

Statistical bulletin

# Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: March 2026

Monthly estimates of payrolled employees and their pay from HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC's) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) data. This is a joint release between HMRC and the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

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# 1 . Main points

- Early estimates for February 2026 indicate that the number of payrolled employees was 30.3 million, a fall of 0.2% from February 2025; this is equivalent to 49,000 fewer employees.
- The largest increase was in the health and social work sector, with a rise of 42,000 employees; the largest decrease was in the wholesale and retail sector, with a fall of 49,000 employees.
- Payrolled employment increased by 20,000 employees (0.1%) in February 2026, compared with January 2026; figures for February should be treated as provisional estimates and are likely to be revised when more data are received next month.
- UK payrolled employee growth for January 2026, compared with December 2025, has been revised from a decrease of 11,000 reported in the last bulletin to an increase of 6,000; this is because of the incorporation of additional real time information (RTI) submissions into the statistics, which takes place every publication and reduces the need for imputation.
- Early estimates for February 2026 indicate that median monthly pay increased by 4.1%, compared with February 2025.
- Annual growth in median pay in February 2026 was highest in the public administration and defence sector, with an increase of 8.3%; it was lowest in the finance and insurance sector, with a decrease of 2.9%.

## About the data in this bulletin

Early estimates for February 2026 are provided to give an indication of the likely level of employees, as well as median pay in the latest period. These early estimates are, on average, based on around 85% of information being available. They are of lower quality and will be subject to revision in next month's bulletin when between 98% and 99% of data will be available. A [revisions triangle](#) is available for employees and median pay at the UK level.

Statistics in this bulletin are based on people who are employed in at least one job paid through Pay As You Earn (PAYE), and monthly estimates reflect the average of such people for each day of the calendar month. These estimates are formed using our methodology for [Monthly earnings and employment estimates](#) from our PAYE RTI data: methods, designed to align with international guidelines for labour market statistics.

## 2 . Payrolled employees

Early estimates for February 2026 indicate that there were 30.3 million payrolled employees (Figure 1), a change of 0.2%, compared with the same period of the previous year. This is a decline of 49,000 employees over the 12-month period. The number of payrolled employees increased by 0.1% in February 2026, compared with the previous month, an increase of 20,000 people.

This monthly change should be treated as provisional because it is based on an early estimate of February 2026. More information on revisions can be found in Section 9: Data sources and quality.

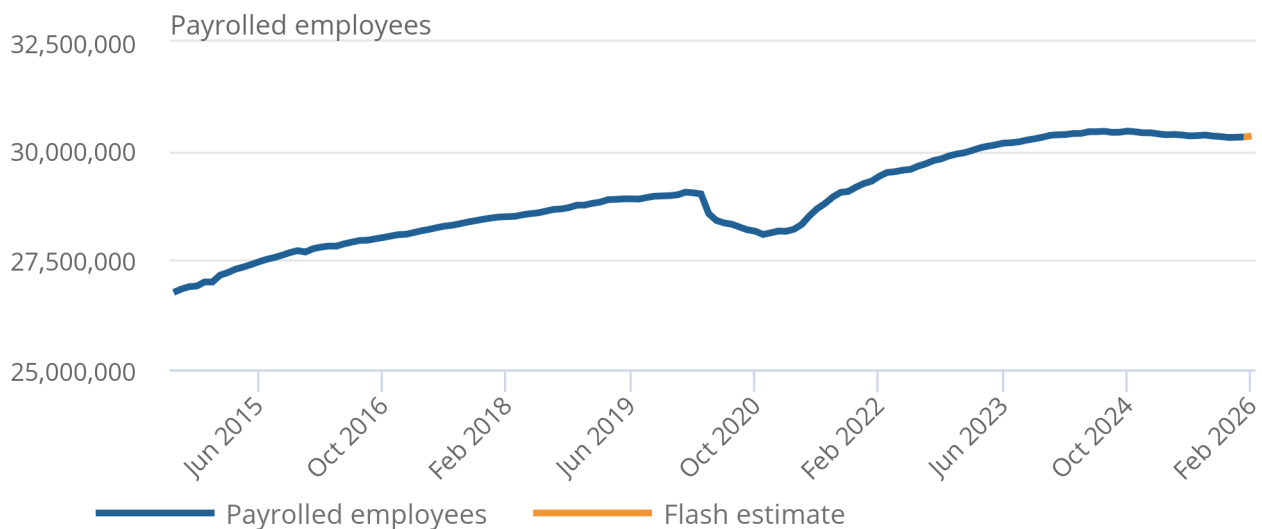
When comparing the number of payrolled employees in January 2026 with the previous month, the number showed no change at 0.0%. This has not differed from the early estimate of a 0.0% change reported in our previous [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: February 2026 bulletin](#).

**Figure 1: The number of payrolled employees has decreased from a peak in 2024**

Payrolled employees, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to February 2026

Figure 1: The number of payrolled employees has decreased from a peak in 2024

Payrolled employees, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.
2. The January 2026 figure is not a flash estimate of payrolled employees, this is included entirely for graphing purposes.

Annual growth in the number of employees remained broadly within a range of 1.0% to 1.5% from mid-2016 until 2019. Growth rates before mid-2016 were higher than 1.5% (Figure 2).

Employee growth began a slight downward trend in early 2019. However, employee growth slowed more substantially after March 2020, coinciding with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, becoming negative in April 2020. Growth rates began to recover at the start of 2021, and remained high as the labour market recovered from the effects of the pandemic.

The annual growth rate has been falling since April 2022, which was partially caused by the comparison with the increase in employee numbers from March 2021. Employee numbers were stabilised as we no longer compared against this higher baseline, but growth rates then continued to decrease throughout 2023, 2024, and 2025.

**Figure 2: The growth rate of the number of payrolled employees is negative, having decreased at a steady rate since 2022**

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to February 2026

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Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

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### 3 . Median monthly pay

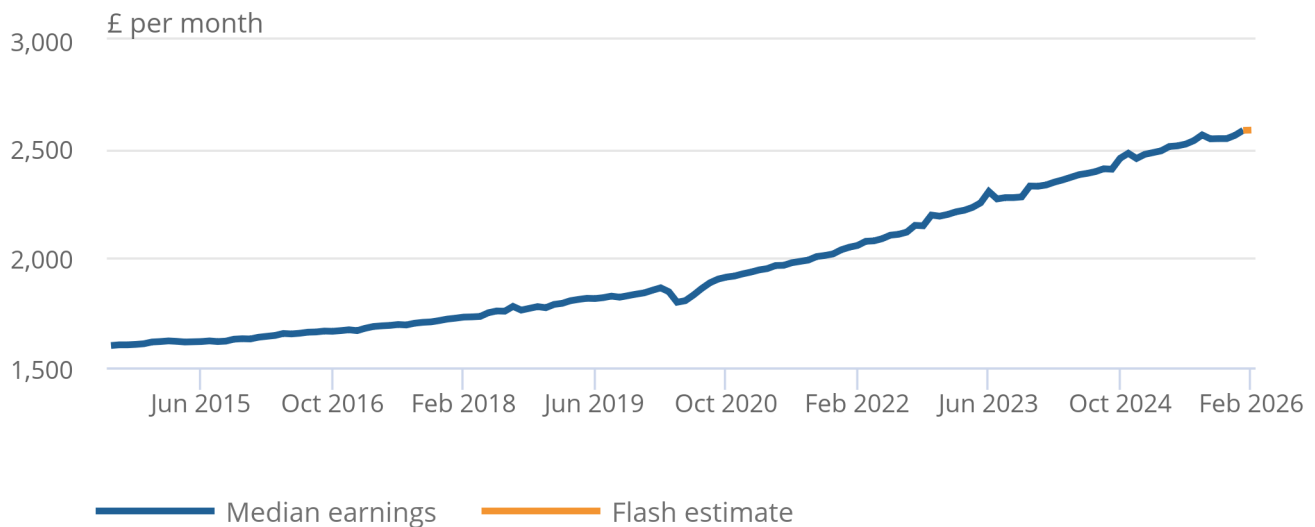
Early estimates for February 2026 indicate that median monthly pay was £2,586, an increase of 4.1% compared with the same period of the previous year.

**Figure 3: Median pay continues to increase**

Median pay per month, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to February 2026

#### Figure 3: Median pay continues to increase

Median pay per month, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

**Notes:**

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.
2. The January 2026 figure is not a flash estimate of median pay, this is included entirely for graphing purposes.

Following a general trend of increasing pay growth between mid-2015 and mid-2018, pay growth fluctuated around 3.6%, until 2020 when it became negative. This coincided with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and related economic and policy responses. Median pay growth became positive again from June 2020.

