

Statistical bulletin

Vacancies, jobs and public sector employment in the UK: August 2020

Estimates of the number of vacancies, jobs and public sector employment for the UK.



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Notice

11 August 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 the coronavirus. 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

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

2 . Main points

- There were an estimated 370,000 vacancies in the UK in May to July 2020, this is 10% higher than the record low in April to June 2020.
- Vacancies in the larger businesses saw record lows in May to July 2020; businesses in the 250 to 2,499 size band fell to a record low of 66,000 vacancies and businesses in the 2,500 plus size band fell to a record low of 140,000 vacancies.
- Vacancies for smaller businesses (49 or fewer employees) saw record lows in April to June 2020 but have since increased by around 45%; medium sized businesses (50 to 249 employees) were also at a record low in April to June 2020 but have increased by around 10%.
- "Accommodation and food service activities" is showing signs of recovery with vacancies per 100 employee jobs ratio increasing more than other industries after being one of lowest ratio by sector in April to June 2020.
- Workforce jobs have continued to increase to March 2020, however, there are signs of levelling off in recent quarters mainly because of a decrease in self-employed jobs, which includes data after the implementation of coronavirus (COVID-19) measures.
- Public sector employment has continued to increase in March 2020, driven by increases in the NHS (31.9% of all people employed in the public sector), the Civil Service, public bodies and HM Forces.

Because of social distancing measures leading to the temporary closure of businesses across the UK, there have been some difficulties in collecting data and producing estimates. More information can be found in [Measuring the data](#).

3 . Vacancies for May to July 2020

The monthly Vacancy Survey asks businesses for the number of external vacancies on a specified count date, used for three-month rolling averages. Count dates for the latest data, May to July 2020, are 7 May, 5 June and 3 July 2020, all of which follow the start of coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing measures. Count dates for the previous quarter, February to April 2020, were 7 February, 6 March and 3 April 2020; the responses for the first two dates are prior to the start of coronavirus 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: May to July 2020 saw a ten percent increase in the level of vacancies since the record low in April to June 2020

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between May to July 2001 and May to July 2020

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Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between May to July 2001 and May to July 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. Vacancies remained at a high level until the start of coronavirus social distancing measures, where they fell more sharply than during the recession. For May to July 2020, there were an estimated 370,000 vacancies in the UK, which is 10% higher than the record low in April to June 2020. The increase is driven by small businesses (49 or fewer employees), some of which are reporting taking on staff to meet COVID-19 guidelines. Estimated vacancies for May to July 2020 are 274,000 fewer than in the previous quarter February to April 2020 (where the responses for the first two months are prior to the start of coronavirus social distancing measures) and 453,000 fewer than a year earlier.

The vacancy headline estimate is based on a seasonally adjusted, three-month moving average and has [National Statistics](#) status. Single-month vacancy estimates are available in [dataset X06](#). They should be used with caution as they are experimental, non-seasonally adjusted statistics and should not be considered accurate estimates of vacancies in the reported months, because of the high volatility caused by the survey sample design (see [Strengths and limitations](#)).

Figure 2: The experimental single month series indicates an increase of approximately 30% in the estimated vacancies for July 2020 compared with April 2020

Moving three-month averages of vacancies and single-month vacancies in the UK, both non-seasonally adjusted Experimental Statistics, between May to July 2001 and May to July 2020

Figure 2: The experimental single month series indicates an increase of approximately 30% in the estimated vacancies for July 2020 compared with April 2020

Moving three-month averages of vacancies and single-month vacancies in the UK, both non-seasonally adjusted Experimental Statistics, between May to July 2001 and May to July 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – X06 dataset

The three-month average non-seasonally adjusted series in Figure 2 is more volatile than the seasonally adjusted series shown in Figure 1.

While the experimental single-month estimates should not be considered accurate estimates of vacancies in the reported months, it does indicate an increase of approximately 30% in the estimated vacancies for July 2020 compared with April 2020, with the "accommodation and food service activities" sector showing the strongest recovery.

We now publish a weekly Adzuna [Online job advert estimates dataset](#) as part of the [Coronavirus and the latest indicators for the UK economy release](#). The online job advert estimates show a decline of around 60% in total vacancies from early March to early May generally followed by an increase and stabilisation of vacancies in July. Catering and hospitality online job adverts saw the largest increase in vacancies between the start of June and start of July which is consistent with our vacancy survey. The online job advert estimates for July show a smaller increase in vacancies compared with our vacancy survey. The increase in our vacancy survey estimates is driven by smaller businesses. Any vacancies that are not advertised online would not be included in the online job advert estimates; if small businesses are advertising vacancies through alternative methods this could explain the difference between our vacancy survey and the online job advert estimates. The latest weekly online job adverts publish vacancies with a lag of six days and includes regional estimates of vacancies.

Figure 3: Accommodation and food service activities is showing signs of recovery with vacancies per 100 employee jobs ratio increasing more than other industries after being one of lowest ratio by sector in April to June 2020

Job vacancies per 100 employee jobs for selected industries in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between May to July 2001 and May to July 2020

Figure 3: Accommodation and food service activities is showing signs of recovery with vacancies per 100 employee jobs ratio increasing more than other industries after being one of lowest ratio by sector in April to June 2020

Job vacancies per 100 employee jobs for selected industries in the UK, seasonally adjusted, between May to July 2001 and May to July 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Vacancy Survey

For May to July 2020, it is estimated that:

- the vacancies per 100 employee jobs ratio has increased to 1.2, after a record low of 1.1 in April to June 2020
- "accommodation and food service activities" is showing signs of recovery with vacancies per 100 employee jobs ratio increasing more than other industries after being one of lowest ratio by sector in April to June 2020
- "human health and social work activities" remains the largest sector in terms of both vacancy level (103,000) and ratio (2.5) and accounts for 27.8% of all vacancies; areas of this sector such as care homes and home care are starting to show signs of a recovery
- there are quarterly decreases in all sectors; sectors contributing most strongly to the quarterly movement are "wholesale, retail trade and repair of motor vehicles" down 57,000 (negative 57.0%) and "accommodation and food service activities" down by 37,000 (negative 67.9%); both of these industries have been affected heavily by social distancing measures, with hotels, restaurants and retail stores being closed as a result
- all sectors show negative annual movements, the two sectors contributing the most to the 453,000 decrease in all vacancies are "wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles" (down 91,000) and "accommodation and food service activities" (down 75,000)

4 . Jobs for March 2020 (first published on 16 June 2020)

Workforce jobs estimates are a combination of estimates of employee jobs mainly sourced from employer surveys, self-employment jobs from the Labour Force Survey, HM Forces personnel and government-supported trainees.

