

SDR50/2014

27 March 2014

Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count January 2014

This Statistical Release presents the most recent results of the biannual Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count conducted by local authorities in Wales. It sets out the number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans on authorised and unauthorised sites in Wales, and details of pitches on local authority sites, on 16 January 2014. The Count is carried out in January and July every year. It forms part of the evidence base when assessing bids from local authorities for the Gypsy and Traveller New Sites Grant and Gypsy and Traveller Refurbishment Grant.

See Key Quality Information section for more background and quality information. More detailed tables are provided in [Statswales](#). Terms which have a special meaning are further explained in the [glossary](#). The counts of Gypsy and Traveller caravans' data are voluntary, all local authorities in Wales responded with the exception of Flintshire and Monmouthshire. Note that totals are for the 20 local authorities that responded and not for the whole of Wales. In addition the number of caravans in Welsh local authorities is affected by seasonal fluctuation.

Totals for the 20 local authorities that responded

- On 16 January 2014, 881 Gypsy and Traveller caravans were reported in Wales.
- 83 sites were reported across Wales.
- Across the 20 local authorities that participated in both the January 2013 and January 2014 count, the total number of Gypsy and Traveller caravans has increased by 6 per cent (49 caravans) and the total number of sites (both authorised and unauthorised) has increased by 9 per cent (7 sites).

Authorised sites for the 20 local authorities that responded

- There were 726 caravans on authorised sites with planning permission, accounting for 82 per cent of all caravans. Of these, 559 (77 per cent) were on local authority sites and 167 (23 per cent) on private sites.
- For the 20 local authorities that participated in both the January 2013 and January 2014 count, the number of caravans on authorised sites has decreased by 1 caravan since the January 2013 count.
- The number of authorised sites in Wales have increased from 42 in January 2011 to 53 in January 2014 (data available on Statswales).

Unauthorised sites for the 20 local authorities that responded

- There were 68 caravans on unauthorised sites on land owned by Gypsies and Travellers, accounting for 8 per cent of all caravans.
- A further 87 caravans (10 per cent of all caravans) were on unauthorised sites not owned by Gypsies and Travellers.
- Across the 20 local authorities that responded in both counts, the number of caravans on unauthorised sites was 48 per cent (50 caravans) more in the January 2014 count than in January 2013.

Gypsy and Traveller Sites provided by Local Authorities for the 20 local authorities that responded

- There were 353 pitches on Gypsy and Traveller sites provided by local authorities in Wales on 16 January 2014.
- Of these, 352 were residential pitches and 1 was a transit pitch. 97 per cent of the residential pitches were occupied, whilst the 1 transit pitch was also occupied.
- The total number of pitches has increased by 2 per cent (8 pitches) for the 20 authorities that participated in both counts.

Statistician: Lucy Taylor

Tel: 029 2082 6023

Email: stats.inclusion@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Next update: September 2014 (provisional)

Twitter: www.twitter.com/statisticswales | www.twitter.com/ystadegaucymru

Cyhoeddwyd gan Y Gwasanaethau Gwybodaeth a Dadansoddi

Llywodraeth Cymru, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd, CF10 3NQ

