



Dirywiad y Gymraeg.

The Welsh Language Decline.

What impact did the Industrial Revolution have on the spoken welsh language... How did it survive?

History of the Welsh Language...

Welsh is one of the oldest spoken languages
in Europe.

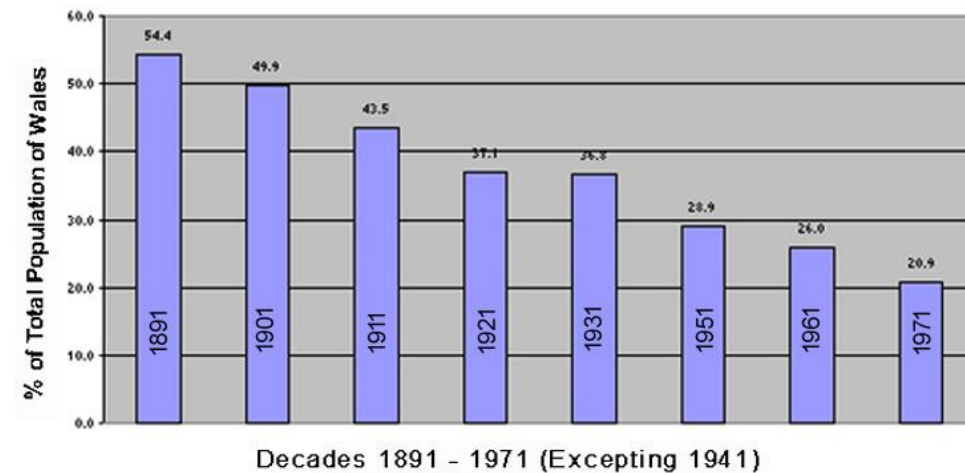
(Welsh Government 2020)

90% of the population in Wales spoke Welsh.

(Wolf stone, 2018)



Number of Welsh Speakers as a % of the Population of Wales 1891-1971



1892 – 54.4% → 1971 – 20.9%

Ioan (2012)

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The Industrial Revolution A Time of Change.

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Advantages

- Agricultural Advances.
- New Factories
- Transport
- Empire
- Power

(Twinkle 2020)

Disadvantages

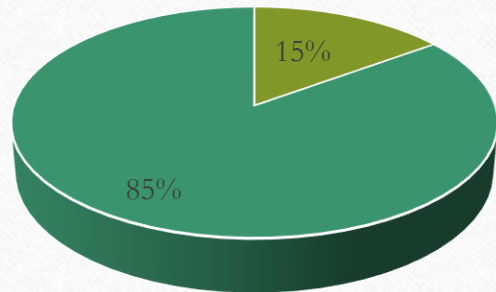
- Population boom
- Child Labour
- People lived in slums
- Negative impact on culture, religion and morals

(Asia- Pacific 2014)

How did Industrialisation affect the Welsh Language?

