

Evidence on Employment in Ticehurst

1. How many jobs are there in Ticehurst?

From the Neighbourhood Plan Business Survey:

	Number	Employees	
Businesses Responded	53	670	
Businesses didn't respond	72	240	estimated
Total	125	910	

The estimate of the employees in businesses which didn't respond is derived as follows:

	Size of business		Number of businesses	Employees per business (average estimated)	Total employees (derived)
Didn't respond		72			
	Large		6	20	120
	Medium		6	5	30
	Small		60	1.5	90
Total			72		240

We estimate that the large businesses that did not respond employ on average 20 people.

We estimate that the medium-sized businesses that did not respond employ on average 5 people.

The remaining 60 businesses are small, and we estimate that they employ, on average, 1.5 people.

So we have taken the number of jobs in Ticehurst to be 900. However, this does not include the self-employed people who are not registered as a business (for example, cleaners, decorators, gardeners). The 2011 census showed that there were over 550 self-employed people in Ticehurst, a high number for a parish of this size.

2. How many people in Ticehurst have jobs?

Between 2001 and 2011, the population grew significantly.

	2001 census	2011 census	% increase
Population 16-74 yrs	2334	2704	16%
Economically active	1576	1893	20%
Economically inactive	758	811	7%
<16 yrs, > 74 yrs	1048	1171	12%
Total population	3382	3875	15%

Not only did the total population grow by 15%, but the number working grew even more, by 20% (1.85% per year). Between 2011 and 2017, about 40 new dwellings were built in Ticehurst, adding 80-100 to the population. At this rate of growth, by 2017, the population of Ticehurst should be over 4,000 and the number working over 2,000. We have assumed a uniform growth rate over all figures between 2011 and 2017 of 9% (about 1.5% per year).

This figure can be easily extracted from the 2011 census.

			Growth to 2017 estimated and rounded
Economically active			
Full-time employees	846		920
Part-time employees	370		400
Self-employed	552		600
Unemployed	35		40
Incapacity	90		100
Total economically active		1893	2060
Economically inactive			
Long-term sick	76		80
Looking after home or family	156		170
Retired	431		470
Student	101		110
Other economically inactive	47		50
Total economically inactive		811	880
Too young or too old <16 yrs, > 74		1171	1280
Total population		3875	4220

The census asks for job information from those between 17 and 73 only. "Economically inactive" people are defined as not in employment and not actively seeking work. They would include, for example, retirees and students.

Taking out those who are on incapacity benefit, there are about 1960 people in Ticehurst who are economically active – who have or would like to have a job. The unemployment rate is low – less than 2%.

3. How many people who live in Ticehurst also work in Ticehurst?

This is a much more difficult question to answer.

The 2011 census asked how far people travelled to work. (Why this figure does not equate to the economically active minus unemployed and incapacitated is not clear.)

Ticehurst 2011 census distance travelled to work		2017 estimates rounded
Work mainly at home	406	440
Less than 10km	362	390
10-<30km	528	580
Over 30km	328	360
Other	218	240
Total working	1842	2010

Note that 440 work mainly at home, whilst (in the earlier table) 580 are self-employed: nearly 25% (140) of the self-employed do not work in Ticehurst Parish.

It is about 5km from Ticehurst village towards Tunbridge Wells to the parish boundary, and somewhat less going towards Flimwell and the A21. This means that the distance of 10km travelled to work does not guarantee that these workers live within the parish. However, it is very likely that most do, since only Wadhurst and Hawkhurst would provide employment within the 10km distance. As an estimate, maybe 70% of the people travelling less than 10km (about 270) will work in Ticehurst. This would give the number of people both living and working in Ticehurst as about 710 (440+270), and over 60% of these are working at home, probably self-employed.

The 580 people who travel between 10 and 30km are probably working mainly in Tunbridge Wells, the nearest large town.

The 360 who travel over 30km are probably working in London. The 240 other are a mystery.

Assuming 20% of employees of large & medium businesses live in Ticehurst, and 50% of small businesses, the number of jobs from the Business Survey is given below.

	From survey	Derived	Total	Live in parish	Numbers
Employees in L	482	120	602	20%	120.4
Employees in M	141	30	171	20%	34.2
Employees in S	49	90	139	50%	69.5
Total	672	240	912		224.1

How many of the self-employed are also registered as a business, and therefore included in the figures from the employment survey? This is very difficult to estimate. Jobs such as gardeners, cleaners, decorators etc. are seldom registered as a business.

30 small businesses, representing 50 employees, replied to the survey. We found 90 in total in the parish. Assuming that the person in charge of the business is classed as self-employed, this represents just 90 out of the 580 self-employed people as derived from the census, suggesting that the number of jobs in Ticehurst should be increased by a proportion of the 440 working mainly at home (from the census), say by 300, taking the number of jobs in Ticehurst to around 1200.

This is supported by the survey carried out by the Neighbourhood Plan in September 2017. People were asked “Is your place of work in Ticehurst Parish?” Over 30% said yes. If this is representative, then it suggests that 30% of 2,010 – the estimated working population in 2017 – work in the parish, about 600 people (of the same order as the 710 estimated earlier).

4. How many people who live outside Ticehurst work in the parish?

Number of jobs in Ticehurst from registered businesses	900
Number of jobs in Ticehurst from unregistered businesses	300
Total jobs	1200
Number of people working mainly at home	300
Number of people travelling less than 10km	270
Total working and living in parish	570
(Total working and living in parish estimated from survey	600)

Therefore number of jobs done by people living outside Ticehurst 630

On the assumption that there are 1200 jobs in Ticehurst parish, and 570-600 people both live and work in the parish, then 600-630 jobs must be done by people who live outside the parish.

So there are 600-630 people travelling from outside the parish to work there, and well over 1000 from the parish travelling to work outside it (nearly half of those more than 30km).

Increasing the parish population will only increase the travelling. The current requirement is for Ticehurst Parish to build 130+ homes in the next ten years, with the probability that this will result in a requirement for 200 more jobs. It is unlikely that the parish will be able to find 200 more jobs easily (an increase of over 15%).

5. Figures used in Neighbourhood Plan

We have figures from three sources:

- 2011 census (and 2001 census to show how parish is growing)
- NP Employment survey April 2017
- NP Housing survey September 2017

We have tried to cross-check these sources and come to reasonable figures, with a degree of rounding included.

We have therefore used the following figures in the Neighbourhood Plan:

- Total population in 2017 4200
- Total economically active 2050
- % Working in parish 30%
- Number of jobs in parish 1200
- Number working in parish 600
- Number working out of parish 1450
- Number coming in to work 600

