

Statistical bulletin

# Employment in the UK: February 2021

Estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity for the UK.



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Release date:  
23 February 2021

Next release:  
23 March 2021

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## 1 . Other pages in this release

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## 2 . Main points for October to December 2020

- October to December 2020 estimates show the unemployment rate continued to increase, while the employment rate continued to fall.
- Although total hours worked continued to increase from the low levels in the previous quarter, this increase slowed in the latest quarter.
- The UK employment rate was estimated at 75.0%, 1.5 percentage points lower than a year earlier and 0.3 percentage points lower than the previous quarter.
- The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 5.1%, 1.3 percentage points higher than a year earlier and 0.4 percentage points higher than the previous quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate was estimated at 20.9%, 0.4 percentage points higher than a year earlier but largely unchanged compared with the previous quarter.
- The total number of weekly hours worked was 978.7 million, down 71.4 million hours on the same period the previous year but up 53.7 million hours compared with the previous quarter.
- The redundancy rate for the latest quarter was estimated at 12.3 people per thousand employees.

## 3 . Coronavirus and measuring the labour market

Latest Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on interviews that took place from the start of October to the end of December 2020. Interviews during October, November and December relate to the period when a number of the government lockdown measures aimed at protecting businesses and jobs during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic were reintroduced.

Because of the coronavirus and the suspension of face-to-face interviewing on 17 March 2020, we had to make operational changes to the LFS, particularly in the way that we contact households for initial interview, which moved to a "by telephone" approach. These changes resulted in a response where certain characteristics have not been as well represented as previously. This is evidenced in a change in the balance of type of household that we are reaching. In particular, the proportion of households where people own their homes in the sample has increased and rented accommodation households has decreased.

To mitigate the impact of this non-response bias, in October 2020, we introduced housing tenure into the LFS weighting methodology for periods from January to March 2020 onwards. While not providing a perfect solution, this redressed some of the issues that had previously been noted in the survey results. More information can be found in [Coronavirus and its impact on the Labour Force Survey](#) and in our [measuring the labour market during the pandemic blog](#).

The change in weighting methodology resulted in revisions to all LFS estimates published on 13 October 2020 for the periods January to March 2020 through to May to July 2020 and consequently had an impact on recent movements for a number of the published series. More information about the impact of the change in weighting on main LFS indicators published in October 2020 can be found in [Dataset X08](#).

Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution. This will particularly affect estimates for country of birth, nationality, ethnicity and disability.

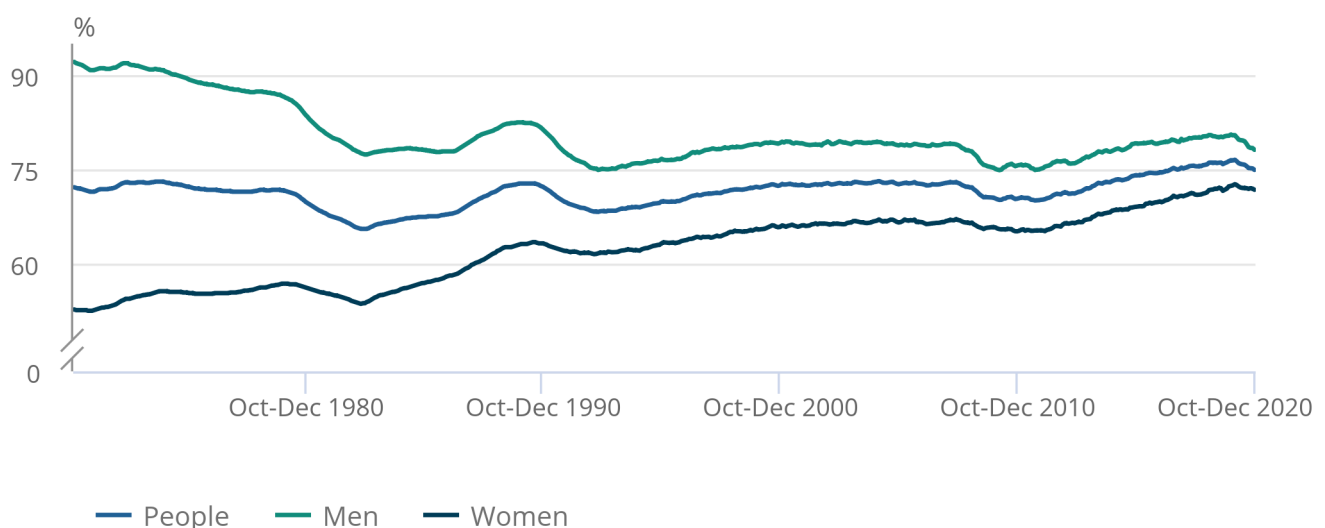
## 4 . Employment

**Figure 1: The employment rate for all people decreased by 1.5 percentage points on the year, and decreased by 0.3 percentage points on the quarter, to 75.0%**

UK employment rates (aged 16 to 64 years), seasonally adjusted, between January to March 1971 and October to December 2020

Figure 1: The employment rate for all people decreased by 1.5 percentage points on the year, and decreased by 0.3 percentage points on the quarter, to 75.0%

UK employment rates (aged 16 to 64 years), seasonally adjusted, between January to March 1971 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

[Employment](#) measures the number of people aged 16 years and over in paid work and those who had a job that they were temporarily away from. The employment rate is the proportion of people aged between 16 and 64 years who are in employment.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) definition of employment includes those who worked in a job for at least one hour and those temporarily absent from a job. Workers furloughed under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme or who are self-employed but temporarily not in work have a reasonable expectation of returning to their jobs after a temporary period of absence. Therefore, they are classified as employed under the ILO definition.

The estimated employment rate for people aged between 16 and 64 years had generally been increasing since early 2012, largely driven by an increase in the employment rate for women. However, there has been a decrease since December 2019 to February 2020, coinciding with the start of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (Figure 1).

For people aged between 16 and 64 years, for October to December 2020:

- the estimated employment rate for all people was 75.0%; this is 1.5 percentage points down on the same period the previous year and 0.3 percentage points down compared with the previous quarter (July to September 2020)
- the estimated employment rate for men was 78.2%; this is 2.4 percentage points down on the same period the previous year and 0.4 percentage points down on the quarter
- the estimated employment rate for women was 71.8%; this is 0.6 percentage points down on the same period the previous year and 0.1 percentage points down on the quarter

The annual decrease in the employment rate was the largest since January to March 2010, with the rate dropping to its lowest level since July to September 2017.

The [single-month](#) and [weekly](#) estimates of the employment rate suggest that the rate was lower towards the end of the three-month period.

The increase in the employment rate for women in recent years is partly a result of changes to the State Pension age for women, resulting in fewer women retiring between the ages of 60 and 65 years. However, since the equalisation of the State Pension age, the employment rate for women had continued to rise, though it has now decreased because of the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Imputation used for the Labour Force Survey (LFS) was not designed to deal with the changes experienced in the labour market in recent months. Experimental work with adjusted methodology suggests the use of the existing methodology has little impact on the employment rate (less than 0.2 percentage points). Further information can be found in the section on [Measuring the data](#).

Estimates for October to December 2020 show 32.39 million people aged 16 years and over in employment, 541,000 fewer than a year earlier. This was the largest annual decrease since May to July 2009 and was mainly driven by men. However, there was also an annual decrease for women; only the second since January to March 2012.

#### **More about economy, business and jobs**

- All ONS analysis, summarised in our [economy, business and jobs roundup](#).
- Explore the latest trends in employment, prices and trade in our [economic dashboard](#).
- View [all economic data](#).

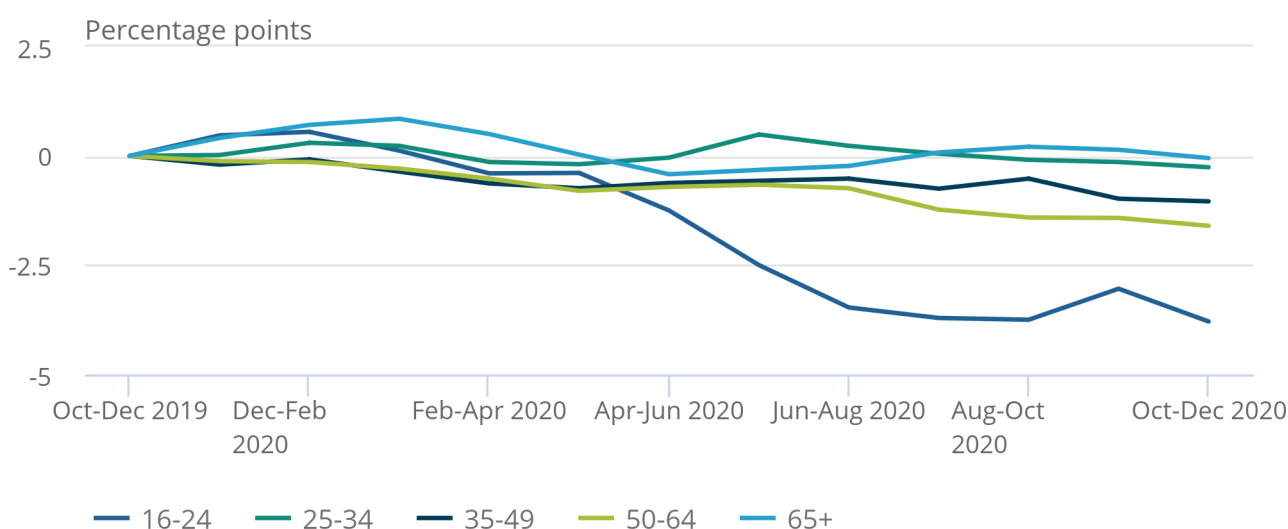
## Age group

**Figure 2: There has been a large decrease in employment for people aged 16 to 24 years over the last year**

UK employment rate by age (16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, cumulative growth from October to December 2019, for each period up to October to December 2020

### Figure 2: There has been a large decrease in employment for people aged 16 to 24 years over the last year

UK employment rate by age (16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, cumulative growth from October to December 2019, for each period up to October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

Looking more closely at the change in employment over the quarter by age group (Figure 2), the employment rate for those aged 16 to 24 years decreased by 3.8 percentage points on the year and 0.1 percentage points on the quarter to 14.4%. Meanwhile, the rate for those aged 35 to 49 years also decreased by 1.0 percentage points on the year and 0.3 percentage points on the quarter to 84.8%. This was the largest annual decrease for this age group since February to April 2010. Additionally, the rate for those aged 50 to 64 years decreased by a record 1.6 percentage points on the year and 0.4 percentage points on the quarter to 71.1%.

## Full-time and part-time employees and self-employed

Looking more closely at the quarterly decrease in employment, this was driven by decreases in the number of full-time self-employed people and part-time employees. The decrease in full-time self-employed people was driven by men, but full-time self-employed women also saw a record quarterly decrease. Meanwhile, the decrease in part-time employees was driven more by women, although male part-time employees also saw a quarterly decrease. The quarterly decrease was partly offset by an increase in full-time employees, which was mainly driven by women.

Employment status on the LFS is self-reported, with people classifying themselves as being either an employee or self-employed. [Labour market flows estimates](#) show that the recent increases in the number of employees and decreases in the number of self-employed people have been driven, in part, by a movement of people from self-employed to employee status. Of those who move from self-employed to employee status, the number who had changed jobs has only increased slightly from normal levels. Consequently, some of the fall in self-employment since January to March 2020 comes from an increase in the number of people who have changed to classifying themselves as an employee, even though they have not changed jobs.

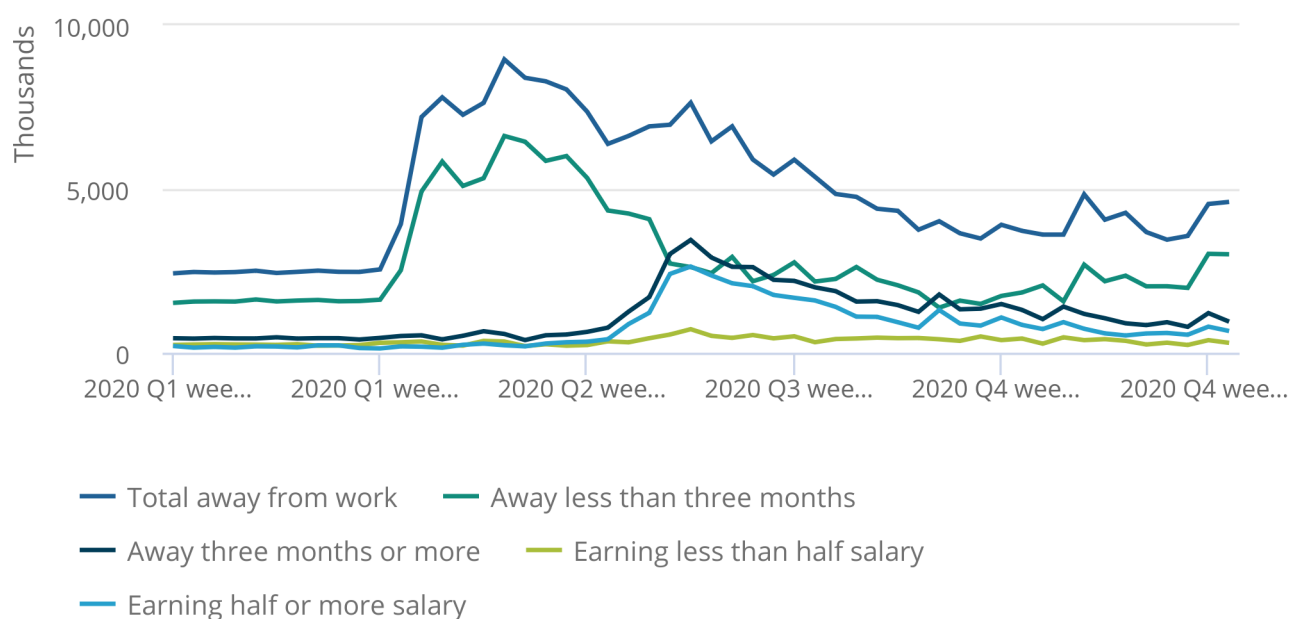
## Temporarily away from job

**Figure 3: The total number of people temporarily away from work increased slightly in November and December 2020**

Total number of people temporarily away from paid work, including their time away and amount of wage receiving if away for three months or more (16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between January 2020 and December 2020

### Figure 3: The total number of people temporarily away from work increased slightly in November and December 2020

Total number of people temporarily away from paid work, including their time away and amount of wage receiving if away for three months or more (16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between January 2020 and December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

#### Notes:

1. Time respondent has been temporarily away from paid work was asked to all in employment who were temporarily away from paid work in the reference period.
2. Amount of wage received was asked to all in employment who were temporarily away from paid work for three months or more in the reference period.
3. Estimates will not sum to totals because of missing responses and limited constraining in the seasonal adjustment.

From the way the Labour Force Survey (LFS) data are collected, it is possible to separate out responses relating to individual weeks during the survey period. We have developed a method for weighting the weekly LFS data to produce UK aggregates. The sample for any week is not representative, and the results are more volatile than the quarterly or monthly estimates. As such, their use is to show any large impact of a sudden change in labour market conditions and should not be used as a leading indicator.

The LFS collects information on those temporarily away from paid work that they expect to return to. Of those temporarily away from paid work we gather a range of data, including whether they are temporarily away from work short-term (less than three months) or long-term (three months or more) and whether those away long-term are earning more or less than half their usual salary.

These [experimental weekly Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#) estimates show that before lockdown the estimated number of people temporarily away from work was approximately 2.5 million. These people could be away for a variety of reasons including sickness, maternity or paternity leave, holidays or economic reasons.

There was a large increase in both March and April 2020 in those stating that they were temporarily away from paid work (Figure 3), with nearly 9 million away from work in the final week of April 2020. The number of people temporarily away from work has fallen since its peak in April and May 2020, although it increased slightly in November and December.

In April 2020, several questions were added to the LFS questionnaire to gather additional information on the situation in the labour market during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. One question asks whether an employee is still being paid while their job is on hold and/or affected by the coronavirus pandemic; everyone answering this question will be defined as in employment.

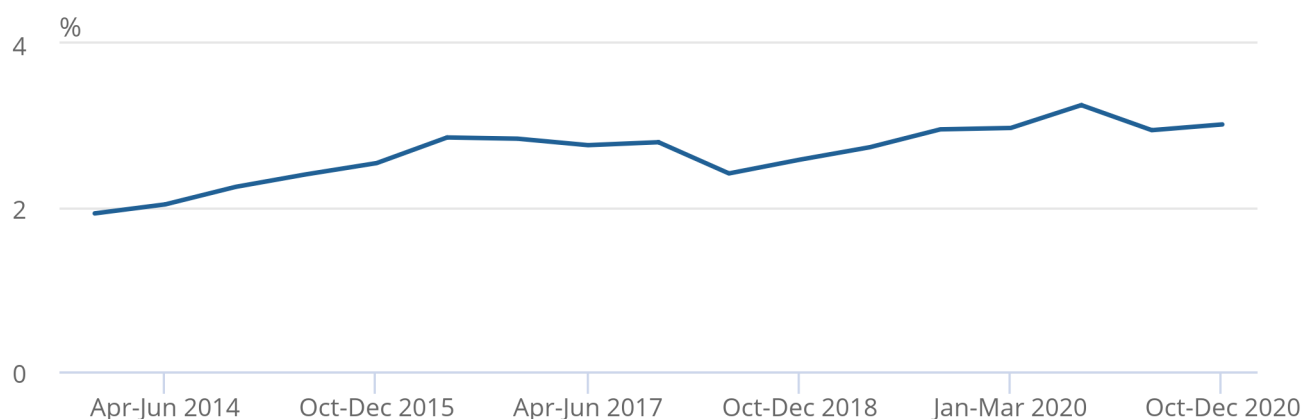
[Experimental weekly Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#) estimates show approximately half a million employees received no pay while their job was on hold and/or affected by the coronavirus pandemic in April and May 2020. This decreased and had remained largely flat at around 200,000 since July 2020; however, it has increased over the last quarter to an average of around 307,000 in December 2020.

#### Figure 4: The proportion of people in employment on zero-hours contracts was largely unchanged on the year, at 3.0%

Proportion of people in employment who are on zero-hours contracts<sup>1</sup> in their main job (aged 16 years and over), UK, not seasonally adjusted, between October to December 2013 and October to December 2020

#### Figure 4: The proportion of people in employment on zero-hours contracts was largely unchanged on the year, at 3.0%

Proportion of people in employment who are on zero-hours contracts<sup>1</sup> in their main job (aged 16 years and over), UK, not seasonally adjusted, between October to December 2013 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

#### Notes:

1. There is a break in the series between October to December 2019 and January to March 2020 because of a change in methodology. More information can be found in this [article](#).

## Hours worked

Since estimates began in 1971, up until the introduction of the coronavirus (COVID-19) lockdown measures, [total hours worked](#) by women had generally increased, reflecting increases in both the employment rate for women and the UK population. In contrast, total hours worked by men had been relatively stable because of falls in the employment rate for men, and increases in the share of part-time working, roughly offset by population increases.

