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# UK labour market statistics



## Summary

- 1 Employment
- 2 Unemployment and economic inactivity
- 3 Earnings
- 4 People in the labour market

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## Summary

This briefing summarises the latest labour market statistics for the UK.

The continued high rate of inflation meant that real earnings continued to fall in real terms in the three months to July 2022. The fall for earnings excluding bonuses was the largest since records began in 2001.

In May-July 2022, there was a large increase in economic inactivity, while monthly employment data shows a fall in employment. Unemployment and fell in the latest quarter.

The number of vacancies fell again in the latest quarter, but remain well above pre-pandemic levels.

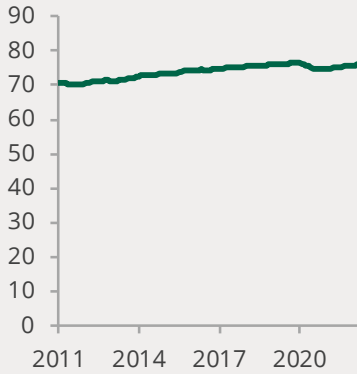
### Key figures

- In May-July 2022, the number of people aged 16+ in employment was **32.75 million**, and the employment rate was **75.4%**, down slightly from 75.6% in the previous quarter. Employment levels have risen over the past quarter and the past year, but are still 236,000 below their pre-pandemic level.
- The UK unemployment rate was **3.6%**, and 1.22 million people aged 16+ were unemployed. Unemployment levels fell by 76,000 since the previous year and fell by 332,000 since the previous year, and are 152,000 below their pre-pandemic levels.
- **9.01** million people aged 16-64 were economically inactive, and the inactivity rate was **21.7%**. Inactivity levels increased on the quarter and the year, and were 565,000 above their pre-pandemic level.
- The number of vacancies fell on the quarter to 1.27 million in June-August 2022, after rising steadily since April-June 2020 and reaching a record high of 1.29 million in March-May 2022. Vacancies are still 470,000 above pre-pandemic levels.
- Average wages fell in real terms in the three months to July 2022, with an annual change of -4.0% **excluding bonuses** and -3.7% **including bonuses**.

## UK labour market 2011-2022

### Employment rate

Aged 16-64, %



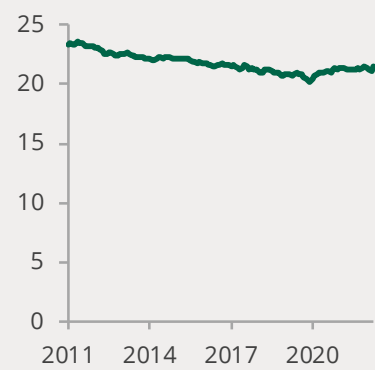
### Unemployment rate

Aged 16+, %



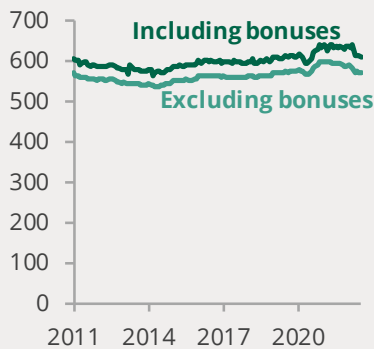
### Economic inactivity rate

Aged 16-64 olds, %



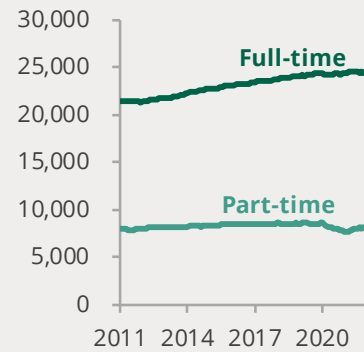
### Average weekly pay

Employees in GB, July 2022 prices, £



### Part-time and full-time workers

Thousands



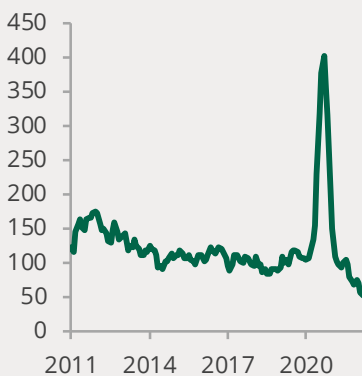
### Employees and self-employed

Thousands



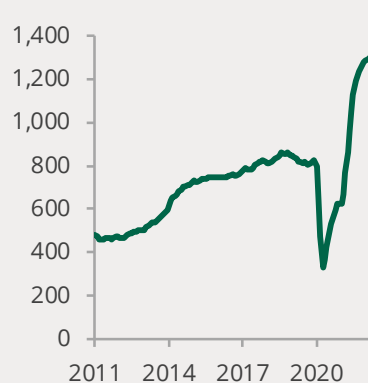
### Redundancies

Thousands



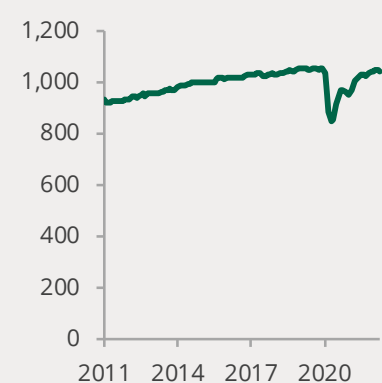
### Vacancies

Thousands



### Total hours worked

Millions



Source: ONS, Labour Force Survey, Tables [A01](#), [FARN01](#), [RED01](#), [VACS01](#) and [HOUR01](#)

