

Statistical bulletin

Vacancies and jobs in the UK: March 2024

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](#)
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2 . Main points

- The estimated number of vacancies in December 2023 to February 2024 was 908,000, a decrease of 43,000 from September to November 2023.
- Vacancy numbers fell on the quarter for the 20th consecutive period in December 2023 to February 2024, down by 4.5% from September to November 2023, with the estimated number of vacancies falling in 14 of the 18 industry sectors.
- Total estimated vacancies in December 2023 to February 2024 were down by 224,000 from the level of a year previously, although they remained 107,000 above their pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) January to March 2020 levels.
- The number of unemployed people per vacancy in November 2023 to January 2024 was 1.5, up from 1.4 the previous quarter (August to October 2023), as the number of vacancies continue to fall.
- The total workforce jobs estimate rose in December 2023 by 125,000 on the quarter to 36.9 million, with increases in both employee jobs and self-employment jobs.

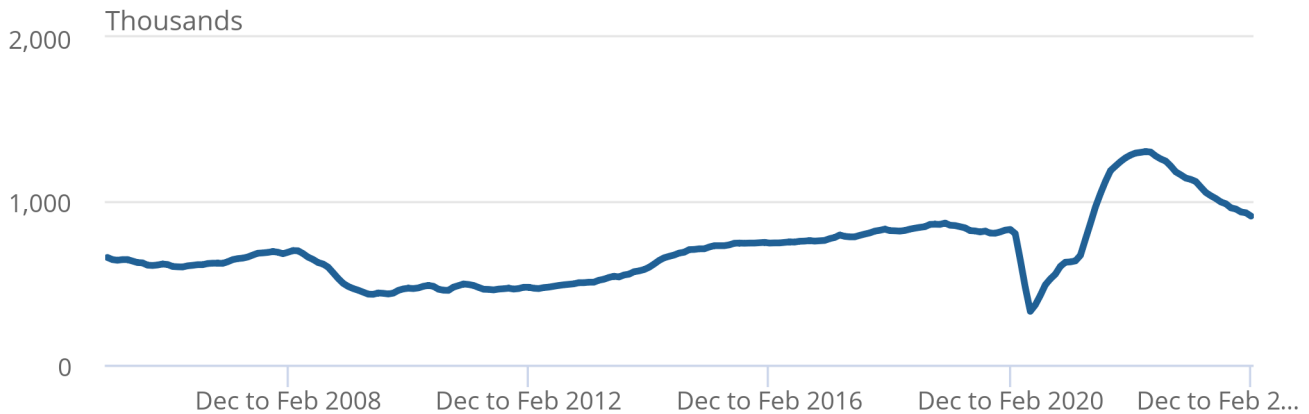
3 . Vacancies for December 2023 to February 2024

Figure 1: The estimated number of vacancies fell on the quarter to 908,000

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2004 to February 2005 to December 2023 to February 2024

Figure 1: The estimated number of vacancies fell on the quarter to 908,000

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, December 2004 to February 2005 to December 2023 to February 2024



Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

The series of quarterly falls in vacancy numbers continued in December 2023 to February 2024, falling for the 20th consecutive period. This is the longest sequence of quarterly falls since the data series began in 2001, and has seen the total number of vacancies decline by an estimated 391,000 since April to June 2022.

