

Regional Economy Statistics

April 2026

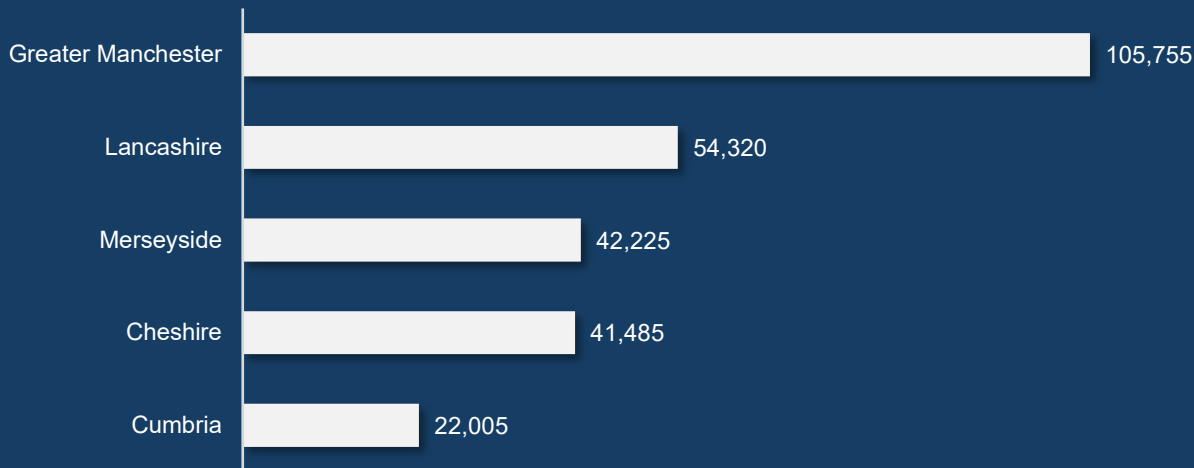


ENTERPRISE COUNT

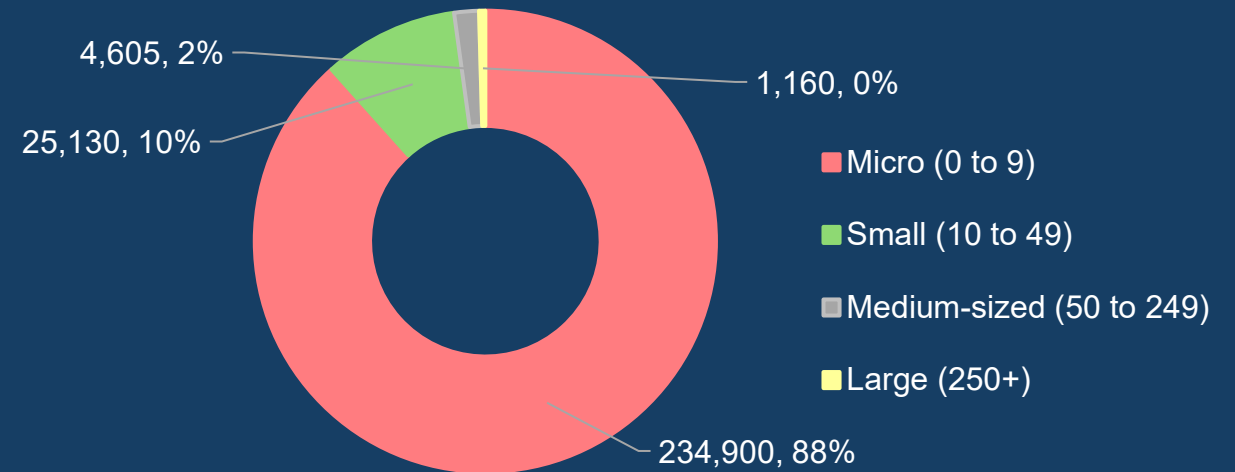
- North West: 265.7K businesses, 9.6% of the UK total
- North West: Proportion of SMEs higher than UK average
- Enterprises by sub-region: Greater Manchester: 39.7%, Lancashire: 20.4%, Merseyside: 15.8%, Cheshire: 15.6%, Cumbria: 8.2%