The majority of the latest employee jobs data were sought on a specified count date, 13 March 2020, before the start of coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing measures. Latest self-employment estimates from the Labour Force Survey are based on interviews from the start of February to the end of April 2020, so only around half of these relate to the period prior to the start of social distancing, while interviews in the final week of March and the whole of April relate to the lockdown period.

Figure 4: Between December 2019 and March 2020, the total number of jobs in the UK increased by 35,000 to reach an estimated 35.83 million

Number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, March 2020

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Number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, March 2020



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:

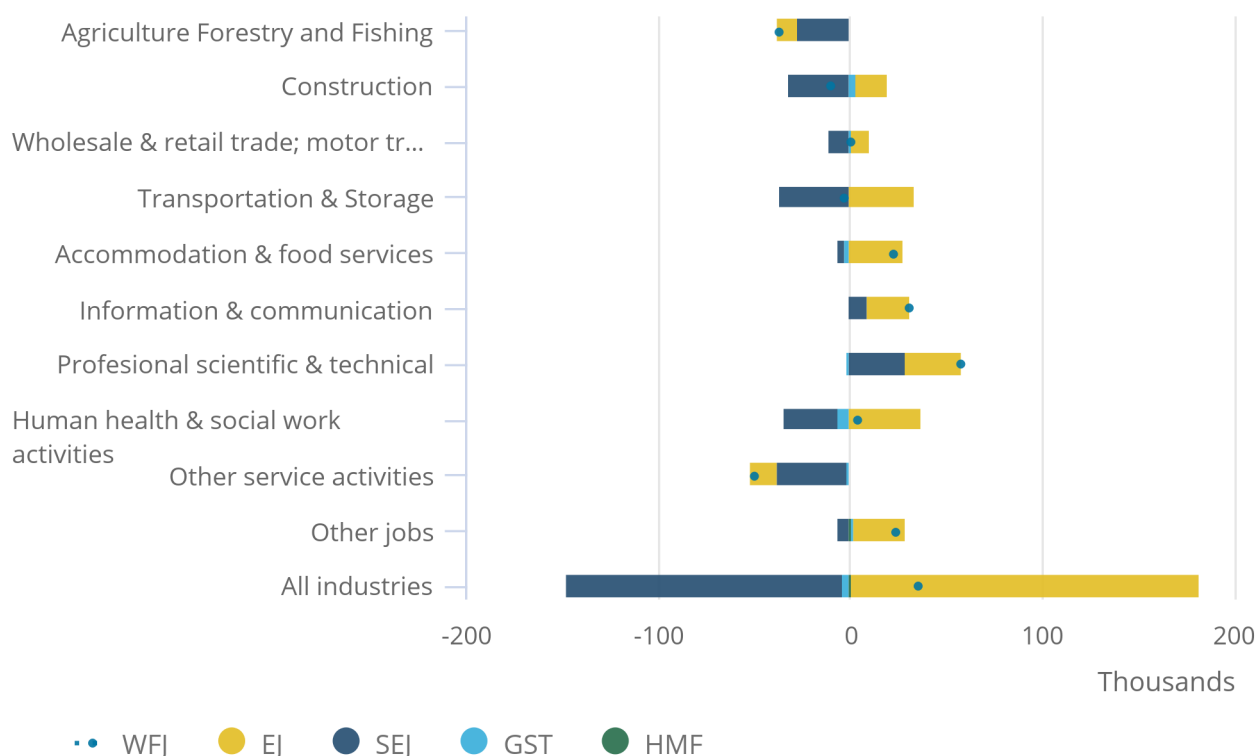
- the number of jobs has been generally increasing since 2013, but is showing signs of levelling off in recent quarters
- there were a record-high 35.83 million jobs in the UK in March 2020; this is 35,000 more than in December 2019 and 289,000 higher than in March 2019
- the 35,000 growth in jobs is composed of an increase of 181,000 in employee jobs, a fall of 143,000 in self-employment jobs, a rise of 1,000 in HM Forces personnel and a fall of 4,000 in government-supported trainees
- the largest sector, with an estimated 4.97 million jobs, was the “wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles” sector in March 2020; this represents 13.9% of total jobs
- the next largest sector was “human health and social work”, with 4.48 million jobs in March 2020
- several sectors were at a record high in March 2020, including “professional, scientific and technical activities” (3.29 million jobs), “accommodation and food service activities” (2.53 million jobs), “information and communication” (1.56 million jobs) and “real estate activities” (0.66 million jobs)

Figure 5: The small increase in Workforce jobs between December 2019 and March 2020 is driven by an increase in employee jobs, but is counterbalanced by a fall in self-employment jobs

Changes in the number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2019 to March 2020

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Changes in the number of jobs in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2019 to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Workforce jobs

The sectors showing the largest estimated quarterly increase in jobs are "professional, scientific and technical activities" (57,000), "information and communication" (30,000) and "accommodation and food service activities" (22,000). In these sectors employee jobs are driving the majority of the positive movement in jobs, with positive contribution from self-employment jobs (except "accommodation and food service activites", which saw a fall of 4,000 in self-employment jobs).

The sectors showing the largest estimated quarterly falls in jobs are "other service activities" (50,000), "agriculture, forestry and fishing" (37,000) and "construction" (11,000). In "construction" the employee jobs increased by 17,000 and self-employment jobs fell by 31,000, but in both of the other sectors there were falls in both employee jobs and self-employment jobs.

