

Statistical bulletin

Vacancies and jobs in the UK: April 2020

Estimates of the number of vacancies and jobs for the UK.



Contact:
Laura Caldwell
labour.market@ons.gov.uk
+44 (0)1633 455955

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Next release:
19 May 2020

Notice

21 April 2020

The effect of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on our capacity means we have reviewed the existing labour market releases and will be suspending some publications.

This will protect the delivery and quality of our remaining labour market outputs as well as ensuring we can respond to new demands as a direct result of COVID-19. More details about the impact on labour market outputs can be found in our [statement](#).

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1 . Other pages in this release

Other commentary from the latest labour market data can be found on the following pages:

- [Labour market overview](#)
- [Employment in the UK](#)
- [Average weekly earnings in Great Britain](#)

2 . Main points

- Vacancy estimates presented in this bulletin are based on specific count dates each month; in March 2020, this was the 6th, prior to the implementation of the coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing measures.
- There were an estimated 795,000 vacancies in the UK in January to March 2020; this is 6,000 fewer than the previous quarter (not a [statistically significant](#) change) and 52,000 fewer than a year earlier.
- The annual fall of 52,000 vacancies is the tenth consecutive annual decrease.
- For December 2019, there were an estimated 35.83 million jobs in the UK; this is an increase of 67,000 jobs compared with September 2019 and an increase of 541,000 jobs when compared with the same period the previous year.
- The increase of 67,000 jobs was caused by self-employed jobs, which increased by 74,000 when compared with September 2019; employee jobs fell by 13,000 over the same period.

The data in this bulletin come from surveys of businesses. It is not feasible to survey every business in the UK, so these statistics are estimates based on samples, not precise figures.

3 . Vacancies for January to March 2020

The monthly Vacancy Survey asks businesses for the number of external vacancies on a specified count date. The headline series is based on three-month rolling averages. The latest data are for the period January to March 2020, and the latest count date was 6 March 2020. The responses sought from businesses are therefore prior to the commencement of UK social distancing measures.

For the three-month rolling average of vacancies, the standard errors are around 10,000 (1.5% expressed as a [coefficient of variation](#)), giving a 95% [confidence interval](#) of plus or minus 20,000.

Figure 1: January to March 2020 saw the tenth consecutive annual decrease in job vacancies

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between January to March 2002 and January to March 2020

Figure 1: January to March 2020 saw the tenth consecutive annual decrease in job vacancies

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between January to March 2002 and January to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Vacancy Survey

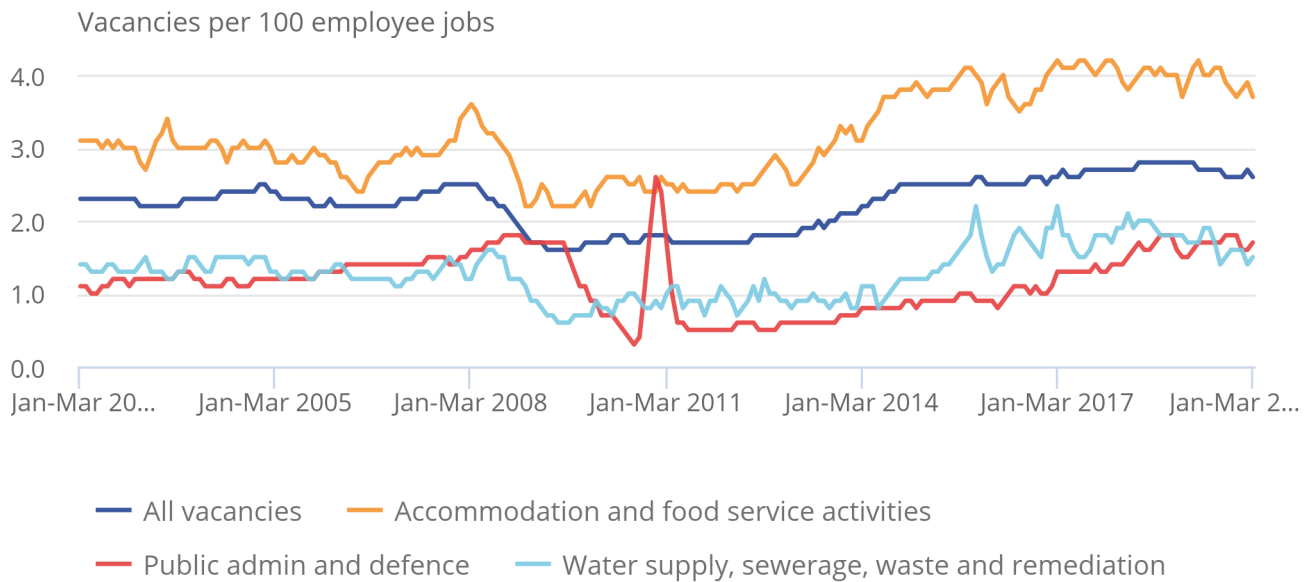
The estimated [number of vacancies](#) in the UK fell sharply during the recession of 2008 to 2009. Since 2012, it has generally increased, reaching a record high of 855,000 in November 2018 to January 2019. For January to March 2020, there were an estimated 795,000 vacancies in the UK; this is 6,000 fewer than in the previous quarter (October to December 2019), which is not a [statistically significant](#) change, and 52,000 fewer than a year earlier.