	NW		UK		NW % of UK
Employees	Enterprises	% of total			
Micro (0 to 9)	234,900	88.4%	2,437,850	89.1%	9.6%
Small (10 to 49)	25,130	9.5%	241,185	8.8%	10.4%
Medium (50 to 249)	4,605	1.7%	44,170	1.6%	10.4%
Large (250+)	1,160	0.4%	11,415	0.4%	10.2%
Total	265,795	100%	2,734,615	100%	9.7%

Total Businesses across North West Regions 2025



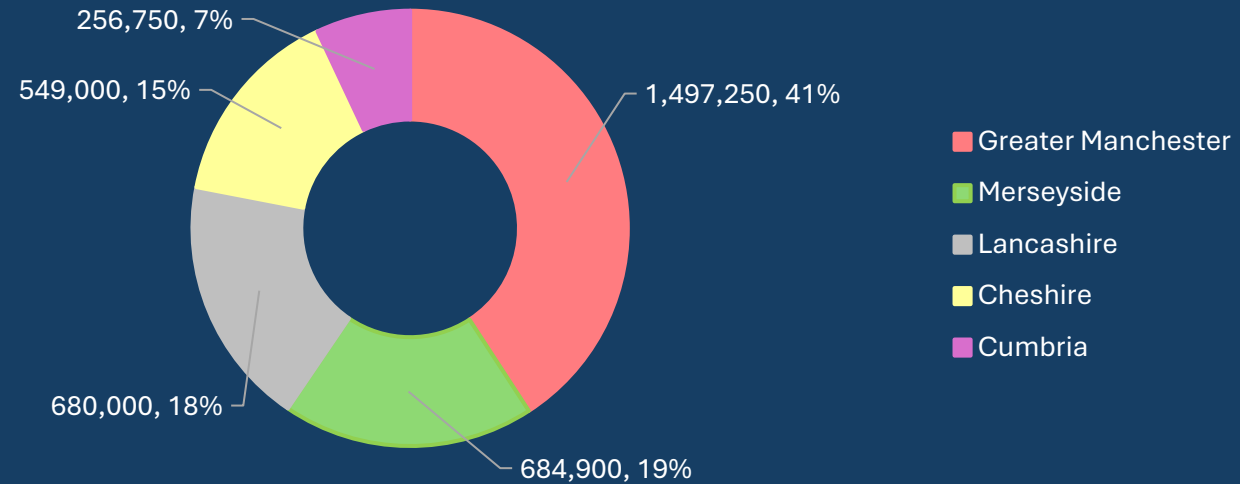
Size of enterprise (employment), North West 2025



