

Employment Insight Information Source

This Employment Insight contains the latest estimates for employment, unemployment, economic inactivity, claimant count, average earnings, labour productivity, vacancies and labour disputes. The estimates are used by a wide range of users, particularly across government and the media, to monitor developments in the labour market. All estimates discussed in this Statistical Bulletin are for the United Kingdom and are seasonally adjusted except where otherwise stated. Most of the figures discussed in this Employment Insight are obtained from surveys of households or businesses and are therefore estimates, not precise figures.

Key indicators from June to August 2012:

The employment rate for those aged from 16 to 64 was 71.3 per cent, up 0.5 on March to May 2012 and up 0.9 on a year earlier. There were 29.59 million people in employment aged 16 and over, up 212,000 on March to May 2012 and up 510,000 on a year earlier.

The unemployment rate was 7.9 per cent of the economically active population, down 0.2 on March to May 2012 and down 0.3 on a year earlier. There were 2.53 million unemployed people,down 50,000 on March to May 2012 and on a year earlier.

The inactivity rate for those aged from 16 to 64 was 22.5 per cent, down 0.3 on March to May 2012 and down 0.8 on a year earlier. There were 9.04 million economically inactive people aged from 16 to 64, down 138,000 on March to May 2012 and down 314,000 on a year earlier.

Total pay (including bonuses) rose by 1.7 per cent on a year earlier, up 0.1 from May to July 2012. Regular pay (excluding bonuses) rose by 2.0 per cent on a year earlier, up 0.1 from May to July.

Between March to May 2012 and June to August 2012:

- the number of people in full-time employment increased by 88,000
- the number of people in part-time employment increased by 125,000
- the number of unemployed people fell by 50,000
- the number of economically inactive people, aged from 16 to 64, fell by 138,000.

Between June to August 2007 and June to August 2012:

- the number of people in full-time employment fell by 355,000
- the number of people in part-time employment increased by 724,000
- the number of unemployed people increased by 883,000
- the number of economically inactive people, aged from 16 to 64, fell by 112,000

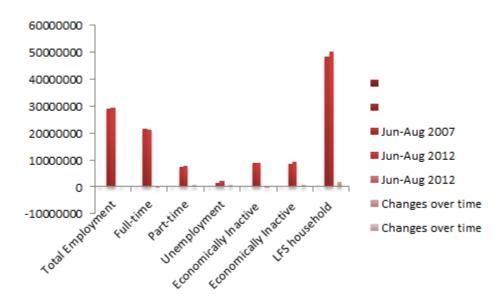
Employment

The employment rate for those aged from 16 to 64 for June to August 2012 was 71.3 per cent. This is the highest figure since February to April 2009 and it is up 0.5 percentage points on March to May 2012 and up 0.9 on a year earlier. The number of people in employment aged 16 and over increased by 212,000 between March to May and June to August 2012 to reach 29.59 million. The number of people in employment has not been higher since comparable records began in 1971, but the employment rate of 71.3 per cent, for those aged from 16 to 64, is lower than the pre-recession peak of 73.0 per cent recorded for March to May 2008.

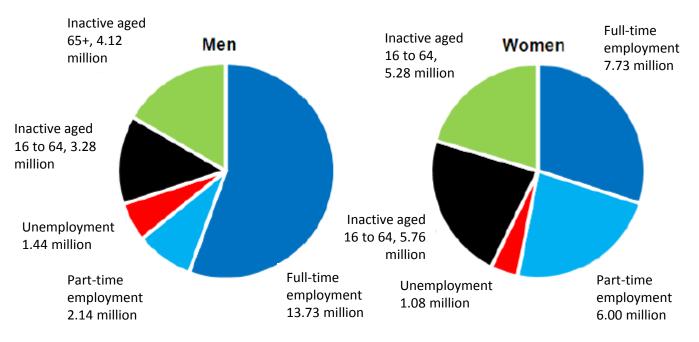
The unemployment rate for June to August 2012 was 7.9 per cent of the economically active population, down 0.2 on March to May 2012 and down 0.3 on a year earlier. There were 2.53 million unemployed people in June to August 2012, down 50,000 both from March to May and from a year earlier. The number of unemployed people aged from 16 to 24 fell by 62,000 between March to May and June to August 2012 to reach 957,000; this figure includes 298,000 unemployed young people in full-time education.