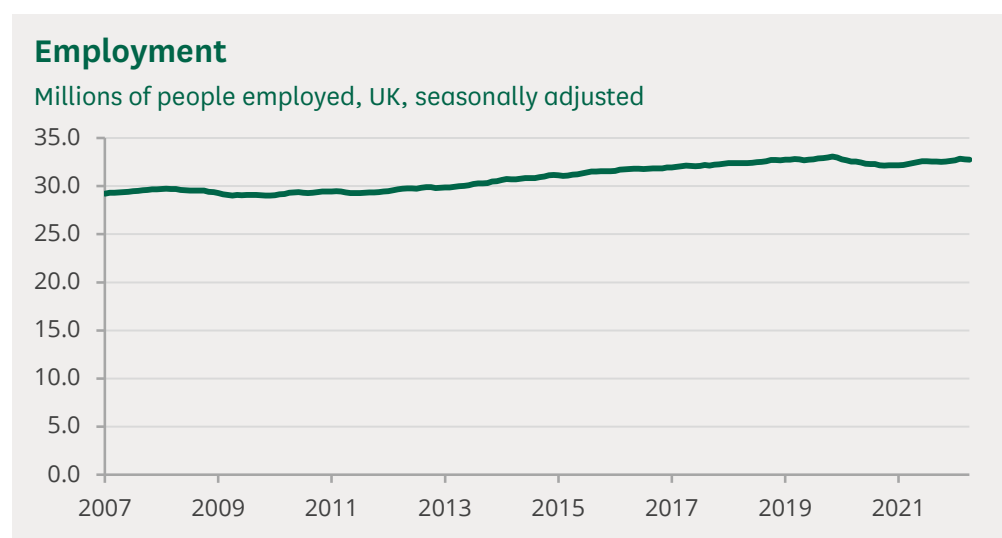
# 1 Employment

Employment levels are 238,000 below their pre-pandemic levels.

In May-July 2022, there were 32.75 million people in employment in the UK. The employment rate (the proportion of the population aged 16-64 in work) was 75.4%.

Employment May-July 2022	
<b>Rate (16-64)</b>	<b>75.4%</b>
Rate last quarter	75.6%
Rate last year	75.1%
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>32.75</b>
Change on quarter	40,000
Change on year	337,000

The employment rate gradually rose from 2011 to the start of the coronavirus pandemic. It reached a maximum rate of 76.6% in early 2020, which was the highest recorded level since records began in 1971. This compares to a post-recession low of 70.1% in July-September 2011.



Source: ONS, [A01: Summary of labour market statistics](#), 13 September 2022

Employment levels fell following the UK-wide coronavirus lockdown in March 2020 and continued to fall throughout 2020, with levels dropping down to 32.13 million at the end of 2020. Employment levels began to recover during the first half of 2021, but remained at a similar level in the latter half of that year before rising again in 2022. Employment in May-July 2022 remained 238,000 below the pre-pandemic levels in January-March 2020.

There are signs that employment growth may be slowing: In May-July 2022 the employment rate fell since the previous quarter from 75.6% to 75.4%.

## 1 A tight labour market

Low unemployment rates and record high vacancies mean the labour market is currently tight: the economy is close to full employment and recruitment is more difficult than usual.

According to the Bank of England, this is being driven by the growth in the number of economically inactive people since the beginning of the pandemic. Lower net migration from the EU has also caused a fall in the number of people in the labour market.

Demand for labour has recovered much faster than labour supply since the pandemic. This, along with mismatches between people looking for work and available vacancies causes recruitment difficulties and labour market tightness.

Labour market tightness is a causal factor in the growth of nominal wages, and is also causing some upward pressure on inflation, though recent increases in inflation are mostly due to large increases in global energy and goods prices.

As discussed in section 2.1, the Bank of England expects the labour market to remain tight in the near term, but loosen over time, with the unemployment rate rising from next year. Household incomes are currently being squeezed by high prices, so people's demand for goods and services is likely to slow. How quickly the labour market loosens will depend on whether demand for workers slows down along with this demand, and how persistent high economic inactivity is.<sup>1</sup>

## 1.1 Type of employment

The increase in employment levels over the last ten years has been driven by full-time workers. The number of full-time workers continued to increase after the outbreak of the pandemic, while there was a sharp fall in part-time employment. There was also a fall in the number of people who were self-employed, partly due to workers in the same job switching from describing themselves as self-employed to calling themselves employees.

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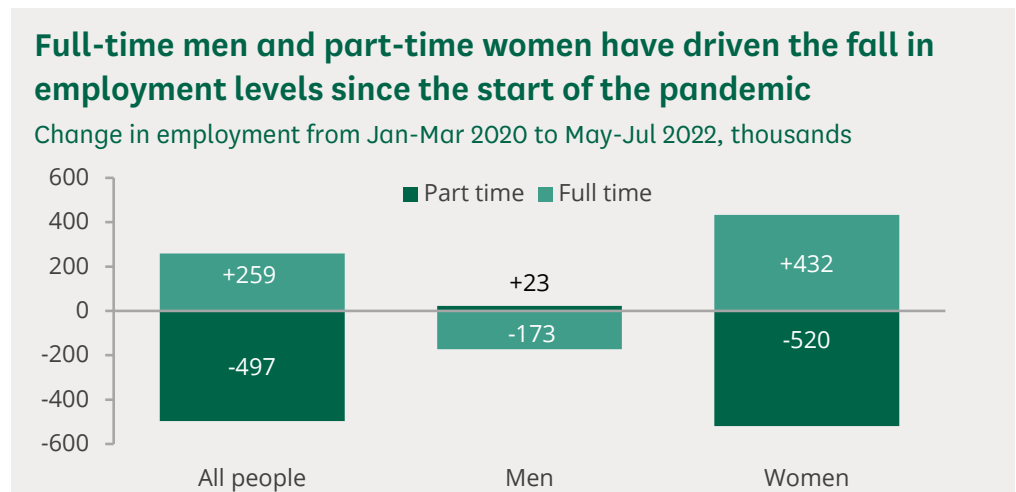
<sup>1</sup> Bank of England, [Monetary Policy Report - August 2022](#), 4 August 2022

## Full time/part time

In May-July 2022, 24.58 million people were employed on a full-time basis while 8.17 million were employed on a part-time basis.