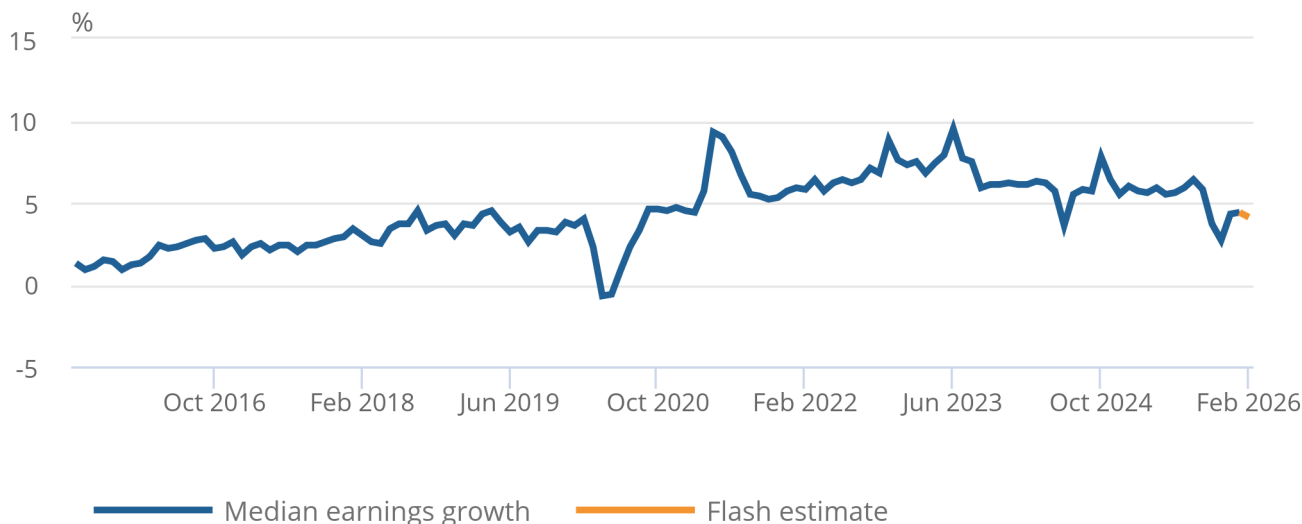
The growth rate of median pay continued to increase in line with pre-pandemic trends throughout 2022, but with increasing volatility in late 2022 and early 2023. This pace of growth slowed in late 2023 and remained close to 6.0% throughout 2024 and 2025. A series of lower median pay growth figures were observed in late 2025, likely influenced by the timing of public sector pay settlements having differed from the previous year.

**Figure 4: The rate of growth in median pay has fallen in recent months, after a period of relative stability from 2023 to 2025**

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to February 2026

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Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.
2. The January 2026 figure is not a flash estimate of median pay growth, this is included entirely for graphing purposes.

## 4 . Regional data

The regional figures in this bulletin are based on where employees live and not the location of their place of work. Figures include data for February 2026, and cover the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS): NUTS1, NUTS2, NUTS3 regions, and local administrative units (LAUs). View more information in our [International geographies](#) methodology.

The number of payrolled employees in the regions of the UK ranged from 821,000 in Northern Ireland, to 4,365,000 in London in February 2026 (Figure 5).

London and Northern Ireland experienced higher growth than the UK average between January 2017 and early 2020, while the North East and Scotland experienced lower growth than the UK overall. Employee numbers within LAUs, and NUTS1, NUTS2, and NUTS3 regions are available in our [accompanying datasets](#).

## Figure 5: Employee growth is negative in all regions except Northern Ireland

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, January 2017 to February 2026

### Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.

Comparing February 2026 with the same period of the previous year for NUTS1 regions, changes in payrolled employees ranged from a 1.4% increase in Northern Ireland, to a 0.6% decrease in London.

All NUTS1 regions experienced a reduction in annual growth figures throughout 2023 and 2024. Annual growth figures in Scotland, Wales, and the South West have shown little change in the growth rate throughout 2025, while other regions continued along previous trends.

Examining NUTS3 regions, Westminster experienced a decrease of 2.4% in payrolled employees, compared with February 2025, and Mid Ulster experienced an increase of 2.7% (Figure 6).

There is similar variation at LAU level, with growth rates varying between negative 2.4% and positive 2.7%.

## Figure 6: Growth in payrolled employees varies across the UK

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, NUTS3 level, February 2026

### Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.

Median pay across the NUTS3 regions of the UK in February 2026 ranged from £2,244 on the Isle of Wight, to £3,895 in Wandsworth (Figure 7).

Inner London differs from Outer London, with median pay ranging from £2,566 in Enfield to £3,895 in Wandsworth. Median pay in February 2026 for London was £3,025.

Median pay across the LAUs in February 2026 ranged from £2,103 in Arran and Cumbrae to £6,075 in City of London.

## Figure 7: Median pay varies across the UK

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, NUTS3 level, February 2026

### Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.

## 5 . Industry data

The industrial sectors in this bulletin are based on the [UK Standard Industrial Classification \(SIC\) codes](#), as defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). These codes have been determined from both the most recent [Inter-Departmental Business Register \(IDBR\)](#) and data from Companies House for each Pay As You Earn (PAYE) enterprise. The findings from the 14 largest sectors are presented. The seven smaller sectors have been removed from the bulletin for presentational purposes, but their estimates are available in our [accompanying datasets](#).

The three largest sectors (health and social work, wholesale and retail, and education) account for around 39% of UK employees. These three sectors combined with professional, scientific, and technical; administrative and support services; manufacturing; and accommodation and food service activities account for around 70% of UK employees.

Employee growth has not been even across sectors (Figure 8) since January 2017. Sectors such as construction, transportation and storage, and information and communication experienced higher growth than the UK average between January 2017 and early 2020. Sectors such as manufacturing, and wholesale and retail experienced lower growth than the UK overall.

All sectors highlighted experienced a decrease in employee growth around April 2020, with the smallest decrease in health and social work. Public administration and defence, and health and social work saw early recoveries in their growth rates, as did administrative and support services, and education from early 2021 onwards.

When comparing early estimates for February 2026 with the same period of the previous year, percentage changes in payrolled employees ranged from negative 2.2% in information and communication to positive 1.7% in arts, entertainment, and recreation.

### **Figure 8: Employee growth has varied across sectors**

**Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, January 2017 to February 2026**

#### **Notes:**

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.

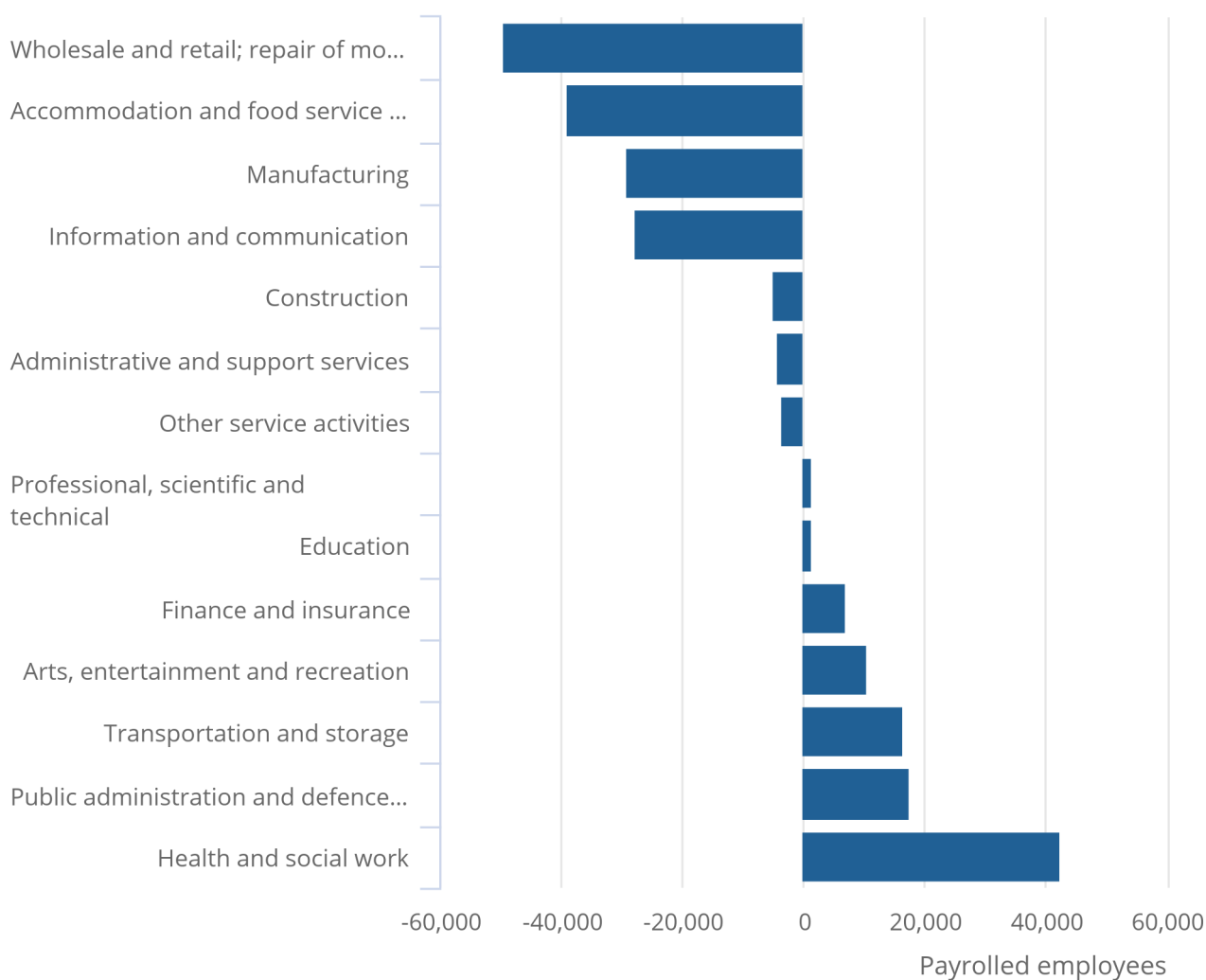
The increase in payrolled employees between February 2025 and February 2026 was largest in the health and social work sector (a rise of 42,000 employees), while the largest fall was in the wholesale and retail sector (a fall of 49,000 employees).

