

Statistical bulletin

# Vacancies and jobs in the UK: February 2026

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

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## Table of contents

1. [Other pages in this release](#)
2. [Main points](#)
3. [Vacancies for November 2025 to January 2026](#)
4. [Jobs for September 2025](#)
5. [Data on vacancies and jobs](#)
6. [Glossary](#)
7. [Data sources and quality](#)
8. [Related links](#)
9. [Cite this statistical bulletin](#)

# 1 . Other pages in this release

- [Labour market overview, UK](#)
- [Average weekly earnings in Great Britain](#)
- [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK](#)
- [Employment in the UK](#)

# 2 . Main points

- The estimated number of vacancies in the UK has remained broadly flat across recent periods; early estimates in November 2025 to January 2026 suggest a small increase of 2,000 (0.3%) to 726,000, compared with August to October 2025.
- Total estimated vacancies were down by 73,000 (9.2%) in November 2025 to January 2026 from the level of a year ago, decreasing in 14 of the 18 industry sectors.
- There were 2.6 unemployed people per vacancy in October to December 2025; this is up from 2.5 in the previous quarter (July to September 2025) and up from 1.9 in October to December 2024.

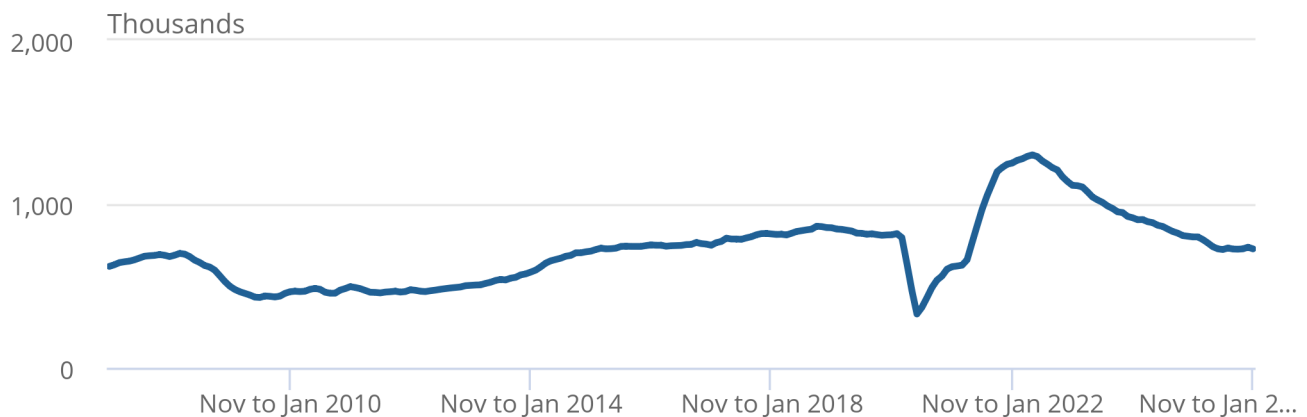
### 3 . Vacancies for November 2025 to January 2026

**Figure 1: The estimated number of vacancies has been broadly flat across recent periods, after 39 consecutive quarterly declines since April to June 2022**

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, November 2006 to January 2007, to November 2025 to January 2026

Figure 1: The estimated number of vacancies has been broadly flat across recent periods, after 39 consecutive quarterly declines since April to June 2022

Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, November 2006 to January 2007, to November 2025 to January 2026



**Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics**

The early estimate of the number of vacancies in the UK increased by 2,000 (0.3%) to 726,000 in November 2025 to January 2026, compared with August to October 2025. Though there was a small increase, estimates have remained broadly flat across recent periods and the change remains within our confidence interval for estimates of approximately plus or minus 32,000 vacancies (see [Section 7: Data sources and quality](#)).

On the year, vacancies have decreased by 73,000 (9.2%). Total estimated vacancies are now 69,000 (8.7%) below their pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic January to March 2020 level.

The headline vacancy estimates are based on three-month averages, which naturally involve some time lag. We provided insights into trends in January 2026 in our [Dataset X06: Single month vacancies estimates](#) (see [Section 7: Data sources and quality](#)). We advise caution when comparing data sources because the single-month data are not seasonally adjusted.

The unemployment-to-vacancy ratio is a measure of labour market tightness. It shows how many unemployed people there are for each available unfilled job. An increase in the unemployment-to-vacancy ratio implies that the labour market is less tight, as there are more available workers to fill those vacant jobs.

