



Labour Market Analysis

Monthly Update – June Release

Economic Growth Service

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1. Summary

1.1 Cornwall

Jobseekers Allowance

- The total JSA figure in May for Cornwall was 2,470. Since April numbers in Cornwall have decreased by 70 or 2.8%.
- The May figure for Cornwall was the lowest recorded for any May during the run of data.
- Compared to May 2017, the number of claimants in Cornwall decreased by 242 or 9%.
- 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 May and the previous April each year (since 1992) indicates that numbers decreased in all of the 27 years.
- Cornwall's JSA rate in May was 0.8%, the same as the figure in April¹.
- Compared to May 2017, Cornwall's rate fell was the same at 0.8%.

Community Network Areas

- On a monthly basis 11 of the 19 CNAs saw decreases, while 6 saw increases with 2 no change (0 or + or- 1).
- Highest rates in May were in Camborne-Pool-Redruth (1.3%) then Bodmin, Newquay and St. Austell (all 1.1%). Lowest rates were found in Bude and Wadebridge & Padstow (both 0.3%), then Caradon, Cornwall Gateway, Launceston, Liskeard & Looe (all 0.4%). Compared to May 2017, 10 areas saw rates decline, 4 saw rates rise with 5 stable.

Occupations

- Comparing May 2018 to April 2018, overall numbers decreased by 75. There were 3 occupations where numbers rose, 13 occupations which were static and 10 where numbers fell.
- In May 2018 there were 250 fewer jobseekers² compared to May 2017. Of the 26 occupational groups, 4 saw numbers rise 6 were static and 16 saw numbers fall.

JSA on and off-flows

- In May there were 554 off-flows and 476 on-flows. Of the 555³ off-flows, 51.4% were accounted for by people obtaining a job, 25.2% failed to sign and 11.7% were for reasons not known.

¹ The JSA rate is based on the number of claimants as a proportion of population aged 16-64. Although the number of JSA claimants may change the rate may not, depending on whether the change in numbers is enough to alter the rate.

² All numbers are rounded. Includes 'Occupation unknown'.

Labour market – Resident based

- Labour market figures for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly from the Annual Population Survey are available up to December 2017⁴. This data set covers those of working age namely the 16-64 age group who are resident in the area⁵.
- In total there were 324,500 aged 16-64, of whom 255,800 were economically active with 248,300 who were employed. Of those employed, 189,800 were employees with 57,100 self-employed⁶; while 175,900 worked full-time with 71,900 working part-time. There were 7,500 who were unemployed, and 68,700 who were economically inactive.
- The figures show that over the last year the total aged 16-64 has moved up⁷, the numbers of economically active up marginally while the numbers of economically inactive have increased. Employment numbers were up, with a significant rise in self-employed numbers. The number of those working full-time and part-time rose, particularly part-time. The number of unemployed fell substantially over the year, continuing a recent trend.
- Looking at percentage changes over the year, there was a 2% increase in the 16-64 age group, economically active was stable while the number who were inactive increased by 8%. The number employed was up by 1%, with self-employed up by 10% and employees down by 2%. Full-time numbers were up by 1% while Part-time were up by 2%.
- Over the year, the employment rate fell from 77.0% to 76.5%, the self-employment share of employment moved up from 21.2% to 23.1%. The share taken by full-time decreased from 71.3% to 70.8% while part-time went up from 28.7% to 29.0%. Unemployment rates fell back from 3.8% to 2.9%.
- The latest figures show that there were 19,500 people aged 65 plus in the workforce. This represents 7.3% of the workforce, up from the figure of 7.2% a year earlier.
- Numbers working on a non-permanent/flexible basis fell over the year by 100 from 10,600 to 10,500, while the rate fell from 4.0% to 3.9%⁸.

Labour market - Workplace data

- Latest data shows all those in employment, including those aged 65 plus, whose workplace is in Cornwall⁹, up to the year ending December 2017. The data shows there were 257,900 working in Cornwall. Of these 68,400 were self-employed, with 180,800 employees, and with another 8,700 employees deemed to be working on a flexible basis. Compared to the previous quarter

³ Numbers are always rounded for this dataset.

⁴ Figures cover a year and are produced quarterly; all figures for age group 16-64.

⁵ Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

⁶ Numbers may not sum to all those employed.

⁷ Due to the volatility of the data changes in figures from one period to another may not reflect underlying trends.

⁸ Those working on a non-permanent basis as a % of all employed.

⁹ Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

total employment has moved up slightly. Over the year, numbers in employment, across all categories decreased by 1,900 from 259,800 to 257,900, this was attributable to a decrease in employee numbers (and those on flexible contracts), offsetting the rise in self-employed numbers. The number on flexible contracts was similar at 8,700 compared to 8,800.

- Average employment figures are running at 258,500 over the last five quarters compared to 259,500 for the previous five quarters.
- Over the year as a share of the workforce, the self-employed share was up by 3.4%, while employee share fell back and those on flexible contracts remained stable.
- 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, with numbers below that for the latest quarters.

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 dipped until late 2015 then rose to peak in late 2016 at 20,000, before falling back and now stands at 18,800.

Vacancies

- In May there were 2,310 job postings in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This was down by 430 (16%) from 2,740 in April and also down by 36% from 3,630 in May 2017.

Claimant count

- The latest claimant count ¹⁰figures show a total of 4,580 in Cornwall in May, down by 155 on the April total of 4,735. Compared to May 2017 the total was down by 30 or -0.7% from 4,610¹¹.
- Over the year comparative figures were Cornwall -0.7%, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly -0.7%, England + 12.7% and United Kingdom +11.4%.
- In May the claimant count rate was 1.4%, the same as the figure for April. This compared to rates of 2.1% in England and 2.2% for the United Kingdom. Compared to May 2017 the rate in Cornwall is the same at 1.4%. In contrast the rate in England and the UK both rose by 0.2 points.

¹⁰ 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

¹¹ NB Previous figures are superseded each month.

Benefit claimants – working age client group

- The latest release brings the working age data up to November 2017. This gives a total of 28,580 who were claiming out-of-work benefits.
- The all working age benefits total rose on a quarterly basis but fell slightly on an annual basis. On a quarterly basis there were increases in both ESA and JSA totals, while comparing November 2017 with November 2016, there was a rise in ESA claimants and carers but falls for other groups.