**Figure 9: Since February 2025, many of the sectors show a decrease in payrolled employees, while the health and social work sector has seen the greatest increase**

Payrolled employees, absolute change on February 2025, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026

Figure 9: Since February 2025, many of the sectors show a decrease in payrolled employees, while the health and social work sector has seen the greatest increase

Payrolled employees, absolute change on February 2025, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

**Notes:**

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to be subject to slightly more substantial revisions.

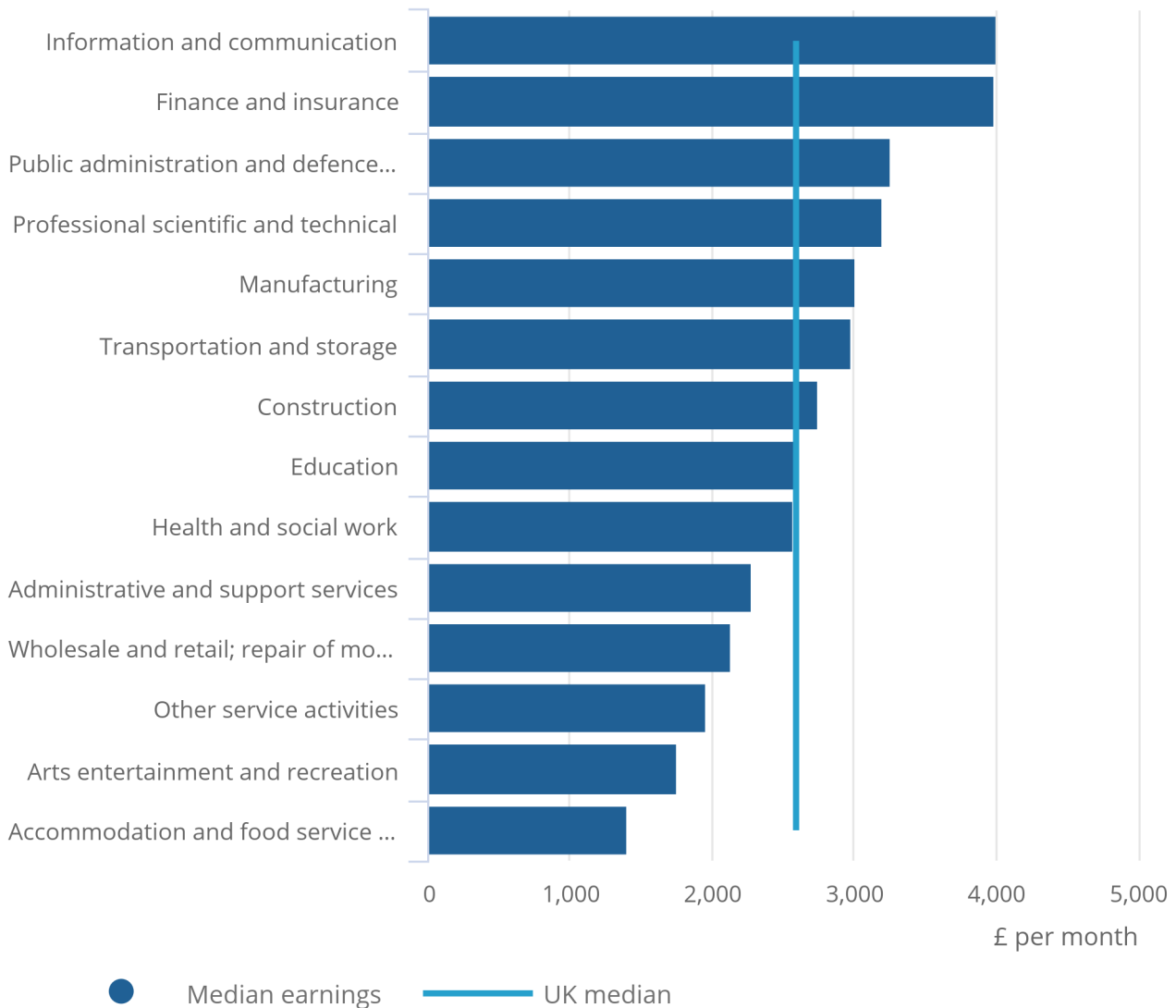
Median pay in February 2026 across the highlighted sectors ranged from £1,407 in the accommodation and food service activities sector, to £4,013 in information and communication (Figure 10).

**Figure 10: Median pay varies by industry, with the information and communication sector and the finance and insurance sector having notably higher median pay**

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026

Figure 10: Median pay varies by industry, with the information and communication sector and the finance and insurance sector having notably higher median pay

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to be subject to slightly more substantial revisions.

Compared with the same month in the previous year, median pay grew fastest in the public administration and defence sector, at positive 8.3% (Figure 11), and slowest in the finance and insurance sector, at negative 2.9%.

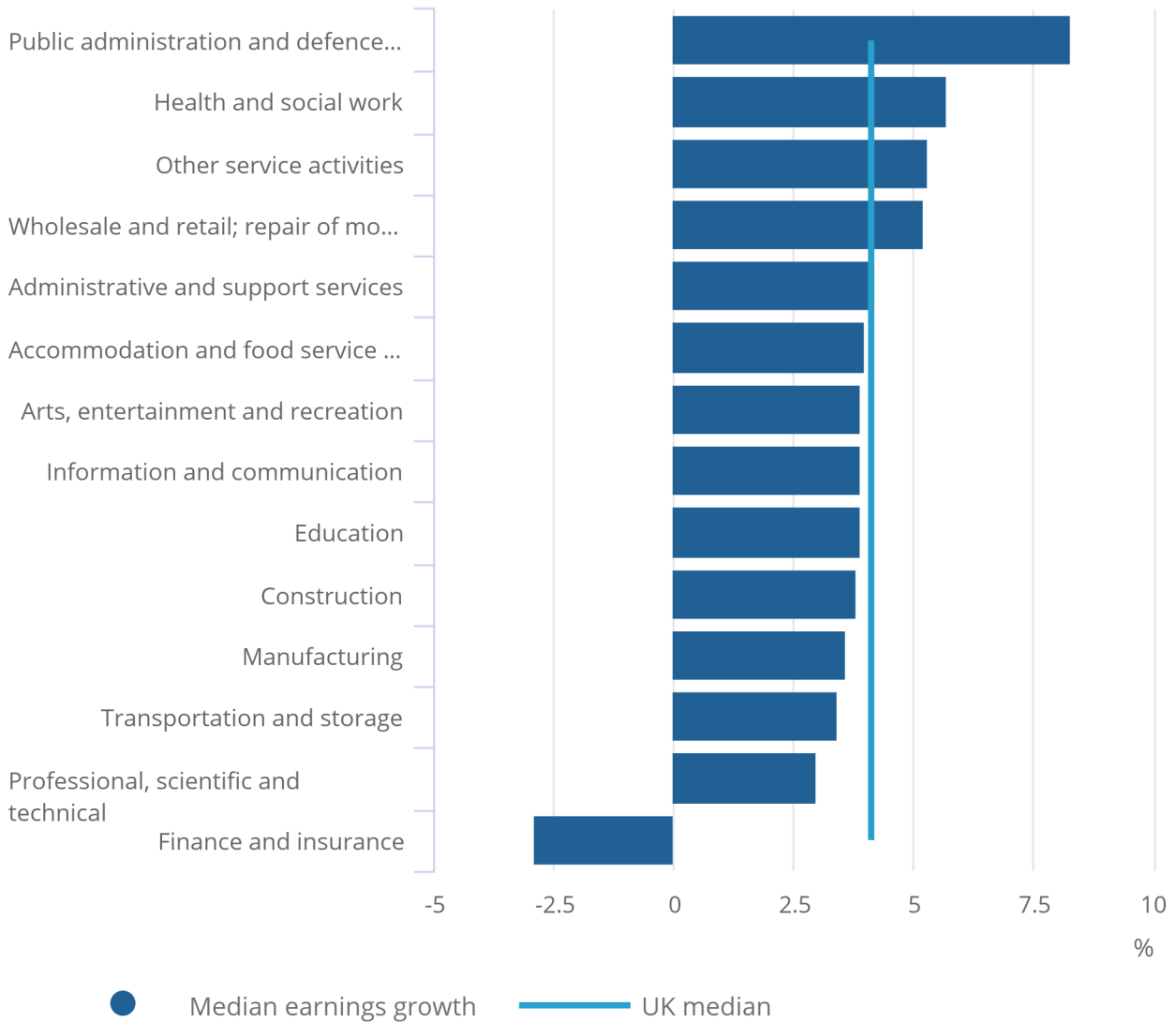
Estimates of mean pay for each sector are available in our [accompanying datasets](#).

