased since the last District Profile, rising from 5.8%. Where in the 2019 data Mid Sussex had the lowest proportion of fuel poor households in all the districts in the county, it is now joint second-lowest with Horsham. Crawley had the lowest.

	Number of households	Number of households in real fuel poverty	Proportion of households fuel poor
Mid Sussex	64,597	4,627	7.2%
West Sussex	382,785	30,778	8.0%
England	24,070,861	3,162,752	13.1%
Adur	28,267	2,320	8.2%
Arun	74,103	6,243	8.4%
Chichester	55,202	5,324	9.6%
Crawley	46,474	3,077	6.6%
Horsham	63,622	4,574	7.2%
Worthing	50,520	4,613	9.1%

Sub Regional Fuel Poverty in England (2021), Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. Available at:
https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/f3009590-2bc9-40d9-8dc3-571e6fddae45/fuel-poverty-in-england-sub-regional

Unemployment

- At 1.9% (1,745), Mid Sussex has one of the lowest claimant count unemployment rates in England as of February 2024 – of those with available data only eight districts or boroughs in the country have a lower rate. This is also the joint lowest rate among the districts and boroughs in West Sussex, along with Horsham.

- Mid Sussex's claimant count unemployment rate also compares favourably with West Sussex as a whole (2.8%), the South East as a region (3.0%), and England (3.9%).

- Males were more likely to be unemployed than females, with rates of 2.1% and 1.7% respectively. This is consistent with trends seen in across West Sussex (3.2% vs 2.4%) and England (4.5% vs 3.4%). Unlike West Sussex and England, female unemployment rates have risen slightly when comparing February 2022 with February 2024. Though a low numerical value (an additional 65 unemployed females), due to the very low total this creates a notable percentage increase of 8.7%.

- Unemployment before the pandemic was on average even lower than the still very low figures seen in 2024. From a previous peak in 2010 unemployment measured by claimant counts had been on a strong downwards trajectory, reaching as low as 0.4%. This had begun to rise in the latter half of 2018 and into 2019, before rising dramatically during the pandemic.

- Following regional and national trends a sharp decline in claimant rates has been seen since early 2021, although in late 2022 and into early 2023 rates began to gradually rise again, rather than continuing down to their pre-pandemic trend. This slight rise in total unemployment among males and females can be seen in both West Sussex and England data when comparing February 2023 to February 2024.

Mid Sussex	February 2022		February 2023		February 2024		Change 2022 - 2024	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Male	990	2.2	800	1.8	935	2.1	-55	-5.6%
Female	750	1.6	720	1.5	815	1.7	+65	+8.7%
Total	1,740	1.9	1,525	1.7	1,745	1.9	+5	+0.3%
West Sussex	February 2022		February 2023		February 2024		Change 2022 - 2024	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Male	9,530	3.7	7,700	3.0	8,210	3.2	-1,320	-13.9%
Female	7,205	2.7	6,235	2.3	6,510	2.4	-695	-9.6%
Total	16,735	3.2	13,940	2.6	14,720	2.8	-2,015	-12.0%
England	February 2022		February 2023		February 2024		Change 2022 - 2024	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Male	890,645	5.1	757,240	4.3	796,915	4.5	-93,730	-10.5%
Female	636,320	3.5	559,820	3.1	608,575	3.4	-27,745	-4.4%
Total	1,526,960	4.3	1,317,065	3.7	1,405,485	3.9	-121,475	-8.0%

Claimant Count Total and by Sex in Mid Sussex, West Sussex and England (2022 to 2024), Office for National Statistic via NOMISWEB

Employment

- In the period from October 2022 – September 2023, Mid Sussex had an economically active population of 74,800. That represents 78.8% of residents in the district aged 16 to 64 years old. This is similar to rate across West Sussex as a whole of 78.7%. It was the fourth highest rate out of the districts and boroughs, following Arun (87.5%), Horsham (80.4%) and Worthing (79.3%).

- 73,200 were in employment, a rate of 77.0%. This was slightly higher than the West Sussex rate of 76.4%. Again, it was the fourth highest of the districts and boroughs, following Arun (85.5%), Adur (78.1%) and Horsham (78.0%).

- 60,000 (64.2% of the working aged population) were classified as employees and 12,600 (12.8%) were self-employed. Mid Sussex's self-employment rate is considerably higher than the West Sussex rate of 9.1%, and out of the districts and boroughs only Chichester had a higher rate of 13.2%.

- The employment rate for males at 81.9% was considerably higher than that for females at 71.8%. This follows the pattern seen across the county and in the districts and boroughs, apart from in Worthing, where the employment rate of females aged 16 to 64 was higher than the male equivalent.

- In 2022, just under two-thirds of employees in Mid Sussex worked full-time (64.4%). This is lower than West Sussex (66.4%) and the national average of 68.8%.

- The economically active and employment rates have seen significant fluctuation over the past few years. In the year to September 2021 the employment rate in Mid Sussex was 78.2%, rising to 85.0% in the year to September 2022, and then falling to the 77.0% already mentioned in the year to September 2023. The same pattern can be seen in the economic activity rate.

- Looking at employment by sector groupings reveals three sectors which play a key role in jobs in Mid Sussex, making up 41.7% of the total number in the District:
    - Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles: 16.7% or 10,000 jobs.

- Human health and social work activities: 13.3% or 8,000 jobs.
- Education: 11.7% or 7,000 jobs.

- A secondary tier of three sectors together make up an additional 24.9% of jobs in the District:
  - Accommodation and food service activities: 8.3% or 5,000 jobs.
  - Professional, scientific and technical activities: 8.3% or 5,000 jobs.
  - Administrative and support service activities: 8.3% or 5,000 jobs.

- When comparing Mid Sussex to the wider county, there is some specialisation in ‘Other service activities’ sector, with a location quotient* (LQ) of 1.6. This sector includes areas such as repair of electronics, watches, jewellery, furniture or activities of membership organisations.

- When comparing Mid Sussex to England, however, we can see greater specialisation in industries such as Agriculture, forestry and fishing (although a relatively low number of jobs still), with an LQ of 2.5 compared to the national level, reflecting the rural character of the area. Arts, entertainment and recreation has a LQ of 1.7 compared to England, again indicating some specialisation.

- Over half of Mid Sussex residents in employment (58.5%) are in Groups 1-3 of the Standard Occupational Classification. This is higher than the West Sussex figure of 56.2%. This segment includes:

1. Managers, Directors and Senior Officials
2. Professional Occupations
3. Associate Professional Occupations

Annual Population Survey, Office for National Statistics (2024) via NOMISWEB

**A location quotient (LQ) is an analytical statistic that measures a region’s industrial specialisation relative to a larger geographic unit (i.e. the UK). An LQ is calculated as an industry’s share of a regional total for some economic statistic (such as job numbers or GVA), divided by the industry's share of the national total for the same statistic. For example, an LQ of 1.0 in Education means that the region and the country are equally specialised in Education. An LQ of 1.5 means that the region has a higher concentration of Education than the country.*

Industry (2022)	Count	Percent	LQ - West Sussex	LQ - England
A : Agriculture, forestry and fishing	900	1.5	1.2	2.5
B : Mining and quarrying	50	0.1	1.0	1.0
C : Manufacturing	3,000	5	0.7	0.7
D : Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	30	0.1	0.5	0.3
E : Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	400	0.7	0.6	1.0
F : Construction	3,500	5.8	1.3	1.2
G : Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10,000	16.7	1.1	1.2
H : Transportation and storage	2,250	3.8	0.5	0.7
I : Accommodation and food service activities	5,000	8.3	1.0	1.1
J : Information and communication	2,500	4.2	1.2	0.9
K : Financial and insurance activities	1,500	2.5	1.0	0.8
L : Real estate activities	900	1.5	0.9	0.8
M : Professional, scientific and technical activities	5,000	8.3	1.1	0.9
N : Administrative and support service activities	5,000	8.3	0.8	0.9
O : Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1,000	1.7	0.5	0.4
P : Education	7,000	11.7	1.4	1.4
Q : Human health and social work activities	8,000	13.3	1.1	1.0
R : Arts, entertainment and recreation	2,250	3.8	1.2	1.7
S : Other service activities	1,750	2.9	1.6	1.5
Total	**60,030**			

Business Register and Employment Survey (2022), Office for National Statistics, via NOMISWEB (Accessed 2024).

