

## Welwyn Hatfield

- Welwyn Hatfield had a **population** of 99,000 in 2004, which represented 9.5% of the Hertfordshire total. The district has an ageing population – persons of retirement age account for a larger proportion of total population in Welwyn Hatfield than in any other Hertfordshire district, while under 16s have the smallest share. Population growth of 3.0% is anticipated for the period 2004-11, in line with the county average. In common with the rest of the county, a sharp increase is forecast in the 85 & over category (in percentage terms), with strong growth also expected for those approaching retirement age (60-64). There is encouraging growth in the 25-34 age band, in contrast to declines in many other districts, but this will be offset by a decline in persons aged 35-44.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN WELWYN HATFIELD, 2004						
Age band	Male	Female	Total	Age band share of total	Growth 2004-2011 Levels %	
0-4	2819	2919	5738	5.8	254	4.4
5-15	6901	6947	13849	14.0	-427	-3.1
16-19	2443	2615	5058	5.1	649	12.8
20-24	4000	3744	7744	7.8	669	8.6
25-34	5950	6138	12087	12.2	1013	8.4
35-44	7300	7694	14994	15.1	-1349	-9.0
45-59	9306	9031	18338	18.5	1483	8.1
60-64	2194	2312	4506	4.6	766	17.0
65-74	3894	4569	8463	8.5	-711	-8.4
75-84	2500	3594	6094	6.2	166	2.7
85+	700	1419	2119	2.1	492	23.2
Total	48006	50981	98988	100.0	3004	3.0

Source: Experian, National Statistics

- The district accounted for 11.9% of **GVA** in Hertfordshire in 2005. Welwyn Hatfield was the fastest growing district in Hertfordshire over the past decade. Growth of 4.6% pa was driven by Transport & Communications and Distribution, Hotels & Catering. Growth is expected to slow to 3.2% pa over the forecast horizon. This is largely because of the industrial structure of the district. It has the smallest Financial & Business Services sector in the county so, despite an acceleration in output growth in the sector, its contribution to total GVA growth is less than in other areas. Meanwhile the relatively large Distribution, Hotels & Catering and Other (Mainly Public) services sectors are expected to slow.

GVA IN WELWYN HATFIELD, 2005					
Sector	GVA (£m <sup>1</sup> )	% of Total GVA		Growth (%pa)	
		Welwyn Hatfield	Hertfordshire	1995-2005	2005-2011
Agriculture	12	0.5	0.5	7.0	2.3
Mining & quarrying	61	2.3	1.4	4.2	3.0
Manufacturing	378	14.6	13.1	-0.2	1.2
Construction	99	3.8	7.3	2.7	1.7
Distribution, hotels & catering	618	23.9	19.1	10.0	3.3
Transport & communications	262	10.1	9.1	12.2	6.0
Financial & business services	493	19.0	26.1	4.1	5.5
Other (mainly public) services	494	19.1	17.0	3.3	2.1
Total	2589	100.0	100.0	4.6	3.2

Note: <sup>1</sup> Chained volume measure, reference year 2002

Source: Experian, National Statistics

- The past decade has seen **employment** increase by 1.4% pa in Welwyn Hatfield, significantly higher than the county average (0.8% pa). In common with output, this performance was built upon Transport & Communications and Distribution, Hotels & Catering strength. Job creation is expected to be slower over the next six years, with growth of 0.7% pa in line with the Hertfordshire average. The district is unlikely to be able to sustain the recent strong growth in Transport & Communications and Distribution, Hotels & Catering. However, Financial & Business Services employment should rebound.

<b>EMPLOYMENT IN WELWYN HATFIELD, 2005</b>					
Sector	Employment (000s)	% of Total Employment		Growth (%pa)	
		Welwyn Hatfield	Hertfordshire	1995-2005	2005-2011
Agriculture	0.4	0.6	0.6	5.6	0.7
Mining & quarrying	0.3	0.5	0.4	-1.8	-1.7
Manufacturing	5.8	9.1	9.5	-5.0	-2.3
Construction	3.1	4.8	7.6	2.9	-0.1
Distribution, hotels & catering	19.9	31.2	26.0	6.2	0.5
Transport & communications	4.5	7.1	6.1	5.9	1.2
Financial & business services	13.1	20.6	24.9	-0.9	2.2
Other (mainly public) services	16.4	25.8	24.6	1.3	0.8
Total	63.6	100.0	100.0	1.4	0.7

Source: Experian, National Statistics

- Claimant count **unemployment** totalled 1,105 in Welwyn Hatfield in 2006q2, a rate of 1.7%. The unemployment rate is expected to peak at 1.8% in 2007 before edging down gradually over the following two years.

<b>UNEMPLOYMENT IN WELWYN HATFIELD</b>												
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Male	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7
Female	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Persons	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Rate	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.5

Notes: Claimant count levels in thousands. Claimant count rate is a percentage of the working age population  
Source: Experian, National Statistics