### Figure 11: Median pay increased most in the public administration and defence sector

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026

## Figure 11: Median pay increased most in the public administration and defence sector

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

#### Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.



## 6 . Age data

The age figures in this bulletin are calculated based on an individual's age at the time they receive a payment.

Of the 30.3 million payrolled employees in the UK in February 2026, 94.4% are aged 18 to 64 years.

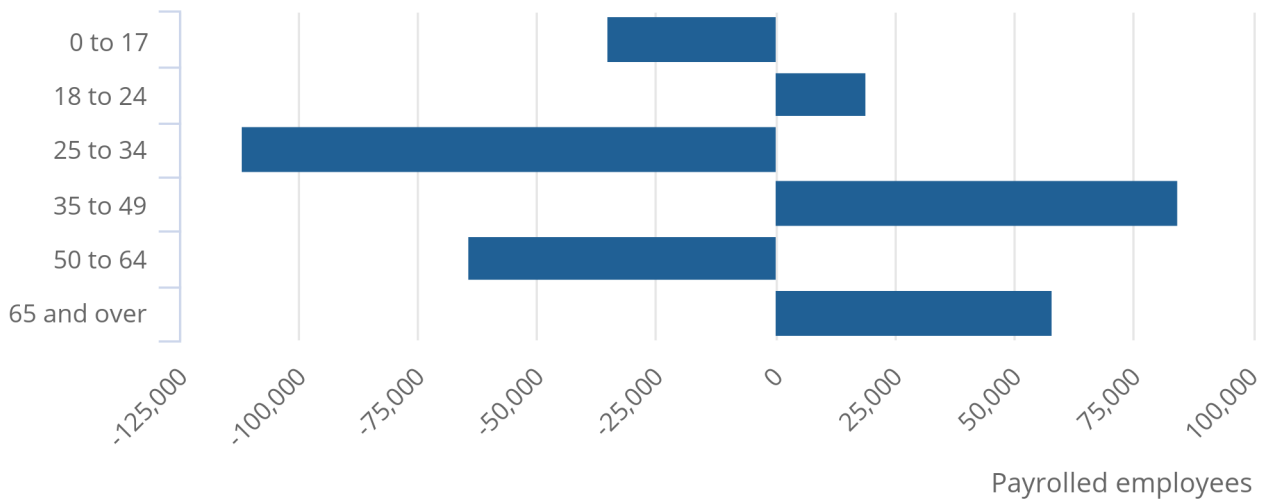
Between February 2025 and February 2026, there was a decrease of 16,000 payrolled employees aged under 25 years. During the same period, payrolled employees aged 35 to 49 years increased by 85,000.

### Figure 12: The 35 to 49 years age group has seen the greatest increase in payrolled employees since February 2025

Payrolled employees, absolute change on February 2025, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026

#### Figure 12: The 35 to 49 years age group has seen the greatest increase in payrolled employees since February 2025

Payrolled employees, absolute change on February 2025, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

#### Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.

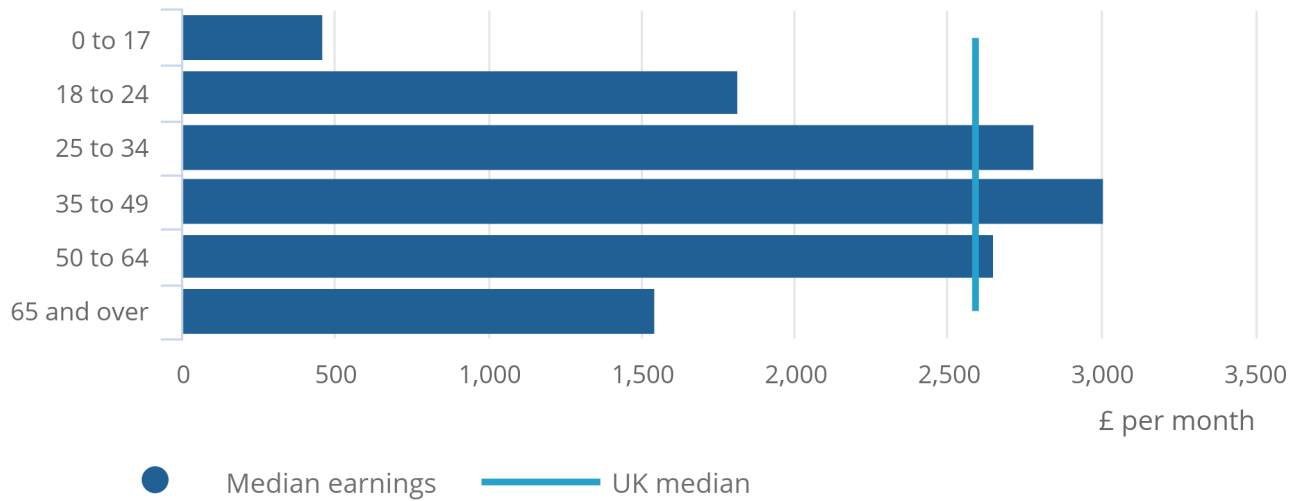
Median pay in February 2026 ranged from £460 for those aged under 18 years to £3,012 for those aged 35 to 49 years (Figure 13). Overall, median pay is higher in the central age bands, of those studied.

### Figure 13: Median pay varies by age

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026

### Figure 13: Median pay varies by age

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, February 2026



Source: Pay As You Earn Real Time Information from HM Revenue and Customs

Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and is therefore more likely to experience slightly more substantial revisions.

## 7 . Earnings and employment data

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

Dataset | Released 19 March 2026

Earnings and employment statistics from Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI), UK, NUTS 1, 2 and 3 areas and local authorities, monthly, non-seasonally adjusted.

### [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, revision triangle](#)

Dataset | Released 19 March 2026

Revisions of earnings and employment statistics from Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI), UK, monthly.

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

Dataset | Released 19 March 2026

Earnings and employment statistics from Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI), UK, NUTS 1, 2 and 3 areas and local authorities, monthly, seasonally adjusted.

It is also possible for suitable applicants to access a sample of RTI data through HMRC's Datalab. These samples contain the full population of payrolled individuals but only contain selected variables and a shorter timeframe.

More information and how to apply for access to HMRC data can be found [on GOV.UK's About the HMRC Datalab page](#).

## 8 . Glossary

### Median monthly pay

Median monthly pay shows what a person in the middle of all employees would earn each month. The median pay is generally considered to be a more accurate reflection of the "average wage" because it discounts the extremes at either end of the scale.

Pay figures given in this bulletin are based on gross pay.

### National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage

The National Minimum Wage (NMW) is a minimum amount per hour that most workers in the UK are entitled to be payrolled. There are different rates of minimum wage depending on a worker's age and whether they are an apprentice. The NMW applies to employees aged 16 to 20 years. The government's National Living Wage (NLW) was introduced on 1 April 2016 and currently applies to employees aged 21 years and over. See current and previous rates for the NMW and NLW on [the GOV.UK website](#).

### Pay As You Earn

Pay As You Earn (PAYE) is the system employers and pension providers use to take Income Tax and National Insurance contributions before they pay wages or pensions to employees and pensioners. It was introduced in 1944 and is now the way most employees pay Income Tax in the UK. This publication relates to employees only and not pensioners.

## 9 . Data sources and quality

## Data source and collection

The data for this release come from HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC's) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) system. They cover the whole population rather than a sample of people or companies, and they will allow for more detailed estimates of the population. More information on the quality of the data and the steps we take to quality assure it can be found in our [Quality assurance of administrative used in earnings and employment from PAYE RTI methodology](#)

Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). OSR sets the standards of trustworthiness, quality, and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) that all producers of official statistics should adhere to. You are welcome to contact us directly with any comments about how we meet these standards by emailing RTI Statistics. Alternatively, you can contact OSR by emailing [regulation@statistics.gov.uk](mailto:regulation@statistics.gov.uk) or via the OSR website.



