Statistical bulletin

Vacancies and jobs in the UK: December 2023

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

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1 . Other pages in this release

- [Labour market overview](#)

- [Average weekly earnings in Great Britain](#)

- [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, seasonally adjusted dataset](#)

2 . Main points

- The estimated number of vacancies in September to November 2023 was 949,000, a decrease of 45,000, down by 4.5% since June to August 2023 with vacancies falling in 16 of the 18 industry sectors.

- Vacancy numbers fell on the quarter for the 17th consecutive period in September to November 2023, the longest consecutive run of quarterly falls ever recorded.

- In September to November 2023, total estimated vacancies were down by 229,000 from the level of a year ago, although they remained 148,000 above their pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic January to March 2020 levels.

- The industry sectors showing the largest annual decreases in the number of vacancies were human health and social work, and professional, scientific and technical activities, which both fell by 34,000 from the equivalent period last year.

- The estimated number of workforce jobs in September 2023 was 36.8 million, an increase of 210,000 from June 2023.

Because of the unavailability of data from the Labour Force Survey, we have used projected estimates for self-employment jobs, employee jobs (industries A and T) and English government-supported trainee elements of workforce jobs for September 2023.

3 . Vacancies for September to November 2023

Figure 1: The estimated number of vacancies fell on the quarter to 949,000

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, September to November 2004 to September to November 2023

Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

In September to November 2023, the estimated number of vacancies fell by 45,000 to 949,000, the 17th consecutive period to show a fall on the quarter and the lowest number of vacancies since April to June 2021.

The headline vacancy estimates are based on three-month averages, which naturally involve some time lag. Insights into trends in November 2023 are provided by two experimental sources, single-month vacancy estimates (see Section 8: Strengths and limitations), in our Dataset X06, and Adzuna Online job advert estimates. Both experimental sources fell in November 2023.

Figure 2: In September to November 2023 most industry sectors showed quarterly falls in their number of vacancies

September to November 2023 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from June to August 2023 and percentage growth from pre-pandemic January to March 2020

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September to November 2023 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from June to August 2023 and percentage growth from pre-pandemic January to March 2020
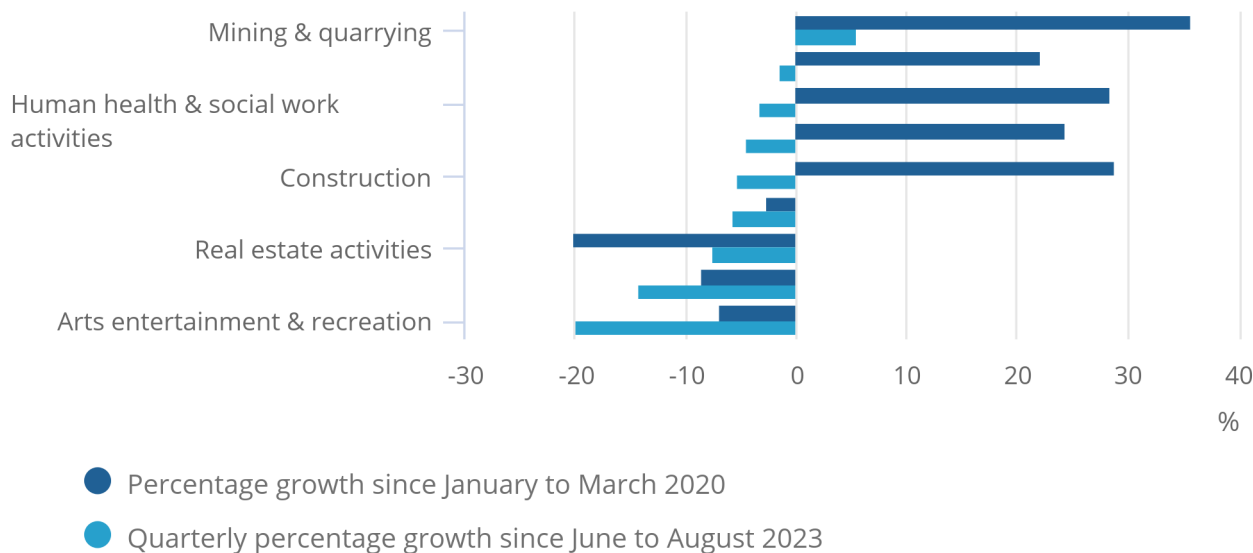
Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

The estimated total number of vacancies fell by 4.5% from the previous quarter, with arts, entertainment and recreation contracting the most, falling by 19.9%. The only industry sector to increase their estimated number of vacancies on the quarter is mining and quarrying.

