



# Labour Market Analysis

Monthly Update – February  
Release

Economic Growth Service

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# 1. Summary

## 1.1 Cornwall

### Jobseekers Allowance

- The total JSA figure for January for Cornwall was 2,713. Since December numbers in Cornwall have increased by 249 or 10.1%.
- The January figure for Cornwall was the lowest recorded for any January during the run of data since 1992.
- Compared to January 2017, the number of claimants in January 2018 in Cornwall decreased by 488 or 15%.
- Since November 2012, the numbers have fallen in each month compared to the same month in the previous year in Cornwall.
- Comparing the change in numbers for Cornwall between December and January each year (since 1992) indicates that numbers increased in all of the 26 years.
- Cornwall's JSA rate in January was 0.8%, the same as the figure in December. [The JSA rate is based on the number of claimants as a proportion of population aged 16-64. Although the number of JSA claimants increased, the rate did not. This was presumably as the change in numbers was not enough to alter the rate].
- Compared to January 2017, Cornwall's rate fell by 0.2 points, from 1.0% to 0.8%.

### Community Network Areas

- On a monthly basis 5 of the 19 CNAs saw decreases, while 13 saw increases, with 1 no change (0 or +- 1).
- Highest rates in January were in Newquay (1.4%), Camborne-Pool-Redruth (1.2%) then Bodmin and China Clay (1.0%). Lowest rates were found in Bude, Launceston, Truro & Roseland and Wadebridge & Padstow, all at 0.5%.
- Compared to January 2017, 14 areas saw rates decline with 5 stable.

### Occupations

- Comparing January 2018 to December 2017, overall numbers increased by 245. There were 6 occupations where numbers rose, 19 occupations which were static and 1 where numbers fell. The largest increase was for Sales Occupations up 200 from 1,765 to 1,965.
- In January 2018 there were 490 fewer jobseekers<sup>1</sup> compared to January 2017. Of the 26 occupational groups, 1 saw numbers rise 7 were static and 18 saw numbers fall.

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<sup>1</sup> All numbers are rounded. Includes 'Occupation unknown'.

### JSA on and off-flows

- In January there were 396 off-flows and 642 on-flows. Of the 395<sup>2</sup> off-flows, 40.5% were accounted for by people obtaining a job, 22.8% failed to sign and 19.0% were for reasons not known.

### **Labour market – Resident based**

- Labour market figures for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly from the Annual Population Survey are available up to September 2017<sup>3</sup>. This data set covers those of working age namely the 16-64 age group who are resident in the area<sup>4</sup>.
- In total there were 322,400 aged 16-64, of whom 254,100 were economically active with 246,200 who were employed. Of those employed, 187,700 were employees with 57,100 self-employed<sup>5</sup>; while 175,100 worked full-time with 70,700 working part-time. There were 7,800 who were unemployed, and 68,300 who were economically inactive.
- The figures show that over the last year the total aged 16-64 has moved up marginally<sup>6</sup>, the numbers of economically active have fallen back while the numbers of economically inactive have increased. Employment numbers are down marginally, with a rise in self-employed numbers but employees down. The number of those working part-time rose while full-time numbers fell. The number of unemployed fell substantially over the year.
- Looking at percentage changes over the year, the number employed was static, while there was a 1% increase in the 16-64 age group, with self-employed up by 6% and part-time up by 8% with economically inactive up by 16%.
- Over the year, the employment rate fell from 77.5% to 76.4%, the self-employment share of employment moved up from 21.9% to 23.3%. The share taken by full-time decreased from 73.4% to 71.1% while part-time went up from 26.5% to 28.7%. Unemployment rates fell back from 4.9% to 3.1%.
- Pre-recession employment figures peaked at 236,300 then fell back between 2008 and 2010 before picking up in mid-2011. Self-employed numbers increased from early 2006 until early 2008 before falling back slightly. Highs were reached again in late 2011 (52,300), declining up to early 2013 before rising again and peaking at 55,100 in 2014. Numbers then fell back before picking up again in 2016 to reach 57,100 for the latest period. Employee numbers rose from 2004 to 2006 (191,000), then steadily declined to 172,300 in 2010. Numbers then rose again to reach 188,300 in mid-2014, since when numbers fell back until early 2015, then remained stable prior to the latest increases to stand at 187,700. After reaching a low of 7,500 in early 2006 the numbers of unemployed rose to peak in 2010 at 23,000 before falling back to 12,400 in early 2012. Numbers climbed again until mid-2013 to 15,600 then

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<sup>2</sup> Numbers are always rounded for this dataset.

<sup>3</sup> Figures cover a year and are produced quarterly; all figures for age group 16-64.

<sup>4</sup> Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

<sup>5</sup> Numbers may not sum to all those employed.

<sup>6</sup> Due to the volatility of the data changes in figures from one period to another may not reflect underlying trends.

fell until mid-2015 to 9,700. There was then a period when numbers rose again reaching 15,100 in mid 2016, since when numbers have fallen back and now stand at 7,800.

- Economic activity numbers peaked in the mid and late 2011 periods then fell back until mid 2012. Numbers then increased reaching 255,500 in late 2014 before dropping back to a low of 250,800 in mid 2016. Since then numbers have climbed back with the latest figure at 254,100, down on the previous quarter.
- The latest figures show that there were 19,100 people aged 65 plus in the workforce. This represents 7.2% of the workforce, down from the figure of 7.5% a year earlier.
- Numbers working on a flexible basis fell over the year by 2,800 from 11,600 to 8,800, while the rate fell from 4.4% to 3.3%<sup>7</sup>.

### **Labour market - Workplace data**

- Latest data shows all those in employment, including those aged 65 plus, whose workplace is in Cornwall<sup>8</sup>, up to the year ending September 2017. The data shows there were 255,100 working in Cornwall in the year ending September 2017. Of these 67,700 were self-employed, with 180,500 employees, and with another 6,900 employees deemed to be working on a flexible basis. Over the year, numbers in employment, across all categories decreased by 8,200 from 263,300 to 255,100, this was attributable to a decrease in employee numbers and those on flexible contracts while self-employed numbers rose. The number on flexible contracts fell back from 9,300 to 6,900.
- Total employment has fallen back compared to the previous quarter and the same quarter a year ago, it is probable that totals are closer to the 260,000 figure.
- Over the year as a share of the workforce, the self-employed share was up, while employees and those on flexible contracts fell back. The fall in those on flexible contracts continues a trend.
- Workplace employment since 2004. Numbers peaked in early 2008 pre-recession, and then fell back before rising until early 2011. Numbers then fell back again until late 2012. Numbers then increased to peak in mid 2014 at 260,700. Numbers then fell back before peaking at 263,300, with a dip for two quarters then going back up to 262,300 followed by a decline in the latest quarter.

#### Sixty-five plus

- Overall since 2004 there has been a general upward trend in both the numbers and share of the workforce of those aged 65 plus. In 2004 there were 6,600 while the figure in mid 2011 was 15,000. Numbers dipped in the 2011 downturn before recovering in early 2014. From then onwards numbers

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<sup>7</sup> Those working on a non-permanent basis as a % of all employed.

<sup>8</sup> Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

dipped until late 2015 then rose to peak in late 2016 at 20,000, before falling back to 18,700.

### **Vacancies**

- In January 2018 there were 2,030 job postings in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This was up by 350 (21%) from 1,680 in December but down 15.4% from 2,400 in January 2017.

### **Claimant count**

- The latest claimant count figures show a total of 4,580 in Cornwall in January, up by 290 (+6.8%) on the December total of 4,290. Compared to January 2017 the total was down by 395 or 7.9% from 4,975.
- Over the year comparative figures were Cornwall -7.9%, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly also -7.9%, England + 9.1% and United Kingdom +7.3%.
- In January the claimant count rate was 1.4%, up from 1.3% in December. This compared to rates of 1.9% in England and 2.0% for the United Kingdom. Over the year the rate has declined by 0.1 point from 1.5% to 1.4%. In contrast the rate in England and in the United Kingdom rose by 0.1 point.

### **Benefit claimants – working age client group**

- The latest release brings the working age data up to August 2017. This gives a total of 28,680 who were claiming out-of-work benefits.
- The all working age benefits total fell on both a quarterly and annual basis. Changes were largely attributable to changes in the number of JSA claimants.

## 1.2 United Kingdom

### Main points for the three months to December 2017

- Main points for October to December 2017 Estimates from the Labour Force Survey show that, between July to September 2017 and October to December 2017, the number of people in work and the number of unemployed people both increased, but the number of people aged from 16 to 64 not working and not seeking or available to work (economically inactive) decreased.
- There were 32.15 million people in work, 88,000 more than for July to September 2017 and 321,000 more than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The employment rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 who were in work) was 75.2%, higher than for the same quarter a year earlier (74.6%).
- There were 901,000 people (not seasonally adjusted) in employment on “zero-hours contracts” in their main job, little changed compared with the same quarter a year earlier.
- There were 1.47 million unemployed people (people not in work but seeking and available to work), 46,000 more than for July to September 2017 but 123,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate (the proportion of those in work plus those unemployed, that were unemployed) was 4.4%, down from 4.8% for the same quarter a year earlier.
- There were 8.77 million people aged from 16 to 64 who were economically inactive (not working and not seeking or available to work), 109,000 fewer than for July to September 2017 and 95,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The inactivity rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 who were economically inactive) was 21.3%, lower than for the same quarter a year earlier (21.6%).
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in nominal terms (that is, not adjusted for price inflation) increased by 2.5% both including and excluding bonuses compared with the same quarter a year earlier.
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in real terms (that is, adjusted for price inflation) fell by 0.3% both including and excluding bonuses compared with the same quarter a year earlier.

## **Introduction**

This report sets out the latest data relating to the labour market, based on the data released by the Office for National Statistics (some of which is provided through NOMIS).

NB JSA figures for Cornwall and other areas in Section 2 are not seasonally adjusted and include those aged 16-64s. Figures provided in Section 3 at a UK level are seasonally adjusted and cover those aged 18-64. These are the figures cited on the BBC and other media outlets. Hence, the difference in format will account for any discrepancy in the figures.



## 2. Cornwall

### 2.1 Jobseekers Allowance

The latest JSA count data for January was released on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

[This figure is considered to underestimate the actual numbers unemployed, as it does not include people who are actively seeking work but not claiming Jobseekers Allowance, who are however included in the unemployment figures which are taken as a more accurate representation of the situation. NB. Not seasonally adjusted. Figures for Cornwall cover the unitary area only].

The total JSA figure for January for Cornwall was 2,713. Since December numbers in Cornwall have increased by 249 or 10.1%. Within the South West, 3 of the 16 County/Unitary areas saw decreases in the number of claimants from the previous month, while 12 saw increases. [Isles of Scilly, no data]. Swindon saw the largest decrease of 6.8%. Cornwall saw the largest increase of +10.1%, followed by Torbay with +9.4% and Devon with 9%. The level of increase in Cornwall was higher than usual. The January total for Cornwall was the lowest recorded during the run of data since 1992. The UK figure was up by 3.9%, Great Britain was up by 4.1% and South West England up by 4.6%. All details in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1: JSA count – numbers**

Area	Jan	Dec	Jan	Change			
	2017	2017	2018	Monthly		Annual	
	No's	No's	No's	No's	%	No's	%
Bath and NE Somerset	257	181	179	-2	-1.1	-78	-30
Bournemouth	1,441	1,225	1,233	8	0.7	-208	-14
Bristol, City of	3,869	3,421	3,620	199	5.8	-249	-6
<b>Cornwall</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>2,713</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>-488</b>	<b>-15</b>
Devon	3,115	2,686	2,915	229	8.5	-200	-6
Dorset	1,423	1,300	1,315	15	1.2	-108	-8
Gloucestershire	2,752	2,095	2,148	53	2.5	-604	-22
Isles of Scilly	5	#	#	#	#	#	#
North Somerset	808	355	360	5	1.4	-448	-55
Plymouth	2,680	2,143	2,187	44	2.1	-493	-18
Poole	731	537	538	1	0.2	-193	-26
Somerset	1,468	654	669	15	2.3	-799	-54
South Gloucestershire	1,078	964	1,015	51	5.3	-63	-6
Swindon	929	412	384	-28	-6.8	-545	-59
Torbay	1,170	1,043	1,141	98	9.4	-29	-2
Wiltshire	1,753	821	809	-12	-1.5	-944	-54
<b>Cornwall &amp; IoS</b>	<b>3,206</b>	<b>2,466</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>-491</b>	<b>-15</b>
SW England	26,680	20,303	21,228	925	4.6	-5,452	-20
England	405,001	348,774	362,768	13,994	4.0	-42,233	-10
Great Britain	484,747	412,995	429,916	16,921	4.1	-54,831	-11
UK	517,194	441,363	458,547	17,184	3.9	-58,647	-11