1.2 United Kingdom

Main points for the three months to April 2018

- Estimates from the Labour Force Survey show that, between the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and the quarter February to April 2018, the number of people in work increased, the number of unemployed people decreased and the number of people aged from 16 to 64 years not working and not seeking or available to work (economically inactive) also decreased.
- There were 32.39 million people in work, 146,000 more than for the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and 440,000 more than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The employment rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 years who were in work) was 75.6%, higher than for the same quarter a year earlier (74.8%) and the joint highest since comparable records began in 1971.
- There were 1.42 million unemployed people (people not in work but seeking and available to work), 38,000 fewer than for the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and 115,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate (the proportion of people in work plus unemployed people, who were unemployed) was 4.2%, down from 4.6% for the same quarter a year earlier and the joint lowest since 1975.
- There were 8.65 million people aged from 16 to 64 years who were economically inactive (not working and not seeking or available to work), 72,000 fewer than for the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and 200,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The inactivity rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 years who were economically inactive) was 21.0%, lower than for the same quarter a year earlier (21.5%) and the joint lowest since comparable records began in 1971.
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in nominal terms (that is, not adjusted for price inflation) increased by 2.8% excluding bonuses, and by 2.5% including bonuses, compared with a year earlier.
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in real terms (that is, adjusted for price inflation) increased by 0.4% excluding bonuses, and by 0.1% including bonuses, compared with 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 May was released on 12^h June 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 in May for Cornwall was 2,470. Since April numbers in Cornwall have decreased by 70 or 2.8%. Within the South West, 13 of the 16 County/Unitary areas saw decreases in the number of claimants from the previous month, while 2 saw increases. [Isles of Scilly, no data]. Dorset saw the largest decrease of -11.5%, followed by Gloucestershire at -9.6% and North Somerset at -8.8%. South Gloucestershire saw the largest increase of +1.6%. The fall in Cornwall was below the usual fall in percentage terms for the period. The May figure for Cornwall was the lowest recorded for any May during the run of data since 1992. The UK figure was down by 2.1%, Great Britain was down by 2.0% and South West England down by 3.6%. All details in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1: JSA count – numbers

Date	May	Apr	May	Change			
	2017	2018	2018	Monthly		Annual	
Area	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Bath and NE Somerset	249	184	180	-4	-2.2	-69	-28
Bournemouth	1,441	907	850	-57	-6.3	-591	-41
Bristol, City of	3,840	3,955	3,992	37	0.9	152	4
Cornwall	2,712	2,540	2,470	-70	-2.8	-242	-9
Devon	2,805	2,964	2,902	-62	-2.1	97	3
Dorset	1,316	872	772	-100	-11.5	-544	-41
Gloucestershire	2,685	1,774	1,603	-171	-9.6	-1,082	-40
Isles of Scilly	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
North Somerset	800	342	312	-30	-8.8	-488	-61
Plymouth	2,621	1,641	1,527	-114	-6.9	-1,094	-42
Poole	746	404	387	-17	-4.2	-359	-48
Somerset	1,215	569	540	-29	-5.1	-675	-56
South Gloucestershire	1,090	1,159	1,177	18	1.6	87	8
Swindon	668	307	299	-8	-2.6	-369	-55
Torbay	1,045	1,232	1,171	-61	-5.0	126	12
Wiltshire	1,699	718	680	-38	-5.3	-1,019	-60
Cornwall & IoS	2,713	2,541	2,471	-70	-2.8	-242	-9
SW England	24,933	19,569	18,863	-706	-3.6	-6,070	-24
England	397,928	373,258	366,839	-6,419	-1.7	-31,089	-8
Great Britain	473,977	441,024	432,109	-8,915	-2.0	-41,868	-9
United Kingdom	504,445	467,951	457,932	-10,019	-2.1	-46,513	-9

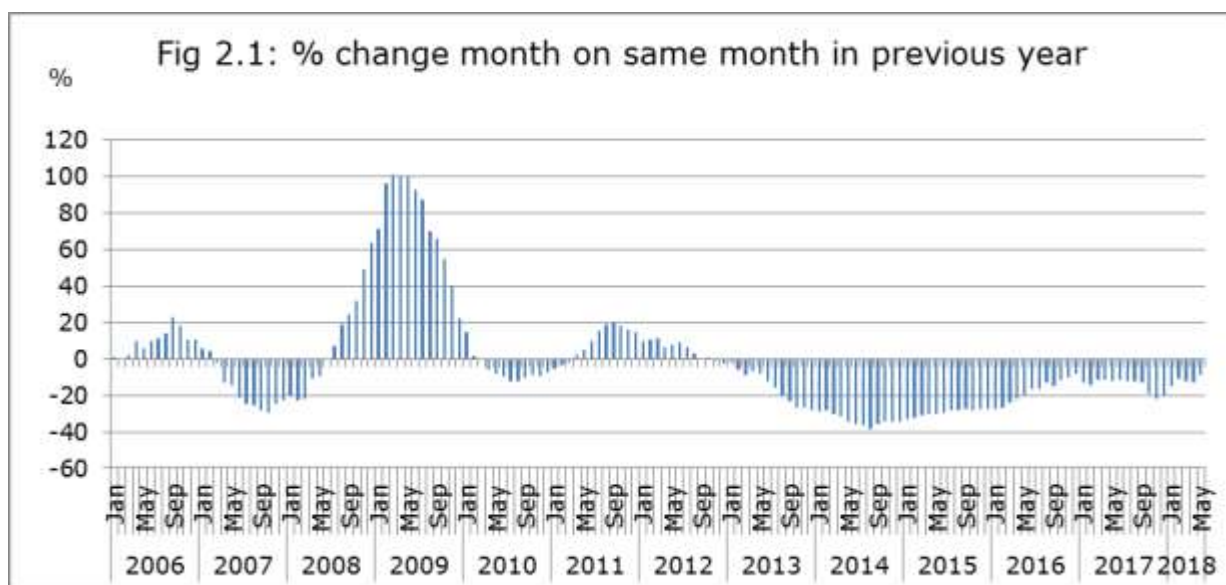
These figures are suppressed as value is 1 or 2.

[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 May 2017, the number of claimants in Cornwall decreased by 242 or 9%. This compares to decreases across the UK of 9%, Great Britain also with 9% and South West England by 24%. Cornwall saw a similar fall in percentage terms to those for the UK and GB but below the SW England figure. Over the year 11 authorities saw a decrease in numbers with 4 showing an increase. The largest percentage decreases were North Somerset (-61%), Wiltshire (-60%), and Somerset (-56%). Torbay saw an increase of 12%.

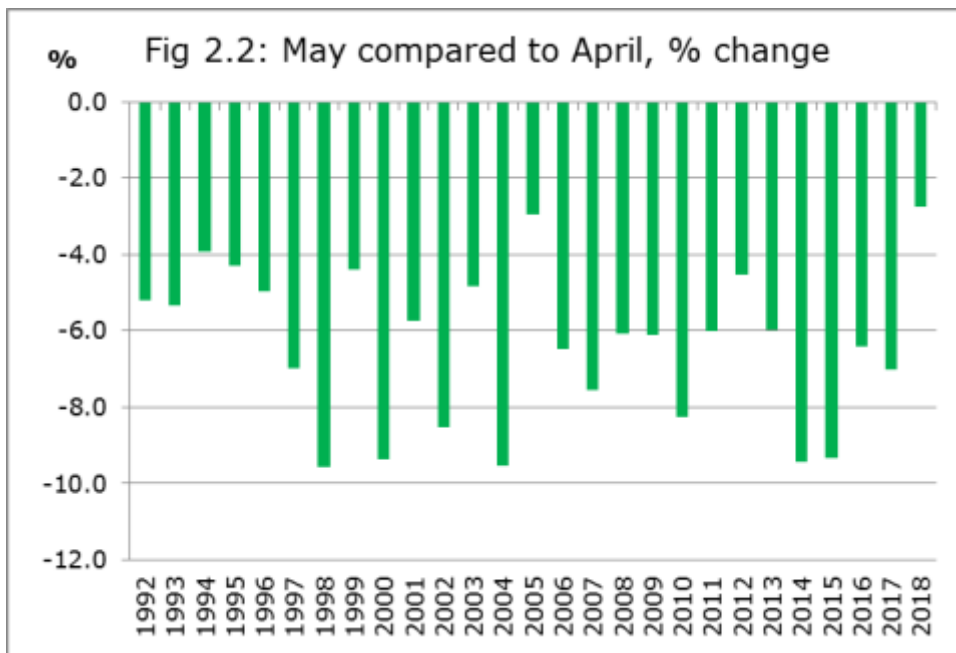
Since November 2012, the numbers have fallen each month compared to the same month in the previous year in Cornwall.