Ffôn – Swyddfa'r Wasg **029 2089 8099**, Ymholiadau Cyhoeddus **029 2082 3332**

www.cymru.gov.uk/ystadegau

Issued by Knowledge and Analytical Services

Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

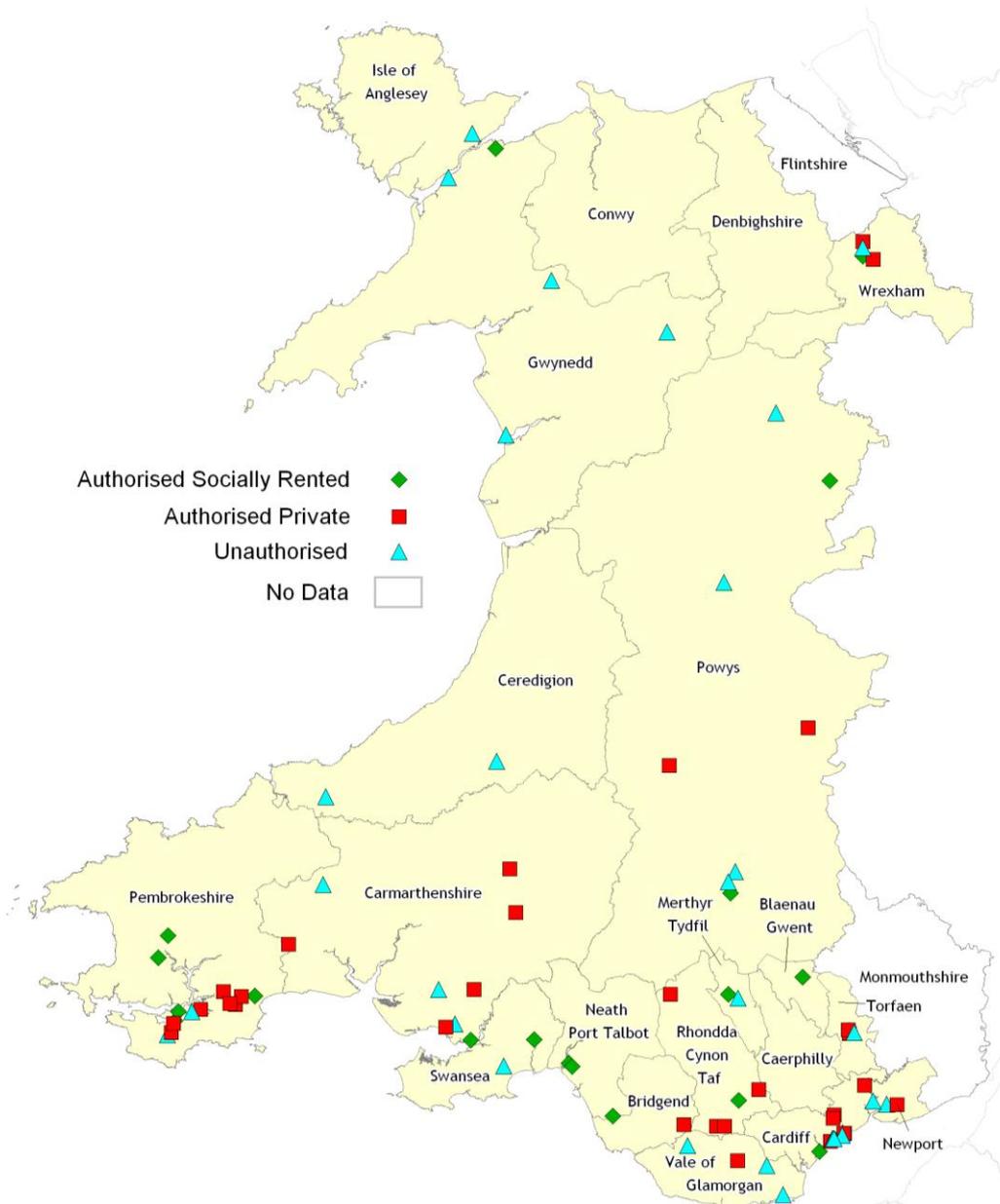
Telephone – Press Office **029 2089 8099**, Public Enquiries **029 2082 5050**

www.wales.gov.uk/statistics



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Map 1: Gypsy Sites in Wales on the 16th January 2014