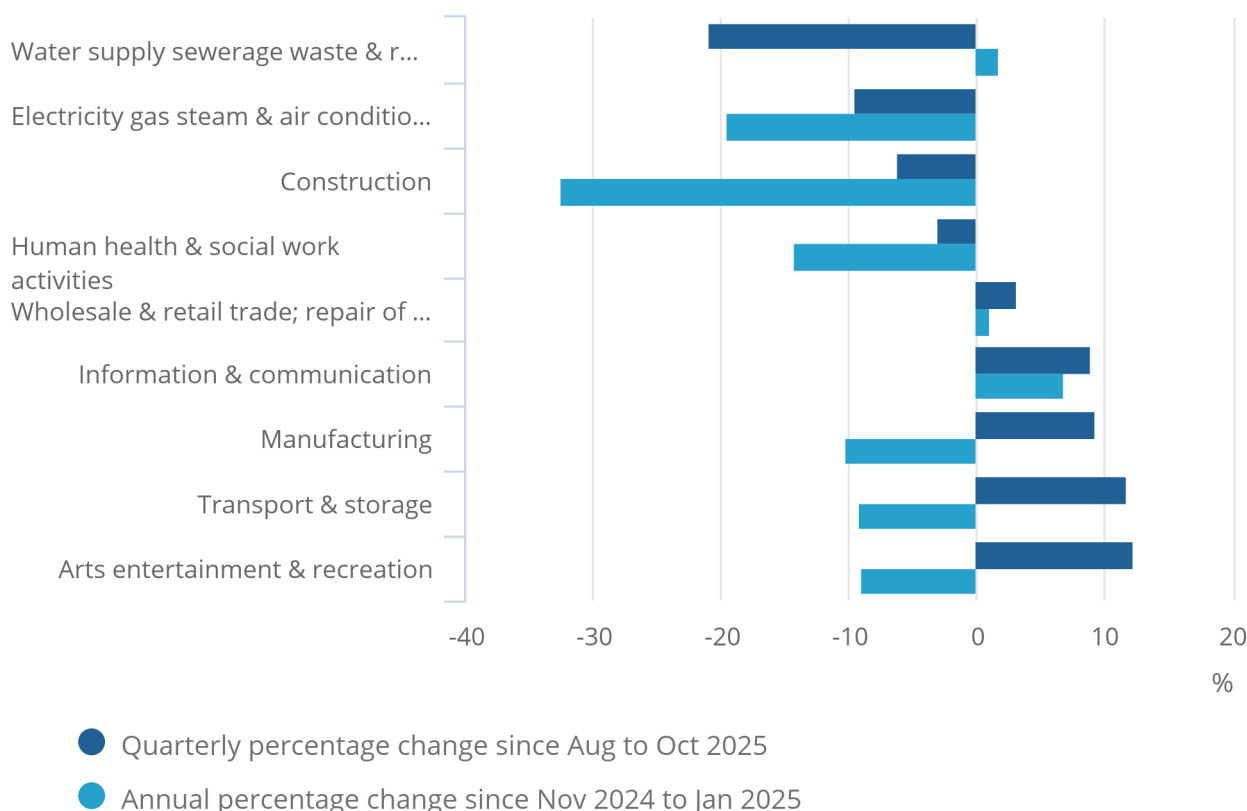
There were 2.6 unemployed people per vacancy in October to December 2025. This is up from 2.5 in the previous quarter (July to September 2025), and up from 1.9 in the same period a year ago. The last time the number of unemployed people per vacancy was 2.6 or more (excluding the pandemic period) was in November 2014 to January 2015.

## Figure 2: Quarterly growth increased in 7 of the 18 industry sectors in November 2025 to January 2026

Three-month average vacancies from November 2025 to January 2026, quarterly percentage growth from August to October 2025, and annual percentage growth from November 2024 to January 2025, UK

### Figure 2: Quarterly growth increased in 7 of the 18 industry sectors in November 2025 to January 2026

Three-month average vacancies from November 2025 to January 2026, quarterly percentage growth from August to October 2025, and annual percentage growth from November 2024 to January 2025, UK



Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

#### Notes:

1. This chart only displays 9 of the 18 industry sectors. Full breakdowns for all industry sectors are available in our [Vacancies by industry dataset](#).

The estimated total number of vacancies increased by 2,000 (0.3%) in November 2025 to January 2026 compared with August to October 2025, rising in 7 of the 18 industry sectors. The industry with the largest percentage increase in vacancies was in the arts, entertainment and recreation sector, which grew by 12.3%. The industries with the largest volume increase in vacancies was the manufacturing sector and the transport and storage sector, both increasing by 4,000 vacancies.

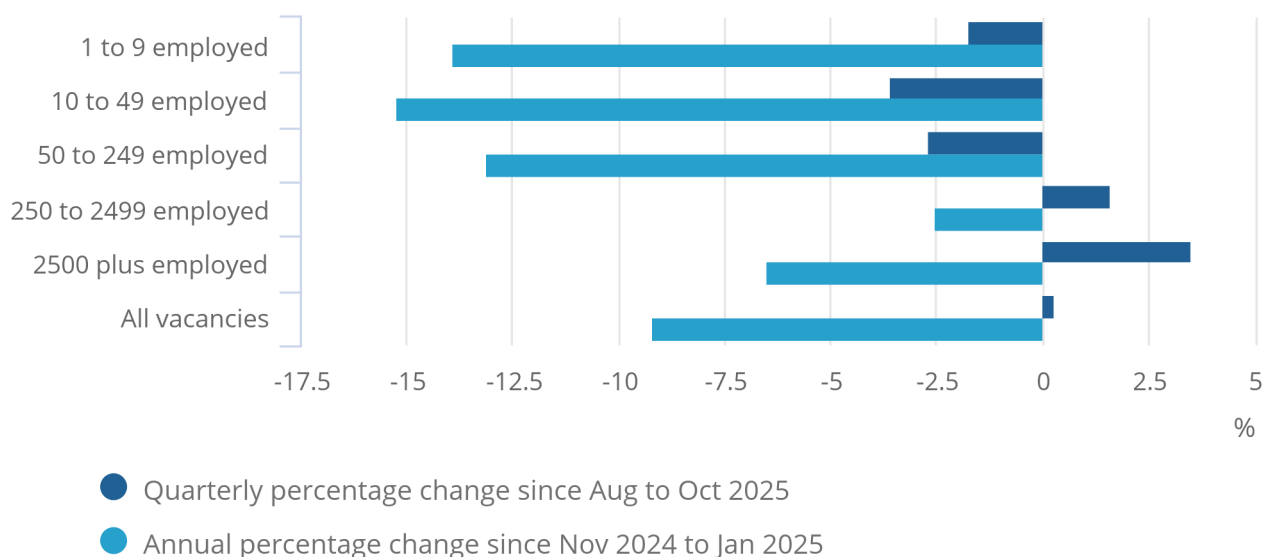
Total vacancies decreased by 73,000 (9.2%) in November 2025 to January 2026 compared with the same period a year ago. There were declines in 14 of the 18 industry sectors. The industries with the largest percentage decrease in vacancies were construction (down 32.4%), and mining and quarrying (down 26.7%).