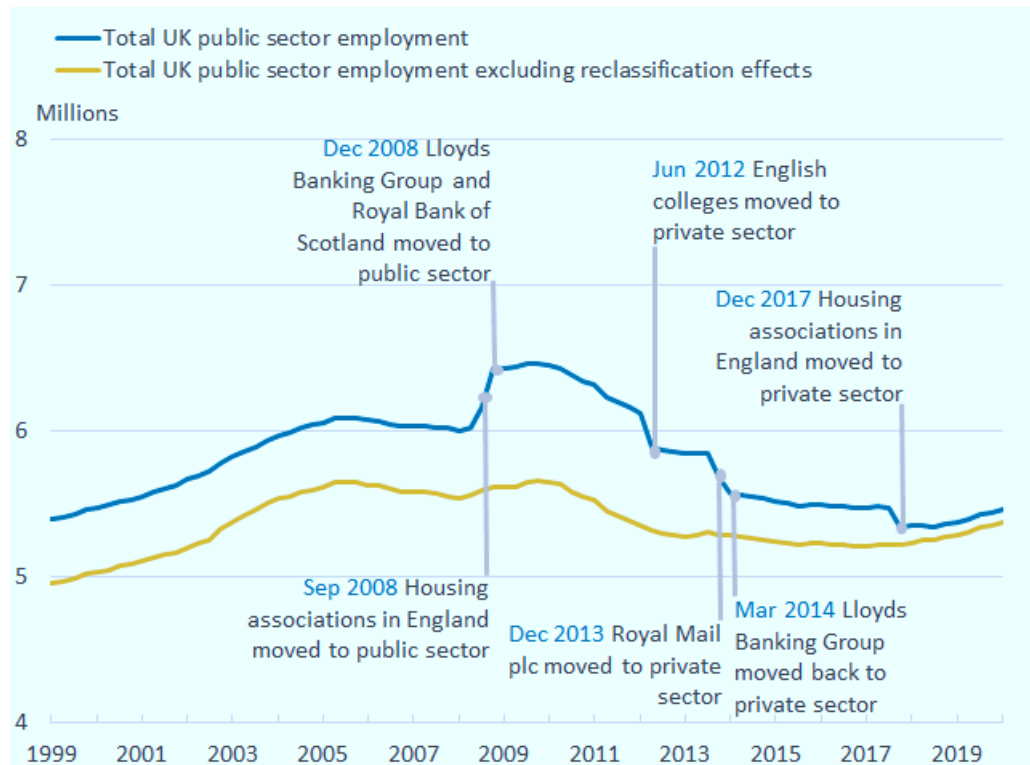
The quarterly movement in "human health and social work activities" is an increase of 4,000, which is not significant, but it should be noted that the overall movement includes a 38,000 increase in employee jobs and a fall of 28,000 in self-employment jobs. Similarly, "transportation and storage" has fallen by 3,000 jobs, which is caused by a 34,000 increase in employee jobs and a 36,000 fall in self-employment jobs.

5 . Public sector employment for March 2020 (first published on 16 June 2020)

Public sector employment estimates are point-in-time employment estimates and relate to a specific day in the published month. The reference date for this quarter is 13 March 2020 for the local authorities survey, 1 April for HM Forces, and 31 March for all other sources. The majority of responses are from the end of March and early April, after the start of coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing measures.

Figure 6: Since 2018 public sector employment has been steadily increasing after a long term fall from 2009

Total public sector employment, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey

There were an estimated 5.47 million employees in the public sector for March 2020. This was an increase of 26,000 (0.5%) compared with December 2019 and an increase of 91,000 (1.7%) compared with March 2019.

Of all people in paid work, 16.6% were employed in the public sector for March 2020. This is 0.1 percentage points higher than December 2019 and 0.2 percentage points higher than March 2019.

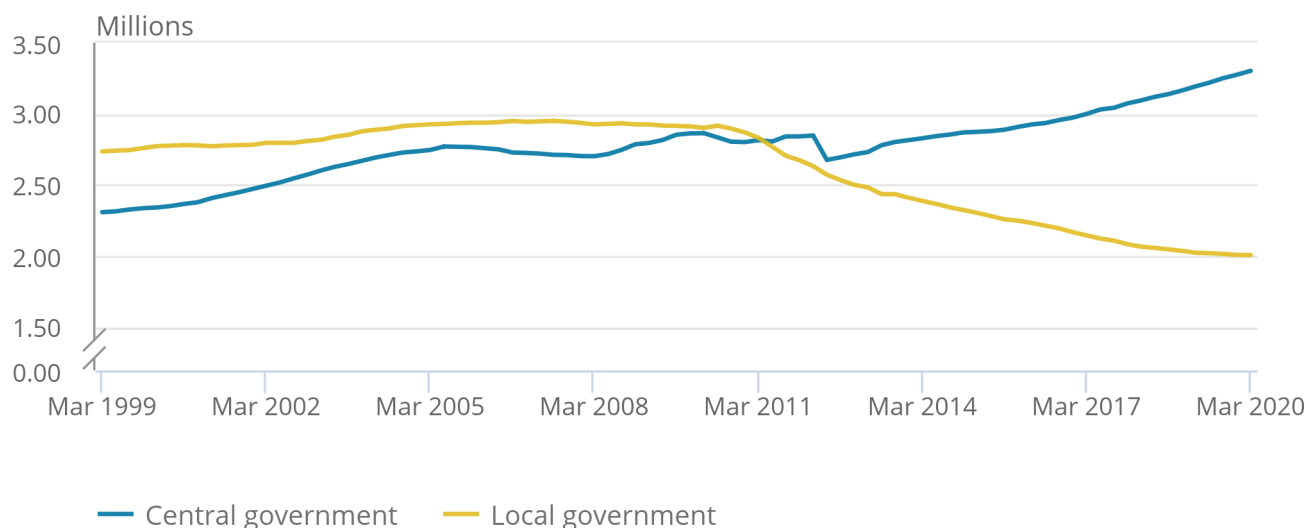
Private sector employment estimates are derived as the difference between total employment estimates, sourced from the Labour Force Survey, and public sector employment estimates collected from public sector organisations. The number of employees in the private sector was 27.53 million for March 2020, which was 20,000 (0.1%) fewer than for December 2019 and 154,000 (0.6%) more than the estimate for a year earlier.

Figure 7: Record high of central government employment contrasts with record low of local government employment

Public sector employment in local and central government, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020

Figure 7: Record high of central government employment contrasts with record low of local government employment

Public sector employment in local and central government, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey

Notes:

1. July 2010: Academies Act 2010 passed.
2. June 2012: English colleges moved to the private sector.

The latest estimates show a continuing trend of more people employed in central government and fewer people employed in local government, mainly because of increases in the National Health Service and some local authority schools in England converting to academy status. Employees move from local government to central government when local authority schools become academies. In March 2020, academy conversions accounted for 3,000 employees over the quarter and 31,000 over the year.

The estimated number of people employed in central government continued to increase to reach a new record high of 3.30 million for March 2020. It is up 27,000 (0.8%) compared with December 2019 and up 108,000 (3.4%) compared with March 2019, as shown in Figure 7.