Workers temporarily absent from a job as a result of the coronavirus pandemic would still be classed as employed, however, they would be employed working no hours. This directly impacted the total actual hours worked in October to December 2020. Since the average actual weekly hours are the average of all in employment, those temporarily absent from a job also impacted on those estimates. Even though lockdown restrictions were reintroduced during the October to December 2020 period, the estimates show an increase for hours worked in comparison with the previous quarter, although the increase has slowed and the level is still well below pre-coronavirus levels.



Between July to September 2020 and October to December 2020, total actual weekly hours worked in the UK saw an increase of 53.7 million, or 5.8%, to 978.7 million hours (Figure 5). Total hours worked for men saw an increase of 28.5 million, or 5.2%, to 572.5 million hours, and total hours worked for women saw an increase of 25.2 million, or 6.6%, to 406.2 million hours.

Average actual weekly hours worked saw an increase of 1.8 hours on the quarter to 30.2 hours. The average weekly hours worked by men saw an increase of 1.8 hours to 33.9 hours, while women's hours saw an increase of 1.7 hours to 26.2 hours.

### Figure 5: Total hours continues to show signs of recovery, but increases have slowed

UK total actual weekly hours worked (people aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between October to December 2005 and October to December 2020

### Figure 5: Total hours continues to show signs of recovery, but increases have slowed

UK total actual weekly hours worked (people aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between October to December 2005 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

Imputation used for the Labour Force Survey was not designed to deal with the changes experienced in the labour market in recent months. Experimental work with adjusted methodology suggests that during the early stages of lockdown we were understating the full extent of the reduction in total hours. However, the latest estimates suggest the use of the existing methodology has little impact on total hours, with the experimental methodology now suggesting the actual number of hours is approximately 0.1% higher than stated.

[Experimental weekly Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#) estimates show a decrease in hours for both employees and the self-employed in March 2020, with the largest decrease seen for those identifying as self-employed. Since May 2020, we have seen hours for both groups start to increase slowly; by the end of December 2020 the average actual hours worked by employees were almost back in line with the levels seen before the coronavirus pandemic. Self-employed hours have been more volatile than employee hours throughout the lockdown period and, although they have increased since May, in December 2020 they were, on average, still well below the levels seen pre-lockdown.

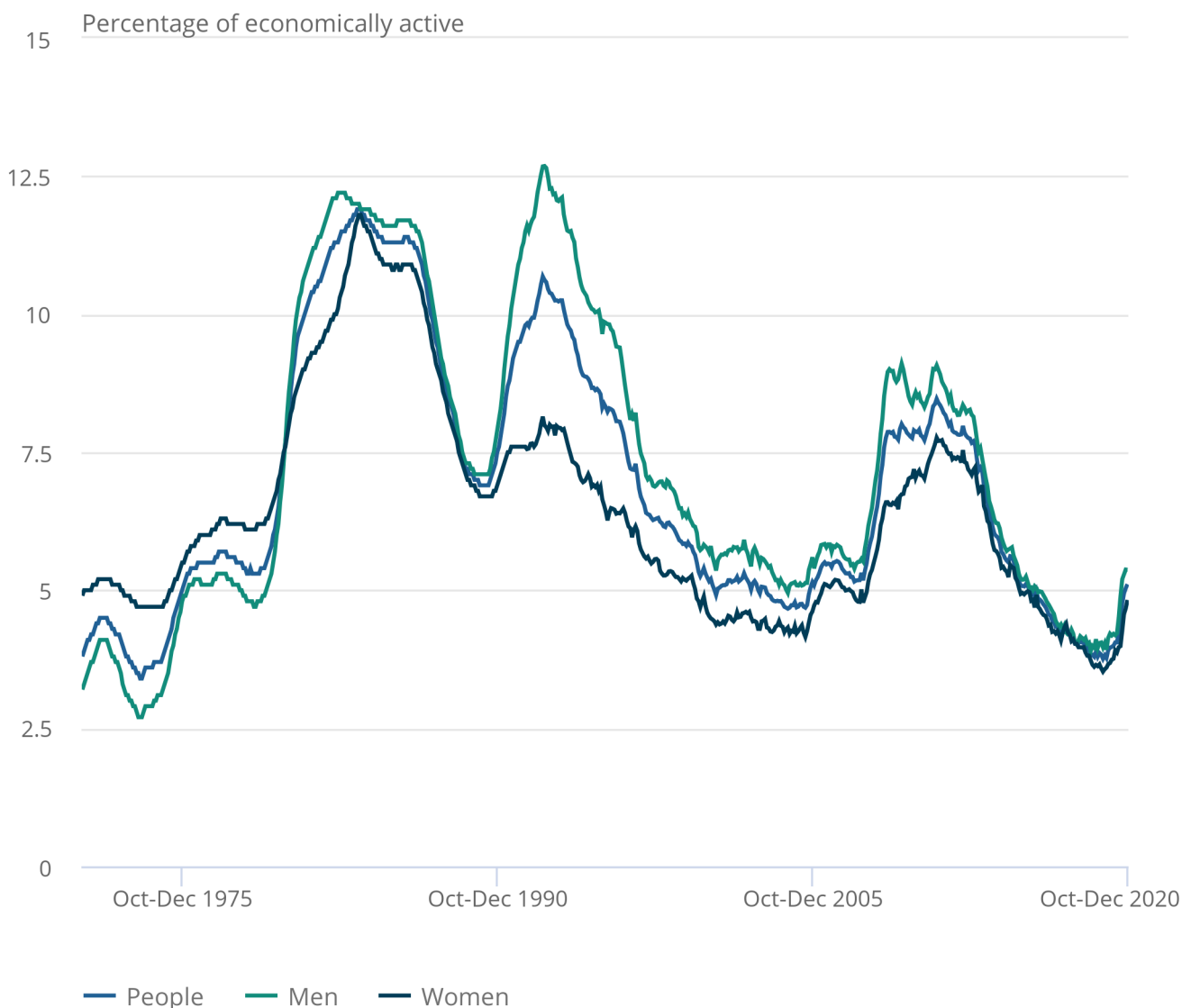
## 5 . Unemployment

**Figure 6: The unemployment rate for all people increased by 1.3 percentage points on the year, and increased by 0.4 percentage points on the quarter, to 5.1%**

UK unemployment rates (aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between January to March 1971 and October to December 2020

Figure 6: The unemployment rate for all people increased by 1.3 percentage points on the year, and increased by 0.4 percentage points on the quarter, to 5.1%

UK unemployment rates (aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between January to March 1971 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

[Unemployment](#) measures people without a job who have been actively seeking work within the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks. The unemployment rate is not the proportion of the total population who are unemployed. It is the proportion of the economically active population (those in work plus those seeking and available to work) who are unemployed.

Estimated unemployment rates for both men and women aged 16 years and over had generally been falling since late 2013 but have increased over recent periods (Figure 6).

For people aged 16 years and over, for October to December 2020:

- the estimated UK unemployment rate for all people was 5.1%; this is 1.3 percentage points higher than a year earlier and 0.4 percentage points higher than the previous quarter
- the estimated UK unemployment rate for men was 5.4%; this is 1.4 percentage points higher than a year earlier and 0.2 percentage points higher than the previous quarter
- the estimated UK unemployment rate for women was 4.8%; this is 1.2 percentage points higher than a year earlier and 0.6 percentage points higher than the previous quarter

The annual increase in the unemployment rate was the largest since October to December 2009, with the rate at its highest level since January to March 2016.

The [single-month](#) and [weekly](#) estimates of the unemployment rate suggest that the rate was largely flat through the October to December 2020 period.

Imputation used for the Labour Force Survey (LFS) was not designed to deal with the changes experienced in the labour market in recent months. Experimental work with adjusted methodology suggests the use of the existing methodology has little impact on the unemployment rate (less than 0.2 percentage points). Further information can be found in the section on [Measuring the data](#).

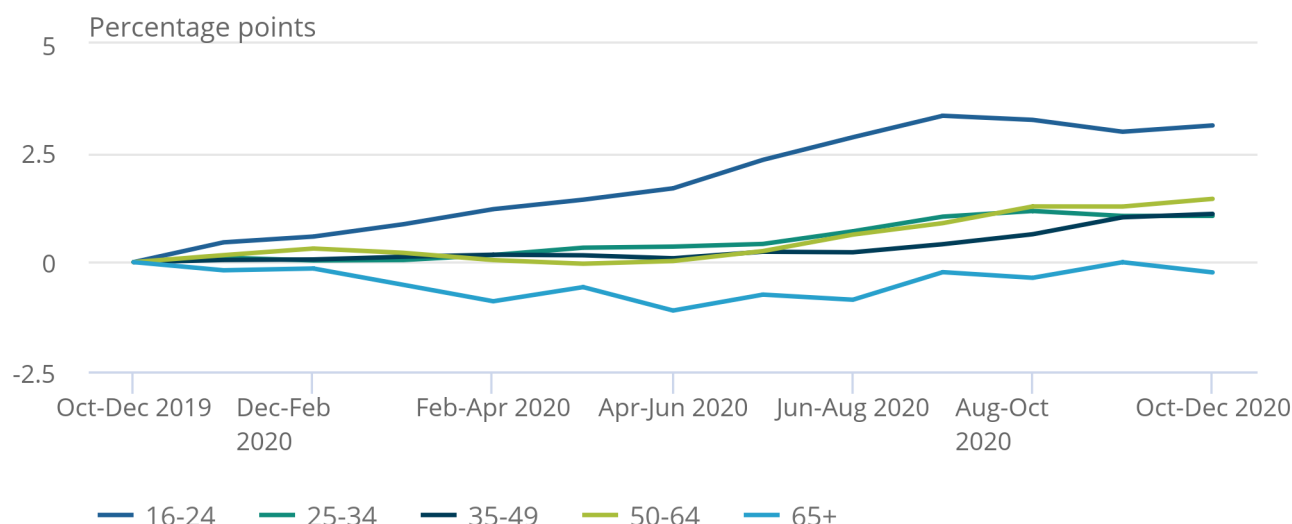
For October to December 2020, an estimated 1.74 million people were unemployed, up 454,000 on the same period the previous year and up 121,000 on the quarter. The annual increase was the largest since September to November 2009, with unemployment at its highest level since July to September 2015.

**Figure 7: Unemployment increased on the year for all age groups, but the quarterly increase is driven by those aged 25 to 64 years**

UK unemployment rate by age (aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, cumulative growth from October to December 2019, for each period up to October to December 2020

Figure 7: Unemployment increased on the year for all age groups, but the quarterly increase is driven by those aged 25 to 64 years

UK unemployment rate by age (aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, cumulative growth from October to December 2019, for each period up to October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

Looking in more detail at the increase in unemployment by age group (Figure 7):

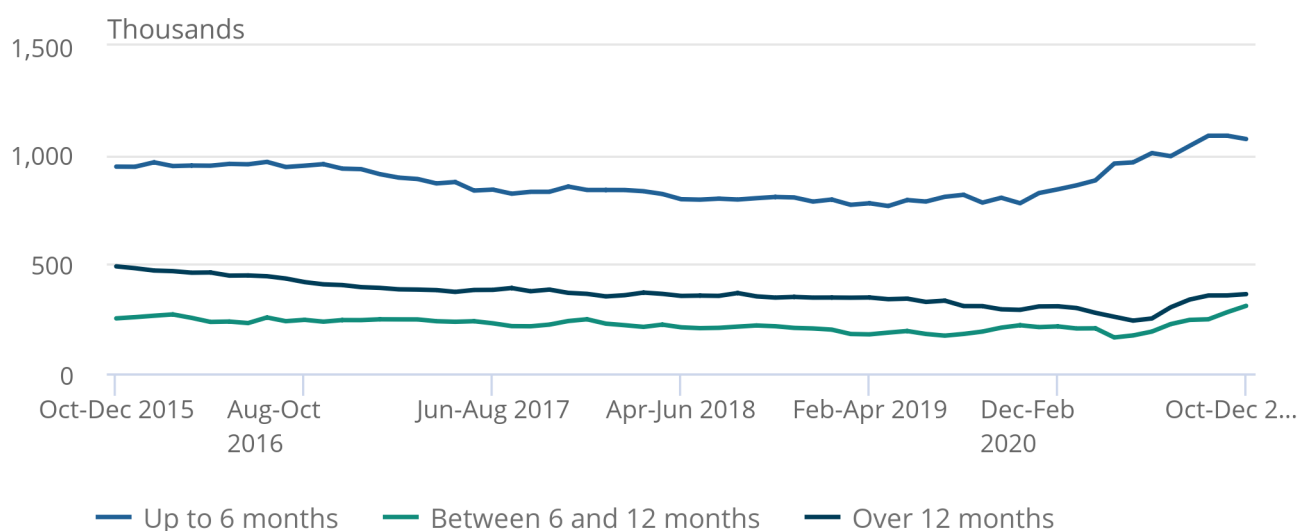
- those aged 16 to 24 years increased by 3.1 percentage points on the year, but decreased by 0.2 percentage points on the quarter, to 14.4%
- those aged 25 to 49 years increased by 1.1 percentage points on the year, and 0.4 percentage points on the quarter, to 3.8%
- those aged 50 to 64 years increased by 1.4 percentage points on the year, and 0.6 percentage points on the quarter, to 4.1%

**Figure 8: The number of people who have been unemployed for up to six months has been steadily increasing since the start of 2020, but now shows signs of slowing**

UK unemployment by duration (aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between October to December 2015 and October to December 2020

Figure 8: The number of people who have been unemployed for up to six months has been steadily increasing since the start of 2020, but now shows signs of slowing

UK unemployment by duration (aged 16 years and over), seasonally adjusted, between October to December 2015 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

The annual increase in unemployment is mainly driven by those unemployed for up to six months, up 294,000 on the year to 1.07 million (Figure 8). However, those unemployed for over 12 months have also increased by 72,000 on the year, and 25,000 on the quarter, to 363,000.

To estimate duration of unemployment, Labour Force Survey (LFS) respondents are asked how long they have been looking for work. Respondents are unlikely to discount short periods where they were not looking for work from this. Consequently, the quarterly increase in those unemployed for over 12 months is driven, in part, by those that briefly stopped looking for work in the earlier stages of the pandemic (and were therefore classified as economically inactive at that time) as they are likely to return to unemployment duration estimates in longer-term categories.

Looking at unemployment rates by industry of last job, between October to December 2020, there were increases for all industries. The largest increase was for those previously employed in accommodation and food service activities, up 5.3 percentage points on the year to 10.6%, the highest unemployment rate across all industries. The second-largest increase was for those previously employed in administrative and support services, up 2.8 percentage points on the year to 6.8%.

## The Claimant Count (Experimental Statistics)

These Claimant Count statistics relate to 8 January 2021. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed.

Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count will not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who are unemployed. We are not able to identify to what extent people who are employed or unemployed have affected the numbers.

The Claimant Count is an [Experimental Statistic](#) that seeks to measure the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed.

To achieve this, the Claimant Count has generally been a count of the appropriate benefits within the UK's current benefit regime that best meet that criteria. Currently this is a combination of claimants of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and claimants of Universal Credit (UC) who fall within the UC "searching for work" conditionality.

Those claiming unemployment-related benefits (either UC or JSA) may be wholly unemployed and seeking work, or may be employed but with low income and/or low hours, that make them eligible for unemployment-related benefit support.

Under UC a broader span of claimants became eligible for unemployment-related benefit than under the previous benefit regime. During the roll-out of UC since 2013, movements in the Claimant Count have been significantly affected by this expanding eligibility, rather than labour market conditions. This impact has led to the Claimant Count being reclassified to an Experimental Statistic.

As part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, a number of enhancements and easements have been made to UC, which impact the statistics. In addition, claimants are accessing UC as a "top-up" to government support packages (such as the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and Self-Employment Income Support Scheme) to legitimately claim unemployment benefits whilst "furloughed". A proportion of those claimants will be employed under the International Labour Organization (ILO) definition - furloughed, or with low earnings or hours of paid work.

Consequently, while some of any movement in the Claimant Count would be because of changes in the number of people who are out of work, a certain amount of the movement will be because of changes in the number of people in work who are eligible for UC as part of the government response. We are not able to identify to what extent these two factors have affected the numbers.

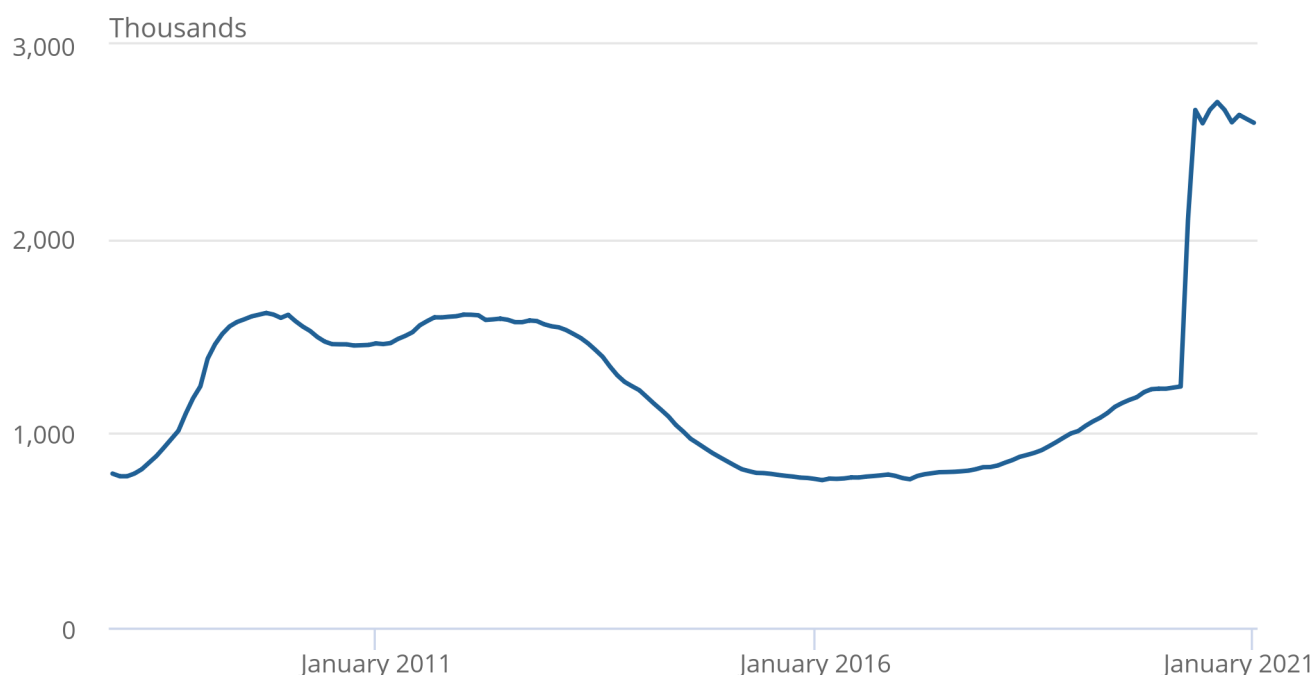
The Claimant Count decreased slightly in January 2021 to 2.6 million (Figure 9). This represents a monthly decrease of 0.8% but an increase of 109.4%, or 1.4 million, since March 2020.