**Figure 3: Quarterly growth increased in the larger size bands in November 2025 to January 2026**

Three-month average vacancies from November 2025 to January 2026, quarterly percentage growth from August to October 2025, and annual percentage growth from November 2024 to January 2025, UK

**Figure 3: Quarterly growth increased in the larger size bands in November 2025 to January 2026**

Three-month average vacancies from November 2025 to January 2026, quarterly percentage growth from August to October 2025, and annual percentage growth from November 2024 to January 2025, UK



Source: Vacancy Survey from the Office for National Statistics

Two of the five industry size bands saw increases in the number of vacancies on the quarter. The largest quarterly increase in vacancies was in businesses with 2,500 or more employees, which was up 8,000 (3.5%) vacancies.

The number of vacancies decreased over the year in all industry size bands. The largest decrease in vacancies was for businesses with 1 to 9 employees and 10 to 49 employees, which both decreased by 18,000 vacancies.

## 4 . Jobs for September 2025

Our workforce jobs (WFJ) estimates are published every three months. Our latest estimates for September 2025 were published in December 2025. WFJ estimates are provided from various sources, which are outlined in [Section 7: Data sources and quality](#).

In December of each year, regular adjustments are made to WFJ estimates to improve quality and coherence with other Office for National Statistics (ONS) business surveys, resulting in revisions to the series. Adjustments include:

- benchmarking the short-term employee jobs series to the latest estimates from the annual Business Register and Employment Survey
- incorporating revisions to Public Sector Employment estimates, Northern Ireland employee jobs estimates, government-supported trainees (GSTs) administrative data, and Short-Term Employment Surveys estimates
- changes to seasonal parameters following a seasonal adjustment review

More information can be found in our [Revisions to workforce jobs, UK: December 2025 bulletin](#).

The estimated number of WFJ decreased on the quarter to 36.6 million in the UK in September 2025. This is a quarterly fall of 116,000 (0.3%) since June 2025. The quarterly decrease was largely caused by a decrease of 120,000 (2.9%) in self-employment jobs. There was also a fall of 15,000 (0.0%) in employee jobs. However, there were small increases of 18,000 (51.7%) in GSTs and 1,000 (0.6%) in HM Forces jobs.

The estimated number of WFJ was down by 115,000 (0.3%) in September 2025 compared with a year ago. This is caused by a decrease of 201,000 (4.7%) in the self-employment jobs component. The other components are all up on the year, with employee jobs up 75,000 (0.2%), HM Forces up 1,000 (0.4%), and GSTs up 10,000 (24.5%).

The number of WFJ decreased in 9 of the 20 industry sectors on the quarter. The industry with the largest volume decrease on the quarter was administrative and support service activities, which fell by 36,000 (1.2%) since June 2025. The industry with the largest percentage decrease on the quarter was other service activities, which fell by 27,000 (2.8%).

Half of all industries saw a decrease in WFJ on the year. The industry with the largest annual decrease in WFJ was wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, which was down 94,000 (2.0%) between September 2024 and September 2025. The industry with the largest percentage decrease on the year was financial and insurance activities, which fell by 41,000 (3.6%).

## 5 . Data on vacancies and jobs

### [Vacancies by industry](#)

Dataset VACS02 | Released 17 February 2026

Vacancies by industry (Standard Industrial Classification 2007)

### [Workforce jobs summary](#)

Dataset JOBS01 | Released 16 December 2025

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 December 2025

Workforce jobs by industry, employee jobs by industry and self-employment jobs by industry. UK, published quarterly.

### [X06: Single month vacancies estimates](#)

Dataset X06 | Released 17 February 2026

Vacancies by industry and size of business, UK, single month, not seasonally adjusted. Vacancy Survey. These are official statistics in development.

## 6 . Glossary

## 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 bulletins](#). For more information, see Section 10: Jobs in our [Guide to labour market statistics methodology](#).

## Vacancies

Vacancies are positions for which employers are actively seeking recruits from outside of their business or organisation. The estimates are based on our Vacancy Survey, 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). For more information, see Section 11: Vacancies in our [Guide to labour market statistics methodology](#).

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

# 7 . Data sources and quality

## Accredited official statistics

These [accredited official statistics](#) were independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation in April 2022. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and should be labelled "accredited official statistics".

## Upcoming data collection changes in workforce jobs

Currently, employee job data for the private sector is collected through three surveys: the Monthly Business Survey (MBS), Quarterly Business Survey (QBS), and Construction Survey (CON).

To improve and streamline processes, the data collection platform for these surveys has been upgraded and will go live during Quarter 4 2025. Alongside this, employment questions will be consolidated into a single questionnaire under QBS and will be removed from MBS and CON from December 2025. Businesses previously sampled only in MBS or CON will move into an expanded QBS sample of about 38,000 businesses.

The core QBS methodology remains unchanged, but the sample will be larger and unified. Forced inclusions (large businesses that must be included) will only apply where required for QBS. There will be an overlap of around 50% between the old and new samples in December 2025, with full overlap for forced inclusions to ensure a smooth transition. Normal QBS rotation will also resume from March 2026.

We do not expect any impact from the platform upgrade itself. However, adding more new businesses could affect response rates and data linkage. To reduce this risk, we will work closely with survey teams to support onboarding and prioritise follow-up where needed.

The first set of data following this implementation will be published in March 2026. We aim to share more detailed analysis alongside the release and will also update our [Workforce Jobs quality and methodology information \(QMI\)](#) with the relevant information.

## Discontinuities in workforce jobs

Read more about discontinuities in workforce jobs in Section 7: Data sources and quality of our [Vacancies and jobs in the UK: November 2025 bulletin](#).

## Rounding and revisions

Published data accompanying this release are presented as rounded figures. All changes presented in this bulletin are calculated from unrounded estimates. Therefore, users may calculate slightly different changes when using our accompanying data tables.