## Coverage

This publication covers employees payrolled by employers only. It does not cover self-employment income or income from other sources such as pensions, property rental, and investments. Where individuals have multiple sources of income, only income from employers is included.

The figures in this release are for the period July 2014 to February 2026 and are seasonally adjusted.

## Upcoming changes

Following the UK's withdrawal from the EU, a replacement to the Eurostat geographical classification NUTS regions has been created. The UK-managed classification of International Territorial Levels (ITLs) will replace the NUTS classification in future publications.

Please contact us at [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk) and [rtistatistics.enquiries@hmrc.gov.uk](mailto:rtistatistics.enquiries@hmrc.gov.uk) if you would like to offer feedback on how the contents can be improved in the future.

## Methodology

Our [User guide to earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information](#) contains more information on the methods used in this bulletin.

## Pre-release data

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) grants pre-release access to [official statistics](#) publications. As this is a joint release, and in accordance with the HMRC policy, pre-release access has been granted to a number of people to enable the preparation of statistical publications and ministerial briefing. Further details, including a [list of those granted access to official statistics by HMRC](#), can be found on [their website](#).

The Bank of England was granted exceptional pre-release access to our Labour market overview, UK: March 2026 bulletin and accompanying tables at 8:00am on Monday 16 March 2026. This was so that the data were available for the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting held that day. For further information, see the [Exchange of letters requesting exceptional pre-release access](#).

## Accredited official statistics

These accredited official statistics were [independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation](#) in July 2025. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality, and value in the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) and should be labelled "accredited official statistics".

This is a joint release between HMRC and the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

## Strengths of the data

As Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) data cover the whole population, rather than a sample of people or companies, we can use these to produce estimates for geographic areas and other more detailed breakdowns of the population. The methods for producing such breakdowns are under development, and we expect to include further statistics in a future release. These statistics can help inform decision-making across the country. They also have the potential to provide more timely estimates than existing measures.

These statistics also have the potential to replace some of those based on surveys, which could reduce the burden on businesses needing to fill in statistical surveys.

## Industry sector classifications

The industrial sectors in this bulletin are based on the UK Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes, as defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). These codes have been determined from both the most recent Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR) and data from Companies House for each Pay As You Earn (PAYE) enterprise.

Large enterprises that cover multiple SIC codes are classified into a single SIC code based on the relative number of employees in each SIC code. Changes to the proportion of employees across SIC codes in large enterprises can result in the enterprise being reclassified to a different SIC code. To obtain the SIC code, we link to the most recent quarterly versions of the IDBR. Once a year when we refresh data for the whole series, the IDBR link is refreshed using the most recent version available, and any reclassifications are then used for the entirety of the time series until the next year.

This means that sector level time series represent the current employers classified in each sector and are less likely to be distorted by employers being reclassified at the enterprise level because of small changes at the lower unit level. However, it also means that these time series may be revised between publications and, in the historical sections of the time series, employers are classified in sectors in which they were not classified at that point in time. However, this method should minimise discrepancies in the data caused by reclassifications and should more easily allow the tracking of job movements between sectors.

## Imputation and revisions

RTI data used in this release are extracted in the weeks following the end of the latest reference month. For some individuals, this means payments relating to work done in recent reference months are yet to be received. Rather than wait until all payment returns have been received, we produce timelier measures by imputing the values for missing returns.

For the latest reference month, around 15% of the data are imputed. We refer to this as the “flash” or “early” estimate in the bulletin, as this figure is the most subject to revision as payment returns are received and the imputed payments replaced with actual data.

From our July 2022 publication, two changes were made to the imputation model. A seasonal factor was incorporated into the imputation model. The model was also made more responsive to recent changes to the labour market that would affect the likelihood of a payment existing. The latter change in particular should reduce the scale of revisions seen to the “flash” estimate, but cannot eliminate revisions completely.

Earlier months also contained some imputed data. Some payment frequencies mean that we have not received the relevant payment data more than a month after the reference period. Also, in some circumstances, returns might be submitted late. Therefore, earlier months are also subject to revision, but these revisions are likely to be much smaller because the level of imputation is smaller. The proportion of imputed data for a reference month two months before data extraction is around 1% to 2% of the data.

For the majority of months, post-flash revisions will occur in small amounts gradually each month as more submissions are received. However, all RTI submissions must be received before the end of the tax year. Therefore, for months close to the end of the tax year, these submissions and associated minor revisions that would have accumulated through the year instead need to be received all at once in the final submissions of the tax year. The months of January and February will be most affected by this and see sharper non-flash revisions at the end of the tax year if the imputed submissions are not received by that point. From July 2022, changes were incorporated into the imputation model to try to control these seasonal differences, as well as other seasonal factors that might affect whether submissions are received through different points of the year. Further information on the impact of the changes to the imputation model can be found in our methods article, [Impact of imputation changes in employment statistics from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information methodology](#).

The seasonal adjustment model will also update each month as the model is refined on the latest data available. These adjustments will appear as revisions in the seasonally adjusted data, and in the supporting seasonally adjusted revisions triangle.

Starting with the December 2020 publication, we introduced a new revisions policy. For each publication, we incorporate new input data only for the current and previous tax year. Revisions to estimates can potentially be made for up to the last two years as data can continue to be received, though updates to data outside of the most recent tax year are minimal.

Changes to the seasonally adjusted data also occur earlier than this limit, as the seasonal adjustment model is refined. The benefit of introducing this revisions policy is that we can use the processing time saved to produce and publish more detailed breakdowns. We capture any new input data referencing earlier years by incorporating data for the whole time series once a year.

## Seasonal adjustment

The seasonal adjustment applied in this bulletin follows established best practice. This approach assumes that any seasonal patterns remain broadly consistent over time. If the seasonal pattern changes in strength, this will be represented as greater volatility in the seasonally adjusted figures. Both the seasonal and non-seasonally adjusted datasets are released alongside this bulletin.

Seasonal adjustment models are updated periodically to incorporate recent data trends. Updated models are expected to be implemented in the April 2026 publication.

## 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; these will not be updated each month with the latest available data. We have made available [an example of an accessible seasonally adjusted dataset for Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information](#). If you have any questions, feedback or comments, please email us at [labour.market@ons.gov.uk](mailto:labour.market@ons.gov.uk) or [rtstatistics.enquiries@hmrc.gov.uk](mailto:rtstatistics.enquiries@hmrc.gov.uk).

## Differences compared with other labour market statistics

The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is our survey of households, while Workforce Jobs (WFJ) is based mainly on business surveys for employee jobs, with the LFS covering self-employed jobs. HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Indicators (RTI) data are derived from administrative tax records and only cover payrolled employees.

Each of these three sources are collected and processed in different ways, so we do expect differences in levels (for example, jobs versus people, differing reference periods). Divergence across indicators for more than one period is not unusual. For further information please see [Trends and considerations around comparisons](#) in our Labour market overview.

## 10 . Related links

### [Labour market overview: March 2026](#)

Bulletin | Released 19 March 2026

Estimates of employment, unemployment, economic inactivity and other employment-related statistics for the UK.

### [Employment in the UK: March 2026](#)

Bulletin | Released 19 March 2026

Estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity for the UK.

### [Labour market in the regions of the UK: March 2026](#)

Bulletin | Released 19 March 2026

Regional, local authority, and parliamentary constituency breakdowns of changes in UK employment, unemployment, and economic inactivity, and other related statistics. These are official statistics in development.

### [Average weekly earnings in Great Britain: March 2026](#)

Bulletin | Released 19 March 2026

Estimates of growth in earnings for employees before tax and other deductions from pay.

### [Vacancies and jobs in the UK: March 2026](#)

Bulletin | Released 19 March 2026

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

## 11 . Cite this statistical bulletin

Office for National Statistics (ONS) and HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), released 19 March 2026, ONS website, statistical bulletin, [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: March 2026](#)



PAYROLLED EMPLOYEES

1 Payrolled employee counts from PAYE RTI

Period	Payrolled employees
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted
	Payrolled employees
February 2015	27,214,519
February 2016	27,798,085
February 2017	28,132,388
February 2018	28,494,862
February 2019	28,826,382
February 2020	29,040,805
February 2021	28,159,858
February 2022	29,420,092
February 2023	30,011,927
February 2024	30,373,412
February 2025	30,388,402
March 2025	30,369,812
April 2025	30,376,797
May 2025	30,364,561
June 2025	30,343,142
July 2025	30,349,362
August 2025	30,363,274
September 2025	30,339,420
October 2025	30,328,095
November 2025	30,307,101
December 2025	30,312,326
January 2026	30,318,796
February 2026	30,338,961
Change on year	-49,441
Change %	-0.2

Source: PAYE RTI

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2. These data are accredited official statistics.
3. The number of payrolled employees here is defined as the number of people receiving paid remuneration included in PAYE RTI within the reference period, including people who have not done work but are an employee - such as those on paid leave.
4. Values for the month are an average of employee counts in each day of the month. It is a measure of people who are payrolled employees, as opposed to a measure of employee jobs.
5. These statistics include only individuals paid through PAYE and do not cover other sources of income such as from pensions, self-employment or investments.
6. PAYE covers occupational pension income as well as employment. In these tables pension income is excluded.
7. Incomes and employments are allocated to regions and countries according to the residence of the recipient.
8. Incomes and employments are allocated to industries according to the sector that an recipient's PAYE scheme is in.
9. These data include imputation for payments not yet received by HMRC which would relate to the respective work periods.
10. Figures have been rounded to the nearest £ or unit.
11. Those employees placed on furlough through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and still in PAYE are included in these statistics.
12. Pay figures are based on gross earnings.