Full-time and part-time workers May-July 2022		
	Full-time	Part-time
<b>All workers</b>		
Level (millions)	<b>24.58</b>	<b>8.17</b>
Change on quarter	16,000	23,000
Change on year	9,000	328,000
<b>Men</b>		
Level (millions)	<b>14.87</b>	<b>2.27</b>
Change on quarter	20,000	26,000
Change on year	107,000	113,000
<b>Women</b>		
Level (millions)	<b>9.71</b>	<b>5.90</b>
Change on quarter	-4,000	-2,000
Change on year	-98,000	215,000

Since the start of the pandemic, the number of people working full-time has increased, but there has been a larger fall in the number of people working part-time. As shown in the chart below, there have been large falls in men working full-time and women working part-time.



Source: ONS, [EMP01.SA: Full-time, part-time and temporary workers](#), 13 September 2022

## Employees and the self-employed

In May-July 2022, there were 28.32 million people working as employees, while a further 4.29 million were self-employed.



<b>Employees and self-employed</b>			
May-July 2022			
	Total	Full-Time	Part-time
<b>Employees</b>			
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>28.32</b>	<b>21.65</b>	<b>6.67</b>
Change on quarter	-3,000	9,000	-12,000
Change on year	349,000	110,000	239,000
<b>Self employed</b>			
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>4.29</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>1.40</b>
Change on quarter	78,000	27,000	51,000
Change on year	-37,000	-108,000	72,000

The increases in employment since 2011 have been mainly driven by people working as employees, although the number of people working in self-employment had also gradually increased.

The number of employees continued to increase after the start of the pandemic, driven by full-time employees, which were at their highest recorded level in March-May 2022 since records began in 1992. In May-July 2022, the number of full-time employees was 852,000 above pre-pandemic levels.

There was a fall in the number of part-time employees in the quarter to May-July 2022 and, despite an increase over the year, the number of part-time employees remained 367,000 below their pre-pandemic level in the latest quarter.

The number of self-employed workers also fell as a result of the pandemic and remained 686,000 below their pre-pandemic levels in May-July 2022. The ONS have reported that this fall was partly due to people describing themselves as employees rather than self-employed after the furlough scheme was created.<sup>2</sup>

## Payrolled employees

Since the start of the pandemic the ONS has been publishing experimental monthly estimates of payrolled employees using HMRC PAYE data. As the official employment statistics have a time lag, this data provides a timelier indicator of the impact of the pandemic on employment. These figures do not, however, include self-employed people and therefore do not show trends for the whole labour market.

The number of payrolled employees increased month-on-month in August 2022 and were 740,000 above pre-pandemic levels in March 2020. There was a large fall between March and May 2020 when the number of payrolled

<sup>2</sup> ONS, [Painting the full picture: what our statistics tell us about the labour market](#), 29 January 2021

employees fell by 559,000, and they continued to fall at a slower rate until November 2020. Since then employee numbers have been steadily increasing.<sup>3</sup>



Source: ONS, [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, seasonally adjusted](#), 13 September 2022

## 1.2

### Public/private

The public sector employed 5.74 million people in June 2022, while private sector employment was 27.01 million.

<b>Public and private sector employment</b>		
June 2022		
	Public sector	Private sector
<b>% in each sector</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>82.5%</b>
% last year	17.5%	82.5%
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>27.01</b>
Change on quarter	6,000	33,000
Change on year	66,000	271,000

The fall in employment since the start of the pandemic has been driven by the private sector. Between March 2020 and June 2022, private sector employment has fallen by 308,000 while public sector employment has increased by 275,000. The number of people working in the private sector has increased throughout 2021 however, and by more than the increase for the public sector.

<sup>3</sup> ONS, [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK](#)

17.5% of those in employment worked in the public sector in June 2022, compared to 16.7% in March 2020.

Before the pandemic the percentage of all workers who worked in the private sector had been steadily increasing since 2010. The pandemic reversed this pattern.

## 1.3

## Vacancies

Vacancies reached record high at 1.30 million in March-May 2022.

The number of vacancies fell on the quarter to 1.27 million in June-August 2022, but vacancies were still 470,000 higher than the pre-pandemic quarter of January-March 2020.<sup>4</sup>

The number of vacancies was about the same as the number of unemployed people in May-July 2022, the lowest rate on record.

Vacancies	
June-August 2022	
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>1.27</b>
Change on quarter	-34,000
Change on year	315,000

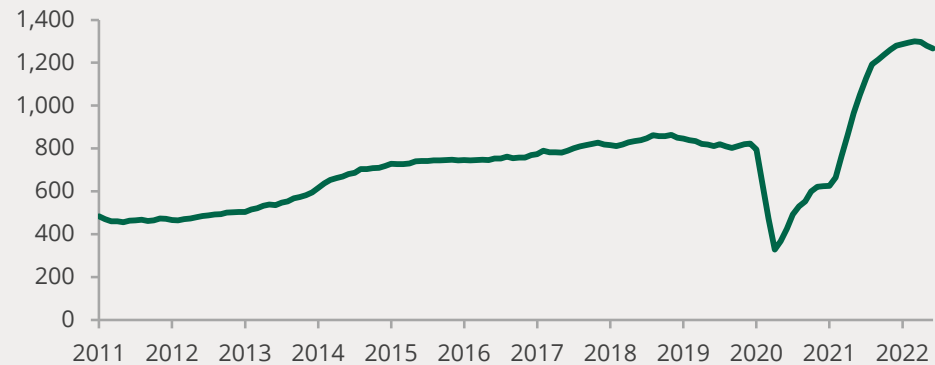
One of the earliest indicators of the impact that the pandemic was having on the labour market was a record fall in the number of job vacancies in April-June 2020. The number of vacancies in that 3-month period was at a record low of 329,000. This was 467,000 less than in January-March 2020.

Since then, the number of vacancies steadily recovered and moved back to their pre-pandemic levels in spring 2021. Vacancy levels rose quickly throughout the rest of 2021, and reached their highest level in March-May 2022 since comparable records began in 2001, before falling in recent quarters.

<sup>4</sup> ONS, [Vacancies and jobs in the UK](#), 13 September 2022

## Vacancies fell in May- July 2022, for the first time since April-June 2020

Thousands, seasonally adjusted



Source: ONS, [VACS01: Vacancies and unemployment](#), 13 September 2022

## 2 Vacancies by Industry

The Library Insight [How has the pandemic affected industries and labour in the UK?](#) looks at the trends in vacancies across different industry sectors.