**Figure 9: UK Claimant Count level has increased by 109.4% since March 2020**

UK Claimant Count, seasonally adjusted, between January 2008 and January 2021

**Figure 9: UK Claimant Count level has increased by 109.4% since March 2020**

UK Claimant Count, seasonally adjusted, between January 2008 and January 2021



Source: Department for Work and Pensions

## 6 . Economic inactivity

[Economic inactivity](#) measures people without a job but who are not classed as unemployed because they have not been actively seeking work within the last four weeks and/or they are unable to start work within the next two weeks. Our headline measure of economic inactivity is for those aged between 16 and 64 years.

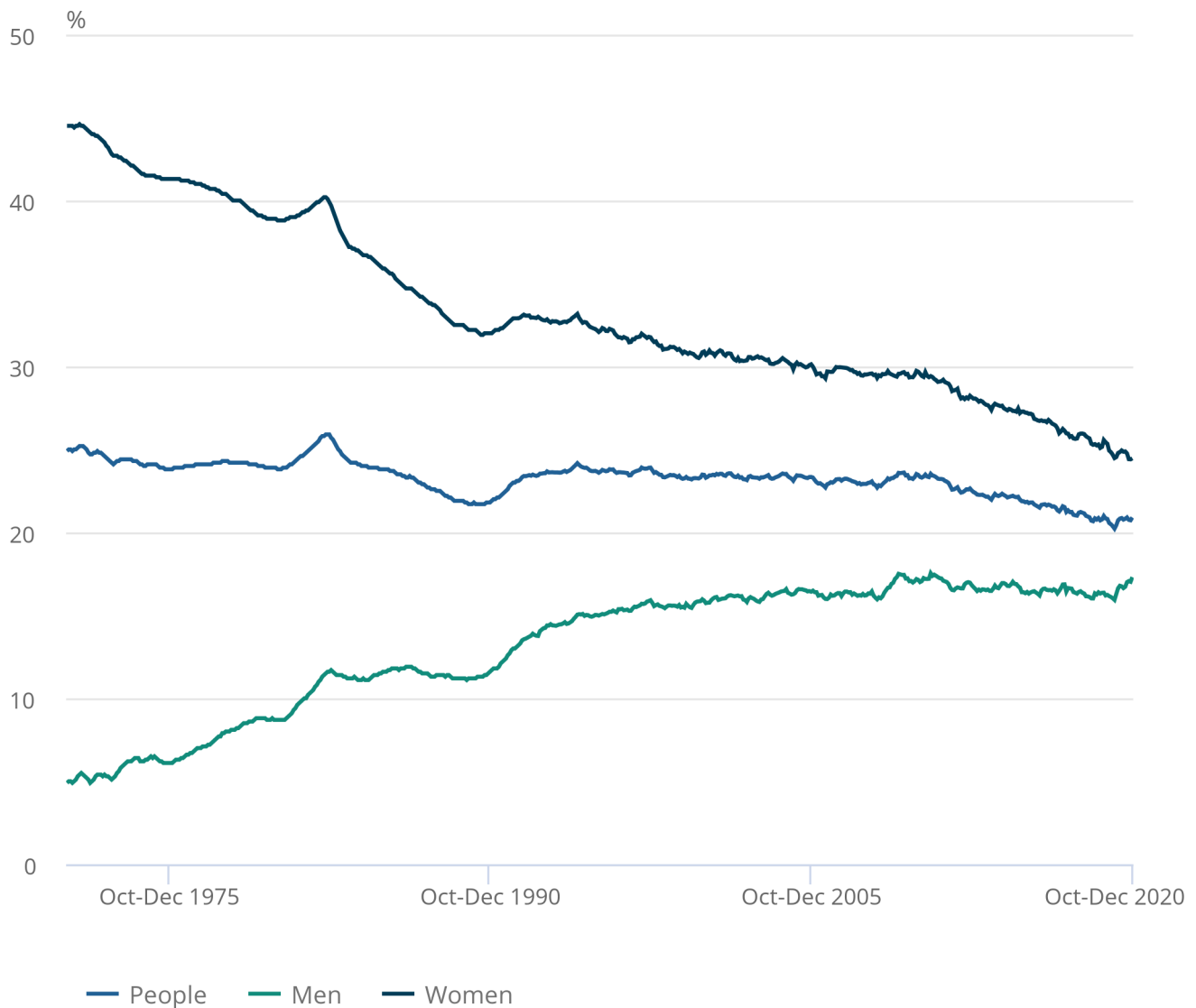
Since comparable records began in 1971, the economic inactivity rate for all people aged between 16 and 64 years has generally been falling (although it increased during recessions). This is because of a gradual fall in the economic inactivity rate for women. This fall reflects changes to the State Pension age, resulting in fewer women retiring between the ages of 60 and 65 years, as well as more women in younger age groups participating in the labour market. Over recent years, the economic inactivity rate for men has been relatively flat (Figure 10).

**Figure 10: The economic inactivity rate for all people increased by 0.4 percentage points on the year, but was largely unchanged on the quarter, to 20.9%**

UK economic inactivity rate (all people aged 16 to 64 years), seasonally adjusted, between January to March 1971 and October to December 2020

Figure 10: The economic inactivity rate for all people increased by 0.4 percentage points on the year, but was largely unchanged on the quarter, to 20.9%

UK economic inactivity rate (all people aged 16 to 64 years), seasonally adjusted, between January to March 1971 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

For people aged between 16 and 64 years, for October to December 2020:



- the estimated economic inactivity rate for all people was 20.9%; this is up by 0.4 percentage points on the same period the previous year but largely unchanged on the quarter
- the estimated economic inactivity rate for men was 17.3%; this is up by 1.2 percentage points on the same period the previous year and up by 0.3 percentage points on the quarter
- the estimated economic inactivity rate for women was 24.5%; this is down by 0.4 percentage points on the same period the previous year and down by 0.3 percentage points on the quarter

Imputation used for the Labour Force Survey was not designed to deal with the changes experienced in the labour market in recent months. Experimental work with adjusted imputation methodology suggests the use of the existing methodology has little impact on the economic inactivity rate (less than 0.1 percentage points). Further information can be found in the section on [Measuring the data](#).

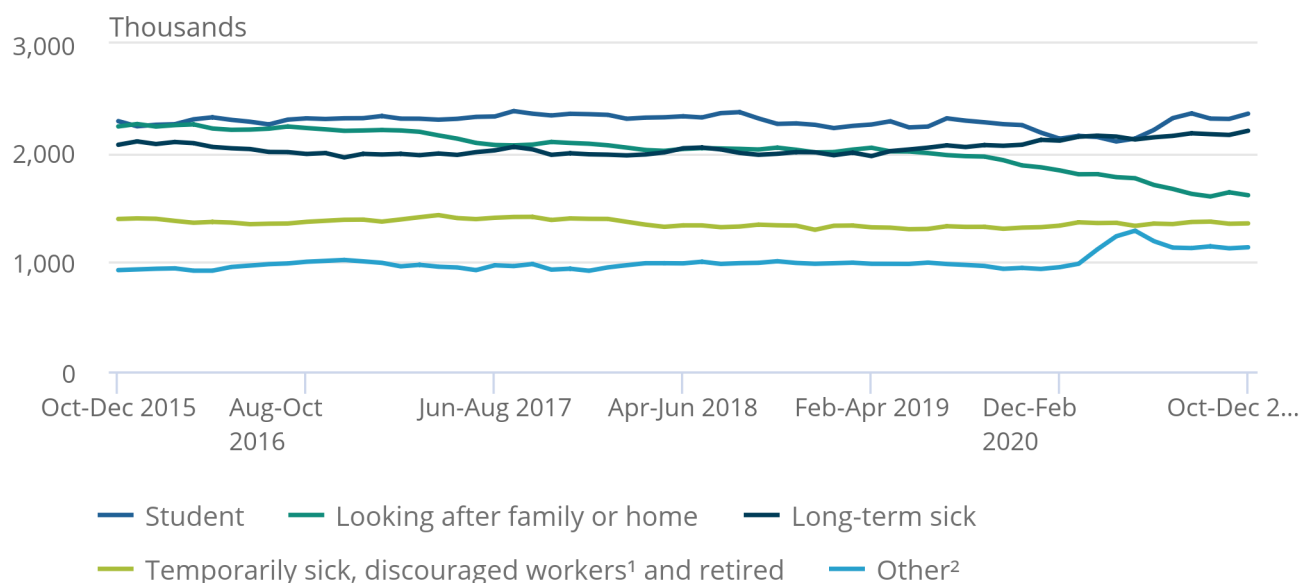
Estimates for October to December 2020 show 8.66 million people aged between 16 and 64 years not in the labour force (economically inactive). This was 187,000 more than a year earlier and 2,000 more than the previous quarter. The annual increase was the largest since April to June 2010 and was driven by men, who reached a record high of 3.57 million.

**Figure 11: The annual increase for people who are economically inactive was largely driven by people who are inactive because of "other" reasons and by those who are long-term sick**

Economically inactive people by reason in the UK (aged 16 to 64 years), seasonally adjusted, October to December 2015 to October to December 2020

Figure 11: The annual increase for people who are economically inactive was largely driven by people who are inactive because of "other" reasons and by those who are long-term sick

Economically inactive people by reason in the UK (aged 16 to 64 years), seasonally adjusted, October to December 2015 to October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

Notes:

1. Discouraged workers are those who are not looking for work because they believe no jobs are available
2. Other reasons for being economically inactive include those who are waiting for the results of a job application; have not yet started looking for work; do not need or want employment; have given an uncategorised reason for being economically inactive; or have not given a reason for being economically inactive

In terms of reasons for economic inactivity (Figure 11), the annual increase was largely driven by:

- those who are long-term sick, up 128,000 on the year to 2.20 million
- those who state they are inactive because they are students, up 104,000 to 2.36 million
- those who are inactive because of "other" reasons, up 189,000 on the year to 1.14 million

There was also an increase of 42,000 (to 75,000) for discouraged workers (those who are not looking for work because they believe no jobs are available). The annual increase was offset somewhat by the large decrease in people who were economically inactive because of looking after family or home (down 273,000 on the year to 1.61 million).

## 7 . Redundancies

The redundancy estimates measure the number of people who were made redundant or who took voluntary redundancy in the three months before the Labour Force Survey interviews; it does not take into consideration planned redundancies. So, in this release, the latest estimates may relate to redundancies over the period from the beginning of August to the end of December 2020.

### Figure 12: The redundancy rate increased by 8.4 per thousand on the year to 12.3 per thousand

UK redundancy rate<sup>1</sup>, people aged 16 years and over (not seasonally adjusted), between October to December 2005 and October to December 2020

#### Figure 12: The redundancy rate increased by 8.4 per thousand on the year to 12.3 per thousand

UK redundancy rate<sup>1</sup>, people aged 16 years and over (not seasonally adjusted), between October to December 2005 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

#### Notes:

1. The redundancy rate is the ratio of the redundancy level for the given quarter to the number of employees in the previous quarter, multiplied by 1,000.

Looking at redundancy rates by different characteristics in the three months prior to October to December 2020:

- the redundancy rate increased by 8.4 per thousand on the year to 12.3 per thousand
- the age group with the highest redundancy rate was those aged 50 years and over, up 8.9 per thousand on the year to 14.1 per thousand
- the region of residence with the highest redundancy rate was London, up 15.4 per thousand on the year to 18.8 per thousand
- the industry with the highest redundancy rate was administrative and support services, up 23.4 per thousand on the year to 31.3 per thousand

**Figure 13: The number of people reporting redundancy in the three months prior to interview declined through December 2020, but remains above normal levels**

**UK redundancies by week, people aged 16 years and over (seasonally adjusted), between January 2020 and December 2020**

Figure 13: The number of people reporting redundancy in the three months prior to interview declined through December 2020, but remains above normal levels

UK redundancies by week, people aged 16 years and over (seasonally adjusted), between January 2020 and December 2020



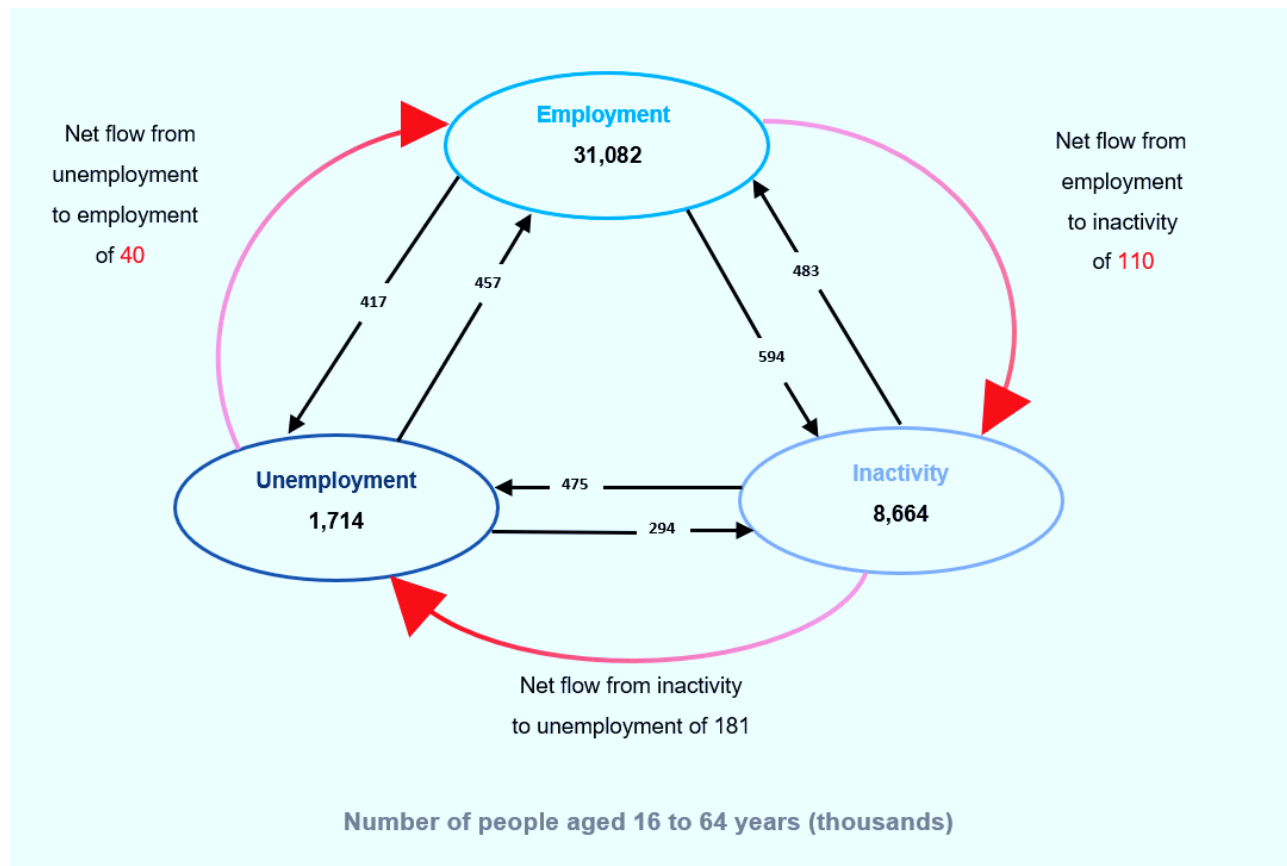
**Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey**

[Experimental weekly Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#) estimates show that the number of people reporting redundancy in the three months prior to interview had been increasing since June 2020 (peaking in September) and remains high, but has fallen in December 2020 (Figure 13).

## 8 . Labour Market Flows

**Figure 14: There was a net flow of 141,000 into unemployment**

UK flows between employment, unemployment and economic inactivity (seasonally adjusted), between July to September 2020 and October to December 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

**Notes:**

1. The figures in the bubbles are the total stocks in October to December 2020 (from [Dataset A02](#))

Looking at estimates of flows between employment, unemployment and economic inactivity between July to September 2020 and October to December 2020 (Figure 14), there was a net flow of:

- 110,000 from employment to economic inactivity
- 181,000 from economic inactivity to unemployment
- 40,000 from unemployment to employment

## 9 . Employment in the UK data

### [Employment, unemployment and economic inactivity](#)

Dataset A05 SA | Released 23 February 2021 <br> Estimates of UK employment, unemployment and economic inactivity broken down into age bands.

### [Full-time, part-time and temporary workers](#)

Dataset EMP01 SA | Released 23 February 2021

Estimates of UK employment including a breakdown by sex, type of employment, and full-time and part-time working.

### [People in employment on zero hours contracts](#)

Dataset EMP17 NSA | Released 23 February 2021

Estimates of UK employment on zero hours contracts, including breakdowns by sex, age, and region.

### [Actual weekly hours worked](#)

Dataset HOUR01 SA | Released 23 February 2021

Estimates for the hours that people in employment work in the UK.

### [Unemployment by age and duration](#)

Dataset UNEM01 SA | Released 23 February 2021

Estimates of unemployment in the UK including a breakdown by sex, age group and the length of time people are unemployed.

### [Economic inactivity by reason](#)

Dataset INAC01 SA | Released 23 February 2021

Estimates of those not in the UK labour force measured by the reasons given for economic inactivity.

### [Labour Force Survey sampling variability](#)

Dataset A11 | Released 23 February 2021

Labour Force Survey (LFS) sampling variability (95% confidence intervals).

### [Labour Force Survey single month estimates](#)

Dataset X01 | Released 23 February 2021

Labour Force Survey (LFS) single-month estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity have been published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) since 2004. Not designated as National Statistics.

### [Labour Force Survey weekly estimates](#)

Dataset X07 | Released 23 February 2021

Labour Force Survey (LFS) weekly estimates of employment, unemployment, economic inactivity and hours in the UK. All estimates are calculated from highly experimental weekly Labour Force Survey datasets.

## 10 . Glossary

### Actual and usual hours worked

Statistics for [usual hours worked](#) measure how many hours people usually work per week. Compared with [actual hours worked](#), they are not affected by absences and so can provide a better measure of normal working patterns. For example, a person who usually works 37 hours a week but who was on holiday for a week would be recorded as working zero actual hours for that week, while usual hours would be recorded as 37 hours.

## Economic inactivity

People not in the labour force (also known as [economically inactive](#)) are not in employment but do not meet the internationally accepted definition of unemployment because they have not been seeking work within the last four weeks and/or are unable to start work in the next two weeks. The economic inactivity rate is the proportion of people aged between 16 and 64 years who are not in the labour force.

## Employment

[Employment](#) measures the number of people in paid work or who had a job that they were temporarily away from (for example, because they were on holiday or off sick). This differs from the number of jobs because some people have more than one job. The employment rate is the proportion of people aged between 16 and 64 years who are in employment. A more detailed explanation is available in our [guide to labour market statistics](#).

## Unemployment

[Unemployment](#) measures people without a job who have been actively seeking work within the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks. The unemployment rate is not the proportion of the total population who are unemployed. It is the proportion of the economically active population (that is, those in work plus those seeking and available to work) who are unemployed.