Earnings

- Median earnings for Mid Sussex residents working full-time were £768.70 (gross) per week in 2023. This is considerably higher than West Sussex residents' median weekly earnings of £678.30 and those of England at £683.40, meaning the local economy has access to relatively wealthier consumers than other areas.

- Median earnings for full-time workers in Mid Sussex were £699.50 (gross) per week in 2023. This is higher than West Sussex workers' median weekly earnings of £654.60 and workers across England of £683.50.

- Median hourly pay for workers in Mid Sussex (excluding overtime) were £16.86 in 2023. This is 82.3% of the equivalent hourly pay of Mid Sussex residents (£20.48).

- Female full-time workers in Mid Sussex, measured by median gross weekly pay, earned 85.3% of what their male equivalents did in 2023. Using the same measurement, female Mid Sussex residents earned 99.6% of what male residents did. The difference for workers is in line with that seen across England and West Sussex. The difference in female and male resident earnings are much smaller in Mid Sussex, however.

- Some of the difference in gender pay levels is attributable to differences in the number of hours worked. When considering median hourly pay, full-time female workers in Mid Sussex earn 90.4% of what their male equivalents earn. For Mid Sussex residents, female workers earned 98.5% of what male full-time workers did (£20.28 vs £20.58).

- Median weekly earnings for male full-time workers who reside in Mid Sussex are £65.70 higher than those males who work full-time within the district. This may reflect higher earnings available for those commuting to cities such as London or Brighton. This difference is more pronounced for female full-time workers, where residents out earn those working within the district by £166.50.

Gross weekly pay (£, 2023)						
Resident analysis						
				Female as % of Male		
	Mid Sussex	West Sussex	England	Mid Sussex	West Sussex	England
Full-time workers	768.70	678.30	683.40	-	-	-
Male full-time workers	769.60	702.60	730.00	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female full-time workers	766.60	613.70	625.00	99.6	87.3	85.6
Part time workers	217.70	218.50	240.90	-	-	-
Male part-time workers	#	199.10	230.00	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female part-time workers	#	229.30	245.00	#	115.2	106.5
Male	702.10	652.60	670.80	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female	588.10	485.40	490.40	83.8	73.4	73.1
Workplace analysis						
				Female as % of Male		
	Mid Sussex	West Sussex	England	Mid Sussex	West Sussex	England
Full-time workers	699.50	654.60	683.50	-	-	-
Male full-time workers	703.90	683.80	729.60	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female full-time workers	600.10	586.20	626.00	85.3	85.7	85.8
Part time workers	198.30	212.60	240.90	-	-	-
Male part-time workers	#	187.20	230.00	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female part-time workers	209.30	222.40	244.90	#	118.8	106.5
Male	615.10	627.80	670.80	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female	495.30	466.40	491.10	80.5	74.3	73.2

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2023), Office for National Statistics via NOMISWEB (Accessed 2024).

Travel to work

- In 2022, Mid Sussex had 0.79 jobs for each resident of working age – or 73,000 jobs relative to the 92,761 residents aged 16 to 64. This job density figure partly reflects the propensity of residents to commute to jobs outside the District. Mid Sussex's connections to large employment markets such as London, Brighton and Crawley makes this feasible. Job density in West Sussex in 2022 was 0.86, indicating a slightly larger proportion of jobs relative to the population aged 16 to 64 years old. For England, the figure was 0.88.

Method of travel

- The 2021 Census asked respondents about how they usually travelled to work. Significant caveats to the data exist as the Census took place during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Associated guidance and furlough measures particularly affected the travel to work section.

- At the time of the Census, it recorded that 40.9% of usual residents aged 16 years and over in employment were working 'mainly or at home' in Mid Sussex. Nationally the proportion of home-working has decreased in the years since, however professional occupations have retained a sizeable element of hybrid or fully home-working. Data explored in the employment section shows how these professional occupations are overrepresented in the District's workforce. Data below therefore excludes 'work mainly at or from home' category and observations should take into account the above caveats.

- Figures for Mid Sussex show a likely depressed figure for underground usage as usual commuters to London stayed at home and an overrepresentation of car travel, as those who may have used public transport opted for less social mixing due to concerns about the spread of the virus.

- When comparing the figures to West Sussex, the largest differences occur in the higher share of train usage among Mid Sussex residents and the higher bus usage across West Sussex as a whole. West Sussex residents were also more likely to cycle to work, with a greater proportion of Mid Sussex residents travelling on foot.

Method used to travel to workplace	Mid Sussex Count	Mid Sussex % of total	West Sussex Count	West Sussex % of total
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	70	0.2%	372	0.1%
Train	2,549	5.6%	9,796	3.5%
Bus, minibus or coach	623	1.4%	9,898	3.5%
Taxi	188	0.4%	1,235	0.4%
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	281	0.6%	1,958	0.7%
Driving a car or van	32,221	71.2%	196,518	70.1%
Passenger in a car or van	2,164	4.8%	15,449	5.5%
Bicycle	627	1.4%	8,616	3.1%
On foot	5959	13.2%	32,459	11.6%
Other	576	1.3%	4,165	1.5%

Method used to travel to work (2021, updated January 2024), Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. Available at:
https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS061/editions/2021/versions/6/filter-outputs/9305cc4c-2142-4ce7-b741-3b9b9fe18d9b#get-data

Distance travelled

- Census 2021 also asked residents aged 16 years and over in employment the distance they travelled to work in the week before responding. Data is therefore also impacted by the pandemic. For ease of comparison the categories ‘does not apply’, ‘works mainly from home’ and ‘works mainly at an offshore installation, in no fixed place, or outside the UK’ have been excluded.

- For Mid Sussex residents travelling to work in March 2021, 80.4% travelled 20km (12.4 miles) or less. Nearly a quarter of all those travelling to work (24.2%) commuted less than 2km, this proportion is slightly higher than the West Sussex figure of 22.7%.

- The second highest share of distance travelled to work in Mid Sussex was ‘10km to 20km’. This proportion was higher than both the ‘2km to 5km’ and ‘5km to 10km’ categories. This differs from the West Sussex figures, which show a less pronounced drop off from the ‘less than 2km’ to the ‘2km to 5km’ and ‘5km to 10km’ categories.

- A higher share of residents across West Sussex have a commute of 10km or less (61.7%) than Mid Sussex residents (56.4%). The significant proportion of Mid Sussex residents travelling 10km to 20km (24.0%, compared to 20.3% across West Sussex) may reflect commuting patterns to both Brighton and Crawley. A drop-off in commuting into London at this time may reflect the low, yet still notable, proportion of those travelling upwards of 40km. While acknowledging the caveats due to the pandemic, the data indicates that a higher proportion of Mid Sussex residents (43.5%) travel over 10km to their workplace when compared to West Sussex (38.3%).