Most sectors had a fall in vacancies at the start of the pandemic, but vacancies in all sectors are now above their pre-pandemic levels. Many sectors are seeing particularly large levels of vacancies, with the largest percentage increase in vacancies in the Accommodation & food services sector.

As this high level of vacancies is accompanied by relatively low unemployment, it means that certain sectors are experiencing labour shortages.

## 2 Unemployment and economic inactivity

### 2.1 Unemployment

In May-July 2022, there were 1.22 million unemployed people in the UK, a decrease of 76,000 since the previous quarter. The unemployment rate (the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed) was 3.6%, the lowest unemployment rate since 1974 and close to the lowest rate on record.<sup>5</sup>

The unemployment rate was 3.6%, compared to 4.0% prior to the pandemic.

Unemployment May-July 2022	
<b>Rate (16+)</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Rate last quarter	3.8%
Rate last year	4.6%
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>1.22</b>
Change on quarter	-76,000
Change on year	-332,000

Prior to the start of the coronavirus pandemic, the unemployment rate was at a historically low level. The rate rose as a result of the pandemic, to a high of 5.2% in late 2020, although this was much lower than the rates that were forecast at the beginning of the pandemic. In comparison, the rate reached a post-recession high of 8.5% in late 2011 following the 2008 financial crisis.

Since the end of 2020, unemployment has gradually fallen, and continued to fall even after the job retention scheme came to an end. Unemployment levels decreased on the quarter to May-July 2022, and were still 82,000 below pre-pandemic levels. By historical standards, unemployment levels are currently very low.

<sup>5</sup> The International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of unemployment includes everyone looking for and available for work whether or not they are claiming benefits and is measured using surveys.



Source: ONS, [A01: Summary of labour market statistics](#), 13 September 2022

Looking across **countries and regions of the UK** in May-July 2022, the unemployment rate was highest in the North East (4.7%) and lowest in the South West (2.7%). Note that smaller survey samples make regional estimates more volatile than estimates for the UK as a whole.<sup>6</sup>

## Unemployment forecasts

In August 2022 the Bank of England, in their central forecast, projected that unemployment will stay low in the near term, then increase to 4% in the middle of 2023, then to 6¼% by 2025.

As discussed in Box 1, unemployment might increase more quickly if labour demand slows in line with demand for goods and services as prices rise and household incomes are squeezed. Prospects for unemployment also depend on how persistent the effects of the pandemic are on economic activity.<sup>7</sup>

The Treasury's September 2022 survey of independent forecasts for the unemployment rate showed an average forecast of 4.1% for Quarter 4 2022 and 4.3% for Q4 2023.<sup>8</sup>

## 2.2

## Economic Inactivity

In May-July 2022, there were 9.01 million people in the UK who were economically inactive (not in work and not actively looking for work). The inactivity rate (the proportion of the population aged 16-64 who are

<sup>6</sup> ONS, [Labour market in the regions of the UK: September 2022](#) 13 September 2022

<sup>7</sup> Bank of England, [Monetary Policy Report - August 2022](#), 4 August 2022

<sup>8</sup> HM Treasury, [Forecasts for the UK economy: September 2022](#), 21 September 2022

economically inactive) was 21.7%. There was a large increase in economic inactivity (194,000) since the previous quarter.

<b>Economic inactivity</b>	
May-July 2022	
<b>Rate (16+)</b>	<b>21.7%</b>
Rate last quarter	21.3%
Rate last year	21.2%
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>9.01</b>
Change on quarter	194,000
Change on year	246,000

As employment levels have risen since 2011, the number of economically inactive people has fallen, but economic inactivity rose as a result of the pandemic. The number of economically inactive people in May-July 2022 was 565,000 above pre-pandemic levels in January-March 2020.

Long term sickness and being a student were the leading reasons for economic inactivity in May-July 2022, with 27.3% of economically inactive people saying their inactivity was because of a long-term illness and 26.6% saying it was because they were a student. The number of economically inactive people with a long-term illness is at its highest since 2001. As well as this, 19% of economically inactive people said their activity was because of looking after the family or their home.<sup>9</sup>

### 3 Trends in inactivity during the pandemic

The Library Insight, [Will more economic inactivity be a legacy of the pandemic?](#) looks at the impact the pandemic had on economic inactivity.

At the start of the pandemic, economists feared that high unemployment would be the economic legacy of the coronavirus pandemic. Instead, it appears that the legacy may be higher levels of economic inactivity.

The increase in inactivity has been larger for men, and for young people and those aged between 50 and 65.

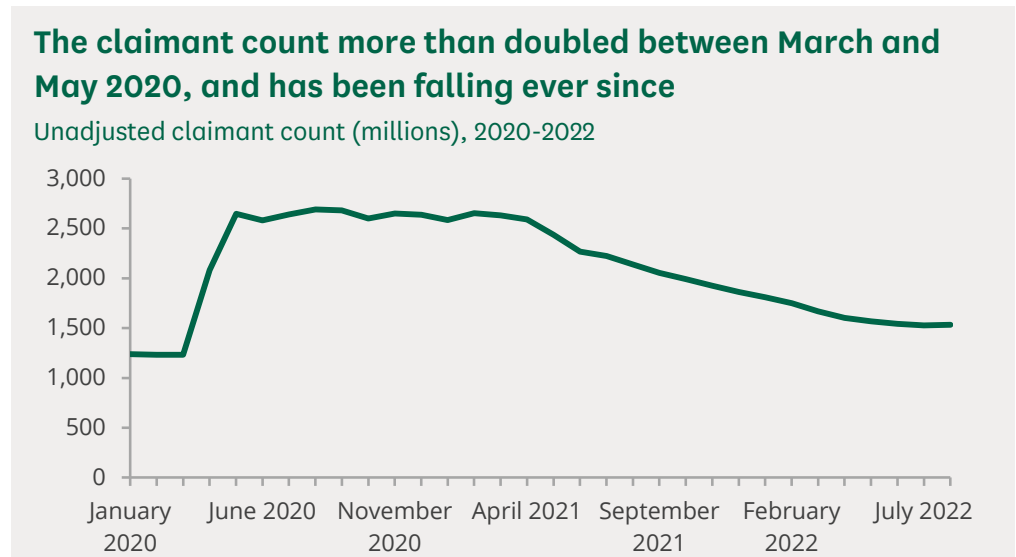
<sup>9</sup> ONS, [JNAC01 SA: Economic inactivity by reason \(seasonally adjusted\)](#), 13 September 2022

## 2.3

## People claiming unemployment benefits

In August 2022, 1.53 million people claimed unemployment related benefits, which similar to July levels and a fall of 604,000 from the year before.<sup>10</sup>

Since March 2020, when the lockdown began, the claimant count has increased by 303,000. However, as shown in the chart below, most of this increase occurred between March and May 2020.