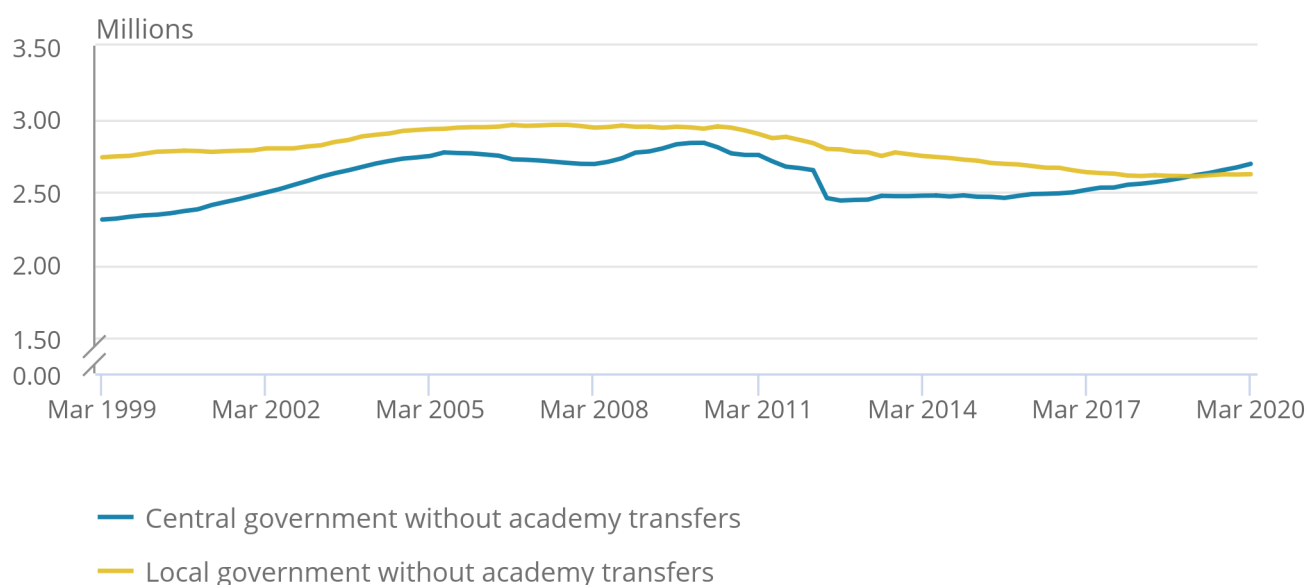
The estimated number of people employed in local government decreased by 1,000 (0.0%) between December 2019 and March 2020 to reach 2.01 million. It is down 16,000 (0.8%) compared with March 2019, as shown in Figure 7. Since 2018, the rate of decrease in local government employment has lessened.

Figure 8: Without the transfer of academies from local to central government, employment in local government has stabilized since 2018

Public sector employment in local and central government, excluding academy transfers, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020

Figure 8: Without the transfer of academies from local to central government, employment in local government has stabilized since 2018

Public sector employment in local and central government, excluding academy transfers, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey

Notes:

1. July 2010: Academies Act 2010 passed.
2. June 2012: English colleges moved to the private sector.

Excluding transfers of academy schools from local to central government, employment continues to increase in central government, while in local government the level of employment has decreased before stabilising, as shown in Figure 8.

Without academy conversions, for March 2020, employment in central government increased by 24,000 on the previous quarter and 77,000 on the previous year, while in local government it increased by 2,000 on the quarter and 15,000 on the year.

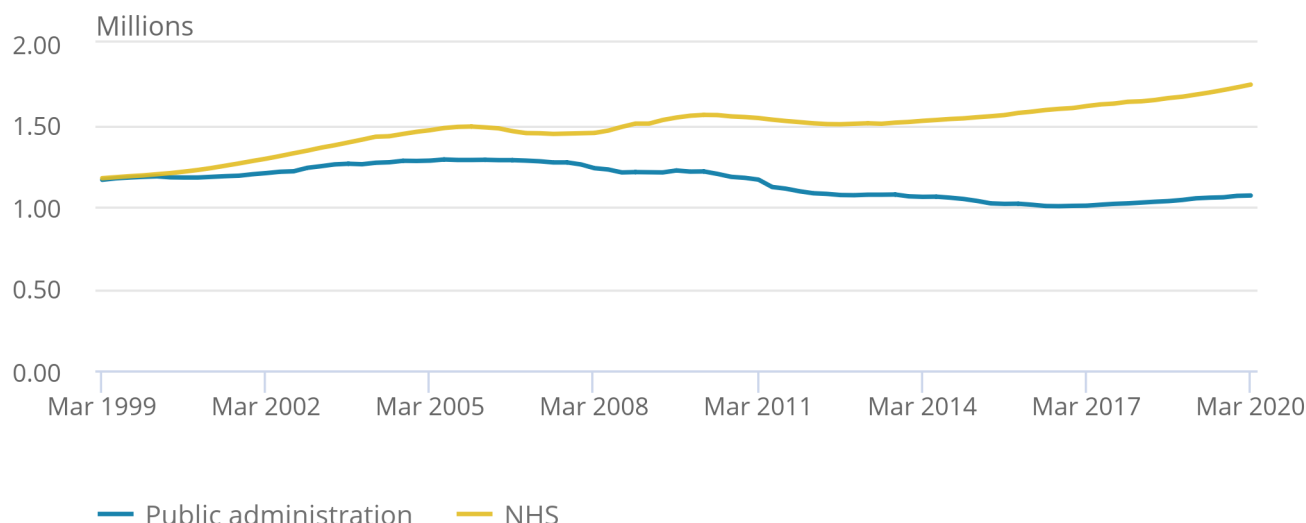
Increases in employment in March 2020 in the NHS of 17,000 employees, police of 4,000 employees, Civil Service of 3,000 employees and HM Forces of 1,000 employees contributed to the rise in public sector employment compared with December 2019.

Figure 9: NHS and public administration employment continues to increase, contributing to the growth in public sector employment

Public sector employment, by selected industries, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020

Figure 9: NHS and public administration employment continues to increase, contributing to the growth in public sector employment

Public sector employment, by selected industries, seasonally adjusted, UK, March 1999 to March 2020



Source: Office for National Statistics – Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey

For March 2020, there were 1.74 million people employed in the NHS, the highest figure on record. The NHS headcount increased by 17,000 (1.0%) from December 2019. This is the largest quarterly percentage increase for the NHS in the first quarter since 2004. Compared with March 2019, the NHS headcount increased by 61,000 (3.6%).

Some of the increase could be as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19) planning, however, it is not possible to confirm how much. Prior to the coronavirus, the NHS headcount had been increasing since September 2013 with quarterly percentage growths of between 0.8% and 0.9% in 2019. For March 2020, the NHS accounted for 31.9% of all people employed in the public sector and 5.3% of all people in paid work in the UK.

There were an estimated 1.07 million people employed in public administration for March 2020. This was 2,000 (0.2%) more than for December 2019 and 17,000 (1.6%) more than for a year earlier. Employment in public administration has increased every quarter since December 2016. Increases in the Home Civil Service have contributed to the growth in public administration.

For March 2020, there were 456,000 people employed in the Home Civil Service (8.3% of total public sector employment). This was 3,000 (0.7%) more compared with December 2019 and 10,000 (2.2%) more than for March 2019. The Home Civil Service has seen a steady increase in employment since the record low of 416,000 recorded for June, September and December 2016.