Distance travelled to work	Mid Sussex Count	Mid Sussex % of total	West Sussex Count	West Sussex % of total
Less than 2km	8,554	24.2%	48,962	22.7%
2km to 5km	5,552	15.7%	44,693	20.7%
5km to 10km	5,813	16.5%	39,240	18.2%
10km to 20km	8,483	24.0%	43,849	20.3%
20km to 30km	3,142	8.9%	17,366	8.1%
30km to 40km	1,032	2.9%	7,767	3.6%
40km to 60km	1,920	5.4%	8,190	3.8%
60km or over	809	2.3%	5,416	2.5%

Distance travelled to work (2021, updated November 2023), Census 2021, Office for National Statistics. Available at:
https://www.ons.gov.uk/datasets/TS058/editions/2021/versions/4/filter-outputs/7bf1f943-b883-45b6-981f-9be2f90bad6d#get-data

Education and Qualifications

- Mid Sussex has a highly educated workforce, with 56.8% of those aged 16-64 possessing a RQF* Level 4 and above qualification and 81.5% holding a RQF Level 3 and above qualification. This is significantly higher than the respective West Sussex proportions of 47.6% and 70.6%.
- Both Mid Sussex and West Sussex have favourable proportions of highly educated residents aged 16 to 64 than England as a whole.
- Mid Sussex has a mix of independent and state secondary and special schools. The only specialist state sixth form college in the district is Haywards Heath College. The district is well provided for with independent sixth form opportunities..
- Mid Sussex does not have a dedicated centre for higher education, but is close to the universities of both Sussex and Brighton.

Jan 2022 - Dec 2022	RQF4 and above aged 16-64		RQF3 and above aged 16-64		RQF2 and above aged 16-64		RQF1 and above aged 16-64		No qualifications aged 16-64	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Mid Sussex	51,300	56.8	73,700	81.5	84,200	93.1	86,800	96.0	#	#
West Sussex	230,500	47.6	341,700	70.6	437,400	90.4	449,900	92.9	16,900	3.5
England	15,098,500	45.1	22,223,600	66.4	28,719,700	85.8	29,643,700	88.6	2,199,100	6.6

Annual Population Survey, Jan 2022 – Dec 2022, Office for National Statistics via NOMISWEB (Accessed 2024).

**The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) replaced the QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework) in 2015 as the framework of qualifications students can take across the United Kingdom. It is now the major framework by which the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (OFQUAL) measure and regulate all qualifications and exams to provide consistency.*

Apprenticeships

- During the 2022/23 academic year a total of 800 apprenticeships were started in Mid Sussex, with 380 of these being completed. The completion rate of 47.5% was higher than the previous academic year's rate of 40.5%, and similar to the 48.7% rate of 2020/21.
- The most prominent age group among achievements were those aged 25+, making up 180 (47.4%) of the achievements, following by those aged 19 to 24 with 130, and those aged under 19 with 70.
- Advanced apprenticeships were the most started and completed level, with 360 of the 800 starts across the district (45.0%) and 160 of the 380 achievements (42.1%). Those aged over 19 were most likely to begin and complete this level of apprenticeship, however there were 30 achievements of advanced level apprenticeships by those under 19.

Mid Sussex apprenticeships - academic year 2022/23					
Level		**Total**	**Aged under 19**	**Aged 19-24**	**Aged 25+**
Total	Starts	800	150	240	410
	Achievements	380	70	130	180
Advanced	Starts	360	80	130	150
	Achievements	160	30	70	60
Higher	Starts	290	10	60	210
	Achievements	120	#	30	90
Intermediate	Starts	150	60	50	40
	Achievements	100	40	30	30

Apprenticeships 2022/23, Department for Education, Available at:https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/apprenticeships (Accessed 2024).

Place – Key Findings

- In 2022, the gross value added (GVA) of the Mid Sussex economy in current basic prices was £3.969 billion. GVA per hour worked of £37.20 was the second-highest among West Sussex districts and boroughs in 2021. At current market prices, Mid Sussex gross domestic product (GDP) for 2022 was £4.551 billion.
- There has been a decline in the number of active enterprises in Mid Sussex, and the in-year amount of new business creations has also declined over the past five years. Enterprises with 10 or more employees have proved more resilient, with 40 more of this type in 2022 compared to 2017. Similar trends can be seen across West Sussex.
- Three sectors account for nearly half (47.9%) of all enterprises in Mid Sussex: Construction (15.7%), Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles (12.6%), and Professional, scientific and technical activities (19.6%). There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of enterprises in the Information and Communication and Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities sectors.
- Looking at sectors by employment, Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, Human health and social work activities, and Education provide 25,000 jobs, or 41.7% of total employment. When compared to England using location quotient analysis, Mid Sussex has specialisation in Agriculture, forestry and fishing and Arts, entertainment and recreation.
- Business sizes in Mid Sussex mirror the form seen across West Sussex and England more broadly, with nearly nine out of ten (89.6%) employing fewer than ten people, with 78.9% of these employing fewer than five people.
- As of 2022, Mid Sussex contains approximately 655,000 sqm of employment space, comprising 497,000 sqm of industrial and 158,000 sqm of office space. The current vacancy rate across all office stock stands at 5.6%. Vacancy across industrial floorspace stands at 4.8%.
- Average residential property prices are higher in Mid Sussex however have increased by a lesser amount (16.5%) than West Sussex (19.9%) and England (22.1%) from 2019 to 2023. From 2020/21 to 2022/23, Mid Sussex completed the highest number of new dwellings (2,630 in total) among West Sussex districts and boroughs.

Economic Growth and Productivity

Gross Value Added

- In 2022, the gross value added (GVA) of the Mid Sussex economy at current basic prices was £3.969 billion. Regional GVA figures are an estimate of the volume of goods and services produced in the District, after subtracting the volume of intermediate goods and services used in production processes (intermediate consumption).

- GVA per hour worked is the Office for National Statistics' (ONS) preferred measure of labour productivity. This can be a more useful metric than alternatives such as GVA per job or worker as it takes account of differences in time spent, such as by part-time workers or those on flexible schedules. Data below is provided in current prices, which include the effect of inflation. Smoothed figures use a weighted moving average which reduces volatility present when measuring smaller geographic areas.

GVA per hour worked, current price (smoothed)											
Area	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2012 – 2021 % change
Mid Sussex	£26.9	£27.7	£28.7	£29.6	£30.2	£31.1	£32.5	£34.4	£36.1	£37.2	38.3%
Adur	£27.3	£26.9	£27.2	£28.7	£30.4	£31.7	£31.4	£31.2	£31.4	£32.2	17.9%
Arun	£24.4	£25.4	£26.2	£27.6	£28.6	£29.5	£29.8	£30.2	£30.6	£30.9	26.6%
Chichester	£25.7	£26.1	£26.4	£27.9	£29.3	£30.8	£31.6	£32.0	£32.2	£32.2	25.3%
Crawley	£32.9	£33.9	£34.6	£35.9	£36.3	£37.1	£37.0	£37.2	£37.0	£37.1	12.8%
Horsham	£29.5	£29.6	£30.1	£30.4	£30.9	£31.5	£32.8	£34.5	£36.2	£37.2	26.1%
Worthing	£35.0	£35.3	£36.1	£38.8	£41.8	£45.0	£47.7	£49.8	£51.6	£52.3	49.4%

Subregional productivity: labour productivity by local authority district 2004 – 2021 (2023), Office for National Statistics. Available at:
www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/labourproductivity/datasets/subregionalproductivitylabourproductivityindicesbylocalauthoritydistrict

- In the latest available data for 2021, Mid Sussex ranked joint-second with Horsham in labour productivity across West Sussex districts and boroughs. GVA per hour worked of £37.2 has risen by £10.3 since 2012, although this includes the effect of inflation. The percentage change between 2012 and 2021 adds context to labour productivity growth in Mid Sussex. Horsham's higher GVA per hour worked in 2012 means Mid Sussex's increase of 38.3% trails only Worthing's rate of 49.4%.