# These figures are suppressed as value is 1 or 2.

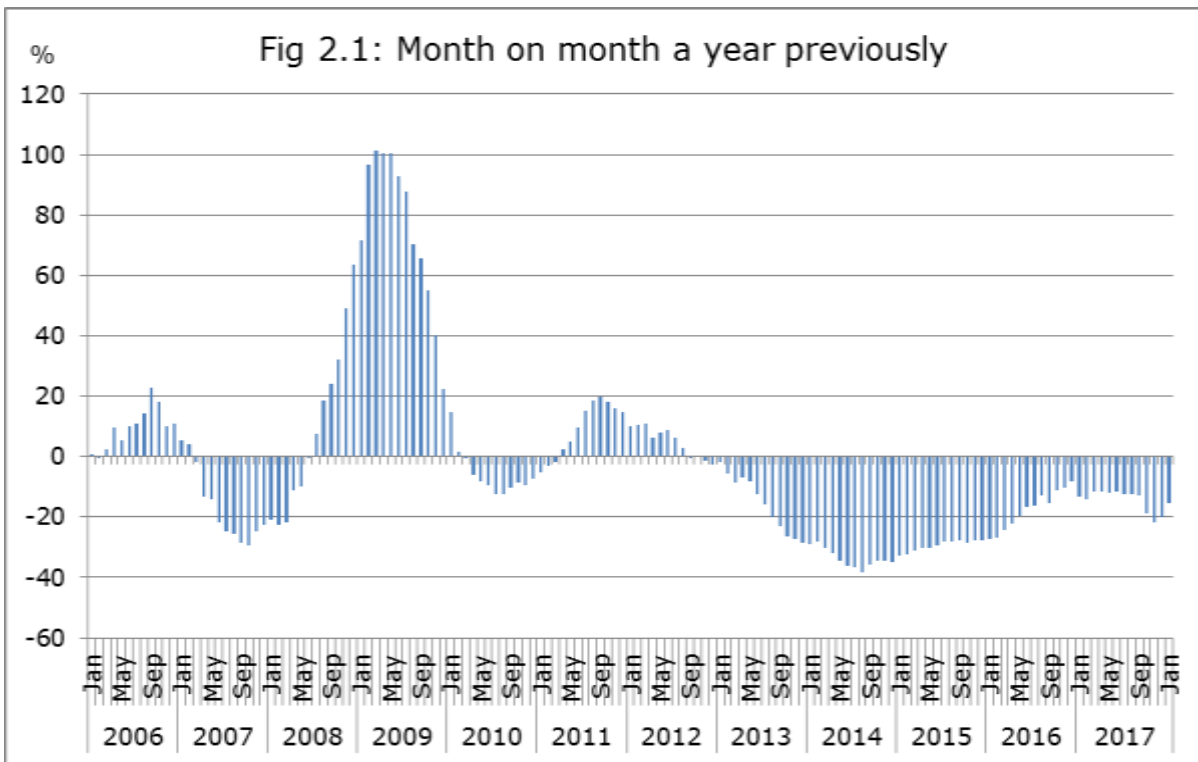
[Evidence presented to the House of Commons Work and Pensions Committee suggests that a proportion of JSA claimants who are sanctioned move off JSA but

do not gain employment. It is not known what impact this has on the JSA figures but the implication is that they under-estimate the actual figures].

Compared to January 2017, the number of claimants in Cornwall decreased by 488 or 15%. This compares to decreases across the UK of 11%, Great Britain also with 11% and South West England by 20%. Cornwall has done better than the UK average. Over the year 15 authorities saw a decrease in numbers. The largest percentage decreases were Swindon (-59%), and Somerset and Wiltshire (-54%).

Since November 2012, the numbers have fallen each month compared to the same month in the previous year in Cornwall.

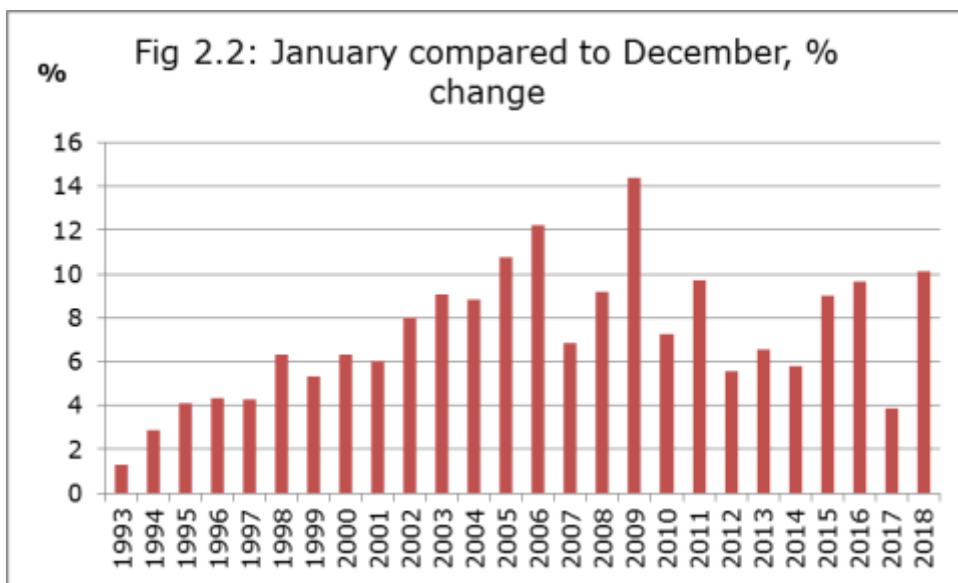
Fig 2.1 tracks the change comparing each month with the same month in the previous year in percentage terms since 2006. The labour market started to turn down in July 2008 with increases in job seeker numbers rising thereafter, peaking in the quarter March to May 2009. The rate of increase then fell back before returning to positive territory in March 2010 with numbers decreasing. However by April 2011 the situation deteriorated again with an increase in claimants until December 2011, remaining in negative territory until August 2012. From November 2012 the position turned positive, with a year-on-year percentage fall, peaking in -38% in August 2014. After that there was a reduction in the rate of fall, with six months stable at -12%. Since September 2017 the rate of decline increased with -19% in October, -22% in November and 20% in December. However, in January the rate fell back to 15%.



Comparing the change in numbers for Cornwall between December and January each year (since 1992) indicates that numbers increased in all of the 26 years. The upward movement in numbers was prevalent pre-recession with the biggest increases in 2005 (+10.7%) and 2006 (+12.2%). In 2009 the figure rose again to 14.4%. Percentage increases declined to reach a low of 3.9% in 2017. The

increase in January 2018 at +10.1%, compares to an average increase of 7.2% over the whole period.

Figure 2.2 below shows the change expressed in percentage terms for each year.



**JSA rate**

Cornwall’s JSA rate in January was 0.8%, the same as the figure in December. The rate remained the same despite an increase in the actual numbers, presumably because the rise in numbers was insufficient to change the rate. Compared to the previous month, JSA rates did not fall in any local authorities, were stable in 12 and increased in 3. [There is no data for the Isles of Scilly].

Comparative JSA count rates for January were: Cornwall 0.8%, UK 1.1%, Great Britain 1.1%, and South West England 0.6% respectively.

Compared to January 2017, Cornwall’s rate fell by 0.2 points, from 1.0% to 0.8%. Eleven authorities saw rates fall over the year, while 4 saw rates remain stable. [Isles of Scilly, no data].

All data is in Table 2.2.

<b>Table 2.2: JSA count – rate</b>							
Date	Jan	Dec	Jan	Change			
	2017	2017	2018	Monthly		Annual	
Area	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Bath and NE Somerset	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-50
Bournemouth	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-18
Bristol, City of	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.1	9.1	0.0	0
Cornwall	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-20
Devon	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-14
Dorset	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Gloucestershire	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.1	20.0	-0.1	-14
Isles of Scilly	0.4	#	#	#	#	#	#
North Somerset	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-57
Plymouth	1.6	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-19
Poole	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-25
Somerset	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-60
South Gloucestershire	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Swindon	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-57
Torbay	1.5	1.4	1.5	0.1	7.1	0.0	0
Wiltshire	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-50
Cornwall & IoS	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-20
SW England	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-25
England	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-17
Great Britain	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.1	10.0	-0.1	-8
United Kingdom	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-8

## 2.2 Community Network Areas

The number of claimants and the JSA rate varies within Cornwall, and different areas show different trends. Table 2.3 compares the most recent figures and shows changes on a monthly and annual basis. On a monthly basis 5 of the 19 CNAs saw decreases, while 13 saw increases, with 1 no change (0 or +/- 1). The largest decrease was in Bude (-13%). Biggest increases were in Wadebridge & Padstow (+56%) and China Clay (+21%).

Compared to January 2017, 16 areas saw decreases and 3 with increases. The largest decreases were Bude (-48%) then Launceston (-32%) and Truro & Roseland (-31%).

<b>Table 2.3: CNA, JSA count – numbers</b>							
Area	Jan	Dec	Jan	Change			
	2017	2017	2018	Monthly		Annual	
	No's	No's	No's	No's	%	No's	%
Bodmin	149	126	127	1	1	-22	-15
Bude	101	61	53	-8	-13	-48	-48
Camelford	51	42	40	-2	-5	-11	-22
Caradon	80	67	62	-5	-7	-18	-23
China Clay	167	136	164	28	21	-3	-2
Cornwall Gateway	138	126	143	17	13	5	4
Camborne-Pool-Redruth	557	407	444	37	9	-113	-20
Falmouth & Penryn	286	224	264	40	18	-22	-8
Hayle & St Ives	128	110	132	22	20	4	3
Helston & Lizard	140	125	132	7	6	-8	-6
Launceston	87	63	59	-4	-6	-28	-32
Liskeard & Looe	176	152	138	-14	-9	-38	-22
Newquay	234	204	238	34	17	4	2
St Agnes & Perranporth	80	56	60	4	7	-20	-25
St Austell	221	147	173	26	18	-48	-22
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	85	62	70	8	13	-15	-18
Truro & Roseland	200	127	139	12	9	-61	-31
Wadebridge & Padstow	68	34	53	19	56	-15	-22
West Penwith	253	195	222	27	14	-31	-12
<b>Cornwall</b>	<b>3,201</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>2,713</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-488</b>	<b>-15</b>

It should be noted that as JSA count figures are based on where people live rather than where they work, changes do not necessarily reflect the local economy but also commuting patterns. Vacancies require skills sets which are not always available in the immediate locality and jobs will of course be open to competition.

Table 2.4 shows the JSA rate by CNA<sup>9</sup>. Highest rates in January were in Newquay (1.4%), Camborne-Pool-Redruth (1.2%) then Bodmin, China Clay and West Penwith (1.0%). Lowest rates were found in Bude, Launceston, Truro & Roseland and Wadebridge & Padstow, all at 0.5%. Compared to January 2017, 14 areas saw rates decline with 5 stable.

<b>Table 2.4: CNA, JSA – rate</b>					
Period	Jan	Dec	Jan	Change	
	2017	2017	2018	Monthly	Annual
Area	%	%	%	%	%
Bodmin	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.0	-0.2
Bude	1.0	0.6	0.5	-0.1	-0.5
Camelford	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.1
Caradon	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.2
China Clay	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.0
Cornwall Gateway	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.0
Camborne-Pool-Redruth	1.5	1.1	1.2	0.1	-0.3
Falmouth & Penryn	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.1	-0.1
Hayle & St Ives	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.2	0.0
Helston & Lizard	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.0
Launceston	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.0	-0.2
Liskeard & Looe	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	-0.2
Newquay	1.4	1.2	1.4	0.2	0.0
St Agnes & Perranporth	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.1	-0.2
St Austell	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.1	-0.3
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.2
Truro & Roseland	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.0	-0.2
Wadebridge & Padstow	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.2	-0.1
West Penwith	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.1	-0.1
<b>Cornwall</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

<sup>9</sup> Rates based on 2015 MYE data.

### 2.3 Jobseekers by occupation - changes

Comparing January 2018 to December 2017, overall numbers increased by 245. There were 6 occupations where numbers rose, 19 occupations which were static and 1 where numbers fell. The largest increase was for Sales Occupations up 200 from 1,765 to 1,965.

[The figures show claimants usual occupation; it does not mean that when they get a job it is in that occupation]

All data is in Table 2.5.

<b>Table 2.5: Changes in jobseeker numbers – Jan 2018 compared to Dec 2017</b>			
Period	Nov	Dec	Change
Usual Occupation	No's	No's	No's
71 : Sales Occupations	1,765	1,965	200
11 : Corporate Managers	140	165	25
00 : Occupation unknown	190	200	10
72 : Customer Service Occupations	5	10	5
81 : Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	10	15	5
92 : Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	90	95	5
12 : Managers and Proprietors in Agriculture and Services	0	0	0
21 : Science and Technology Professionals	5	5	0
22 : Health Professionals	0	0	0
23 : Teaching and Research Professionals	0	0	0
24 : Business and Public Service Professionals	0	0	0
31 : Science and Technology Associate Professionals	5	5	0
32 : Health and Social Welfare Associate Professionals	5	5	0
33 : Protective Service Occupations	0	0	0
34 : Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	5	5	0
35 : Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	0	0	0
41 : Administrative Occupations	55	55	0
42 : Secretarial and Related Occupations	5	5	0
52 : Skilled Metal and Electronic Trades	10	10	0
53 : Skilled Construction and Building Trades	10	10	0
54 : Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	10	10	0
61 : Caring Personal Service Occupations	15	15	0
62 : Leisure and Other Personal Service Occupations	10	10	0
82 : Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	10	10	0
91 : Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	85	85	0
51 : Skilled Agricultural Trades	25	20	-5
<b>All</b>	<b>2,460</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>245</b>

In January 2018 there were 490 fewer jobseekers<sup>10</sup> compared to January 2017. Of the 26 occupational groups, 1 saw numbers rise 7 were static and 18 saw numbers fall – (Table 2.6)<sup>11</sup>. The biggest reductions were: 'Sales occupations' (-250) and 'Elementary Administration and Service Occupations' and 'Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations' (both -40).

