



# Planning research

People in Bolton Factfile no. 6

Jobs & Earnings

Communicating research and  
sharing knowledge

# People in Bolton

## Jobs & Earnings Factfile - Updated October 2018

People in Bolton factfiles provide key facts and figures about people who live or work in the borough of Bolton, and bring together information from a variety of sources. They are an evolving resource which are regularly updated to include more recent information as it becomes available.

Other related publications, including more detailed information on a range of topics can be accessed at: [www.bolton.gov.uk/researchandinformation](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/researchandinformation)

This factfile looks at people who work in Bolton. This includes the industrial sectors and occupations that people in Bolton are employed in, and how much people working in Bolton earn. These, workplace based statistics, comprise people who both live and work in Bolton, and also people who travel into the borough to their place of work.

This factfile also includes details of the occupations filled by people who live in Bolton, and are resident based.

The factfile is set out in the following sections:

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## 1.1 Jobs in Bolton

Information on the number and types of jobs in Bolton comes from the **Business Register & Employment Survey**, (BRES). This is a yearly sample survey of employers who appear on the **Inter-Departmental Business Register**, (IDBR). Employers are asked about the number of jobs held by their employees, broken down by full or part-time status and industry. It is important to note that BRES produces estimates of **employee**, rather than *workforce* jobs; HM Forces & Government Supported trainees and some self-employed people are therefore excluded. However in 2015 the sampling frame was altered for the first time to include business units with a single Pay As You Earn (PAYE) code for which no Value Added Tax (VAT) data was available (i.e. solely PAYE based businesses with employment counts less than 20). This improvement in coverage is estimated to have increased the business survey population nationally by around **95,000** businesses from Dec 15-Jan 16 and is reflected in the newly produced BRES estimates. This means however that data from 2015/16 onwards will not be comparable to previous year's outputs.

BRES data replaces the former Annual Business Inquiry (ABI) and the two datasets are not comparable as they use different methodologies, hence current estimates are only available from 2009 onwards.

The total number of jobs in the Borough has fluctuated over the years, and is subject to many variations. In 2017 it was estimated there were approximately **112,000** jobs in Bolton, which was around 8.5% of all jobs in the Greater Manchester area. This is an increase of around **3,500** jobs from 2016.

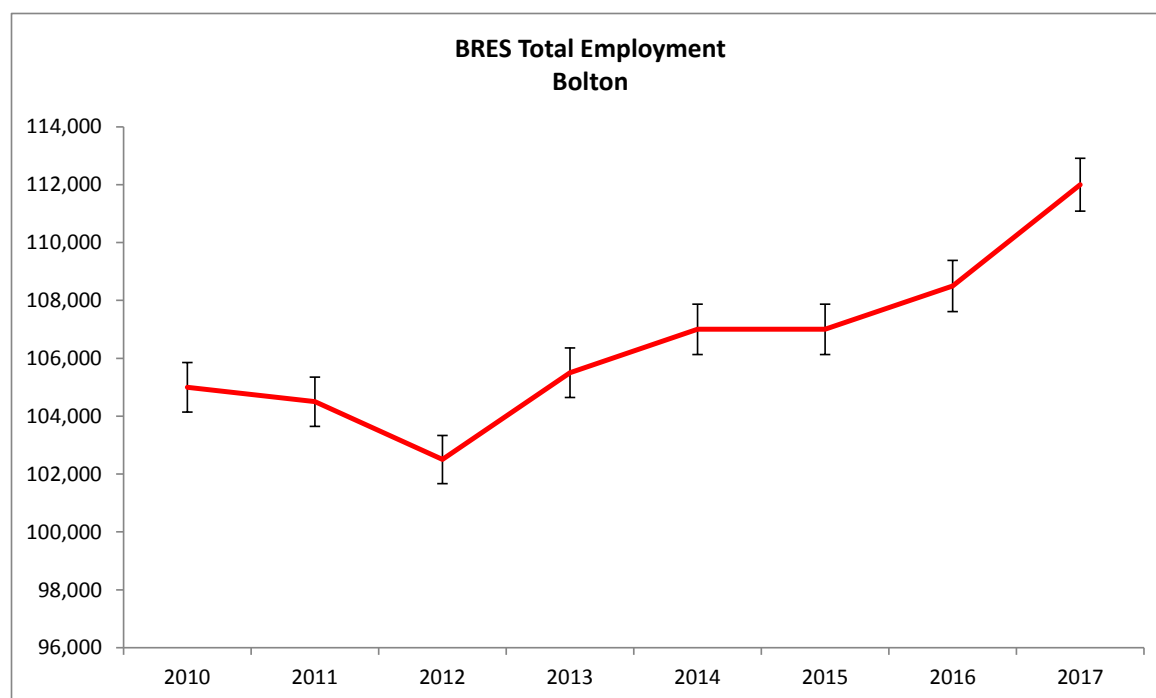
The largest increase in Greater Manchester from 2009-onwards was in **Manchester**, with an increase of around 77,000 jobs since 2009; the largest decrease was in **Tameside** with a loss of almost 2,500 jobs. However it should be noted that BRES data in Bolton comes with a coefficient of variation of +/-0.8% in 2017 meaning we are 95% sure that the information given is correct to either plus or minus 0.8%. The information has also been rounded to the nearest 500.