MEDIAN PAY

2 Median monthly pay from PAYE RTI

	£ per month
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted
Period	Median pay
February 2015	1,621
February 2016	1,642
February 2017	1,679
February 2018	1,730
February 2019	1,793
February 2020	1,864
February 2021	1,946
February 2022	2,058
February 2023	2,212
February 2024	2,348
February 2025	2,483
March 2025	2,491
April 2025	2,511
May 2025	2,514
June 2025	2,522
July 2025	2,538
August 2025	2,564
September 2025	2,546
October 2025	2,547
November 2025	2,547
December 2025	2,562
January 2026	2,585
February 2026	2,586
Change on year	103
Change %	4.1

Source: PAYE RTI

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MEAN PAY

3 Mean monthly pay from PAYE RTI

	£ per month
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted
Period	Mean pay
January 2015	2,236
January 2016	2,238
January 2017	2,290
January 2018	2,369
January 2019	2,427
January 2020	2,513
January 2021	2,655
January 2022	2,833
January 2023	2,979
January 2024	3,121
January 2025	3,298
February 2025	3,323
March 2025	3,326
April 2025	3,319
May 2025	3,324
June 2025	3,328
July 2025	3,365
August 2025	3,421
September 2025	3,383
October 2025	3,400
November 2025	3,373
December 2025	3,415
January 2026	3,461
Change on year	163
Change %	4.9

Source: PAYE RTI

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AGGREGATE PAY

4 Aggregate monthly pay from PAYE RTI

	£ per month
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted
Period	Aggregate pay
January 2015	60,737,349,709
January 2016	62,125,759,555
January 2017	64,323,582,119
January 2018	67,480,032,049
January 2019	69,890,311,804
January 2020	73,002,995,595
January 2021	74,767,717,562
January 2022	83,013,461,104
January 2023	89,232,991,655
January 2024	94,797,441,151
January 2025	100,320,716,514
February 2025	100,983,178,609
March 2025	101,014,153,878
April 2025	100,814,176,300
May 2025	100,944,263,655
June 2025	100,977,645,854
July 2025	102,122,235,191
August 2025	103,877,297,632
September 2025	102,652,190,644
October 2025	103,122,915,831
November 2025	102,225,136,803
December 2025	103,528,919,252
January 2026	104,933,700,026
Change on year	4,612,983,512
Change %	4.6

Source: PAYE RTI

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PAY DISTRIBUTION

5 Monthly pay by percentile from PAYE RTI

								£ per month, 3 month moving average
								UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted
Period	10th percentile	25th percentile	50th percentile	75th percentile	90th percentile	95th percentile	99th percentile	
January 2015	515	904	1,614	2,620	3,955	5,347	11,295	
January 2016	532	918	1,633	2,638	3,986	5,367	11,115	
January 2017	553	948	1,670	2,681	4,055	5,470	11,363	
January 2018	576	986	1,720	2,752	4,162	5,621	11,714	
January 2019	602	1,020	1,780	2,832	4,270	5,793	12,065	
January 2020	622	1,063	1,842	2,918	4,412	5,972	12,382	
January 2021	674	1,128	1,926	3,038	4,604	6,263	13,040	
January 2022	681	1,169	2,032	3,180	4,821	6,585	13,847	
January 2023	721	1,266	2,192	3,410	5,170	7,052	14,640	
January 2024	770	1,360	2,325	3,578	5,404	7,320	15,208	
January 2025	814	1,473	2,464	3,752	5,645	7,651	15,880	
February 2025	820	1,472	2,470	3,760	5,643	7,627	15,915	
March 2025	824	1,481	2,482	3,775	5,681	7,669	16,019	
April 2025	832	1,491	2,494	3,789	5,695	7,681	16,033	
May 2025	837	1,500	2,505	3,798	5,700	7,690	16,005	
June 2025	844	1,506	2,516	3,805	5,696	7,690	15,974	
July 2025	846	1,512	2,526	3,818	5,710	7,708	16,000	
August 2025	850	1,522	2,545	3,849	5,757	7,753	16,167	
September 2025	855	1,531	2,553	3,863	5,777	7,768	16,182	
October 2025	859	1,538	2,559	3,871	5,787	7,771	16,194	
November 2025	862	1,537	2,544	3,846	5,759	7,744	16,115	
December 2025	864	1,538	2,548	3,854	5,763	7,753	16,185	
January 2026	867	1,544	2,557	3,868	5,784	7,779	16,299	
Change on year	53	71	93	116	139	128	419	
Change %	6.5	4.8	3.8	3.1	2.5	1.7	2.6	

Source: PAYE RTI

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## EMPLOYEE FLOWS

### 6 Inflows and outflows from PAYE RTI

Period	Payrolled employees UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted	
	Inflows	Outflows
January 2017	666,408	657,388
January 2018	668,452	647,179
January 2019	678,104	637,614
January 2020	706,731	646,513
January 2021	591,931	551,158
January 2022	689,434	637,058
January 2023	669,975	640,350
January 2024	641,338	627,583
January 2025	607,743	607,530
February 2025	591,516	617,764
March 2025	590,684	609,274
April 2025	602,342	595,357
May 2025	588,339	600,575
June 2025	573,427	594,846
July 2025	576,133	569,913
August 2025	586,091	572,179
September 2025	576,359	600,213
October 2025	564,466	575,791
November 2025	576,966	597,960
December 2025	593,819	588,594
January 2026	609,394	602,924
Change on year	1,651	-4,606
Change %	0.3	-0.8

Source: PAYE RTI

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REGIONAL PAYROLLED EMPLOYEES (NUTS1)

7 Regional payrolled employees from PAYE RTI

Period	Payrolled employees UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted											
	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
February 2015	1,043,445	2,956,672	2,181,787	1,986,005	2,338,733	2,592,490	3,767,790	3,849,517	2,276,670	1,200,994	2,333,993	686,423
February 2016	1,053,165	3,013,760	2,217,553	2,032,665	2,395,932	2,657,940	3,895,937	3,932,865	2,324,616	1,218,220	2,353,134	702,298
February 2017	1,058,248	3,047,556	2,241,232	2,062,456	2,429,506	2,696,994	3,957,299	3,981,452	2,355,901	1,229,793	2,358,983	712,969
February 2018	1,066,297	3,095,684	2,268,781	2,094,069	2,459,352	2,734,064	4,014,999	4,026,074	2,385,264	1,247,072	2,373,691	729,514
February 2019	1,069,980	3,134,828	2,297,935	2,116,396	2,484,634	2,765,731	4,088,454	4,071,558	2,407,477	1,258,405	2,387,340	743,645
February 2020	1,075,463	3,154,065	2,312,449	2,125,889	2,489,890	2,788,087	4,152,533	4,106,502	2,426,921	1,263,725	2,392,205	753,077
February 2021	1,053,612	3,089,754	2,259,329	2,079,659	2,426,871	2,714,926	3,917,285	3,974,386	2,360,250	1,230,018	2,314,593	739,174
February 2022	1,101,426	3,221,377	2,357,218	2,162,432	2,532,595	2,816,375	4,162,949	4,142,991	2,453,270	1,285,600	2,412,642	771,219
February 2023	1,116,703	3,276,125	2,389,679	2,192,723	2,581,166	2,870,502	4,315,820	4,235,708	2,496,577	1,306,587	2,444,691	785,645
February 2024	1,129,698	3,316,210	2,410,619	2,215,871	2,620,725	2,906,129	4,380,324	4,286,905	2,524,500	1,317,480	2,465,024	799,928
February 2025	1,128,131	3,331,085	2,409,693	2,212,691	2,625,159	2,907,204	4,390,705	4,287,742	2,516,155	1,316,167	2,454,404	809,267
March 2025	1,127,469	3,329,329	2,408,401	2,212,362	2,624,238	2,905,846	4,385,548	4,284,404	2,514,156	1,315,026	2,452,928	810,103
April 2025	1,126,809	3,330,915	2,409,438	2,214,440	2,625,457	2,907,124	4,388,125	4,285,611	2,514,968	1,314,148	2,451,331	808,432
May 2025	1,125,966	3,329,681	2,408,559	2,214,567	2,623,920	2,904,903	4,385,363	4,284,293	2,515,162	1,313,122	2,450,035	808,991
June 2025	1,125,467	3,327,627	2,406,706	2,212,579	2,622,048	2,902,201	4,383,270	4,281,324	2,512,493	1,312,488	2,448,261	808,678
July 2025	1,125,369	3,328,899	2,407,528	2,212,610	2,622,841	2,903,429	4,382,716	4,281,521	2,512,384	1,312,947	2,449,173	809,944
August 2025	1,126,859	3,328,427	2,408,321	2,213,445	2,625,473	2,904,914	4,385,942	4,281,431	2,513,656	1,314,057	2,449,527	811,222
September 2025	1,125,575	3,324,745	2,406,806	2,211,644	2,622,074	2,903,840	4,379,965	4,279,130	2,510,792	1,312,123	2,449,690	813,037
October 2025	1,124,740	3,323,185	2,405,227	2,210,674	2,620,870	2,903,792	4,375,436	4,279,561	2,509,855	1,311,739	2,448,439	814,576
November 2025	1,123,950	3,318,425	2,404,186	2,208,586	2,620,731	2,903,389	4,369,270	4,277,318	2,509,101	1,310,049	2,446,275	815,820
December 2025	1,124,828	3,318,885	2,403,084	2,209,222	2,619,042	2,902,849	4,367,504	4,277,585	2,509,903	1,311,933	2,450,607	816,883
January 2026	1,125,505	3,322,890	2,404,334	2,208,733	2,619,071	2,902,553	4,365,859	4,277,467	2,509,423	1,312,698	2,451,128	819,136
February 2026	1,126,265	3,326,945	2,405,124	2,211,379	2,621,407	2,905,448	4,364,505	4,281,297	2,512,441	1,313,692	2,449,650	820,808
Change on year	-1,866	-4,140	-4,569	-1,312	-3,752	-1,756	-26,200	-6,445	-3,714	-2,475	-4,754	11,541
Change %	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	1.4