**Table 2.6: Changes in jobseeker numbers – Jan 2018 compared to Jan 2017**

Period	2016	2017	Change	
Usual Occupation	No's	No's	No's	%
32 : Health and Social Welfare Associate Professionals	0	5	5	0
21 : Science and Technology Professionals	5	5	0	0
22 : Health Professionals	0	0	0	0
33 : Protective Service Occupations	0	0	0	0
42 : Secretarial and Related Occupations	5	5	0	0
52 : Skilled Metal and Electronic Trades	10	10	0	0
62 : Leisure and Other Personal Service Occupations	10	10	0	0
72 : Customer Service Occupations	10	10	0	0
12 : Managers and Proprietors in Agriculture and Services	5	0	-5	-100
23 : Teaching and Research Professionals	5	0	-5	-100
24 : Business and Public Service Professionals	5	0	-5	-100
31 : Science and Technology Associate Professionals	10	5	-5	-50
35 : Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5	0	-5	-100
34 : Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	15	5	-10	-67
51 : Skilled Agricultural Trades	30	20	-10	-33
54 : Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	20	10	-10	-50
82 : Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	20	10	-10	-50
53 : Skilled Construction and Building Trades	25	10	-15	-60
61 : Caring Personal Service Occupations	30	15	-15	-50
81 : Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	30	15	-15	-50
00 : Occupation unknown	220	200	-20	-9
11 : Corporate Managers	185	165	-20	-11
41 : Administrative Occupations	80	55	-25	-31
91 : Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	125	85	-40	-32
92 : Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	135	95	-40	-30
71 : Sales Occupations	2,215	1,965	-250	-11
<b>All</b>	<b>3,195</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>-490</b>	<b>-15</b>

<sup>10</sup> All numbers are rounded. Includes 'Occupation unknown'.

<sup>11</sup> The figures do not necessarily show which occupations people have moved into only the usual occupation of the claimant prior to claiming JSA.



## 2.4 JSA on and off-flows

In January there were 396 off-flows and 642 on-flows. Of the 395<sup>12</sup> off-flows, 40.5% were accounted for by people obtaining a job, 22.8% failed to sign and 19.0% were for reasons not known. All details in Table 2.7.

<b>Table 2.7: Off-flows –reasons</b>		
Reason	No's	%
Found work or increased work to more than 16 hours a week	160	40.5
Failed to sign	90	22.8
Not known	75	19.0
Claimed benefit other than JSA	25	6.3
Ceased claiming	15	3.8
Other reasons	15	3.8
Gone abroad	10	2.5
Government supported training	5	1.3
Education or approved training	0	0.0
<b>All</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>100.0</b>

NOMIS state: *The percentage of off-flows with a "not known" or "failed to sign" destination has increased since the start of the series (representing 44% of total UK off-flows in July 2009). This is because the completion levels of the forms filled in by JSA leavers have decreased. Many of these unknown leavers will have moved into employment.*

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<sup>12</sup> Numbers are always rounded for this dataset.

## 2.5 Labour market – Resident data

Labour market figures for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly from the Annual Population Survey are available up to September 2017<sup>13</sup>. This data set covers those of working age namely the 16-64 age group who are resident in the area<sup>14</sup>.

In total there were 322,400 aged 16-64, of whom 254,100 were economically active with 246,200 who were employed. Of those employed, 187,700 were employees with 57,100 self-employed<sup>15</sup>; while 175,100 worked full-time with 70,700 working part-time. There were 7,800 who were unemployed, and 68,300 who were economically inactive.

The figures show that over the last year the total aged 16-64 has moved up marginally<sup>16</sup>, the numbers of economically active have fallen back while the numbers of economically inactive have increased. Employment numbers are down marginally, with a rise in self-employed numbers but employees down. The number of those working part-time rose while full-time numbers fell. The number of unemployed fell substantially over the year.

All data in Table 2.8.

<b>Table 2.8: Labour market indicators – Cornwall &amp; IoS</b>							
Date	Period					Change	
	Oct-15 Sep-16	Jan-16 Dec-16	Apr-16 Mar-17	Jul-16 Jun-17	Oct-16 Sep-17	Prev Qtr	Year
Group	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
16-64	318,500	318,600	320,600	322,600	322,400	-200	3,900
Econ active	259,300	255,100	258,500	260,500	254,100	-6,400	-5,200
Econ inactive	59,100	63,500	62,100	62,100	68,300	6,200	9,200
Employed	246,800	245,400	249,000	252,000	246,200	-5,800	-600
Unemployed	12,600	9,700	9,500	8,400	7,800	-600	-4,800
Employees	191,700	193,100	193,900	190,400	187,700	-2,700	-4,000
Self employed	53,700	51,800	54,400	60,000	57,100	-2,900	3,400
Full-time	181,000	175,000	178,800	178,500	175,100	-3,400	-5,900
Part-time	65,500	70,400	69,900	73,300	70,700	-2,600	5,200

Looking at percentage changes over the year, the number employed was static, while there was a 1% increase in the 16-64 age group, with self-employed up by 6% and part-time up by 8% with economically inactive up by 16%.

<sup>13</sup> Figures cover a year and are produced quarterly; all figures for age group 16-64.

<sup>14</sup> Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

<sup>15</sup> Numbers may not sum to all those employed.

<sup>16</sup> Due to the volatility of the data changes in figures from one period to another may not reflect underlying trends.

**Table 2.9: Labour market indicators – Cornwall & IoS**

Date	Oct-15	Oct-16	Change year-on-year	
	Sep-16	Sep-17		
Group	No's	No's	No's	%
16-64	318,500	322,400	3,900	1
Econ active	259,300	254,100	-5,200	-2
Econ inactive	59,100	68,300	9,200	16
Employed	246,800	246,200	-600	0
Unemployed	12,600	7,800	-4,800	-38
Employees	191,700	187,700	-4,000	-2
Self employed	53,700	57,100	3,400	6
Full-time	181,000	175,100	-5,900	-3
Part-time	65,500	70,700	5,200	8

Over the year, the employment rate fell from 77.5% to 76.4%, the self-employment share of employment moved up from 21.9% to 23.3%. The share taken by full-time decreased from 73.4% to 71.1% while part-time went up from 26.5% to 28.7%. Unemployment rates fell back from 4.9% to 3.1%.

**Table 2.10: Labour market indicators – Cornwall & IoS**

Date	Period					Change	
	Oct-15	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Jul-16	Prev Qtr	
	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Jun-17	Year	
Group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Econ active	81.4	80.1	80.6	80.7	78.8	-1.9	-2.6
Econ inactive	18.6	19.9	19.4	19.3	21.2	1.9	2.6
Employed	77.5	77	77.7	78.1	76.4	-1.7	-1.1
Unemployed	4.9	3.8	3.7	3.2	3.1	-0.1	-1.8
Employees	78.1	78.8	78.1	76	76.7	0.7	-1.4
Self employed	21.9	21.2	21.9	24	23.3	-0.7	1.4
Full-time	73.4	71.3	71.8	70.8	71.1	0.3	-2.3
Part-time	26.5	28.7	28.1	29.1	28.7	-0.4	2.2

Fig 2.3 shows trends over time. Pre-recession employment figures peaked at 236,300 then fell back between 2008 and 2010 before picking up in mid-2011. Self-employed numbers increased from early 2006 until early 2008 before falling back slightly. Highs were reached again in late 2011 (52,300), declining up to early 2013 before rising again and peaking at 55,100 in 2014. Numbers then fell back before picking up again in 2016 to reach 57,100 for the latest period. Employee numbers rose from 2004 to 2006 (191,000), then steadily declined to 172,300 in 2010. Numbers then rose again to reach 188,300 in mid-2014, since when numbers fell back until early 2015, then remained stable prior to the latest increases to stand at 187,700. After reaching a low of 7,500 in early 2006 the numbers of unemployed rose to peak in 2010 at 23,000 before falling back to 12,400 in early 2012. Numbers climbed again until mid-2013 to 15,600 then fell until mid-2015 to 9,700. There was then a period when numbers rose again

reaching 15,100 in mid 2016, since when numbers have fallen back and now stand at 7,800.

Economic activity numbers peaked in the mid and late 2011 periods then fell back until mid 2012. Numbers then increased reaching 255,500 in late 2014 before dropping back to a low of 250,800 in mid 2016. Since then numbers have climbed back with the latest figure at 254,100, down on the previous quarter.

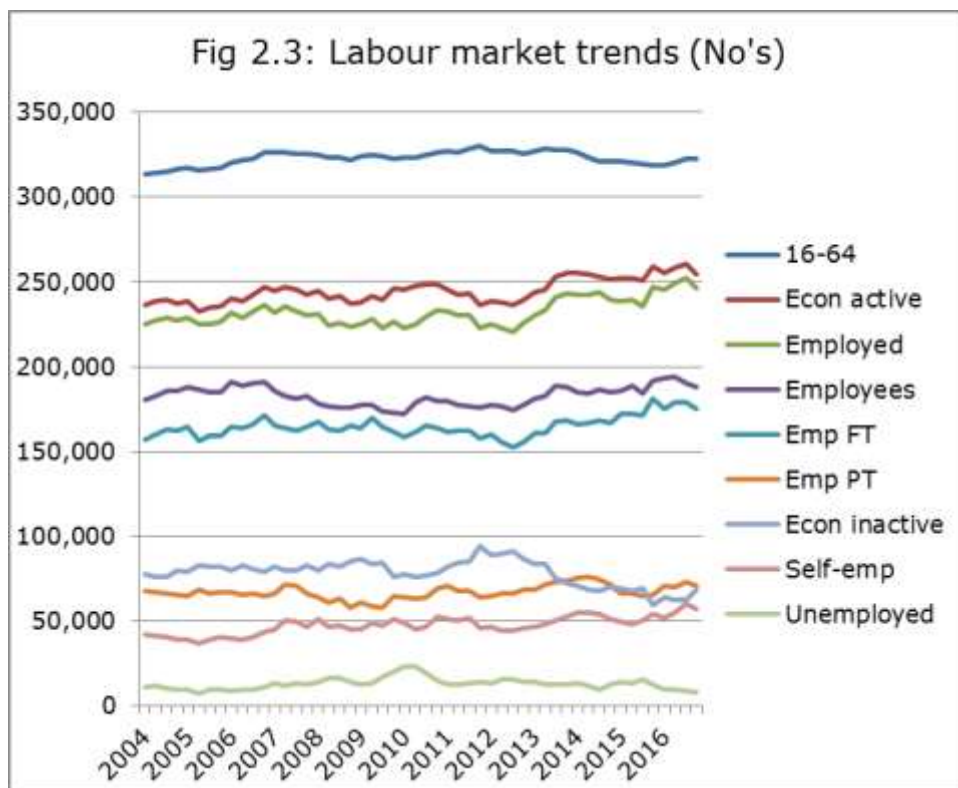
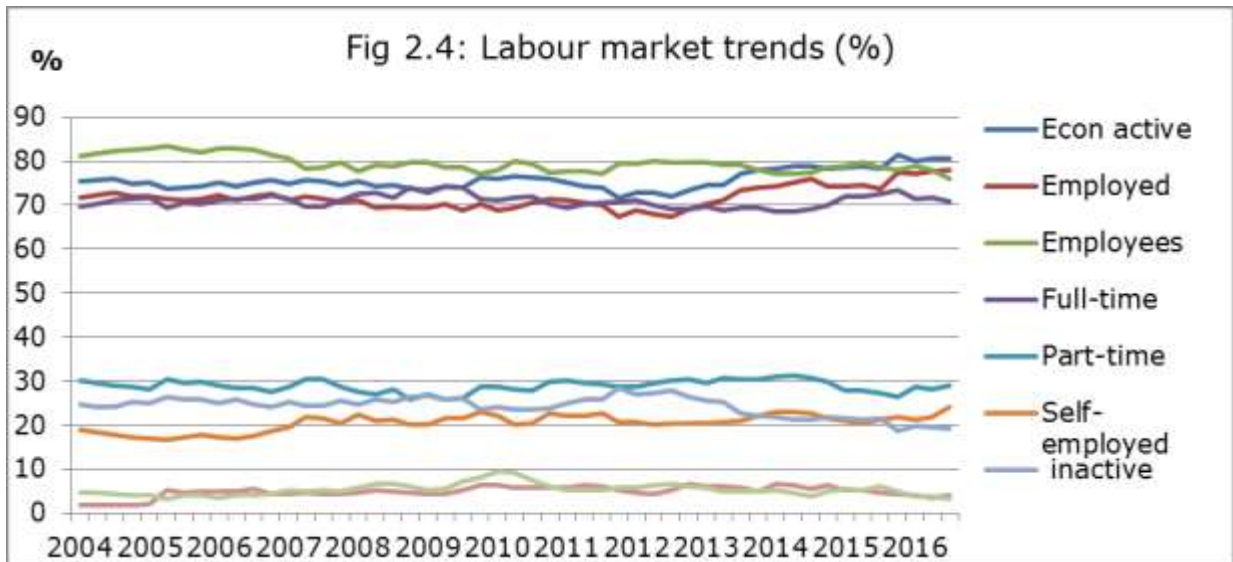


Fig 2.4 shows rates and shares over time. From 2004 to 2007 employees accounted for over 80% of the workforce. Their share fell slightly to lows around 77% in 2008 and mid 2012 with a slight rise thereafter. However levels are still below the 80% level, averaging 77.9% over the last three years. The self-employed share followed the opposite pattern, averaging 22.1% over the last three years. Unemployment reached lows in early 2006 (3.2%) to 2006 (3.5%). There was then a steady upward trend to reach 9.4% in 2010. Thereafter the rate fell, down to 3.8% in mid 2015 followed by a number of increases, however the latest rate is down to 3.1%. In terms of full-time and part-time employment, pre-recession the figure hovered around 70.7%, rising to 72.6% from 2008 to mid-2011, from early 2013 to late 2015 the share fell below 70%, before rising and averaging 71.9% over the last two years.