Figure 2: The vacancy rate for accommodation and food service activities has been consistently higher than for other sectors

Job vacancies per 100 employee jobs for selected industries in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between January to March 2002 and January to March 2020

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Job vacancies per 100 employee jobs for selected industries in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between January to March 2002 and January to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Vacancy Survey

Notes:

1. The sharp upward movement in the public sector series in early 2011 was because of the recruitment of temporary census enumerator jobs by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

For January to March 2020, it is estimated that:

- the sectors showing the largest annual falls were “manufacturing”, “wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” and “professional, scientific and technical activities”, all falling by an estimated 8,000, and “information and communication”, which fell by an estimated 7,000 compared with a year earlier
- there were 135,000 vacancies in the “human health and social work activities” sector (making it the largest sector for the eleventh consecutive period), an estimated decrease of 1,000 compared with a year earlier; this accounted for 17.0% of all vacancies in the UK
- the sectors showing the largest quarterly decreases were “professional, scientific and technical” decreasing by 4,000 and “administrative and support service activities” and “human health and social work activities” both decreasing by 3,000 compared with the three months to December 2019
- there were 2.6 job vacancies per 100 employee jobs across the economy as a whole
- the sector showing the highest vacancy rate was “accommodation and food service activities”, with 3.7 vacancies per 100 employee jobs
- the sector showing the lowest vacancy rate was “water supply, sewerage, waste and remediation activities” at 1.5 job vacancies per 100 employee jobs

4 . Jobs for December 2019 (first published on 17 March 2020)

The jobs data and accompanying datasets relate to the December 2019 period before reported cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK.

Figure 3: Between September 2019 and December 2019, the total number of jobs in the UK increased by 67,000 to reach an estimated 35.83 million

Number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2019

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Number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2019



Source: Office for National Statistics – Workforce jobs

The [number of jobs](#) is not the same as the number of people in employment. This is because a person can have more than one job. Estimates for the number of people in employment are available in [Employment in the UK](#).

It is estimated that:

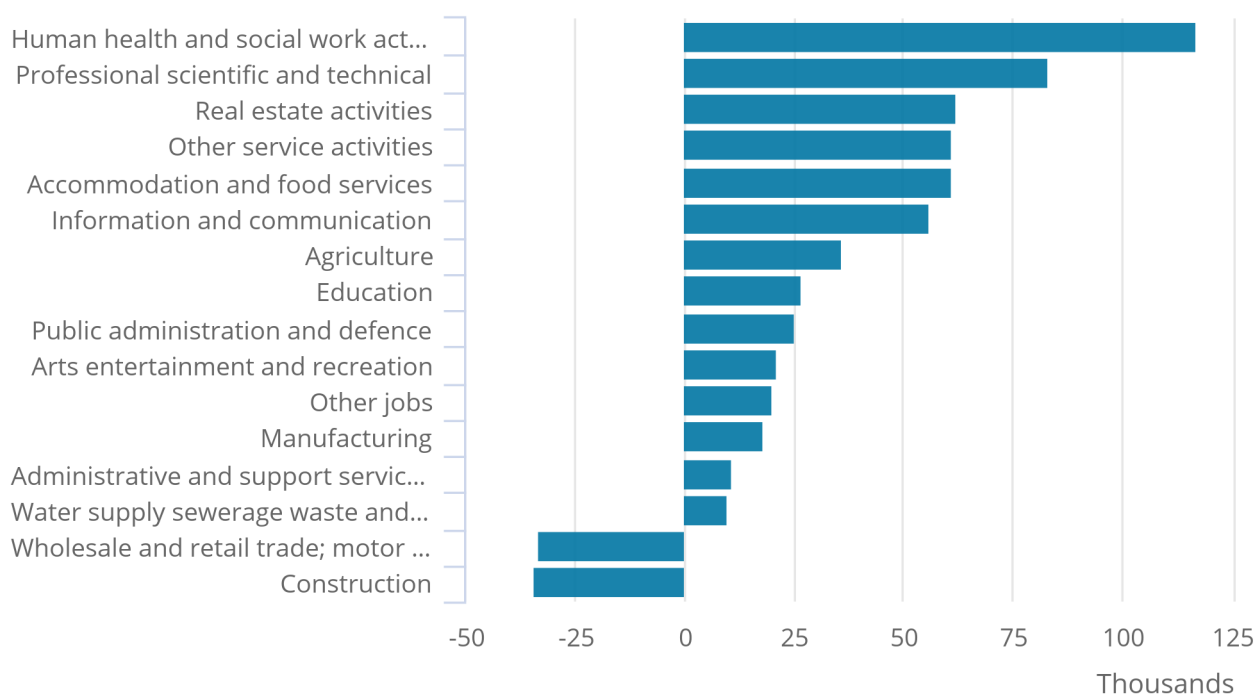
- the number of jobs has been generally increasing since 2013
- there were a record high 35.83 million jobs in the UK in December 2019; this is 67,000 more than in September 2019 and 541,000 higher than in December 2018
- the largest sector, with an estimated 4.97 million jobs, was the “wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” sector in December 2019; this represents 13.9% of total jobs in December 2019
- the next largest sector was “human health and social work”, with 4.48 million jobs in December 2019
- several sectors were at a record high in December 2019, including “education” (2.98 million jobs), “accommodation and food service activities” (2.51 million jobs), “information and communication” (1.54 million jobs) and “other service activities” (1.01 million jobs)