Source: PAYE RTI

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REGIONAL MEDIAN PAY (NUTS1)

8 Regional median monthly pay from PAYE RTI

Period	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted											
	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
February 2015	1,540	1,535	1,518	1,533	1,538	1,661	1,951	1,738	1,522	1,519	1,660	1,496
February 2016	1,548	1,548	1,531	1,548	1,554	1,684	1,982	1,764	1,539	1,532	1,679	1,509
February 2017	1,581	1,583	1,559	1,579	1,593	1,715	2,032	1,802	1,575	1,575	1,701	1,536
February 2018	1,631	1,636	1,611	1,633	1,652	1,776	2,101	1,855	1,631	1,624	1,747	1,591
February 2019	1,684	1,697	1,669	1,694	1,699	1,848	2,168	1,924	1,696	1,678	1,802	1,690
February 2020	1,746	1,760	1,727	1,752	1,754	1,918	2,253	1,998	1,760	1,747	1,872	1,712
February 2021	1,813	1,838	1,805	1,838	1,836	2,006	2,355	2,084	1,842	1,830	1,977	1,793
February 2022	1,917	1,945	1,911	1,953	1,938	2,128	2,494	2,197	1,950	1,931	2,066	1,915
February 2023	2,061	2,084	2,051	2,090	2,083	2,272	2,648	2,355	2,103	2,074	2,263	2,050
February 2024	2,209	2,230	2,188	2,233	2,228	2,405	2,787	2,495	2,244	2,223	2,359	2,150
February 2025	2,342	2,377	2,317	2,370	2,362	2,544	2,931	2,613	2,372	2,357	2,506	2,304
March 2025	2,350	2,381	2,325	2,380	2,371	2,545	2,934	2,619	2,374	2,367	2,519	2,401
April 2025	2,364	2,396	2,348	2,391	2,384	2,565	2,949	2,641	2,407	2,378	2,521	2,397
May 2025	2,371	2,401	2,355	2,399	2,391	2,569	2,954	2,647	2,406	2,381	2,537	2,372
June 2025	2,382	2,410	2,363	2,409	2,401	2,576	2,964	2,654	2,415	2,388	2,553	2,348
July 2025	2,397	2,431	2,383	2,427	2,418	2,598	2,982	2,673	2,433	2,409	2,577	2,366
August 2025	2,449	2,470	2,414	2,460	2,456	2,630	3,021	2,708	2,470	2,455	2,594	2,372
September 2025	2,414	2,443	2,395	2,440	2,432	2,613	2,998	2,690	2,440	2,431	2,593	2,411
October 2025	2,413	2,450	2,401	2,444	2,438	2,618	2,998	2,699	2,448	2,432	2,583	2,420
November 2025	2,374	2,425	2,374	2,426	2,412	2,597	2,978	2,685	2,439	2,410	2,569	2,407
December 2025	2,425	2,456	2,407	2,457	2,449	2,620	3,001	2,703	2,470	2,450	2,584	2,419
January 2026	2,444	2,480	2,427	2,475	2,464	2,642	3,028	2,723	2,481	2,464	2,612	2,450
February 2026	2,446	2,480	2,430	2,483	2,472	2,645	3,025	2,727	2,483	2,467	2,595	2,493
Change on year	104	103	113	113	110	101	94	114	111	110	89	189
Change %	4.4	4.3	4.9	4.8	4.7	4	3.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	3.6	8.2

Source: PAYE RTI

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REGIONAL PAYROLLED EMPLOYEES (NUTS2)  
9 Regional payrolled employees from PAYE RTI

Period	Payrolled employees UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted			
	February 2025	February 2026	Change on year	Change %
Tees Valley and Durham	504,329	503,621	-708	-0.1
Northumberland and Tyne and Wear	623,802	622,645	-1,157	-0.2
Cumbria	226,085	226,051	-34	0
Greater Manchester	1,301,032	1,300,779	-253	0
Lancashire	666,037	664,479	-1,558	-0.2
Cheshire	451,680	451,760	80	0
Merseyside	686,251	683,876	-2,375	-0.3
East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire	413,177	413,076	-101	0
North Yorkshire	367,321	366,402	-919	-0.3
South Yorkshire	600,947	599,410	-1,537	-0.3
West Yorkshire	1,028,248	1,026,237	-2,011	-0.2
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	984,089	983,563	-526	-0.1
Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire	893,993	893,504	-489	-0.1
Lincolnshire	334,609	334,312	-297	-0.1
Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire	635,955	636,443	488	0.1
Shropshire and Staffordshire	730,441	730,707	266	0
West Midlands (county)	1,258,763	1,254,256	-4,507	-0.4
East Anglia	1,143,499	1,141,182	-2,317	-0.2
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	913,595	914,481	886	0.1
Essex	850,110	849,785	-325	0
Inner London - West	543,206	536,309	-6,897	-1.3
Inner London - East	1,235,889	1,227,194	-8,695	-0.7
Outer London - East and North East	927,705	926,991	-714	-0.1
Outer London - South	635,740	632,698	-3,042	-0.5
Outer London - West and North West	1,048,166	1,041,313	-6,853	-0.7
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire	1,232,555	1,229,200	-3,355	-0.3
Surrey, East and West Sussex	1,313,148	1,310,047	-3,101	-0.2
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	914,759	914,353	-406	0
Kent	827,281	827,697	416	0.1
Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area	1,202,730	1,203,419	689	0.1
Dorset and Somerset	576,378	573,906	-2,472	-0.4
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	230,800	230,499	-301	-0.1
Devon	506,247	504,616	-1,631	-0.3
West Wales and The Valleys	799,154	797,169	-1,985	-0.2
East Wales	517,013	516,523	-490	-0.1
North Eastern Scotland	229,473	226,782	-2,691	-1.2
Highlands and Islands	207,625	208,468	843	0.4
Eastern Scotland	916,005	914,597	-1,408	-0.2
West Central Scotland	694,207	693,431	-776	-0.1
Southern Scotland	407,094	406,372	-722	-0.2
Northern Ireland	809,267	820,808	11,541	1.4

Source: PAYE RTI

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REGIONAL MEDIAN PAY (NUTS2)