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% and -11% in February. The latest figure of -9% reverses the recent trend of larger decreases.



Comparing the change in numbers for Cornwall between May and the previous April each year (since 1992) indicates that numbers decreased in all of the 27 years. The downward movement in numbers tend to fluctuate with no real pattern. Largest decreases were in 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2014 and 2015. The latest decrease of -2.8% was below the average of -6.4% over the period, being the lowest of the run of data.

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



JSA rate

Cornwall’s JSA rate in May was 0.8%, the same as the figure in April. Compared to the previous month, JSA rates fell in 5 local authorities, and were stable in 10. [There is no data for the Isles of Scilly].

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

Compared to May 2017, Cornwall’s rate fell was the same at 0.8%. Ten authorities saw rates fall over the year, while 2 saw rates remain stable and 3 saw rates rise. [Isles of Scilly, no data].

All data is in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2: JSA count – rate					
	May	Apr	May	Change	
	2017	2018	2018	Monthly	Annual
Area	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
Bath and NE Somerset	0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Bournemouth	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.0	-0.4
Bristol, City of	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.1
Cornwall	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Devon	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Dorset	0.6	0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.3
Gloucestershire	0.7	0.5	0.4	-0.1	-0.3
Isles of Scilly	#	#	#	#	#
North Somerset	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.3
Plymouth	1.6	1.0	0.9	-0.1	-0.7
Poole	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.0	-0.4
Somerset	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.2
South Gloucestershire	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.1
Swindon	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.3
Torbay	1.4	1.6	1.5	-0.1	0.1
Wiltshire	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.4
Cornwall & IoS	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
SW England	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.1
England	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Great Britain	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.0	-0.1
UK	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.0	-0.1

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 11 of the 19 CNAs saw decreases, while 6 saw increases with 2 no change (0 or + or- 1). The largest decreases were Wadebridge & Padstow (-20%), Newquay (-13%), then Camelford and Liskeard & Looe (both -10%). The biggest increase was in Hayle & St. Ives (+5%).

Compared to May 2017, 12 areas saw decreases and 6 registered increases with 1 no change. The largest decreases were Bude (-55%), then Liskeard & Looe (-51%), Launceston (-44%) and Caradon (-43%). Largest increase was in Hayle & St. Ives (+21%).

Table 2.3: CNA, JSA count – numbers							
Area	May	Apr	May	Change			
	2017	2018	2018	Monthly		Annual	
	No's	No's	No's	No's	%	No's	%
Bodmin	130	137	139	2	0	9	7
Bude	71	33	32	-1	-3	-39	-55
Camelford	42	39	35	-4	-10	-7	-17
Caradon	74	44	42	-2	-5	-32	-43
China Clay	138	150	137	-13	-9	-1	-1
Cornwall Gateway	141	95	89	-6	-6	-52	-37
Camborne-Pool-Redruth	510	473	477	4	1	-33	-6
Falmouth & Penryn	259	229	236	7	3	-23	-9
Hayle & St Ives	101	116	122	6	5	21	21
Helston & Lizard	126	122	113	-9	-7	-13	-10
Launceston	79	41	44	3	7	-35	-44
Liskeard & Looe	140	77	69	-8	-10	-71	-51
Newquay	170	219	190	-29	-13	20	12
St Agnes & Perranporth	51	51	49	-2	-4	-2	-4
St Austell	188	192	195	3	2	7	4
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	73	66	64	-2	-3	-9	-12
Truro & Roseland	165	173	174	1	1	9	5
Wadebridge & Padstow	45	45	36	-9	-20	-9	-20
West Penwith	209	238	227	-11	-5	18	9
Cornwall	2,712	2,540	2,470	-70	-3	-242	-9

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 CNA¹². Highest rates in May were in Camborne-Pool-Redruth (1.3%) then Bodmin, Newquay and St. Austell (all 1.1%). Lowest rates were found in Bude and Wadebridge & Padstow (both 0.3%), then Caradon, Cornwall Gateway, Launceston, Liskeard & Looe (all 0.4%). Compared to May 2017, 10 areas saw rates decline, 4 saw rates rise with 5 stable.

Table 2.4: CNA, JSA – rate					
Period	May	Apr	May	Change	
	2017	2018	2018	Monthly	Annual
Area	%	%	%	%	%
Bodmin	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0
Bude	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.4
Camelford	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.0	-0.1
Caradon	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.0	-0.3
China Clay	0.8	0.9	0.8	-0.1	0.0
Cornwall Gateway	0.7	0.5	0.4	-0.1	-0.3
Camborne-Pool-Redruth	1.4	1.3	1.3	0.0	-0.1
Falmouth & Penryn	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.0	-0.1
Hayle & St Ives	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.1
Helston & Lizard	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Launceston	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.0	-0.3
Liskeard & Looe	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.0	-0.4
Newquay	1.0	1.3	1.1	-0.2	0.1
St Agnes & Perranporth	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0
St Austell	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.1	0.1
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.1
Truro & Roseland	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Wadebridge & Padstow	0.4	0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
West Penwith	0.9	1.1	1.0	-0.1	0.1
Cornwall	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0

¹² Rates based on 2015 MYE data.

2.3 Jobseekers by occupation - changes

Comparing May 2018 to April 2018, overall numbers decreased by 75. There were 3 occupations where numbers rose, 13 occupations which were static and 10 where numbers fell. The largest decrease was for 'Sales Occupations' down 30 from 1,850 to 1,820.

[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.

Table 2.5: Changes in jobseeker numbers – May 2018 compared to April 2018			
Period	Apr	May	Change
Usual Occupation	No's	No's	No's
11 : Corporate Managers	170	175	5
62 : Leisure and Other Personal Service Occupations	5	10	5
72 : Customer Service Occupations	5	10	5
12 : Managers and Proprietors in Agriculture and Services	0	0	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	0	0	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
52 : Skilled Metal and Electronic Trades	5	5	0
53 : Skilled Construction and Building Trades	10	10	0
61 : Caring Personal Service Occupations	15	15	0
82 : Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	10	10	0
21 : Science and Technology Professionals	5	0	-5
41 : Administrative Occupations	55	50	-5
42 : Secretarial and Related Occupations	5	0	-5
51 : Skilled Agricultural Trades	35	30	-5
54 : Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	15	10	-5
81 : Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	20	15	-5
91 : Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	75	70	-5
92 : Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	85	80	-5
00 : Occupation unknown	160	145	-15
71 : Sales Occupations	1,850	1,820	-30
Total	2,535	2,460	-75

In May 2018 there were 250 fewer jobseekers¹³ compared to May 2017. Of the 26 occupational groups, 4 saw numbers rise 6 were static and 16 saw numbers fall – (Table 2.6)¹⁴. The biggest reductions were: 'Sales occupations' (-80), 'Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations' (-45), and 'Elementary Administration and Service Occupations' (-40).