GVA per job filled, current price (smoothed)											
Area	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2012 – 2021 % change
Mid Sussex	£42,062	£42,846	£43,905	£45,054	£46,438	£48,317	£50,190	£51,801	£52,742	£53,365	26.9%
Adur	£42,777	£42,519	£43,562	£45,419	£47,578	£48,787	£48,087	£47,307	£46,875	£47,489	11.0%
Arun	£37,361	£38,370	£39,250	£40,583	£41,630	£42,739	£43,359	£44,191	£44,713	£45,125	20.1%
Chichester	£39,208	£40,293	£41,039	£42,036	£43,148	£44,630	£45,766	£46,618	£46,929	£47,117	20.2%
Crawley	£53,481	£55,088	£56,276	£57,862	£59,598	£61,235	£61,211	£59,938	£57,757	£56,542	5.7%
Horsham	£46,764	£46,872	£47,302	£47,201	£48,273	£49,651	£52,199	£53,928	£55,308	£55,742	19.2%
Worthing	£53,390	£53,701	£55,136	£58,496	£62,907	£68,201	£71,743	£73,998	£74,558	£74,799	40.1%

Subregional productivity: labour productivity by local authority district 2004 – 2021 (2023), Office for National Statistics. Available at:
www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/labourproductivity/datasets/subregionalproductivitylabourproductivityindicesbylocalauthoritydistrict

- GVA per job filled divides GVA by the number of filled jobs used to create it. Data is again provided in current prices, i.e. is not adjusted for inflation, and smoothed to reduce volatility. The measure shows a comparable picture to GVA per hour worked data, with Mid Sussex following Worthing in percentage change terms from 2012 to 2021. However, under this measure of labour productivity the latest figures place the District fourth among West Sussex districts and boroughs.

Gross Domestic Product

- Gross domestic product (GDP) measures the value of goods and services produced in an area. It adds products taxes and subtracts product subsidies from GVA. At current market prices, Mid Sussex GDP for 2022 was £4.551 billion. This represents a 9.2% increase on the 2021 figure of £4.168 billion.

- By using chained volume measures (CVM) the effects of inflation (which has been high in recent years) can be removed to an extent by considering changes in quantity between consecutive periods while holding prices from previous periods constant. Using this measure in 2019 money value, Mid Sussex GDP in 2022 was £4.121 billion. This measure also provides a more accurate picture of growth rates of GDP in the District with the impact of inflation muted.

Gross domestic product chained volume measures annual growth rates					
Area	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Mid Sussex	-0.1%	3.6%	-10.1%	8.4%	4.3%
Adur	0.9%	0.6%	-6.2%	5.3%	5.9%
Arun	2.0%	-0.5%	-10.7%	11.4%	5.5%
Chichester	-0.2%	2.2%	-12.4%	8.6%	5.0%
Crawley	2.6%	0.1%	-30.3%	5.3%	12.1%
Horsham	7.9%	0.5%	-6.2%	5.9%	0.7%
Worthing	4.3%	3.8%	-2.6%	5.9%	7.4%

Regional gross domestic product: local authorities 1998 – 2022 (2024), Office for National Statistics. Available at:
https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossdomesticproductgdp/bulletins/regionaleconomicactivitybygrossdomesticproductuk/1998to2022

- The figures present a contrasting narrative around the Mid Sussex economy. Looking at the economic impact of the pandemic, the District ranked in the middle of West Sussex authorities, with growth declining by 10.1%. Its recovery in 2021 was strong, bettered only by Arun and very marginally by Chichester.

- Though 2022 saw the District record the second-lowest growth rate among West Sussex districts and boroughs, it was significantly higher than lowest-placed Horsham and close to the average across the county – particularly when excluding the extremely high growth seen in Crawley.

Gross domestic product chained volume measures per head annual growth rates					
Area	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Mid Sussex	-1.0%	2.9%	-10.6%	7.0%	2.9%
Adur	0.7%	0.1%	-6.2%	5.2%	5.8%
Arun	1.2%	-0.9%	-10.9%	10.4%	4.8%
Chichester	-0.8%	1.6%	-12.6%	7.3%	3.7%
Crawley	1.4%	0.5%	-30.7%	4.5%	11.2%
Horsham	6.6%	-1.5%	-7.1%	3.7%	-0.1%
Worthing	4.0%	3.2%	-2.8%	5.4%	7.1%

Regional gross domestic product: local authorities 1998 – 2022 (2024), Office for National Statistics. Available at:
https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossdomesticproductgdp/bulletins/regionaleconomicactivitybygrossdomesticproductuk/1998to2022

- Annual growth rates for GDP using chained volume measures per head show a similar picture for Mid Sussex. Decline in GDP per head during 2020 also ranked in the middle of West Sussex districts and boroughs. Growth in the year before the pandemic performed well, trailing only Worthing by 0.3%. Per head figures also redemonstrate the District's strong recovery in 2021, with an annual growth rate of 7.0%. In the most recent year for which there is available data, 2022, per head GDP growth slowed considerably to 2.9%.

Business Stocks and Birth, Death and Survival Rates

- In 2022 there were 7,805 active enterprises in Mid Sussex. This is 55 less than there were five years earlier in 2017, a decrease in the count of 0.7%. West Sussex saw a rise to 38,950 enterprises in 2019 from 38,605 in 2017, however in 2022 this figure had returned to its 2017 level.
- The number of new enterprises being formed in Mid Sussex in a particular year declined in the five years to 2022. In 2022 there were 690 births of new enterprises, that is 18.8% less than the number for 2017 (850) and 12.1% lower than the births in 2019 (785). A decrease can also be seen across West Sussex, though to a proportionally lesser degree (7.4% decrease in 2017 births vs 2022 births).
- In year deaths of enterprises have risen slightly in Mid Sussex when comparing 2017 (805) to 2022 (825). This figure however had declined in 2019 to 740. A similar trend is present in the West Sussex figures, where deaths in 2017 were 3,835 and 4,120 in 2022.
- The 3-year survival rate for new enterprises changed only marginally in Mid Sussex in 2017 and 2019, from 64.1% to 63.7%. West Sussex also saw a small decline in the survival rate when comparing those two years.
- The count of active enterprises with 10 or more employees has risen steadily in Mid Sussex. In 2022 there were 40 more enterprises of this type than in 2017, a 5.8% increase. West Sussex also saw an increase of 5.4% when comparing 2017 and 2022 figures.

Count of High Growth Enterprises			
	2017	2019	2022
Mid Sussex	30	30	25
West Sussex	155	160	125
Count of Active Enterprises with 10+ Employees			
	2017	2019	2022
Mid Sussex	690	710	730
West Sussex	3,610	3,625	3,805

Business Demography, 2022, Office for National Statistics (Accessed 2024).

- The count of high growth enterprises in Mid Sussex fell slightly between 2017 and 2022, from 30 to 25. West Sussex also saw a decline over this period, from 155 to 125. High growth enterprises are defined as those with average annualised growth greater than 20% per annum (measured by number of employees) over a three year period. This excludes the growth of small businesses which distorts results, so applies to those with over 10 employees.

Count of Active Enterprises				
	2017	2019	2022	% change 2017 - 2022
Mid Sussex	7,860	7,870	7,805	-0.7%
West Sussex	38,605	38,950	39,605	0.0%
Count of Births of New Enterprises				
	2017	2019	2022	% change 2017 - 2022
Mid Sussex	850	785	690	-18.8%
West Sussex	4,045	3,900	3,745	-7.4%
Count of Deaths of Enterprises				
	2017	2019	2022	% change 2017 - 2022
Mid Sussex	805	740	825	2.5%
West Sussex	3,835	3,630	4,120	7.4%
3-Year Survival Rate for New Enterprises				
	2017	2019	2022	
Mid Sussex	64.1%	63.7%	#	
West Sussex	64.2%	63.6%	#	

Business Demography, 2022, Office for National Statistics (Accessed 2024).

Business Sectors

- Three sectors account for nearly half (47.9%) of all enterprises in Mid Sussex: Construction (15.7%), Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles (12.6%), and Professional, scientific and technical activities (19.6%). However, many of these are micro businesses employing less than 10 people in many cases.

- Mid Sussex does not possess a particularly high concentration of enterprises in a sector grouping when compared with West Sussex and England. Specialisation is often considered to be a location quotient (LQ) figure of above 1.5 – which would indicate that the industry is 50% more specialised than the other areas. However, it does have relative specialisation in the Professional, scientific and technical activities and Education sectors, which have LQs of 1.2 and 1.3 respectively.