10 Regional median monthly pay from PAYE RTI

Period	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted			
	February 2025	February 2026	Change on year	Change %
Tees Valley and Durham	2,332	2,438	106	4.5
Northumberland and Tyne and Wear	2,343	2,443	100	4.3
Cumbria	2,384	2,496	112	4.7
Greater Manchester	2,374	2,472	98	4.1
Lancashire	2,297	2,405	108	4.7
Cheshire	2,495	2,590	95	3.8
Merseyside	2,393	2,496	103	4.3
East Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire	2,292	2,416	124	5.4
North Yorkshire	2,283	2,427	144	6.3
South Yorkshire	2,308	2,413	105	4.5
West Yorkshire	2,336	2,436	100	4.3
Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire	2,362	2,473	111	4.7
Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire	2,399	2,504	105	4.4
Lincolnshire	2,308	2,438	130	5.6
Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire	2,468	2,572	104	4.2
Shropshire and Staffordshire	2,352	2,481	129	5.5
West Midlands (county)	2,316	2,416	100	4.3
East Anglia	2,420	2,531	111	4.6
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire	2,684	2,786	102	3.8
Essex	2,582	2,701	119	4.6
Inner London - West	3,641	3,774	133	3.7
Inner London - East	3,013	3,115	102	3.4
Outer London - East and North East	2,686	2,783	97	3.6
Outer London - South	2,982	3,074	92	3.1
Outer London - West and North West	2,729	2,826	97	3.6
Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire	2,765	2,880	115	4.2
Surrey, East and West Sussex	2,627	2,726	99	3.8
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	2,515	2,618	103	4.1
Kent	2,516	2,636	120	4.8
Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area	2,491	2,596	105	4.2
Dorset and Somerset	2,331	2,440	109	4.7
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	2,182	2,292	110	5
Devon	2,260	2,376	116	5.1
West Wales and The Valleys	2,321	2,429	108	4.7
East Wales	2,422	2,537	115	4.7
North Eastern Scotland	2,626	2,707	81	3.1
Highlands and Islands	2,390	2,503	113	4.7
Eastern Scotland	2,523	2,610	87	3.4
West Central Scotland	2,512	2,602	90	3.6
Southern Scotland	2,458	2,555	97	3.9
Northern Ireland	2,304	2,493	189	8.2

Source: PAYE RTI

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## INDUSTRY PAYROLLED EMPLOYEES

### 11 Industry payrolled employees from PAYE RTI

Period	Payrolled employees			
	February 2025	February 2026	Change on year	Change %
				UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	196,358	196,116	-242	-0.1
Mining and quarrying	45,315	43,182	-2,133	-4.7
Manufacturing	2,327,013	2,297,836	-29,177	-1.3
Energy production and supply	116,983	122,198	5,215	4.5
Water supply, sewerage and waste	208,299	213,866	5,567	2.7
Construction	1,338,113	1,333,368	-4,745	-0.4
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles	4,308,300	4,258,872	-49,428	-1.1
Transportation and storage	1,395,653	1,412,196	16,543	1.2
Accommodation and food service activities	2,176,894	2,137,931	-38,963	-1.8
Information and communication	1,280,732	1,253,037	-27,695	-2.2
Finance and insurance	1,097,356	1,104,445	7,089	0.6
Real estate	469,152	477,431	8,279	1.8
Professional, scientific and technical	2,471,000	2,472,485	1,485	0.1
Administrative and support services	2,403,463	2,399,182	-4,281	-0.2
Public administration and defence; social security	1,580,572	1,598,123	17,551	1.1
Education	3,177,877	3,179,430	1,553	0
Health and social work	4,479,838	4,522,298	42,460	0.9
Arts, entertainment and recreation	641,101	651,780	10,679	1.7
Other service activities	551,905	548,442	-3,463	-0.6
Households and Extraterritorial	122,479	116,746	-5,733	-4.7

Source: PAYE RTI

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## INDUSTRY MEDIAN PAY

### 12 Industry median monthly pay from PAYE RTI

Period	£ per month			
	February 2025	February 2026	Change on year	Change %
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,253	2,364	111	4.9
Mining and quarrying	4,854	4,832	-22	-0.5
Manufacturing	2,913	3,018	105	3.6
Energy production and supply	4,506	4,578	72	1.6
Water supply, sewerage and waste	3,125	3,267	142	4.5
Construction	2,642	2,743	101	3.8
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles	2,027	2,133	106	5.2
Transportation and storage	2,887	2,984	97	3.4
Accommodation and food service activities	1,353	1,407	54	4
Information and communication	3,864	4,013	149	3.9
Finance and insurance	4,111	3,990	-121	-2.9
Real estate	2,496	2,569	73	2.9
Professional, scientific and technical	3,104	3,197	93	3
Administrative and support services	2,194	2,287	93	4.2
Public administration and defence; social security	3,009	3,258	249	8.3
Education	2,487	2,585	98	3.9
Health and social work	2,429	2,568	139	5.7
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,684	1,750	66	3.9
Other service activities	1,857	1,956	99	5.3
Households and Extraterritorial	1,207	1,243	36	3

Source: PAYE RTI

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PAYROLLED EMPLOYEES BY AGE

13 Payrolled employees by age from PAYE RTI

Period	Payrolled employees					
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted					
	0 to 17	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 64	65 and over
February 2015	414,244	3,555,824	6,464,484	9,225,685	6,724,260	830,022
February 2016	439,631	3,609,219	6,634,158	9,322,483	6,951,854	840,741
February 2017	442,586	3,593,184	6,726,382	9,353,818	7,161,967	854,451
February 2018	444,646	3,575,116	6,800,605	9,399,483	7,393,477	881,535
February 2019	441,658	3,541,720	6,853,806	9,449,796	7,615,433	923,971
February 2020	435,432	3,493,846	6,866,649	9,472,081	7,765,710	1,007,087
February 2021	291,435	3,162,101	6,658,105	9,328,172	7,743,311	976,734
February 2022	502,932	3,475,151	6,865,428	9,542,361	7,987,125	1,047,096
February 2023	520,905	3,490,313	7,013,947	9,752,598	8,116,324	1,117,839
February 2024	495,653	3,479,219	7,105,756	9,938,515	8,166,641	1,187,627
February 2025	452,476	3,439,038	7,069,383	10,056,470	8,144,335	1,226,699
March 2025	449,592	3,429,419	7,059,439	10,061,040	8,140,521	1,229,801
April 2025	452,144	3,449,455	7,059,580	10,062,990	8,121,696	1,230,932
May 2025	449,143	3,449,760	7,049,907	10,067,266	8,116,955	1,231,530
June 2025	445,075	3,440,898	7,038,952	10,071,792	8,111,433	1,234,991
July 2025	438,969	3,438,804	7,032,322	10,083,032	8,112,092	1,244,142
August 2025	433,440	3,438,565	7,024,947	10,095,724	8,115,551	1,255,047
September 2025	427,972	3,438,875	7,010,539	10,099,295	8,107,160	1,255,579
October 2025	425,100	3,441,060	6,997,251	10,103,184	8,101,812	1,259,686
November 2025	421,666	3,440,604	6,978,695	10,111,167	8,093,131	1,261,839
December 2025	420,923	3,441,195	6,971,390	10,120,669	8,088,750	1,269,398
January 2026	420,439	3,445,732	6,960,810	10,130,418	8,086,179	1,275,220
February 2026	417,526	3,457,913	6,957,581	10,141,133	8,080,043	1,284,765
Change on year	-34,950	18,875	-111,802	84,663	-64,292	58,066
Change %	-7.7	0.5	-1.6	0.8	-0.8	4.7

Source: PAYE RTI

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MEDIAN PAY BY AGE

14 Median monthly pay by age from PAYE RTI

Period	£ per month					
	UK, all industries, seasonally adjusted					
	0 to 17	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 49	50 to 64	65 and over
February 2015	281	1,112	1,768	1,927	1,740	737
February 2016	289	1,122	1,737	1,944	1,751	767
February 2017	297	1,198	1,838	1,979	1,774	797
February 2018	307	1,242	1,900	2,040	1,813	841
February 2019	322	1,298	1,974	2,103	1,861	888
February 2020	332	1,313	1,996	2,171	1,917	992
February 2021	386	1,387	2,113	2,261	1,987	1,084
February 2022	408	1,451	2,244	2,416	2,119	1,160
February 2023	415	1,592	2,415	2,579	2,257	1,259
February 2024	418	1,638	2,476	2,735	2,400	1,354
February 2025	436	1,759	2,681	2,882	2,542	1,462
March 2025	437	1,769	2,683	2,895	2,551	1,469
April 2025	442	1,775	2,699	2,913	2,558	1,476
May 2025	447	1,783	2,701	2,918	2,565	1,488
June 2025	445	1,785	2,707	2,925	2,567	1,491
July 2025	452	1,799	2,724	2,947	2,590	1,506
August 2025	450	1,807	2,759	2,986	2,631	1,515
September 2025	444	1,809	2,733	2,960	2,611	1,515
October 2025	456	1,809	2,734	2,970	2,610	1,522
November 2025	454	1,799	2,720	2,933	2,571	1,505
December 2025	459	1,814	2,754	2,979	2,620	1,525
January 2026	459	1,812	2,776	3,009	2,645	1,552
February 2026	460	1,816	2,783	3,012	2,652	1,548
Change on year	24	57	102	130	110	86
Change %	5.5	3.2	3.8	4.5	4.3	5.9

Source: PAYE RTI

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