6 . Vacancies, jobs and public sector employment data

[Vacancies by industry](#)

Dataset VACS02 | Released 11 August 2020

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

[Workforce jobs summary](#)

Dataset JOBS01 | Released 16 June 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 16 June 2020

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

[Public sector employment](#)

Dataset | Released 16 June 2020

Quarterly estimates of UK and regional public sector employment, made up of central government (including Civil Service), local government and public corporations. The estimates also include an industrial breakdown.

[Public sector employment time series](#)

Dataset | Dataset ID: PSE | Released 16 June 2020

Seasonally adjusted and non-seasonally adjusted quarterly time series of UK public sector employment, containing the latest estimates.

[EMP13: Employment by industry](#)

Dataset | Released 11 August 2020

Estimates of public and private sector employment from the Labour Force Survey. This table is updated four times a year in February, May, August and November.

7 . 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.

Central government

Central government includes all administrative departments of government and other central agencies and non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs); as such, it is wider than the "Civil Service". This sector also includes HM Forces and the NHS. Within education, academies are classified to central government.

Civil Service

A civil servant is a person employed in the public sector on behalf of a central government department, agency or non-departmental government body (NDPB). The UK Home Civil Service excludes the Northern Ireland Civil Service, other Crown servants and employees of the wider public sector; there are Home Civil Service employees based in Northern Ireland and overseas.

Local government

Local government covers those types of public administration that only cover a locality and any bodies controlled and mainly financed by them. It includes police forces and their civilian staff for England and Wales, excluding the British Transport Police.

Public corporations

Public corporations are companies or quasi-corporations controlled by government. These companies receive more than half their income from sales of goods or services into the marketplace. A [more detailed glossary](#) is available.

8 . Measuring the data

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 coronavirus 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 the coronavirus.

For more information on how labour market data sources, among others, will be affected by the coronavirus pandemic, see the [statement](#) published on 27 March 2020. A further [article](#) published on 6 May 2020, detailed some of the challenges that we have faced in producing estimates at this time.

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

Impact on production of vacancy and workforce job estimates

Because of social distancing measures leading to the temporary closure of businesses across the UK, there have been some difficulties in collecting data using the Vacancy Survey and the Short-Term Employment Surveys. Survey response rates were lower than is typical. To protect the quality of our output, we have used alternative sources where possible to inform data. We have used Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) section-level indications from the Business Impact of COVID-19 Survey (BICS), as well as survey contributor-level comments provided to us over the telephone or electronically, as a guide on whether businesses are operational and likely, or not, to be actively recruiting and to confirm employment figures.

Impact on production of public sector estimates

For March 2020, the Public Sector Employment Survey received 92% response to all questionnaires, compared with 93% for December 2019. The impact on the survey response and levels of imputation and construction are not statistically significant. Survey contributor-level comments provided to us over the telephone or electronically suggested the estimates were largely unaffected by coronavirus planning.

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.

Jobs

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 \(BRES\)](#).

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

Public sector employment

The main source of Public sector employment (PSE) is the Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey, which aims to obtain complete coverage of local authorities and the Civil Service, and coverage of all public bodies with 20 or more employees. It is difficult to achieve complete coverage for local and central government, for example, in the education sector. Further information can be found in the [Public sector employment QMI](#).

While this bulletin focuses on headcount estimates of PSE, full-time equivalent estimates (based on the number of hours worked divided by the standard full-time hours) are available in the [accompanying PSE datasets](#).

All PSE [time series](#) in this release, with the exception of the regional series, are seasonally adjusted to aid interpretation. Relationships that hold in the unadjusted series do not necessarily hold for the seasonally adjusted series. For example, total PSE equals the total of all public sector industry estimates before seasonal adjustment, but this is not necessarily true after seasonal adjustment.

Comparisons of public and private sector employment over time are complicated by a number of major reclassifications, where bodies employing large numbers of people have moved between the public and private sectors. We produce estimates of public and private sector employment excluding the effects of major reclassifications to help you understand underlying trends in employment. We publish these alongside estimates of total public and private sector employment in [Tables 5, 6a and 7a of the PSE datasets](#).

While our headline estimates of public sector employment are derived from the Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey (QPSES), estimates of public and private sector employment from the Labour Force Survey (a survey of households) are available at [Dataset EMP13](#). While the QPSES estimates follow national accounts definitions of public and private sector employment, the estimates from the Labour Force Survey are based on survey respondents' perceptions of whether they are employed in the public or private sector and they provide higher estimates of public sector employment than the QPSES survey.

More detailed statistics on employment in the Civil Service, such as regional analyses, diversity and earnings statistics, can be found in the annual [Civil Service statistics release](#). Responsibility for the collection and publication of this annual release was transferred to the Cabinet Office with effect from 1 October 2018, and statistics for 2019 were published on 24 July 2019.

Estimates of [public sector employment \(PSE\) in Scotland](#) are published quarterly by the Scottish Government on the same day as this bulletin.

Estimates of public and private sector employment in Northern Ireland are published by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in the [Northern Ireland Quarterly Employment Survey release](#).

Sampling variability

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.

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 Mar 2020	Sampling variability of estimate ¹
A Agriculture, forestry & fishing	376	±41
B Mining & quarrying	64	±5
C Manufacturing	2,707	±39
D Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	154	±11
E Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities	234	±9
F Construction	2,284	±59
G Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4,949	±59
H Transport & storage	1,790	±47
I Accommodation & food service activities	2,521	±55
J Information & communication	1,563	±48
K Financial & insurance activities	1,130	±27
L Real estate activities	660	±36
M Professional scientific & technical activities	3,285	±75
N Administrative & support service activities	3,009	±61
O Public admin & defence; compulsory social security	1,544	±13
P Education	2,984	±41
Q Human health & social work activities	4,483	±65
R Arts, entertainment & recreation	1,028	±43
S Other service activities/Private Households	1,026	±43
/T		
All jobs	35,793	±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](#)

Table 2: Response rates for sources of UK public sector employment, March 2020

	Response (% of questionnaires returned)	Response (% of employment returned)
Local Authorities Survey	93	88
Public Bodies Survey	87	69
Civil Service Survey	100	100
Other sources	100	100

Source: Office for National Statistics

9 . 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.

Vacancies

The vacancy headline estimate is based on a seasonally adjusted, three-month moving average and has [National Statistics](#) status. Further information about how single estimates have impacted the three-month estimates is available in the [x06 dataset](#). These [experimental](#) estimates are non-seasonally adjusted and should not be considered accurate estimates of vacancies in the reported months because of the high volatility caused by the survey sample design. They can be used to indicate an approximate change in the level of total vacancies. Approximately 80% of the rotational survey overlaps every three months, therefore a comparison of vacancy estimates for a given month to three months prior can provide a reasonable indication of the change in monthly vacancies.