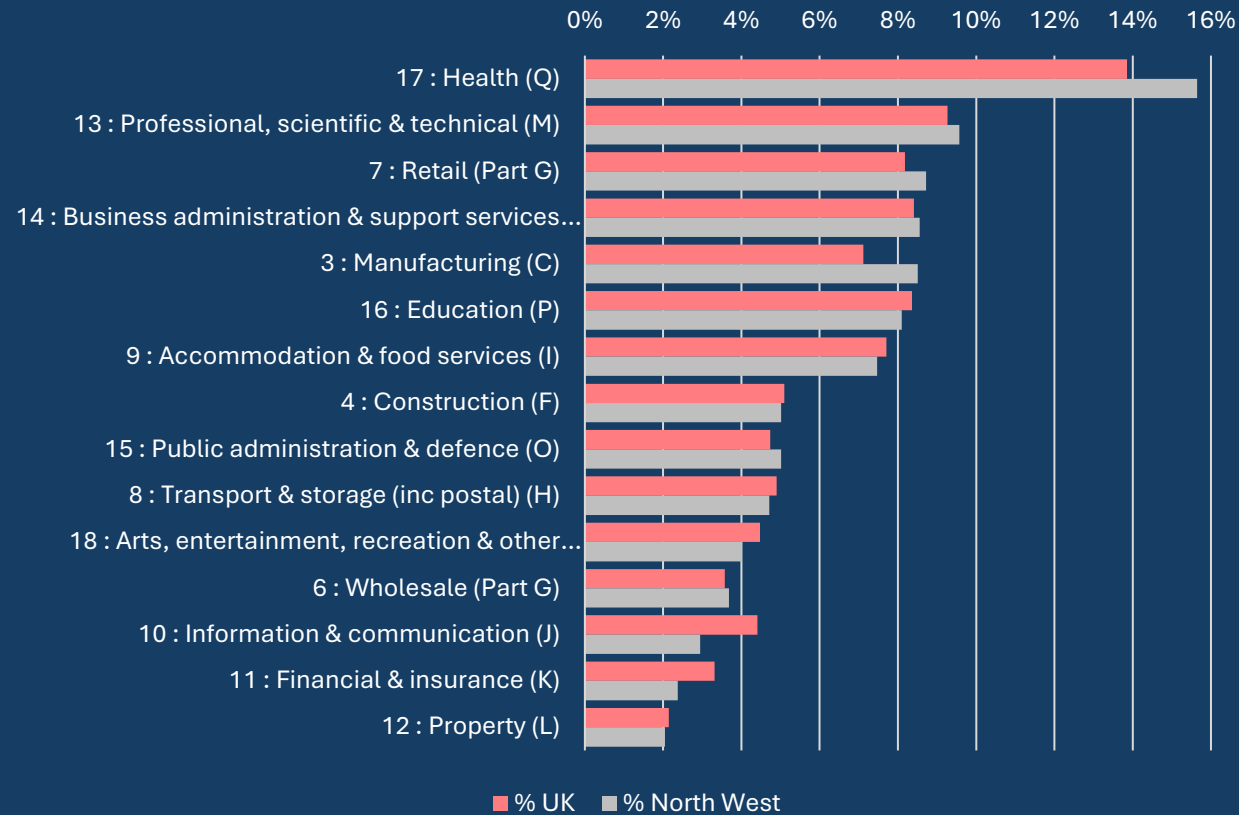
EMPLOYMENT

- North West: 3.6m jobs, 11.3% of the UK total
- Largest Employment Sectors: Health: 16% vs 14% UK
- Professional, Scientific and Technical: 9.6% vs 9.3% UK
- Retail: 8.7% vs 8.2% UK
- Business administration: 8.6% vs 8.4% UK
- Manufacturing: 8.5% vs 7.1% UK