September to November 2023 was the 17th consecutive period to show a fall on the quarter, decreasing by an estimated 45,000. The industry sector showing the largest fall in vacancy numbers was wholesale, retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, which was down by 8,000. The current period of consecutive quarterly declines in the vacancy estimates is the longest ever recorded.

When comparing September to November 2023 with the same time last year, total vacancies decreased by 229,000 (19.5%) with falls in 17 of the 18 industry sectors. The industries that decreased the most were human health and social work, and professional, scientific and technical activities, where the estimated number of vacancies fell in both by 34,000.

The total estimated number of vacancies remains 148,000 above January to March 2020 pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic levels, with human health and social work activities showing the largest increase, at 39,000. Five industry sectors fell below pre-pandemic levels with wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles falling the most by an estimated 4,000 vacancies.

In September to November 2023 the ratio of vacancies per 100 employee jobs was 3.0, following a downward trend since April to June 2022 when it was at 4.1. Accommodation and food service activities currently has the highest ratio at 4.8, but follows a similar pattern, falling from 7.2 over the same period.

Figure 3: In the latest period, the quarterly rate of growth declined most sharply in the smallest size band

September to November 2023 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from June to August 2023 and percentage growth from pre-pandemic January to March 2020

Percentage growth since January to March 2020

Quarterly percentage growth since June to August 2023
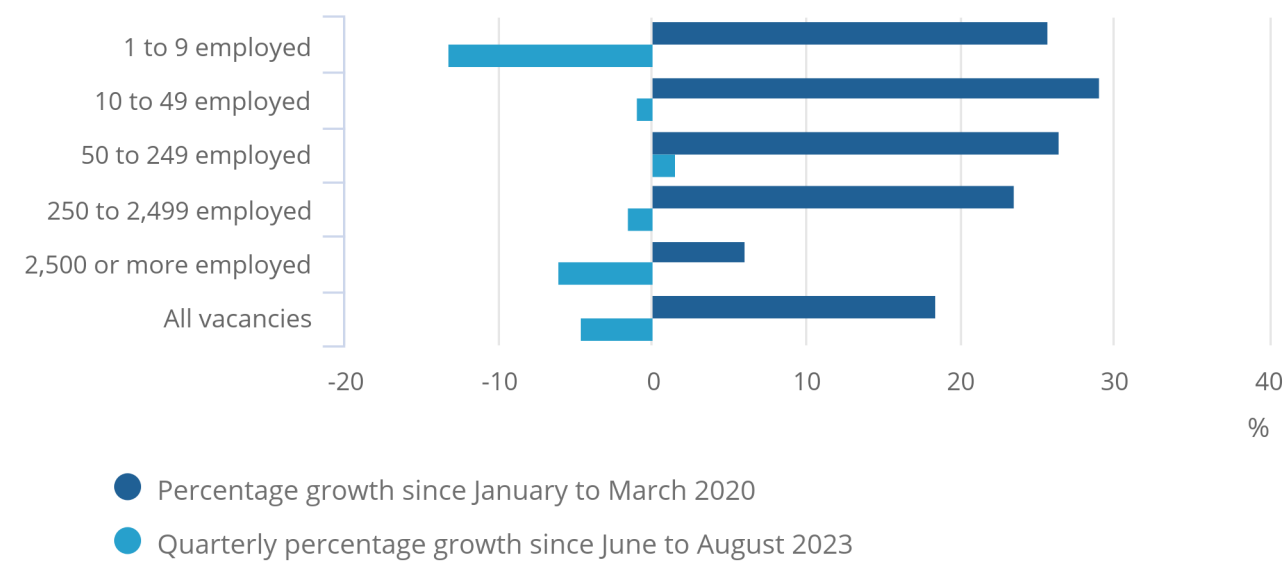
Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

While most size bands fell on the quarter, the smallest size band decreased the most falling by 13.2%, while the 50 to 249 size band was the only one to increase.

4 . Jobs for September 2023

Figure 4 shows estimates of workforce jobs for September 2023.

The estimates are provided from various sources. Employee jobs in the private sector are drawn from surveys relating to a reference date of 15 September 2023. Self-employment job estimates for September 2023 have been projected because of the unavailability of data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS); this is outlined in the Estimates used for projections in workforce jobs in [Section 7: Measuring the data](#).