Figure 4: The number of human health and social work activities jobs increased by 117,000 between December 2018 and December 2019

Changes in the number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2018 to December 2019

Figure 4: The number of human health and social work activities jobs increased by 117,000 between December 2018 and December 2019

Changes in the number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2018 to December 2019



Source: Office for National Statistics - Workforce jobs

The sectors showing the largest estimated annual increase in jobs were “human health and social work” (up 117,000 on the year) and “professional, scientific and technical” (up 83,000 on the year).

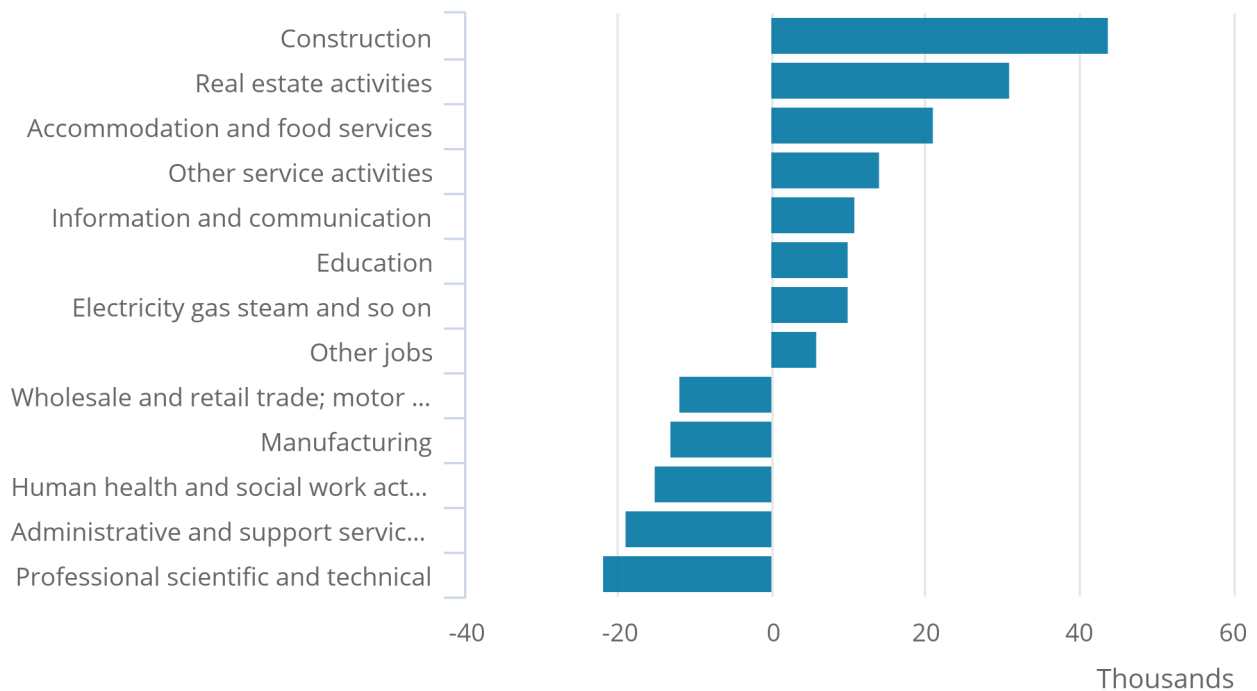
There were two sectors showing annual decreases in jobs; these were “construction” (down 34,000 on the year) and “wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” (down 33,000 on the year).