Table 2.6: Changes in jobseeker numbers – May 2018 compared to May 2017			
Period	2017	2018	Change
Usual Occupation	No's	No's	No's
51 : Skilled Agricultural Trades	20	30	10
11 : Corporate Managers	170	175	5
62 : Leisure and Other Personal Service Occupations	5	10	5
72 : Customer Service Occupations	5	10	5
21 : Science and Technology Professionals	0	0	0
22 : Health Professionals	0	0	0
23 : Teaching and Research Professionals	0	0	0
24 : Business and Public Service Professionals	0	0	0
32 : Health and Social Welfare Associate Professionals	0	0	0
33 : Protective Service Occupations	0	0	0
12 : Managers and Proprietors in Agriculture and Services	5	0	-5
31 : Science and Technology Associate Professionals	10	5	-5
34 : Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	10	5	-5
35 : Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	5	0	-5
42 : Secretarial and Related Occupations	5	0	-5
52 : Skilled Metal and Electronic Trades	10	5	-5
54 : Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	15	10	-5
82 : Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	15	10	-5
00 : Occupation unknown	155	145	-10
53 : Skilled Construction and Building Trades	20	10	-10
61 : Caring Personal Service Occupations	25	15	-10
81 : Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	25	15	-10
41 : Administrative Occupations	75	50	-25
92 : Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	120	80	-40
91 : Elementary Trades, Plant and Storage Related Occupations	115	70	-45
71 : Sales Occupations	1,900	1,820	-80
Total	2,710	2,460	-250

¹³ All numbers are rounded. Includes 'Occupation unknown'.

¹⁴ 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 May there were 554 off-flows and 476 on-flows. Of the 555¹⁵ off-flows, 51.4% were accounted for by people obtaining a job, 25.2% failed to sign and 11.7% were for reasons not known. All details in Table 2.7.

Table 2.7: Off-flows –reasons		
Reason	No's	%
Found work or increased work to more than 16 hours a week	285	51.4
Failed to sign	140	25.2
Not known	65	11.7
Claimed benefit other than JSA	20	3.6
Gone abroad	15	2.7
Ceased claiming	15	2.7
Other reasons	10	1.8
Government supported training	0	0
Education or approved training	0	0
Total	555	100

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.*

¹⁵ 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 December 2017¹⁶. This data set covers those of working age namely the 16-64 age group who are resident in the area¹⁷.

In total there were 324,500 aged 16-64, of whom 255,800 were economically active with 248,300 who were employed. Of those employed, 189,800 were employees with 57,100 self-employed¹⁸; while 175,900 worked full-time with 71,900 working part-time. There were 7,500 who were unemployed, and 68,700 who were economically inactive.

The figures show that over the last year the total aged 16-64 has moved up¹⁹, the numbers of economically active up marginally while the numbers of economically inactive have increased. Employment numbers were up, with a significant rise in self-employed numbers, but a slight fall in employee numbers. The number of those working full-time and part-time rose, particularly those working part-time. The number of unemployed fell substantially over the year, continuing a recent trend.

All data in Table 2.8.

Table 2.8: Labour market indicators – Cornwall & IoS							
Date	Period					Change	
	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Jan-17	Prev Qtr	Year
Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17			
Group	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
16-64	318,600	320,600	322,600	322,400	324,500	2,100	5,900
Econ active	255,100	258,500	260,500	254,100	255,800	1,700	700
Econ inactive	63,500	62,100	62,100	68,300	68,700	400	5,200
Employed	245,400	249,000	252,000	246,200	248,300	2,100	2,900
Unemployed	9,700	9,500	8,400	7,800	7,500	-300	-2,200
Employees	193,100	193,900	190,400	187,700	189,800	2,100	-3,300
Self employed	51,800	54,400	60,000	57,100	57,100	0	5,300
Full-time	175,000	178,800	178,500	175,100	175,900	800	900
Part-time	70,400	69,900	73,300	70,700	71,900	1,200	1,500

Looking at percentage changes over the year, there was a 2% increase in the 16-64 age group, economically active was stable while the number who were inactive increased by 8%. The number employed was up by 1%, with self-employed up by 10% and employees down by 2%. Full-time numbers were up by 1% while Part-time were up by 2%.

¹⁶ Figures cover a year and are produced quarterly; all figures for age group 16-64.

¹⁷ Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

¹⁸ Numbers may not sum to all those employed.

¹⁹ 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	Jan-16	Dec-16	Jan-17	Dec-17	Change year-on-year	
Group	No's		No's		No's	%
16-64	318,600		324,500		5,900	2
Econ active	255,100		255,800		700	0
Econ inactive	63,500		68,700		5,200	8
Employed	245,400		248,300		2,900	1
Unemployed	9,700		7,500		-2,200	-23
Employees	193,100		189,800		-3,300	-2
Self employed	51,800		57,100		5,300	10
Full-time	175,000		175,900		900	1
Part-time	70,400		71,900		1,500	2

Over the year, the employment rate fell from 77.0% to 76.5%, the self-employment share of employment moved up from 21.2% to 23.1%. The share taken by full-time decreased from 71.3% to 70.8% while part-time went up from 28.7% to 29.0%. Unemployment rates fell back from 3.8% to 2.9%.

Table 2.10: Labour market indicators – Cornwall & IoS							
Date	Period					Change	
	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Jul-16	Jan-17	Prev Qtr	
Group	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Jun-17	Dec-17	Year	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Econ active	80.1	80.6	80.7	78.8	78.8	0.0	-1.3
Econ inactive	19.9	19.4	19.3	21.2	21.2	0.0	1.3
Employed	77.0	77.7	78.1	76.4	76.5	0.1	-0.5
Unemployed	3.8	3.7	3.2	3.1	2.9	-0.2	-0.9
Employees	78.8	78.1	76	76.7	76.9	0.2	-1.9
Self employed	21.2	21.9	24	23.3	23.1	-0.2	1.9
Full-time	71.3	71.8	70.8	71.1	70.8	-0.3	-0.5
Part-time	28.7	28.1	29.1	28.7	29.0	0.3	0.3

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 189,800. 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 7,500.

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 255,800. After dipping down in late 2016 to mid 2017, economic inactivity numbers have moved again to stand at 68,700.