A [more detailed glossary](#) is available.

# 11 . Measuring the data

This bulletin relies on data collected from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), the largest household survey in the UK.

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in the [LFS QMI](#).

The [LFS performance and quality monitoring reports](#) provide data on response rates and other quality-related issues for the LFS.

## Coronavirus

For more information on how labour market data sources are affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, see the article published on 6 May 2020, which details [some of the challenges that we have faced in producing estimates](#) at this time.

An article published on 11 December 2020 [compares our labour market data sources and discusses some of the main differences](#).

Our latest data and analysis on the impact of the coronavirus on the UK economy and population are available on our dedicated [coronavirus web page](#). This is the hub for all special coronavirus-related publications, drawing on all available data. In response to the developing coronavirus pandemic, we are working to ensure that we continue to publish economic statistics. For more information, please see [COVID-19 and the production of statistics](#).

Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population estimates and projections that do not currently reflect the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The LFS is not designed to measure changes in the levels of population or long-term international migration. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. This issue does not affect rates published from the LFS; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

## **Impact of the coronavirus on data collection**

The LFS design is based on interviewing households over five consecutive quarters. Generally, the first of these interviews, called Wave 1, takes place face-to-face, with most subsequent interviews, for Waves 2 to 5, conducted by telephone.

During March, we stopped conducting face-to-face interviews, instead switching to using telephone interviewing exclusively for all waves. This initially caused a significant drop in response.

New measures have been introduced to improve this, which have increased sample sizes, although they are still below normal LFS sample sizes

## **Impact of the coronavirus on survey imputation methodology**

The normal imputation for non-response to the LFS relies on rolling forward previous responses. Although this method is adequate under normal circumstances, it is not designed to deal with the changes experienced in the labour market in recent months. A new experimental imputation methodology has been researched to improve the measurement of the labour market at this time.

Because of time and system constraints, it has not been possible to fully integrate this methodology into the results within this release, but early indications suggest that:

- there is little impact from the use of existing methodology on the headline measures of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity (less than 0.2 percentage points)
- there is little impact from the use of existing methodology on total hours, with measures relating to total hours in this release understating the increase in the actual number of hours worked by approximately 0.1%

We hope to include more information in later releases as this work develops.

## **Impact of the coronavirus on survey weighting methodology**

Because of the impact on data collection, different weeks throughout the quarter have different achieved sample sizes. To mitigate this impact on estimates the weighting methodology was enhanced to include weekly calibration to ensure that samples from each week had roughly equal representation within the overall three-month estimate. This meant that any impacts seen from changes in the labour market in those weeks would be fully represented within the estimates.

Because of the suspension of face-to-face interviewing in March 2020, we had to make operational changes to the LFS, particularly in the way that we contact households for initial interview, which moved to a "by telephone" approach. These changes have resulted in a response where certain characteristics have not been as well represented as previously. This is evidenced in a change in the balance of type of household that we are reaching. In particular, the proportion of households where people own their homes in the sample has increased and rented accommodation households has decreased.



To mitigate the impact of this non-response bias we have introduced housing tenure into the LFS weighting methodology for periods from January to March 2020 onwards. While not providing a perfect solution, this has redressed some of the issues that had previously been noted in the survey results. More information can be found in an article [Coronavirus and its impact on the Labour Force Survey](#).

## **Impact of government measures to protect businesses on the Labour Force Survey estimates**

During late March, the government announced a number of measures to protect UK businesses. This included the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS), also referred to as furloughing, and the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS).

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) classifies people within the labour market in line with International Labour Organization (ILO) definitions. Under the ILO definition, employment includes employed persons "at work", that is, those who worked in a job for at least one hour; and employed persons "not in work" because of temporary absence from a job, or a change to working time arrangements.

Under the current schemes it is likely that workers would have an expectation of returning to that job and would consider the absence from work as temporary. Therefore, those people absent from work under the current schemes would generally be classified as employed under ILO definitions.

In many cases, however, they would be employed but not in work. This absence would have an impact on the total hours worked. This would also be reflected in the average actual hours worked, which are based on the average hours per person employed, rather than the average hours per person at work. While actual hours would be significantly affected, there is unlikely to be any impact on usual hours, which would reflect normal working patterns.

## **End of EU exit transition period**

As the UK enters into a new Trade and Cooperation Agreement with the EU, the UK statistical system will continue to produce and publish our wide range of economic and social statistics and analysis. We are committed to continued alignment with the highest international statistical standards, enabling comparability both over time and internationally, and ensuring the general public, statistical users and decision makers have the data they need to be informed.

As the shape of the UK's future statistical relationship with the EU becomes clearer over the coming period, the ONS is making preparations to assume responsibilities that as part of our membership of the EU, and during the transition period, were delegated to the statistical office of the EU, Eurostat. This includes responsibilities relating to international comparability of economic statistics, deciding what international statistical guidance to apply in the UK context and to provide further scrutiny of our statistics and sector classification decisions.

In applying international statistical standards and best practice to UK economic statistics, we will draw on the technical advice of experts in the UK and internationally, and our work will be underpinned by the UK's well-established and robust framework for independent official statistics, set out in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. Further information on our proposals will be made available early this year.

We will continue to produce our labour market statistics in line with the UK Statistics Authority's [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and in accordance with International Labour Organization (ILO) definitions and agreed international statistical guidance.

## **12 . Strengths and limitations**

## Uncertainty in these data

The estimates presented in this bulletin contain [uncertainty](#).

The figures in this bulletin come from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which gathers information from a [sample](#) of households across the UK rather than from the whole population. The sample is designed to be as accurate as possible given practical limitations such as time and cost constraints. Results from sample surveys are always estimates, not precise figures. This can have an impact on how changes in the estimates should be interpreted, especially for short-term comparisons.

The data in this bulletin come from the Labour Force Survey, a survey of households. It is not practical to survey every household each quarter, so these statistics are estimates based on a large sample.

As the number of people available in the sample gets smaller, the variability of the estimates that we can make from that sample size gets larger. Estimates for small groups (for example, unemployed people aged between 16 and 17 years), which are based on small subsets of the LFS sample, are less reliable and tend to be more volatile than for larger aggregated groups (for example, the total number of unemployed people).

In general, changes in the numbers (and especially the rates) reported in this bulletin between three-month periods are small and are not usually greater than the level that can be explained by sampling variability. Short-term movements in reported rates should be considered alongside longer-term patterns in the series and corresponding movements in other sources to give a fuller picture.

## Comparability

The data in this bulletin follow internationally accepted definitions specified by the [International Labour Organization \(ILO\)](#). This ensures that the estimates for the UK are comparable with those for other countries.

An annual [reconciliation report of job estimates](#) is published every March comparing the latest workforce jobs (WFJ) estimates with the equivalent estimates of jobs from the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

The concept of employment (measured by the LFS as the number of people in work) differs from the concept of jobs, since a person can have more than one job and some jobs may be shared by more than one person. The LFS, which collects information mainly from residents of private households, is the preferred source of statistics on employment. The WFJ series, which is compiled mainly from surveys of businesses, is the preferred source of statistics on jobs by industry, since it provides a more reliable industry breakdown than the LFS. During the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the LFS and WFJ series may have additional differences because a person's perception of their attachment to a job may differ from the business's perception of that job. It is also important to note that the LFS is based on interviews throughout the coverage period, whereas the WFJ series relates to a specific date. This difference can be significant in a labour market that is experiencing rapid changes.

Further information is available in [A guide to labour market statistics](#).

Table 1: Labour Force Survey sampling variability

Sampling variability (95% confidence intervals) of UK Labour Force Survey estimates, October to December 2020

	Level	Sampling variability of level <sup>1</sup>	Change on quarter	Sampling variability of change on quarter <sup>1</sup>	Change on year	Sampling variability of change on year <sup>1</sup>
<b>Employment (000s, aged 16+ )</b>	32,393	± 201	-114	± 174	-541	± 256
<b>Employment rate (aged 16 to 64)</b>	75.0	± 0.5	-0.3	± 0.4	-1.5	± 0.6
<b>Average weekly hours</b>	30.2	± 0.2	1.8	± 0.2	-1.7	± 0.3
<b>Unemployment (000s, aged 16+)</b>	1,744	± 95	121	± 102	454	± 115
<b>Unemployment rate (aged 16+)</b>	5.1	± 0.3	0.4	± 0.3	1.3	± 0.3
<b>Economically active (000s, aged 16+)</b>	34,137	± 191	7	± 167	-86	± 244
<b>Economic activity rate (aged 16 to 64)</b>	79.1	± 0.4	0.0	± 0.4	-0.4	± 0.5
<b>Economically inactive (000s, aged 16 to 64)</b>	8,664	± 179	2	± 156	187	± 226
<b>Economic inactivity rate (aged 16 to 64)</b>	20.9	± 0.4	0.0	± 0.4	0.4	± 0.5
<b>Redundancies (000s, aged 16+)</b>	343	± 39	30	± 54	235	± 44

Source: Office for National Statistics – Labour Force Survey

## 13 . Related links

### [Business insights and impact on the UK economy: 11 February 2021](#)

Bulletin | Released 11 February 2021

The latest indicators and analysis from the Business Impacts of Coronavirus Survey (BICS), a survey of employers capturing how coronavirus has affected their turnover, workforce prices, trade and business resilience.

### [Changes to how we estimate the number of people in employment on zero-hours contracts](#)

Article | Release 8 February 2021

Explains the change in methodology following the move to quarterly data collection and assesses the impact of this change on published estimates of people in employment on zero hours contracts.

### [Working and workless households in the UK: July to September 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 25 November 2020

Commentary on quarterly estimates of the economic status of UK households and the people living in them.

### [Young people not in education, employment or training \(NEET\), UK: November 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 19 November 2020

Quarterly bulletin examining estimates of men and women aged between 16 and 24 years in the UK who are not studying or in employment.

### [Coronavirus and its impact on the Labour Force Survey](#)

Article | Released 13 October 2020

Explains the change that has been made to the Labour Force Survey weighting methodology in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the impact this has had on published estimates.

### [Coronavirus and the effects on UK labour market statistics](#)

Article | Released 6 May 2020

How the global outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) and the wider containment efforts is expected to impact upon the UK labour market, providing some of the practical challenges that the Office for National Statistics is likely to face.

### [Improvements to the Labour Force Survey longitudinal dataset weighting methodology](#)

Methodology article | Released 21 January 2020

Information about the change that has been made and the impact this has on Labour Force Survey flows estimates in dataset X02, released 18 February 2020.

### [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Latest data and analysis on coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK and its effect on the economy and society. Includes recent articles on coronavirus and self-employment in the UK, coronavirus and employment for parents in the UK, and coronavirus and employment for those aged 70 years and over in the UK.

# Index of Tables

The table below provides an index of the tables appearing in this Statistical Bulletin (only those not in grey) and it shows how these table numbers match up with the Excel spreadsheet datasets which are available on [the website at:](#)

Table number	Table description	Dataset
	<b>SUMMARY</b>	
1	Labour Force Survey Summary	<a href="#">Dataset A02 SA</a>
2(1) & 2(2)	Labour market status by age group	<a href="#">Dataset A05 SA</a>
	<b>EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS</b>	
3	Full-time, part-time & temporary workers	<a href="#">Dataset EMP01 SA</a>
4	Public and private sector employment	<a href="#">Dataset EMP02</a>
4(1)	Public sector employment by industry	<a href="#">Dataset EMP03</a>
5	Workforce jobs summary	<a href="#">Dataset JOBS01</a>
6 (**)	Workforce jobs by industry	<a href="#">Dataset JOBS02</a>
7 & 7(1)	Actual weekly hours and Usual weekly hours worked	<a href="#">Dataset HOUR01 SA</a>
	<b>NON-UK WORKERS</b>	
8	Employment by country of birth and nationality	<a href="#">Dataset EMP06</a>
8(1)	Unemployment and economic inactivity by country of birth and nationality	<a href="#">Dataset A12</a>
	<b>UNEMPLOYMENT</b>	
9(1) & 9(2)	Unemployment by age and duration	<a href="#">Dataset UNEM01 SA</a>
	<b>ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND INACTIVITY</b>	
10(*)	Economic activity by age	<a href="#">Dataset A05 SA</a>
11	Economic inactivity by reason	<a href="#">Dataset INAC01 SA</a>
12	Labour market and educational status of young people	<a href="#">Dataset A06 SA</a>
	<b>EARNINGS</b>	
13	Average Weekly Earnings (nominal) - Total pay	<a href="#">Dataset EARN01</a>
14	Average Weekly Earnings (nominal) - Bonus pay	<a href="#">Dataset EARN01</a>
15	Average Weekly Earnings (nominal) - Regular pay	<a href="#">Dataset EARN01</a>
16	Average Weekly Earnings real and nominal (summary table)	<a href="#">Dataset EARN01</a>
	<b>INTERNATIONAL SUMMARY</b>	
17	International comparisons of employment and unemployment	<a href="#">Dataset A10</a>
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18	Labour disputes	<a href="#">Dataset LABD01</a>
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19	Vacancies by size of business	<a href="#">Dataset VACS03</a>
20	Vacancies and unemployment	<a href="#">Dataset VACS01</a>
21	Vacancies by industry	<a href="#">Dataset VACS02</a>
	<b>REDUNDANCIES</b>	
22	Redundancies levels and rates	<a href="#">Dataset RED01 SA</a>
	<b>REGIONAL SUMMARY</b>	
23	Regional labour market summary	<a href="#">Dataset A07</a>

(\*) Tables 2 and 10 in the Statistical Bulletin pdf file have been amalgamated into one spreadsheet (Dataset A05 SA).

(\*\*) Table JOBS02 provides more detail than Table 6 in the Statistical Bulletin pdf file.

The following symbols are used in the tables: p provisional, r revised, .. Not available,\* suppressed due to small sample size.  
The four-character identification codes appearing in the tables are the ONS references for the data series appearing in the Labour Market Statistics dataset which is available on the website at:  
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/labourmarketstatistics>

# SUMMARY

## 1 Summary of headline LFS<sup>1</sup> indicators

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

	LFS household population <sup>1</sup>		Headline indicators					
			Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity	
			Level	Rate <sup>2</sup>	Level	Rate <sup>3</sup>	Level	Rate <sup>4</sup>
	All aged 16 & over	All aged 16 to 64	All aged 16 & over	All aged 16 to 64	All aged 16 & over	All aged 16 & over	All aged 16 to 64	All aged 16 to 64
	MGSL	LF2O	MGRZ	LF24	MGSC	MGSX	LF2M	LF2S
<b>People</b>								
Oct-Dec 2018	53,138	41,284	32,597	75.8	1,363	4.0	8,632	20.9
Oct-Dec 2019	53,415	41,371	32,934	76.5	1,290	3.8	8,478	20.5
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	53,485	41,395	33,005	76.3	1,365	4.0	8,457	20.4
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	53,556	41,420	32,671	75.8	1,381	4.1	8,641	20.9
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	53,626	41,441	32,507	75.3	1,624	4.8	8,662	20.9
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	53,696	41,460	32,393	75.0	1,744	5.1	8,664	20.9
Change on quarter	69	19	-114	-0.3	121	0.4	2	0.0
Change %	0.1	0.0	-0.4		7.4		0.0	
Change on year	280	88	-541	-1.5	454	1.3	187	0.4
Change %	0.5	0.2	-1.6		35.2		2.2	
<b>Men</b>								
	MGSM	YBTG	MGSA	MGSV	MGSD	MGSY	YBSO	YBTM
Oct-Dec 2018	26,006	20,534	17,290	80.3	746	4.1	3,307	16.1
Oct-Dec 2019	26,158	20,586	17,328	80.6	707	3.9	3,315	16.1
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	26,196	20,600	17,285	80.1	754	4.2	3,355	16.3
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	26,235	20,615	17,113	79.6	754	4.2	3,453	16.7
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	26,273	20,627	16,979	78.6	932	5.2	3,508	17.0
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	26,310	20,638	16,904	78.2	959	5.4	3,571	17.3
Change on quarter	38	11	-75	-0.4	28	0.2	63	0.3
Change %	0.1	0.1	-0.4		3.0		1.8	
Change on year	153	52	-424	-2.4	252	1.4	255	1.2
Change %	0.6	0.3	-2.4		35.6		7.7	
<b>Women</b>								
	MGSN	LF2P	MGSB	LF25	MGSE	MGSZ	LF2N	LF2T
Oct-Dec 2018	27,132	20,750	15,308	71.4	617	3.9	5,325	25.7
Oct-Dec 2019	27,258	20,785	15,605	72.4	582	3.6	5,162	24.8
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	27,290	20,795	15,721	72.6	611	3.7	5,102	24.5
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	27,322	20,806	15,558	72.1	627	3.9	5,189	24.9
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	27,354	20,814	15,528	71.9	692	4.3	5,154	24.8
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	27,385	20,821	15,489	71.8	785	4.8	5,093	24.5
Change on quarter	32	7	-39	-0.1	93	0.6	-61	-0.3
Change %	0.1	0.0	-0.3		13.4		-1.2	
Change on year	128	36	-117	-0.6	203	1.2	-69	-0.4
Change %	0.5	0.2	-0.7		34.8		-1.3	

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

1. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a survey of households in the UK.

2. The headline employment rate is the number of people aged 16 to 64 in employment divided by the population aged 16 to 64.

3. The headline unemployment rate is the number of unemployed people (aged 16+) divided by the economically active population (aged 16+). The economically active population is defined as those in employment plus those who are unemployed.

4. The headline inactivity rate is the number of people aged 16 to 64 divided by the population aged 16-64.

### Note on headline employment, unemployment and inactivity rates

The headline employment and inactivity rates are based on the population aged 16 to 64 but the headline unemployment rate is based on the economically active population aged 16 and over. The employment and inactivity rates for those aged 16 and over are affected by the inclusion of the retired population in the denominators and are therefore less meaningful than the rates for those aged from 16 to 64. However, for the unemployment rate for those aged 16 and over, no such effect occurs as the denominator for the unemployment rate is the economically active population which only includes people in work or actively seeking and able to work.

### Note on headline employment, unemployment and inactivity levels

The headline employment and unemployment levels are for those aged 16 and over; they measure all people in work or actively seeking and able to work. However, the headline inactivity level is for those aged 16 to 64. The inactivity rate for those aged 16 and over is less meaningful as it includes elderly people who have retired from the labour force.