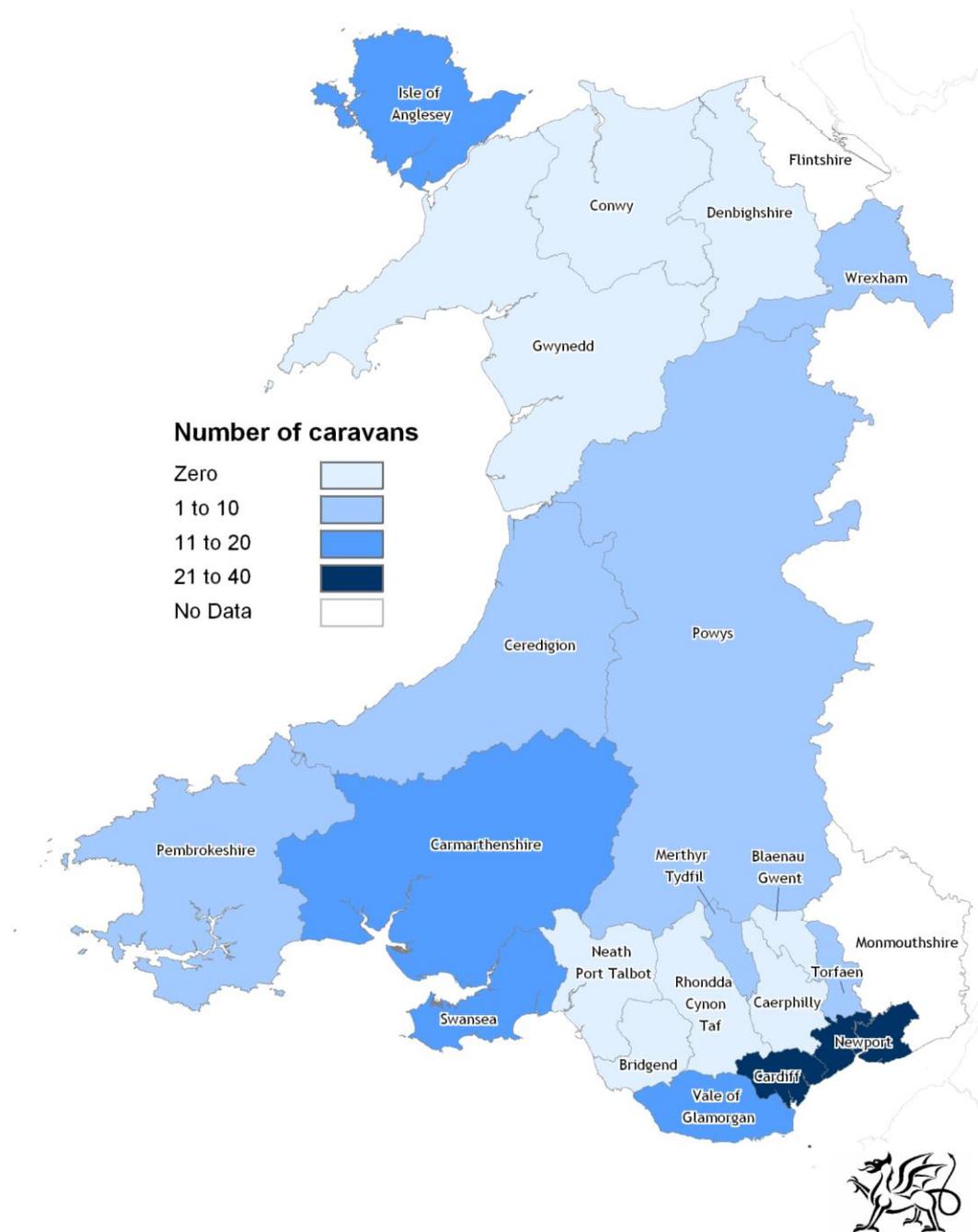
Source: Knowledge and Analytical Services

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

© Crown Copyright and database right 2014.
Welsh Government. Licence number 100021874.

281.13-14
Cartographics, FCS

Map 2: Number of caravans on unauthorised sites on the 16th January 2014



Source: Knowledge and Analytical Services

© Crown Copyright and database right 2014.
Welsh Government. Licence number 100021874.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government
281.13-14
Cartographics, FCS

Table 1. Count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans on 16 January 2014