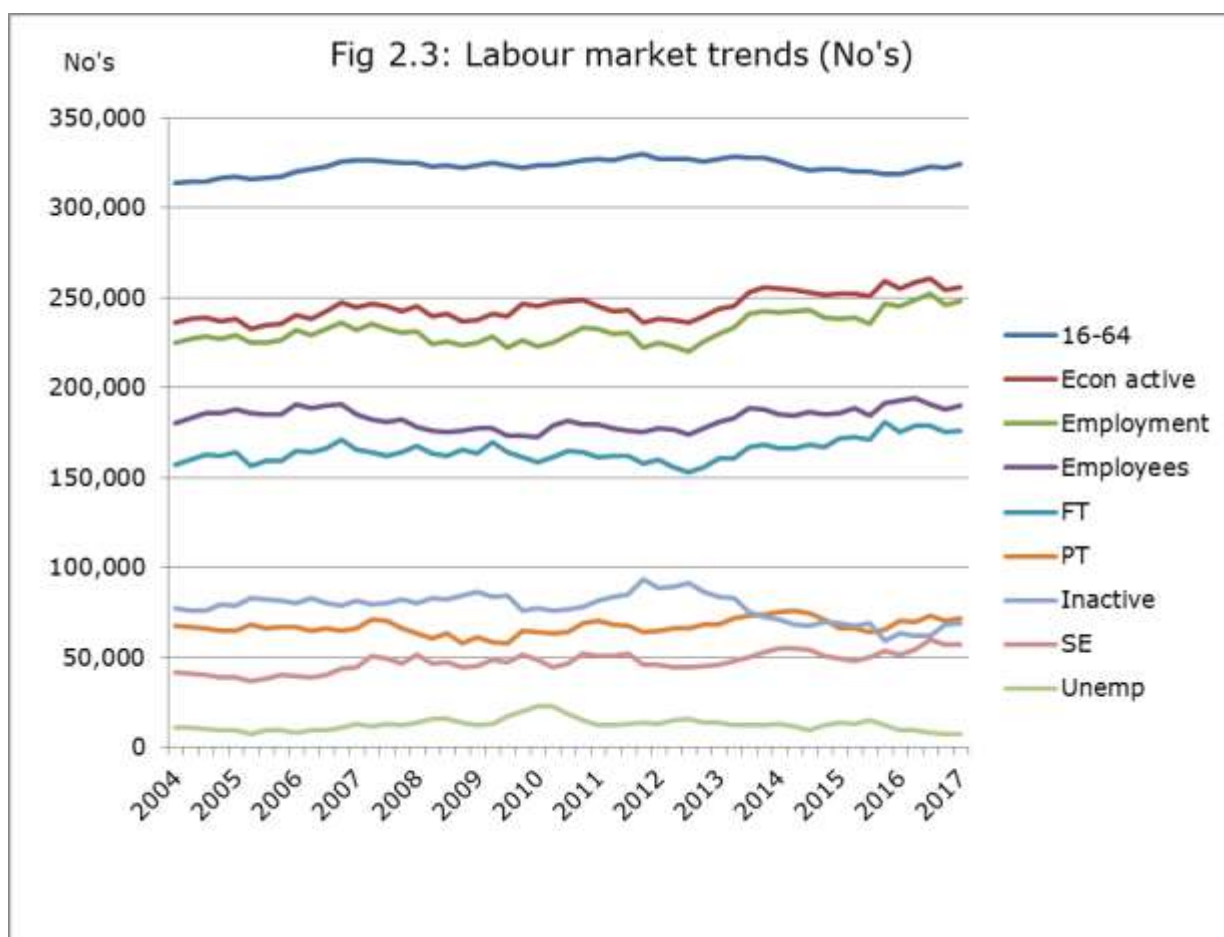
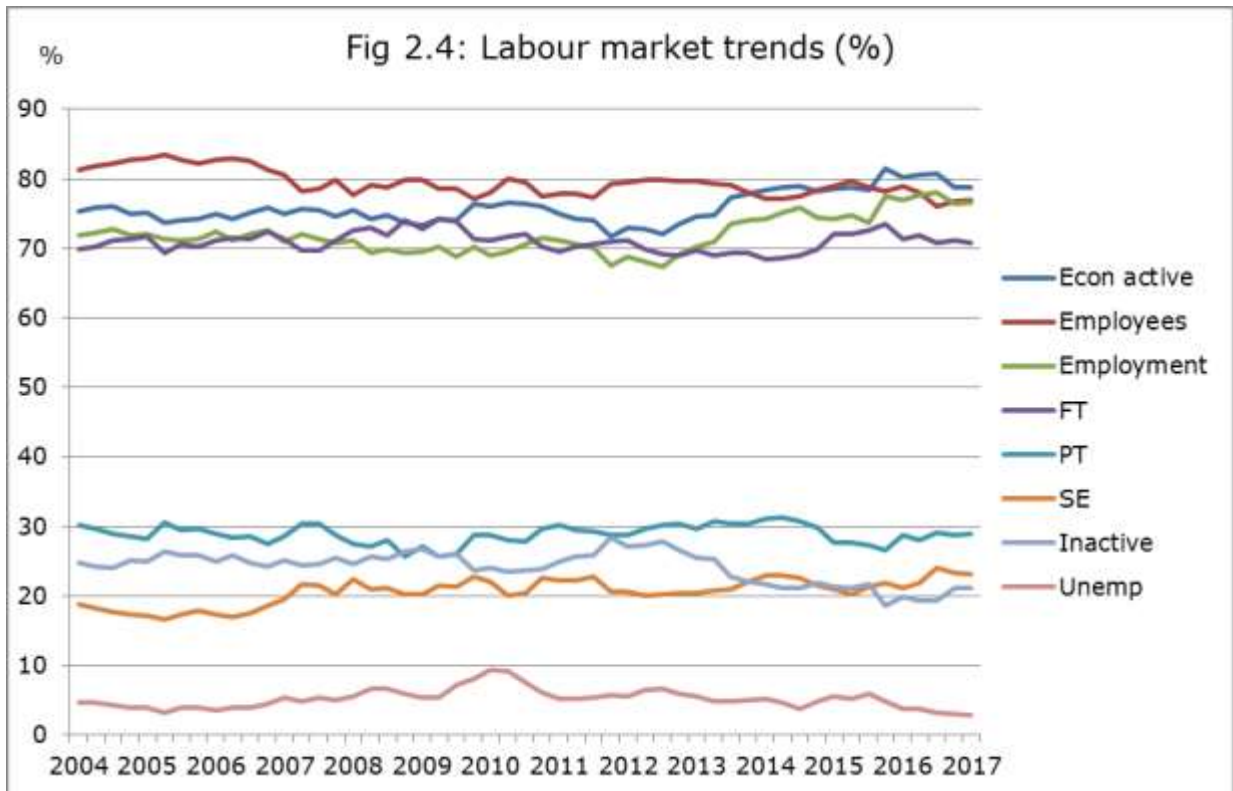


Fig 2.4 shows rates and shares over time. From 2004 to 2007 employees accounted for over 80% of the workforce. Their share fell slightly to lows around 77% in 2008 and mid 2012 with a slight rise thereafter. However levels are still below the 80% level, averaging 76.9% over the year. The self-employed share followed the opposite pattern, averaging 23.1% over the last year.

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 2.9%. In terms of full-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 71.1% over the last year.



Comparing Cornwall to the UK using the average for four sets of yearly data²⁰, removes some of the volatility in the data. Comparing the averages in Table 2.11 below shows that: economic activity rates and employment rates are marginally above the UK rates. Economically inactive rates are 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 3.2%, below the UK average.

Table 2.11: Labour market indicators - Cornwall and UK			
	Cornwall	UK	Ratio
Status	%	%	%
Econ active	79.7	78.0	1.02
Economically inactive	20.3	22.0	0.92
Employed	77.2	74.3	1.04
Unemployed	3.2	4.7	0.69
Employees	76.9	85.7	0.90
Self employed	23.1	14.3	1.61
Full-time	71.1	74.7	0.95
Part-time	28.7	25.1	1.14

The ratio shows with the figure for Cornwall divided by the UK figure. E.g. 79.7 divided by 78.0 gives a ratio of 1.02. 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.

²⁰ 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 19,500 people aged 65 plus in the workforce. This represents 7.3% of the workforce, up from the figure of 7.2% a year earlier.