Comparing Cornwall to the UK using the average for four sets of yearly data<sup>17</sup>, removes some of the volatility in the data. Comparing the averages in Table 2.11 below shows that: economic activity rates and employment rates have now moved marginally above the UK rate. Economically inactive is below. As expected both self-employment and part-time employment are higher in Cornwall and conversely employee levels and full-time employment are lower. Average unemployment runs at 3.5%, below the UK average as is the % share of those on flexible contracts.

<b>Table 2.11: Labour market indicators - Cornwall and UK</b>			
	Cornwall	UK	Ratio
Status	%	%	%
Econ active	80.1	77.9	1.03
Economically inactive	20.0	22.2	0.90
Employed	77.3	74.1	1.04
Unemployed	3.5	4.8	0.72
Employees	77.4	85.6	0.90
Self employed	22.6	14.4	1.57
Full-time	71.3	74.6	0.96
Part-time	28.7	25.2	1.14
Flexible	3.7	5.1	0.73

The ratio shows with the figure for Cornwall divided by the UK figure. E.g. 80.1 divided by 77.9 gives a ratio of 1.03. Numbers greater than 1 show Cornwall has a higher percentage than the UK, less than 1 show that Cornwall has a lower percentage share than the UK.

<sup>17</sup> Each period covers one year, and each year includes 3 of the quarters covered in the previous year.

### All employment, flexible and 65+

The latest figures show that there were 19,100 people aged 65 plus in the workforce. This represents 7.2% of the workforce, down from the figure of 7.5% a year earlier.

Numbers working on a flexible basis fell over the year by 2,800 from 11,600 to 8,800, while the rate fell from 4.4% to 3.3%<sup>18</sup>.

All details in Table 2.12.

<b>Table 2.12: All Employment – Cornwall</b>							
Group	Period					Change	
	Oct-15	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Prev Qtr	Year ago
	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17		
No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
65+	20,100	19,000	18,200	19,100	19,100	0	-1,000
16-64	246,800	245,400	249,000	252,000	246,200	-5,800	-600
All	266,900	264,400	267,200	271,100	265,300	-5,800	-1,600
Flexible	11,600	10,600	9,300	11,200	8,800	-2,400	-2,800
Group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
65+	7.5	7.2	6.8	7.0	7.2	0.2	-0.3
16-64	92.5	92.8	93.2	93.0	92.8	-0.2	0.3
Flexible	4.4	4.0	3.5	4.1	3.3	-0.8	-1.1

[The category flexible includes: Flexible working hours, Annualised hours contract, Term time working, Job Share, Nine day fortnight, Four and a half day week, Zero-hours contract, On call working].

Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey, 24 January 2018.

<sup>18</sup> Those working on a non-permanent basis as a % of all employed.

## 2.6 Labour market - Workplace data

Table 2.13 shows all those in employment, including those aged 65 plus, whose workplace is in Cornwall<sup>19</sup>, up to the year ending September 2017. The data shows there were 255,100 working in Cornwall in the year ending September 2017. Of these 67,700 were self-employed, with 180,500 employees, and with another 6,900 employees deemed to be working on a flexible basis. Over the year, numbers in employment, across all categories decreased by 8,200 from 263,300 to 255,100, this was attributable to a decrease in employee numbers and those on flexible contracts while self-employed numbers rose. The number on flexible contracts fell back from 9,300 to 6,900.

Total employment has fallen back compared to the previous quarter and the same quarter a year ago, it is probable that totals are closer to the 260,000 figure.

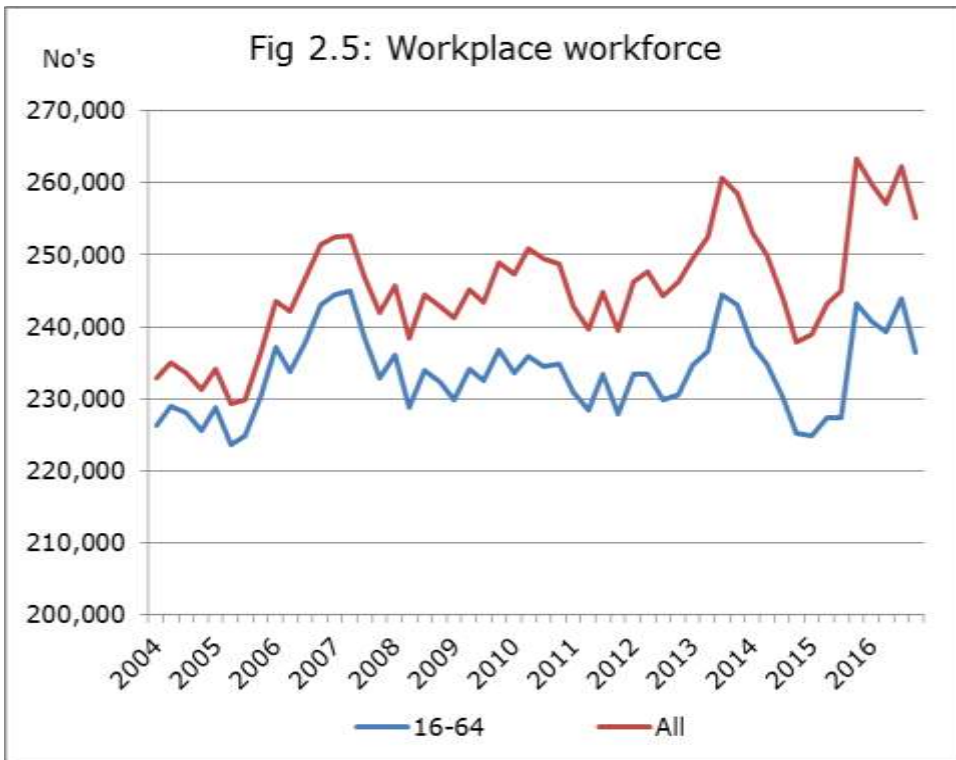
<b>Table 2.13: Workplace Employment (No's)</b>							
	Period					Change	
	Oct-15	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Prev Qtr	Year ago
	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17		
Group	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
Employees	192100	190900	187400	184200	180500	-3700	-11600
Self-employed	61900	60100	62900	70400	67700	-2700	5800
Other flexibility	9300	8800	6900	7700	6900	-800	-2400
<b>All</b>	<b>263300</b>	<b>259800</b>	<b>257200</b>	<b>262300</b>	<b>255100</b>	<b>-7200</b>	<b>-8200</b>

Over the year as a share of the workforce, the self-employed share was up, while employees and those on flexible contracts fell back. The fall in those on flexible contracts continues a trend. All in Table 2.14.

<b>Table 2.14: Workplace Employment (%)</b>							
	Period					Change	
	Oct-15	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Prev Qtr	Year ago
	Sep-16	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17		
Group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Employees	73.0	73.5	72.9	70.2	70.8	0.5	-2.2
Self-employed	23.5	23.1	24.5	26.8	26.5	-0.3	3.0
Other flexibility	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.9	2.7	-0.2	-0.8
<b>All</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Fig 2.5 shows workplace employment since 2004. Numbers peaked in early 2008 pre-recession, and then fell back before rising until early 2011. Numbers then fell back again until late 2012. Numbers then increased to peak in mid 2014 at 260,700. Numbers then fell back before peaking at 263,300 in late 2016, with a dip for two quarters then going back up to 262,300 in mid 2017 followed by a decline in the latest quarter. The chart also shows the 16-64 workforce.

<sup>19</sup> Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

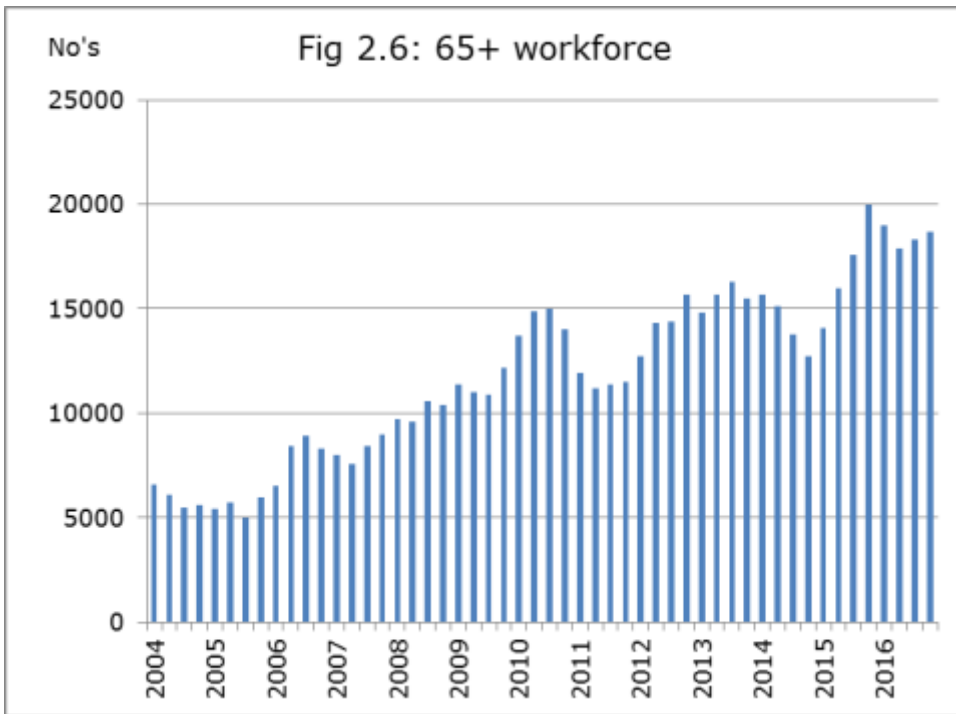


[Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimate].

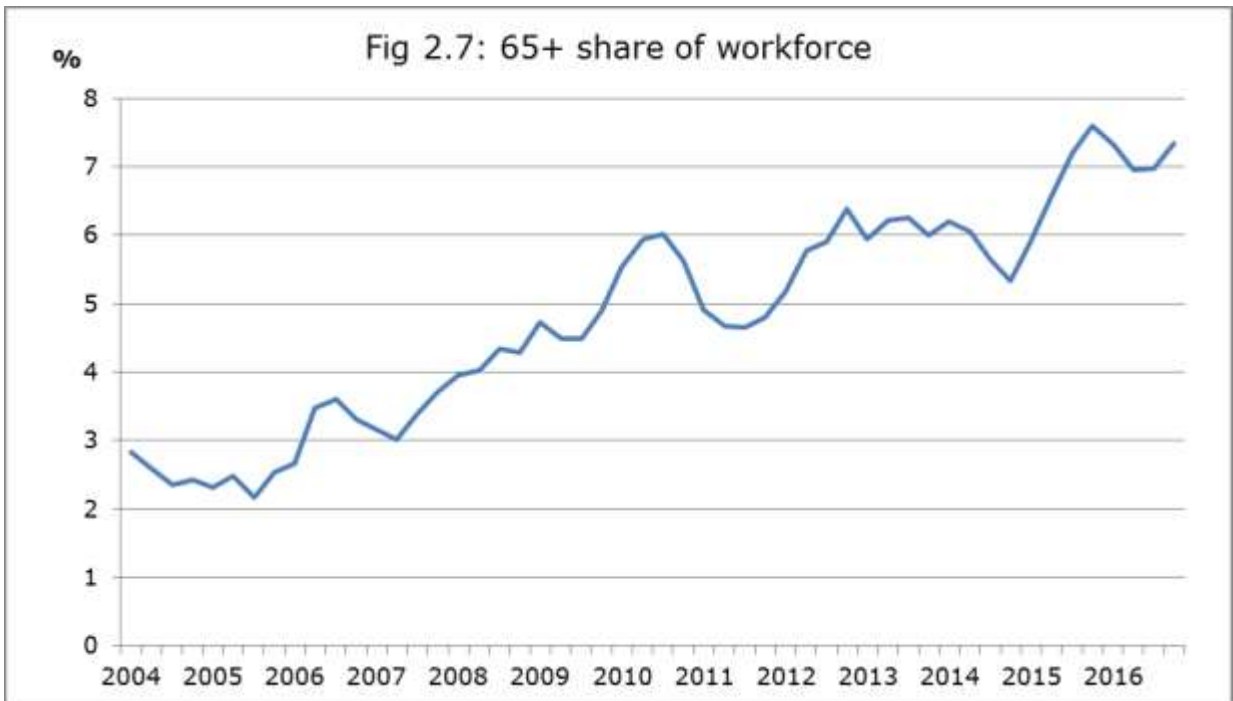
### Sixty-five plus

Figs 2.6 and 2.7 set out what has happened to those aged 65 plus in the workplace workforce. Overall since 2004 there has been a general upward trend in both the numbers and share of the workforce of those aged 65 plus. In 2004 there were 6,600 while the figure in mid 2011 was 15,000. Numbers dipped in the 2011 downturn before recovering in early 2014. From then onwards numbers dipped until late 2015 at 12,700 then rose to peak in late 2016 at 20,000, before falling back and now stands at 18,700.