### BRES Total Employment in Bolton

	Bolton	Trend	Change	Percentage Change
<b>2009</b>	107,500	-	-	-
<b>2010</b>	105,000	↙	-2,500	-2.3%
<b>2011</b>	104,500	↙	-500	-0.5%
<b>2012</b>	102,500	↙	-2,000	-1.9%
<b>2013</b>	105,500	↗	3,000	2.9%
<b>2014</b>	107,000	↗	1,500	1.4%
<b>2015</b>	107,000	↔	0	0.0%
<b>2016</b>	108,500	↗	1,500	1.4%
<b>2017</b>	<b>112,000</b>	↗	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

## BRES Total Employment in Greater Manchester

	2009	2017	Trend	Change	Percentage Change
<b>Manchester</b>	315,500	392,500	↗	77,000	24.4%
<b>Trafford</b>	130,500	152,000	↗	21,500	16.5%
<b>Oldham</b>	78,500	88,000	↗	9,500	12.1%
<b>Salford</b>	118,500	130,500	↗	12,000	10.1%
<b>Bury</b>	65,000	69,000	↗	4,000	6.2%
<b>Wigan</b>	103,000	109,000	↗	6,000	5.8%
<b>Bolton</b>	<b>107,500</b>	<b>112,000</b>	↗	<b>4,500</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>Stockport</b>	128,500	131,500	↗	3,000	2.3%
<b>Rochdale</b>	77,500	76,500	↘	-1,000	-1.3%
<b>Tameside</b>	72,500	70,000	↘	-2,500	-3.4%