Public sector employment

Public sector employment estimates are based on a complete census of local government and Civil Service and cover all public bodies with 20 or more employees. The usual sampling and estimation techniques applicable to our business surveys are therefore not applicable (for instance, it is not possible for sampling errors or confidence intervals to be produced).

Our targets for response to the Local Authorities and Public Bodies Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey (QPSES) before the results are compiled are 90% (number of respondents) and 90% (of total employment). In addition, each survey has a list of critical respondents (usually those with the largest employment) for which special efforts are made to achieve 100% response and clearance of test failures. For the Civil Service QPSES, the targets for response before the results are compiled are 100% (number of respondents) and 100% (of total employment).

Data for non-responders are imputed based on previous returns and known annual changes in seasonality. It is extremely rare for a local authority, public body or Civil Service department to non-respond for two consecutive quarters. The data collection is statutory for local authorities and public bodies (Statistics of Trade Act 1947) and positive action is taken to address non-response issues as and when they occur.

Non-sampling error, or bias, is the variation that occurs by chance from the true values for the population and is not because of sampling. This type of error averages close to zero over a large number of repeats of the survey.

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

10 . Related links

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

Article | Released 6 May 2020

This article looks at the expected impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) upon the UK labour market and some of the practical challenges that the Office for National Statistics is likely to face in collecting data.

[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.

[Civil Service statistics](#)

Bulletin (Cabinet Office) | Released 24 July 2019

Employment statistics for the Civil Service population, providing regional analyses, diversity and earnings.

[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."

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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

4 Public and private sector employment

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

	Public sector		Private sector ¹		Total employment ²	Public sector excluding effects of major reclassifications		Private sector excluding effects of major reclassifications	
	(000s)	(%)	(000s)	(%)		(See Explanatory note at bottom of table)		(See Explanatory note at bottom of table)	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	G7AU	G9BZ	G7K5	G9C2	G7GO	MFY7	MFY9	MFZ2	MFY5
Dec 17	5,343	16.6	26,898	83.4	32,241	5,224	16.2	27,017	83.8
Mar 18	5,351	16.5	27,038	83.5	32,389	5,233	16.2	27,156	83.8
Jun 18	5,352	16.5	27,056	83.5	32,408	5,247	16.2	27,161	83.8
Sep 18	5,345	16.5	27,147	83.5	32,492	5,257	16.2	27,235	83.8
Dec 18	5,359	16.4	27,355	83.6	32,714	5,271	16.1	27,443	83.9
Mar 19	5,374 r	16.4	27,372 r	83.6	32,746	5,286 r	16.1	27,460 r	83.9
Jun 19	5,398	16.5	27,379	83.5	32,777	5,307	16.2	27,470	83.8
Sep 19	5,423	16.5	27,378	83.5	32,801	5,336	16.3	27,465	83.7
Dec 19	5,439 r	16.5	27,546 r	83.5	32,985	5,351 r	16.2	27,634 r	83.8
Mar 20	5,465	16.6	27,526	83.4	32,991	5,375	16.3	27,616	83.7
Change on quarter	26	0.1	-20	-0.1	6	24	0.1	-18	-0.1
Change %	0.5	-	-0.1	-	0.0	0.4	-	-0.1	-
Change on year	91	0.2	154	-0.2	245	89	0.2	156	-0.2
Change %	1.7	-	0.6	-	0.7	1.7	-	0.6	-

Enquiries 01633 455400
Relationship between columns: 2 = 1/5*100; 3 = 5-1; 4 = 3/5*100, 5=6+8

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS) and returns from public sector organisations
See footnotes under table 4(1)

4(1) Public sector employment by industry

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

	Construction	HM Forces ³	Police (including civilians)	Public administration	Of which: Civil Service ⁴	Education	National Health Service	Other health and social work	Other (including financial corporations)	Total public sector employment ⁵
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	G7ER	G7EU	G7EX	G7F2	G7D6	G7F5	G7FG	G7FJ	G7FM	G7AU
Dec 17	38	155	246	1,019	427	1,495	1,639	231	521	5,343
Mar 18	35	155	246	1,024	430	1,498	1,642	229	524	5,351
Jun 18	35	153	247	1,029	431	1,501	1,650	222	516	5,352
Sep 18	35	153	247	1,033	436	1,495	1,662	216	506	5,345
Dec 18	35	151	247	1,040	440	1,496	1,670	215	504	5,359
Mar 19	36	152 r	249	1,050 r	446	1,493 r	1,683	214 r	498 r	5,374 r
Jun 19	36	152	249	1,054	448	1,496	1,696	215	500	5,398
Sep 19	35	153	252	1,056	451	1,497	1,711	214	505	5,423
Dec 19	35	153	253 r	1,065	453	1,492 r	1,727 r	212 r	502 r	5,439 r
Mar 20	36	154	257	1,067	456	1,491	1,744	210	505	5,465
Change on quarter	1	1	4	2	3	-1	17	-2	3	26
Change %	2.9	0.7	1.6	0.2	0.7	-0.1	1.0	-0.9	0.6	0.5
Change on year	0	2	8	17	10	-2	61	-4	7	91
Change %	0.0	1.3	3.2	1.6	2.2	-0.1	3.6	-1.9	1.4	1.7

Enquiries 01633 455400
Source: returns from public sector organisations

Explanatory Note: The public and private sector employment series have been affected by a number of major reclassifications where bodies employing large numbers of people have moved between the public and private sectors. These major reclassifications are as follows:

Further Education corporations and Sixth Form College corporations in England are included in the private sector from June 2012 but in the public sector for earlier time periods.
 Royal Mail plc is included in the private sector from December 2013 but in the public sector for earlier time periods.
 Lloyds Banking Group plc is included in the public sector from December 2008 to December 2013 but in the private sector for earlier and later time periods.
 Royal Bank of Scotland plc is included in the public sector from December 2008 but in the private sector for earlier time periods.
 Network Rail is included in the private sector before December 2002. From December 2002 onwards it is included in the public sector (except for the period from June 2003 to March 2004, when it is included in the private sector).
 Northern Rock is included in the public sector from December 2007 until December 2011 but in the private sector for earlier and later time periods.
 Bradford and Bingley is included in the public sector from September 2008 but in the private sector for earlier time periods.
 Welsh Further Education colleges are included in the private sector from March 2015 but in the public sector for earlier time periods.
 Housing associations in England are included in the public sector between September 2008 and September 2017; they are in the private sector for earlier and later time periods.
 Housing associations in Scotland are included in the public sector from September 2001 until June 2018; they are included in the private sector for earlier and later time periods.
 Housing associations in Wales are included in the private sector from June 2018; they are included in the public sector for earlier time periods.
 Housing associations in Northern Ireland are included in the public sector back to the start of the time series in March 1999.