Figure 4: The total number of jobs in September 2023 increased on the quarter to a record 36.8 million

Number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, September 2005 to September 2023

Figure 4: The total number of jobs in September 2023 increased on the quarter to a record 36.8 million

Number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, September 2005 to September 2023
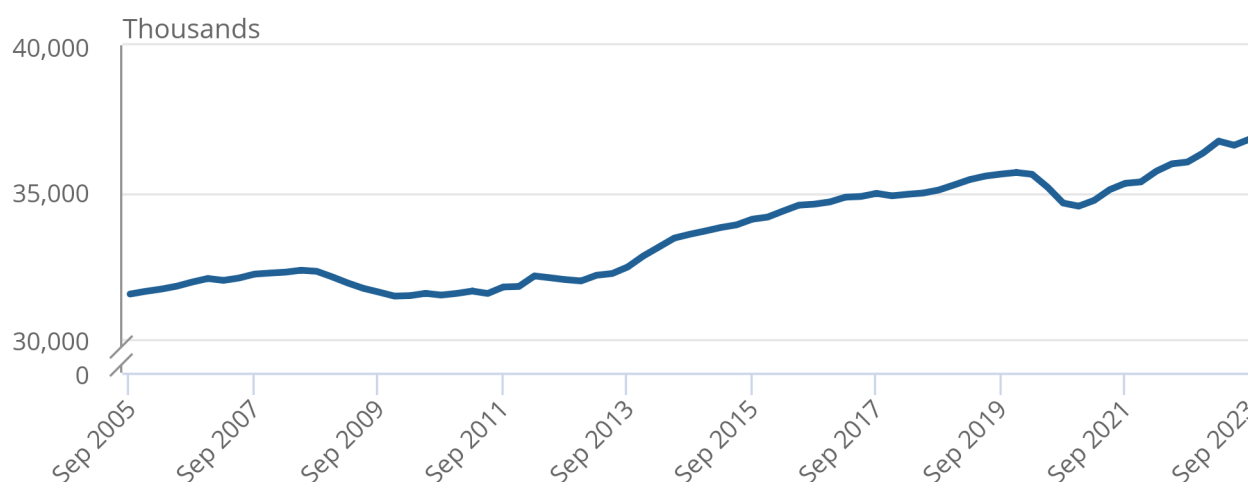
Source: Workforce jobs from the Office for National Statistics

In September 2023, UK workforce jobs increased to a record 36.8 million. This is a rise of 210,000 since June 2023, with the quarterly increase of 179,000 in employee jobs having the largest contribution. The projected estimates for self-employment jobs and government supported trainees also displayed small increases. The estimated number of workforce jobs is 1.1 million above its December 2019 pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic level.

The total number of jobs includes both employee jobs and self-employment jobs. The former has been on a largely upwards trend since September 2020 resulting in a record high of 32.5 million and is 1.8 million above its December 2019 pre-pandemic level. This level of growth has not been repeated in self-employment jobs where estimates remain 625,000 below December 2019 levels. The growth in the employee jobs component of workforce jobs up to September 2023 is also reflected in the number of employees on payroll reported in our [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, seasonally adjusted dataset](#), which has shown a similar growth pattern over the same time period.

Figure 5: In September 2023 quarterly growth increased across the majority of industry sectors

September 2023 Workforce jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted quarterly growth and growth from December 2019

● Percentage change from December 2019   ● Quarterly % change
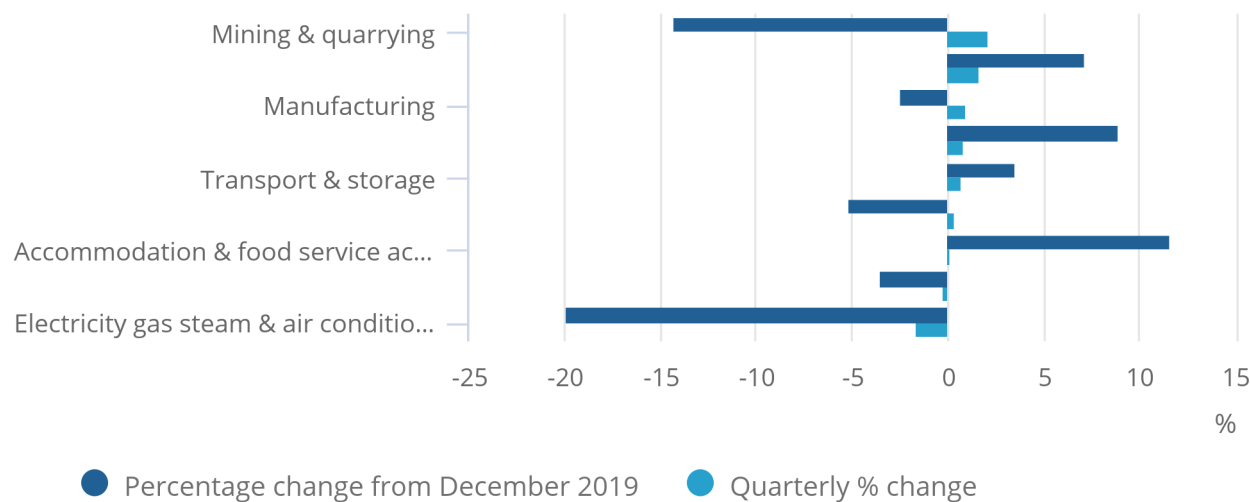
Source: Workforce jobs from the Office for National Statistics