- When compared to England, Mid Sussex has low concentrations of enterprises in the sectors: Agriculture, forestry and fishing (in contrast to the specialisation seen in employment); Electricity, gas steam and air conditioning supply; Transportation and storage; Accommodation and food service; and Public administration and defence, compulsory social security.

- Since 2018, the largest increase in enterprises has been in the Construction sector (+130), followed by Accommodation and food service activities (+40), and Real estate activities (+25). There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of enterprises in the Information and communication (-170) and Professional, scientific and technical activities (-160) sectors.

Industry (2023)	Total	Percent	LQ - England	LQ - West Sussex
A : Agriculture, forestry and fishing	210	2.9%	0.7	0.9
B : Mining and quarrying	0	0.0%	0.0	0.0
C : Manufacturing	320	4.4%	0.9	0.9
D : Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	5	0.1%	0.4	0.3
E : Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	20	0.3%	0.9	0.8
F : Construction	1,135	15.7%	1.1	1.0
G : Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	910	12.6%	0.9	0.9
H : Transportation and storage	165	2.3%	0.5	0.6
I : Accommodation and food service activities	305	4.2%	0.7	0.8
J : Information and communication	605	8.4%	1.1	1.1
K : Financial and insurance activities	155	2.1%	1.0	1.1
L : Real estate activities	270	3.7%	0.9	1.0
M : Professional, scientific and technical activities	1,410	19.6%	1.2	1.2
N : Administrative and support service activities	705	9.8%	1.1	1.0
O : Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	15	0.2%	0.7	0.7
P : Education	165	2.3%	1.3	1.2
Q : Human health and social work activities	295	4.1%	1.0	1.0
R : Arts, entertainment and recreation	205	2.8%	1.1	1.0
S : Other service activities	315	4.4%	1.1	1.0
Total	**7,210**	**100.0%**	**N/A**	**N/A**

UK Business Counts – enterprises by industry and employment band (2023), Office for National Statistics, Accessed via NOMISWEB (2024).

Business Size

- Nearly nine out of ten (89.6%) of Mid Sussex businesses employ fewer than ten people, with 78.9% of these employing fewer than five people. The proportion of micro-businesses in the district is very marginally higher than in West Sussex (89.4%) and England (89.2%).

- Small enterprises employing between 10 and 49 employees make up 8.7% of Mid Sussex's total business base. This is an almost identical proportion to West Sussex and England (both 8.8%). Mid Sussex has a slightly lower proportion of both medium (1.3%) and large (0.3%) sized enterprises than West Sussex (1.5% and 0.4%) and England (1.6% and 0.4%).

- Mid Sussex has 25 enterprises with over 250 employees. This includes 15 business with between 250 and 499 employees, 5 with 500 to 999 employees and another 5 with over 1000 employees. Education providers and large supermarkets are the largest employers in the district.

Employment sizeband	Mid Sussex count	Mid Sussex %	West Sussex %	England %
Total	7,205	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Micro (0 to 9)	6,455	89.6%	89.4%	89.2%
0 to 4	5,685	78.9%	78.2%	77.9%
5 to 9	770	10.7%	11.3%	11.3%
Small (10 to 49)	630	8.7%	8.8%	8.8%
10 to 19	415	5.8%	5.7%	5.7%
20 to 49	215	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%
Medium-sized (50 to 249)	95	1.3%	1.5%	1.6%
50 to 99	60	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%
100 to 249	35	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%
Large (250+)	25	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
250 to 499	15	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
500 to 999	5	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
1000+	5	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%

UK Business Counts (2023), Office for National Statistics via NOMISWEB (Accessed 2024).

Commercial Floorspace

- As of 2022, Mid Sussex contains approximately 655,000 sqm of employment space, comprising 497,000 sqm of industrial and 158,000 sqm of office space. Since 2020 industrial space has seen an 8.3% increase in floorspace while office capacity has remained unchanged according to data from Valuation Office Agency (VOA).

- Mid Sussex's commercial property market centres around the District's three main towns of Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill and East Grinstead, each with a distinctive offer and character. Regeneration programmes in each of these key locations have and are continuing to provide a number of enhancements which will further strengthen their offer.

- Haywards Heath – the town has historically operated as the main office location within the District, attracting most demand and accommodating the largest clusters of office space. It retains this role today and represents the main concentration of office market activity. Over a third (35%) of the District's office market is located in Haywards Heath, reflecting its good connections to nearby areas and the cities of London and Brighton. The key challenge for the market in its current state is meeting demand for higher quality modern offices.

- Burgess Hill – possesses the largest and most established market for industrial floorspace in the district. Around half the District's industrial floorspace is located in the area. This proportion will increase in the coming years as a consequence of significant new development such as a new Science & Technology Park and a further 25 hectares of new employment space. This new floorspace coupled with Burgess Hill's strategic location next to the A23 – with improvements being made to the A2300 – will make it a key source of growth for the district.

- East Grinstead – has a mixed employment offer however the town has seen its role providing office floorspace diminish as stock has been converted to other uses, particularly to housing through permitted development rights (PDRs). 82 prior approval applications have been submitted since May 2013 for conversion of office space under the office to residential PDR, with a large number of these clustered in the town.

Northern West Sussex Growth Assessed: Focused Update from Mid Sussex (2022), Lichfields & Partners (Accessed 2024).

Office

- The District has 158,000 sqm of office floorspace. The trend since the early 2000s has been a modest decline in office floorspace within Mid Sussex, equal to a 18.6% decline from 2000 to 2021. Allocation of office space within the Site Allocation DPD, such as the Science & Technology Park to the west of Burgess Hill anticipate a reversal of this decline in the coming years.

- 4-5 star floorspace (rated by CoStar) accounts for 8% of office stock in Mid Sussex across five buildings (two in Haywards Heath and East Grinstead and one in Burgess Hill). 3 star accommodation makes up 62% of total floorspace, and 1-2 star the remaining 30%.

CoStar Star Rating (Q1 2024)				
	Properties		Floorspace (sqm)	
	Count	% of total	Count	% of total
1-2 stars	187	57%	77,269	30%
3 stars	135	41%	162,018	62%
4-5 stars	5	2%	20,798	8%
Total	327	100%	260,085	100%

CoStar Star Rating, Mid Sussex Submarket, Q1 2024

- Market asking rates for rents in Q1 2024 range from £24.23 per sqft for 4 and 5 star floorspace to £17.45 for 3 star and £18.57 for 1 and 2 star. Rents have increased by 2.3% over the past year since Q1 2023, which is significantly below the 4.2% average change seen over the last decade.

- The current vacancy rate across all office stock stands at 5.6%, however this is much higher for 4 and 5 star accommodation (28.9%) than 3 star (3.5%) and 1 and 2 star (3.7%).

Industrial

- Mid Sussex has around 497,000 sqm of industrial floorspace – 68% of which is dedicated to logistics, 12% is specialised industrial, and the remaining 20% light industrial. The 57,600 sqm under construction in Q1 2024 in the District equates to a 14.4% expansion in available floorspace.

- Market Asking Rents for industrial floorspace in the District range from £11.49 for specialised industrial stock, £12.11 for light industrial and £12.90 for logistics. Rents have grown by 5.7% over the past year since Q1 2023, matching an above average rate of growth seen over the last decade.

- The vacancy rate across Mid Sussex's industrial floorspace stands at 4.8%. This ranges from 5.5% in logistics, 2.7% in specialised industrial and 3.6% in light industrial.