In December of each year, regular adjustments are made to workforce jobs (WFJ) estimates to improve quality and coherence with other Office for National Statistics (ONS) business surveys, resulting in revisions to the series. Adjustments include benchmarking the short-term employee jobs series to the latest estimates from the annual Business Register and Employment Survey, incorporating revisions to Public Sector Employment estimates, Northern Ireland employee jobs estimates, government-supported trainees (GSTs) administrative data, and Short-Term Employment Surveys estimates, and changes to seasonal parameters following a seasonal adjustment review. More information can be found in our [Revisions to workforce jobs, UK: December 2025 article](#) and our [Labour market statistics revisions policy \(PDF, 36.7KB\)](#).

## 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 the 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, we will 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](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk).

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

Read more about how labour market data sources are affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) 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.

Estimates of vacancies are obtained from our Vacancy Survey, a survey of employers.

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 \(LFS\)](#).

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

## Response Rates

The Vacancy Survey response rate was 78.3% in January 2026.

The combined response rate across the Short-Term Employment Surveys was 76.3% in September 2025.

## 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 September 2025 (1) | Sampling variability of estimate (2) |
| A Agriculture, forestry & fishing                                    | 380                             | ±46                                  |
| B Mining & quarrying   | 51                              | ±4                                   |
| C Manufacturing  | 2,511                           | ±40                                  |
| D Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply                  | 143                             | ±12                                  |
| E Water supply, sewerage, waste & remediation activities             | 240                             | ±8                                   |
| F Construction   | 2,235                           | ±61                                  |
| G Wholesale & retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 4,628                           | ±63                                  |
| H Transport & storage  | 1,904                           | ±48                                  |
| I Accommodation & food service activities                            | 2,604                           | ±61                                  |
| J Information & communication  | 1,602                           | ±58                                  |
| K Financial & insurance activities                                   | 1,110                           | ±37                                  |
| L Real estate activities   | 718                             | ±42                                  |
| M Professional scientific & technical activities                     | 3,471                           | ±71                                  |
| N Administrative & support service activities                        | 2,952                           | ±61                                  |
| O Public admin & defence; compulsory social security                 | 1,764                           | ±16                                  |
| P Education  | 3,115                           | ±42                                  |
| Q Human health & social work activities                              | 5,028                           | ±65                                  |
| R Arts, entertainment & recreation                                   | 1,085                           | ±45                                  |
| <b>S/T</b> Other service activities/Private Households               | 1,015                           | ±56                                  |
| All jobs   | 36,557                          | ±209                                 |

Source: Workforce jobs from the Office for National Statistics

### Notes

1. The estimates for September 2025 are seasonally adjusted.
2. The sampling variability estimates are for 95% confidence intervals and are calculated on data for June 2025 that are not seasonally adjusted.

Further information is available in Section 8: Strengths and limitations of our [Vacancies and jobs in the UK: April 2021 bulletin](#).

## 8 . Related links

### [Employees in Great Britain](#)

Related data | Released 28 October 2025

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, UK: December 2025](#)

Article | Released 16 December 2025

Impact of regular annual adjustments to workforce jobs estimates, published in our Vacancies and jobs in the UK bulletin.

### [Labour demand volumes by Standard Occupation Classification \(SOC 2020\), UK](#)

Dataset | Released 23 December 2025

These tables contain the number of online job adverts split by local authority and occupation (SOC 2020).

## 9 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS), released 17 February 2026, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Vacancies and jobs in the UK: February 2026](#).

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

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

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

The following symbols are used in the tables: p provisional, r revised, .. Not available,\* suppressed due to small sample size.

The four-character identification codes appearing in the tables are the ONS references for the data series appearing in the Labour Market Statistics dataset which is available on the website at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/labourmarketstatistics>

# EMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

## 5 Workforce jobs

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

|                   | Workforce jobs | Employee jobs | Self-employment jobs <sup>1</sup> | HM Forces  | Government-supported trainees <sup>1</sup> |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|
|                   | 1              | 2             | 3                                 | 4          | 5  |
|                   | DYDC           | BCAJ          | DYZN                              | LOJX       | LOJU                                       |
| Sep 23 (r)        | 36,372         | 32,078        | 4,106                             | 151        | 38   |
| Dec 23 (r)        | 36,470         | 32,144        | 4,137                             | 151        | 38   |
| Mar 24 (r)        | 36,711         | 32,203        | 4,329                             | 148        | 31   |
| Jun 24 (r)        | 36,635         | 32,216        | 4,236                             | 149        | 34   |
| Sep 24 (r)        | 36,672         | 32,216        | 4,266                             | 148        | 42   |
| Dec 24 (r)        | 36,829         | 32,348        | 4,279                             | 147        | 55   |
| Mar 25 (r)        | 36,931         | 32,388        | 4,342                             | 148        | 53   |
| Jun 25 (r)        | 36,673         | 32,306        | 4,186                             | 147        | 34   |
| <b>Sep 25 (p)</b> | <b>36,557</b>  | <b>32,291</b> | <b>4,066</b>                      | <b>148</b> | <b>52</b>                                  |
| Change on quarter | -116           | -15           | -120                              | 1          | 18   |
| Change %          | -0.3           | 0.0           | -2.9                              | 0.6        | 51.7                                       |
| Change on year    | -115           | 75            | -201                              | 1          | 10   |
| Change %          | -0.3           | 0.2           | -4.7                              | 0.4        | 24.5                                       |