The economic inactivity rate for those aged from 16 to 64 for June to August 2012 was 22.5 per cent, down 0.3 on March to May 2012 and down 0.8 on a year earlier. The number of economically inactive people aged from 16 to 64 fell by 138,000 between March to May and June to August 2012 to reach 9.04 million. The number of people who were economically inactive due to long-term sickness fell by 103,000 between March to May and June to August 2012 to reach 2.04 million.

Changes in number of people in the labour market between June to August 2007 and June to August 2012, seasonally adjusted

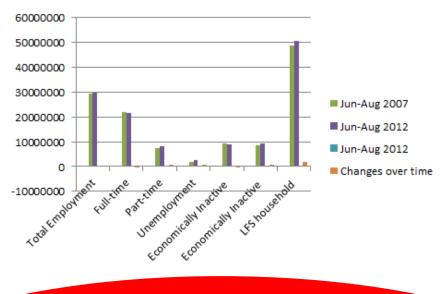


People in the labour market for June to August 2012



The number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance fell by 4,000 between August and September 2012 to reach 1.57 million. Between June to August 2011 and June to August 2012, total pay for employees in Great Britain rose by 1.7 per cent.

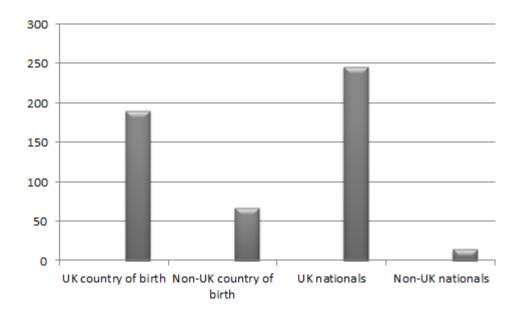
Changes in number of people in the labour market between June to August 2007 and June to August 2012



The number of UK nationals in employment was 26.83 million for April to June 2012, up 246,000 from a year earlier. The number of non-UK nationals in employment was 2.58 million, up 15,000 from a year earlier.

The number of UK born people in employment was 25.21 million for April to June 2012, up 190,000 from a year earlier. The number of non-UK born people in employment was 4.19 million, up 67,000 from a year earlier.

Employment by country of birth and nationality, changes on year between April to June 2011 and April to June 2012



Labour disputes

These estimates measure disputes (ie, strikes) connected with terms and conditions of employment. In August 2012, there were 10,000 working days lost from 15 stoppages. In the twelve months to August 2012, there were 1.25 million working days lost from 127 stoppages.

Actual hours worked

Actual hours worked measures the number of hours worked in the economy. Total hours worked per week were 936.5 million for June to August 2012, down 2.6 million from March to May 2012 but up 13.6 million on a year earlier. Average weekly hours worked for June to August 2012 were 31.7, down 0.3 from March to May 2012 and down 0.1 from a year earlier. The estimates for total hours worked and average hours worked can be affected by the arrangement of public holidays. The quarterly fall in hours worked between March to May and June to August 2012 was affected by:

- one fewer public holiday than usual in May and two more public holidays than usual in June (due to the Diamond Jubilee)
- the half term school holidays, which usually occur in May, were moved to June resulting in more people than usual taking time off work in June and fewer people than usual taking time off work in May



Earnings In August 2012:

- average total pay (including bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £473 per week
- average regular pay (excluding bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £444 per week Between June to August 2011 and June to August 2012, total pay for employees in Great Britain rose by 1.7 per cent. This annual growth rate of 1.7 per cent was 0.1 percentage points higher than the growth rate in total pay between May to July 2011 and May to July 2012.