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

# SUMMARY

## 2(1) Labour market status by age group

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

	Aged 16 and over						Aged 16-64					
	Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity		Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity	
	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate
<b>People</b>	MGRZ	MGSR	MGSC	MG SX	MGSI	YBTC	LF2G	LF24	LF2I	LF2Q	LF2M	LF2S
Oct-Dec 2018	32,597	61.3	1,363	4.0	19,178	36.1	31,307	75.8	1,345	4.1	8,632	20.9
Oct-Dec 2019	32,934	61.7	1,290	3.8	19,192	35.9	31,637	76.5	1,257	3.8	8,478	20.5
Jan-Mar 2020†	33,005	61.7	1,365	4.0	19,115	35.7	31,601	76.3	1,337	4.1	8,457	20.4
Apr-Jun 2020†	32,671	61.0	1,381	4.1	19,505	36.4	31,416	75.8	1,363	4.2	8,641	20.9
Jul-Sep 2020†	32,507	60.6	1,624	4.8	19,496	36.4	31,186	75.3	1,593	4.9	8,662	20.9
Oct-Dec 2020†	32,393	60.3	1,744	5.1	19,559	36.4	31,082	75.0	1,714	5.2	8,664	20.9
Change on quarter	-114	-0.3	121	0.4	63	0.1	-104	-0.3	121	0.4	2	0.0
Change %	-0.4		7.4		0.3		-0.3		7.6		0.0	
Change on year	-541	-1.3	454	1.3	367	0.5	-555	-1.5	457	1.4	187	0.4
Change %	-1.6		35.2		1.9		-1.8		36.4		2.2	
<b>Men</b>	MGSA	MGSS	MGSD	MG SY	MG SJ	YBTD	YBSF	MG SV	YBSI	YBTJ	YBSO	YBTM
Oct-Dec 2018	17,290	66.5	746	4.1	7,970	30.6	16,492	80.3	735	4.3	3,307	16.1
Oct-Dec 2019	17,328	66.2	707	3.9	8,122	31.0	16,585	80.6	686	4.0	3,315	16.1
Jan-Mar 2020†	17,285	66.0	754	4.2	8,157	31.1	16,510	80.1	735	4.3	3,355	16.3
Apr-Jun 2020†	17,113	65.2	754	4.2	8,368	31.9	16,418	79.6	744	4.3	3,453	16.7
Jul-Sep 2020†	16,979	64.6	932	5.2	8,362	31.8	16,211	78.6	908	5.3	3,508	17.0
Oct-Dec 2020†	16,904	64.2	959	5.4	8,447	32.1	16,130	78.2	938	5.5	3,571	17.3
Change on quarter	-75	-0.4	28	0.2	85	0.3	-81	-0.4	30	0.2	63	0.3
Change %	-0.4		3.0		1.0		-0.5		3.3		1.8	
Change on year	-424	-2.0	252	1.4	325	1.1	-455	-2.4	252	1.5	255	1.2
Change %	-2.4		35.6		4.0		-2.7		36.7		7.7	
<b>Women</b>	MGSA	MGSS	MGSD	MG SY	MG SJ	YBTD	YBSF	LF25	LF2J	LF2R	LF2N	LF2T
Oct-Dec 2018	15,308	56.4	617	3.9	11,208	41.3	14,815	71.4	610	4.0	5,325	25.7
Oct-Dec 2019	15,605	57.3	582	3.6	11,070	40.6	15,053	72.4	571	3.7	5,162	24.8
Jan-Mar 2020†	15,721	57.6	611	3.7	10,958	40.2	15,091	72.6	602	3.8	5,102	24.5
Apr-Jun 2020†	15,558	56.9	627	3.9	11,137	40.8	14,997	72.1	619	4.0	5,189	24.9
Jul-Sep 2020†	15,528	56.8	692	4.3	11,134	40.7	14,975	71.9	685	4.4	5,154	24.8
Oct-Dec 2020†	15,489	56.6	785	4.8	11,112	40.6	14,952	71.8	776	4.9	5,093	24.5
Change on quarter	-39	-0.2	93	0.6	-22	-0.1	-23	-0.1	91	0.6	-61	-0.3
Change %	-0.3		13.4		-0.2		-0.2		13.3		-1.2	
Change on year	-117	-0.7	203	1.2	42	0.0	-100	-0.6	205	1.3	-69	-0.4
Change %	-0.7		34.8		0.4		-0.7		36.0		-1.3	
	Aged 16-17						Aged 18-24					
	Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity		Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity	
	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate
<b>People</b>	YBTO	YBUA	YBVH	YBVK	YCAS	LWEX	YBTR	YBUD	YBVN	YBVQ	YCAV	LWFA
Oct-Dec 2018	315	22.6	101	24.3	977	70.2	3,515	63.2	409	10.4	1,640	29.5
Oct-Dec 2019	336	23.9	98	22.5	973	69.2	3,454	63.0	383	10.0	1,645	30.0
Jan-Mar 2020†	326	23.0	106	24.6	984	69.5	3,467	63.5	417	10.7	1,578	28.9
Apr-Jun 2020†	301	21.1	108	26.4	1,017	71.4	3,392	62.3	441	11.5	1,609	29.6
Jul-Sep 2020†	263	18.3	89	25.3	1,083	75.5	3,256	60.0	512	13.6	1,655	30.5
Oct-Dec 2020†	242	16.7	82	25.3	1,121	77.6	3,266	60.4	507	13.4	1,631	30.2
Change on quarter	-21	-1.6	-7	0.0	38	2.1	11	0.4	-5	-0.2	-24	-0.3
Change %	-7.9		-8.0		3.5		0.3		-1.0		-1.5	
Change on year	-94	-7.1	-16	2.8	147	8.4	-188	-2.6	124	3.5	-14	0.2
Change %	-28.0		-16.0		15.2		-5.4		32.5		-0.9	
<b>Men</b>	YBTP	YBUB	YBVI	YBVL	YCAT	LWEY	YBTS	YBUE	YBVO	YBVR	YCAW	LWFB
Oct-Dec 2018	154	21.6	51	24.8	508	71.3	1,828	64.3	245	11.8	769	27.1
Oct-Dec 2019	152	21.0	57	27.2	513	71.1	1,793	64.0	228	11.3	779	27.8
Jan-Mar 2020†	146	20.1	62	30.0	517	71.3	1,786	64.0	234	11.6	769	27.6
Apr-Jun 2020†	142	19.4	60	29.9	528	72.3	1,735	62.5	242	12.2	801	28.8
Jul-Sep 2020†	128	17.5	46	26.3	560	76.3	1,651	59.6	321	16.3	796	28.7
Oct-Dec 2020†	113	15.3	42	27.0	584	79.0	1,637	59.4	299	15.4	822	29.8
Change on quarter	-15	-2.2	-4	0.7	24	2.7	-14	-0.3	-22	-0.9	26	1.1
Change %	-11.8		-8.5		4.3		-0.8		-7.0		3.3	
Change on year	-38	-5.7	-15	-0.1	72	7.9	-155	-4.7	71	4.2	43	2.0
Change %	-25.2		-25.8		14.0		-8.7		31.3		5.5	
<b>Women</b>	YBTQ	YBUC	YBVJ	YBVM	YCAU	LWEZ	YBTT	YBUF	YBVP	YBVS	YCA X	LWFC
Oct-Dec 2018	161	23.6	50	23.8	469	69.0	1,687	62.0	165	8.9	871	32.0
Oct-Dec 2019	185	26.9	41	18.2	461	67.1	1,661	61.9	155	8.5	866	32.3
Jan-Mar 2020†	180	26.1	44	19.6	467	67.6	1,681	62.9	183	9.8	809	30.3
Apr-Jun 2020†	159	22.8	47	22.9	490	70.4	1,656	62.2	199	10.7	808	30.3
Jul-Sep 2020†	134	19.2	43	24.4	523	74.6	1,604	60.4	191	10.6	859	32.4
Oct-Dec 2020†	129	18.2	40	23.8	536	76.1	1,629	61.6	208	11.3	809	30.6
Change on quarter	-6	-0.9	-3	-0.6	14	1.4	24	1.1	17	0.7	-50	-1.8
Change %	-4.2		-7.5		2.6		1.5		9.0		-5.9	
Change on year	-56	-8.7	-1	5.5	76	9.0	-32	-0.4	53	2.8	-57	-1.7
Change %	-30.3		-2.7		16.4		-2.0		34.2		-6.6	

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: labour.market@ons.gov.uk

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.



# SUMMARY

## 2(2) Labour market status by age group

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

	Aged 25-34						Aged 35-49					
	Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity		Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity	
	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate
<b>People</b>	YBTU	YBUG	YCGM	YCGP	YCAV	LWFD	YBTX	YBUJ	YCGS	YCGV	YCBB	LWFG
Oct-Dec 2018	7,509	84.0	270	3.5	1,164	13.0	10,882	85.3	300	2.7	1,574	12.3
Oct-Dec 2019	7,614	85.0	250	3.2	1,094	12.2	10,921	85.8	271	2.4	1,531	12.0
Jan-Mar 2020†	7,631	85.2	254	3.2	1,069	11.9	10,874	85.5	284	2.5	1,563	12.3
Apr-Jun 2020†	7,605	85.0	278	3.5	1,068	11.9	10,839	85.2	279	2.5	1,602	12.6
Jul-Sep 2020†	7,609	85.0	335	4.2	1,003	11.2	10,818	85.1	315	2.8	1,581	12.4
Oct-Dec 2020†	7,578	84.7	335	4.2	1,030	11.5	10,775	84.8	394	3.5	1,538	12.1
Change on quarter	-31	-0.3	0	0.0	27	0.3	-43	-0.3	78	0.7	-43	-0.3
Change %	-0.4		0.0		2.7		-0.4		24.9		-2.7	
Change on year	-36	-0.3	85	1.1	-64	-0.7	-146	-1.0	123	1.1	8	0.1
Change %	-0.5		34.1		-5.9		-1.3		45.3		0.5	
<b>Men</b>	YBTV	YBUH	YCGN	YCGQ	YCAZ	LWFE	YBTY	YBUK	YCGT	YCGW	YCBC	LWFH
Oct-Dec 2018	4,037	90.0	150	3.6	298	6.6	5,744	91.2	142	2.4	412	6.5
Oct-Dec 2019	4,064	90.2	134	3.2	306	6.8	5,734	91.3	130	2.2	419	6.7
Jan-Mar 2020†	4,060	90.1	129	3.1	316	7.0	5,703	90.7	144	2.5	437	7.0
Apr-Jun 2020†	4,041	89.7	141	3.4	324	7.2	5,680	90.4	149	2.6	455	7.2
Jul-Sep 2020†	3,993	88.6	171	4.1	343	7.6	5,654	90.0	159	2.7	469	7.5
Oct-Dec 2020†	3,976	88.2	176	4.2	355	7.9	5,622	89.5	187	3.2	472	7.5
Change on quarter	-17	-0.4	5	0.1	12	0.3	-33	-0.5	28	0.5	2	0.0
Change %	-0.4		3.0		3.6		-0.6		17.8		0.4	
Change on year	-88	-2.0	42	1.0	50	1.1	-113	-1.7	57	1.0	52	0.8
Change %	-2.2		31.0		16.3		-2.0		43.8		12.4	
<b>Women</b>	YBTV	YBUH	YCGN	YCGQ	YCAZ	LWFE	YBTY	YBUL	YCGU	YCGX	YCBD	LWFI
Oct-Dec 2018	3,472	77.9	120	3.3	866	19.4	5,138	79.6	158	3.0	1,163	18.0
Oct-Dec 2019	3,550	79.7	116	3.2	788	17.7	5,187	80.5	141	2.6	1,112	17.3
Jan-Mar 2020†	3,571	80.3	126	3.4	753	16.9	5,171	80.3	140	2.6	1,126	17.5
Apr-Jun 2020†	3,564	80.2	138	3.7	744	16.7	5,159	80.2	130	2.5	1,146	17.8
Jul-Sep 2020†	3,616	81.4	164	4.3	660	14.9	5,164	80.3	157	2.9	1,112	17.3
Oct-Dec 2020†	3,602	81.2	159	4.2	674	15.2	5,153	80.2	207	3.9	1,067	16.6
Change on quarter	-14	-0.2	-5	-0.1	14	0.3	-10	-0.1	50	0.9	-45	-0.7
Change %	-0.4		-3.1		2.2		-0.2		32.0		-4.0	
Change on year	52	1.5	44	1.1	-114	-2.5	-33	-0.4	66	1.2	-45	-0.7
Change %	1.5		37.8		-14.5		-0.6		46.6		-4.0	
	Aged 50-64						Age 65+					
	Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity		Employment		Unemployment		Inactivity	
	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate	Level	Rate
<b>People</b>	LF26	LF2U	LF28	LF2E	LF2A	LF2W	LFK4	LFK6	K5HU	K5HW	LFL4	LFL6
Oct-Dec 2018	9,087	71.9	266	2.8	3,277	25.9	1,290	10.9	18	1.4	10,546	89.0
Oct-Dec 2019	9,312	72.7	255	2.7	3,234	25.3	1,297	10.8	33	2.5	10,715	89.0
Jan-Mar 2020†	9,304	72.5	276	2.9	3,262	25.4	1,404	11.6	28	2.0	10,658	88.2
Apr-Jun 2020†	9,280	72.0	256	2.7	3,346	26.0	1,255	10.3	18	1.4	10,863	89.5
Jul-Sep 2020†	9,241	71.5	341	3.6	3,340	25.9	1,321	10.8	31	2.3	10,834	88.9
Oct-Dec 2020†	9,221	71.1	395	4.1	3,345	25.8	1,311	10.7	30	2.3	10,895	89.0
Change on quarter	-20	-0.4	55	0.6	4	0.0	-10	-0.1	0	0.0	61	0.1
Change %	-0.2		16.1		0.1		-0.8		-1.0		0.6	
Change on year	-91	-1.6	141	1.4	110	0.5	15	0.0	-3	-0.2	180	0.1
Change %	-1.0		55.2		3.4		1.1		-8.6		1.7	
<b>Men</b>	MGUX	YBUN	MGVM	MGXF	MGWB	LWFK	MGVA	YBUQ	MGVP	MGXI	MGWE	LWFN
Oct-Dec 2018	4,729	76.3	148	3.0	1,320	21.3	798	14.6	11	1.4	4,663	85.2
Oct-Dec 2019	4,842	77.1	137	2.8	1,299	20.7	744	13.3	22	2.8	4,806	86.3
Jan-Mar 2020†	4,816	76.5	166	3.3	1,315	20.9	775	13.8	19	2.4	4,802	85.8
Apr-Jun 2020†	4,820	76.3	152	3.1	1,344	21.3	694	12.4	10	1.4	4,915	87.5
Jul-Sep 2020†	4,784	75.5	211	4.2	1,339	21.1	768	13.6	24	3.0	4,854	86.0
Oct-Dec 2020†	4,781	75.3	234	4.7	1,338	21.1	774	13.7	21	2.7	4,876	86.0
Change on quarter	-3	-0.3	23	0.4	-2	-0.1	6	0.0	-2	-0.3	22	0.0
Change %	-0.1		10.7		-0.1		0.8		-9.2		0.5	
Change on year	-61	-1.9	97	1.9	39	0.4	31	0.3	0	-0.1	70	-0.3
Change %	-1.3		70.4		3.0		4.1		-0.3		1.4	
<b>Women</b>	LF27	LF2V	LF29	LF2F	LF2B	LF2X	LFK5	LFK7	K5HV	K5HX	LFL5	LFL7
Oct-Dec 2018	4,357	67.7	118	2.6	1,957	30.4	492	7.7	7	1.4	5,883	92.2
Oct-Dec 2019	4,470	68.5	118	2.6	1,935	29.7	553	8.5	12	2.1	5,908	91.3
Jan-Mar 2020†	4,488	68.6	110	2.4	1,948	29.8	629	9.7	9	1.5	5,855	90.2
Apr-Jun 2020†	4,460	67.9	105	2.3	2,002	30.5	561	8.6	8	1.3	5,948	91.3
Jul-Sep 2020†	4,456	67.7	130	2.8	2,001	30.4	553	8.5	7	1.2	5,980	91.4
Oct-Dec 2020†	4,440	67.2	162	3.5	2,007	30.4	537	8.2	9	1.6	6,019	91.7
Change on quarter	-17	-0.5	32	0.7	6	0.0	-16	-0.3	2	0.4	39	0.2
Change %	-0.4		24.7		0.3		-2.9		26.9		0.6	
Change on year	-31	-1.3	44	1.0	72	0.7	-16	-0.4	-3	-0.4	111	0.4
Change %	-0.7		37.4		3.7		-2.9		-23.9		1.9	

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.



EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

3 Full-time, part-time and temporary workers

United Kingdom (thousands of people aged 16 and over)  
seasonally adjusted

	All in employment					Full-time and part-time workers <sup>1</sup>							
	Total	Employees	Self employed	Unpaid family workers	Government supported training & employment programmes <sup>2</sup>	Total people working full-time	total people working part-time	Employees working full-time	Employees working part-time	Self-employed people working full-time	Self-employed people working part-time	Total Workers with second jobs	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
People	MGRZ	MGRN	MGRQ	MGRT	MGRW	YCBE	YCBH	YCBK	YCBN	YCBQ	YCBT	YCBW	
Oct-Dec 2018	32,597	27,590	4,840	121	47	24,035	8,562	20,621	6,969	3,375	1,465	1,117	
Oct-Dec 2019	32,934	27,726	5,027	126	55	24,416	8,517	20,792	6,934	3,571	1,455	1,165	
Jan-Mar 2020†	33,005	27,879	4,948	117	62	24,356	8,650	20,851	7,028	3,447	1,501	1,224	
Apr-Jun 2020†	32,671	27,826	4,700	99	45	24,402	8,269	21,052	6,774	3,293	1,407	1,061	
Jul-Sep 2020†	32,507	27,847	4,526	99	35	24,396	8,111	21,165	6,681	3,183	1,343	1,081	
Oct-Dec 2020†	32,393	27,895	4,374	90	34	24,435	7,958	21,351	6,544	3,034	1,340	1,113	
Change on quarter	-114	48	-152	-9	-1	39	-153	185	-138	-149	-3	32	
Change %	-0.4	0.2	-3.4	-8.7	-3.1	0.2	-1.9	0.9	-2.1	-4.7	-0.2	2.9	
Change on year	-541	169	-652	-36	-21	19	-560	559	-390	-537	-115	-52	
Change %	-1.6	0.6	-13.0	-28.6	-38.4	0.1	-6.6	2.7	-5.6	-15.0	-7.9	-4.5	
Men	MGSA	MGRO	MGRR	MGRU	MGRX	YCBF	YCBI	YCBL	YCBO	YCBR	YCBU	YCBX	
Oct-Dec 2018	17,290	13,974	3,231	54	30	14,989	2,301	12,333	1,641	2,633	598	488	
Oct-Dec 2019	17,328	13,929	3,312	61	27	15,108	2,220	12,343	1,585	2,732	580	481	
Jan-Mar 2020†	17,285	13,960	3,238	56	31	15,057	2,227	12,397	1,564	2,629	609	512	
Apr-Jun 2020†	17,113	14,017	3,020	49	27	15,007	2,105	12,498	1,518	2,477	543	450	
Jul-Sep 2020†	16,979	13,968	2,945	44	22	14,876	2,103	12,446	1,522	2,398	548	457	
Oct-Dec 2020†	16,904	13,965	2,874	42	22	14,828	2,076	12,505	1,460	2,294	581	462	
Change on quarter	-75	-3	-71	-1	0	-48	-27	59	-62	-104	33	5	
Change %	-0.4	0.0	-2.4	-3.4	0.1	-0.3	-1.3	0.5	-4.1	-4.3	6.1	1.1	
Change on year	-424	37	-437	-19	-5	-280	-144	162	-125	-439	1	-19	
Change %	-2.4	0.3	-13.2	-30.8	-17.8	-1.9	-6.5	1.3	-7.9	-16.1	0.2	-3.9	
Women	MGSB	MGRP	MGRS	MGRV	MGRY	YCBG	YCBJ	YCBM	YCBP	YCBS	YCBV	YCBY	
Oct-Dec 2018	15,308	13,616	1,609	66	17	9,046	6,261	8,288	5,328	742	867	629	
Oct-Dec 2019	15,605	13,797	1,715	65	28	9,308	6,297	8,449	5,348	839	876	684	
Jan-Mar 2020†	15,721	13,919	1,710	61	31	9,298	6,423	8,454	5,464	818	892	712	
Apr-Jun 2020†	15,558	13,810	1,680	50	18	9,394	6,164	8,554	5,256	816	864	611	
Jul-Sep 2020†	15,528	13,879	1,581	55	13	9,520	6,008	8,719	5,159	785	796	624	
Oct-Dec 2020†	15,489	13,929	1,500	48	12	9,607	5,882	8,846	5,083	741	759	651	
Change on quarter	-39	50	-81	-7	-1	87	-126	126	-76	-45	-36	27	
Change %	-0.3	0.4	-5.1	-13.0	-8.5	0.9	-2.1	1.4	-1.5	-5.7	-4.6	4.3	
Change on year	-117	132	-215	-17	-16	299	-415	397	-265	-99	-116	-33	
Change %	-0.7	1.0	-12.5	-26.6	-58.1	3.2	-6.6	4.7	-5.0	-11.7	-13.3	-4.9	
Temporary employees (reasons for temporary working)													
Part-time workers (reasons for working part-time) <sup>3</sup>													
	Total	Total as % of all employees	Could not find permanent job	% that could not find permanent job	Did not want permanent job	Had a contract with period of training	Some other reason	Total <sup>4</sup>	Could not find full-time job	% that could not find full-time job	Did not want full-time job	Ill or disabled	Student or at school
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
People	YCBZ	YCCC	YCCF	YCCI	YCCL	YCCO	YCCR	YCCU	YCCX	YCDA	YCDD	YCDG	YCDJ
Oct-Dec 2018	1,549	5.6	408	26.3	459	127	556	8,434	892	10.6	6,114	262	1,098
Oct-Dec 2019	1,422	5.1	361	25.4	396	113	552	8,389	918	10.9	6,058	291	1,071
Jan-Mar 2020†	1,508	5.4	415	27.6	423	115	554	8,529	902	10.6	6,154	303	1,120
Apr-Jun 2020†	1,486	5.3	379	25.5	395	125	587	8,181	889	10.9	5,867	298	1,063
Jul-Sep 2020†	1,454	5.2	378	26.0	360	120	596	8,025	893	11.1	5,767	277	992
Oct-Dec 2020†	1,564	5.6	453	28.9	359	124	628	7,884	1,013	12.9	5,623	260	906
Change on quarter	110	0.4	75	2.9	-1	4	33	-141	120	1.7	-144	-17	-86
Change %	7.6		19.7		-0.3	3.4	5.5	-1.8	13.4		-2.5	-6.1	-8.7
Change on year	142	0.5	92	3.6	-38	12	76	-505	95	1.9	-435	-31	-165
Change %	10.0		25.4		-9.5	10.4	13.8	-6.0	10.3		-7.2	-10.6	-15.4
Men	YCCA		YCCG		YCCM	YCCP	YCCS	YCCV	YCCY	YCDB	YCDE	YCDH	YCDK
Oct-Dec 2018	742	5.3	213	28.7	209	66	253	2,239	406	18.1	1,244	94	473
Oct-Dec 2019	672	4.8	180	26.7	175	63	254	2,165	386	17.8	1,243	100	419
Jan-Mar 2020†	689	4.9	202	29.3	189	51	248	2,172	366	16.9	1,253	105	433
Apr-Jun 2020†	690	4.9	194	28.1	167	50	278	2,061	376	18.2	1,119	100	443
Jul-Sep 2020†	659	4.7	188	28.5	144	55	273	2,070	373	18.0	1,133	102	411
Oct-Dec 2020†	730	5.2	238	32.6	141	57	294	2,041	436	21.3	1,118	85	369
Change on quarter	71	0.5	50	4.1	-3	2	21	-29	63	3.3	-15	-17	-42
Change %	10.7		26.8		-1.9	3.9	7.7	-1.4	16.8		-1.3	-16.2	-10.3
Change on year	58	0.4	59	5.9	-34	-6	40	-124	50	3.5	-125	-14	-50
Change %	8.7		32.8		-19.4	-10.2	15.6	-5.7	12.9		-10.1	-14.3	-11.8
Women	YCCB	YCCE	YCCH	YCCK	YCCN	YCCQ	YCCT	YCCW	YCCZ	YCDC	YCDF	YCDI	YCDL
Oct-Dec 2018	807	5.9	195	24.1	249	61	302	6,195	486	7.8	4,870	168	625
Oct-Dec 2019	750	5.4	182	24.2	221	49	298	6,224	533	8.6	4,815	191	652
Jan-Mar 2020†	819	5.9	214	26.1	234	65	307	6,357	535	8.4	4,902	199	687
Apr-Jun 2020†	796	5.8	185	23.3	228	75	308	6,120	513	8.4	4,747	198	620
Jul-Sep 2020†	794	5.7	190	23.9	216	66	322	5,955	521	8.7	4,634	175	581
Oct-Dec 2020†	834	6.0	214	25.7	218	68	334	5,843	578	9.9	4,505	174	536
Change on quarter	39	0.3	24	1.8	2	2	12	-112	57	1.1	-129	0	-44
Change %	5.0		12.7		0.8	2.9	3.6	-1.9	11.0		-2.8	-0.3	-7.6
Change on year	84	0.6	33	1.5	-4	18	37	-381	45	1.3	-310	-17	-116
Change %	11.2		18.0		-1.7	36.7	12.3	-6.1	8.5		-6.4	-8.7	-17.7

Source: Labour Force Survey  
Labour market statistics enquiries: labour.market@ons.gov.uk

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

# EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

## 7 Actual weekly hours worked

United Kingdom (hours worked by people aged 16 and over), seasonally adjusted

Average (mean) actual weekly hours worked					
	Total weekly hours (millions) <sup>12</sup>	All workers <sup>1</sup>	Full-time workers <sup>3</sup>	Part-time workers <sup>3</sup>	Second Jobs
<b>People</b>	YBUS	YBUV	YBUY	YBVB	YBVE
Oct-Dec 2018	1,042.0	32.0	37.1	16.2	9.9
Oct-Dec 2019	1,050.1	31.9	36.9	16.2	9.8
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	1,029.2	31.2	36.2	15.8	9.7
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	841.9	25.8	30.3	11.6	8.7
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	925.0	28.5	33.0	13.9	9.2
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	978.7	30.2	34.9	14.9	9.8
<i>Change on quarter</i>	53.7	1.8	2.0	0.9	0.5
<i>Change %</i>	5.8	6.2	5.9	6.7	5.9
<i>Change on year</i>	-71.4	-1.7	-2.0	-1.3	0.0
<i>Change %</i>	-6.8	-5.2	-5.4	-8.1	0.0
<b>Men</b>	YBUT	YBUW	YBUZ	YBVC	YBVF
Oct-Dec 2018	626.7	36.2	38.9	16.3	10.7
Oct-Dec 2019	623.2	36.0	38.6	16.1	10.6
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	607.8	35.2	37.7	15.5	10.6
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	497.2	29.1	31.4	10.8	10.3
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	544.0	32.0	34.3	13.8	10.8
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	572.5	33.9	36.3	14.3	10.0
<i>Change on quarter</i>	28.5	1.8	2.0	0.5	-0.9
<i>Change %</i>	5.2	5.7	5.9	3.7	-7.9
<i>Change on year</i>	-50.7	-2.1	-2.2	-1.8	-0.6
<i>Change %</i>	-8.1	-5.8	-5.8	-11.3	-5.7
<b>Women</b>	YBUU	YBUX	YBVA	YBVD	YBVG
Oct-Dec 2018	415.3	27.1	34.1	16.2	9.2
Oct-Dec 2019	426.9	27.4	34.2	16.2	9.2
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	421.4	26.8	33.8	15.9	9.0
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	344.7	22.2	28.6	11.8	7.5
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	381.0	24.5	30.8	14.0	8.0
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	406.2	26.2	32.7	15.1	9.6
<i>Change on quarter</i>	25.2	1.7	1.9	1.1	1.6
<i>Change %</i>	6.6	6.9	6.1	7.8	19.6
<i>Change on year</i>	-20.7	-1.1	-1.5	-1.1	0.4
<i>Change %</i>	-4.9	-4.1	-4.4	-7.0	4.6

1 Main and second job

2 Total actual weekly hours worked including paid and unpaid overtime.

3 Main job only. The split between full-time and part-time employment is based on respondents' self-classification.

Source: Labour Force Survey  
Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

# 7 (1) Usual weekly hours of work<sup>1</sup>

United Kingdom, seasonally adjusted

	All in Employment (%)			Employees (%)			Self-Employed (%)		
	People	Men	Women	People	Men	Women	People	Men	Women
<b>Oct-Dec 2019</b>									
Less than 6 Hours	1.4	0.8	2.0	1.0	0.6	1.4	2.9	1.5	5.7
6 up to 15 hours	6.3	3.5	9.4	5.7	3.0	8.4	8.9	4.9	16.7
16 up to 30 hours	19.3	9.8	29.8	18.7	8.4	29.2	22.6	15.6	36.2
31 up to 45 hours	54.7	60.6	48.2	57.5	64.1	50.9	39.8	46.2	27.4
Over 45 hours	18.3	25.3	10.5	17.0	23.9	10.1	25.8	31.9	14.0
Total (thousands)	32,934	17,328	15,605	27,726	13,929	13,797	5,027	3,312	1,715
<b>Jul-Sep 2020 †</b>									
Less than 6 Hours	1.2	0.8	1.7	0.8	0.5	1.2	2.7	1.5	5.0
6 up to 15 hours	6.1	3.3	9.1	5.6	2.9	8.2	9.1	5.0	16.9
16 up to 30 hours	19.1	9.7	29.3	18.3	8.1	28.5	23.9	17.6	35.8
31 up to 45 hours	57.0	63.5	49.9	59.8	67.0	52.6	40.3	47.2	27.6
Over 45 hours	16.6	22.7	10.0	15.5	21.5	9.5	23.9	28.8	14.8
Total (thousands)	32,507	16,979	15,528	27,847	13,968	13,879	4,526	2,945	1,581
<b>Oct-Dec 2020 †</b>									
Less than 6 Hours	1.2	0.9	1.6	0.8	0.6	1.1	3.1	2.1	5.0
6 up to 15 hours	5.8	3.2	8.7	5.1	2.6	7.5	10.6	5.9	19.7
16 up to 30 hours	19.1	10.1	29.0	18.5	8.4	28.5	23.4	18.5	32.9
31 up to 45 hours	57.3	63.7	50.3	60.1	67.5	52.7	39.4	45.1	28.6
Over 45 hours	16.6	22.1	10.5	15.5	20.9	10.1	23.5	28.5	13.9
Total (thousands)	32,393	16,904	15,489	27,895	13,965	13,929	4,374	2,874	1,500

1 Total usual weekly hours worked by people aged 16 and over in main job including paid and unpaid overtime.

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

NON-UK WORKERS

8(1) Employment levels and rates by country of birth and nationality

United Kingdom (thousands of people aged 16 and over) not seasonally adjusted																			
	Europe										Africa		Asia			America and Oceania			
	European Union (EU)										Total Africa	Of which: South Africa	Total Asia	Of which: India	Of which: Pakistan and Bangla-desh	Total America and Oceania	Of which: USA	Of which: Australia and New Zealand	Total Non-EU <sup>7</sup>
	Total <sup>1</sup>	UK	Non UK	Total Europe	Total EU (EU27) <sup>2</sup>	EU14 <sup>3</sup>	EU8 <sup>4</sup>	EU2 <sup>5</sup>	Other EU <sup>6</sup>	Other Europe (not in EU)									
Levels (aged 16 and over)																			
Country of birth levels	MGTM	JF6F	JF6G	FSC2	EQ4Q	JJR3	JJR5	EQ4R	FSC3	FSC4	FSC5	JJS3	FSC6	JJS7	JJS9	FSC7	JJR7	JJS5	EQ4S
Oct-Dec 2018	32,671	27,011	5,651	2,550	2,303	989	886	384	43	248	893	174	1,568	476	344	640	107	130	3,349
Oct-Dec 2019	32,983	27,171	5,809	2,704	2,436	1,026	970	400	40	269	937	171	1,544	490	373	624	95	169	3,373
Jan-Mar 2020†	32,998	27,097	5,893	2,478	3,414	1,045	975	422	37	281	933	186	1,573	521	360	628	93	168	3,414
Apr-Jun 2020†	32,592	27,004	5,574	2,268	3,306	1,028	839	363	39	280	896	167	1,477	514	341	652	99	156	3,306
Jul-Sep 2020†	32,515	27,328	5,176	1,983	3,193	963	710	276	33	265	929	191	1,345	449	273	653	103	156	3,193
Oct-Dec 2020†	32,441	27,422	5,014	1,938	3,076	968	668	262	40	199	857	182	1,358	456	264	662	118	159	3,076
Change on year	-542	251	-795	-766	640	-58	-302	-138	1	-70	-80	11	-186	-34	-109	38	23	-10	-298
Change %	-1.6	0.9	-13.7	-28.3	26.3	-5.6	-31.1	-34.5	1.4	-25.9	-8.5	6.5	-12.0	-6.9	-29.2	6.0	24.2	-6.1	-8.8
Country of birth rates	LF9D	LFM6	LFM7	FSD5	EQ4Y	LFM8	LFM9	EQ4Z	FSD6	FSD7	FSD8	LFN4	FSD9	LFN6	LFN7	FSE2	LFN2	LFN5	EQ52
Oct-Dec 2018	76.0	76.3	74.7	81.6	82.6	79.8	86.1	83.5	71.8	73.0	73.3	84.7	65.5	75.5	55.9	77.6	79.1	85.7	70.1
Oct-Dec 2019	76.6	76.8	75.6	82.0	83.1	80.9	85.7	82.7	78.0	73.5	74.2	82.3	65.7	78.7	56.7	80.2	79.1	87.8	70.9
Jan-Mar 2020†	76.3	76.4	76.4	82.4	83.3	81.0	85.6	84.1	78.5	75.1	75.3	86.9	66.7	78.6	56.5	81.4	76.0	88.0	72.0
Apr-Jun 2020†	75.7	75.6	76.0	81.0	81.7	80.1	83.3	83.3	75.8	75.8	74.2	82.9	68.0	78.0	60.1	80.5	79.9	84.3	72.4
Jul-Sep 2020†	75.3	75.3	75.4	80.2	81.1	81.1	79.8	86.6	70.0	74.1	72.1	81.9	69.4	76.5	59.1	78.2	82.0	77.2	72.2
Oct-Dec 2020†	75.1	75.2	74.8	79.5	80.1	79.9	78.8	86.1	72.2	73.5	70.2	79.5	69.8	78.3	61.0	78.2	76.7	80.6	71.8
Change on year	-1.5	-1.6	-0.7	-2.5	-2.9	-1.1	-6.9	3.4	-5.7	0.0	-4.0	-2.8	4.1	-0.4	4.3	-2.0	-2.3	-7.2	0.9
Nationality levels	MGTM	JF6H	JF6I	FSC8	EQ4U	JJR4	JJR6	EQ4V	FSC9	FSCE	FSD2	JJS4	FSD3	JJS8	JJT2	FSD4	JJR8	JJS6	EQ4W
Oct-Dec 2018	32,671	29,098	3,569	2,400	2,274	1,011	869	370	24	126	277	64	593	194	107	299	96	71	1,295
Oct-Dec 2019	32,983	29,325	3,654	2,439	2,310	994	931	367	17	129	298	68	602	199	126	316	75	107	1,344
Jan-Mar 2020†	32,998	29,251	3,737	2,367	2,367	1,025	933	394	15	128	300	66	616	218	114	326	70	113	1,370
Apr-Jun 2020†	32,592	29,107	3,468	2,154	2,154	994	805	339	15	104	305	64	579	220	122	327	79	103	1,314
Jul-Sep 2020†	32,515	29,352	3,161	1,874	1,874	920	685	252	17	102	333	79	512	183	93	340	85	96	1,287
Oct-Dec 2020†	32,441	29,347	3,092	1,831	1,831	928	640	240	23	80	301	64	494	177	81	386	102	102	1,260
Change on year	-542	22	-563	-608	-478	-66	-291	-127	6	-49	3	-5	-108	-22	-44	70	27	-5	-84
Change %	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	0.4	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	0.2	0.4	0.0	-0.1
Nationality rates	LF9D	LFN8	LFN9	FSE3	EQ54	LFO2	LFO3	EQ55	FSE4	FSE5	FSE6	LFO6	FSE7	LFO8	LFO9	FSE8	LFO4	LFO7	EQ56
Oct-Dec 2018	76.0	76.0	75.8	82.6	83.3	81.0	86.0	84.5	68.9	72.3	70.5	86.6	58.3	69.7	48.4	77.0	73.7	86.1	65.6
Oct-Dec 2019	76.6	76.7	76.0	81.9	82.4	80.3	85.4	81.0	80.0	73.4	69.0	85.8	60.3	74.6	55.2	78.5	77.2	87.8	66.9
Jan-Mar 2020†	76.3	76.3	76.6	82.3	82.9	80.5	85.4	83.7	76.2	72.3	67.0	90.4	62.3	77.1	53.2	80.0	72.2	86.9	67.8
Apr-Jun 2020†	75.7	75.6	76.0	81.3	82.0	80.0	84.3	82.7	74.8	69.3	67.2	92.6	63.0	76.6	56.2	80.0	73.2	87.6	68.0
Jul-Sep 2020†	75.3	75.2	76.1	80.5	81.3	79.8	81.5	85.5	96.0	68.2	69.1	88.6	65.2	73.5	57.3	78.8	76.0	80.2	69.6
Oct-Dec 2020†	75.1	75.1	75.5	79.7	80.5	78.8	80.7	86.0	92.0	64.4	68.4	82.9	64.2	74.2	57.9	79.4	73.9	84.2	69.3
Change on year	-1.5	-1.6	-0.4	-2.2	-1.9	-1.5	-4.7	5.0	12.1	-9.0	-0.6	-2.9	3.9	-0.4	2.7	0.9	-3.3	-3.5	2.3

1. The total series includes people who do not state their country of birth or nationality. The total levels series MGTM does not therefore equal the sum of the "UK" and "Non-UK" series.

2. This series consists of all 27 EU member states excluding the UK. This series equals the sum of EU14, EU8, EU2 and Other EU.

3. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

4. Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

5. Romania and Bulgaria.

6. Cyprus, Malta and Croatia

7. Total Non-EU equals the sum of Other Europe, Total Africa, Total Asia and Total America and Oceania

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

The estimates shown in this table relate to the number of people in employment and should not be used as a proxy for flows of foreign migrants into the UK.

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

NON-UK WORKERS

8(2) Unemployment and economic inactivity levels and rates by country of birth and nationality

United Kingdom (thousands of people) not seasonally adjusted

	Unemployment (all aged 16 and over)					Economically inactive (all aged from 16 to 64)									
	Total <sup>1</sup>	UK	Non-UK	EU27 <sup>2</sup>	Non-EU	Total <sup>1</sup>		UK		Non-UK		EU27 <sup>2</sup>		Non-EU	
						All econom- ically inactive	Of which: Students <sup>3</sup>	All econom- ically inactive	Of which: Students <sup>3</sup>	All econom- ically inactive	Of which: Students <sup>3</sup>	All econom- ically inactive	Of which: Students <sup>3</sup>	All econom- ically inactive	Of which: Students <sup>3</sup>
Levels (thousands of people)															
Country of birth levels	MGTP	DSWD	DT35	DT3F	DTKB	LF9L	LF9W	DTLK	DYUP	DYUR	DYVR	DYVZ	DYWL	DYWR	DZ37
Oct-Dec 2018	1,328	1,068	260	78	182	8,598	2,228	6,957	1,757	1,623	470	399	161	1,224	309
Oct-Dec 2019	1,268	1,030	237	85	152	8,450	2,223	6,844	1,769	1,596	455	403	130	1,193	325
Jan-Mar 2020†	1,357	1,082	275	90	184	8,471	2,254	6,941	1,823	1,505	430	398	133	1,108	297
Apr-Jun 2020†	1,338	1,072	266	103	163	8,766	2,221	7,284	1,835	1,452	384	396	122	1,056	262
Jul-Sep 2020†	1,703	1,344	359	125	235	8,569	2,196	7,261	1,823	1,285	372	332	104	954	268
Oct-Dec 2020†	1,730	1,362	368	121	247	8,619	2,351	7,322	1,964	1,276	387	352	136	925	251
Change on year	463	332	130	36	95	169	128	478	195	-319	-68	-51	6	-268	-74
Change %	36.5	32.2	55.0	41.7	62.4	2.0	5.8	7.0	11.0	-20.0	-15.0	-12.7	4.7	-22.5	-22.8
Country of birth rates	MGUK	DT2W	DT3B	DTJG	DTKD	CRZK		DYTD		DYUT		DYWD		DYWT	
Oct-Dec 2018	3.9	3.8	4.4	3.3	5.1	20.8		20.6		21.9		14.6		26.1	
Oct-Dec 2019	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.4	4.3	20.4		20.2		21.3		14.0		25.9	
Jan-Mar 2020†	3.9	3.8	4.5	3.5	5.1	20.5		20.5		20.0		13.6		24.1	
Apr-Jun 2020†	3.9	3.8	4.6	4.4	4.7	21.2		21.3		20.3		14.5		23.9	
Jul-Sep 2020†	5.0	4.7	6.5	5.9	6.8	20.7		20.9		19.2		13.8		22.3	
Oct-Dec 2020†	5.1	4.7	6.8	5.9	7.4	20.8		21.0		19.6		14.8		22.3	
Change on year	1.4	1.1	2.9	2.5	3.1	0.4		0.8		-1.7		0.8		-3.5	
Nationality levels	MGTP	DSWE	DT39	DTG9	DTKC	LF9L	LF9W	DYTC	DYUQ	DYUS	DYVU	DYWA	DYWM	DYWS	DZGD
Oct-Dec 2018	1,328	1,154	173	76	97	8,598	2,228	7,630	1,892	954	335	377	165	577	170
Oct-Dec 2019	1,268	1,102	165	87	79	8,450	2,223	7,456	1,900	976	323	398	143	578	180
Jan-Mar 2020†	1,357	1,165	192	88	104	8,471	2,254	7,511	1,949	934	302	394	139	540	163
Apr-Jun 2020†	1,338	1,154	184	88	96	8,766	2,221	7,843	1,951	894	266	379	121	515	145
Jul-Sep 2020†	1,703	1,470	233	111	122	8,569	2,196	7,797	1,958	749	235	318	111	431	124
Oct-Dec 2020†	1,730	1,491	239	113	126	8,619	2,351	7,849	2,099	747	249	324	130	423	119
Change on year	463	388	74	26	48	169	128	393	199	-229	-73	-74	-13	-155	-60
Change %	36.5	35.2	44.8	30.3	60.8	2.0	5.8	5.3	10.5	-23.4	-22.8	-18.6	-9.3	-26.8	-33.5
Nationality rates	MGUK	DT2Z	DT3D	DTKA	DTLH	CRZK		DYUO		DYUU		DYWE		DZ36	
Oct-Dec 2018	3.9	3.8	4.6	3.2	7.0	20.8		20.8		20.5		14.0		29.5	
Oct-Dec 2019	3.7	3.6	4.3	3.6	5.5	20.4		20.4		20.6		14.4		29.1	
Jan-Mar 2020†	3.9	3.8	4.9	3.6	7.1	20.5		20.5		19.4		14.0		27.1	
Apr-Jun 2020†	3.9	3.8	5.0	3.9	6.8	21.2		21.3		19.9		14.6		27.0	
Jul-Sep 2020†	5.0	4.8	6.9	5.6	8.7	20.7		20.9		18.3		13.9		23.7	
Oct-Dec 2020†	5.1	4.8	7.2	5.8	9.1	20.8		21.0		18.5		14.4		23.7	
Change on year	1.4	1.2	2.9	2.2	3.6	0.4		0.6		-2.0		0.0		-5.4	

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

1. The total series includes people who do not state their country of birth or nationality. The total levels series therefore do not equal the sum of the "UK" and "Non-UK" series.

2. This series consists of all 27 EU member states excluding the UK.

3. This series consists of those people whose main reason for being economically inactive was because they were students. It does not include all students as some students will be included in the employment and unemployment estimates.

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

UNEMPLOYMENT  
9(1) Unemployment by age and duration

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

All aged 16 & over								All aged 16 - 64							
	All	Rate(%) <sup>1</sup>	Up to 6 months	Over 6 and up to 12 months	All over 12 months	% over 12 months	All over 24 months		All	Rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Up to 6 months	Over 6 and up to 12 months	All over 12 months	% over 12 months	All over 24 months
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	MGSC	MGSX	YBWF	YBWG	YBWH	YBWI	YBWL		LF2I	LF2Q	LF2Y	LF32	LF34	LF36	LF38
People															
Oct-Dec 2018	1,363	4.0	805	208	350	25.7	163		1,345	4.1	792	204	349	25.9	160
Oct-Dec 2019	1,290	3.8	779	220	291	22.5	163		1,257	3.8	763	210	284	22.6	155
Jan-Mar 2020†	1,365	4.0	861	206	299	21.9	166		1,337	4.1	850	200	287	21.5	158
Apr-Jun 2020†	1,381	4.1	966	174	241	17.5	120		1,363	4.2	951	171	242	17.7	116
Jul-Sep 2020†	1,624	4.8	1,041	245	338	20.8	166		1,593	4.9	1,039	243	311	19.5	151
Oct-Dec 2020†	1,744	5.1	1,073	309	363	20.8	189		1,714	5.2	1,060	305	349	20.4	179
Change on quarter	121	0.4	32	64	25	0.0	23		121	0.4	21	62	38	0.8	28
Change %	7.4		3.0	26.2	7.4		14.2		7.6		2.0	25.4	12.2		18.5
Change on year	454	1.3	294	89	72	-1.8	26		457	1.4	297	95	65	-2.2	24
Change %	35.2		37.7	40.2	24.7		16.1		36.4		39.0	45.2	22.9		15.4
Men	MGSD	MGSY	MGYK	MGYM	MGYO	YBWJ	YBWM	YBSI	YBTJ	YBWP	YBWS	YBWV	YBWY	YBXB	
Oct-Dec 2018	746	4.1	410	121	215	28.8	104	735	4.3	403	119	214	29.1	102	
Oct-Dec 2019	707	3.9	407	127	173	24.5	96	686	4.0	398	117	171	24.9	93	
Jan-Mar 2020†	754	4.2	466	117	171	22.7	96	735	4.3	459	113	163	22.2	91	
Apr-Jun 2020†	754	4.2	506	111	137	18.2	75	744	4.3	497	108	139	18.7	73	
Jul-Sep 2020†	932	5.2	583	144	205	22.0	112	908	5.3	584	143	182	20.0	98	
Oct-Dec 2020†	959	5.4	583	157	219	22.9	120	938	5.5	577	154	207	22.0	110	
Change on quarter	28	0.2	0	13	15	0.9	8	30	0.2	-7	12	25	2.0	11	
Change %	3.0		0.0	9.1	7.2		7.3	3.3		-1.1	8.1	13.6		11.4	
Change on year	252	1.4	176	30	46	-1.7	23	252	1.5	179	37	36	-2.9	17	
Change %	35.6		43.1	24.0	26.5		24.2	36.7		44.9	31.8	21.1		18.5	
Women	MGSE	MGSZ	MGYL	MGYN	MGYP	YBWK	YBWN	LF2J	LF2R	LF2Z	LF33	LF35	LF37	LF39	
Oct-Dec 2018	617	3.9	395	87	135	21.9	59	610	4.0	389	86	135	22.1	58	
Oct-Dec 2019	582	3.6	372	94	117	20.1	67	571	3.7	365	93	113	19.8	62	
Jan-Mar 2020†	611	3.7	395	89	128	20.9	70	602	3.8	391	87	124	20.6	67	
Apr-Jun 2020†	627	3.9	460	63	104	16.6	45	619	4.0	454	63	103	16.6	43	
Jul-Sep 2020†	692	4.3	458	101	133	19.2	54	685	4.4	456	100	129	18.8	52	
Oct-Dec 2020†	785	4.8	490	152	143	18.3	69	776	4.9	483	150	142	18.3	69	
Change on quarter	93	0.6	32	51	10	-1.0	15	91	0.6	28	50	13	-0.5	17	
Change %	13.4		6.9	50.7	7.7		28.3	13.3		6.1	50.1	10.3		31.8	
Change on year	203	1.2	118	58	26	-1.9	3	205	1.3	119	58	29	-1.5	7	
Change %	34.8		31.8	62.3	22.1		4.4	36.0		32.5	62.1	25.8		10.7	
16-17								18-24							
	All	Rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Up to 6 months	Over 6 and up to 12 months	All over 12 months	% over 12 months	All over 24 months		All	Rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Up to 6 months	Over 6 and up to 12 months	All over 12 months	% over 12 months	All over 24 months
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	YBVH	YBVK	YBXD	YBXG	YBXJ	YBXM	YBXP		YBVN	YBVQ	YBXS	YBXV	YBXY	YBYB	YBYE
People															
Oct-Dec 2018	101	24.3	82	14	5	5.2	*		409	10.4	264	66	79	19.4	26
Oct-Dec 2019	98	22.5	80	14	3	3.3	*		383	10.0	256	71	56	14.6	21
Jan-Mar 2020†	106	24.6	80	19	7	6.4	*		417	10.7	292	61	64	15.3	18
Apr-Jun 2020†	108	26.4	82	19	7	6.5	*		441	11.5	335	50	56	12.7	10
Jul-Sep 2020†	89	25.3	60	21	8	8.5	*		512	13.6	354	60	98	19.1	33
Oct-Dec 2020†	82	25.3	54	23	5	6.4	*		507	13.4	339	84	84	16.6	32
Change on quarter	-7	0.0	-6	2	-2	-2.1	*		-5	-0.2	-15	24	-14	-2.5	0
Change %	-8.0		-10.6	7.4	-30.6		*		-1.0		-4.4	40.3	-14.2		-1.5
Change on year	-16	2.8	-26	9	2	3.1	*		124	3.5	83	13	28	2.0	11
Change %	-16.0		-32.6	59.5	60.8		*		32.5		32.5	18.1	50.6		55.2
Men	YBVI	YBVL	YBXE	YBXH	YBXK	YBXN	YBXQ	YBVO	YBVR	YBXT	YBXW	YBXZ	YBYC	YBYF	
Oct-Dec 2018	51	24.8	39	8	4	8.1	*	245	11.8	145	40	60	24.6	23	
Oct-Dec 2019	57	27.2	47	7	3	4.6	*	228	11.3	144	47	37	16.3	13	
Jan-Mar 2020†	62	30.0	50	10	3	4.6	*	234	11.6	159	38	37	15.9	8	
Apr-Jun 2020†	60	29.9	44	12	4	7.2	*	242	12.2	175	35	32	13.3	6	
Jul-Sep 2020†	46	26.3	32	10	3	7.1	*	321	16.3	221	37	63	19.5	26	
Oct-Dec 2020†	42	27.0	30	9	*	*	*	299	15.4	192	53	54	18.1	20	
Change on quarter	-4	0.7	-2	-1	*	*	*	-22	-0.9	-30	16	-8	-1.3	-6	
Change %	-8.5		-7.5	-7.5	*		*	-7.0		-13.4	41.4	-13.4		-23.0	
Change on year	-15	-0.1	-17	2	*	*	*	71	4.2	48	6	17	1.8	7	
Change %	-25.8		-35.7	28.9	*		*	31.3		33.6	12.9	45.8		56.8	
Women	YBVJ	YBVM	YBXF	YBXI	YBXL	YBXO	YBXR	YBVP	YBVS	YBXU	YBXX	YBYA	YBYD	YBYG	
Oct-Dec 2018	50	23.8	43	6	*	*	*	165	8.9	119	27	19	11.8	3	
Oct-Dec 2019	41	18.2	33	7	*	*	*	155	8.5	112	24	19	12.1	8	
Jan-Mar 2020†	44	19.6	30	10	4	8.9	*	183	9.8	133	23	26	14.5	10	
Apr-Jun 2020†	47	22.9	37	7	3	5.7	*	199	10.7	160	15	24	12.0	4	
Jul-Sep 2020†	43	24.4	28	11	4	9.9	*	191	10.6	133	22	35	18.6	7	
Oct-Dec 2020†	40	23.8	24	13	3	6.7	*	208	11.3	147	31	30	14.4	12	
Change on quarter	-3	-0.6	-4	2	-2	-3.2	*	17	0.7	14	9	-5	-4.2	5	
Change %	-7.5		-14.2	20.9	-37.5		*	9.0		10.6	38.5	-15.5		81.4	
Change on year	-1	5.5	-10	6	*	*	*	53	2.8	35	7	11	2.3	4	
Change %	-2.7		-28.4	91.1	*		*	34.2		31.1	28.2	60.2		52.6	

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: labour.market@ons.gov.uk

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.



# UNEMPLOYMENT

## 9(2) Unemployment by age and duration

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

	25-49							50 and over						
	All	Rate(%) <sup>1</sup>	Up to 6 months	Over 6 and up to 12 months	All over 12 months	% over 12 months	All over 24 months	All	Rate (%) <sup>1</sup>	Up to 6 months	Over 6 and up to 12 months	All over 12 months	% over 12 months	All over 24 months
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	MGVI	MGXB	YBYH	YBYK	YBYN	YBYQ	YBYT	YBVT	YBVW	YBYW	YBYZ	YBZC	YBZF	YBZI
People														
Oct-Dec 2018	569	3.0	330	85	155	27.1	71	284	2.7	130	43	111	39.0	65
Oct-Dec 2019	521	2.7	299	86	136	26.2	78	288	2.6	144	49	95	33.1	65
Jan-Mar 2020†	538	2.8	344	74	121	22.4	70	304	2.8	144	52	108	35.6	78
Apr-Jun 2020†	558	2.9	388	67	103	18.4	60	274	2.5	161	38	76	27.6	50
Jul-Sep 2020†	651	3.4	432	97	122	18.8	54	371	3.4	194	67	110	29.6	78
Oct-Dec 2020†	729	3.8	452	128	149	20.4	79	426	3.9	228	74	124	29.2	78
Change on quarter	79	0.4	20	32	27	1.6	25	54	0.5	33	7	14	-0.4	0
Change %	12.1		4.7	32.7	21.9		46.1	14.7		17.0	10.3	13.1		-0.1
Change on year	208	1.1	153	42	12	-5.8	1	138	1.2	84	25	29	-3.8	13
Change %	39.9		51.3	49.2	9.1		1.6	47.8		58.0	51.1	30.7		20.3
Men	YBYF	MGXC	YBYI	YBYL	YBYO	YBYR	YBYU	YBYU	YBVX	YBYX	YBZA	YBZD	YBZG	YBZJ
Oct-Dec 2018	292	2.9	158	50	85	29.0	45	159	2.8	69	24	66	41.6	35
Oct-Dec 2019	265	2.6	145	44	76	28.7	44	159	2.8	72	29	58	36.4	39
Jan-Mar 2020†	273	2.7	173	41	59	21.5	36	185	3.2	84	28	72	39.1	52
Apr-Jun 2020†	289	2.9	196	41	53	18.2	36	162	2.9	91	23	48	29.6	33
Jul-Sep 2020†	330	3.3	214	54	61	18.6	31	234	4.1	115	42	77	33.0	55
Oct-Dec 2020†	363	3.6	240	52	71	19.7	45	255	4.4	121	43	91	35.7	55
Change on quarter	34	0.3	26	-2	10	1.0	15	20	0.3	6	1	14	2.8	0
Change %	10.2		12.0	-4.0	16.2		47.5	8.7		5.3	1.2	17.9		-0.8
Change on year	99	1.0	95	8	-4	-9.0	1	96	1.6	49	14	33	-0.7	15
Change %	37.3		65.4	19.0	-5.9		1.7	60.8		68.3	48.3	57.8		39.1
Women	YBYG	MGXD	YBYJ	YBYM	YBYP	YBYS	YBYV	YBYV	YBVY	YBY Y	YBZB	YBZE	YBZH	YBZK
Oct-Dec 2018	277	3.1	172	35	70	25.2	26	125	2.5	61	19	45	35.7	30
Oct-Dec 2019	257	2.9	154	42	60	23.5	33	130	2.5	72	20	37	28.9	26
Jan-Mar 2020†	266	2.9	172	32	62	23.3	34	119	2.3	60	24	36	30.1	26
Apr-Jun 2020†	268	3.0	193	26	50	18.7	24	112	2.2	70	15	28	24.6	17
Jul-Sep 2020†	321	3.5	218	43	61	18.9	23	137	2.7	79	25	33	23.9	23
Oct-Dec 2020†	366	4.0	212	76	77	21.1	34	171	3.3	106	31	33	19.5	24
Change on quarter	45	0.5	-5	34	17	2.2	10	34	0.7	27	6	1	-4.4	0
Change %	14.0		-2.5	79.5	27.6		44.3	24.8		34.0	25.9	1.9		1.5
Change on year	109	1.2	58	34	17	-2.4	1	41	0.8	34	11	-4	-9.4	-2
Change %	42.6		38.0	80.4	27.9		1.5	31.9		47.8	55.1	-11.1		-8.2

Source: Labour Force Survey  
Labour market statistics enquiries: labour.market@ons.gov.uk