Figure 5: The number of construction jobs increased by 44,000 between September and December 2019

Changes in the number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, September to December 2019

Figure 5: The number of construction jobs increased by 44,000 between September and December 2019

Changes in the number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, September to December 2019



Source: Office for National Statistics – Workforce jobs

The sector showing the largest estimated quarterly increase in jobs was “construction”. Total construction jobs increased by 44,000. Of this, self-employed jobs increased by 31,000 and employee jobs increased by 14,000.

There were several sectors showing estimated quarterly decreases in jobs. The largest sectors were “professional, scientific and technical activities” (down by 22,000 on the quarter) and “administrative and support service activities” (down by 19,000 on the quarter).

5 . Vacancies and jobs data

[Vacancies by industry](#)

Dataset VACS02 | Released 21 April 2020

Estimates of vacancies by industry (Standard Industrial Classification 2007).

[Workforce jobs summary](#)

Dataset JOBS01 | Released 17 March 2020

Estimates of jobs by type of job (including employee jobs, self-employment jobs, HM Forces and government-supported trainees).

[Workforce jobs by industry](#)

Dataset JOBS02 | Released 17 March 2020

Estimates of jobs by industry (Standard Industrial Classification 2007)

Table 1: Sampling variability for estimates of jobs in the UK, thousands

		UK	
	SIC 2007 Section	Estimate for Dec 2019	Sampling variability of estimate¹
A	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	411	±41
B	Mining and quarrying	58	±5
C	Manufacturing	2,700	±39
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	154	±11
E	Water supply, sewerage, waste and remediation activities	241	±9
F	Construction	2,309	±59
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	5,046	±59
H	Transport and storage	1,819	±47
I	Accommodation and food service activities	2,506	±55
J	Information and communication	1,532	±48
K	Financial and insurance activities	1,127	±27
L	Real estate activities	659	±36
M	Professional scientific and technical activities	3,225	±75
N	Administrative and support service activities	3,064	±61
O	Public admin and defence; compulsory social security	1,531	±13
P	Education	2,980	±41
Q	Human health and social work activities	4,474	±65
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,026	±43
S/T	Other service activities and private households	1,059	±43
	All jobs	35,920	±194

Source: Office for National Statistics – Workforce jobs

Notes

1. The sampling variability estimates are for 95% confidence intervals and are calculated on data for June 2019 that are not seasonally adjusted. [Back to table](#)

6 . Glossary

Vacancies

[Vacancies](#) are defined as positions for which employers are actively seeking recruits from outside their business or organisation. The estimates are based on the Vacancy Survey; this is a survey of businesses designed to provide estimates of the stock of vacancies across the economy, excluding “agriculture, forestry and fishing” (a small sector for which the collection of estimates would not be practical).

Jobs

A [job](#) is an activity performed for an employer or customer by a worker in exchange for payment, usually in cash, or in kind, or both. The number of jobs is not the same as the number of [people in employment](#). This is because a person can have more than one job. The number of jobs is the sum of employee jobs from employer surveys, self-employment jobs from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), those in HM Forces and government-supported trainees. The number of people in employment is measured by the LFS; these estimates are available in our [Employment in the UK](#) release.

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

7 . Measuring the data

After EU withdrawal

As the UK leaves the EU, it is important that our statistics continue to be of high quality and are internationally comparable. During the transition period, those UK statistics that align with EU practice and rules will continue to do so in the same way as before 31 January 2020.

After the transition period, 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.

Estimates of jobs are compiled from a number of sources, including Short-Term Employment Surveys (STES), the Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey (QPSES) and the [Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#). STES is a group of surveys that collect employment and turnover information from private sector businesses. In December of each year, the jobs estimates are “benchmarked” to the latest estimates from the [Business Register and Employment Survey \(BRES\)](#).

Estimates of vacancies are obtained from the [Vacancy Survey](#), a survey of employers.

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

Upcoming changes

The next vacancies and jobs bulletin (19 May 2020) will include revisions to estimates of vacancies for January to March 2020 and February to April 2019. Revisions result from taking on board late and corrected information from contributors to the Vacancy Survey and re-seasonal adjustment to the previous year’s estimate. This process is outlined in the [Vacancy Survey QMI](#).

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In response to the developing coronavirus (COVID-19) 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](#).

We have reviewed all publications and data published as part of the labour market release in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has led to the [postponement of some publications and datasets](#) to ensure that we can continue to publish our main labour market data. This will protect the delivery and quality of our remaining outputs as well as ensuring we can respond to new demands as a direct result of COVID-19.

Ahead of the latest labour market statistics release, David Freeman, head of labour market statistics at the Office for National Statistics (ONS), has looked at how the ONS is responding to the pressing need for new information in his blog, [Measuring the labour market during Coronavirus](#).

For more information on how labour market data sources, among others, will be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, see the [statement](#) published on 27 March 2020.