The total number of workforce jobs hit a record high of 36.8 million in September 2023, despite 8 of the 20 industry sectors still being below pre-pandemic levels. The hardest hit sector was wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicle and motorcycles which fell by 253,000 jobs. However, most industries are above their December 2019 pre-pandemic levels, with the largest from human health and social work which was up 395,000 followed by accommodation and food service activities which was up 291,000. In September 2023, human health and social work reached a new record high of 4.8 million, with further record highs recorded in administrative and support service activities, accommodation and food service activities, and water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities.

On the quarter, the number of workforce jobs increased in 14 industry sectors, contributing to the increase of 210,000 in the total workforce jobs estimate. The largest increase came from professional, scientific and technical activities, which was up by 57,000. The next largest increase was in human health and social work which was up 39,000. The largest individual fall in the estimated number of workforce jobs on the quarter was in construction, which fell by 5,000.

5 . Vacancies and jobs data

[Vacancies by industry](#)
Dataset VACS02 | Released 12 December 2023
Estimates of vacancies by industry (Standard Industrial Classification 2007).

[Workforce jobs summary](#)
Dataset JOBS01 | Released 12 December 2023
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 12 December 2023
Estimates of jobs by industry (Standard Industrial Classification 2007).

[X06: Single month vacancies estimates (not designated as National Statistics)](#)
Dataset X06 | Released 12 December 2023
Single month Vacancy Survey estimates, not seasonally adjusted.

6 . Glossary

Vacancies

Positions for which employers are actively seeking recruits from outside their business or organisation are defined as [vacancies](#). The estimates are based on the Vacancy Survey; this is a survey of employers 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

An activity performed for an employer or customer by a worker in exchange for payment, usually in cash, or in kind, or both, is defined as [a job](#). 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 releases](#).

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

7 . Measuring the data

Estimates used for projections in workforce jobs

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) data that are required to produce elements of the workforce jobs statistics are not available for September 2023. Statistics for self-employment jobs, employee jobs (industries A and T) and English government-supported trainees are estimated using projections. Projections were derived using exponential smoothing, which can be thought of as a weighted average of past values. There is an increased level of uncertainty associated with projected estimates. For more information, see our [Update on the LFS](#).

Making our published spreadsheets accessible

Following the Government Statistical Service (GSS) guidance on releasing statistics in spreadsheets we will be amending our published tables over the coming months to improve usability, accessibility and machine readability of our published statistics. To help users change to the new formats we will be publishing sample versions of a selection of our tables, and where practical, initially publish the tables in both the new and current formats. If you have any questions or comments, please email labour.market@ons.gov.uk.

Revisions

Revisions have been made to the workforce jobs series as a result of benchmarking to the latest estimates of the annual Business Register and Employment Survey, revisions to public sector employment, revisions to Northern Ireland employee jobs estimates and revisions to Short-Term Employment Surveys.

There were also revisions to the government-supported trainees (GST) from the devolved administrations, revisions to HM Forces and changes to seasonal parameters following a seasonal adjustment review.

Coronavirus

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

Our Comparison of labour market data sources article, published on 11 December 2020, compares labour market data sources and discusses some of the main changes to the data sources used.

Workforce jobs estimates include data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). From 15 July 2021 an improved LFS weighting methodology, better accounting for population changes through the COVID-19 pandemic was implemented, affecting periods from January to March 2020 onwards. For more information on the changes to LFS weighting methodology through the pandemic please see our LFS Survey weighting methodology.

Sources

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.

Vacancies

Estimates of vacancies are obtained from the Vacancy Survey, a survey of employers. Adzuna Online job advert estimates are also published as part of our Economic activity and social change in the UK, real-time indicators bulletin.

Jobs

Estimates of jobs are compiled from a number of sources, including Short-Term Employment Surveys (STES), the Quarterly Public Sector Employment Surveys (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).

Further information on revisions to the LFS are explained in our Impact of reweighting on Labour Force Survey key indicators article.

The STES estimates are drawn for a specified date early in the last month of each calendar quarter. The March 2020 data were from 13 March 2020 before the start of COVID-19 social distancing measures.