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

# ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND INACTIVITY

## 10 Economic activity by age

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

	All aged & over	16 - 64	16 - 17	18 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64	65+
<b>Economically active</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>People</b>	MGSF	LF2K	YBZL	YBZO	YBZR	YBZU	LF3A	LFK8
Oct-Dec 2018	33,960	32,652	415	3,924	7,778	11,182	9,352	1,309
Oct-Dec 2019	34,223	32,894	434	3,837	7,863	11,192	9,567	1,330
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	34,371	32,938	432	3,883	7,885	11,158	9,579	1,432
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	34,051	32,779	408	3,833	7,883	11,118	9,536	1,273
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	34,130	32,779	352	3,768	7,944	11,134	9,581	1,352
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	34,137	32,796	324	3,773	7,913	11,169	9,616	1,341
Change on quarter	7	17	-28	5	-31	35	35	-10
Change %	0.0	0.1	-7.9	0.1	-0.4	0.3	0.4	-0.8
Change on year	-86	-98	-110	-63	49	-23	49	12
Change %	-0.3	-0.3	-25.3	-1.7	0.6	-0.2	0.5	0.9
<b>Men</b>	MMSG	YBSL	YBZM	YBZP	YBZS	YBZV	YBZY	YCAE
Oct-Dec 2018	18,036	17,227	205	2,073	4,187	5,886	4,877	809
Oct-Dec 2019	18,036	17,270	208	2,020	4,198	5,865	4,979	765
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	18,039	17,245	208	2,020	4,188	5,847	4,982	794
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	17,867	17,162	202	1,978	4,182	5,829	4,972	705
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	17,911	17,119	174	1,973	4,163	5,813	4,995	792
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	17,863	17,067	155	1,936	4,152	5,809	5,015	796
Change on quarter	-47	-51	-19	-36	-11	-4	20	4
Change %	-0.3	-0.3	-10.9	-1.8	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.5
Change on year	-172	-203	-53	-84	-46	-56	36	31
Change %	-1.0	-1.2	-25.4	-4.2	-1.1	-0.9	0.7	4.0
<b>Women</b>	MGSH	LF2L	YBZN	YBZQ	YBZT	YBZW	LF3B	LFK9
Oct-Dec 2018	15,924	15,425	211	1,852	3,591	5,296	4,475	499
Oct-Dec 2019	16,188	15,623	226	1,816	3,665	5,328	4,588	564
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	16,332	15,693	224	1,864	3,697	5,311	4,597	639
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	16,185	15,617	206	1,855	3,701	5,289	4,564	568
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	16,220	15,660	178	1,795	3,781	5,320	4,586	560
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	16,274	15,728	169	1,837	3,761	5,360	4,602	545
Change on quarter	54	68	-9	42	-20	40	15	-14
Change %	0.3	0.4	-5.0	2.3	-0.5	0.7	0.3	-2.5
Change on year	86	105	-57	21	96	32	13	-19
Change %	0.5	0.7	-25.3	1.1	2.6	0.6	0.3	-3.4

## Economic activity rates (%)<sup>1</sup>

<b>People</b>	MGWG	LF22	YCAG	YCAJ	YCAM	YCAP	LF2C	LFL2
Oct-Dec 2018	63.9	79.1	29.8	70.5	87.0	87.7	74.1	11.0
Oct-Dec 2019	64.1	79.5	30.8	70.0	87.8	88.0	74.7	11.0
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	64.3	79.6	30.5	71.1	88.1	87.7	74.6	11.8
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	63.6	79.1	28.6	70.4	88.1	87.4	74.0	10.5
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	63.6	79.1	24.5	69.5	88.8	87.6	74.1	11.1
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	63.6	79.1	22.4	69.8	88.5	87.9	74.2	11.0
Change on quarter	-0.1	0.0	-2.1	0.3	-0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.1
Change on year	-0.5	-0.4	-8.4	-0.2	0.7	-0.1	-0.5	-0.1
<b>Men</b>	MGWH	MGSP	YCAH	YCAK	YCAN	YCAQ	MGWQ	MGWT
Oct-Dec 2018	69.4	83.9	28.7	72.9	93.4	93.5	78.7	14.8
Oct-Dec 2019	69.0	83.9	28.9	72.2	93.2	93.3	79.3	13.7
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	68.9	83.7	28.7	72.4	93.0	93.0	79.1	14.2
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	68.1	83.3	27.7	71.2	92.8	92.8	78.7	12.5
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	68.2	83.0	23.7	71.3	92.4	92.5	78.9	14.0
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	67.9	82.7	21.0	70.2	92.1	92.5	78.9	14.0
Change on quarter	-0.3	-0.3	-2.7	-1.1	-0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Change on year	-1.1	-1.2	-7.9	-2.0	-1.1	-0.8	-0.4	0.3
<b>Women</b>	MGWI	LF23	YCAI	YCAL	YCAO	YCAR	LF2D	LFL3
Oct-Dec 2018	58.7	74.3	31.0	68.0	80.6	82.0	69.6	7.8
Oct-Dec 2019	59.4	75.2	32.9	67.7	82.3	82.7	70.3	8.7
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	59.8	75.5	32.4	69.7	83.1	82.5	70.2	9.8
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	59.2	75.1	29.6	69.7	83.3	82.2	69.5	8.7
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	59.3	75.2	25.4	67.6	85.1	82.7	69.6	8.6
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	59.4	75.5	23.9	69.4	84.8	83.4	69.6	8.3
Change on quarter	0.1	0.3	-1.4	1.8	-0.3	0.7	0.0	-0.2
Change on year	0.0	0.4	-9.0	1.7	2.5	0.7	-0.7	-0.4

Data source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

† Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.



# ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND INACTIVITY

## 11 Economic inactivity: reasons

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

	Total aged 16-64		Economic inactivity by reason (aged 16 to 64)							Wanting/not wanting a job (aged 16 to 64)	
	1	2	Student	Looking after family / home	Temp sick	Long-term sick	Discouraged workers <sup>1</sup>	Retired	Other <sup>2</sup>	Does not want job	Wants a job
People	LF2M	LF63	LF65	LF67	LF69	LFL8	LF6B	LF6D	LFL9	LFM2	
Oct-Dec 2018	8,632	2,270	2,029	182	2,007	33	1,120	992	6,793	1,839	
Oct-Dec 2019	8,478	2,255	1,885	160	2,075	33	1,123	947	6,605	1,873	
Jan-Mar 2020†	8,457	2,156	1,804	184	2,148	37	1,143	985	6,553	1,904	
Apr-Jun 2020†	8,641	2,131	1,768	159	2,123	58	1,115	1,287	6,476	2,166	
Jul-Sep 2020†	8,662	2,362	1,625	149	2,180	60	1,159	1,128	6,706	1,956	
Oct-Dec 2020†	8,664	2,359	1,613	181	2,202	75	1,098	1,136	6,722	1,942	
Change on quarter	2	-3	-12	32	23	15	-61	7	16	-14	
Change %	0.0	-0.1	-0.8	21.8	1.0	25.5	-5.3	0.6	0.2	-0.7	
Change on year	187	104	-273	21	128	42	-25	189	118	69	
Change %	2.2	4.6	-14.5	13.3	6.2	127.1	-2.2	19.9	1.8	3.7	
Men	YBSO	BEEH	BEAQ	BEDI	BEDL	YCFP	BEDR	BEDU	YBWA	YBWD	
Oct-Dec 2018	3,307	1,140	223	89	950	20	478	407	2,563	744	
Oct-Dec 2019	3,315	1,141	225	64	964	20	501	399	2,552	763	
Jan-Mar 2020†	3,355	1,086	224	86	981	25	512	441	2,545	810	
Apr-Jun 2020†	3,453	1,072	248	76	952	29	506	570	2,514	938	
Jul-Sep 2020†	3,508	1,166	240	74	1,010	42	504	472	2,635	874	
Oct-Dec 2020†	3,571	1,185	240	82	1,034	46	474	511	2,723	848	
Change on quarter	63	19	0	8	23	4	-31	39	88	-25	
Change %	1.8	1.6	0.1	11.1	2.3	9.7	-6.1	8.2	3.3	-2.9	
Change on year	255	43	15	18	70	25	-28	112	170	85	
Change %	7.7	3.8	6.6	27.9	7.2	123.4	-5.5	28.1	6.7	11.1	
Women	LF2N	LF64	LF66	LF68	LF6A	LFM3	LF6C	LF6E	LFM4	LFM5	
Oct-Dec 2018	5,325	1,130	1,806	93	1,057	12	642	586	4,230	1,095	
Oct-Dec 2019	5,162	1,113	1,660	96	1,111	13	621	548	4,052	1,110	
Jan-Mar 2020†	5,102	1,070	1,580	98	1,167	12	631	543	4,008	1,094	
Apr-Jun 2020†	5,189	1,059	1,520	83	1,171	29	610	718	3,962	1,227	
Jul-Sep 2020†	5,154	1,196	1,385	75	1,169	18	654	656	4,071	1,083	
Oct-Dec 2020†	5,093	1,174	1,372	100	1,169	30	624	625	4,000	1,094	
Change on quarter	-61	-22	-12	24	-1	11	-30	-31	-72	11	
Change %	-1.2	-1.8	-0.9	32.3	0.0	61.3	-4.6	-4.8	-1.8	1.0	
Change on year	-69	61	-288	3	58	17	3	77	-53	-16	
Change %	-1.3	5.5	-17.3	3.6	5.2	133.0	0.5	14.0	-1.3	-1.5	
Percentage of economically inactive aged from 16 to 64 (%)											
People	LF6V	LF6X	LF6Z	LF73	LF75	LF77	LF79	LF7B	LF7D	LF7F	
Oct-Dec 2018	100.0	26.3	23.5	2.1	23.2	0.4	13.0	11.5	78.7	21.3	
Oct-Dec 2019	100.0	26.6	22.2	1.9	24.5	0.4	13.2	11.2	77.9	22.1	
Jan-Mar 2020†	100.0	25.5	21.3	2.2	25.4	0.4	13.5	11.6	77.5	22.5	
Apr-Jun 2020†	100.0	24.7	20.5	1.8	24.6	0.7	12.9	14.9	74.9	25.1	
Jul-Sep 2020†	100.0	27.3	18.8	1.7	25.2	0.7	13.4	13.0	77.4	22.6	
Oct-Dec 2020†	100.0	27.2	18.6	2.1	25.4	0.9	12.7	13.1	77.6	22.4	
Men	BEBP	BEEH	BEEK	BEEN	BEEQ	BEET	BEEW	BEEZ	BEAS	BEGT	
Oct-Dec 2018	100.0	34.5	6.7	2.7	28.7	0.6	14.5	12.3	77.5	22.5	
Oct-Dec 2019	100.0	34.4	6.8	1.9	29.1	0.6	15.1	12.0	77.0	23.0	
Jan-Mar 2020†	100.0	32.4	6.7	2.6	29.2	0.7	15.3	13.2	75.9	24.1	
Apr-Jun 2020†	100.0	31.1	7.2	2.2	27.6	0.8	14.6	16.5	72.8	27.2	
Jul-Sep 2020†	100.0	33.2	6.8	2.1	28.8	1.2	14.4	13.5	75.1	24.9	
Oct-Dec 2020†	100.0	33.2	6.7	2.3	29.0	1.3	13.3	14.3	76.3	23.7	
Women	LF6W	LF6Y	LF72	LF74	LF76	LF78	LF7A	LF7C	LF7E	LF7G	
Oct-Dec 2018	100.0	21.2	33.9	1.7	19.8	0.2	12.1	11.0	79.4	20.6	
Oct-Dec 2019	100.0	21.6	32.2	1.9	21.5	0.2	12.0	10.6	78.5	21.5	
Jan-Mar 2020†	100.0	21.0	31.0	1.9	22.9	0.2	12.4	10.7	78.6	21.4	
Apr-Jun 2020†	100.0	20.4	29.3	1.6	22.6	0.6	11.8	13.8	76.3	23.7	
Jul-Sep 2020†	100.0	23.2	26.9	1.5	22.7	0.4	12.7	12.7	79.0	21.0	
Oct-Dec 2020†	100.0	23.1	26.9	2.0	22.9	0.6	12.3	12.3	78.5	21.5	

Data Source: Labour Force Survey.

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

1. Discouraged workers are those who are not looking for work because they believe no jobs are available.  
2. Other reasons include people who (i) are waiting the results of a job application, (ii) have not yet started looking for work, (iii) do not need or want employment, (iv) have given an uncategorised reason for being economically inactive, or (v) have not given a reason for being economically inactive.

† - Labour Force Survey (LFS) responses are weighted to official population projections. As the current projections are 2018-based they are based on demographic trends that pre-date the COVID-19 pandemic. We are analysing the population totals used in the weighting process and may make adjustments if appropriate. Rates published from the LFS remain robust; however, levels and changes in levels should be used with caution.

# ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND INACTIVITY

## 12 Educational status, economic activity and inactivity of people aged from 16 to 24

Oct-Dec 2020†

United Kingdom (thousands) seasonally adjusted

		All aged 16 to 24				In full-time education (FTE)				Not in full-time education (FTE) <sup>1</sup>			
				Economically inactive				Economically inactive				Economically inactive	
		Total	Employed	Unemployed		Total	Employed <sup>2</sup>	Unemployed <sup>2</sup>		Total	Employed	Unemployed	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Levels													
People													
	16-17	1,445	242	82	1,121	1,296	186	66	1,044	149	56	16	76
	18-24	5,404	3,266	507	1,631	1,831	599	118	1,114	3,573	2,667	389	517
	16-24	6,849	3,508	589	2,751	3,127	785	184	2,158	3,722	2,723	405	594
Men													
	16-17	740	113	42	584	656	79	34	543	83	34	8	41
	18-24	2,758	1,637	299	822	830	230	50	550	1,928	1,408	249	272
	16-24	3,498	1,751	341	1,406	1,486	309	84	1,094	2,012	1,442	257	313
Women													
	16-17	705	129	40	536	640	107	32	501	65	22	8	35
	18-24	2,646	1,629	208	809	1,001	369	68	563	1,645	1,259	140	246
	16-24	3,351	1,757	248	1,345	1,640	476	100	1,064	1,710	1,281	148	281
Changes on quarter													
People													
	16-17	10	-21	-7	38	11	-27	-5	43	-2	6	-2	-6
	18-24	-19	11	-5	-24	-96	-29	-12	-56	78	40	6	31
	16-24	-9	-10	-12	13	-85	-56	-16	-12	76	46	4	26
Men													
	16-17	5	-15	-4	24	0	-21	-7	28	5	6	3	-4
	18-24	-10	-14	-22	26	-59	-31	-10	-18	49	18	-13	44
	16-24	-5	-29	-26	50	-59	-53	-16	10	54	24	-10	40
Women													
	16-17	5	-6	-3	14	11	-5	2	15	-7	0	-5	-1
	18-24	-9	24	17	-50	-37	2	-2	-37	29	22	19	-13
	16-24	-4	19	14	-37	-26	-3	0	-23	22	22	14	-14
Rates(%) <sup>3</sup>													
People													
	16-17		16.7	25.3	77.6		14.3	26.2	80.6		37.7	22.3	51.4
	18-24		60.4	13.4	30.2		32.7	16.4	60.8		74.6	12.7	14.5
	16-24		51.2	14.4	40.2		25.1	19.0	69.0		73.2	13.0	15.9
Men													
	16-17		15.3	27.0	79.0		12.1	30.1	82.8		41.2	18.8	49.3
	18-24		59.4	15.4	29.8		27.7	17.7	66.3		73.0	15.1	14.1
	16-24		50.1	16.3	40.2		20.8	21.3	73.6		71.7	15.1	15.5
Women													
	16-17		18.2	23.8	76.1		16.7	23.0	78.3		33.4	27.3	54.1
	18-24		61.6	11.3	30.6		36.9	15.6	56.3		76.6	10.0	14.9
	16-24		52.4	12.4	40.1		29.0	17.4	64.9		74.9	10.4	16.4
Changes on quarter													
People													
	16-17		-1.6	0.0	2.1		-2.2	1.3	2.6		4.6	-4.7	-3.1
	18-24		0.4	-0.2	-0.3		0.1	-0.6	0.2		-0.5	0.0	0.6
	16-24		-0.1	-0.2	0.2		-1.1	-0.2	1.4		-0.3	-0.1	0.4
Men													
	16-17		-2.2	0.7	2.7		-3.3	1.3	4.3		5.7	2.9	-8.5
	18-24		-0.3	-0.9	1.1		-1.7	-0.7	2.4		-1.0	-0.8	2.0
	16-24		-0.7	-0.8	1.5		-2.6	-0.3	3.5		-0.7	-0.7	1.6
Women													
	16-17		-0.9	-0.6	1.4		-1.2	1.9	1.0		2.7	-10.3	3.3
	18-24		1.1	0.7	-1.8		1.5	-0.5	-1.6		0.0	1.1	-1.1
	16-24		0.6	0.5	-1.0		0.3	0.1	-0.3		0.3	0.7	-1.0

Relationship between columns: 1=5+9; 2=6+10; 3=7+11.

Source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: labour.market@ons.gov.uk

1. Not in full-time education includes people in part-time education and/or some form of training. Estimates of the number of young people who were not in employment, education or training ("NEET") cannot therefore be derived from this table. Estimates of young people who were NEET are published separately at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peoplenotinwork/unemployment/bulletins/youngpeoplenotineducationemploymentortrainingneet/latest>

2. People in full-time education are employed if they have a part-time job or unemployed if they are looking for part-time employment.

3. Denominator = all persons in the relevant age group for economically active, total in employment and economically inactive; economically active for unemployment.

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# REDUNDANCIES

## 22 Redundancies: level<sup>1</sup> and rates<sup>2</sup>

United Kingdom

	People (aged 16 and over)		Men (aged 16 and over)		Women (aged 16 and over)	
	Level (000s) <sup>1</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>	Level (000s) <sup>1</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>	Level (000s) <sup>1</sup>	Rate <sup>2</sup>
	BEAO	BEIR	BEIU	BEIX	BEJA	BEJD
Oct-Dec 2018	91	3.3	48	3.4	44	3.2
Oct-Dec 2019	109	3.9	63	4.6	45	3.3
<b>Jan-Mar 2020†</b>	107	3.8	61	4.4	46	3.3
<b>Apr-Jun 2020†</b>	132	4.7	70	5.0	62	4.5
<b>Jul-Sep 2020†</b>	314	11.3	163	11.6	151	10.9
<b>Oct-Dec 2020†</b>	343	12.3	200	14.3	143	10.3
Change on quarter	30	1.1	38	2.7	-8	-0.6
Change %	9.6		23.2		-5.2	
Change on year	235	8.4	137	9.8	98	7.0
Change %	216.0		216.4		215.5	

Data source: Labour Force Survey

Labour market statistics enquiries: [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk)

1. The redundancy level is the number of people who were made redundant in the three months prior to interview. The figure is not seasonally adjusted.

2. The redundancy rate is the ratio of the redundancy level for the given quarter to the seasonally adjusted number of employees in the previous quarter, multiplied by 1,000.

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