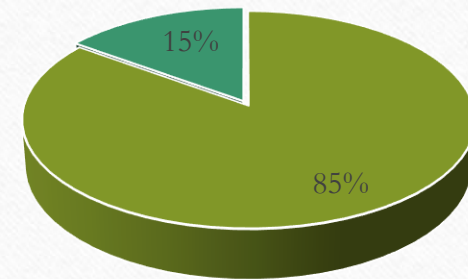
Migration

Year 1750 - % of Total Population



■ Living in Towns ■ Living in Villages

Year 1900 - % Total Population



■ Living in Towns ■ Living in Villages

Travelling South

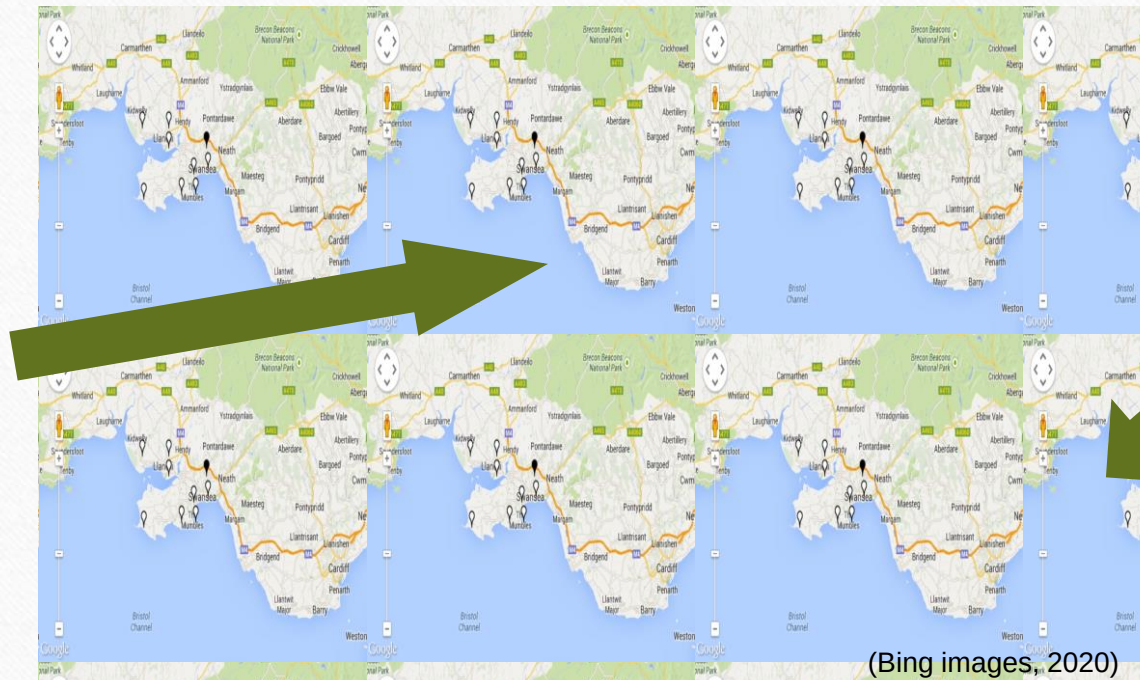
Thomas (1993) gave the impression that the Welsh families who migrated from villages to the industrialised areas in the south... still brought up their children to speak Welsh.

Geraint Jenkins counter-argues this view by stating that as people migrated to the south to work in coal mines, many communities lost thousands of Welsh-speaking people (Hopkins 2001).

67% of the population of Pontardawe only spoke Welsh.
(Jones 1998)

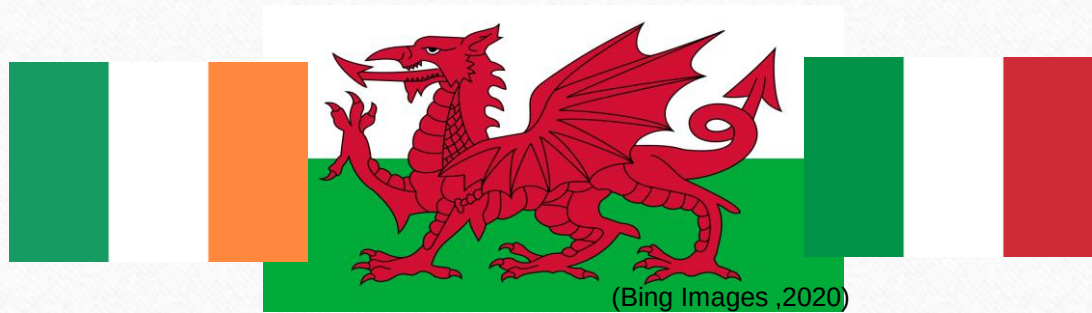
Only 1.9% of the population of Cardiff only spoke Welsh.

(Jones 1998)



(Bing images, 2020)

Coming to Wales

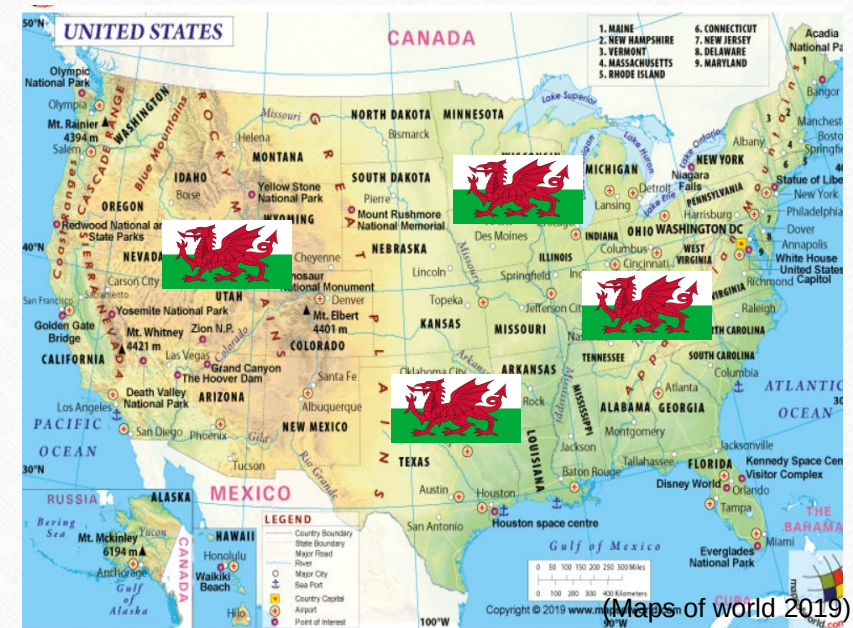
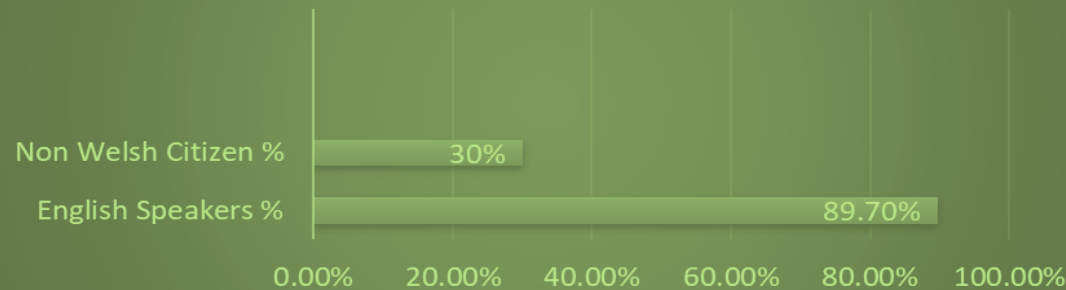