For more information on how jobs data are measured, please see the Measuring the Data section in our previous bulletin.

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in our Vacancy Survey QMI and Workforce jobs QMI.

Sampling variability

The sampling variability of the three-month average vacancies level is plus or minus 1.3% of that level expressed as a [coefficient of variation](), giving a 95% [confidence interval]() for estimates of approximately plus or minus 32,000.

The sampling variability of the three-month average vacancies level for a typical industrial sector is around plus or minus 6% of that level.

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

SIC 2007 Section		United Kingdom	
		Estimate for Sep 2023	Sampling variability of estimate [note 1]
A	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	405	±61
B	Mining & quarrying	53	±4
C	Manufacturing	2,611	±42
D	Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	117	±9
E	Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities	270	±13
F	Construction	2,248	±78
G	Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4,687	±67
H	Transport & storage	1,860	±53
I	Accommodation & food service activities	2,811	±66
J	Information & communication	1,671	±61
K	Financial & insurance activities	1,151	±52
L	Real estate activities	686	±46
M	Professional scientific & technical activities	3,411	±92
N	Administrative & support service activities	3,190	±72
O	Public admin & defence; compulsory social security	1,684	±21
P	Education	3,023	±50
Q	Human health & social work activities	4,830	±68
R	Arts, entertainment & recreation	1,051	±56
S/T	Other service activities/Private Households	1,001	±55
	All jobs	36,759	±238

Source: Workforce jobs from the Office for National Statistics

Notes

1. The sampling variability estimates are for 95% confidence intervals and are calculated on data for June 2023 that are not seasonally adjusted.

8 . Strengths and limitations

Information on the strengths and limitations of this bulletin are available in our Vacancies and jobs in the UK: April 2021 bulletin.

9 . Related links

Employees in the UK: provisional results 2022
Bulletin | Released 25 October 2023
Number of employees in the UK, full-time and part-time, by sector, industry, country and English region, from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES). The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) is the official source of employee and employment estimates by detailed geography and industry.

Revisions to workforce jobs
Article | Released 12 December 2023
This article explains the revisions that have been made to the workforce jobs series.

Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: December 2023
Bulletin | Released 12 December 2023
Experimental monthly estimates of paid employees and their pay from HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) data.

Cost of Living latest insights
Web page | Updated as and when data become available
The latest data and trends about the cost of living. Explore changes in the cost of everyday items and how this is affecting people.

10 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 12 December 2023, ONS website, statistical bulletin, Vacancies and jobs in the UK, December 2023

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."

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
4(2)	Public sector employment by sector classification: Headcount	Dataset PSE
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 nat	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 [1]

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

	Workforce jobs	Employee jobs	Self-employment jobs[2]	HM Forces	Government-supported trainees[2]
	1	2	3	4	5
	DYDC	BCAJ	DYZN	LOJX	LOJU
Sep 21 (r)	35,307	31,001	4,113	160	34
Dec 21 (r)	35,354	31,164	4,000	159	31
Mar 22 (r)	35,720	31,408	4,102	158	53
Jun 22 (r)	35,970	31,632	4,142	157	39
Sep 22 (r)	36,031	31,722	4,108	155	46
Dec 22 (r)	36,336	31,958	4,160	154	63
Mar 23 (r)	36,741	32,275	4,245	153	69
Jun 23 (r)	36,601	32,359	4,047	150	44
Sep 23 (p)	36,810	32,538	4,071	150	51
Change on quarter	210	179	24	-1	7
Change %	0.6	0.6	0.6	-0.4	16.9
Change on year	779	816	-36	-6	5
Change %	2.2	2.6	-0.9	-3.6	10.4

Relationship between columns: 1=2+3+4+5   See footnotes under table 6

6 Workforce jobs by industry [1]

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	Accommod-ation & food service activities I	Information & communic-ation J
	DYDC	JWR5	JWR6	JWR7	JWR8	JWR9	JWS2	JWS3	JWS4	JWS5	JWS6
Sep 21 (r)	35,307	368	53	2,535	146	235	2,237	4,823	1,822	2,463	1,537
Dec 21 (r)	35,354	351	51	2,548	140	232	2,231	4,759	1,825	2,497	1,571
Mar 22 (r)	35,720	353	52	2,607	130	240	2,263	4,793	1,827	2,550	1,580
Jun 22 (r)	35,970	375	51	2,615	131	238	2,261	4,750	1,842	2,594	1,611
Sep 22 (r)	36,031	372	52	2,619	124	240	2,212	4,744	1,870	2,667	1,626
Dec 22 (r)	36,336	370	54	2,628	119	247	2,231	4,738	1,889	2,755	1,629
Mar 23 (r)	36,741	405	59	2,621	115	265	2,264	4,760	1,911	2,748	1,671
Jun 23 (r)	36,601	405	52	2,585	119	267	2,253	4,697	1,856	2,800	1,670
Sep 23 (p)	36,810	404	54	2,612	117	270	2,248	4,718	1,868	2,805	1,669
Change on quarter	210	0	1	27	-2	3	-5	21	12	5	-1
Change %	0.6	-0.1	2.1	1.0	-1.6	1.0	-0.2	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.0
Change on year	779	32	1	-7	-7	30	36	-26	-1	138	43
Change %	2.2	8.6	2.4	-0.3	-5.3	12.5	1.6	-0.6	-0.1	5.2	2.6