Source: ONS, [Claimant count](#), 13 September 2022

The claimant count is a useful data source for tracking changes in the labour market, although many of those who have started to claim may not be unemployed.

Constituency level claimant count figures are published in the Library briefing [People claiming unemployment benefits by constituency](#).

<sup>10</sup> ONS, [CLA01: Claimant Count](#), 13 September 2022



## 3

## Earnings

There was strong growth in average pay in cash terms in the three months to July 2022, but there was another fall in real-terms growth for earnings. CPI inflation averaged 9.5% in the same period.

Annual growth in average weekly pay Three months to July 2022		
	Cash	Real
Including bonuses	5.5%	-3.7%
Excluding bonuses	5.2%	-4.0%

As discussed in Box 1, a tight labour market is strengthening underlying nominal wage growth, which is higher than before the pandemic. The Bank of England estimate underlying private sector regular pay growth (pay growth without compositional and furlough effects) is around 4.25%.<sup>11</sup>

However, prices have been rising since early 2021 and [in its latest forecasts](#), published 4 August 2022, the Bank of England forecasted CPI inflation to peak at just over 13% in Q4 2022 and to remain relatively high throughout 2023.<sup>12</sup> These forecasts were before the Prime Minister announced a new energy bill cap in September 2022, which is expected to mean lower than expected inflation.<sup>13</sup>

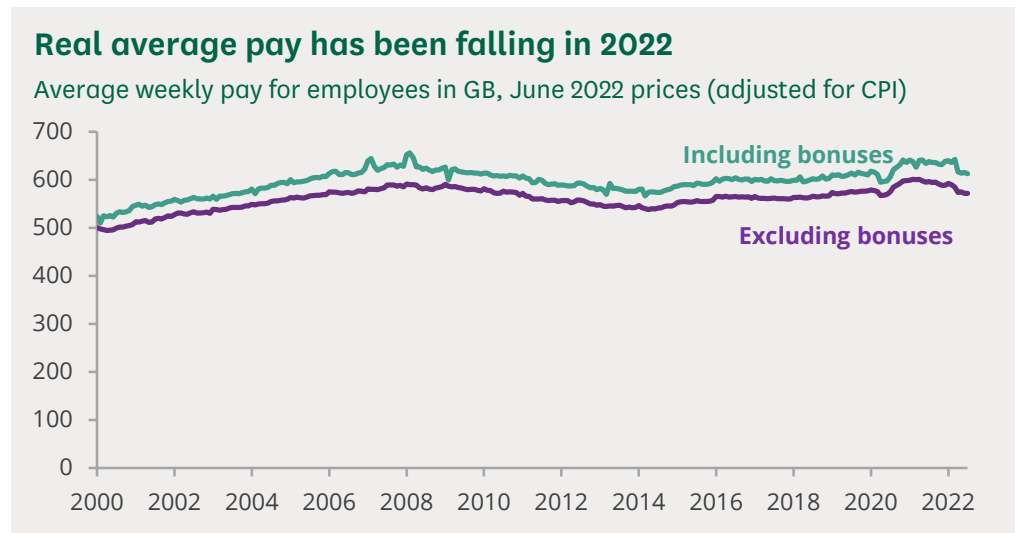
This means the real value of wages is expected to fall throughout 2022 and 2023 as nominal wages fail to keep up with inflation.

The Library briefing [Rising cost of living in the UK](#) provides more detail.

<sup>11</sup> Bank of England, [Monetary Policy Report - August 2022](#), 4 August 2022

<sup>12</sup> Bank of England, [Monetary Policy Report - August 2022](#), 4 August 2022

<sup>13</sup> BBC News, [Energy bills to be capped at £2,500 for typical household](#), 8 September 2022



Source: ONS, [EARN01: Average weekly earnings](#), 13 September 2022

Average pay in the **private sector** increased by 6.2% including bonuses and by 6.0% excluding bonuses. In the **public sector**, average pay grew by 2.0% including bonuses and by 2.0% excluding bonuses. After adjusting for inflation, private sector pay including bonuses fell by 3.0% and fell by 3.2% excluding bonuses. Public sector pay fell by 6.8% including bonuses and by 6.8% excluding bonuses.

## 4 Impact of the pandemic on wages

Earnings growth fell and briefly became negative during the first lockdown, in part due to many furloughed workers receiving only 80% of their usual wages and workers having to cut down hours.

After the first lockdown real pay began growing quickly. The ONS [reported](#) that this growth in pay was partly due to a fall in the number and proportion of lower-paid jobs (a composition effect), and partly due to the fact that annual earnings growth is being compared with periods affected by the pandemic (a base effect).<sup>14</sup> These temporary factors will have largely worked their way out of the latest figures.<sup>15</sup>

Since the end of 2020 real wages have stagnated and high inflation means real wages have been falling in recent months. The Library Insight [What happened to wages in the coronavirus pandemic?](#) provides more analysis.

The Library briefing [Coronavirus: impact on the labour market](#) provides more detail.