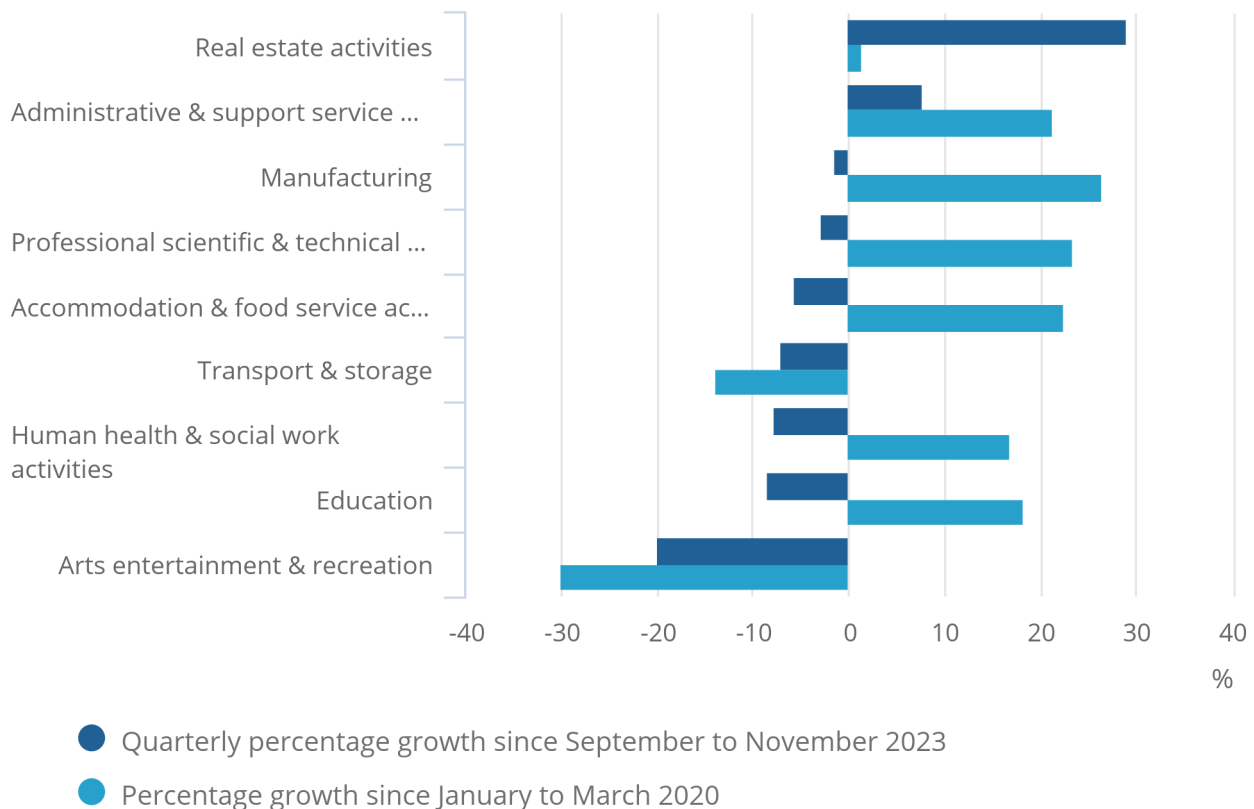
The headline vacancy estimates are based on three-month averages, which naturally involve some time lag. Insights into trends in February 2024 are provided by two alternative data sources: single-month vacancy estimates [Dataset X06](#) (see [Strengths and limitations](#)), and Adzuna [Online job advert estimates](#) (official statistics in development).

Figure 2: Most industry sectors showed declining numbers of vacancies on the quarter in December 2023 to February 2024

December 2023 to February 2024 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from September to November 2023 and percentage growth from pre-coronavirus January to March 2020

Figure 2: Most industry sectors showed declining numbers of vacancies on the quarter in December 2023 to February 2024

December 2023 to February 2024 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from September to November 2023 and percentage growth from pre-coronavirus 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 19.8%, followed by other service activities, which fell by 10.8%.

In December 2023 to February 2024, the estimated number of vacancies fell on the quarter by 43,000 to 908,000. The industry showing the largest fall in vacancy numbers was human health and social work activities, which was down by 13,000 from the previous quarter.

When comparing December 2023 to February 2024 with the same time the previous year, total vacancies decreased by 224,000 (19.8%), with falls in 16 of the 18 industry sectors. The industry that decreased the most was human health and social work activities, where the estimated number of vacancies fell by 47,000.

The total estimated number of vacancies remains 107,000 above January to March 2020 pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) levels, with human health and social work activities showing the largest increase, at 23,000. Four industry sectors fell below pre-coronavirus levels with a combined fall of 21,000 vacancies.

The number of unemployed people to every vacancy rose to 1.5 in November 2023 to January 2024, from 1.4 the previous quarter; this slight easing in labour demand follows continuous falls in the number of vacancies.