In 2004, the 65 plus age group constituted 2.8% of the workforce, by late 2013 it had reached 6.4% and now stands at 7.3%.



[NB Workplace data is now provided at both a Cornwall and Cornwall and Isles of Scilly level. However, there are issues about the accuracy of the latter set of data as the discrepancy between the two data sets is substantial. Therefore data for Cornwall is used instead].

Source: ONS, APS, Workplace analysis, 24 January 2018.

## 2.7 Vacancies

In January 2018 there were 2,030 job postings in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This was up by 350 (21%) from 1,680 in December but down 15.4% from 2,400 in January 2017.

[NB. The vacancy data used here is from a different source than that used by ONS at a UK level].

Source: Labour Insight/Jobs, Burning Glass.

## 2.8 Claimant Count

The latest claimant count figures show a total of 4,580 in Cornwall in January, up by 290 (+6.8%) on the December total of 4,290. Compared to January 2017 the total was down by 395 or 7.9% from 4,975.

Over the year comparative figures were Cornwall -7.9%, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly also -7.9%, England + 9.1% and United Kingdom +7.3%.

<b>Table 2.15: Claimant count (16+)</b>				
Date	Cornwall	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	England	United Kingdom
Jan-17	4,975	4,985	618,900	770,625
Feb-17	5,100	5,110	643,490	800,520
Mar-17	5,205	5,215	658,310	817,320
Apr-17	4,955	4,960	664,080	821,535
May-17	4,605	4,610	658,050	811,510
Jun-17	4,330	4,335	650,045	801,060
Jul-17	4,145	4,150	644,690	796,550
Aug-17	3,980	3,985	649,795	802,350
Sep-17	3,885	3,890	648,890	795,540
Oct-17	3,840	3,845	649,440	793,460
Nov-17	4,020	4,025	648,215	792,040
Dec-17	4,290	4,295	654,630	801,160
Jan-18	4,580	4,590	674,950	826,545
Monthly change	290	295	20,320	25,385
Annual change	-395	-395	56,050	55,920
% Monthly change	6.8	6.9	3.1	3.2
% Annual change	-7.9	-7.9	9.1	7.3

Source: NOMIS/DWP.

In January the claimant count rate was 1.4%, up from 1.3% in December. This compared to rates of 1.9% in England and 2.0% for the United Kingdom. Over the year the rate has declined by 0.1 point from 1.5% to 1.4%. In contrast the rate in England and in the United Kingdom rose by 0.1 point.

**Table 2.16: Claimant count (16-64)**

Date	Cornwall	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	England	United Kingdom
Jan-17	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.9
Feb-17	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.9
Mar-17	1.6	1.6	1.9	2.0
Apr-17	1.5	1.5	1.9	2.0
May-17	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.0
Jun-17	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.9
Jul-17	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.9
Aug-17	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
Sep-17	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
Oct-17	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
Nov-17	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
Dec-17	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.9
Jan-18	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.0
Monthly change	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Annual change	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: NOMIS/DWP, 21 February 2018.

*Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise.*

*[The Claimant Count measures the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed:*

- from April 2015, the Claimant Count includes all Universal Credit claimants who are required to seek work and be available for work, as well as all JSA claimants*
- between May 2013 and March 2015, the Claimant Count includes all out of work Universal Credit claimants as well as all JSA claimants*
- between October 1996 and April 2013, the Claimant Count is a count of the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)*
- between January 1971 (when comparable estimates start) and September 1996, it is an estimate of the number of people who would have claimed unemployment-related benefit if Jobseeker's Allowance had existed at that time*

*The Claimant Count includes people who claim unemployment-related benefits but who do not receive payment. For example, some claimants will have had their benefits stopped for a limited period of time by Jobcentre Plus. Some people claim JSA in order to receive National Insurance Credits]. NOMIS*

## 2.9 Benefit claimants – Working age client group

The latest release brings the working age data up to August 2017. This gives a total of 28,680 who were claiming out-of-work benefits.

The all working age benefits total fell on both a quarterly and annual basis. Changes were largely attributable to changes in the number of JSA claimants.

**Table 2.17: Cornwall - No's**

Group\Period	Aug	Nov	Feb	May	Aug	Change	
	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	On last Qtr	Annual
JSA	2,660	3,040	3,150	2,570	2,280	-290	-380
ESA	20,980	21,030	21,210	21,310	21,400	90	420
Incapacity benefit	1050	740	680	540	500	-40	-550
Income support	4,850	4,650	4,600	4,490	4,500	10	-350
<b>Out-of-work benefits</b>	<b>29,540</b>	<b>29,460</b>	<b>29,640</b>	<b>28,910</b>	<b>28,680</b>	<b>-230</b>	<b>-860</b>

[NB This dataset varies slightly from the previous dataset which has not been updated by DWP].

Source: NOMIS/DWP, Benefit claimants, 21 February 2018.

## 3. United Kingdom

### 3.1 Main points for October to December 2017

- Main points for October to December 2017 Estimates from the Labour Force Survey show that, between July to September 2017 and October to December 2017, the number of people in work and the number of unemployed people both increased, but the number of people aged from 16 to 64 not working and not seeking or available to work (economically inactive) decreased.
- There were 32.15 million people in work, 88,000 more than for July to September 2017 and 321,000 more than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The employment rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 who were in work) was 75.2%, higher than for the same quarter a year earlier (74.6%).
- There were 901,000 people (not seasonally adjusted) in employment on “zero-hours contracts” in their main job, little changed compared with the same quarter a year earlier.
- There were 1.47 million unemployed people (people not in work but seeking and available to work), 46,000 more than for July to September 2017 but 123,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate (the proportion of those in work plus those unemployed, that were unemployed) was 4.4%, down from 4.8% for the same quarter a year earlier.
- There were 8.77 million people aged from 16 to 64 who were economically inactive (not working and not seeking or available to work), 109,000 fewer than for July to September 2017 and 95,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The inactivity rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 who were economically inactive) was 21.3%, lower than for the same quarter a year earlier (21.6%).
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in nominal terms (that is, not adjusted for price inflation) increased by 2.5% both including and excluding bonuses compared with the same quarter a year earlier.
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in real terms (that is, adjusted for price inflation) fell by 0.3% both including and excluding bonuses compared with the same quarter a year earlier.

[Source: ONS].

All data is shown in Table 3.1.

<b>Table 3.1: UK - Labour market indicators</b>				
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Comparisons</b>	
		<b>3M<sup>20</sup> to Dec 17</b>	<b>3M to Sept 17</b>	<b>Year ago</b>
Employment <sup>21</sup>	Rate	75.2		74.6
In employment (16+)	No's	32.15m	+88,000	+321,000
Employees	No's	27.16m		+344,000
Self-employed	No's	4.78m		-18,000
Xero hours contracts	No's	901,000		=
Total hours worked per week	No's	1.03 bn	-3m	
Average hours worked per week	Nos	31.9	↓	↓
Unemployment	Rate	4.4		4.8
Unemployment	No's	1.47m	+46,000	-123,000
Over 12 months	No's	368,000		-35,000
16-24 – unemployed <sup>22</sup>	No's	547,000		
Inactivity	Rate	21.3	21.6	21.6
Inactivity	No's	8.77m	-109,000	-95,000
Redundant	No's	107,000	=	-15,000
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Dec 17</b>		<b>Dec 16</b>
Average regular weekly pay (ex bonuses) <sup>23</sup>		£481		£469
		<b>Sept 17</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>Year ago</b>
Workforce jobs	No's	35.23m	+162,000	+577,000
		<b>Sept 17</b>	<b>June 17</b>	<b>Year ago</b>
Public sector employment <sup>24</sup>	No's	5.49m	+19,000	+21,000
Private sector employment	No's	26.59m	-75,000	+304,000
		<b>3 M to Jan 18</b>	<b>3 M to Oct 17</b>	<b>Year ago</b>
Vacancies	No's	823,000	+24,000	+70,000

Source: Office for National Statistics, Labour Market Statistics, Statistical Bulletin, 21 February 2018.

<sup>20</sup> Months

<sup>21</sup> 16-64 age group

<sup>22</sup> 366,000 excluding those in full-time education – 181,000.

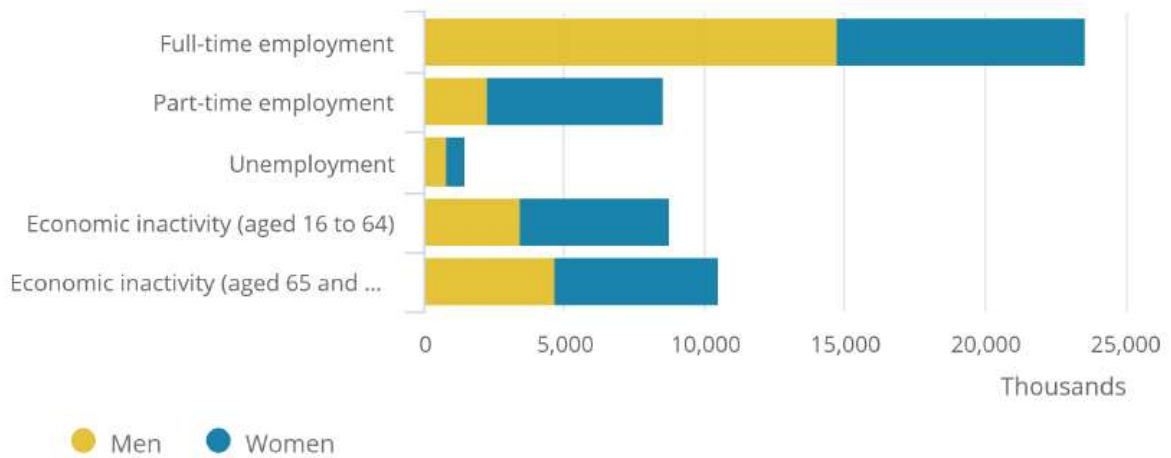
<sup>23</sup> Great Britain

<sup>24</sup> Mainly reflecting reclassification of some educational bodies.

### 3.2 Summary of Labour Market Statistics

“Figs 3.1 and 3.2 show the latest estimates, for October to December 2017, for employment, unemployment and economic inactivity and show how these estimates compare with the previous quarter (July to September 2017) and the previous year (October to December 2016). Comparing the estimates for October to December 2017 with those for July to September 2017 provides the most robust short-term comparison.

Fig 3.1: Summary of UK labour market statistics for October to December 2017, seasonally adjusted



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics.

Fig 3.2: Quarterly and annual changes in the number of people in the UK labour market, seasonally Adjusted



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

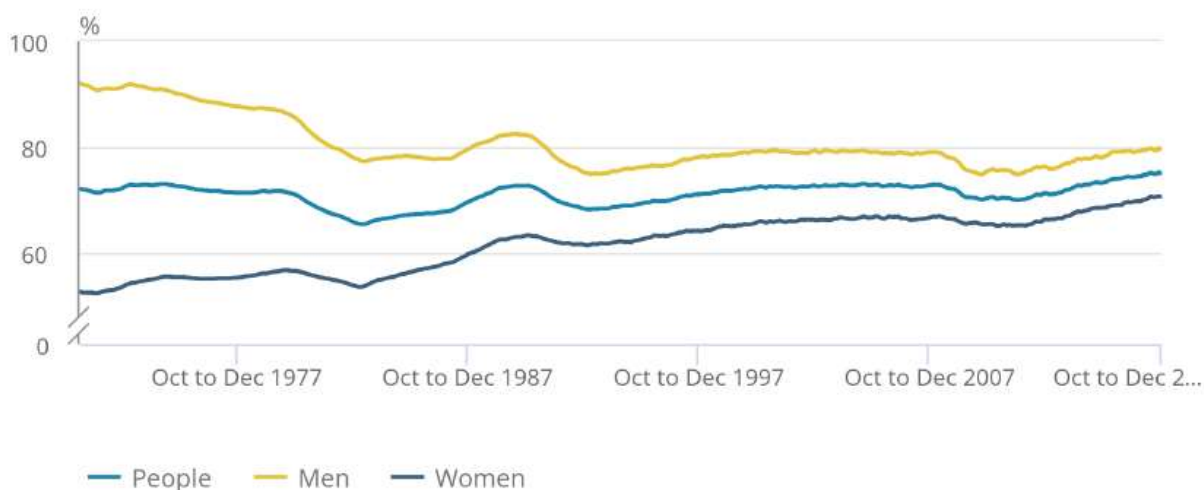
### 3.3 Employment

Employment measures the number of people in work and differs from the number of jobs because some people have more than one job.

#### Commentary

The proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 in work is known as the employment rate. Fig 3.3 shows the employment rates for people, men and women aged from 16 to 64 since comparable records began in 1971. The lowest employment rate for people was 65.6% in 1983, during the economic downturn of the early 1980s. The employment rates for people, men and women have been generally increasing since early 2012. For the latest time period, October to December 2017, the employment rate for people was 75.2%, up from 74.6% for a year earlier.