<sup>14</sup> ONS, [Far from average: How COVID-19 has impacted the Average Weekly Earnings data](#), 15 July 2021

<sup>15</sup> ONS, [Average weekly earnings in Great Britain](#), 13 September 2022

## 4 People in the labour market

### 4.1 Women and men

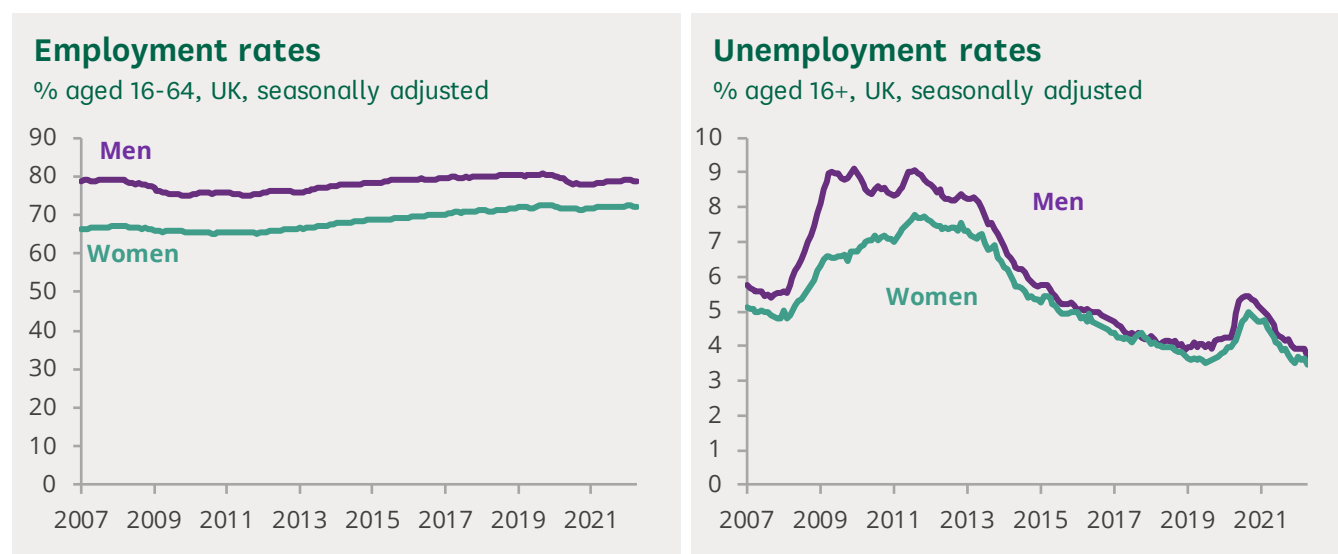
15.61 million women were in work in May-July 2022, while 17.14 million men were in work. The female employment rate was 72.1% and the male employment rate was 78.8%.

#### Employment for men and women

May-July 2022

	Total	Women	Men
<b>Rate (16-64)</b>	<b>75.4%</b>	<b>72.1%</b>	<b>78.8%</b>
Rate last quarter	75.6%	72.3%	79.0%
Rate last year	75.1%	72.0%	78.3%
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>32.75</b>	<b>15.61</b>	<b>17.14</b>
Change on quarter	40,000	-7,000	46,000
Change on year	337,000	117,000	220,000

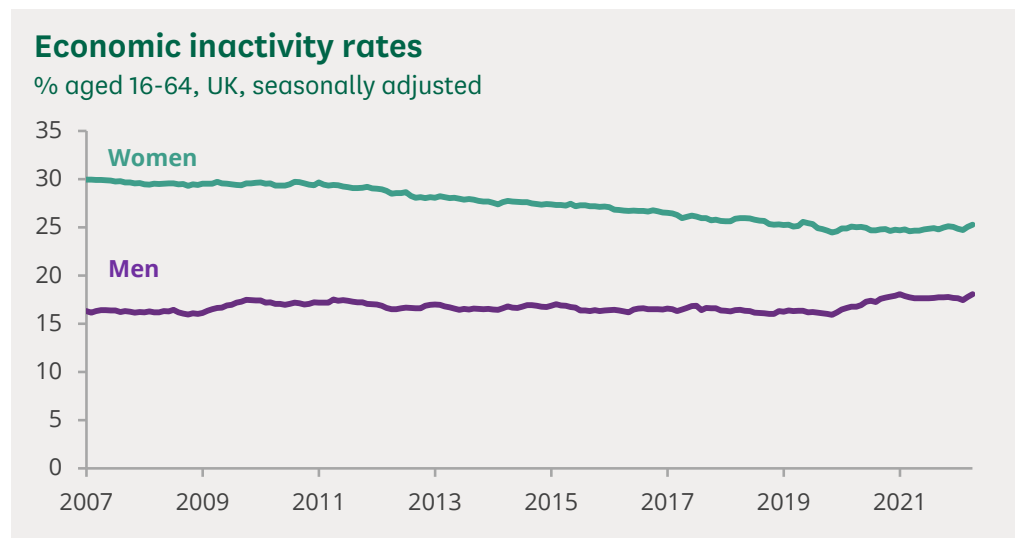
As shown in the charts below, both unemployment rates and employment rates are higher for men than for women. The gap for unemployment, however, is now very small.



Source: ONS, [A05 SA: Employment, unemployment and economic inactivity by age group \(seasonally adjusted\)](#), 13 September 2022

Economic inactivity rates are higher for women: in May-July 2022, the percentage of women who were not in work and not looking for work was 25.3%, compared to 18.1% for men.

The gap between the rates for men and women has been narrowing steadily due to a fall in the number of women who are economically inactive. As there has been a flow from inactivity to employment for women, this has meant that the employment gap between men and women has also been closing steadily in recent years.



Source: ONS, [A05 SA: Employment, unemployment and economic inactivity by age group \(seasonally adjusted\)](#), 13 September 2022

Increases in the employment rate for women over recent years are partly due to changes to the State Pension age.<sup>16</sup>

## 4.2 Young people

372,000 young people aged 16-24 were unemployed in May-July 2022, a rate of 9.1%. By historical standards, unemployment levels for young people remain low.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Library briefing [Increases in the State Pension age for women born in the 1950s](#) provides more information.