								Number
	Authorised sites (w ith planning permission)			Unauthorised sites (w ithout planning permission)				All caravans
	Number of caravans		Number of caravans on sites on Gypsies ow n land		Number of caravans on sites on land not ow ned by Gypsies			
	Local Authority (a)	Private	Tolerated	Not tolerated	Tolerated	Not tolerated		
Isle of Anglesey	0	0	0	0	12	0	12	
Gw ynedd	7	3	0	0	0	0	10	
Conw y	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Flintshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wrexham	18	4	0	2	0	0	24	
Pow ys	25	4	0	0	7	0	36	
Ceredigion	0	0	0	2	2	0	4	
Pembrokeshire	126	14	0	1	1	0	142	
Carmarthenshire	17	63	8	9	0	0	97	
Sw ansea	14	0	0	0	16	0	30	
Neath Port Talbot	88	0	0	0	0	0	88	
Bridgend	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	
Vale of Glamorgan	0	0	0	0	2	18	20	
Cardiff	153	5	0	29	0	0	187	
Rhondda Cynon Taf	7	23	0	0	0	0	30	
Merthyr Tydfil	42	0	0	0	7	0	49	
Caerphilly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Blaenau Gw ent	25	0	0	0	0	0	25	
Torfaen	37	16	6	0	0	0	59	
Monmouthshire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New port	0	31	0	11	22	0	64	
Wales	559	167	14	54	69	18	881	

(a) Alternatively know n as Socially Rented sites. Includes sites ow ned by Registered Social Landlords.

.. Data item not available

Table 2. Number of pitches¹ on Gypsy and Traveller sites provided by local authorities in Wales on 16 January 2014

	Number of pitches				Total number of all pitches
	Residential occupied	Residential vacant	Transit occupied	Transit vacant	
Isle of Anglesey	0	0	0	0	0
Gwynedd	7	0	0	0	7
Conwy	0	0	0	0	0
Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0
Flintshire	..	..	..	..	..
Wrexham	11	4	0	0	15
Powys	18	1	0	0	19
Ceredigion	0	0	0	0	0
Pembrokeshire	69	2	0	0	71
Carmarthenshire	17	0	0	0	17
Swansea	7	0	0	0	7
Neath Port Talbot	53	1	0	0	54
Bridgend	0	0	0	0	0
Vale of Glamorgan	0	0	0	0	0
Cardiff	80	0	0	0	80
Rhondda Cynon Taf	7	0	0	0	7
Merthyr Tydfil	24	0	0	0	24
Caerphilly	0	0	0	0	0
Blaenau Gwent	25	0	0	0	25
Torfaen	25	1	1	0	27
Monmouthshire	..	..	..	..	..
Newport	0	0	0	0	0
Wales	343	9	1	0	353

.. Data item not available

¹ One pitch may accommodate multiple caravans

Table 3. Number of caravans on authorised and unauthorised sites reported in bi-annual Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Counts

	Number of caravans							
	July 2012		January 2013		July 2013 (a)		January 2014 (b)	
	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites
Isle of Anglesey	0	33	0	11	0	39	0	12
Gwynedd	9	12	13 (r)	0 (r)	10 (r)	12 (r)	10	0
Conwy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintshire	58	7	65	13	73	2	..	..
Wrexham	24	3	29	2	29	6	22	2
Powys	29	38	32	10	..	..	29	7
Ceredigion	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	4
Pembrokeshire	123	4	143	2	142	4	140	2
Carmarthenshire	81	5	78	15	83	15	80	17
Swansea	10	12	18	11	15	27	14	16
Neath Port Talbot	76	0	81	0	78	0	88	0
Bridgend	4	0	4	0	4	4	4	0
Vale of Glamorgan	0	9	0	18	0	35	0	20
Cardiff	154	13	181	1	179	2	158	29
Rhondda Cynon Taf	21	0	21	0	30	0	30	0
Merthyr Tydfil	25	6	31	5	35	7	42	7
Caerphilly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blaenau Gwent	19	0	18	0	22	0	25	0
Torfaen	53	6	54	6	54	7	53	6
Monmouthshire	3	0	4	0	4	0	..	..
Newport	21	37	24	24	20	39	31	33
Wales	710	185	796 (r)	118 (r)	778 (r)	204 (r)	726	155