Figure 3: In the latest period all employee size bands decreased on the quarter

December 2023 to February 2024 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from September to November 2023 and percentage growth from pre-coronavirus January to March 2020

Figure 3: In the latest period all employee size bands decreased on the quarter

December 2023 to February 2024 three-month average vacancies in the UK, quarterly percentage growth from September to November 2023 and percentage growth from pre-coronavirus January to March 2020



Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

Every size band showed declining numbers of vacancies from the previous quarter, with the smallest size band declining the most at 11.9%.

4 . Jobs for December 2023

Workforce jobs estimates are provided from various sources. Those of employee jobs in the private sector are drawn from surveys relating to a reference date of 15 December 2023, whereas those of self-employment jobs are drawn from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which covers a three-month period from the start of November 2023 to January 2024. This is outlined in [Section 7: Measuring the data](#).

In this publication, workforce jobs incorporated the reweighted LFS data from September 2022 onwards. The reweighting exercise creates a discontinuity in total workforce jobs and self-employment jobs between June 2022 and September 2022 where there will be a step change. These LFS estimates are [official statistics in development](#). Total workforce job and self-employment job comparisons are to be avoided from before September 2022.

An issue has been detected in the weighting of the Labour Force Survey for Northern Ireland for the November 2023 to January 2024 quarter only. While only Northern Ireland data are affected, as a consequence we are not able to publish regional Workforce Jobs figures as part of the March 2024 release. Publication of the UK data is not affected.

We intend to publish full regional data as part of the next scheduled WFJ release.

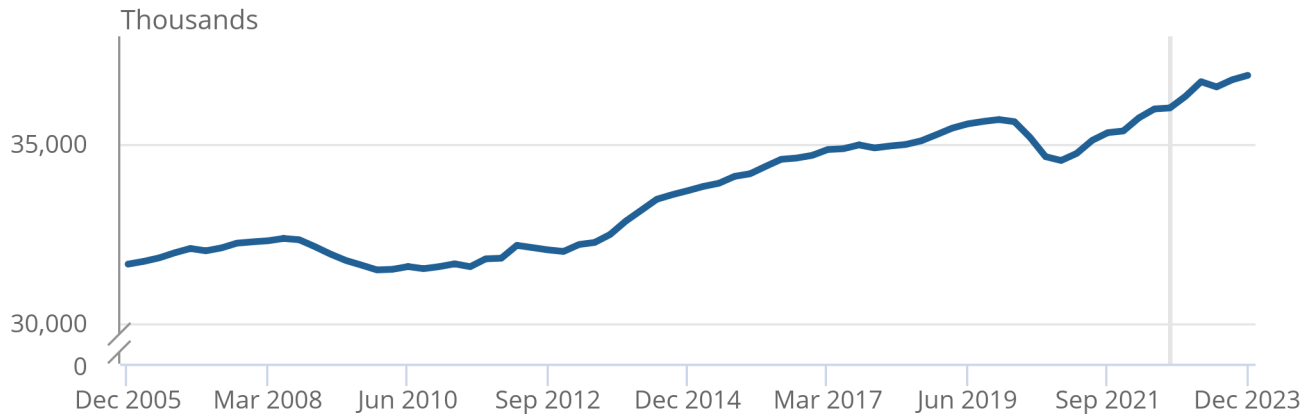
Figure 4: The total number of jobs in December 2023 increased on the quarter to 36.9 million

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

Figure 4: The total number of jobs in December 2023 increased on the quarter to 36.9 million

September 20:
See note 1

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



Source: Workforce jobs from the Office for National Statistics

Notes:

1. The reweighting exercise creates a discontinuity in total workforce jobs and self-employment jobs between June 2022 and September 2022 where there will be a step change.

Estimates of workforce jobs for December 2023 are shown in Figure 4. In December 2023, UK workforce jobs increased to 36.9 million. This is a rise of 125,000 since September 2023, with increases in employee jobs and self-employment jobs of 74,000 and 51,000, respectively.

The increase seen in workforce jobs is because employee jobs have risen every quarter since December 2020, resulting in a record high of nearly 32.6 million, and are 1.8 million above their December 2019 pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) level. This level of growth has not been seen in the self-employment component of workforce jobs.