Data in this statistical bulletin and accompanying datasets relate to specific survey count dates, for vacancies in March 2020 this was the 6 March. The vacancy estimates for January to March 2020 and workforce jobs estimates for December 2019 are largely unaffected by recent developments.

Our latest data and analysis on the impact of COVID-19 on the UK economy and population is now available on our dedicated [COVID-19 webpage](#). This will be the hub for all special COVID-19-related publications, drawing on all available data.

8 . Strengths and limitations

Accuracy of the statistics: estimating and reporting uncertainty

The figures in this bulletin mainly come from surveys of businesses, which gather information from a [sample](#) rather than from the whole population. The samples are 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.

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, vacancies in the construction industry), which are based on small subsets of the Vacancy Survey sample, are less reliable and tend to be more volatile than for larger aggregated groups (for example, total vacancies in the UK).

In general, short-term changes in the growth rates reported in this bulletin 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.

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

Sampling variability information for jobs is available in Table 1 in this bulletin and in [dataset JOBS07: Workforce jobs sampling variability](#).

The sampling variability of the three-month average vacancies level is around plus or minus 1.5% of that level.

9 . Related links

[Labour market economic commentary](#)

Article | Released 21 April 2020

Additional economic analysis of the latest UK labour market headline statistics and long-term trends.

[Employees in the UK: 2018](#)

Bulletin | Released 26 September 2019

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) is the official source of employee and employment estimates by detailed geography and industry.

[Public sector employment](#)

Bulletin | Released 17 March 2020

Estimates of people employed in the public and private sectors in the UK.

[Revisions to workforce jobs](#)

Article | Released 17 December 2019

This article explains the revisions that have been made to the workforce jobs series since December 2018.

Index of Tables

The table below provides an index of the tables appearing in this Statistical Bulletin and it shows how these table numbers match up with the Excel spreadsheet datasets which are available on the website at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/january2020/relateddata>

Statistical Bulletin table number	Table description	Dataset
SUMMARY		
1	Labour Force Survey Summary	Dataset A02 SA
2 (*)	Labour market status by age group	Dataset A05 SA
EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS		
3	Full-time, part-time & temporary workers	Dataset EMP01 SA
4	Public and private sector employment	Dataset EMP02
4(1)	Public sector employment by industry	Dataset EMP03
5	Workforce jobs summary	Dataset JOBS01
6 (**)	Workforce jobs by industry	Dataset JOBS02
7	Actual weekly hours worked	Dataset HOUR01 SA
7(1)	Usual weekly hours worked	Dataset HOUR02 SA
NON-UK WORKERS		
8	Employment by country of birth and nationality	Dataset EMP06
8(1)	Unemployment and economic inactivity by country of birth and nationality	Dataset A12
UNEMPLOYMENT		
9	Unemployment by age and duration	Dataset UNEM01 SA
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND INACTIVITY		
10(*)	Economic activity by age	Dataset A05 SA
11	Economic inactivity by reason	Dataset INAC01 SA
12	Labour market and educational status of young people	Dataset A06 SA
EARNINGS		
13	Average Weekly Earnings (nominal) - Total pay	Dataset EARN01
14	Average Weekly Earnings (nominal) - Bonus pay	Dataset EARN01
15	Average Weekly Earnings (nominal) - Regular pay	Dataset EARN01
16	Average Weekly Earnings real and nominal (summary table)	Dataset EARN01
INTERNATIONAL SUMMARY		
17	International comparisons of employment and unemployment	Dataset A10
LABOUR DISPUTES		
18	Labour disputes	Dataset LABD01
VACANCIES		
19	Vacancies by size of business	Dataset VACS03
20	Vacancies and unemployment	Dataset VACS01
21	Vacancies by industry	Dataset VACS02
REDUNDANCIES		
22	Redundancies levels and rates	Dataset RED01 SA
REGIONAL SUMMARY		
23	Regional labour market summary	Dataset A07

(*) 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>

EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

5 Workforce jobs

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

	Workforce jobs	Employee jobs	Self-employment jobs ¹	HM Forces	Government-supported trainees ¹
	1	2	3	4	5
	DYDC	BCAJ	DYZN	LOJX	LOJU
Dec 17	34,874	30,206	4,481	155	31
Mar 18	34,975	30,293	4,500	154	28
Jun 18	35,012	30,295	4,537	153	28
Sep 18	35,101	30,444	4,481	153	23
Dec 18	35,291	30,530	4,589	152	21
Mar 19	35,542	30,705	4,658	153	27
Jun 19	35,676	30,810	4,673	152	41
Sep 19 (r)	35,764	30,965	4,618	153	29
Dec 19 (p)	35,832	30,952	4,692	153	35
Change on quarter	67	-13	74	0	6
Change %	0.2	0.0	1.6	-0.1	21.0
Change on year	541	423	103	1	14
Change %	1.5	1.4	2.2	0.9	64.2