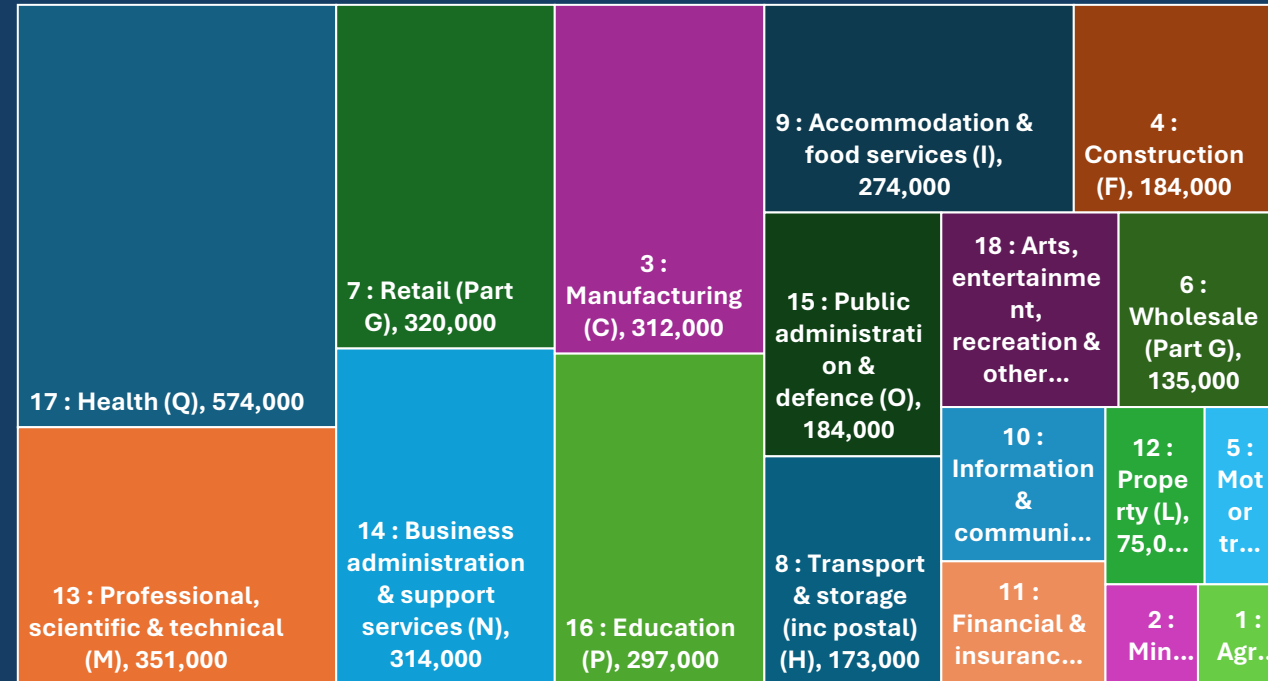
Employment by sub-region, NW 2024



Share of Employment (%) by sector, NW vs UK 2024



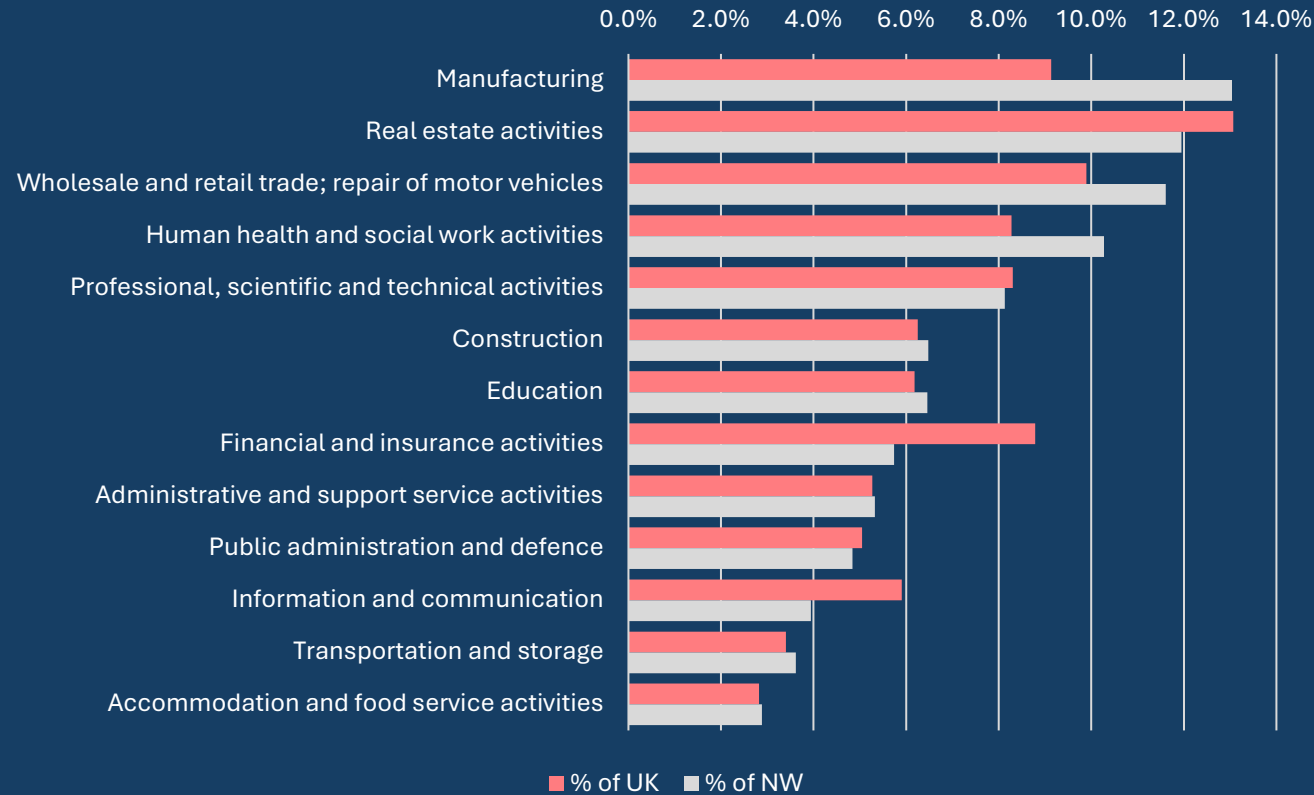
Employment by sector, NW 2024



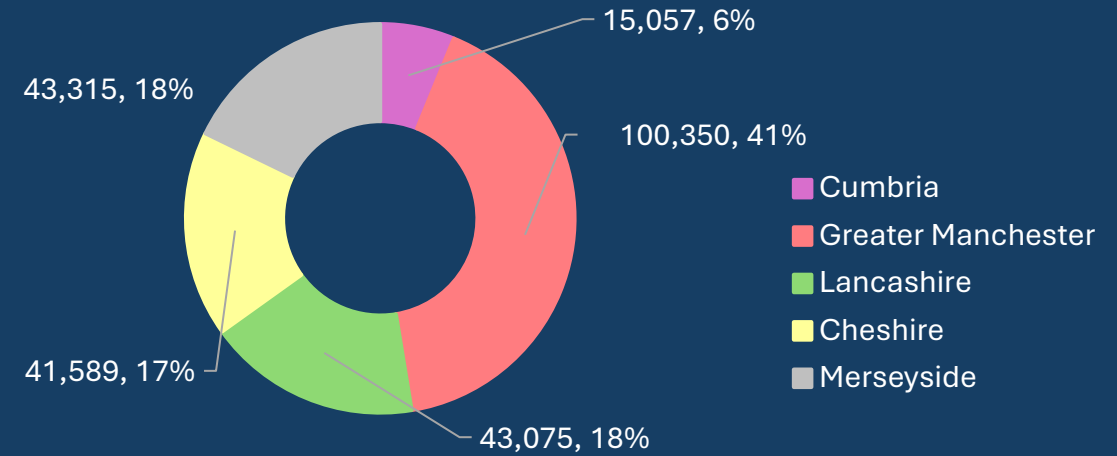
GROSS VALUE ADDED (Profit+Wages, in £millions)

- North West: £243m GVA in 2023, 9.9% of the UK total
- Largest GVA Sectors: Manufacturing: 13% vs 9.1% UK
- Real estate: 12% vs 13% UK
- Wholesale and Retail: 11.6% vs 9.9% UK
- Health: 10.3% vs 8.3% UK
- Professional, Scientific and Technical activities: 8.1% vs 8.3% UK