(a) Wales figures based on data provided by 21 Local Authorities

(b) Wales figures based on data provided by 20 Local Authorities

(r) Revised December 2013

.. Data item not available

Table 4. Number of authorised and unauthorised sites reported in bi-annual Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Counts

	Number							
	July 2012		January 2013		July 2013 (a)		January 2014 (b)	
	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites	Authorised Sites	Unauthorised Sites
Isle of Anglesey	0	6	0	1	0	4	0	1
Gwynedd	2	4	2 (r)	3 (r)	2 (r)	4 (r)	2	4
Conwy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintshire	4	2	4	2	5	1	..	..
Wrexham	3	2	3	1	3	2	3	1
Powys	4	3	4	3	..	..	4	4
Ceredigion	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2
Pembrokeshire	9	2	9	2	10	2	12	2
Carmarthenshire	6	2	6	3	6	3	6	3
Swansea	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	1
Neath Port Talbot	2	0	3	0	3	0	3	0
Bridgend	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0
Vale of Glamorgan	0	2	1	3	1	4	1	3
Cardiff	5	4	6	1	6	1	4	3
Rhondda Cynon Taf	4	0	4	0	5	0	5	0
Merthyr Tydfil	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Caerphilly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blaenau Gwent	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Torfaen	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1
Monmouthshire	2	0	2	0	2	0	..	..
Newport	6	6	6	4	5	5	6	4
Wales	54	37	57 (r)	27 (r)	55 (r)	35 (r)	53	30

(a) Wales figures based on data provided by 21 Local Authorities

(b) Wales figures based on data provided by 20 Local Authorities

(r) Revised December 2013

.. Data item not available

Glossary

Caravans

A 'caravan' can include any of the following:

- mobile homes, caravans, trailers and other living-vehicles on Gypsy or Traveller sites and encampments, whether or not they meet the strict legal definition of a caravan;
- touring caravans on Gypsy or Traveller sites and encampments even if not lived in permanently;
- tents, benders or yurts where these are the 'permanent' living accommodation of Gypsies or Travellers.

Gypsies and Travellers

For the purposes of this release 'Gypsies and Travellers' include Traditional and Ethnic Gypsies and Travellers or members of non-traditional New Traveller groups who live in caravans or other moveable dwellings whether or not they meet the strict legal definition of a 'Gypsy' or 'Traveller'. The caravan count is not designed to be an estimate of the Gypsy or Irish Traveller population in Wales.

Privately funded sites

Privately Funded Gypsy and Traveller sites with planning permission may include:

- sites with planning permission owned by Gypsies and Travellers for their own and/or their family's occupation and/or for commercial letting;
- sites owned by any other private individual or body with planning permission for use as a Gypsy or Traveller site;
- sites owned by a local authority but leased to, or managed by, a non-local authority body or individual under arrangements which do not give the local authority control of site management (critically of rent setting and lettings).

'With planning permission' may be interpreted to include sites without 'planning permission' as such, but with established use rights or other planning status which means that planning enforcement action cannot be taken.

Local Authority sites

Sites operated by local authorities or Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to accommodate Gypsies and Travellers.

Unauthorised sites on Gypsies or Travellers own land

Unauthorised sites where Gypsies and Travellers are living on their own land in caravans/moveable dwellings without planning consent or established use rights. Such sites may vary in size and in the extent to which the land has been 'developed' with roadways, distinct plots, hard-standings, amenity blocks etc.

A 'tolerated' site is one where the local authority has decided not to seek the removal of the encampment and where the encampment has been, or is likely to be, allowed to remain for an indefinite period of months or years.

A 'not tolerated' site is one where:

- a planning enforcement notice has been served (including Temporary Stop Notices);
- the results of a planning enquiry are pending;
- an injunction has been sought;
- or where the compliance period has been extended.

On land not owned by Gypsies or Travellers

Caravans/moveable dwellings on sites without planning permission on land not owned by Gypsies or Travellers. The land may be in public or private ownership, including the highway.

A 'tolerated' encampment is one where the local authority and/or the land owner have decided not to seek the removal of the encampment, and where the encampment has been or is likely to be 'tolerated' for an indefinite period of months or years.