Fig 3.3: UK Employment rate (aged 16 to 64) - January to March 1971 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

Fig 3.4 looks in more detail at the employment rate for the last 5 years.

Fig 3.4: UK Employment rate (16 to 64), seasonally adjusted, October to December 2012 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics



For October to December 2017, 75.2% of people aged from 16 to 64 were in work, up from 74.6% for a year earlier. Looking at employment rates by sex, for October to December 2017:

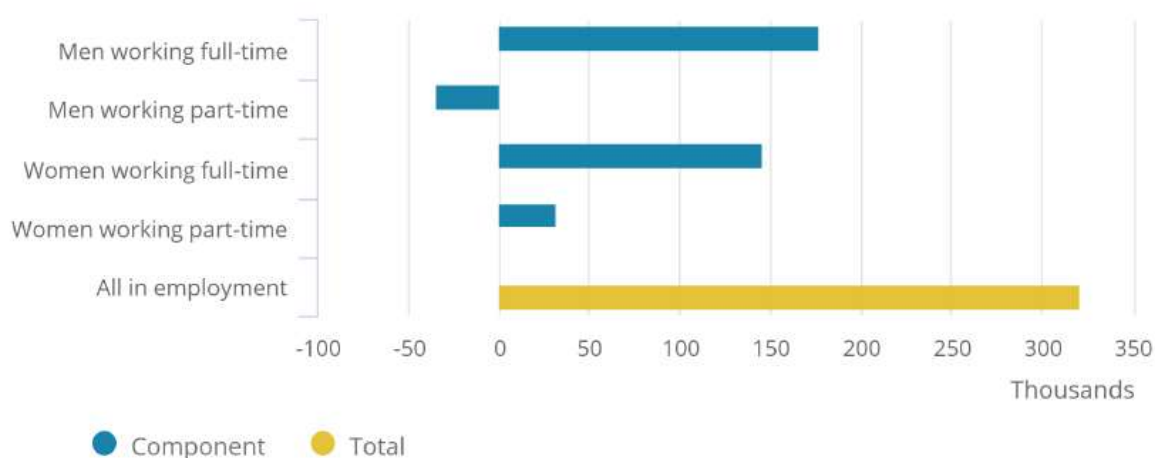
- 79.7% of men aged from 16 to 64 were in work, up from 79.3% for a year earlier
- 70.8% of women aged from 16 to 64 were in work, the joint highest employment rate for women since comparable records began in 1971.

The increase in the employment rate for women over the last few years has been partly due to ongoing changes to the State Pension age for women, resulting in fewer women retiring between the ages of 60 and 65.

For October to December 2017, there were 32.15 million people in work, 88,000 more than for July to September 2017 and 321,000 more than for a year earlier.

Fig 3.5 shows how the estimates for full-time and part-time employment by sex for October to December 2017 compare with those for a year earlier. The annual increase in the number of people in employment (321,000) was due to more people in full-time employment (323,000).

Fig 3.5: Changes in people in employment in the UK between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017, seasonally adjusted



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

For October to December 2017, there were 901,000 people (not seasonally adjusted) in employment on “zero hours contracts” in their main job, little changed compared with a year earlier.

Comparing the estimates for employees and self-employed people for October to December 2017 with those for a year earlier:

- employees increased by 344,000 to 27.16 million (84.5% of all people in work)
- self-employed people decreased by 18,000 to 4.78 million (14.9% of all people in work)

Employees and self-employed people do not account for all people in employment as there are two minor additional categories; unpaid family workers and people on government-supported training and employment programmes.

## **Notes for Employment**

1. Employment consists of employees, self-employed people, unpaid family workers and people on government supported training and employment programmes.

2. Unpaid family workers are people who work in a family business who do not receive a formal wage or salary but benefit from the profits of that business.

3. The Government supported training and employment programmes series does not include all people on these programmes; it only includes people engaging in any form of work, work experience or work-related training who are not included in the employees or self-employed series. People on these programmes NOT engaging in any form of work, work experience or work-related training are not included in the employment estimates; they are classified as unemployed or economically inactive.

## **3.4 Public and Private Sector Employment**

### **What is public and private sector employment?**

Public sector employment measures the number of people in paid work in the public sector. The public sector comprises central government, local government and public corporations. Estimates of public sector employment are obtained from information provided by public sector organisations.

Private sector employment is estimated as the difference between total employment, sourced from the Labour Force Survey, and public sector employment.

### **Commentary**

There were 5.49 million people employed in the public sector for September 2017. This was 19,000 more than for June 2017 and 21,000 more than for a year earlier. The largest contributor to these quarterly and annual increases in public sector employment was the National Health Service.

There were 26.59 million people employed in the private sector for September 2017. This was:

- 75,000 fewer than for June 2017
- 304,000 more than for a year earlier

For September 2017, 17.1% of all people in work were employed in the public sector and the remaining 82.9% worked in the private sector.

## **3.5 Actual Hours Worked**

### **What is actual hours worked?**

Actual hours worked measures the number of hours worked in the economy. Changes in actual hours worked reflect changes in the number of people in employment and the average hours worked by those people.

### **Commentary**

Between July to September 2017 and October to December 2017, total hours worked per week decreased by 3.0 million to 1.03 billion. While employment has

increased by 88,000 between July to September 2017 and October to December 2017, the average hours worked by people in employment has fallen.

For October to December 2017:

- people worked, on average, 31.9 hours per week, fewer than for July to September 2017 and for a year earlier
- people working full-time worked, on average, 37.1 hours per week in their main job, fewer than for July to September 2017 and for a year earlier
- people working part-time worked, on average, 16.1 hours per week in their main job, fewer compared with July to September 2017 and for a year earlier.

Fig 3.6 shows total hours worked and the number of people in work, as indices, for the last 5 years.

Fig 3.6: Total hours worked and number of people in work in the UK, seasonally adjusted, October to December 2012 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics.

### 3.6 Workforce Jobs

#### What is Workforce Jobs?

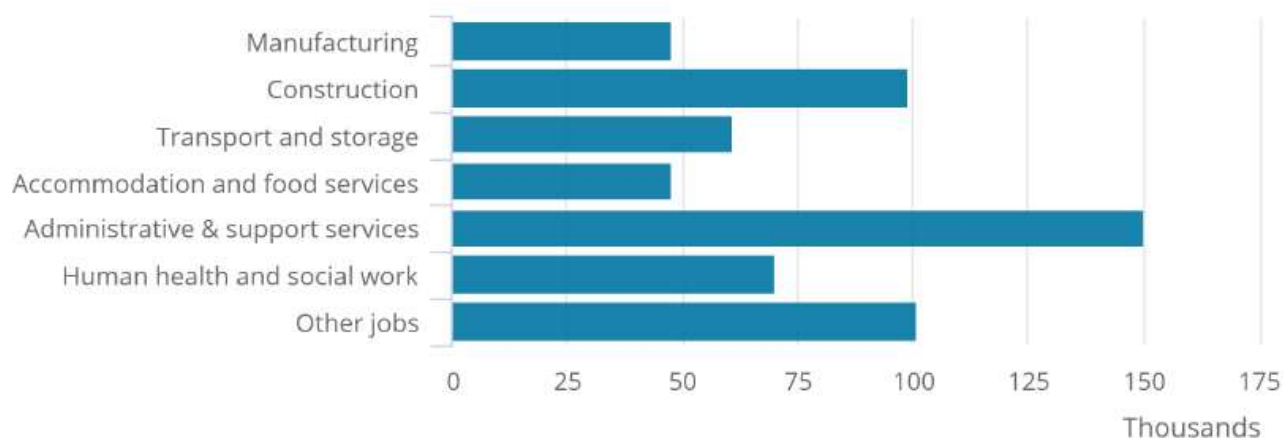
Workforce jobs measures the number of filled jobs in the economy. The estimates are mainly sourced from employer surveys. Workforce jobs is a different concept from employment, which is sourced from the Labour Force Survey, as employment is an estimate of people and some people have more than one job.

#### Commentary

For September 2017, there were 35.23 million workforce jobs, 162,000 more than for June 2017 and 577,000 more than for a year earlier.

Fig 3.7 shows changes in the number of jobs by industrial sector between September 2016 and September 2017.

Fig 3.7: Changes in the number of jobs in the UK between September 2016 and September 2017, seasonally adjusted



Source: Office for National Statistics

Looking at a longer-term comparison, between June 1978 (when comparable records began) and September 2017:

- the proportion of jobs accounted for by the manufacturing and mining and quarrying sectors fell from 26.4% to 7.8%
- the proportion of jobs accounted for by the services sector increased from 63.2% to 83.4%

### 3.7 Average Weekly Earnings

#### What is Average Weekly Earnings?

Average Weekly Earnings measures money paid to employees in Great Britain in return for work done, before tax and other deductions from pay. The estimates do not include earnings of self-employed people. Estimates are available for both total pay (which includes bonuses) and for regular pay (which excludes bonus payments).

#### Commentary

For December 2017 in nominal terms (that is, not adjusted for price inflation):

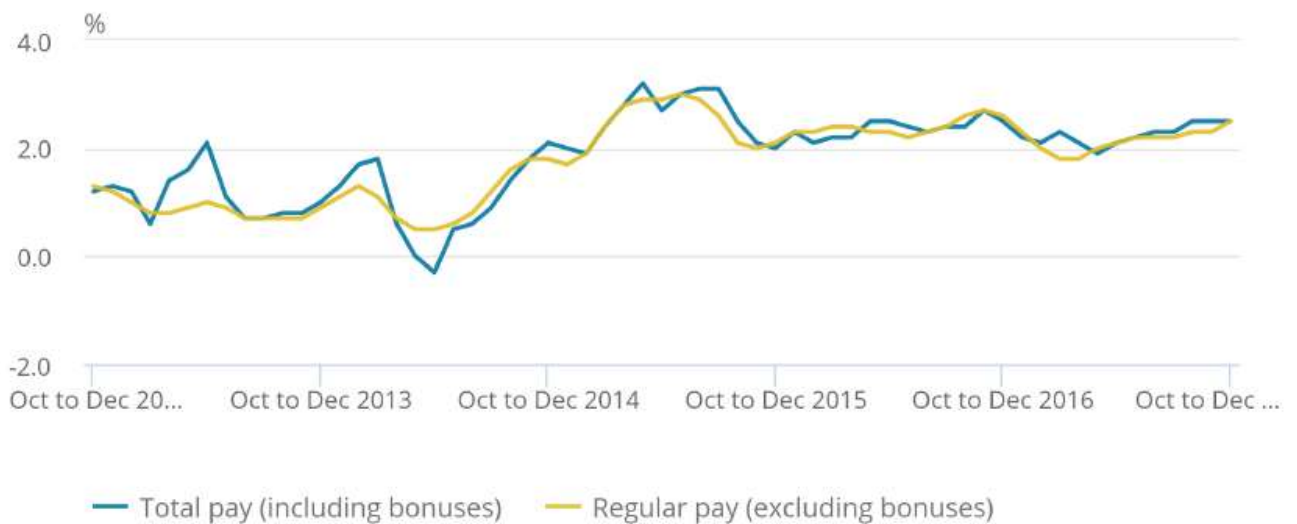
- average regular pay (excluding bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £481 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, up from £469 per week for a year earlier
- average total pay (including bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £512 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, up from £498 per week for a year earlier

Between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017, in nominal terms, regular pay increased by 2.5%, higher than the growth rate between September to November 2016 and September to November 2017 (2.3%).

Between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017, in nominal terms, total pay increased by 2.5%, unchanged compared with the growth rate between September to November 2016 and September to November 2017.

Fig 3.8 compares the annual growth rates for both regular and total pay, in nominal terms, for the last 5 years.

Fig 3.8: Great Britain average earnings annual growth rates, October to December 2012 to October to December 2017



Source: Monthly Wages & Salaries Survey, Office for National Statistics

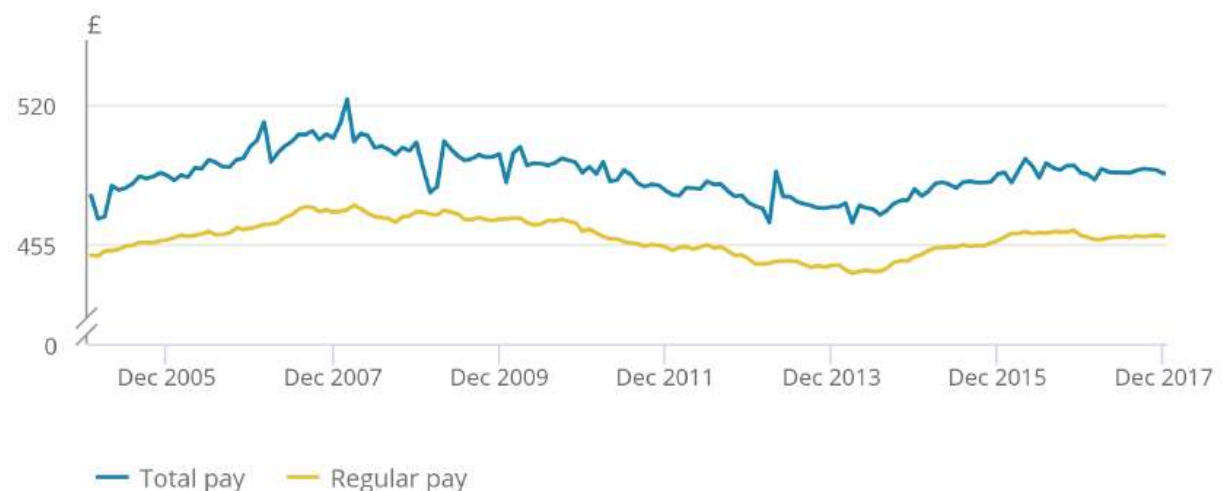
Looking at longer-term movements, average total pay for employees in Great Britain in nominal terms increased from £376 per week in January 2005 to £512 per week in December 2017; an increase of 36.1%. Over the same period, the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) increased by 34.1%.