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                         | Agriculture, forestry & fishing | Mining & quarrying                             | Manufacturing                               | Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply               | 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 |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
|                   | A-T                              | A                               | B  | C   | D   | E  | F                                     | G   | H                        | I                                       | J                           |
|                   | DYDC                             | JWR5                            | JWR6   | JWR7  | JWR8  | JWR9   | JWS2                                  | JWS3  | JWS4                     | JWS5                                    | JWS6                        |
| Sep 23 (r)        | 36,372                           | 375                             | 51   | 2,598                                       | 126   | 242  | 2,248                                 | 4,760   | 1,848                    | 2,670                                   | 1,585                       |
| Dec 23 (r)        | 36,470                           | 401                             | 52   | 2,583                                       | 131   | 239  | 2,230                                 | 4,779   | 1,899                    | 2,632                                   | 1,628                       |
| Mar 24 (r)        | 36,711                           | 371                             | 51   | 2,567                                       | 133   | 244  | 2,265                                 | 4,761   | 1,906                    | 2,634                                   | 1,622                       |
| Jun 24 (r)        | 36,635                           | 350                             | 54   | 2,555                                       | 136   | 241  | 2,203                                 | 4,751   | 1,896                    | 2,616                                   | 1,625                       |
| Sep 24 (r)        | 36,672                           | 355                             | 52   | 2,557                                       | 142   | 242  | 2,285                                 | 4,722   | 1,898                    | 2,628                                   | 1,657                       |
| Dec 24 (r)        | 36,829                           | 358                             | 54   | 2,576                                       | 142   | 247  | 2,295                                 | 4,713   | 1,919                    | 2,618                                   | 1,668                       |
| Mar 25 (r)        | 36,931                           | 348                             | 57   | 2,563                                       | 143   | 245  | 2,313                                 | 4,715   | 1,911                    | 2,591                                   | 1,635                       |
| Jun 25 (r)        | 36,673                           | 358                             | 50   | 2,524                                       | 146   | 240  | 2,268                                 | 4,657   | 1,904                    | 2,629                                   | 1,600                       |
| <b>Sep 25 (p)</b> | <b>36,557</b>                    | <b>380</b>                      | <b>51</b>                                      | <b>2,511</b>                                | <b>143</b>  | <b>240</b>   | <b>2,235</b>                          | <b>4,628</b>  | <b>1,904</b>             | <b>2,604</b>                            | <b>1,602</b>                |
| Change on quarter | -116                             | 23                              | 0  | -13   | -3  | 0  | -33                                   | -29   | 1                        | -25                                     | 2                           |
| Change %          | -0.3                             | 6.4                             | 0.2  | -0.5  | -1.8  | 0.1  | -1.4                                  | -0.6  | 0.0                      | -0.9                                    | 0.1                         |
| Change on year    | -115                             | 25                              | -2   | -46   | 1   | -1   | -50                                   | -94   | 7                        | -25                                     | -56                         |
| Change %          | -0.3                             | 7.2                             | -3.4   | -1.8  | 0.7   | -0.5   | -2.2                                  | -2.0  | 0.4                      | -0.9                                    | -3.4                        |
| SIC 2007 sections | Financial & insurance activities | Real estate activities          | Professional scientific & technical activities | Administrative & support service activities | Public admin & defence; compulsory social security <sup>2</sup> | Education  | Human health & social work activities | Arts, entertainment & recreation                                    | Other service activities | People employed by households, etc.     | Total services              |
|                   | K                                | L                               | M  | N   | O   | P  | Q                                     | R   | S                        | T                                       | G-T                         |
|                   | JWS7                             | JWS8                            | JWS9   | JWT2  | JWT3  | JWT4   | JWT5                                  | JWT6  | JWT7                     | KW78                                    | JWT8                        |
| Sep 23 (r)        | 1,129                            | 697                             | 3,456  | 3,016                                       | 1,677   | 3,023  | 4,826                                 | 1,074   | 906                      | 66                                      | 30,733                      |
| Dec 23 (r)        | 1,155                            | 697                             | 3,388  | 3,011                                       | 1,690   | 3,069  | 4,864                                 | 1,068   | 902                      | 53                                      | 30,835                      |
| Mar 24 (r)        | 1,143                            | 698                             | 3,467  | 2,994                                       | 1,705   | 3,076  | 4,939                                 | 1,088   | 976                      | 70                                      | 31,079                      |
| Jun 24 (r)        | 1,147                            | 710                             | 3,481  | 3,008                                       | 1,721   | 3,089  | 5,002                                 | 1,070   | 937                      | 64                                      | 31,095                      |
| Sep 24 (r)        | 1,151                            | 689                             | 3,503  | 2,984                                       | 1,724   | 3,075  | 4,987                                 | 1,038   | 943                      | 38                                      | 31,039                      |
| Dec 24 (r)        | 1,176                            | 719                             | 3,484  | 2,995                                       | 1,733   | 3,054  | 5,001                                 | 1,056   | 974                      | 47                                      | 31,158                      |
| Mar 25 (r)        | 1,141                            | 727                             | 3,469  | 3,017                                       | 1,742   | 3,118  | 5,066                                 | 1,080   | 992                      | 61                                      | 31,263                      |
| Jun 25 (r)        | 1,139                            | 703                             | 3,453  | 2,987                                       | 1,757   | 3,113  | 5,048                                 | 1,058   | 983                      | 56                                      | 31,088                      |
| <b>Sep 25 (p)</b> | <b>1,110</b>                     | <b>718</b>                      | <b>3,471</b>                                   | <b>2,952</b>                                | <b>1,764</b>  | <b>3,115</b>   | <b>5,028</b>                          | <b>1,085</b>  | <b>956</b>               | <b>59</b>                               | <b>30,996</b>               |
| Change on quarter | -29                              | 15                              | 18   | -36   | 6   | 3  | -20                                   | 26  | -27                      | 3                                       | -91                         |
| Change %          | -2.6                             | 2.1                             | 0.5  | -1.2  | 0.4   | 0.1  | -0.4                                  | 2.5   | -2.8                     | 6.1                                     | -0.3                        |
| Change on year    | -41                              | 29                              | -32  | -33   | 39  | 41   | 41                                    | 47  | 13                       | 21                                      | -42                         |
| Change %          | -3.6                             | 4.2                             | -0.9   | -1.1  | 2.3   | 1.3  | 0.8                                   | 4.5   | 1.4                      | 56.4                                    | -0.1                        |

Workforce jobs enquiries 01633 455400

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. 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.