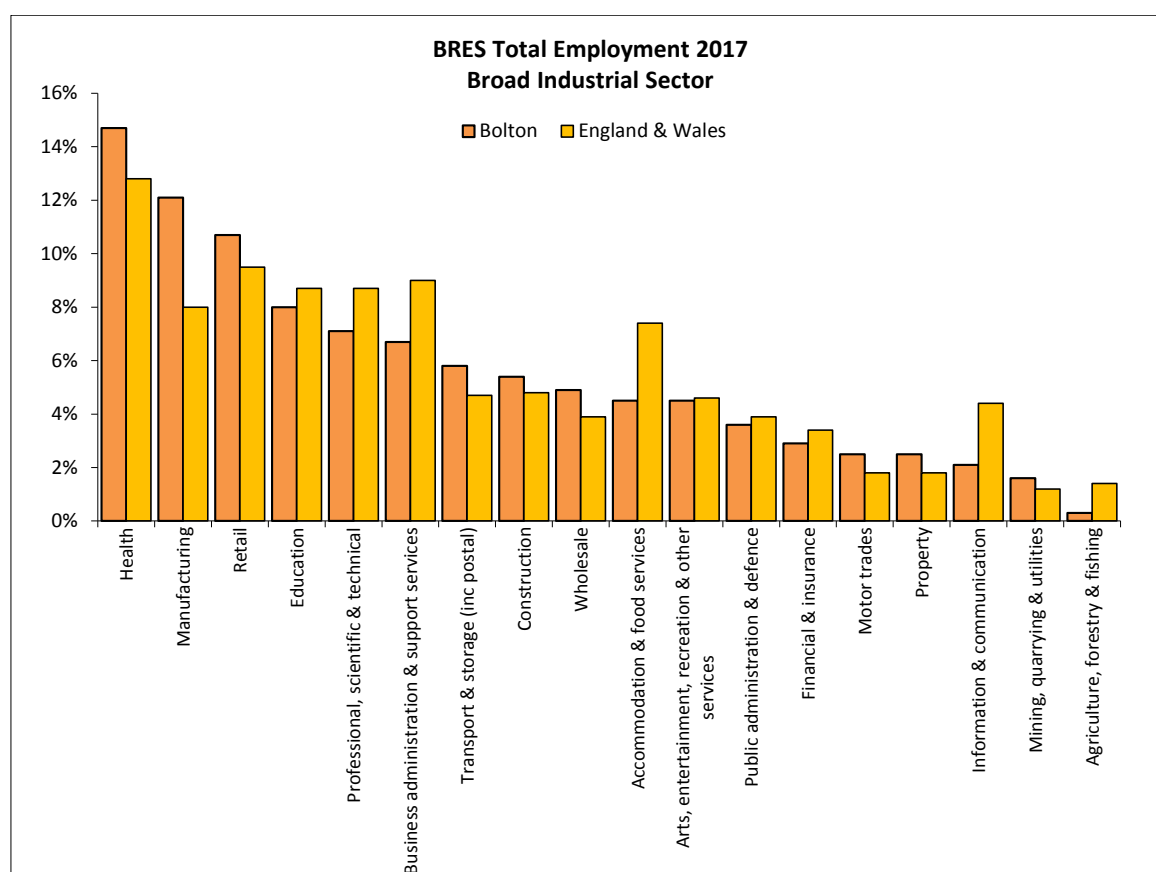
Source: Office for National Statistics / NOMIS, Business Register & Employment Survey 2017.

## 1.2 Employment Sectors in Bolton

Information from BRES can also be broken down into industry types in order to further explore employment trends. In 2017 the biggest industry in Bolton was **'Health'** (this includes residential and social care in addition to hospital & GP services). Almost **1 in 6** employed residents in Bolton work in the health care industry, compared to around 1 in 8 nationwide. Looking at the more detailed information available for industries the largest single industry in Bolton is classed as *'Hospital Services'*, which consisted of 6,000 people.

The next biggest industry in Bolton is **manufacturing** – this made up around **12%** of all jobs in 2017, compared to just 8% nationwide. This worked out at around **13,500** jobs in Bolton; looking at the more detailed subcategories around a quarter of these were in the *manufacture of food products*, (specifically bread, pastry goods, cakes and biscuits).

Bolton also has a significant number of people employed in the **retail** industry as well as in **education**, as well as a larger than average number of people working in transport & storage, motor trades & property. There were significantly fewer than average people working in agriculture, information & communication and accommodation & food services industries than nationwide.