Between June to August 2011 and June to August 2012, regular pay for employees in Great Britain rose by 2.0 per cent. This annual growth rate of 2.0 per cent was 0.1 percentage points higher than the growth rate in regular pay between May to July 2011 and May to July 2012. Between June to August 2011 and June to August 2012:

total pay in the private sector rose by 1.9 per cent, while regular pay rose by 2.1 per cent

Unemployment - June to August 2012:

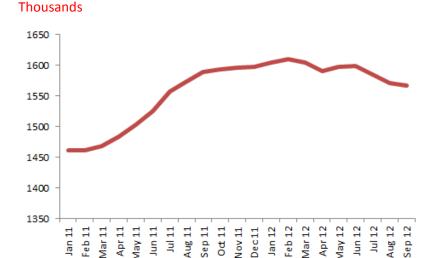
- 1.17 million people had been unemployed for up to six months, down 16,000 from March to May
- 464,000 people had been unemployed for between six and twelve months, down 47,000 from March to May
- 897,000 people had been unemployed for over one year, up 13,000 from March to May
- 444,000 people had been unemployed for over two years, up 1,000 from March to May



The unemployment rate was 7.9 per cent for June to August 2012, down 0.2 percentage points from March to May 2012 and down 0.3 from a year earlier. Unemployment rates are calculated, in accordance with international guidelines, as the number of unemployed people divided by the economically active population (those in employment plus those who are unemployed). There were 2.53 million unemployed people, down 50,000 from March to May 2012 and from a year earlier.

Claimant count

The claimant count measures the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and differs from unemployment (which measures people who meet the internationally agreed definition of unemployment). The claimant count for September 2012 was 1.57 million, down 4,000 from August 2012 and down 21,800 on a year earlier. The claimant count rate was 4.8 per cent, unchanged from August 2012 but down 0.1 from a year earlier.



Employment

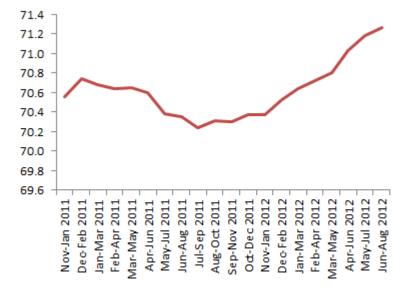
The employment rate for men aged from 16 to 64 was 76.5 per cent for June to August 2012, up 0.5 percentage points on March to May 2012. The corresponding employment rate for women was 66.1 per cent, up 0.5 from March to May 2012.

The number of people in employment was 29.59 million for June to August 2012, up 212,000 from March to May 2012 and up 510,000 on a year earlier. The number of people in full-time employment was 21.46 million for June to August 2012, up 88,000 from March to May 2012. The number of people in part-time employment was 8.13 million, up 125,000 from March to May 2012.

Between March to May 2012 and June to August 2012:

- the number of employees increased by 162,000 to reach 25.12 million
- the number of self-employed people increased by 35,000 to reach 4.20 million
- the number of unpaid family workers (people who work in a family business who do not receive a formal wage or salary but benefit from the profits of that business) increased by 2,000 to reach 112,000
- the number of people on government supported training and employment programmes increased by 13,000 on the quarter to reach 158,000





The number of people employed in the public sector was 5.66 million in June 2012, down 235,000 from March 2012.

The number of people employed in the private sector in June 2012 was 23.90 million, up 471,000 from March 2012.