Numbers working on a non-permanent/flexible basis fell over the year by 100 from 10,600 to 10,500, while the rate fell from 4.0% to 3.9%²¹.

All details in Table 2.12.

Table 2.12: All Employment – Cornwall							
	Period					Change	
	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Jan-17	Prev Qtr	Year ago
	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17		
Group	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
65+	19,000	18,200	19,100	19,100	19,500	400	500
16-64	245,400	249,000	252,000	246,200	248,300	2,100	2,900
All	264,400	267,200	271,100	265,300	267,800	2,500	3,400
Non-permanent	10,600	9,300	11,200	8,800	10,500	1,700	-100
Group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
65+	7.2	6.8	7	7.2	7.3	0.1	0.1
16-64	92.8	93.2	93	92.8	92.7	-0.1	-0.1
Non-permanent	4.0	3.5	4.1	3.3	3.9	0.6	-0.1

[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, 17 April 2018.

²¹ 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 Cornwall²², up to the year ending December 2017. The data shows there were 257,900 working in Cornwall. Of these 68,400 were self-employed, with 180,800 employees, and with another 8,700 employees deemed to be working on a flexible basis. Compared to the previous quarter total employment has moved up slightly. Over the year, numbers in employment, across all categories decreased by 1,900 from 259,800 to 257,900, this was attributable to a decrease in employee numbers (and those on flexible contracts), offsetting the rise in self-employed numbers. The number on flexible contracts was similar at 8,700 compared to 8,800.

Average employment figures are running at 258,500 over the last five quarters compared to 259,500 for the previous five quarters.

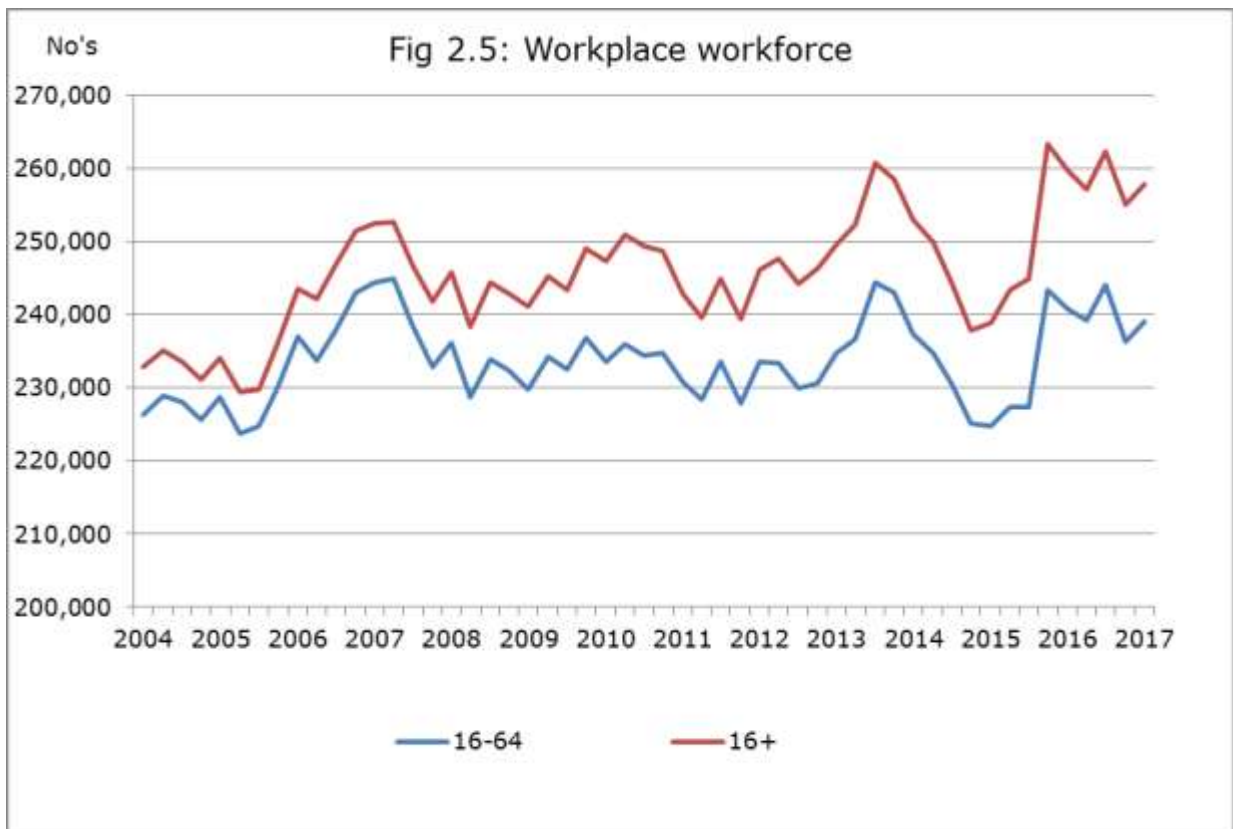
Table 2.13: Workplace Employment (No's)							
	Period					Change	
	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Jan-17	Prev Qtr	Year ago
	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17		
Group	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's	No's
Employees	190900	187400	184200	180500	180800	300	-10100
Self-employed	60100	62900	70400	67700	68400	700	8300
Other flexibility	8800	6900	7700	6900	8700	1800	-100
All	259800	257200	262300	255100	257900	2800	-1900

Over the year as a share of the workforce, the self-employed share was up by 3.4%, while the employee share fell back and those on flexible contracts remained stable. All in Table 2.14.

Table 2.14: Workplace Employment (%)							
	Period					Change	
	Jan-16	Apr-16	Jul-16	Oct-16	Jan-17	Prev Qtr	Year ago
	Dec-16	Mar-17	Jun-17	Sep-17	Dec-17		
Group	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Employees	73.5	72.9	70.2	70.8	70.1	-0.7	-3.4
Self-employed	23.1	24.5	26.8	26.5	26.5	0.0	3.4
Other flexibility	3.4	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.4	0.7	0.0
All	100	100	100	100	100	0	0

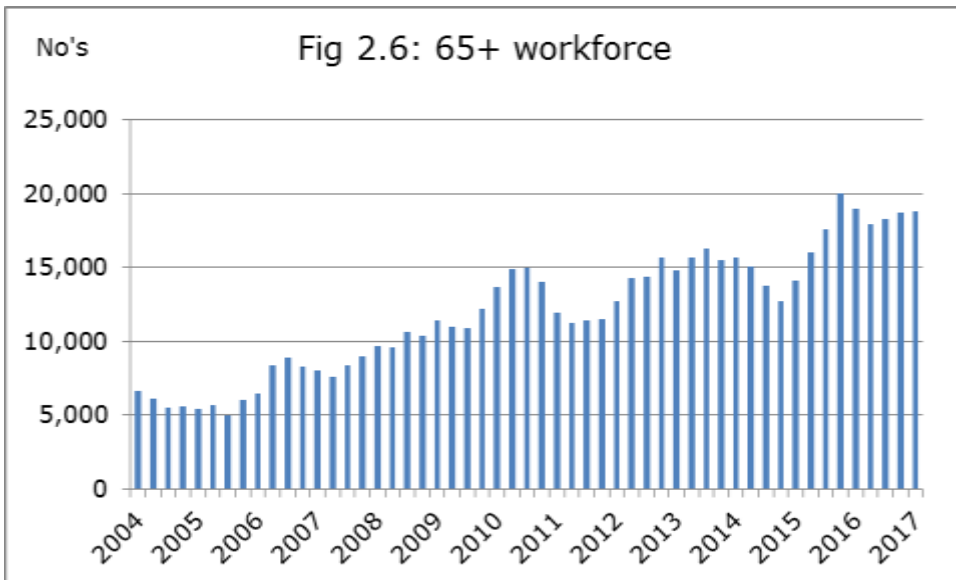
Fig 2.5 shows workplace employment since 2004. Numbers peaked in early 2008 pre-recession, and then fell back before rising until early 2011. Numbers then fell back again until late 2012. Numbers then increased to peak in mid 2014 at 260,700. Numbers then fell back before peaking at 263,300 in late 2016,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

²² Data has been reweighted in line with the latest ONS estimates.