A 'not tolerated' encampment is one where: the local authority or police are using, or are preparing to use, their powers under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to remove the encampment, or where the landowner (including the local authority) has instigated, or is preparing to instigate, action either through the courts or under common law rights to regain possession of the land.

Pitch

A pitch also referred to as a plot, will vary according to the size of the occupant household. One pitch can accommodate multiple caravans.

Key Quality Information

This section provides a summary of information on this output against six dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Timeliness and Punctuality, Accessibility and Clarity, Coherence, and Comparability. Note that the information collected as part of the count is not currently branded as National Statistics.

Relevance

The biannual counts of Gypsy and Traveller caravans and families were reintroduced in Wales in July 2006 following recommendations from the Review of Service Provision for Gypsies and Travellers, carried out by the Welsh Government's Equality of Opportunity Committee in 2003, and the Welsh Government's review of the Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers in Wales undertaken by Pat Niner of Birmingham University 2006.

The commencement of Section 225 of the Housing Act 2004 in December 2007 requires local authorities to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers as part of the review of housing needs in their area.

The Welsh Government has made available refurbishment grant funding for worth £1.5 million in 2013/14 so that local authorities can set up new Gypsy and Traveller sites in Wales.

Since January 2011, the counts have been conducted by the data collection team within the Welsh Government's Knowledge and Analytical Services. Previous data collections had been conducted by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The caravan count does not estimate the number of Gypsy and Travellers in need of sites. Evidence suggests that many people identifying as 'Gypsy or Irish Travellers' live in homes that are not mobile structures.

Further information from the 2011 Census on Gypsy and Travellers accommodation for England and Wales is available from:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census-analysis/what-does-the-2011-census-tell-us-about-the-characteristics-of-gypsy-or-irish-travellers-in-england-and-wales-/index.html>

Accuracy

The data contained in this release is collected from information reported by local authorities. The response and quality of the count can be affected by the following factors:

- local authorities not completing their returns;
- inadequate counting practices;
- geography – particularly in large rural areas which require correspondingly large resources to map all sites;
- Gypsy and Traveller mistrust; and
- the counts are voluntary, with no rewards to local authorities completing their returns or penalties for those that fail to do so.

Of the 22 local authorities in Wales, 20 completed their 16th January 2014 returns. The two local authorities, Flintshire and Monmouthshire that did not submit their 16th of January 2014 returns represented 8 sites, 9 per cent of total caravans and 5 per cent of pitches in January 2013.

Revisions

Due to a reporting error selected data was revised on the 13th of December 2013. Where data has been revised it will be clearly marked with an (r).

We follow the Welsh Government's statistical revisions policy, details of which are available at: <http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/about/statement-of-compliance/revisions-errors-postponements/?lang=enn>

Timeliness and Punctuality

The count is carried out on a specified date in January and July each year, giving a snapshot of the number and location of caravans on the specific date. The data is published ten weeks after the reference period, this allows time to collect, collate and validate the data.

Accessibility and Clarity

This statistical first release is pre-announced and then published in the Statistics section of the Welsh Government website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables on [Statswales](#), a free to use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download data.

Comparability and Coherence

Meaningful comparisons of total figures for Wales over time are limited by local authorities who do not take part in the count. It is therefore advised that comparisons over time should only be made for local authorities that have taken part in all relevant counts.

Data for the Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count is subject to seasonality. To compare figures over time it is advised to look at the winter and summer counts each year separately. The count takes place twice a year to reflect winter residence and summer travelling trends and changes. Previous years figures indicate the number of unauthorised caravans are higher during the summer (July) count.

Equivalent information for England is available via the [Department for Communities and Local Government \(DCLG\) website](#). The date for collection is arranged with the Department for Communities and Local Government and, where possible, is the same for England and Wales.

Comments and contact information

We welcome comments on this release. Please contact:

Lucy Taylor
Social Justice Statistics
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 3NQ

Email: stats.inclusion@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 029 2082 6023.