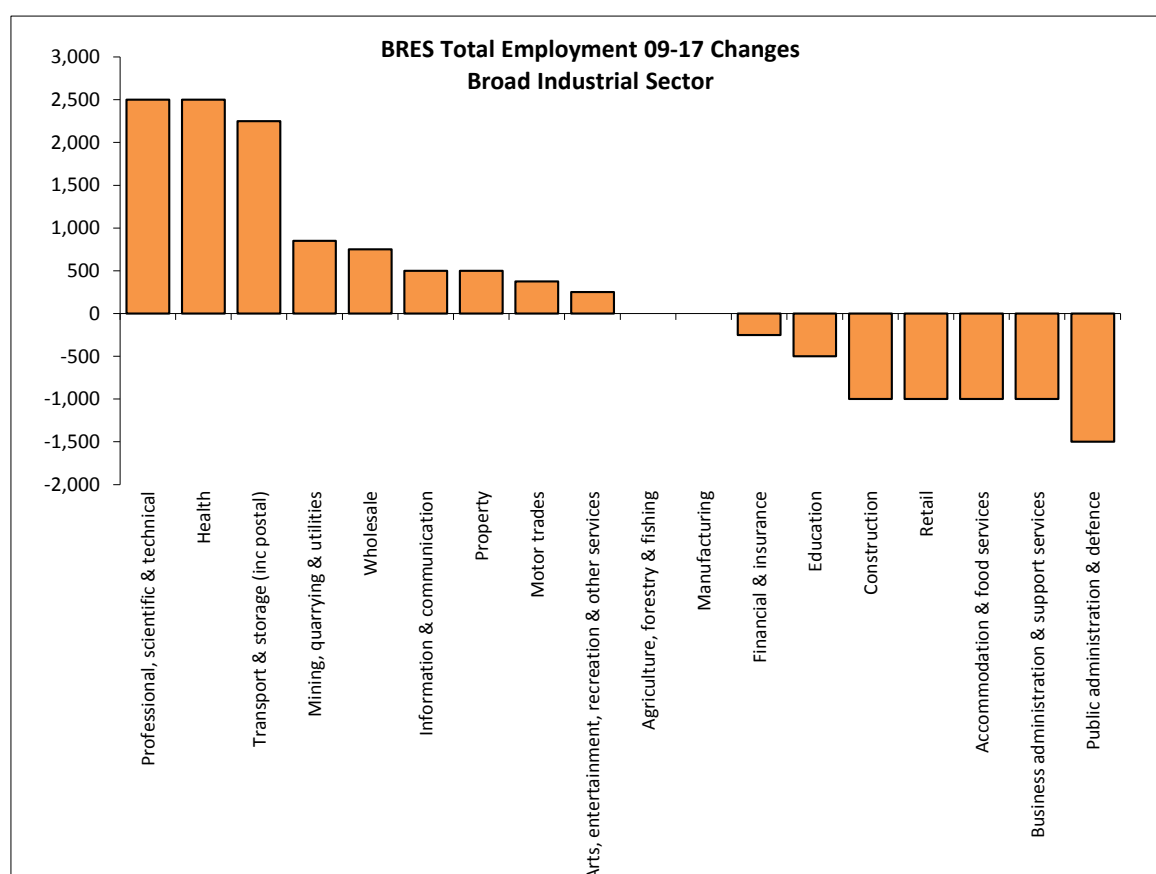


Source: Office for National Statistics / NOMIS, Business Register & Employment Survey 2017. Numbers rounded to nearest 500.

During the last few years there have also been changes in the proportion of jobs in different sectors in Bolton. The largest decline in the proportion of jobs since 2009 was in **public administration & defence**, which declined from around 5,500 jobs in 2009 to 4,000 in 2017, a decrease of around a quarter. There have also been significant decreases in **business administration & support services, accommodation & food services** and **retail**.

The most significant increase in Bolton since 2009 has been the growth of the ‘**Professional, Scientific & Technical**’ sector. This has increased from 5,500 in 2009 to 8,000 in 2017, an increase of almost double with an extra 2,500 jobs. It is worth noting that the ‘Professional, Scientific & Technical’ category includes groups such as management consultancies, activities of head offices as well as professional classifications such as the legal sector, accounting, marketing etc. It is the former rather than the latter that we suspect most of the growth in Bolton has occurred (e.g. rises in temping organisations, etc.) although there does appear to be a significant growth in solicitor firms over the past 8 years.