The series shown at Table 4 (in columns 6 to 9) for public and private sector employment excluding the effects of major reclassifications show all of the above mentioned bodies included in the private sector for all time periods and excluded from the public sector for all time periods. When using figures from this table, the latest estimate of the number of people employed in the public and private sectors should be taken from columns 1 and 3 respectively. However the quarterly and annual changes in employment shown in these columns are affected by reclassifications. Figures from columns 6 and 8 should be used for assessments of the recent underlying changes in public and private sector employment. The changes in employment shown in these columns are measured on a consistent basis to remove the effect of major reclassifications.

1. Estimated as the difference between LFS total employment and the data from public sector organisations.
2. LFS employment data for March refer to February-April, June refers to May-July, September refers to August-October and December refers to November-January.
3. This series excludes locally engaged staff stationed outside the United Kingdom.
4. This series excludes the Northern Ireland Civil Service.
5. This series may not exactly equal the sum of the components because each component is independently seasonally adjusted.

More detailed estimates are available in the Public Sector Employment Statistical Bulletin at:
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/publicsectorpersonnel/bulletins/publicsectoremployment/latest>

4(2) Public sector employment by sector classification; Headcount

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

		General government			Total public corporations	Total public sector	Of which: Civil Service
		Central government	Local government	Total general government			
		G6NQ	G6NT	G6NW	G7AR	G7AU	G7D6
2017	Dec	3,074	2,085	5,159	184	5,343	427
2018	Mar	3,095	2,068	5,163	188	5,351	430
	Jun	3,120	2,059	5,179	173	5,352	431
	Sep	3,139	2,049	5,188	157	5,345	436
	Dec	3,165	2,038	5,203	156	5,359	440
2019	Mar	3,194 [†]	2,025 [†]	5,219 [†]	155	5,374 [†]	446
	Jun	3,220	2,022	5,242	156	5,398	448
	Sep	3,251	2,017	5,268	155	5,423	451
	Dec	3,275	2,010	5,285	154 [†]	5,439	453
2020	Mar	3,302	2,009	5,311	154	5,465	456
Change on quarter:		27	-1	26	0	26	3
Change %:		0.8	0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.7
Change on year:		108	-16	92	-1	91	10
Change %:		3.4	-0.8	1.8	-0.6	1.7	2.2

Source: Quarterly Public Sector Employment Survey;
Office for National Statistics

[†] Indicates earliest revision

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
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	35,764	30,965	4,618	153	29
Dec 19 (r)	35,796	30,916	4,692	153	35
Mar 20 (p) ²	35,832	31,097	4,549	154	31
Change on quarter	35	181	-143	1	-4
Change %	0.1	0.6	-3.0	0.9	-11.8
Change on year	289	392	-109	2	4
Change %	0.8	1.3	-2.3	1.2	15.5

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
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	35,764	408	57	2,717	144	246	2,265	4,979	1,805	2,492	1,524
Dec 19 (r)	35,796	413	59	2,698	150	241	2,294	4,969	1,795	2,510	1,532
Mar 20 (p) ²	35,832	376	64	2,708	154	234	2,283	4,969	1,792	2,532	1,563
Change on quarter	35	-37	5	10	4	-7	-11	0	-3	22	30
Change %	0.1	-8.9	8.9	0.4	2.9	-2.9	-0.5	0.0	-0.1	0.9	2.0
Change on year	289	-11	4	-9	12	-7	-61	-48	9	75	55
Change %	0.8	-2.7	6.2	-0.3	8.1	-2.8	-2.6	-1.0	0.5	3.1	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 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
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	1,128	627	3,247	3,062	1,523	2,971	4,491	1,026	994	56	29,927
Dec 19 (r)	1,121	652	3,229	3,043	1,532	2,975	4,476	1,036	1,017	54	29,942
Mar 20 (p) ²	1,130	660	3,286	3,034	1,542	2,972	4,480	1,030	967	55	30,012
Change on quarter	9	8	57	-9	11	-3	4	-6	-50	1	71
Change %	0.8	1.2	1.8	-0.3	0.7	-0.1	0.1	-0.6	-4.9	1.8	0.2
Change on year	4	79	76	-2	29	9	67	4	7	-4	361
Change %	0.4	13.6	2.4	-0.1	1.9	0.3	1.5	0.4	0.7	-6.8	1.2

Workforce jobs enquiries 01633 456776

Sources: Employer surveys, Labour Force Survey and administrative sources

1. 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.

2. The employee jobs data relate to the March 2020 period before reported cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK. Self-employment jobs relate to the period February-April 2020 which includes self-employment jobs before and after COVID-19 measures were implemented.

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 Vacancies¹ by size of business

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

		Number of employees					
		All Vacancies	1-9	10-49	50-249	250-2499	2500+
		AP2Y	ALY5	ALY6	ALY7	ALY8	ALY9
Levels							
May-Jul 2018		838	132	119	119	173	294
May-Jul 2019	(r)	824	114	121	112	185	291
Jun-Aug 2019		818	112	121	111	184	290
Jul-Sept 2019		820	121	122	105	182	290
Aug-Oct 2019		803	113	119	102	178	290
Sept-Nov 2019		797	110	118	101	178	291
Oct-Dec 2019		801	110	119	103	180	290
Nov-Jan 2020		807	112	121	108	176	290
Dec-Feb 2020		818	118	121	113	171	295
Jan-Mar 2020		796	112	110	109	167	298
Feb-Apr 2020	(r)	644	83	79	90	135	257
Mar-May 2020	(r)	478	63	53	64	100	198
Apr-Jun 2020	(r)	337	46	34	43	67	146
May-Jul 2020	(p)	370	67	50	48	66	140
Change on quarter	*	-274	-17	-29	-42	-70	-116
Change %	*	-42.5	-19.9	-37.0	-46.4	-51.6	-45.4
Change on year		-453	-47	-71	-64	-119	-151
Change %		-55.0	-41.5	-58.9	-57.1	-64.5	-51.9

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				
Apr-Jun 2018		836	1,362	1.6
Apr-Jun 2019		830	1,329	1.6
Jul-Sep 2019		820	1,306	1.6
Oct-Dec 2019		801	1,290	1.6
Jan-Mar 2020		796	1,348	1.7
Apr-Jun 2020	(r)	337	1,338	4.0
Change on quarter		-460	-10	2.3
Change %		-57.7	-0.7	
Change on year		-494	9	2.4
Change %		-59.5	0.7	