Relationship between columns: 1=2+3+4+5

See footnotes under table 6

6 Workforce jobs by industry

Standard Industrial Classification (2007)

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

SIC 2007 sections	All jobs A-T	Agriculture, forestry & fishing A	Mining & quarrying B	Manufacturing C	Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply D	Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities E	Construction F	Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles G	Transport & storage H	Accommodation & food service activities I	Information & communication J
	DYDC	JWR5	JWR6	JWR7	JWR8	JWR9	JWS2	JWS3	JWS4	JWS5	JWS6
Dec 17	34,874	422	59	2,697	144	228	2,330	4,994	1,690	2,353	1,461
Mar 18	34,975	413	62	2,697	147	226	2,315	4,996	1,696	2,398	1,478
Jun 18	35,012	407	63	2,713	150	227	2,310	4,997	1,733	2,432	1,478
Sep 18	35,101	410	61	2,695	154	227	2,322	4,998	1,741	2,419	1,462
Dec 18	35,291	375	59	2,686	149	231	2,343	5,000	1,799	2,452	1,480
Mar 19	35,542	386	60	2,717	143	241	2,344	5,017	1,784	2,456	1,508
Jun 19	35,676	391	58	2,709	145	243	2,305	5,010	1,825	2,495	1,513
Sep 19 (r)	35,764	408	57	2,717	144	246	2,265	4,979	1,805	2,492	1,524
Dec 19 (p)	35,832	411	58	2,704	154	241	2,310	4,967	1,799	2,513	1,536
Change on quarter	67	3	1	-13	10	-5	44	-12	-6	21	11
Change %	0.2	0.7	2.0	-0.5	7.2	-2.0	2.0	-0.2	-0.3	0.8	0.7
Change on year	541	36	0	18	5	10	-34	-33	1	61	56
Change %	1.5	9.7	-0.1	0.7	3.3	4.3	-1.4	-0.7	0.0	2.5	3.7

SIC 2007 sections	Financial & insurance activities K	Real estate activities L	Professional scientific & technical activities M	Administrative & support service activities N	Public admin & defence; compulsory social security ² O	Education P	Human health & social work activities Q	Arts, entertainment & recreation R	Other service activities S	People employed by households, etc. T	Total services G-T
	JWS7	JWS8	JWS9	JWT2	JWT3	JWT4	JWT5	JWT6	JWT7	KW78	JWT8
Dec 17	1,114	589	3,028	3,018	1,482	2,917	4,358	1,019	914	56	28,993
Mar 18	1,125	591	3,031	3,014	1,486	2,939	4,359	1,006	937	59	29,115
Jun 18	1,111	564	3,037	3,030	1,493	2,935	4,335	1,005	925	68	29,143
Sep 18	1,123	587	3,093	3,046	1,495	2,937	4,350	1,000	919	60	29,231
Dec 18	1,118	597	3,143	3,031	1,506	2,954	4,359	1,014	947	49	29,448
Mar 19	1,126	582	3,210	3,036	1,513	2,963	4,413	1,026	960	59	29,652
Jun 19	1,123	593	3,251	3,042	1,511	2,952	4,463	1,016	967	63	29,826
Sep 19 (r)	1,128	627	3,247	3,062	1,523	2,971	4,491	1,026	994	56	29,927
Dec 19 (p)	1,127	659	3,225	3,042	1,531	2,981	4,477	1,035	1,008	54	29,954
Change on quarter	-2	31	-22	-19	8	10	-15	9	14	-2	26
Change %	-0.2	5.0	-0.7	-0.6	0.5	0.3	-0.3	0.9	1.4	-3.3	0.1
Change on year	9	62	83	11	25	27	117	21	61	5	505
Change %	0.8	10.3	2.6	0.4	1.7	0.9	2.7	2.1	6.5	10.6	1.7

Workforce jobs enquiries 01633 456776

Sources: Employer surveys, Labour Force Survey and administrative sources

VACANCIES

19 Vacancies¹ by size of business

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

		All Vacancies AP2Y	Number of employees				
			1-9	10-49	50-249	250-2499	2500+
			ALY5	ALY6	ALY7	ALY8	ALY9
Levels							
Jan-Mar 2018	(r)	817	126	115	122	162	293
Jan-Mar 2019	(r)	847	123	126	115	187	297
Feb-Apr 2019	(r)	847	126	122	115	190	295
Mar-May 2019	(r)	841	131	120	111	187	292
Apr-Jun 2019	(r)	831	118	121	114	185	293
May-Jul 2019	(r)	824	114	121	112	185	291
Jun-Aug 2019	(r)	818	112	121	111	184	290
Jul-Sept 2019	(r)	820	121	122	105	182	290
Aug-Oct 2019	(r)	803	113	119	102	178	290
Sept-Nov 2019	(r)	797	110	118	101	178	291
Oct-Dec 2019	(r)	801	110	119	103	180	290
Nov-Jan 2020	(r)	808	112	121	108	177	290
Dec-Feb 2020	(r)	817	117	121	113	171	295
Jan-Mar 2020	(p)	795	109	110	109	167	299
Change on quarter	*	-6	0	-9	6	-12	9
Change %	*	-0.8	-0.2	-7.2	5.6	-6.8	3.0
Change on year		-52	-13	-16	-6	-19	2
Change %		-6.2	-10.8	-12.5	-5.1	-10.4	0.6