Other areas of growth in Bolton included **transport & storage, health** (which also includes social care activities) and ‘**properties**’. Upon further investigation the majority of growth in the transport sector involved employees in the ‘warehouse & storage for land transport’ and the ‘other postal & courier activities’ sector.



Source: Office for National Statistics / NOMIS, Business Register & Employment Survey 2017. Numbers rounded to nearest 500.

Section	Subclass	2009	2017	Change	% Change
Transportation And Storage	Operation of warehousing and storage facilities for land transport activities of division 49	1,250	3,000	1,750	140.0%
Human Health And Social Work Activities	Hospital activities	4,500	6,000	1,500	33.3%
Professional, Scientific And Technical Activities	Solicitors	1,250	2,250	1,000	80.0%
Electricity, Gas, Steam And Air Conditioning Supply	Distribution of electricity	0	800	800	-
Professional, Scientific And Technical Activities	Activities of head offices	450	1,250	800	177.8%
Administrative And Support Service Activities	Combined facilities support activities	75	800	725	966.7%
Financial And Insurance Activities	Other activities auxiliary to insurance and pension funding	300	1,000	700	233.3%
Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	Wholesale of other machinery and equipment	350	1,000	650	185.7%
Real Estate Activities	Renting and operating of Housing Association real estate	350	1,000	650	185.7%
Human Health And Social Work Activities	Social work activities without accommodation for the elderly and disabled	600	1,250	650	108.3%
Real Estate Activities	Real estate agencies	400	1,000	600	150.0%
Construction	Construction of roads and motorways	250	800	550	220.0%
Human Health And Social Work Activities	Other residential care activities	700	1,250	550	78.6%
Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	Maintenance and repair of motor vehicles	1,000	1,500	500	50.0%
Construction	Construction of utility projects for electricity and telecommunications	500	0	-500	-100.0%
Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	Retail sale in non-specialised stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating	4,500	4,000	-500	-11.1%
Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	Retail sale of clothing in specialised stores	1,750	1,250	-500	-28.6%
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	General public administration activities	3,000	2,500	-500	-16.7%
Education	Primary education	4,000	3,500	-500	-12.5%
Human Health And Social Work Activities	Other social work activities without accommodation nec	2,000	1,500	-500	-25.0%
Public Administration And Defence; Compulsory Social Security	Compulsory social security activities	600	0	-600	-100.0%
Accommodation And Food Service Activities	Public houses and bars	1,750	1,000	-750	-42.9%
Real Estate Activities	Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	1,000	250	-750	-75.0%
Administrative And Support Service Activities	General cleaning of buildings	1,750	700	-1,050	-60.0%
Administrative And Support Service Activities	Activities of call centres	2,000	800	-1,200	-60.0%

### 1.3 Earnings in Bolton

Information on wage levels in the borough comes from survey data from the Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings (ASHE).

In 2018 workplace earnings in Bolton remained notably less than national & regional earnings levels, although this varied between gender & full/part-time workers.

In 2018 the data for median annual basic pay for **men working full time** in Bolton was suppressed as being statistically unreliable. However using data from 2017 we can see wage levels were around £26,100, 83% of the 2017 national average of £31,400. Wage levels for this group have increased by around 12% since 2006; however they have marginally declined by around -0.3% in 2016-17. By contrast national wage levels for male full-time workers grew by around 2% during the same time period.

**Women working full time** in Bolton are also paid less than the national average, however, the gap is slightly narrower than for men. In 2018 the average pay for women working full time in Bolton was around £22,500, which is 86% of the national average of £26,100, (a gap that has remained fairly constant). Female full-time pay in Bolton has also increased by around 27% since 2006 and 2% in the last year alone, (similar to the national rate of change). This means that female full-time workers in Bolton median pay is increasing at a faster rate than male counterparts.