Leaving Wales

The Welsh language was slowing, but surely, diminishing...

(Jacob 2017)

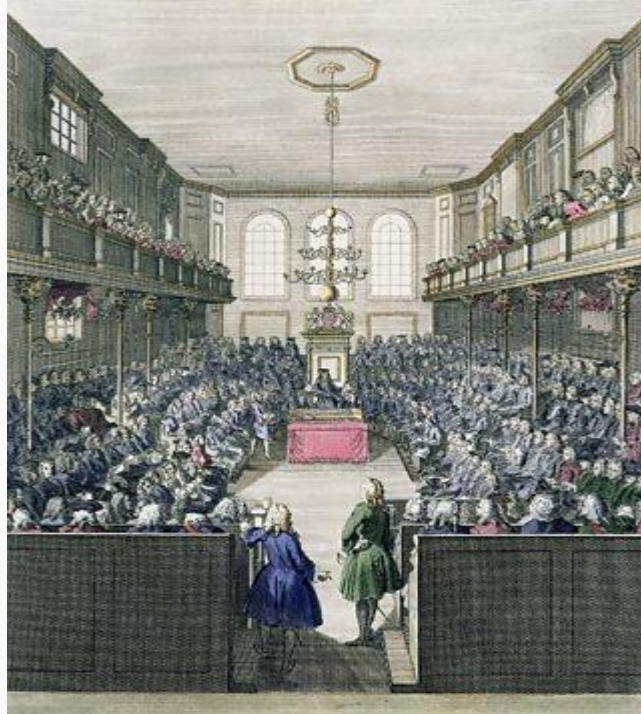
Population of Pontypool (Davies, 1999)



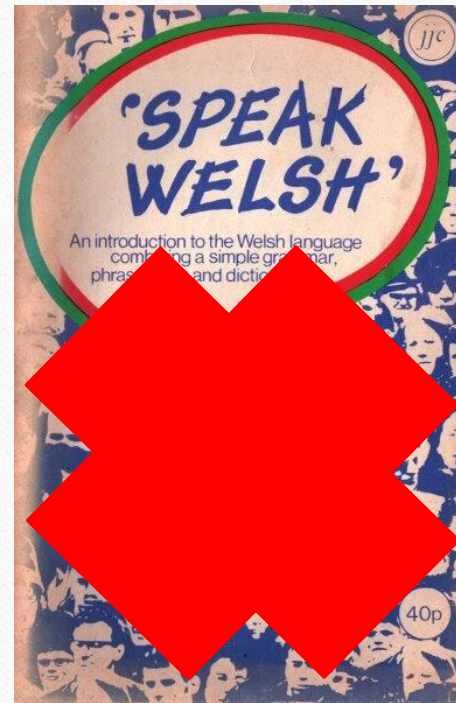
A Shift in Education during the Revolution.

Education of the Welsh language in Welsh schools was also affected by the changes that the revolution had brought to Wales.