Mid Sussex Industrial Floorspace (CoStar, Q1 2024)				
	Floorspace (sqm)	% of total	Vacancy Rate	Market Asking Rent
Logistics	270,808	68%	5.5%	£12.90
Specialised Industrial	47,712	12%	2.7%	£11.49
Light Industrial	80,919	20%	3.6%	£12.11
Mid Sussex	399,439	100%	4.8%	£12.61

CoStar Mid Sussex Submarket Industrial Floorspace Summary, Q1 2024

- There are 21 business parks spread across the District, the largest of which is the Victoria Business Park in Burgess Hill. The development plan for Mid Sussex sets out a policy framework to support the delivery of an approximately 50 hectare Science & Technology Park in Burgess Hill, which will deliver in the region of 123,000 sqm of new floorspace.

Retail

- Retail has faced an unprecedented set of challenges in recent years as the trend towards online shopping was compounded by the pandemic. Data from CoStar indicates that in the first quarter of 2024 retail vacancies in Mid Sussex at 2.1% were slightly higher than the five-year average, and have been on an upwards trajectory over the past year. Market Asking Rents range from £21.07 for Shopping Centre floorspace to £24.33 for General Retail.

- CoStar projections see vacancy rates across retail floorspace rising modestly to 2027, largely in line with regional trends. Shopping Centre space is expected to perform the best however, with vacancy rates reducing over this time period. Deliveries of new floorspace are expected to rise gradually over the next three years, partly reflecting plans to redevelop the Orchards Shopping Centre in Haywards Heath and the extant planning permission to redevelop the Martlets Centre in Burgess Hill, as well as smaller interventions.

- The Mid Sussex Retail Study of 2022 explored the context for retail in the District and undertook a health check for Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath. While finding that the towns have performed reasonably well in challenging circumstances, they are not meeting their full potential.

Burgess Hill

- The core of Burgess Hill's retail floorspace is located along Station Road, Church Road, Church Walk, Martlets Shopping Centre and Market Place Shopping Centre. These areas are interconnected by pedestrian routes. The overall composition of Burgess Hill is broadly similar to the UK averages for both units and floorspace.

- As of 2021 there were 15 convenience units accounting for 7.6% of the overall composition in Burgess Hill town centre. This is slightly lower than the 9.2% average seen across the UK. Comparison units accounted for 25.8% of overall units in 2021, again lower than the UK average of 27.1%.

- The vacancy rate in the town centre was 14.6% of overall composition, marginally above the UK average of 14.2%. A higher than average vacancy rate is expected to continue as redevelopment projects commence.

East Grinstead

- The historic town centre of East Grinstead has its main retail provision on London Road and the High Street, known for its row of 14th century timber framed Tudor and medieval buildings. The overall composition of the town centre differs from the UK average both in terms of units and floorspace, this is most pronounced in the high proportion of financial and business services.
- In 2021 there were 18 convenience units making up 7.9% of overall units in East Grinstead. This figure is slightly lower than the UK average of 9.2%, Overall convenience floorspace accounts for 12.2% of the town centre's floorspace, again lower than the UK average of 15.4%. Comparison units made up 27.1% of the composition in 2021, in line with national averages.
- The vacancy rate in East Grinstead of 7.4% in 2021 was considerably lower than the UK average of 14.2%.

Haywards Heath

- Located in the middle of the District, Haywards Heath provides a range of services and amenities. Retail units are concentrated along South Road, Sussex Road, the Broadway and the Orchards Shopping Centre. The composition of floorspace is broadly in line with UK averages.
- Convenience units made up 6.7% of Haywards Heath units in 2021, lower than the UK average of 9.2%. In terms of floorspace however, the town centre had an identical rate to the national rate of 15.4%. Convenience units accounted for the majority of stores in Haywards Heath, at 37.7% of the overall composition. This was significantly higher than the UK average in terms of units however again identical as a proportion of floorspace.
- Vacant units accounted for 8.5% of Haywards Heath's total units, much lower than the UK average of 14.2%, but in line with the UK average in terms of floorspace. The majority of vacant units were located at the southern end of the Broadway as well as some along South Road.

Mid Sussex Retail Study, Nexus Planning (2022). Accessed 2024. Available at: www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/8086/22-03-23-final-msdc-retail-study-with-appendices.pdf

Housing

- The average price for a residential property in the District as of March 2023 was £428,895. This is higher than West Sussex (£383,282) and England (£296,793). Flats and maisonettes on average are also more expensive (£225,995) than in West Sussex (£214,107), but they are less expensive than the England average (£249,048).

- Residential property prices increased by 16.5% between March 2019 and March 2023. This is less than the increase seen across West Sussex (19.9%) and England (22.1%). The cost of flats and maisonettes has increased at a lower rate of 9%, compared with West Sussex (13.4%) and England (12.4%).

- Housing affordability remains a significant local issue. In March 2023, the average price of a residential property in Mid Sussex was 11.8 times the median annual gross pay of full-time workers in the District, though this figure had reduced from 12.4 in March 2019. The average residential property was 10.6 times the median annual gross pay of full-time residents in March 2023, up from 10.4 in March 2019. For West Sussex the respective figures for workers and residents in March 2023 were 11.2 and 10.8, and 8.5 for both in England.

- Flats and maisonettes are more affordable – 6.2 times median annual gross pay for full-time workers in Mid Sussex and 5.6 times the median annual gross pay for residents working full-time. This makes flats and maisonettes slightly more affordable for Mid Sussex residents than across West Sussex (6.0) and England (7.1).

- Affordability of Mid Sussex flats and maisonettes in relation to median annual gross pay for those working full-time in the district, but which may not be residents, has increased by a notable amount from March 2019 to March 2023. This can be partly attributed to high growth in earnings among the population, with a 22.3% increase in pay from 2019 to 2023. Driven by the high inflation seen over the previous three years it is also likely this population's cost of living has also risen rapidly, which may have implications for real affordability.

- Between 2019/20 and 2022/23, 3,500 new homes were built in the District. During this time the population of Mid Sussex has increased by around 4,000 residents. Other than 2019/20, where it was second to Horsham, Mid Sussex has completed the highest number of dwellings each year among the districts and boroughs of West Sussex.

	All properties - March 2019			All properties - March 2023		
	Average price	Affordability workplace	Affordability residents	Average price	Affordability workplace	Affordability residents
Mid Sussex	£368,284	12.4	10.4	£428,895	11.8	10.6
West Sussex	£319,710	11.0	10.2	£383,282	11.2	10.8
England	£242,982	7.9	7.9	£296,793	8.5	8.5
	Flats & maisonettes - March 2019			**Flats & maisonettes - March 2023**		
	Average price	Affordability workplace	Affordability residents	Average price	Affordability workplace	Affordability residents
Mid Sussex	£207,265	7.0	5.9	£225,995	6.2	5.6
West Sussex	£188,745	6.5	6.0	£214,107	6.2	6.0
England	£221,555	7.2	7.2	£249,048	7.1	7.1

UK House Price Index; HM Land Registry 2019 and 2023; and Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings (Workplace & Resident Analysis) Office for National Statistics, via NOMISWEB (2019 & 2023)

Transport

Active Travel

- In 2022 over a third (38.9%) of adult Mid Sussex residents walked or cycled for any purpose at least five times per week. This is marginally down on the figure of 39.5% for 2017, and from its peak in the last five years of 44.4% in 2021. However, this is slightly better than the West Sussex figure of 36.0% and significantly more than the England rate of 34.2%.