In 2018 the data for median annual basic pay for **men working part time** in Bolton was also suppressed for being statistically unreliable. However in 2017 **men working part-time** in Bolton earned around £10,000 a year, which was slightly higher than the national average at that time

of £9,600. (Historical data for this group is unavailable due to low sample sizes, therefore it is hard to put this figure into proper context). By contrast **women working part-time** in Bolton in 2018 earned an average of £10,500 a year; higher than the national average of £9,800. Wage levels for this group have increased by around one quarter (25%) since 2009; and in the last year alone there was an increase of almost 10%. This can be compared to nationally where wages for women part-time workers have only increased by around 18%, and have gone up by just 2% in the last year.

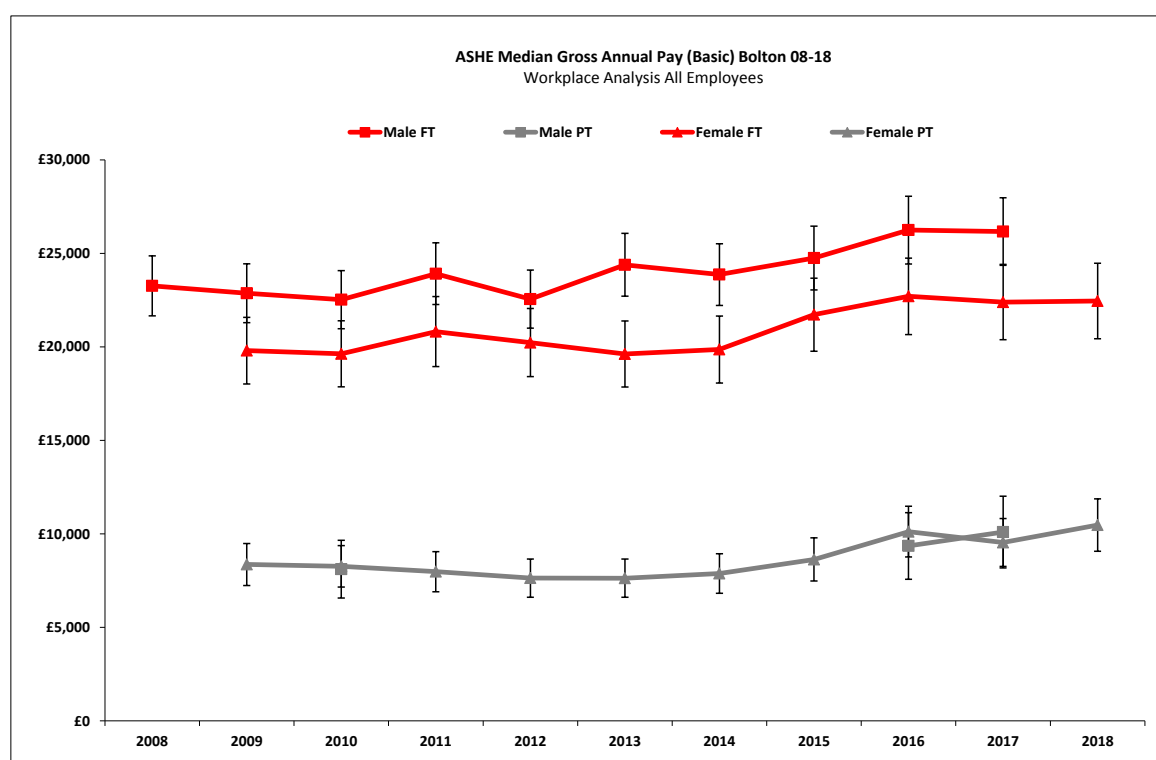
In summary the most recent data from BRES implies that whilst growth in full-time wages in Bolton has slowed for both male and female full-time workers, part-time wages have substantially increased. Furthermore growth for female workers (both full and part-time) appears to be higher than for male counterparts, however data for 2018 is not available for male workers so fully up to date comparisons between genders are not currently available.

It should be noted that ASHE data for Bolton comes with a **confidence interval** of between 5-20%, meaning that we are 95% sure that the information given on wage levels is correct to either plus or minus 5-20%.