<sup>17</sup> ONS, [A06 SA: Educational status and labour market status for people aged from 16 to 24](#), 13 September 2022

## Youth unemployment

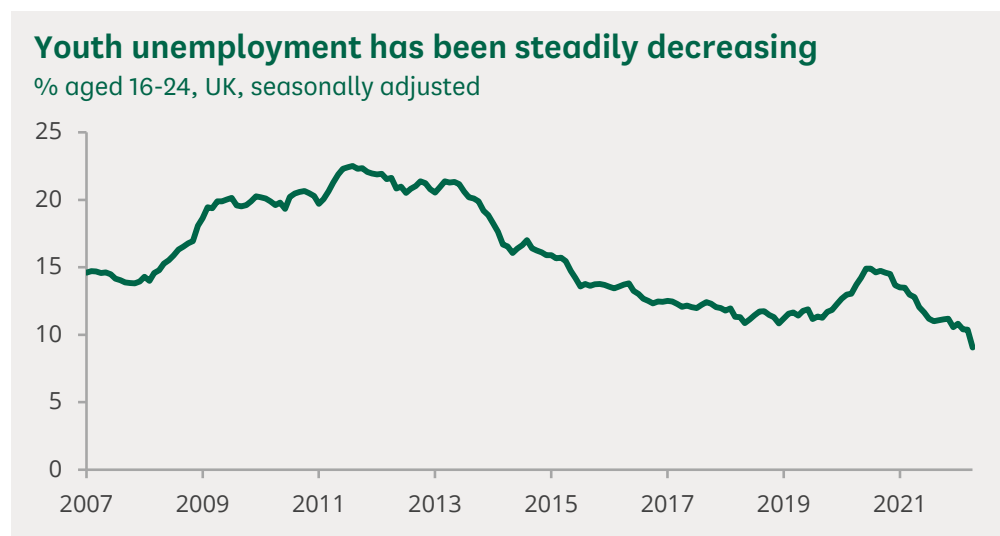
May-July 2022

<b>Rate (16+)</b>	<b>9.1%</b>
Rate last quarter	10.8%
Rate last year	12.8%
<b>Level</b>	<b>372,000</b>
Change on quarter	-83,000
Change on year	-150,000

In the months following the start of the pandemic there was a large fall in employment levels for young people aged 16-24, and this was followed by a rise in unemployment. In July-September 2020 it had increased by 15% from pre-pandemic levels.

Unemployment levels for young people started to fall after that and were 159,000 below pre-pandemic levels in May-July 2022.

The number of young people in employment remains below pre-pandemic levels.



Source: ONS, [Table A06 SA](#): Educational status and labour market status for people aged from 16 to 24, 13 September 2022

Library briefing [Youth unemployment statistics](#) provides more detail on this subject.

## 4.3

### Ethnic groups

Unemployment rates vary substantially between ethnic groups. In April-June 2022 rates were highest for Bangladeshi (9.0%) and Black (8.1%) ethnic groups and lowest for White (3.2%) and Indian (4.7%) ethnic groups. The UK unemployment rate was 3.6% in the same period.

## Unemployment by ethnic group

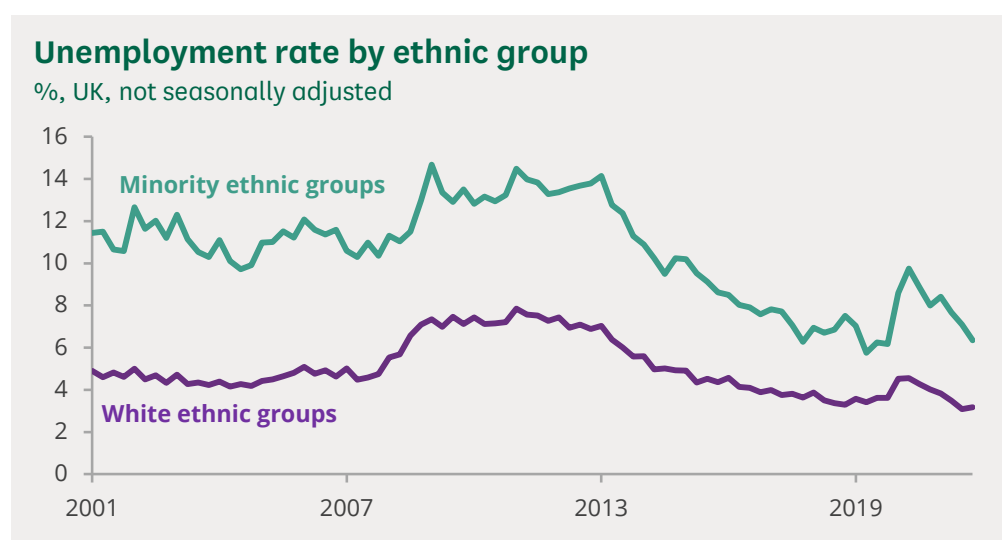
April-June 2022

	Rate
White	3.2%
Mixed/multiple ethnic groups	6.6%
Indian	4.7%
Pakistani	5.9%
Bangladeshi	9.0%
Chinese	7.3%
Black	8.1%
Other	5.7%

Small survey sample sizes mean that an unemployment rate time series for each ethnic group would not be reliable. The chart below groups all minority ethnic groups together to improve reliability. Before the pandemic, the gap between unemployment for White ethnic groups and minority ethnic groups was gradually narrowing, but the pandemic reversed this trend.

Unemployment rates for minority ethnic groups increased from 6.3% in the pre-pandemic quarter January-March 2020, to a high of 9.8% in October-December 2020. In comparison, the unemployment rate for people from a White ethnic group increased from 3.6% to a high of 4.6%.

The gap has narrowed in recent quarters and the unemployment rate for minority ethnic groups returned to pre-pandemic levels in April-June 2022, at 6.3%. The rate for people from a White ethnic background was below pre-pandemic levels in this quarter.



Source: ONS, UK labour market, [Table A09](#), 16 August 2022

Library briefing [Unemployment by ethnic background](#) provides more detail on this subject.

## 4.4

## Nationality

In April-June 2022, the employment rates for UK and non-UK nationals were very similar. However, looking more closely at the figures shows that employment rates vary significantly depending on which country a non-UK national or a person born outside the UK comes from.