1. Excludes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

Source: ONS Vacancy Survey

Vacancy Survey enquiries: vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk, 01633 456777

* Change on previous non-overlapping three month rolling average time period.

20 Vacancies¹ and Unemployment

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

		All Vacancies ¹	Unemployment ²	Number of unemployed people per vacancy
		AP2Y	MGSC	JPC5
Levels				
Dec-Feb 2018	(r)	815	1,419	1.7
Dec-Feb 2019	(r)	848	1,343	1.6
Mar-May 2019	(r)	841	1,292	1.5
Jun-Aug 2019	(r)	818	1,314	1.6
Sep-Nov 2019	(r)	797	1,306	1.6
Dec-Feb 2020	(r)	817	1,364	1.7
Change on quarter		20	58	0.0
Change %		2.5	4.4	
Change on year		-31	22	0.1
Change %		-3.6	1.6	

Source: ONS Vacancy Survey/ Labour Force Survey

Vacancy Survey enquiries: vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk, 01633 456777

1. Excludes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

2. Unemployment estimates are produced from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and are always one period behind the ONS Vacancy Survey estimates. This table therefore shows estimates for the same periods as shown in table 1 (which shows LFS estimates).

VACANCIES

21 Vacancies by industry

Standard Industrial Classification (2007)

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

SIC 2007 sections		All vacancies ¹	Mining & quarrying	Manufacturing	Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply ²	Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities	Construction	Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles	Transport & storage	Accommodation & food service activities	Information & communication
		B-S	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
		AP2Y	JP9H	JP9I	JP9J	JP9K	JP9L	JP9M	JP9N	JP9O	JP9P
Levels (thousands)											
Jan-Mar 2018	(r)	817	1	58	4	4	22	134	42	90	45
Jan-Mar 2019	(r)	847	1	60	3	4	28	137	41	91	49
Feb-Apr 2019	(r)	847	2	57	4	4	27	137	41	95	47
Mar-May 2019	(r)	841	2	57	4	4	27	135	41	98	46
Apr-Jun 2019	(r)	831	2	56	4	4	27	135	41	93	44
May-Jul 2019	(r)	824	2	54	3	4	25	135	38	93	42
Jun-Aug 2019	(r)	818	2	54	3	4	24	128	35	95	42
Jul-Sept 2019	(r)	820	2	52	3	3	25	131	33	97	44
Aug-Oct 2019	(r)	803	2	51	3	3	24	128	32	92	43
Sept-Nov 2019	(r)	797	1	50	3	4	26	131	33	88	41
Oct-Dec 2019	(r)	801	2	52	3	4	26	130	35	86	40
Nov-Jan 2020	(r)	808	2	55	3	4	26	129	36	88	42
Dec-Feb 2020	(r)	817	2	56	3	3	28	133	35	90	43
Jan-Mar 2020	(p)	795	2	53	3	4	27	130	35	86	42
Change on quarter	*	-6	0	1	0	0	1	-1	1	0	2
Change %	*	-0.8	0.0	1.9	3.2	-5.4	4.3	-0.6	1.7	0.5	4.2
Change on year		-52	0	-8	0	-1	-1	-8	-6	-5	-7
Change %		-6.2	7.1	-12.6	-5.9	-12.5	-5.0	-5.5	-14.8	-5.8	-13.6
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs											
Jan-Mar 2018	(r)	2.7	1.8	2.3	2.6	1.9	1.5	2.9	2.9	3.9	3.5
Jan-Mar 2019	(r)	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.5	1.7	1.9	2.9	2.8	3.9	3.6
Feb-Apr 2019	(r)	2.8	2.9	2.3	2.6	1.7	1.9	3.0	2.7	4.1	3.5
Mar-May 2019	(r)	2.7	3.1	2.3	2.6	1.7	1.9	2.9	2.7	4.2	3.5
Apr-Jun 2019	(r)	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.7	1.9	1.8	2.9	2.7	4.0	3.3
May-Jul 2019	(r)	2.7	2.9	2.1	2.5	1.9	1.7	2.9	2.5	4.0	3.2
Jun-Aug 2019	(r)	2.7	3.1	2.2	2.4	1.7	1.6	2.8	2.3	4.1	3.2
Jul-Sept 2019	(r)	2.7	3.1	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.7	2.8	2.2	4.1	3.3