Walking or cycling for any purpose						
Mid Sussex		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	At least once per month	83.7%	88.1%	77.4%	88.0%	86.1%
	At least once per week	77.4%	79.0%	70.6%	81.9%	79.8%
	At least 3 times per week	53.5%	51.3%	50.5%	55.9%	52.9%
	At least 5 times per week	39.5%	39.5%	35.9%	44.4%	38.9%
West Sussex		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	At least once per month	83.2%	84.4%	79.8%	83.6%	81.0%
	At least once per week	75.9%	76.2%	73.0%	77.2%	74.3%
	At least 3 times per week	51.1%	51.9%	48.8%	51.2%	49.1%
	At least 5 times per week	38.3%	40.2%	37.0%	38.1%	36.0%
England		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	At least once per month	79.7%	81.1%	76.4%	78.4%	77.8%
	At least once per week	71.7%	73.2%	69.3%	71.2%	70.6%
	At least 3 times per week	47.2%	47.7%	46.0%	45.6%	45.8%
	At least 5 times per week	35.6%	35.8%	34.5%	33.6%	34.2%

Proportion of adults who any walking or cycling (2018 – 2022), Active Lives Survey by Sports England, Department for Transport. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/walking-and-cycling-statistics-cw

- In addition, 25.5% of Mid Sussex adults walked or cycled for leisure at least five times per week in 2022. This is higher than both the West Sussex (24.0%) and England (21.3%) rates. Mid Sussex residents were also more likely to walk or cycle for travel purposes than residents of West Sussex and England, with 19.4% doing so at least five times per week. This compares to 17.4% in West Sussex and 18.2% in England.

Road traffic accidents

- Data from 2022 shows there were 265 collisions on Mid Sussex roads, causing 349 casualties. Due to changes in how collisions have been recorded by Sussex Police comparisons to data collected in 2019 and before should be cautious – however, it appears these have continued on a downward trajectory.

- Mid Sussex collisions per 1000 residents is the lowest among all West Sussex districts and boroughs at 1.7. Casualties per 1000 residents was the second lowest, with only Worthing having a lower figure.

- Provisional data for 2023 shows a slight increase in the number of collisions and casualties on Mid Sussex roads. The number of fatal incidents fell by 1 however, with the rise being mainly from serious or slight collisions or casualties.

2022	**Collision data**				**Casualty data**				**Collisions per 1000 residents**	**Casualties per 1000 residents**
Area	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total		
Mid Sussex	5	67	193	265	5	73	271	349	1.7	2.3
Adur	1	26	112	139	1	27	151	179	2.1	2.8
Arun	5	82	237	324	5	97	328	430	1.9	2.6
Chichester	3	87	243	333	4	100	388	492	2.6	3.9
Crawley	1	59	196	256	1	65	255	321	2.1	2.7
Horsham	6	94	205	305	6	112	324	442	2.1	3.0
Worthing	1	45	158	204	1	48	191	240	1.8	2.1
Total (West Sussex)	22	460	1,344	1,826	23	522	1,908	2,453	2.0	2.7

Road Collisions and Casualties by local authority, West Sussex County Council, 2022-2023. (Accessed 2024).

2023 (Provisional)	Collision data				Casualty data			
Area	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
Mid Sussex	4	72	214	290	4	82	277	363
Adur	3	42	88	133	3	48	123	174
Arun	3	71	207	281	3	74	288	365
Chichester	7	80	245	332	10	99	375	484
Crawley	2	68	196	266	2	73	275	350
Horsham	6	65	212	283	7	74	288	369
Worthing	0	49	174	223	0	49	222	271
Total (West Sussex)	25	447	1,336	1,808	29	499	1,848	2,376

Road Collisions and Casualties by local authority, West Sussex County Council, 2022-2023. (Accessed 2024).

(Sussex Police changed database which improved accurate categorisation of casualty severity, data from before 2019 should not be compared with data since. The pandemic indirectly affected collision and casualty outturns, particularly for data in 2020 and 2021).

Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicles

- There were 3,021 ultra-low emissions vehicles in Mid Sussex in Q3 of 2023. This is an increase of 2,601 since Q3 of 2018, a 619.3% increase. Mid Sussex has more ultra-low emissions vehicles than any other district or borough in West Sussex. To date 72 EV charging points have been installed throughout Mid Sussex.
- Among West Sussex districts and boroughs, Horsham has the highest proportion of ultra-low emission vehicles relative to its population at 2.0%. Mid Sussex has the second highest proportion at 1.9%. Both these figures are higher than for West Sussex as a whole (1.5%) but lower than that of England (2.3%).

Licensed Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles					
	2018 Q3	2023 Q3	Change	% Change	% of population (2023)
Mid Sussex	420	3,021	2,601	619.3%	1.9%
West Sussex	1,800	13,106	11,306	628.1%	1.5%
England	165,984	1,307,171	1,141,187	687.5%	2.3%
Adur	92	759	667	725.0%	1.2%
Arun	233	1,814	1,581	678.5%	1.1%
Chichester	294	2,235	1,941	660.2%	1.7%
Crawley	168	1,210	1,042	620.2%	1.0%
Horsham	424	2,960	2,536	598.1%	2.0%
Worthing	168	1,090	922	548.8%	1.0%

Licensed ultra-low emissions vehicles lower-tier local authority, Department for Transport (2018-2023)

Car Parking

- Mid Sussex has 34 car parks providing around 2,900 spaces. 22 of these are pay and display car parks in the towns of Burgess Hill, East Grinstead and Haywards Heath, with a further 12 having time limits but no charges in the larger villages.
- There are 745 off-street parking spaces in Burgess Hill, 722 in East Grinstead, 846 in Haywards Heath and around 587 in the villages.
- 17 car parks across the District have achieved the industry standard 'Park Mark' award for safer parking, awarded to car parks which meet high standards of management, lighting, surveillance and cleanliness.
- As well as off-street car parks, on-street parking is managed by West Sussex County Council. There a total of approximately 2,300 restricted on-street spaces in Mid Sussex. In addition to Council car parks there are several private operators in the District such as railway station car parks.

Location	Spaces
Burgess Hill	745
East Grinstead	722
Haywards Heath	846
Other	587
Total	2,900

Mid Sussex District Parking Strategy 2020 – 2030, Mid Sussex District Council (2020)

Digital Connectivity

- Across both residential and commercial premises 98.3% of Mid Sussex has access to superfast broadband, defined as speed at or above 30mbps. This is in line with access across England. 73.0% of premises have access to Gigabit (which provides download speeds of up to 1gbps, the equivalent to 1,000mbps) or Full Fibre broadband coverage.

- Mean download speeds in the District as of Q4 2023 were 127.4mbps. Mean upload speeds were 53.5mbps. Both these rates have increased dramatically since late 2020, where their respective rates were 35.1mbps and 8.4mbps.

- West Sussex as a whole has 97.9% access to superfast broadband, with 71.2% having access to gigabit and 64.0% full fibre. Mean download speeds were 116.5mbps in Q4 2023, with mean upload speeds at 42.5mbps.

Area	Access to superfast broadband (2024)
Mid Sussex	98.3%
England	98.2%
West Sussex	97.9%
Adur	99.7%
Arun	98.3%
Chichester	94.9%
Crawley	99.0%
Horsham	96.7%
Worthing	99.8%

Local Broadband Information, ThinkBroadband (2024). Available at: https://labs.thinkbroadband.com/local/uk

Crime

- Mid Sussex crime rate remained the lowest across the districts and boroughs of West Sussex in 2022, despite a rise from 40.6 to 44 crimes per 1000 population. Total recorded crime rose by 10% to 6,789 recorded offences compared with 2021.

- The rise in crime has been driven predominantly by an increase in violent and acquisitive (robbery, theft, shoplifting) crimes, which mirrors county trends. These levels appear to be stabilising following the anomalies associated with the pandemic and the restrictions put in place.

- Violent crime accounted for 56% of total Mid Sussex crime in 2022, and although this rose by 10% in 2022 the rate was the second lowest in West Sussex. Theft offences rose by 22% though this is also the lowest in West Sussex along with Adur.

- Sexual offences fell by 12% and drug offences by 17%, although the latter was 16% higher than pre-pandemic levels. The 226 recorded burglaries in Mid Sussex represented a 31% decrease since 2021, and a 57% decrease compared with 2019.

- The severity of crime is the lowest in Mid Sussex compared with the rest of the county. The District's crime severity score of 7 compares to 11.6 across both East and West Sussex and 15.9 in England.