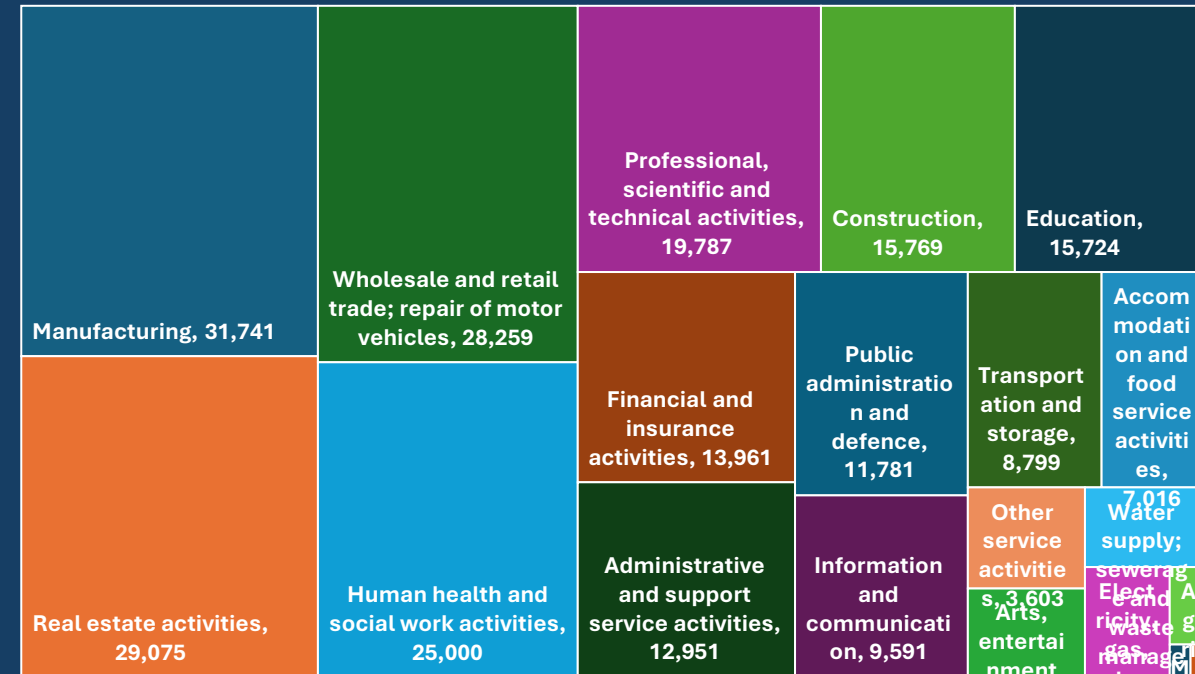
Share of GVA (%) by sector, NW vs UK 2023



GVA (£m) by sub-region, NW 2023



GVA (£m) by sector, NW 2023



ANNEX

Employment Counts 2024 by sector				Gross Value Added (£ million) 2023 by sector			
Sectors (2 digit SIC)	UK	NW	NW % UK	Sectors (2 digit SIC)	UK	NW	NW % UK
17 : Health (Q)	4,490,000	574,000	12.8%	Manufacturing	225,094	31,741	14.1%
13 : Professional, scientific & technical (M)	3,004,000	351,000	11.7%	Real estate activities	322,132	29,075	9.0%
7 : Retail (Part G)	2,650,000	320,000	12.1%	Wholesale and retail trade	243,915	28,259	11.6%
14 : Business adm & support services (N)	2,725,000	314,000	11.5%	Human health and social work	203,911	25,000	12.3%
3 : Manufacturing (C)	2,305,000	312,000	13.5%	Professional, scientific and technical	204,590	19,787	9.7%
16 : Education (P)	2,709,000	297,000	11.0%	Construction	154,140	15,769	10.2%
9 : Accommodation & food services (I)	2,497,000	274,000	11.0%	Education	152,309	15,724	10.3%
4 : Construction (F)	1,652,000	184,000	11.1%	Financial and insurance activities	216,643	13,961	6.4%
15 : Public administration & defence (O)	1,534,000	184,000	12.0%	Administrative and support services	129,899	12,951	10.0%
8 : Transport & storage (inc postal) (H)	1,588,000	173,000	10.9%	Public administration and defence	124,394	11,781	9.5%
18 : Arts, entertainment, leisure (R,S,T, U)	1,449,000	147,000	10.1%	Information and communication	145,592	9,591	6.6%
6 : Wholesale (Part G)	1,158,000	135,000	11.7%	Transportation and storage	83,896	8,799	10.5%
10 : Information & communication (J)	1,428,000	108,000	7.6%	Accommodation and food services	69,584	7,016	10.1%
11 : Financial & insurance (K)	1,074,000	87,000	8.1%	Other service activities	39,868	3,603	9.0%
12 : Property (L)	694,000	75,000	10.8%	Arts, entertainment and recreation	33,898	3,177	9.4%
5 : Motor trades (Part G)	586,000	58,000	9.9%	Water supply; sewerage and waste	28,813	2,999	10.4%
2 : Mining, quarrying & utilities (B,D and E)	405,000	40,000	9.9%	Electricity, gas, air conditioning	34,893	2,855	8.2%
1 : Agriculture, forestry & fishing (A)	454,000	36,000	7.9%	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	15,768	910	5.8%
				Mining and quarrying	33,070	207	0.6%
				Activities of households	2,178	181	8.3%