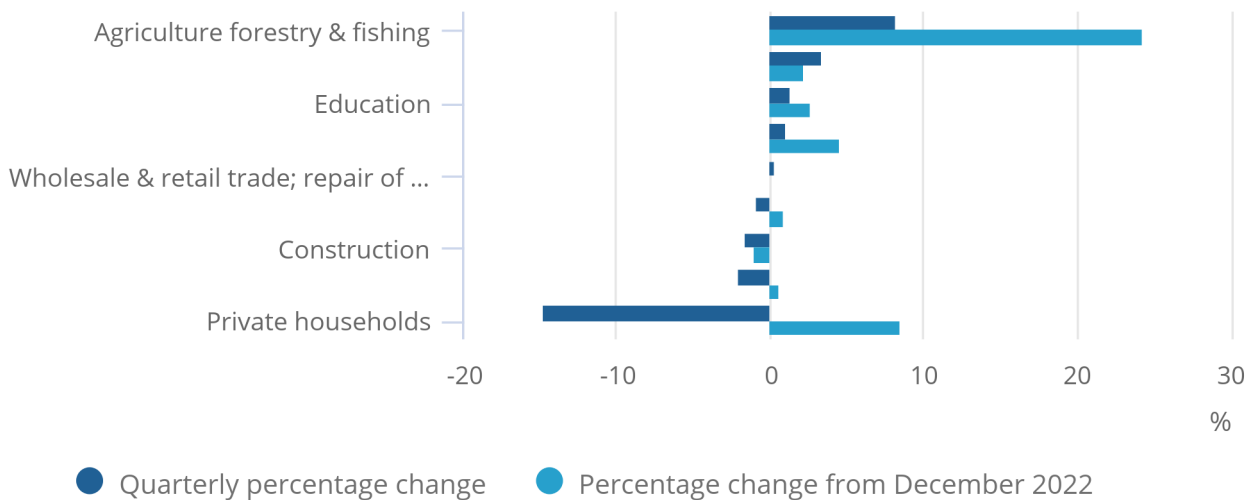
Comparing with the equivalent period the previous year, workforce jobs are up by 586,000, with employee jobs up by 615,000, self-employment jobs up by 7,000, while government-supported trainees and HM Forces are showing a combined fall of 35,000. The growth in the employee jobs component of workforce jobs, in the 12 months up to December 2023, is also reflected in the number of employees on payroll reported in the [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, seasonally adjusted dataset](#), which have also been on an upward trend over the same period.

Figure 5: In December 2023 quarterly growth varied across industries

December 2023 workforce jobs, UK, seasonally adjusted quarterly growth and annual growth

Figure 5: In December 2023 quarterly growth varied across industries

December 2023 workforce jobs, UK, seasonally adjusted quarterly growth and annual growth



Source: Workforce jobs from the Office for National Statistics

Annually, growth in the workforce jobs estimates has varied, with 5 of the 20 industry sectors below December 2022 levels. The hardest hit sector, administrative and support service activities, saw the largest fall in job numbers, at 32,000. However, most industries showed increases, with the largest from human health and social work activities, which was up by 213,000.

On the quarter, the number of workforce jobs increased in 10 of the 20 industry sectors from September 2023, contributing to an increase of 125,000 in the total workforce jobs estimate. The largest increases came from transport and storage, up by 63,000, and human health and social work, which was up by 48,000. The largest decrease was in professional, scientific and technical activities, which was down by 69,000.

5 . Vacancies and jobs data

[Vacancies by industry](#)

Dataset VACS02 | Released 12 March 2024

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

[Workforce jobs summary](#)

Dataset JOBS01 | Released 12 March 2024

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 March 2024

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

[X06: Single month vacancies estimates \(not designated as National Statistics\)](#)

Dataset X06 | Released 12 March 2024

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

Important note

We have reintroduced the reweighted Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates into our workforce jobs estimates in this publication. The LFS estimates feeding into workforce jobs via employee jobs, self-employment jobs and government-supported trainees have been reweighted for periods from September 2022. LFS headline seasonally adjusted series prior to this have also been revised based on the recent reweighted estimates. However, it has not been possible to incorporate these revisions into workforce jobs so there is a discontinuity before September 2022. These LFS estimates are [official statistics in development](#). For more information see our article [Impact of reweighting on Labour Force Survey key indicators](#).