(r) We have taken on revisions to estimates of workforce jobs this period due to a review of our seasonal adjustment parameters, benchmarking to Business Register and Employment Survey, and taking on updated sources of additional information. More information on which components and periods are impacted by these regular annual revisions can be found in [Revisions to workforce jobs, UK, December 2025](#).

# VACANCIES

## 19 Vacancies<sup>1</sup> by size of business

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

|                         | All Vacancies | Number of employees |            |            |            |            |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                         |               | 1-9                 | 10-49      | 50-249     | 250-2499   | 2500+      |
|                         |               | ALY5                | ALY6       | ALY7       | ALY8       | ALY9       |
|                         | AP2Y          |                     |            |            |            |            |
| <b>Levels</b>           |               |                     |            |            |            |            |
| Nov-Jan 2024            | 916           | 141                 | 138        | 138        | 201        | 298        |
| Nov-Jan 2025 (r)        | 799           | 132                 | 120        | 122        | 174        | 251        |
| Dec-Feb 2025            | 799           | 134                 | 122        | 120        | 174        | 249        |
| Jan-Mar 2025            | 783           | 135                 | 119        | 111        | 172        | 247        |
| Feb-Apr 2025            | 762           | 120                 | 121        | 110        | 170        | 241        |
| Mar-May 2025            | 739           | 109                 | 115        | 107        | 170        | 238        |
| Apr-Jun 2025            | 726           | 106                 | 113        | 109        | 166        | 233        |
| May-Jul 2025            | 722           | 111                 | 108        | 109        | 164        | 230        |
| Jun-Aug 2025            | 731           | 116                 | 110        | 109        | 167        | 230        |
| Jul-Sep 2025            | 725           | 113                 | 107        | 109        | 166        | 229        |
| Aug-Oct 2025 (r)        | 724           | 116                 | 105        | 109        | 167        | 227        |
| Sep-Nov 2025 (r)        | 726           | 117                 | 103        | 107        | 168        | 231        |
| Oct-Dec 2025 (r)        | 736           | 120                 | 104        | 107        | 173        | 233        |
| <b>Nov-Jan 2026 (p)</b> | <b>726</b>    | <b>114</b>          | <b>102</b> | <b>106</b> | <b>170</b> | <b>235</b> |
| Change on quarter *     | 2             | -2                  | -4         | -3         | 3          | 8          |
| Change % *              | 0.3           | -1.7                | -3.6       | -2.7       | 1.6        | 3.5        |
| Change on year          | -73           | -18                 | -18        | -16        | -4         | -16        |
| Change %                | -9.2          | -13.9               | -15.2      | -13.1      | -2.5       | -6.5       |

1. Excludes Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

Source: ONS Vacancy Survey

Vacancy Survey enquiries: [vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk](mailto:vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk), 01633 455400

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

## 20 Vacancies<sup>1</sup> and Unemployment

United Kingdom (thousands), seasonally adjusted

|                   | All Vacancies <sup>1</sup> | Unemployment <sup>2</sup> | Number of unemployed people per vacancy |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
|                   | AP2Y                       | MGSC                      | JPC5                                    |
| <b>Levels</b>     |                            |                           |   |
| Oct-Dec 2023      | 924                        | 1,339                     | 1.4                                     |
| Oct-Dec 2024      | 803                        | 1,552                     | 1.9                                     |
| Jan-Mar 2025      | 783                        | 1,614                     | 2.1                                     |
| Apr-Jun 2025      | 726                        | 1,672                     | 2.3                                     |
| Jul-Sep 2025      | 725                        | 1,789                     | 2.5                                     |
| Oct-Dec 2025 (r)  | 736                        | 1,883                     | 2.6                                     |
| Change on quarter | 11                         | 94                        | 0.1                                     |
| Change %          | 1.5                        | 5.2                       |   |
| Change on year    | -67                        | 331                       | 0.6                                     |
| Change %          | -8.4                       | 21.3                      |   |

Source: ONS Vacancy Survey/ Labour Force Survey

Vacancy Survey enquiries: [vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk](mailto:vacancy.survey@ons.gov.uk), 01633 455400