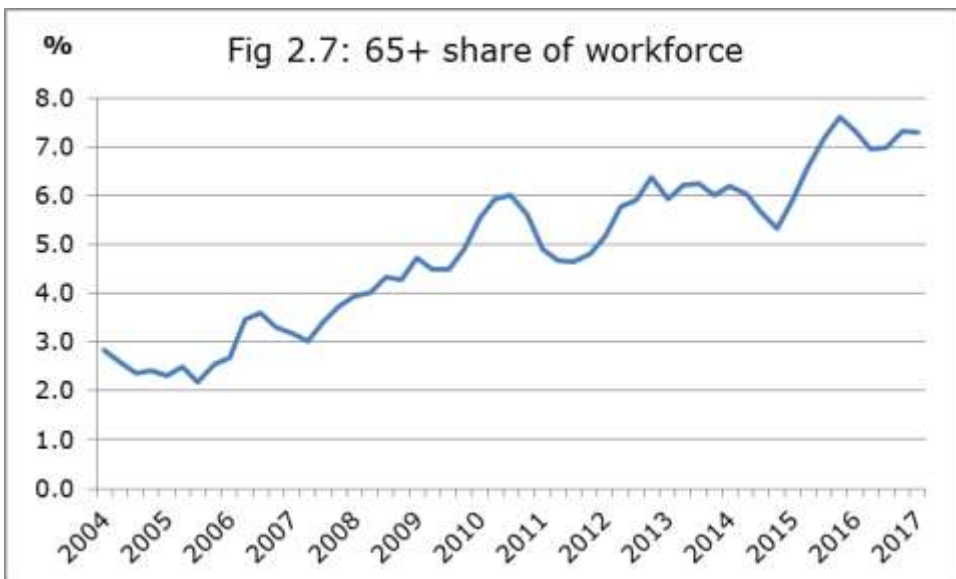


Sixty-five plus

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 18,800.



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, 17 April 2018.

2.7 Vacancies

In May there were 2,310 job postings in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This was down by 430 (16%) from 2,740 in April and also down by 36% from 3,630 in May 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 ²³figures show a total of 4,580 in Cornwall in May, down by 155 on the April total of 4,735. Compared to May 2017 the total was down by 30 or -0.7% from 4,610²⁴.

Over the year comparative figures were Cornwall -0.7%, Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly -0.7%, England + 12.7% and United Kingdom +11.4%.

Table 2.15: Claimant count (16+)

Date	Cornwall	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	England	United Kingdom
May 2017	4,610	4,615	657,995	811,445
June 2017	4,330	4,340	649,985	800,990
July 2017	4,150	4,155	644,635	796,485
August 2017	3,985	3,990	649,715	802,270
September 2017	3,890	3,895	648,820	795,465
October 2017	3,845	3,845	649,360	793,380
November 2017	4,025	4,030	648,135	791,945
December 2017	4,295	4,300	654,535	801,070
January 2018	4,600	4,605	677,225	829,375
February 2018	4,825	4,830	715,080	874,980
March 2018	4,865	4,870	730,930	893,560
April 2018	4,735	4,735	759,610	926,685
May 2018	4,580	4,585	741,505	904,310
Monthly change	-155	-150	-18,105	-22,375
Annual change	-30	-30	83,510	92,865
% Monthly change	-3.3	-3.2	-2.4	-2.4
% Annual change	-0.7	-0.7	12.7	11.4

Source: NOMIS/DWP.

In May the claimant count rate was 1.4%, the same as the figure for April. This compared to rates of 2.1% in England and 2.2% for the United Kingdom. Compared to May 2017 the rate in Cornwall is the same at 1.4%. In contrast the rate in England and the UK both rose by 0.2 points.

²³ 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

²⁴ NB Previous figures are superseded each month.

Table 2.16: Claimant count (16-64)				
Date	Cornwall	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	England	United Kingdom
May 2017	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.0
June 2017	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.9
July 2017	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.9
August 2017	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
September 2017	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
October 2017	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
November 2017	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.9
December 2017	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.9
January 2018	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.0
February 2018	1.5	1.5	2.1	2.1
March 2018	1.5	1.5	2.1	2.2
April 2018	1.4	1.4	2.2	2.2
May 2018	1.4	1.4	2.1	2.2
Monthly change	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Annual change	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2

Source: NOMIS/DWP, 12 June 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 November 2017. This gives a total of 28,580 who were claiming out-of-work benefits.

The all working age benefits total rose on a quarterly basis but fell slightly on an annual basis. On a quarterly basis there were increases in both ESA and JSA totals, while comparing November 2017 with November 2016, there was a rise in ESA claimants and carers but falls for other groups.

Table 2.17: Cornwall - No's

Group\Period	Nov	Feb	May	Aug	Nov	Change	
	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	On last Qtr	Annual
ESA	21,030	21,210	21,310	21,400	21,710	310	680
JSA	3,040	3,150	2,570	2,280	2,420	140	-620
Incapacity benefits	210	180	90	70	60	-10	-150
Lone parent	2,850	2,810	2,780	2,790	2,770	-20	-80
Carer	1,320	1,330	1,350	1,370	1,360	-10	40
Others on income related benefit	280	280	280	270	260	-10	-20
Total	28,730	28,960	28,380	28,180	28,580	400	-150

For November 2017 compared to November 2016, the number on ESA rose by 3.2%, numbers on Incapacity benefits fell by 71.4% (from a low base), while those on JSA fell by 20.4%.

Table 2.18: Cornwall – Annual change

Group\Period	Nov	Nov	Annual	
	2016	2017	No's	%
ESA	21,030	21,710	680	3.2
JSA	3,040	2,420	-620	-20.4
Incapacity benefits	210	60	-150	-71.4
Lone parent	2,850	2,770	-80	-2.8
Carer	1,320	1,360	40	3.0
Others on income related benefit	280	260	-20	-7.1
Total	28,730	28,580	-150	-0.5

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

Source: NOMIS/DWP, Benefit claimants, 15 May 2018.