The next vacancies and jobs bulletin (16 April 2024) will include revisions of estimates of vacancies back to the start of the data series in 2001. Revisions will result from a review of the seasonal adjustment parameters and from taking on updated sources of additional information. This is an annual process, as outlined in our [Vacancy Survey Quality and Methodology Information \(QMI\)](#).

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.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Read more about how labour market data sources are affected by the coronavirus pandemic in our [Coronavirus and the effects on UK labour market statistics article](#).

For a comparison of our labour market data sources and the main differences, read our [Comparison of labour market data sources 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](#) release.

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 \(BRES\)](#).

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 coronavirus (COVID-19) social distancing measures.

For more information on how jobs data are measured, please see the the Measuring the Data section in our [previous release](#).

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](#).

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	Sampling variability of estimate 1
	Estimate for Dec 2023	
A Agriculture, forestry & fishing	458	±61
B Mining & quarrying	53	±4
C Manufacturing	2,599	±42
D Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply	121	±9
E Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities	262	±13
F Construction	2,207	±78
G Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	4,815	±67
H Transport & storage	1,952	±53
I Accommodation & food service activities	2,776	±66
J Information & communication	1,659	±61
K Financial & insurance activities	1,181	±52
L Real estate activities	695	±46
M Professional scientific & technical activities	3,377	±92
N Administrative & support service activities	3,101	±72
O Public admin & defence; compulsory social security	1,695	±21
P Education	3,074	±50
Q Human health & social work activities	4,895	±68
R Arts, entertainment & recreation	1,046	±56
S/T Other service activities/Private Households	1,006	±55
All jobs	36,973	±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).

[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: March 2024](#)

Bulletin | Released 12 March 2024

Monthly estimates of paid employees and their pay from HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) data. These are official statistics in development.

10 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 12 March 2024, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Vacancies and jobs in the UK: March 2024](#)

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 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

	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 21	35,354	31,164	4,000	159	31
Mar 22	35,720	31,408	4,102	158	53
Jun 22	35,970	31,632	4,142	157	39
Sep 22 (r) ²	35,998	31,724	4,071	156	47
Dec 22 (r)	36,323	31,961	4,140	154	67
Mar 23 (r)	36,731	32,262	4,243	153	73
Jun 23 (r)	36,586	32,324	4,064	150	47
Sep 23 (r)	36,785	32,502	4,096	150	37
Dec 23 (p)	36,909	32,576	4,147	150	37
Change on quarter	125	74	51	0	0
Change %	0.3	0.2	1.2	0.2	0.0
Change on year	586	615	7	-4	-31
Change %	1.6	1.9	0.2	-2.8	-45.5

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	United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted										
	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 21	35,354	351	51	2,548	140	232	2,231	4,759	1,825	2,497	1,571
Mar 22	35,720	353	52	2,607	130	240	2,263	4,793	1,827	2,550	1,580
Jun 22	35,970	375	51	2,615	131	238	2,261	4,750	1,842	2,594	1,611
Sep 22 (r) ²	35,998	371	52	2,617	124	240	2,202	4,746	1,879	2,669	1,624
Dec 22 (r)	36,323	368	54	2,630	119	247	2,219	4,742	1,897	2,759	1,635
Mar 23 (r)	36,731	377	59	2,620	116	264	2,255	4,759	1,916	2,754	1,677
Jun 23 (r)	36,586	363	52	2,583	119	267	2,251	4,694	1,873	2,810	1,671
Sep 23 (r)	36,785	422	54	2,608	116	265	2,243	4,730	1,875	2,807	1,621
Dec 23 (p)	36,909	457	53	2,602	121	262	2,207	4,744	1,938	2,785	1,668
Change on quarter	125	35	-1	-6	5	-3	-35	14	63	-22	47
Change %	0.3	8.2	-2.0	-0.2	4.5	-1.0	-1.6	0.3	3.4	-0.8	2.9
Change on year	586	90	-1	-28	3	15	-12	2	41	26	33
Change %	1.6	24.3	-1.2	-1.1	2.2	6.1	-0.5	0.0	2.2	0.9	2.0