(Morgan,2012)



(BBC,2020)



(Pearce,2007)

Cardiff 1847

93 English Schools v **0** Welsh Schools
(Jones,2012)

“The teaching of Welsh should not be made
compulsory” (Morgan,2012)



Maier Art Gallery (2012)



(Larson, 2008)

Along Came a helping hand

The Welsh Language Act 1967



Welsh Language Act 1967
(Legislation.gov 2011)

England

(Bing 2020)



Validity NOT Equality

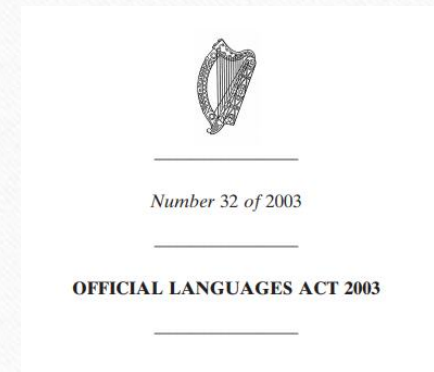


(Tunley, 2017)

Acts of Parliament lead the way...

- ❖ **The Welsh Language Act 1993**
- ❖ **Education Reform Act 1988**
 - Parent to child communication
 - Higher education
 - Adult education and,
 - Opportunities within the community
- ❖ **Broadcasting Act 1981**
- ❖ **The Government of Wales Act 1998**

The Welsh Language Act has been used as a precedent for minority languages

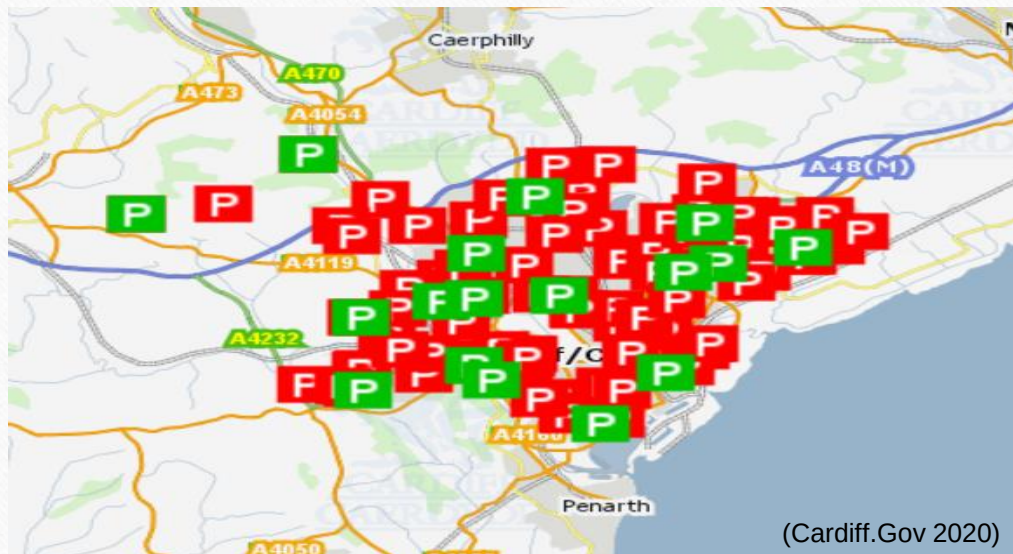


The Official Language Act 2003 was passed to promote the Irish language (Huws, 2006)

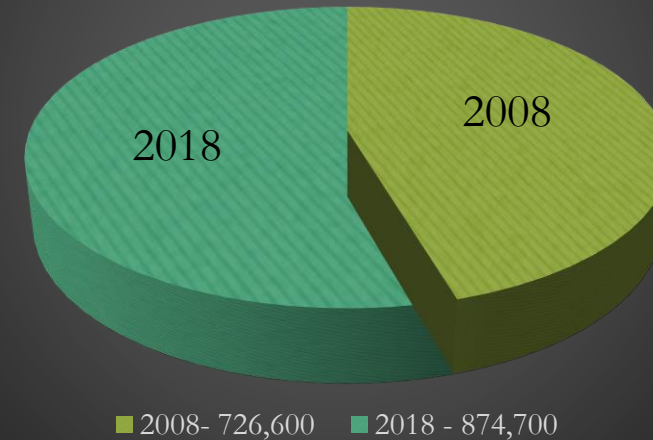
The Welsh Language is making a come back !

The Welsh Language survived despite the threat, of what is now, the most powerful language in the world.

(Huws,2006)



Number of Welsh Speakers in Wales



BBC News (2018)

An Ambitions Plan

In 2016 the First Minister Carwyn Jones announced the Governments plan to almost double the number of Welsh speakers in Wales by 2050. (Jones, 2016)

Alun Davies, minister for the Welsh language, admitted it was a ***"deliberately ambitious"***

Plaid Cymru's Sian Gwenllian called the announcement "another superficial stunt".

The First Minister proposed six key areas for discussion:

- Planning
- Everyday life
- Education
- People
- Support
- Rights

"We are a proudly bilingual nation," "We are confident these areas of discussion will continue to help us grow the language, so it thrives as a vibrant, living part of our communities.

(BBC NEWS 2016)



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