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)										
May-Jul 2018	838	1	60	4	4	26	131	41	93	48
May-Jul 2019 (r)	824	2	54	3	4	25	134	38	93	42
Jun-Aug 2019	818	2	54	3	4	24	128	35	95	42
Jul-Sept 2019	820	2	52	3	3	25	131	33	97	44
Aug-Oct 2019	803	2	51	3	3	24	128	32	92	43
Sept-Nov 2019	797	1	50	3	4	26	131	33	88	41
Oct-Dec 2019	801	2	52	3	4	26	130	35	86	40
Nov-Jan 2020	807	2	55	3	4	26	129	36	87	42
Dec-Feb 2020	818	2	56	3	3	28	133	35	90	43
Jan-Mar 2020	796	1	52	3	4	27	131	35	86	43
Feb-Apr 2020 (r)	644	1	42	3	4	21	100	28	55	32
Mar-May 2020 (r)	478	1	33	2	3	13	66	19	27	22
Apr-Jun 2020 (r)	337	1	26	2	2	7	39	10	8	13
May-Jul 2020 (p)	370	0	27	2	2	11	43	13	18	16
Change on quarter *	-274	-1	-14	-1	-1	-10	-57	-15	-37	-16
Change % *	-42.5	-66.7	-34.2	-20.0	-40.0	-47.4	-57.0	-53.8	-67.9	-50.3
Change on year	-453	-1	-27	-1	-2	-14	-91	-25	-75	-27
Change %	-55.0	-75.0	-49.4	-29.4	-52.3	-55.8	-67.9	-66.1	-80.9	-62.6
	AP2Z	JPA2	JPA3	JPA4	JPA5	JPA6	JPA7	JPA8	JPA9	JPB2
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs										
May-Jul 2018	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.0	1.8	2.8	2.8	4.1	3.7
May-Jul 2019 (r)	2.7	3.1	2.1	2.5	1.9	1.7	2.9	2.5	4.0	3.2
Jun-Aug 2019	2.7	3.1	2.2	2.4	1.7	1.6	2.8	2.3	4.1	3.2
Jul-Sept 2019	2.7	3.1	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.7	2.8	2.2	4.1	3.3
Aug-Oct 2019	2.6	2.9	2.0	2.3	1.5	1.7	2.8	2.1	3.9	3.2
Sept-Nov 2019	2.6	2.7	2.0	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.2	3.8	3.1
Oct-Dec 2019	2.6	2.9	2.1	2.3	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.3	3.7	3.0
Nov-Jan 2020	2.6	3.1	2.2	2.2	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.4	3.7	3.2
Dec-Feb 2020	2.7	2.9	2.2	2.3	1.4	1.9	2.9	2.4	3.9	3.2
Jan-Mar 2020	2.6	2.7	2.1	2.4	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.3	3.7	3.2
Feb-Apr 2020 (r)	2.1	2.3	1.7	2.2	1.5	1.4	2.2	1.8	2.4	2.4
Mar-May 2020 (r)	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.8	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.7
Apr-Jun 2020 (r)	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4	1.0
May-Jul 2020 (p)	1.2	0.8	1.1	1.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.2
Change on quarter *	-0.9	-1.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7	-1.2	-1.0	-1.6	-1.2
Change on year	-1.5	-2.3	-1.1	-0.7	-1.0	-1.0	-2.0	-1.7	-3.2	-2.0

SIC 2007 sections	Financial & insurance activities	Real estate activities ²	Professional scientific & technical activities	Administrative & support service activities	Public admin & defence; compulsory social security	Education	Human health & social work activities	Arts, entertainment & recreation	Other service activities	Total services
	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	G-S
	JP9Q	JP9R	JP9S	JP9T	JP9U	JP9V	JP9W	JP9X	JP9Y	JP9Z
Levels (thousands)										
May-Jul 2018	39	11	72	57	21	50	134	21	27	743
May-Jul 2019 (r)	34	11	80	48	22	52	139	23	19	735
Jun-Aug 2019	33	11	80	52	23	51	139	23	19	731
Jul-Sept 2019	32	10	84	54	22	49	139	20	20	734
Aug-Oct 2019	31	12	83	54	23	48	138	17	19	720
Sept-Nov 2019	31	11	79	52	23	51	138	16	19	714
Oct-Dec 2019	32	12	77	55	24	51	138	18	19	716
Nov-Jan 2020	31	11	75	53	22	53	137	22	19	717
Dec-Feb 2020	31	13	77	54	22	51	137	22	18	726
Jan-Mar 2020	29	14	72	51	22	50	136	23	17	709
Feb-Apr 2020 (r)	26	12	57	43	21	42	128	15	14	573
Mar-May 2020 (r)	22	9	43	37	18	32	113	10	9	426
Apr-Jun 2020 (r)	18	4	29	29	16	22	101	2	5	297
May-Jul 2020 (p)	17	4	33	30	17	23	103	3	6	326
Change on quarter *	-9	-8	-24	-13	-4	-20	-25	-12	-8	-248
Change % *	-35.4	-65.9	-41.7	-29.9	-16.8	-46.4	-19.4	-80.5	-58.8	-43.2
Change on year	-17	-7	-46	-18	-5	-30	-36	-20	-13	-410
Change %	-50.1	-62.2	-58.2	-37.0	-22.8	-56.8	-25.8	-87.3	-70.2	-55.7
	JPB3	JPB4	JPB5	JPB6	JPB7	JPB8	JPB9	JPC2	JPC3	JPC4
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs										
May-Jul 2018	3.7	2.1	2.8	2.1	1.6	1.9	3.3	2.8	4.4	2.9
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	3.2	2.1	3.0	1.9	1.7	1.9	3.4	3.1	3.0	2.8
Jul-Sept 2019	3.0	1.9	3.1	2.0	1.7	1.9	3.4	2.7	3.1	2.8
Aug-Oct 2019	3.0	2.2	3.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	3.4	2.3	2.9	2.7
Sept-Nov 2019	2.9	2.1	2.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	3.4	2.2	2.9	2.7
Oct-Dec 2019	3.0	2.3	2.9	2.1	1.8	1.9	3.4	2.4	2.9	2.7
Nov-Jan 2020	3.0	2.1	2.8	2.0	1.6	2.0	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.7
Dec-Feb 2020	2.9	2.5	2.9	2.0	1.6	1.9	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.8
Jan-Mar 2020	2.8	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.7	1.9	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.7
Feb-Apr 2020 (r)	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.6	3.1	2.0	2.1	2.2
Mar-May 2020 (r)	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.2	2.8	1.3	1.4	1.6
Apr-Jun 2020 (r)	1.7	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.8	2.5	0.3	0.8	1.1
May-Jul 2020 (p)	1.6	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.8	2.5	0.4	0.9	1.2
Change on quarter *	-0.9	-1.5	-0.9	-0.5	-0.3	-0.7	-0.6	-1.6	-1.2	-0.9
Change on year	-1.6	-1.3	-1.7	-0.7	-0.4	-1.1	-0.9	-2.7	-2.0	-1.6

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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