SIC 2007 sections	United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted										
	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
Dec 21	1,145	621	3,214	3,029	1,618	2,977	4,589	991	910	54	29,800
Mar 22	1,117	634	3,279	3,073	1,638	3,021	4,614	988	911	52	30,077
Jun 22	1,096	656	3,269	3,140	1,633	3,062	4,631	1,024	939	54	30,299
Sep 22 (r) ²	1,090	665	3,275	3,120	1,636	3,012	4,648	1,023	950	55	30,392
Dec 22 (r)	1,126	682	3,358	3,122	1,645	2,995	4,685	1,015	972	52	30,686
Mar 23 (r)	1,153	706	3,433	3,131	1,665	3,025	4,777	1,024	970	51	31,041
Jun 23 (r)	1,151	683	3,365	3,183	1,679	3,028	4,795	1,036	927	56	30,951
Sep 23 (r)	1,147	688	3,446	3,122	1,680	3,030	4,850	1,058	956	66	31,076
Dec 23 (p)	1,182	693	3,377	3,091	1,695	3,074	4,898	1,056	951	56	31,206
Change on quarter	35	4	-69	-32	15	43	48	-1	-6	-10	130
Change %	3.0	0.6	-2.0	-1.0	0.9	1.4	1.0	-0.1	-0.6	-14.7	0.4
Change on year	55	10	19	-32	49	78	213	42	-21	4	520
Change %	4.9	1.5	0.6	-1.0	3.0	2.6	4.5	4.1	-2.2	8.5	1.7

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. Data for September 2022 onwards, for workforce jobs, self-employment jobs, government supported trainees and in SIC 2007 divisions 01 and 97-98 of employee jobs, has been affected by the reweighting of the LFS, causing a step change discontinuity.

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

	All Vacancies ¹	Number of employees				
		1-9	10-49	50-249	250-2499	2500+
		ALY5	ALY6	ALY7	ALY8	ALY9
	AP2Y					
Levels						
Dec-Feb 2022	1281	193	203	183	290	413
Dec-Feb 2023 (r)	1132	166	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	994	163	143	138	212	339
Jul-Sep 2023	983	155	143	141	210	334
Aug-Oct 2023	958	145	138	140	209	326
Sep-Nov 2023 (r)	951	144	140	139	209	319
Oct-Dec 2023 (r)	933	144	137	136	202	314
Nov-Jan 2024 (r)	928	138	139	136	200	314
Dec-Feb 2024 (p)	908	127	139	132	197	313
Change on quarter *	-43	-17	-1	-7	-12	-6
Change % *	-4.5	-11.9	-0.6	-4.9	-5.7	-1.8
Change on year	-224	-38	-32	-24	-56	-74
Change %	-19.8	-23.2	-18.5	-15.3	-22.2	-19.0

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			
Nov-Jan 2022	1,264	1,399	1.1
Nov-Jan 2023	1,140	1,314	1.2
Feb-Apr 2023	1,085	1,353	1.2
May-Jul 2023	1,015	1,496	1.5
Aug-Oct 2023	958	1,367	1.4
Nov-Jan 2024 (r)	928	1,359	1.5
Change on quarter	-30	-8	0.0
Change %	-3.1	-0.6	
Change on year	-213	44	0.3
Change %	-18.6	3.4	