For December 2017 in real terms (constant 2015 prices):

- average regular pay (excluding bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £459 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, £14 lower than the pre-downturn peak of £473 per week recorded for March 2008
- average total pay (including bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £488 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, £34 lower than the pre-downturn peak of £522 per week recorded for February 2008.

Fig 3.9 shows average weekly earnings for total pay and regular pay in real terms (constant 2015 prices) since comparable records began in 2005.

Fig 3.9: Great Britain average weekly earnings at constant 2015 prices, seasonally adjusted January 2005 to December 2017



Source: Monthly Wages and Salaries Survey, Office for National Statistics

Between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017, in real terms (that is, adjusted for consumer price inflation), both regular pay and total pay for employees in Great Britain fell by 0.3%.

### Notes for Average Weekly Earnings

1. The estimates relate to Great Britain and include salaries but not unearned income, benefits in kind or arrears of pay.

2. As well as pay settlements, the estimates reflect bonuses, changes in the number of paid hours worked and the impact of employees paid at different rates joining and leaving individual businesses. The estimates also reflect changes in the overall structure of the workforce; for example, fewer low paid jobs in the economy would have an upward effect on the earnings growth rate.

## 3.8 Unemployment

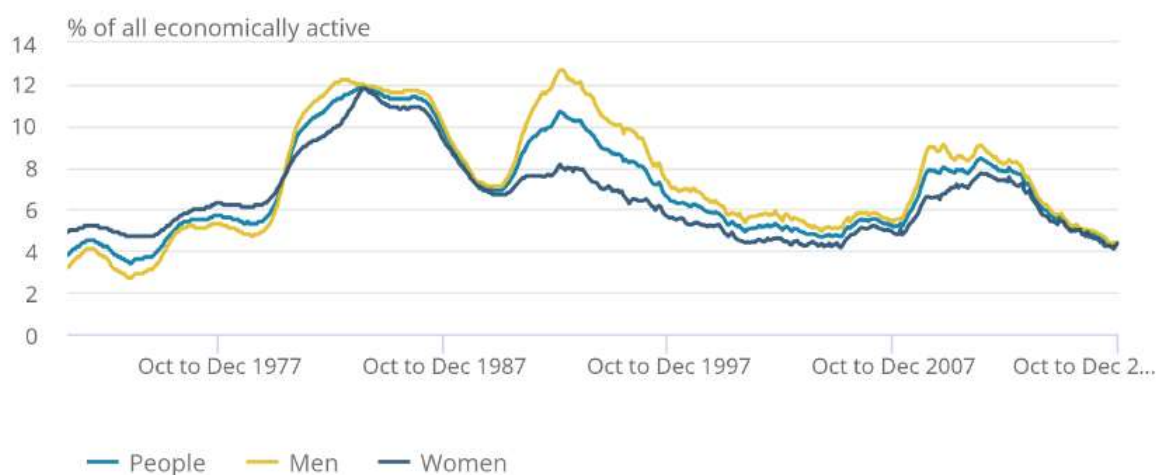
### What is unemployment?

Unemployment measures people without a job who have been actively seeking work within the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks.

### Commentary

The proportion of economically active people aged 16 and over who are out of work and seeking work is known as the unemployment rate. As shown in Fig 3.10 (which shows unemployment rates for people, men and women), the lowest unemployment rate for people recorded since comparable records began in 1971 was 3.4% in late 1973 to early 1974 and the highest rate, 11.9%, was recorded in 1984 during the downturn of the early 1980s. The unemployment rate for people for the latest time period, October to December 2017, was 4.4%.

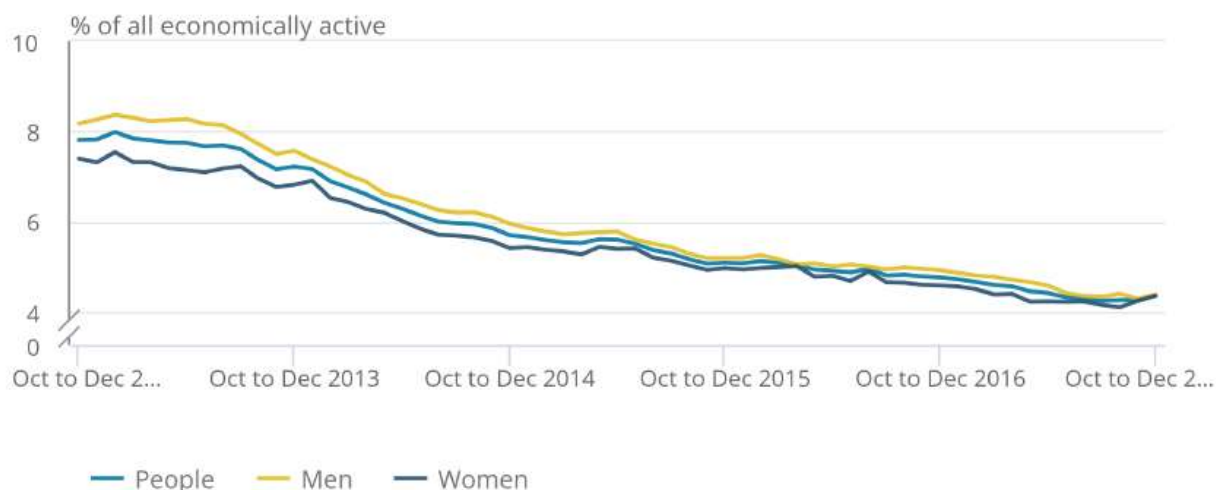
Fig 3.10: UK Unemployment rate (aged 16 and over), seasonally adjusted, January to March 1971 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

Fig 3.11 looks in more detail at the unemployment rate for the last 5 years.

Fig 3.11: UK Unemployment rate (aged 16 and over), seasonally adjusted, October to December 2012 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

For October to December 2017:

- the unemployment rate for people was 4.4%, down from 4.8% for a year earlier
- the unemployment rate for men was 4.4%, down from 4.9% for a year earlier
- the unemployment rate for women was 4.4%, down from 4.6% for a year earlier

For October to December 2017, there were:

- 1.47 million unemployed people, 46,000 more than for July to September 2017 but 123,000 fewer than for a year earlier
- 782,000 unemployed men, 11,000 more than for July to September 2017 but 94,000 fewer than for a year earlier
- 689,000 unemployed women, 35,000 more than for July to September 2017 but 30,000 fewer than for a year earlier.

Looking at unemployment by how long people have been out of work and seeking work, for October to December 2017, there were:

- 860,000 people who had been unemployed for up to six months, 83,000 fewer than for a year earlier
- 242,000 people who had been unemployed for between six months and one year, little changed compared with a year earlier
- 368,000 people who had been unemployed for over one year, 35,000 fewer than for a year earlier.

### 3.9 Economic Inactivity

#### What is economic inactivity?

Economically inactive people are not in employment but do not meet the internationally accepted definition of unemployment because they have not been seeking work within the last four weeks and/or they are unable to start work within the next two weeks.

#### Commentary

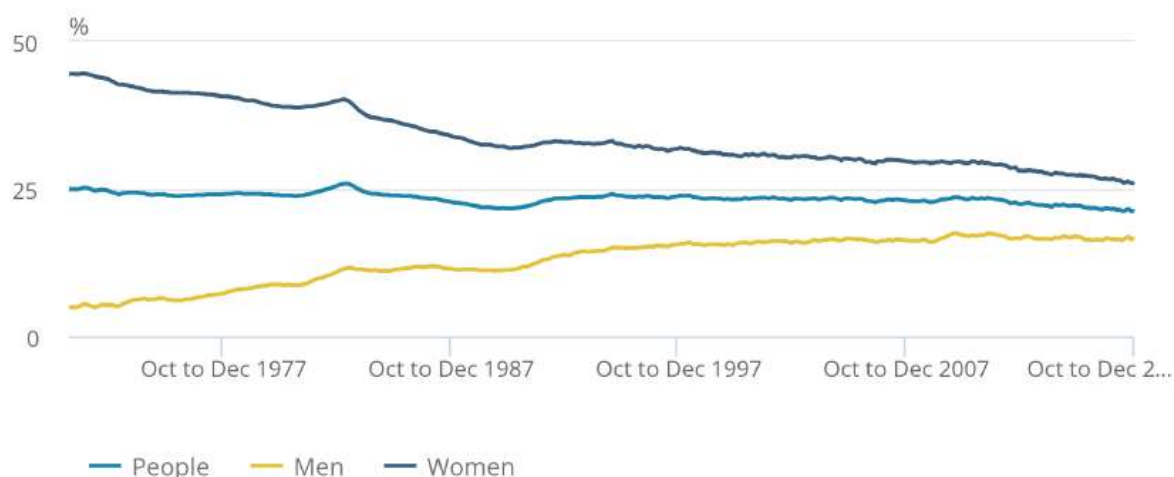


The proportion of people, aged from 16 to 64 years, not in work and neither seeking nor available to work is known as the economic inactivity rate. Fig 3.12 shows that, since comparable records began in 1971, the economic inactivity rate for people has been generally falling (although it increased during economic downturns) due to a gradual fall in the economic inactivity rate for women. The economic inactivity rate for men has been gradually rising.

For October to December 2017:

- the economic inactivity rate for people was 21.3%, lower than for July to September 2017 (21.6%) and for a year earlier (21.6%)
- the economic inactivity rate for men was 16.6%, lower than for July to September 2017 (16.8%) but slightly higher than for a year earlier (16.5%)
- the economic inactivity rate for women was 25.9%, the lowest since comparable records began in 1971.

Fig 3.12: UK Economic inactivity rate (aged 16 to 64), seasonally adjusted, January to March 1971 to October to December 2017



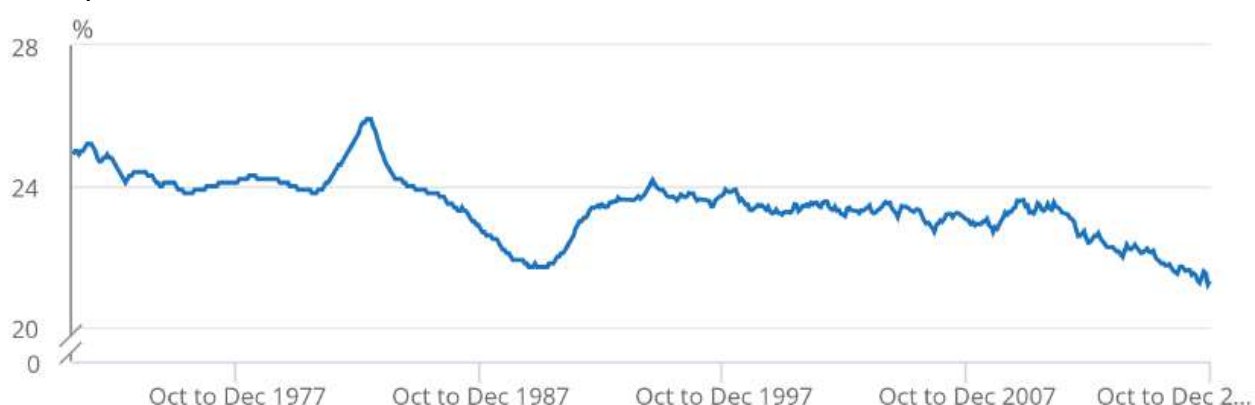
Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

Fig 3.13 looks in more detail at the economic inactivity rate for people since comparable records began in 1971. The economic inactivity rate for people increased during the downturn of the early 1980s, reaching a record high of 25.9% in 1983. As the economy improved in the late 1980s, it resumed its downward path, before the economic downturn of the early 1990s drove it back up again.

Following an increase in the economic inactivity rate during the economic downturn of 2008 to 2009, it again resumed a generally downward path.