The employment rate for all non-UK nationals was 75.3%, compared to a rate of 75.4% for UK nationals. Nationals of EU countries had an employment rate of 81.8%, compared to 68.8% for non-EU nationals.

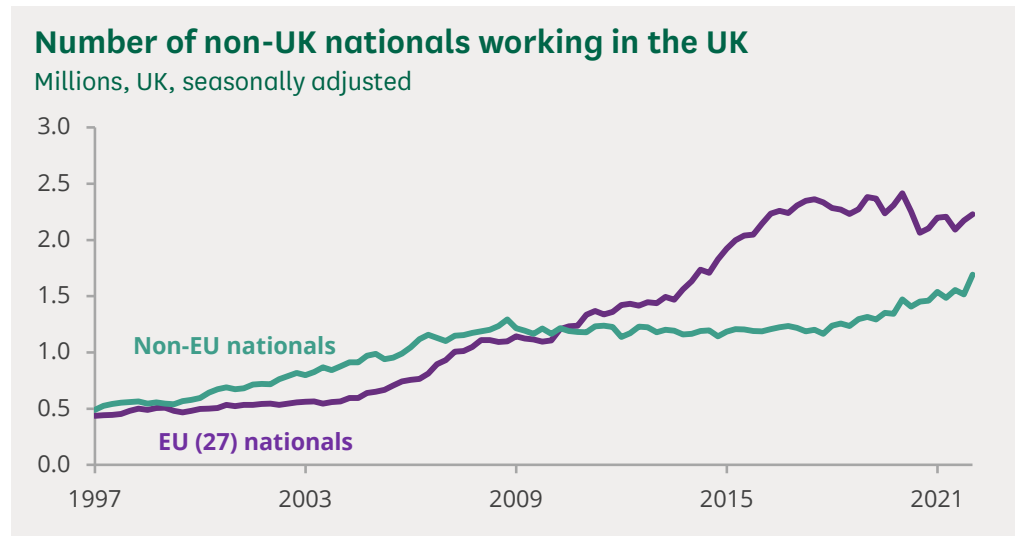
<b>Employment by nationality</b>				
April-June 2022				
	UK	Non-UK	EU	Non-EU
<b>Rate (16-64)</b>	<b>75.4%</b>	<b>75.3%</b>	<b>81.8%</b>	<b>68.8%</b>
Rate last quarter	75.6%	75.7%	82.9%	67.8%
Rate last year	74.9%	75.4%	80.7%	68.6%
<b>Level (millions)</b>	<b>28.76</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>2.18</b>	<b>1.79</b>
Change on quarter	73,000	45,000	-51,000	96,000
Change on year	219,000	272,000	-31,000	302,000

In April-June 2022, there were 3.96 million people working in the UK who were not UK nationals, 12.1% of all people in employment. This included:

- 2.18 million people who were nationals of the 27 EU countries (6.7%)
- 1.79 million people who were nationals of countries outside the EU (5.5%)

The chart below shows that there were big increases in the number of EU nationals in work up to the end of 2017, but numbers have since been falling in response to Brexit and the coronavirus pandemic. The number of non-EU nationals in work has been steadily increasing in recent years.

Compared to the pre-pandemic quarter of January-March 2020, there was a fall in employment of 314,000 for UK nationals. There was also a fall for EU nationals of 239,000, but an increase for non-EU nationals of 316,000, meaning the increase in employment for non-UK nationals was 77,000.



Source: ONS, [EMP06: Employment by country of birth and nationality](#), 16 August 2022

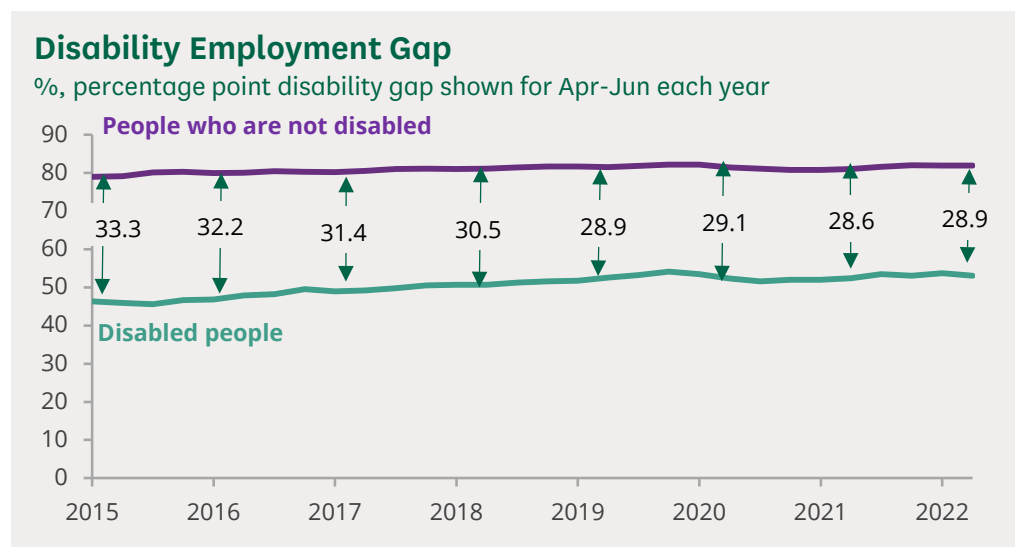
## 4.5

## Disability

In April-June 2022, the employment rate for disabled people was 53.0% and the rate for people who are not disabled was 81.9%, meaning that the disability employment gap (the difference in the employment rate of disabled people and people who are not disabled) was 28.9 percentage points.

Between April-June 2013 and April-June 2022, the disability employment gap reduced by 4.3 percentage points. This has been because the employment rate for disabled people has been rising faster than the employment rate for people who are not disabled.

The gap increased slightly during the coronavirus pandemic.



Source: ONS, [Table A08: Labour market status of disabled people](#), 16 August 2022



Library briefing [Disabled people in employment](#) provides more detail on this subject.

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