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)										
Dec-Feb 2022	1281	2	98	5	8	49	167	57	161	77
Dec-Feb 2023 (r)	1132	2	78	5	7	39	151	48	143	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	994	2	70	6	7	36	134	39	119	46
Jul-Sep 2023	983	2	72	6	7	34	137	40	119	45
Aug-Oct 2023	958	2	71	5	6	35	132	36	116	42
Sep-Nov 2023 (r)	951	2	67	5	6	36	130	34	115	43
Oct-Dec 2023 (r)	933	2	66	5	6	37	125	31	111	42
Nov-Jan 2024 (r)	928	2	67	5	7	36	125	32	108	44
Dec-Feb 2024 (p)	908	2	66	5	6	36	123	32	109	42
Change on quarter *	-43	0	-1	0	0	0	-7	-2	-7	-1
Change % *	-4.5	-10.5	-1.5	0.0	0.0	-0.6	-5.1	-7.1	-5.7	-2.3
Change on year	-224	0	-12	0	-1	-3	-28	-17	-35	-10
Change %	-19.8	0.0	-15.1	-5.7	-7.2	-8.7	-18.6	-34.9	-24.1	-18.7
	AP2Z	JPA2	JPA3	JPA4	JPA5	JPA6	JPA7	JPA8	JPA9	JPB2
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs										
Dec-Feb 2022	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.1	3.7	3.5	6.6	5.3
Dec-Feb 2023 (r)	3.6	3.6	3.2	4.1	3.0	2.5	3.3	3.0	5.9	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	3.1	3.8	2.8	4.7	3.0	2.3	3.0	2.4	4.9	3.2
Jul-Sep 2023	3.1	4.3	2.9	4.4	2.8	2.2	3.0	2.4	4.9	3.1
Aug-Oct 2023	3.0	4.1	2.9	4.1	2.6	2.2	2.9	2.2	4.8	2.9
Sep-Nov 2023 (r)	3.0	4.1	2.7	3.8	2.8	2.3	2.9	2.1	4.7	2.9
Oct-Dec 2023 (r)	3.0	3.6	2.7	3.7	2.5	2.4	2.8	1.9	4.6	2.9
Nov-Jan 2024 (r)	2.9	3.8	2.8	3.7	2.9	2.3	2.8	2.0	4.5	3.0
Dec-Feb 2024 (p)	2.9	3.6	2.7	3.8	2.8	2.3	2.7	1.9	4.5	2.9
Change on quarter *	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1
Change on year	-0.7	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-1.0	-1.4	-0.7
	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	G-S
SIC 2007 sections	JP9Q	JP9R	JP9S	JP9T	JP9U	JP9V	JP9W	JP9X	JP9Y	JP9Z
Levels (thousands)										
Dec-Feb 2022	50	16	124	89	34	75	212	32	25	1119
Dec-Feb 2023 (r)	47	11	113	71	40	74	206	28	20	1003
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	36	12	94	57	38	67	181	26	24	873
Jul-Sep 2023	35	10	92	55	37	66	178	26	23	863
Aug-Oct 2023	35	9	90	57	37	66	178	21	22	839
Sep-Nov 2023 (r)	35	11	91	59	39	65	172	19	20	833
Oct-Dec 2023 (r)	36	12	92	62	38	63	168	18	19	816
Nov-Jan 2024 (r)	33	13	91	62	37	62	165	18	19	809
Dec-Feb 2024 (p)	34	14	89	64	36	59	159	15	18	793
Change on quarter *	-2	3	-3	5	-3	-6	-13	-4	-2	-41
Change % *	-4.2	29.1	-2.7	7.7	-7.8	-8.5	-7.7	-19.8	-10.8	-4.9
Change on year	-13	3	-24	-7	-4	-15	-47	-13	-2	-210
Change %	-27.7	25.7	-21.3	-9.3	-9.8	-19.8	-22.9	-45.8	-7.6	-20.9
	JPB3	JPB4	JPB5	JPB6	JPB7	JPB8	JPB9	JPC2	JPC3	JPC4
Vacancies per 100 employee jobs										
Dec-Feb 2022	4.5	2.7	4.3	3.2	2.4	2.8	4.9	4.3	4.1	4.1
Dec-Feb 2023 (r)	4.2	2.0	3.9	2.6	2.8	2.7	4.8	3.8	3.2	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	3.3	2.1	3.3	2.1	2.7	2.5	4.2	3.5	4.0	3.2
Jul-Sep 2023	3.2	1.8	3.2	2.0	2.6	2.4	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.2
Aug-Oct 2023	3.1	1.6	3.2	2.1	2.6	2.4	4.1	2.8	3.5	3.1
Sep-Nov 2023 (r)	3.2	1.9	3.2	2.2	2.7	2.4	4.0	2.6	3.3	3.1
Oct-Dec 2023 (r)	3.2	2.1	3.2	2.3	2.6	2.3	3.9	2.4	3.1	3.0
Nov-Jan 2024 (r)	3.0	2.3	3.2	2.3	2.6	2.3	3.8	2.5	3.0	3.0
Dec-Feb 2024 (p)	3.1	2.5	3.1	2.3	2.5	2.2	3.7	2.1	3.0	2.9
Change on quarter *	-0.1	0.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.1
Change on year	-1.2	0.5	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-1.1	-1.8	-0.2	-0.8

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.

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