Recorded offences	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2021	403	470	505	513	533	535	585	477	586	508	565	519
2022	540	481	556	534	597	581	605	533	503	631	659	541

Mid Sussex Strategic Intelligence Assessment (July 2023), Mid Sussex Partnership. Available at:
https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/9397/strategic-intelligence-assessment-2023-24.pdf

Rural Economy

- Almost half of the Mid Sussex (163.6 square kilometres) is within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The High Weald AONB was designated in 1983 and has a total area of 1,461 square kilometres, covering four counties and 11 districts, making Mid Sussex just over 11% of its total area.

- A further 11% of the District at its southern tip falls within the South Downs National Park. With over half of its total area falling in either the AONB or National Park, Mid Sussex combines having three large towns with an otherwise rural character. Around 18% of the total population of the District is within such rural areas.

- Such characteristics mean the rural economy is an important part of Mid Sussex's overall economic composition. There are 210 agriculture, forestry and fishing enterprises in the District making up just under 3% of the total, and employing 900 people. Using location quotient analysis and comparing this proportion of jobs to the England average, the District is particularly specialised in this industry.

Energy

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- In 2021, Mid Sussex's total emissions of greenhouse gases – which includes carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide – were 652.1 ktCO2e (kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent). Per capita emissions in the District were 4.3 tCO2e, which is almost identical to the per capita figure for West Sussex as a whole of 4.2 tCO2e.

- Transport accounted for the largest share of emissions at 247.7 ktCO2e, followed by domestic at 232.9 ktCO2e. Both these sources of emissions have fallen significantly since the earliest available year of data in 2005. Across all sources, ktCO2e emissions have fallen by 38% in Mid Sussex from 2005 to 2021, and 27% from 2011 to 2021. For West Sussex, total emissions have decreased by 42% from 2005 to 2021, and 31% from 2011 to 2021.

	Year	Industry Total	Commercial Total	Public Sector Total	Domestic Total	Transport Total	LULUCF* Net Emissions	Agriculture Total	Waste Management Total	Grand Total	Per Capita Emissions (tCO_2e)
Mid Sussex	2005	110.1	103.1	44.8	355.9	345.7	-52.2	60.1	83.9	1,051.4	8.1
	2011	97.3	99.1	37.7	301.8	300.7	-57.5	52.2	58.4	889.8	6.3
	2021	81.8	26.4	33.5	232.9	247.7	-58.7	41.9	46.6	652.1	4.3
West Sussex	2005	724.5	902.6	263.1	2,054.2	1,788.7	-237.3	404.1	497.0	6,396.9	8.3
	2011	591.7	759.8	205.2	1,720.2	1,556.4	-263.1	353.6	405.1	5,328.8	6.6
	2021	585.9	210.6	168.6	1,263.3	1,259.8	-267.3	325.6	134.5	3,681.1	4.2

UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics, 2005 to 2021, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (Accessed 2024).

**LULUCF – Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.*

Fuel Consumption

- Mid Sussex consumed 240,100 tonnes of oil equivalent (240.1 ktoe) energy in 2021. A little over 40% of this was consumed by the domestic sector, 32.4% by road transport and 26.7% by the non-domestic sector (including industrial and commercial uses).

- The distribution of energy consumption across sectors is broadly similar to the previous figures provided in the last District Profile. The non-domestic sector is consuming a slightly greater proportion of energy at 26.7% compared to 24% in 2018, and road transport slightly less than the 36% seen in 2018.

Sector (2021)	Gas (ktoe)	Electricity (ktoe)	Petroleum (ktoe)	Other (ktoe)	Total (ktoe)	% of Total
Domestic	66.1	23.2	5.8	2.6	97.6	40.7%
Non-Domestic	19.1	19.8	10.1	15.2	64.2	26.7%
Road transport	#	#	74.4	3.5	77.9	32.4%
Rail	#	#	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2%
Total	85.1	43.0	90.4	21.6	240.1	100.0%
% of Total	35.4%	17.9%	37.7%	9.0%	100.0%	

Sub-national total final energy consumption, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024)

Renewable Electricity

- As of 2022 there were 3,658 renewable electricity installations in Mid Sussex, almost all of which were photovoltaics. Total capacity of renewable electricity is 30.50 MW, providing 28,292 MWh of electricity generation.

Renewable electricity (2022)	Installations	Capacity (MW)	Generation (MWh)
Photovoltaics	3,651	29.67	28,238
Onshore Wind	6	0.03	55
Sewage Gas	1	0.80	#
Total	3,658	30.50	28,292

Renewable electricity by local authority 2014-2022, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2023)

Natural Environment and Biodiversity

- Almost half of the Mid Sussex (49%, 16,353 hectares) is within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The High Weald AONB covers four counties and 11 districts, making Mid Sussex just over 11% of its total area. A further 11% of the District at its southern tip falls within the South Downs National Park.

- Mid Sussex is also the tenth most wooded district in the South East, with two-thirds of this woodland classified as ancient. Woodland covers 27% (9,158 hectares) of the District and ancient woodland 17% (5,741 hectares).

- The District has many sites valued for their biodiversity including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Sites of Nature Conservation Importance / Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Biodiversity Opportunity Areas. Nature Conservation sites cover 6% (1,938 hectares) of the District. 1.4% (476 hectares) is covered by water and rivers.

- Mid Sussex has over 1,000 listed buildings, 25 ancient monuments, over 500 sites of archaeological interest, 36 conservation areas and 9 registered parks and gardens. Conservation/heritage areas cover 1.3% (438 hectares) of the District and historic parks and gardens cover a further 1.3% (435 hectares).

	Area (hectares)	Area (% of District)
High Weald AONB	16,353	49.0%
South Downs National Park	3,684	11.0%
Woodland	9,158	27.4%
Ancient Woodland	5,741	17.2%
Nature Conservation	1,938	5.8%
Water and Rivers	476	1.4%
Conversation/Heritage Areas	438	1.3%
Historic Parks and Gardens	435	1.3%

Mid Sussex Design Guide, Mid Sussex District Council (2019). Available at:
https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/media/4483/mid-sussex_design_guide-supplementary-planning-document_2019.pdf

Tourism and Visitor Economy

- Mid Sussex has a developed and attractive tourism offer, with quintessential English countryside and access to both the High Weald AONB and South Downs National Park. The area is renowned for its world-class gardens, historic houses, picturesque villages and international award-winning vineyards. The District benefits from excellent connectively to domestic and international visitors, with direct railway links to London and Gatwick Airport and proximity to the motorway network.

Visitor Economy Baseline Report for Mid Sussex by Blue Sail – Key Findings:

- As one of the worst-hit sectors during the pandemic, recovery in the visitor economy shows a mixed picture nationally. While domestic visitor numbers are estimated to have reached 2019 levels, international visits and spend are currently forecast to return to pre-pandemic levels only by the end of 2024.

- Approximately 2.9 million tourism trips were taken to Mid Sussex in 2022, 36% above trip volume in 2021 but still 12% below pre-pandemic levels. In 2019, approximately 3.3 million tourism trips were taken in Mid Sussex generating an economic impact of £286 million and supporting an estimated 5,170 jobs. Tourism industry employment accounted for 10% of all industry employment in Mid Sussex, just below the England average of 11%. Mid Sussex accounted for a 13% share of West Sussex tourism trips.

- In 2019, the staying visitor market accounted for just 12% of trips but 58% of economic impact. 71% of those staying trips were for holiday purposes, 16% for visitors to friends/relatives and 10% for business purposes. Serviced accommodation accounted for 48% of accommodation used on Mid Sussex staying trips, friends/relatives 43%, self-catering 4% and camping 2%.

- Based on national tourism survey data, Mid Sussex ranked 163rd out of England 326 local authorities for both day and overnight trip numbers in 2019. Average spend per trip for domestic staying visitors was substantially lower than the England average - £105 in 2019 compared to the England average of £193. The average length of a stay is also lower, at 2.2 nights compared to 3 nights for England as a whole. For the day visitor market, average spend per trip is slightly higher in Mid Sussex than the England average - £41 compared to £37 for England.