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[3] 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
Sep 21 (r)	1,163	640	3,193	2,979	1,610	2,949	4,602	974	916	63	29,733
Dec 21 (r)	1,145	621	3,214	3,029	1,618	2,977	4,589	991	910	54	29,800
Mar 22 (r)	1,117	634	3,279	3,073	1,638	3,021	4,614	988	911	52	30,077
Jun 22 (r)	1,096	656	3,269	3,140	1,633	3,062	4,631	1,024	939	54	30,299
Sep 22 (r)	1,092	668	3,282	3,129	1,638	3,016	4,649	1,026	953	53	30,413
Dec 22 (r)	1,129	684	3,364	3,115	1,648	3,000	4,685	1,025	976	51	30,687
Mar 23 (r)	1,160	706	3,426	3,128	1,663	3,019	4,774	1,030	966	52	31,013
Jun 23 (r)	1,155	680	3,354	3,182	1,679	3,022	4,795	1,038	935	57	30,920
Sep 23 (p)	1,152	685	3,411	3,189	1,684	3,045	4,834	1,044	945	57	31,106
Change on quarter	-3	4	57	7	6	23	39	6	10	0	186
Change %	-0.2	0.6	1.7	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.1	0.0	0.6
Change on year	60	16	129	60	46	29	186	18	-8	3	693
Change %	5.5	2.4	3.9	1.9	2.8	0.9	4.0	1.8	-0.8	6.1	2.3

Workforce jobs enquiries 01633 456776

Sources: Employer surveys, Labour Force Survey and administrative sources

1. Due to data provision issues for 2023 Q3 the Labour Force Survey data required to produce elements of the Workforce Jobs statistics are not available. Statistics for self-employment jobs, employee jobs (industries A and T) and English government supported trainees are estimated using projections.

2. Workforce Jobs figures are a measure of jobs rather than people. For this reason estimates of self-employment jobs and government supported trainee jobs differ from estimates of people in self-employment and in government supported training and employment programmes shown at Table 3. The estimates for government supported trainees shown in this table exclude trainees with contracts of employment as such people are included in the estimates of employee jobs.

3. This series is not exclusively a public sector series as it includes some private sector jobs. See table 4 for estimates of public and private sector employment.

VACANCIES

19 Vacancies[1] by size of business

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

| | | All Vacancies | | Number of employees | | | |
| | | | 1-9 | 10-49 | 50-249 | 250-2499 | 2500+ |
		AP2Y	ALY5	ALY6	ALY7	ALY8	ALY9
Levels							
Sep-Nov 2021		1214	180	193	177	275	389
Sep-Nov 2022	(r)	1178	173	166	168	262	409
Oct-Dec 2022		1151	163	168	163	259	398
Nov-Jan 2023		1138	163	168	159	253	395
Dec-Feb 2023		1130	162	171	156	253	387
Jan-Mar 2023		1119	164	175	158	243	380
Feb-Apr 2023		1085	160	171	149	233	372
Mar-May 2023		1052	151	166	148	222	365
Apr-Jun 2023		1032	155	159	147	215	355
May-Jul 2023		1015	159	153	142	214	346
Jun-Aug 2023	(r)	994	163	143	138	212	339
Jul-Sep 2023	(r)	984	156	144	141	210	334
Aug-Oct 2023	(r)	959	147	139	141	208	326
Sep-Nov 2023	**(p)**	**949**	**142**	**141**	**140**	**208**	**318**
Change on quarter	*	-45	-22	-1	2	-3	-20
Change %	*	-4.5	-13.2	-0.9	1.5	-1.5	-6.0
Change on year		-229	-31	-25	-28	-54	-91
Change %		-19.5	-18.1	-14.9	-16.9	-20.4	-22.3

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 Vacancies[1] and Unemployment

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

| | | All Vacancies[1] | Unemployment[2] | Number of unemployed people per vacancy |
		AP2Y	MGSC	JPC5
Levels				
Aug-Oct 2021		1,186	1,423	1.2
Aug-Oct 2022		1,214	1,247	1.0
Nov-Jan 2023		1,138	1,253	1.1
Feb-Apr 2023		1,085	1,305	1.2
May-Jul 2023		1,015	1,464	1.4
Aug-Oct 2023	(r)	959	..	..
Change on quarter		-56	..	..
Change %		-5.5	..	
Change on year		-255	..	..
Change %		-21.0	..	