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 <sup>1</sup> | Mining & quarrying | Manufacturing | Electricity, gas, steam & air conditioning supply <sup>2</sup> | 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                        |
| <b>Levels (thousands)</b>              |                            |                    |               |  |  |              |   |                     |   |                             |
| Nov-Jan 2024                           | 916                        | 2                  | 67            | 5  | 7  | 36           | 124   | 32                  | 106                                     | 44                          |
| Nov-Jan 2025 (r)                       | 799                        | 2                  | 57            | 4  | 6  | 41           | 94  | 36                  | 84                                      | 36                          |
| Dec-Feb 2025                           | 799                        | 2                  | 56            | 4  | 6  | 43           | 98  | 35                  | 83                                      | 36                          |
| Jan-Mar 2025                           | 783                        | 1                  | 53            | 4  | 7  | 43           | 102   | 34                  | 82                                      | 35                          |
| Feb-Apr 2025                           | 762                        | 1                  | 50            | 4  | 7  | 33           | 103   | 33                  | 81                                      | 36                          |
| Mar-May 2025                           | 739                        | 1                  | 49            | 4  | 7  | 33           | 99  | 32                  | 78                                      | 35                          |
| Apr-Jun 2025                           | 726                        | 1                  | 49            | 4  | 8  | 30           | 93  | 32                  | 79                                      | 35                          |
| May-Jul 2025                           | 722                        | 1                  | 47            | 4  | 8  | 31           | 93  | 30                  | 75                                      | 34                          |
| Jun-Aug 2025                           | 731                        | 1                  | 49            | 4  | 8  | 31           | 94  | 29                  | 78                                      | 36                          |
| Jul-Sep 2025                           | 725                        | 1                  | 47            | 3  | 7  | 30           | 95  | 30                  | 74                                      | 36                          |
| Aug-Oct 2025 (r)                       | 724                        | 1                  | 47            | 3  | 8  | 30           | 92  | 30                  | 76                                      | 35                          |
| Sep-Nov 2025 (r)                       | 726                        | 1                  | 49            | 3  | 7  | 29           | 95  | 31                  | 76                                      | 34                          |
| Oct-Dec 2025 (r)                       | 736                        | 1                  | 51            | 3  | 7  | 30           | 93  | 33                  | 75                                      | 38                          |
| <b>Nov-Jan 2026 (p)</b>                | <b>726</b>                 | <b>1</b>           | <b>52</b>     | <b>3</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>28</b>    | <b>95</b>   | <b>33</b>           | <b>74</b>                               | <b>38</b>                   |
| Change on quarter *                    | 2                          | 0                  | 4             | 0  | -2   | -2           | 3   | 4                   | -3                                      | 3                           |
| Change % *                             | 0.3                        | 0.0                | 9.3           | -9.4   | -20.8  | -6.1         | 3.2   | 11.8                | -3.3                                    | 8.9                         |
| Change on year                         | -73                        | 0                  | -6            | -1   | 0  | -13          | 1   | -3                  | -10                                     | 2                           |
| Change %                               | -9.2                       | -26.7              | -10.1         | -19.4  | 1.7  | -32.4        | 1.0   | -9.1                | -12.3                                   | 6.8                         |
|  | AP2Z                       | JPA2               | JPA3          | JPA4   | JPA5   | JPA6         | JPA7  | JPA8                | JPA9                                    | JPB2                        |
| <b>Vacancies per 100 employee jobs</b> |                            |                    |               |  |  |              |   |                     |   |                             |
| Nov-Jan 2024                           | 2.9                        | 3.8                | 2.8           | 4.0  | 2.9  | 2.3          | 2.8   | 2.0                 | 4.2                                     | 3.0                         |
| Nov-Jan 2025 (r)                       | 2.5                        | 3.5                | 2.4           | 2.8  | 2.5  | 2.7          | 2.1   | 2.3                 | 3.3                                     | 2.5                         |
| Dec-Feb 2025                           | 2.5                        | 3.5                | 2.3           | 2.7  | 2.5  | 2.8          | 2.2   | 2.2                 | 3.3                                     | 2.5                         |
| Jan-Mar 2025                           | 2.4                        | 3.3                | 2.2           | 3.0  | 2.8  | 2.8          | 2.3   | 2.1                 | 3.2                                     | 2.4                         |
| Feb-Apr 2025                           | 2.4                        | 3.0                | 2.1           | 3.3  | 2.8  | 2.2          | 2.3   | 2.0                 | 3.2                                     | 2.5                         |
| Mar-May 2025                           | 2.3                        | 2.8                | 2.0           | 3.3  | 2.9  | 2.2          | 2.2   | 2.0                 | 3.1                                     | 2.5                         |
| Apr-Jun 2025                           | 2.3                        | 2.8                | 2.0           | 3.2  | 3.1  | 2.0          | 2.1   | 2.0                 | 3.1                                     | 2.4                         |
| May-Jul 2025                           | 2.2                        | 3.0                | 2.0           | 3.0  | 3.1  | 2.0          | 2.1   | 1.9                 | 2.9                                     | 2.3                         |
| Jun-Aug 2025                           | 2.3                        | 3.0                | 2.0           | 2.9  | 3.2  | 2.0          | 2.1   | 1.8                 | 3.1                                     | 2.5                         |
| Jul-Sep 2025                           | 2.3                        | 2.8                | 1.9           | 2.6  | 3.0  | 1.9          | 2.1   | 1.8                 | 2.9                                     | 2.5                         |
| Aug-Oct 2025 (r)                       | 2.3                        | 2.6                | 2.0           | 2.5  | 3.2  | 1.9          | 2.1   | 1.8                 | 3.0                                     | 2.4                         |
| Sep-Nov 2025 (r)                       | 2.3                        | 2.6                | 2.0           | 2.3  | 2.9  | 1.9          | 2.1   | 2.0                 | 3.0                                     | 2.4                         |
| Oct-Dec 2025 (r)                       | 2.3                        | 2.6                | 2.1           | 2.2  | 2.8  | 1.9          | 2.1   | 2.0                 | 2.9                                     | 2.6                         |
| <b>Nov-Jan 2026 (p)</b>                | <b>2.3</b>                 | <b>2.6</b>         | <b>2.1</b>    | <b>2.3</b>   | <b>2.5</b>   | <b>1.8</b>   | <b>2.1</b>  | <b>2.1</b>          | <b>2.9</b>                              | <b>2.6</b>                  |
| Change on quarter *                    | 0.0                        | 0.0                | 0.2           | -0.2   | -0.7   | -0.1         | 0.1   | 0.2                 | -0.1                                    | 0.2                         |
| Change on year                         | -0.2                       | -0.9               | -0.2          | -0.5   | 0.0  | -0.9         | 0.0   | -0.2                | -0.4                                    | 0.2                         |
|  | K                          | L                  | M             | N  | O  | P            | Q   | R                   | S                                       | G-S                         |