### ASHE Median Annual Gross Pay (Basic) 2018

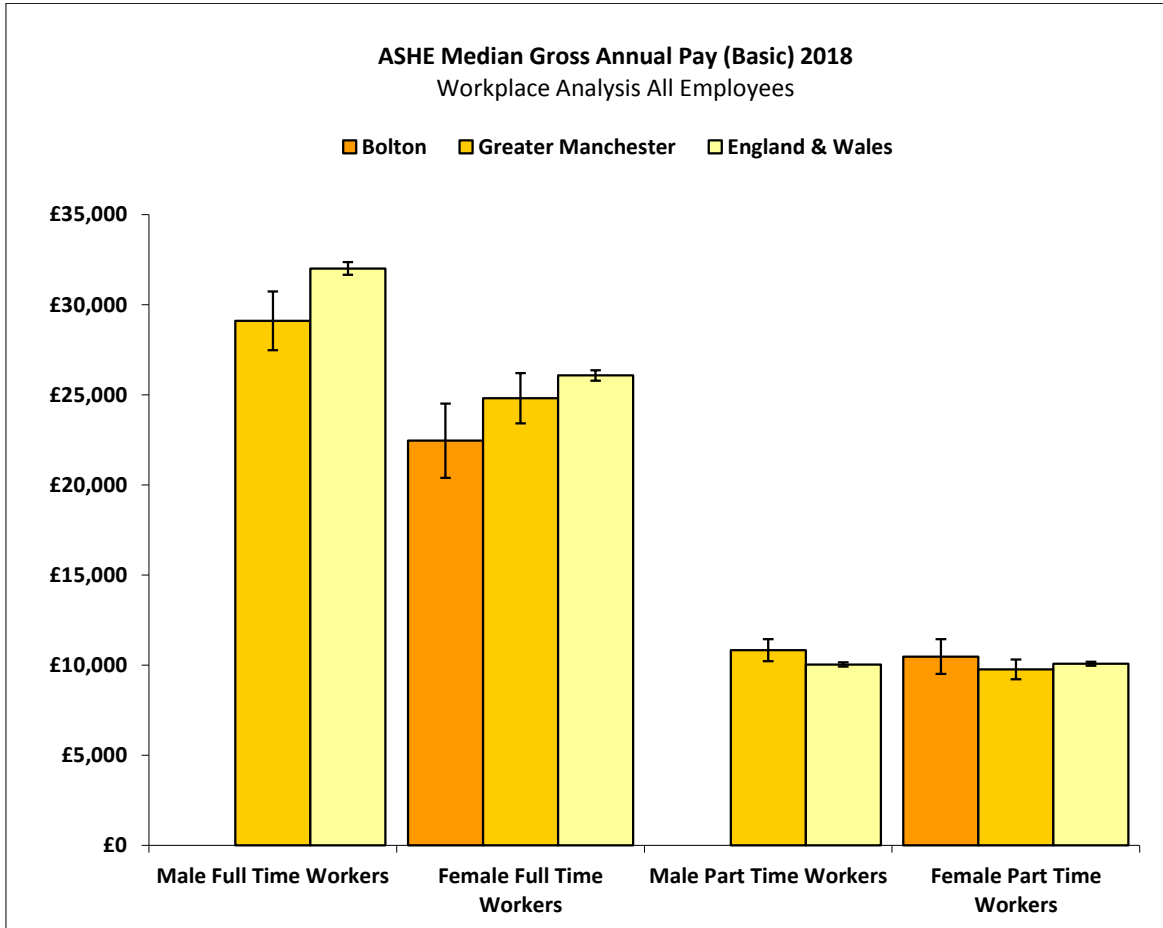
	Male Full-Time (£) +/- 95% CI		Female Full-Time (£) +/- 95% CI		Male Part-Time (£) +/- 95% CI		Female Part-Time (£) +/- 95% CI	
<b>Bolton</b>	#	#	£22,456	8.6	#	#	£10,473	9.7
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	£29,113	3.3	£24,814	3.3	£10,828	9.6	£9,759	6.0
<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	£32,011	0.4	£26,077	0.7	£10,037	2.2	£10,079	0.9

Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings 2018



Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings 2008-18





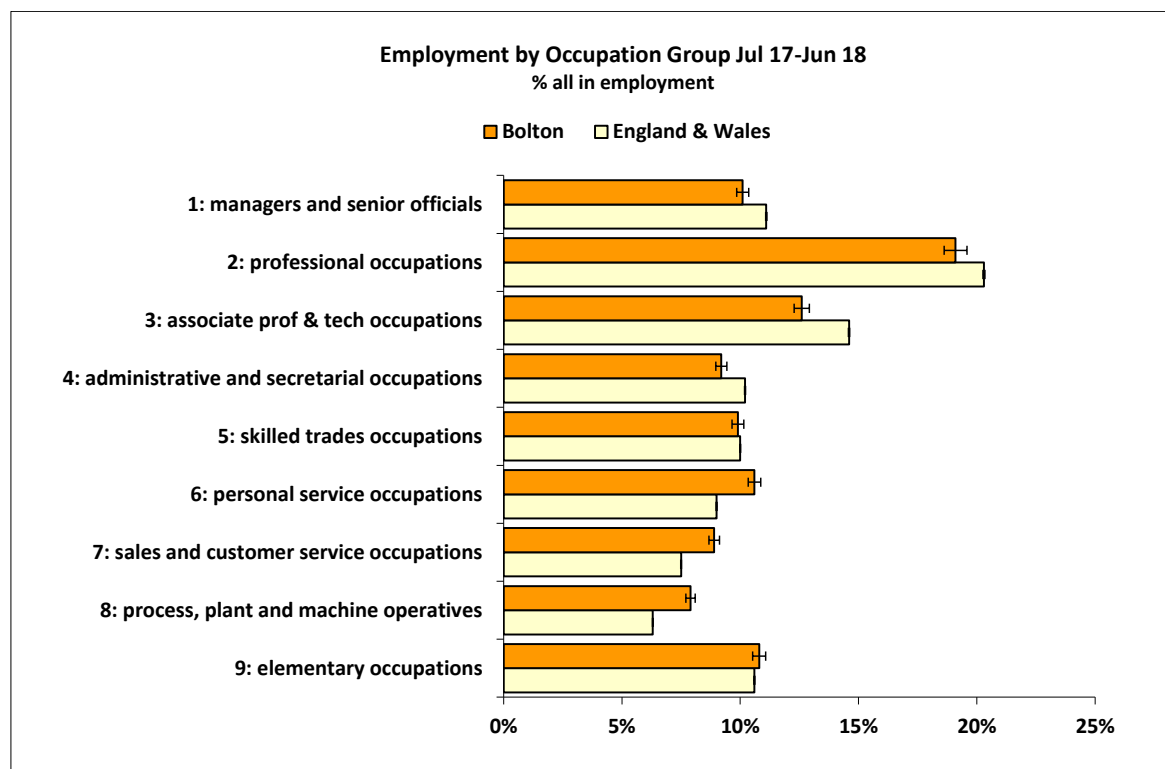
Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings 2018

## 1.4 Employment by Occupation Group

Information on occupation groups comes from the Annual Population Survey (APS). The APS is a continuous household survey, covering the UK, with the aim of providing estimates between censuses of key social and labour market variables at a local authority level. The APS is updated quarterly with rolling averages published each quarter for the preceding year. The most recent data update is for Jul 17-Jun 18.

In Bolton for 17-18 42% of those in employment are managers, senior officials or employed in professional or semi-professional occupations, which is slightly lower than nationally (46%).

Around one fifth of people in Bolton work in an administrative or skilled trade (20%), this is similar to the national figure. A similar number of people work in sales or personal services (20%), and lower grade process or elementary occupations (20%, compared to 17% for both categories in England & Wales). Overall there are fewer people working in **professional and associate professional** occupations and more people working in **sales and customer service** occupations in Bolton compared to England & Wales.



Source: Office for National Statistics / NOMIS, Annual Population Survey 2018