Source: ONS Vacancy Survey/ Labour Force Survey

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

1. Excludes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

2. LFS data for June to August 2023, July to September 2023 and August to October 2023 not currently available, please see
https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/methodologies/labourforcesurveyplannedimprovementsanditsreintroduction

21 Vacancies by industry

Standard Industrial Classification (2007)   United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

SIC 2007 sections		All vacancies[1] B-S AP2Y	Mining & quarrying B JP9H	Manu- facturing C JP9I	Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply[2] D JP9J	Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities E JP9K	Construction F JP9L	Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles G JP9M	Transport & storage H JP9N	Accommodation & food service activities I JP9O	Information & communication J JP9P
Levels (thousands)											
Sep-Nov 2021		1214	2	93	6	9	42	157	58	169	68
Sep-Nov 2022	(r)	1178	2	85	6	7	47	147	50	143	60
Oct-Dec 2022		1151	2	78	5	7	44	148	45	142	55
Nov-Jan 2023		1138	2	78	5	7	42	150	48	145	54
Dec-Feb 2023		1130	2	78	5	7	39	151	48	142	51
Jan-Mar 2023		1119	2	78	6	7	41	143	44	143	53
Feb-Apr 2023		1085	2	74	6	7	41	139	42	133	52
Mar-May 2023		1052	2	72	6	7	39	136	38	130	51
Apr-Jun 2023		1032	2	71	6	7	39	139	39	126	47
May-Jul 2023		1015	2	70	7	7	40	135	37	123	48
Jun-Aug 2023	(r)	994	2	70	6	7	36	134	39	119	46
Jul-Sep 2023	(r)	984	2	72	6	7	34	135	40	119	46
Aug-Oct 2023	(r)	959	2	70	5	6	35	131	36	116	42
Sep-Nov 2023	**(p)**	**949**	**2**	**66**	**5**	**6**	**34**	**127**	**34**	**116**	**43**
Change on quarter	*	-45	0	-3	-1	0	-2	-8	-6	-2	-4
Change %	*	-4.5	5.6	-4.7	-19.4	-5.9	-5.2	-5.6	-14.1	-1.9	-7.8
Change on year		-229	0	-18	-1	0	-13	-20	-17	-27	-17
Change %		-19.5	11.8	-21.4	-9.1	-4.5	-27.3	-13.7	-33.4	-18.8	-29.0
		AP2Z	JPA2	JPA3	JPA4	JPA5	JPA6	JPA7	JPA8	JPA9	JPB2
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs											
Sep-Nov 2021		4.0	3.4	3.9	4.3	3.9	2.8	3.5	3.7	7.5	5.0
Sep-Nov 2022	(r)	3.7	3.6	3.5	4.2	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.1	5.9	4.1
Oct-Dec 2022		3.6	3.8	3.2	3.8	3.0	2.8	3.3	2.8	5.9	3.8
Nov-Jan 2023		3.6	3.8	3.2	3.8	3.0	2.7	3.3	2.9	6.0	3.7
Dec-Feb 2023		3.6	3.6	3.2	4.1	3.0	2.5	3.3	2.9	5.8	3.5
Jan-Mar 2023		3.5	3.2	3.2	4.3	3.0	2.6	3.2	2.7	5.9	3.6
Feb-Apr 2023		3.4	3.4	3.0	4.5	2.9	2.6	3.1	2.6	5.5	3.6
Mar-May 2023		3.3	3.6	3.0	4.7	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.3	5.4	3.5
Apr-Jun 2023		3.3	3.8	2.9	4.8	3.0	2.5	3.1	2.4	5.2	3.2
May-Jul 2023		3.2	3.8	2.9	5.0	3.1	2.5	3.0	2.3	5.1	3.3
Jun-Aug 2023	(r)	3.1	3.8	2.8	4.7	3.0	2.3	3.0	2.4	4.9	3.2
Jul-Sep 2023	(r)	3.1	4.3	2.9	4.4	2.9	2.2	3.0	2.5	4.9	3.2
Aug-Oct 2023	(r)	3.0	4.1	2.8	4.1	2.7	2.2	2.9	2.2	4.8	2.9
Sep-Nov 2023	**(p)**	**3.0**	**4.1**	**2.7**	**3.8**	**2.8**	**2.2**	**2.8**	**2.1**	**4.8**	**2.9**
Change on quarter	*	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.9	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2
Change on year		-0.7	0.4	-0.7	-0.4	-0.1	-0.8	-0.4	-1.0	-1.1	-1.2