| SIC 2007 sections                      | JP9Q                       | JP9R               | JP9S          | JP9T   | JP9U   | JP9V         | JP9W  | JP9X                | JP9Y                                    | JP9Z                        |
| <b>Levels (thousands)</b>              |                            |                    |               |  |  |              |   |                     |   |                             |
| Nov-Jan 2024                           | 32                         | 13                 | 92            | 64   | 32   | 58           | 166   | 18                  | 18                                      | 799                         |
| Nov-Jan 2025 (r)                       | 34                         | 14                 | 82            | 52   | 29   | 51           | 143   | 19                  | 15                                      | 688                         |
| Dec-Feb 2025                           | 36                         | 13                 | 81            | 53   | 28   | 52           | 138   | 20                  | 16                                      | 689                         |
| Jan-Mar 2025                           | 34                         | 14                 | 79            | 52   | 28   | 48           | 135   | 18                  | 13                                      | 676                         |
| Feb-Apr 2025                           | 34                         | 13                 | 77            | 52   | 29   | 46           | 134   | 18                  | 12                                      | 667                         |
| Mar-May 2025                           | 33                         | 14                 | 74            | 49   | 28   | 44           | 134   | 16                  | 10                                      | 645                         |
| Apr-Jun 2025                           | 32                         | 13                 | 73            | 49   | 28   | 42           | 136   | 15                  | 11                                      | 636                         |
| May-Jul 2025                           | 33                         | 13                 | 74            | 50   | 29   | 45           | 131   | 15                  | 11                                      | 632                         |
| Jun-Aug 2025                           | 33                         | 12                 | 77            | 50   | 29   | 47           | 129   | 14                  | 13                                      | 639                         |
| Jul-Sep 2025                           | 33                         | 10                 | 76            | 50   | 30   | 49           | 127   | 14                  | 13                                      | 637                         |
| Aug-Oct 2025 (r)                       | 33                         | 10                 | 77            | 49   | 30   | 49           | 126   | 16                  | 13                                      | 635                         |
| Sep-Nov 2025 (r)                       | 33                         | 11                 | 76            | 48   | 30   | 50           | 122   | 17                  | 13                                      | 637                         |
| Oct-Dec 2025 (r)                       | 35                         | 11                 | 76            | 49   | 30   | 52           | 122   | 18                  | 13                                      | 644                         |
| <b>Nov-Jan 2026 (p)</b>                | <b>32</b>                  | <b>11</b>          | <b>73</b>     | <b>49</b>  | <b>29</b>  | <b>49</b>    | <b>122</b>  | <b>17</b>           | <b>12</b>                               | <b>635</b>                  |
| Change on quarter *                    | -1                         | 1                  | -3            | -1   | -1   | 1            | -4  | 2                   | -1                                      | 0                           |
| Change % *                             | -2.4                       | 10.0               | -4.2          | -1.2   | -2.7   | 1.0          | -3.0  | 12.3                | -8.3                                    | 0.0                         |
| Change on year                         | -2                         | -3                 | -9            | -4   | 1  | -2           | -20   | -2                  | -2                                      | -53                         |
| Change %                               | -5.6                       | -19.7              | -10.5         | -7.1   | 2.1  | -3.9         | -14.2   | -8.9                | -16.4                                   | -7.7                        |
|  | JPB3                       | JPB4               | JPB5          | JPB6   | JPB7   | JPB8         | JPB9  | JPC2                | JPC3                                    | JPC4                        |
| <b>Vacancies per 100 employee jobs</b> |                            |                    |               |  |  |              |   |                     |   |                             |
| Nov-Jan 2024                           | 3.0                        | 2.2                | 3.2           | 2.4  | 2.2  | 2.1          | 3.7   | 2.2                 | 2.9                                     | 2.9                         |
| Nov-Jan 2025 (r)                       | 3.1                        | 2.3                | 2.8           | 2.0  | 1.9  | 1.9          | 3.1   | 2.3                 | 2.4                                     | 2.5                         |
| Dec-Feb 2025                           | 3.2                        | 2.2                | 2.8           | 2.0  | 1.9  | 1.9          | 3.0   | 2.4                 | 2.5                                     | 2.5                         |
| Jan-Mar 2025                           | 3.1                        | 2.3                | 2.7           | 2.0  | 1.8  | 1.7          | 2.9   | 2.2                 | 2.1                                     | 2.4                         |
| Feb-Apr 2025                           | 3.0                        | 2.2                | 2.6           | 2.0  | 1.9  | 1.7          | 2.9   | 2.1                 | 1.9                                     | 2.4                         |
| Mar-May 2025                           | 3.0                        | 2.2                | 2.5           | 1.9  | 1.8  | 1.6          | 2.9   | 1.9                 | 1.5                                     | 2.3                         |
| Apr-Jun 2025                           | 2.9                        | 2.1                | 2.5           | 1.8  | 1.9  | 1.5          | 2.9   | 1.8                 | 1.7                                     | 2.3                         |
| May-Jul 2025                           | 3.0                        | 2.2                | 2.5           | 1.9  | 1.9  | 1.6          | 2.8   | 1.8                 | 1.8                                     | 2.3                         |
| Jun-Aug 2025                           | 3.0                        | 2.0                | 2.6           | 1.9  | 1.9  | 1.7          | 2.8   | 1.7                 | 2.0                                     | 2.3                         |
| Jul-Sep 2025                           | 2.9                        | 1.7                | 2.6           | 1.9  | 2.0  | 1.8          | 2.7   | 1.7                 | 2.0                                     | 2.3                         |
| Aug-Oct 2025 (r)                       | 3.0                        | 1.6                | 2.6           | 1.9  | 2.0  | 1.8          | 2.7   | 1.8                 | 2.1                                     | 2.3                         |
| Sep-Nov 2025 (r)                       | 3.0                        | 1.8                | 2.6           | 1.8  | 2.0  | 1.8          | 2.6   | 2.0                 | 2.1                                     | 2.3                         |
| Oct-Dec 2025 (r)                       | 3.1                        | 1.8                | 2.6           | 1.8  | 2.0  | 1.9          | 2.6   | 2.1                 | 2.1                                     | 2.3                         |
| <b>Nov-Jan 2026 (p)</b>                | <b>2.9</b>                 | <b>1.8</b>         | <b>2.5</b>    | <b>1.8</b>   | <b>1.9</b>   | <b>1.8</b>   | <b>2.6</b>  | <b>2.1</b>          | <b>2.0</b>                              | <b>2.3</b>                  |
| Change on quarter *                    | -0.1                       | 0.2                | -0.1          | 0.0  | -0.1   | 0.0          | -0.1  | 0.2                 | -0.2                                    | 0.0                         |
| Change on year                         | -0.2                       | -0.4               | -0.3          | -0.1   | 0.0  | -0.1         | -0.4  | -0.2                | -0.4                                    | -0.2                        |

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 455400