Fig 3.13: UK Economic inactivity rate (people aged 16 to 64), seasonally adjusted, January to March 1971 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

For October to December 2017, there were 8.77 million people aged from 16 to 64 years not in work and neither seeking nor available to work (known as economically inactive). This was:

- 109,000 fewer than for July to September 2017
- 95,000 fewer than for a year earlier

Looking in more detail at the 8.77 million people aged from 16 to 64 years who were economically inactive for October to December 2017, the two largest categories were students (26.7% of the total) and people looking after the family or home (23.9% of the total):

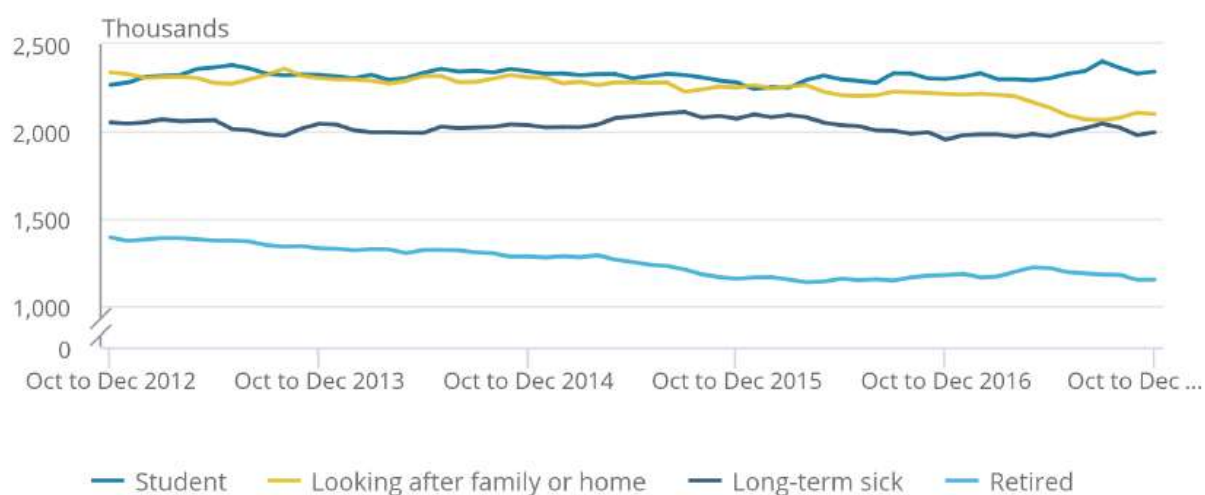
- there were 2.34 million people who were not looking for work because they were studying, 59,000 fewer than for July to September 2017 but 43,000 more than for a year earlier
- there were 2.10 million people who were not looking for work because they were looking after the family or home, 34,000 more than for July to September 2017 but 116,000 fewer than for a year earlier

The third and fourth largest categories were long-term sick (22.7% of the total) and retired (13.2% of the total):

- there were 2.00 million people who were not looking for work due to long-term sickness, 50,000 fewer than for July to September 2017 but 42,000 more than for a year earlier
- there were 1.15 million people who were not looking for work because they had retired, 29,000 fewer than for July to September 2017 and 26,000 fewer than for a year earlier

Fig 3.14 shows the four largest categories of economic inactivity for the last five years. As shown in Fig 3.14, the number of people younger than 65 years in the retired category has fallen by 242,000 over the five-year period from October to December 2012 to October to December 2017. This reflects ongoing changes to the State Pension age for women, resulting in fewer women retiring between the ages of 60 and 65.

Fig 3.14: Economic inactivity by main category in the UK (aged 16 to 64), seasonally adjusted, October to December 2012 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

### 3.10 Young People in the Labour Market

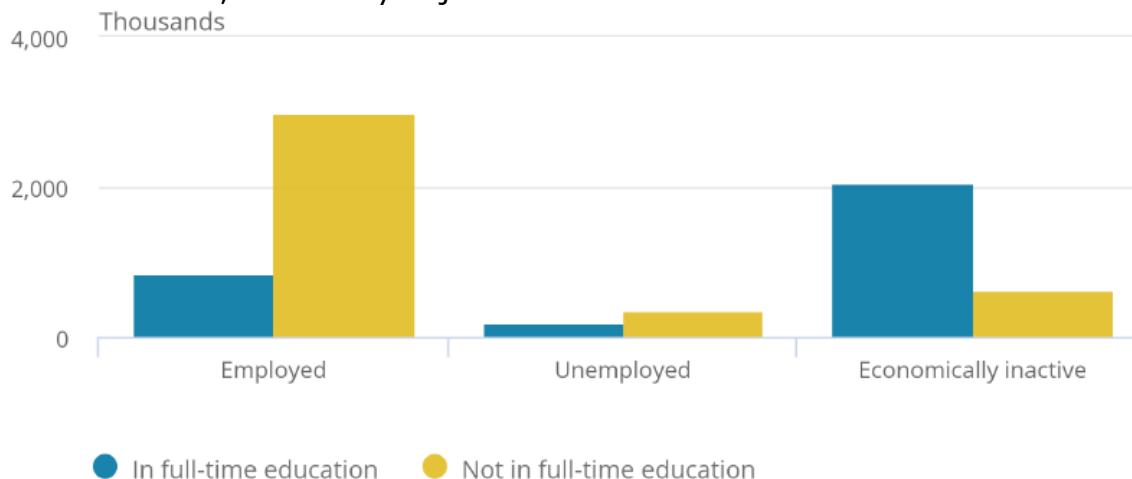
It is a common misconception that all people in full-time education are classified as economically inactive. This is not the case as people in full-time education are included in the employment estimates if they have a part-time job and are included in the unemployment estimates if they are seeking part-time work.

#### Commentary

For October to December 2017, for people aged from 16 to 24, there were:

- 3.84 million people in work (including 862,000 full-time students with part-time jobs)
- 547,000 unemployed people (including 181,000 full-time students looking for part-time work)
- 2.68 million economically inactive people, most of whom (2.05 million) were full-time students

Fig 3.15: Young people (aged 16 to 24) in the UK labour market for October to December 2017, seasonally adjusted



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

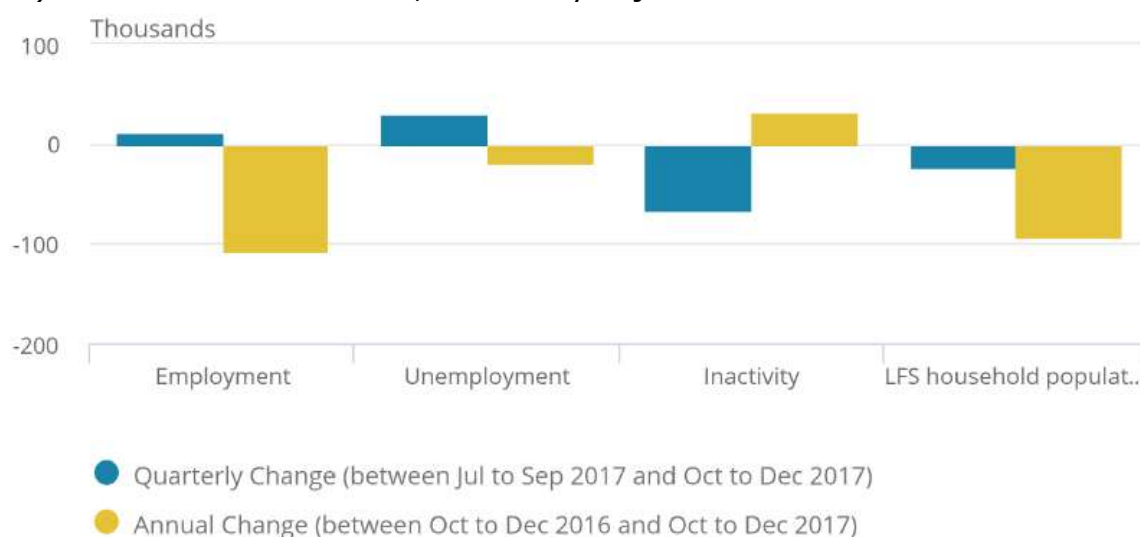
**Notes:**

FTE = Full-time education.

The "Not in full-time education" series includes people in part-time education and/or some form of training.

Fig 3.16 shows how the latest estimates, for October to December 2017, for employment, unemployment and economic inactivity for people aged from 16 to 24 compare with the previous quarter (July to September 2017) and the previous year (October to December 2016). The chart shows that, while the overall UK household population is increasing, it is falling for the 16 to 24 age group.

Fig 3.16: Quarterly and annual changes in the number of young people (aged 16 to 24) in the UK labour market, seasonally adjusted



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

For October to December 2017, the unemployment rate for 16- to 24-year-olds was 12.5%, slightly lower than for a year earlier (12.6%).

The unemployment rate for those aged from 16 to 24 has been consistently higher than that for older age groups.

Since comparable records began in 1992:

- the lowest youth unemployment rate was 11.6% for March to May 2001
- the highest youth unemployment rate was 22.5% for late 2011

Between March to May 1992 (when comparable records began) and October to December 2017, the proportion of people aged from 16 to 24 who were in full-time education increased substantially from 26.2% to 43.7%. This increase in the number of young people going into full-time education has reduced the size of the economically active population (those in work plus those seeking and available to work) and therefore increased the unemployment rate (because the unemployment rate is the proportion of the economically active population who are unemployed).

### 3.11 Redundancies

#### What are redundancies?

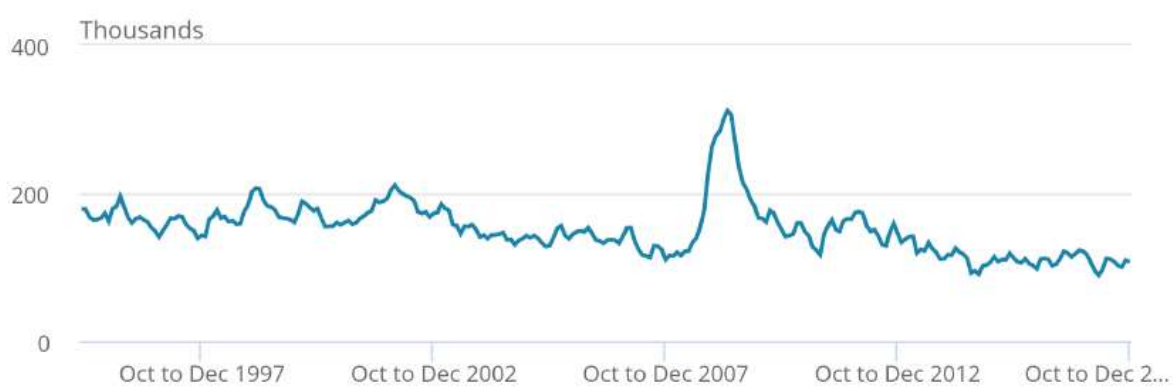
The redundancies estimates measure the number of people who have been made redundant or have taken voluntary redundancy.

#### Commentary

For October to December 2017, 107,000 people had become redundant in the three months before the Labour Force Survey interviews, little changed compared with July to September 2017 but 15,000 fewer than for a year earlier.

Fig 3.17 shows the number of redundancies since comparable records began in 1995.

Fig 3.17: Number of redundancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, March to May 1995 to October to December 2017



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

### 3.12 Vacancies

#### What are vacancies?<sup>25</sup>

Vacancies are defined as positions for which employers are actively seeking to recruit outside their business or organisation.

#### Commentary

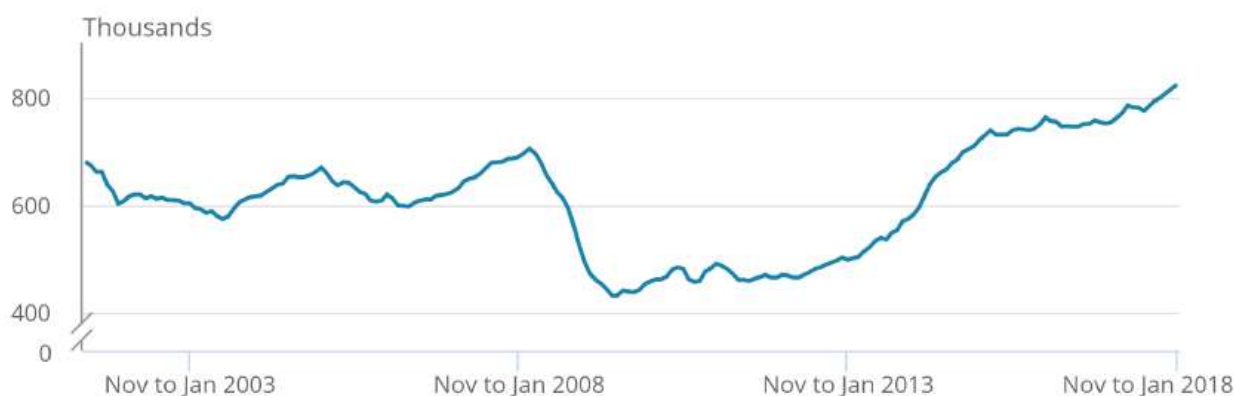
There were 823,000 job vacancies for November 2017 to January 2018. This was:

- 24,000 more than for August to October 2017
- 70,000 more than for a year earlier the highest figure since comparable records began in 2001.

Fig 3.18 shows the number of job vacancies since comparable records began in 2001.

<sup>25</sup> These vacancies are different from those used in the Cornwall section, which are not official statistics.

Fig 3.18: Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, April to June 2001 to November 2017 to January 2018



Source: Vacancy Survey, Office for National Statistics

There were 730,000 job vacancies in the services sectors for November 2017 to January 2018, accounting for 88.7% of all vacancies. Looking at services in more detail, the sectors with the largest number of job vacancies were wholesaling, retailing and repair of motor vehicles (136,000) and human health and social work (130,000).

There were 2.8 job vacancies per 100 filled employee jobs for November 2017 to January 2018. The industrial sector showing the largest vacancy rate was accommodation and food service activities (4.4 vacancies per 100 filled employee jobs) and the sector showing the smallest vacancy rate was public administration and defence (1.4 vacancies per 100 filled employee jobs).

**Notes:**

1. The estimates exclude the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector”.

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21 February 2018.

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