SIC 2007 sections		Financial & insurance activities K JP9Q	Real estate activities[2] L JP9R	Professional scientific & technical activities M JP9S	Administrative & support service activities N JP9T	Public admin & defence; compulsory social security O JP9U	Education P JP9V	Human health & social work activities Q JP9W	Arts, entertainment & recreation R JP9X	Other service activities S JP9Y	Total services G-S JP9Z
Levels (thousands)											
Sep-Nov 2021		46	17	113	88	31	62	194	33	26	1062
Sep-Nov 2022	(r)	48	15	123	69	41	76	209	27	23	1030
Oct-Dec 2022		49	14	120	70	41	77	207	25	21	1013
Nov-Jan 2023		49	13	114	67	39	74	207	26	20	1005
Dec-Feb 2023		47	11	113	72	40	74	205	28	19	1000
Jan-Mar 2023		44	12	114	74	39	72	201	28	21	987
Feb-Apr 2023		42	12	111	72	40	72	193	26	24	958
Mar-May 2023		39	14	105	67	39	70	190	26	25	928
Apr-Jun 2023		37	14	100	64	40	68	186	25	25	909
May-Jul 2023		38	14	98	62	39	67	181	27	24	891
Jun-Aug 2023	(r)	36	12	94	57	38	67	181	26	24	873
Jul-Sep 2023	(r)	36	10	91	55	37	66	178	27	24	863
Aug-Oct 2023	(r)	36	9	89	57	37	66	179	21	23	841
Sep-Nov 2023	**(p)**	**36**	**11**	**89**	**57**	**38**	**66**	**175**	**21**	**22**	**834**
Change on quarter	*	-1	-1	-4	0	0	-1	-6	-5	-3	-40
Change %	*	-1.4	-7.4	-4.5	0.0	-0.3	-2.1	-3.2	-19.9	-11.1	-4.5
Change on year		-12	-4	-34	-12	-2	-10	-34	-6	-2	-197
Change %		-25.2	-24.8	-27.3	-17.5	-5.9	-12.7	-16.2	-23.8	-6.9	-19.1
		JPB3	JPB4	JPB5	JPB6	JPB7	JPB8	JPB9	JPC2	JPC3	JPC4
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs											
Sep-Nov 2021		4.2	3.1	4.2	3.3	2.2	2.3	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.0
Sep-Nov 2022	(r)	4.3	2.6	4.3	2.5	2.8	2.8	4.8	3.6	3.8	3.8
Oct-Dec 2022		4.4	2.5	4.2	2.5	2.8	2.8	4.8	3.4	3.4	3.7
Nov-Jan 2023		4.4	2.3	4.0	2.4	2.7	2.7	4.8	3.5	3.2	3.7
Dec-Feb 2023		4.2	2.0	4.0	2.6	2.8	2.7	4.7	3.8	3.1	3.7
Jan-Mar 2023		4.0	2.1	4.0	2.7	2.7	2.6	4.6	3.8	3.5	3.6
Feb-Apr 2023		3.8	2.1	3.9	2.6	2.8	2.6	4.5	3.6	4.0	3.5
Mar-May 2023		3.5	2.4	3.7	2.4	2.7	2.5	4.4	3.4	4.0	3.4
Apr-Jun 2023		3.4	2.5	3.5	2.3	2.7	2.5	4.3	3.4	4.0	3.3
May-Jul 2023		3.4	2.4	3.4	2.3	2.7	2.5	4.2	3.6	4.0	3.3
Jun-Aug 2023	(r)	3.3	2.1	3.3	2.1	2.7	2.5	4.2	3.5	4.0	3.2
Jul-Sep 2023	(r)	3.2	1.8	3.2	2.0	2.6	2.4	4.1	3.6	3.9	3.2
Aug-Oct 2023	(r)	3.2	1.6	3.1	2.1	2.6	2.4	4.1	2.9	3.7	3.1
Sep-Nov 2023	**(p)**	**3.2**	**2.0**	**3.1**	**2.1**	**2.7**	**2.4**	**4.0**	**2.8**	**3.6**	**3.1**
Change on quarter	*	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.7	-0.4	-0.1
Change on year		-1.1	-0.7	-1.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.4	-0.8	-0.9	-0.3	-0.7

1. Excludes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.   Source: ONS Vacancy Survey

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

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

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