

## 2021 Census Data for Carmarthenshire – Welsh Language Skills

The Office for National Statistics has used a new statistical disclosure control methodology for Census 2021. As a result, figures created by summing lower-level geographies will not match figures released for higher geographies. The Office for National Statistics does not recommend the aggregation of lower-level geographies to create higher geographies.

Welsh Language Skills	Carmarthenshire				Wales			
	2011		2021		2011		2021	
<b>All People aged 3 and over</b>	<b>177,642</b>		<b>182,719</b>		<b>2,955,841</b>		<b>3,018,172</b>	
Can speak Welsh	78,048	43.9%	72,838	39.9%	562,016	19.0%	538,296	17.8%
No skills in Welsh	74,355	41.9%	85,287	46.7%	2,167,987	73.3%	2,259,017	74.8%
*Understands spoken Welsh only	20,716	11.7%	19,995	10.9%	157,792	5.3%	156,762	5.2%
Speaks but does not read or write	11,919	6.7%	10,578	5.8%	80,429	2.7%	68,391	2.3%
Speaks and reads but does not write Welsh	7,436	4.2%	5,031	2.8%	45,524	1.5%	33,971	1.1%
Speaks, reads and writes Welsh	58,321	32.8%	56,493	30.9%	430,717	14.6%	429,313	14.2%

### Analysis:

- Carmarthenshire now has the second highest numbers of Welsh speakers and remains the fourth highest in the percentage of the population that can speak Welsh.
- The number of people in Carmarthenshire who can speak Welsh has decreased by 4 percentage points since 2011. The number of Welsh speakers has also decreased nation wide to 538,296, however this is only a decrease of 2.8 percentage points. There are many factors that can contribute to this decrease, such as population and migration.
- Those in Carmarthenshire who reported having no skills in Welsh has increased by 4.8 percentage points to 46.7% from 41.9% in 2011, this is a higher % change compared to a national decrease of 1.5 percentage points,
- “Understands spoken Welsh only” is the category which saw the lowest decrease, with a 0.8 percentage point drop. This marginal decrease would suggest that those understanding Welsh has remained fairly steady in the last 10 years.

### Definition:

\*‘Understands spoken Welsh only’ means that the person understands spoken Welsh but has no other skills in the language. People could tick more than one option, so may appear in the table multiple times.