Source: Labour Force Survey - Office for National Statistics

Young people in the labour market

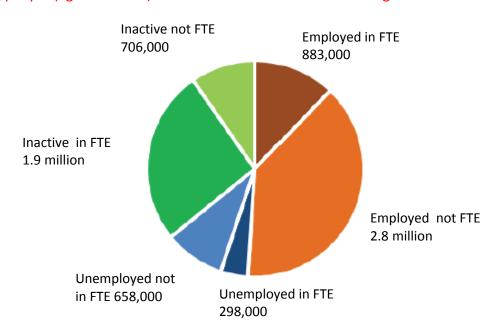
For June to August 2012:

- there were 3.71 million 16 to 24 years olds in employment, up 51,000 from March to May
- there were 2.60 million economically inactive 16 to 24 year olds (most of whom were in full-time education), down 1,000 from March to May
- there were 957,000 unemployed 16 to 24 year olds, down 62,000 from March to May

The unemployment rate for 16 to 24 year olds was 20.5 per cent for June to August 2012, down 1.3 percentage points from March to May. In accordance with international guidelines, unemployment rates are calculated as the number of unemployed people divided by the economically active population (those in employment plus those who are unemployed). Increasing numbers of young people going into full-time education reduces the size of the economically active population and therefore increases the unemployment rate.

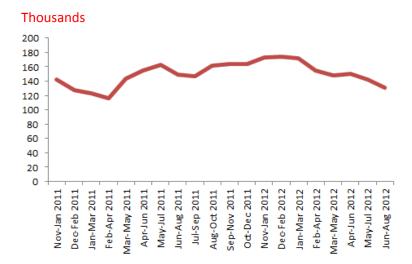
In accordance with international guidelines, people in full-time education (FTE) are included in the youth unemployment estimates if they have been looking for work within the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks. Excluding people in FTE, there were 658,000 unemployed 16 to 24 year olds for June to August 2012, down 61,000 from March to May. The corresponding unemployment rate was 18.9 per cent of the economically active population for 16 to 24 year olds not in FTE, down 1.6 percentage points from March to May.

Young people (aged 16 to 24) in the labour market for June to August 2012



Redundancies

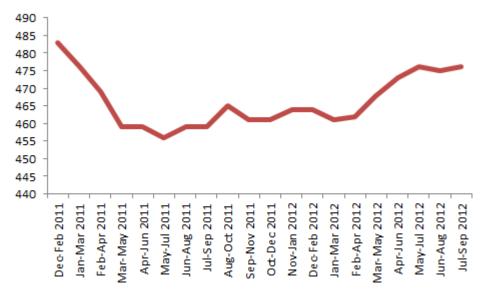
The redundancies estimates measure the number of people who have been made redundant or have taken voluntary redundancy. For June to August 2012, 131,000 people had become redundant in the three months before the Labour Force Survey interviews, down 16,000 from March to May2012 and down 18,000 from a year earlier. The redundancy rate was 5.3 per 1,000 employees, down 0.7 both from March to May 2012 and from a year earlier.



Vacancies

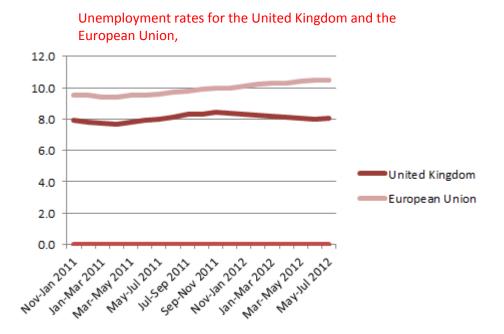
Vacancies are defined as positions for which employers are actively seeking to recruit outside their business or organisation. There were 476,000 job vacancies for July to September 2012, up 3,000 from April to June 2012 and up 17,000 on a year earlier. There were 1.8 vacancies per 100 employee jobs for July to September 2012, unchanged from April to June 2012 but up 0.1 on a year earlier.

Thousands



Unemployment in Europe

The unemployment rate for the European Union (EU) was 10.5 per cent of the economically active population in August 2012. The EU country with the highest unemployment rate was Spain, at 25.1 per cent, and the EU country with the lowest unemployment rate was Austria, at 4.5 per cent. The unemployment rate for Japan was 4.2 per cent in August 2012. The unemployment rate for the United States was 7.8 per cent in September 2012.





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