Aug-Oct 2019	(r)	2.6	2.9	2.0	2.3	1.5	1.7	2.8	2.1	3.9	3.2
Sept-Nov 2019	(r)	2.6	2.7	2.0	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.2	3.8	3.1
Oct-Dec 2019	(r)	2.6	2.9	2.1	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.3	3.7	3.0
Nov-Jan 2020	(r)	2.6	3.1	2.2	2.2	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.4	3.8	3.2
Dec-Feb 2020	(r)	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.3	1.4	1.9	2.9	2.4	3.9	3.2
Jan-Mar 2020	(p)	2.6	2.9	2.1	2.3	1.5	1.8	2.8	2.3	3.7	3.1
Change on quarter	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Change on year		-0.2	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.5
Levels (thousands)											
Jan-Mar 2018	(r)	40	11	74	55	18	48	130	21	23	729
Jan-Mar 2019	(r)	35	13	81	50	20	51	136	23	23	750
Feb-Apr 2019	(r)	34	12	80	51	22	52	136	22	22	753
Mar-May 2019	(r)	34	11	80	49	22	52	138	21	21	749
Apr-Jun 2019	(r)	34	12	79	50	23	53	138	20	20	739
May-Jul 2019	(r)	34	11	80	48	22	52	139	23	19	736
Jun-Aug 2019	(r)	33	11	80	52	23	51	139	23	19	731
Jul-Sept 2019	(r)	32	10	84	54	22	49	139	20	20	734
Aug-Oct 2019	(r)	31	12	83	54	23	48	138	17	19	720
Sept-Nov 2019	(r)	31	11	79	52	23	51	138	16	19	714
Oct-Dec 2019	(r)	32	12	77	55	24	51	138	18	19	716
Nov-Jan 2020	(r)	31	11	76	53	22	53	137	22	19	718
Dec-Feb 2020	(r)	31	13	77	54	22	51	136	22	18	726
Jan-Mar 2020	(p)	30	13	73	52	22	50	135	23	17	708
Change on quarter	*	-2	1	-4	-3	-2	-1	-3	5	-2	-9
Change %	*	-6.3	10.7	-4.8	-6.1	-6.4	-2.0	-2.2	26.3	-9.5	-1.2
Change on year		-5	1	-8	2	2	-1	-1	0	-6	-43
Change %		-15.0	3.9	-10.3	4.2	9.5	-1.4	-0.8	0.0	-26.3	-5.7
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs											
Jan-Mar 2018	(r)	3.8	2.0	2.9	2.0	1.4	1.8	3.2	2.8	3.8	2.8
Jan-Mar 2019	(r)	3.3	2.4	3.0	1.9	1.5	1.9	3.3	3.0	3.6	2.9
Feb-Apr 2019	(r)	3.3	2.3	3.0	1.9	1.6	2.0	3.3	3.0	3.4	2.9
Mar-May 2019	(r)	3.2	2.1	3.0	1.8	1.7	1.9	3.4	2.9	3.2	2.9
Apr-Jun 2019	(r)	3.2	2.3	2.9	1.8	1.7	2.0	3.4	2.7	3.0	2.8
May-Jul 2019	(r)	3.2	2.1	3.0	1.8	1.7	2.0	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.8
Jun-Aug 2019	(r)	3.2	2.1	3.0	1.9	1.7	1.9	3.4	3.1	3.0	2.8
Jul-Sept 2019	(r)	3.0	1.9	3.1	2.0	1.7	1.9	3.4	2.7	3.1	2.8
Aug-Oct 2019	(r)	3.0	2.2	3.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	3.4	2.3	2.9	2.7
Sept-Nov 2019	(r)	2.9	2.1	2.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	3.4	2.2	2.9	2.7
Oct-Dec 2019	(r)	3.0	2.3	2.9	2.1	1.8	1.9	3.4	2.4	2.9	2.7
Nov-Jan 2020	(r)	3.0	2.1	2.8	2.0	1.6	2.0	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.7
Dec-Feb 2020	(r)	2.9	2.5	2.9	2.0	1.6	1.9	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.8
Jan-Mar 2020	(p)	2.8	2.5	2.7	1.9	1.7	1.9	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.7
Change on quarter	*	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.6	-0.3	0.0
Change on year		-0.5	0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.9	-0.2

1. Excludes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

2. Not seasonally adjusted. These series do not display seasonality. Therefore the unadjusted series is the best estimate of a 'seasonally adjusted' series.

Source: ONS Vacancy Survey

* Change on previous non-overlapping three month rolling average time period.

Vacancy Survey enquiries: vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk, 01633 456777