3. United Kingdom

3.1 Main points for the three months to April 2018

- Estimates from the Labour Force Survey show that, between the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and the quarter February to April 2018, the number of people in work increased, the number of unemployed people decreased and the number of people aged from 16 to 64 years not working and not seeking or available to work (economically inactive) also decreased.
- There were 32.39 million people in work, 146,000 more than for the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and 440,000 more than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The employment rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 years who were in work) was 75.6%, higher than for the same quarter a year earlier (74.8%) and the joint highest since comparable records began in 1971.
- There were 1.42 million unemployed people (people not in work but seeking and available to work), 38,000 fewer than for the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and 115,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The unemployment rate (the proportion of people in work plus unemployed people, who were unemployed) was 4.2%, down from 4.6% for the same quarter a year earlier and the joint lowest since 1975.
- There were 8.65 million people aged from 16 to 64 years who were economically inactive (not working and not seeking or available to work), 72,000 fewer than for the quarter November 2017 to January 2018 and 200,000 fewer than for the same quarter a year earlier.
- The inactivity rate (the proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 years who were economically inactive) was 21.0%, lower than for the same quarter a year earlier (21.5%) and the joint lowest since comparable records began in 1971.
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in nominal terms (that is, not adjusted for price inflation) increased by 2.8% excluding bonuses, and by 2.5% including bonuses, compared with a year earlier.
- Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in real terms (that is, adjusted for price inflation) increased by 0.4% excluding bonuses, and by 0.1% including bonuses, compared with a year earlier.

Source: ONS.

All data is shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: UK - Labour market indicators				
Indicator	Measure	Period	Comparisons	
		3M²⁵ to Apr 18	3M to Jan 18	Year ago
Employment ²⁶	Rate	75.6		74.8
In employment (16+)	No's	32.39m	+146,000	+440,000
Employees	No's	27.42m		+473,000
Self-employed	No's	4.81m		+9,000
Total hours worked per week	No's	1.03bn	-4.1 m	
Average hours worked per week	Nos	31.8	-0.3	-0.4
Unemployment	Rate	4.2		
Unemployment	No's	1.42m	38,000	115,000
Unemployed - over 12 months	No's	369,000		-17,000
Unemployed -16-24 ²⁷	No's	520,000		
Inactivity	Rate	21.0		21.5
Inactivity	No's	8.65m	-72,000	-200,000
Redundant	No's	107,000	=	+18,000
Indicator	Measure	Apr 18		Year earlier
Average regular weekly pay (ex bonuses) ²⁸		£484		£472
		Mar 18	Dec 17	Year ago
Workforce jobs	No's	35.18m		
		Mar 18	Dec 17	Year ago
Public sector employment ²⁹	No's	5.36m	+10,000	
Private sector employment	No's	27.04m	+136,000	
		3 M to May 18	3 M to Feb 18	Year ago
Vacancies	No's	818,000		+33,000

Source: Office for National Statistics, Labour Market Statistics, Statistical Bulletin, 12 June 2018.

²⁵ Months

²⁶ 16-64 age group

²⁷ ○

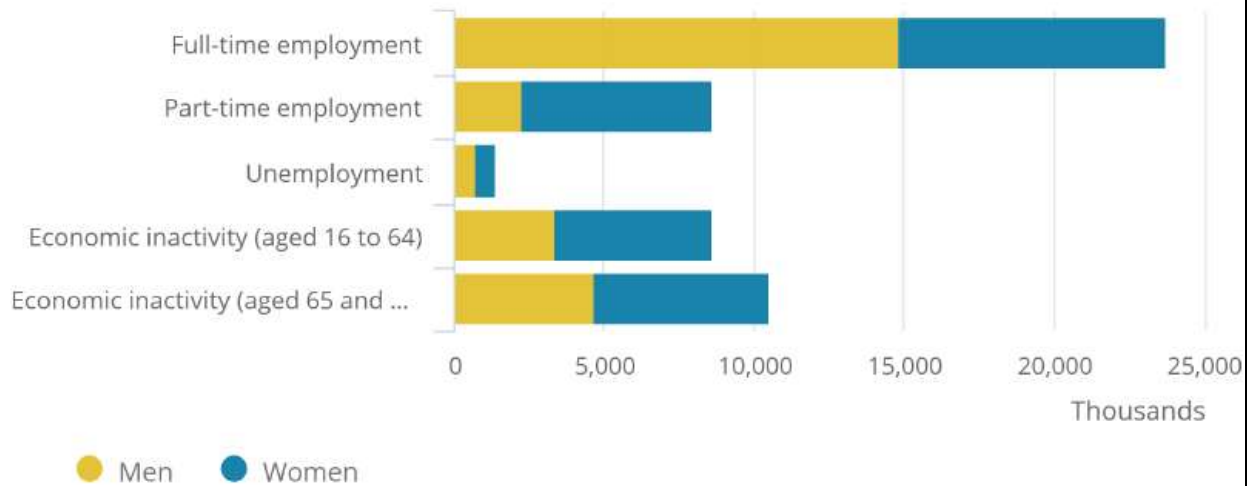
²⁸ Great Britain

²⁹ 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 February to April 2018, for employment, unemployment and economic inactivity and show how these estimates compare with the previous quarter (November 2017 to January 2018) and the previous year (February to April 2017). Comparing the estimates for February to April 2018 with those for November 2017 to January 2018 provides the most robust short-term comparison.

Fig 3.1: Summary of UK labour market statistics for February to April 2018, 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

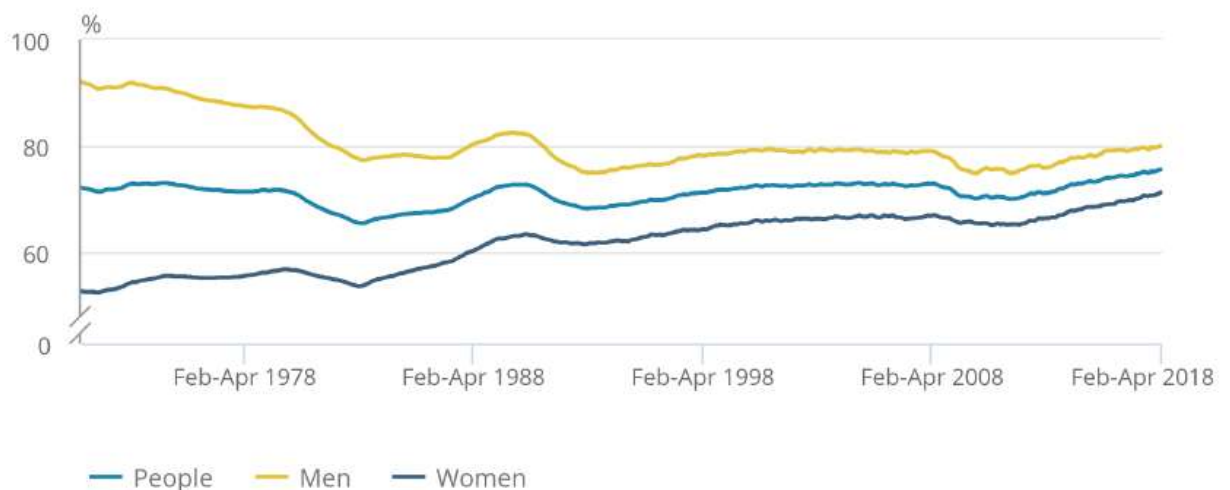
3.3 Employment

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 years 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 years 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, February to April 2018, the employment rate for people was 75.6%, up from 74.8% for a year earlier and the joint highest since comparable records began in 1971.

Fig 3.3: UK Employment rate (aged 16 to 64) - January to March 1971 to February to April 2018.



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, February to April 2013 to February to April 2018.



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

For February to April 2018:

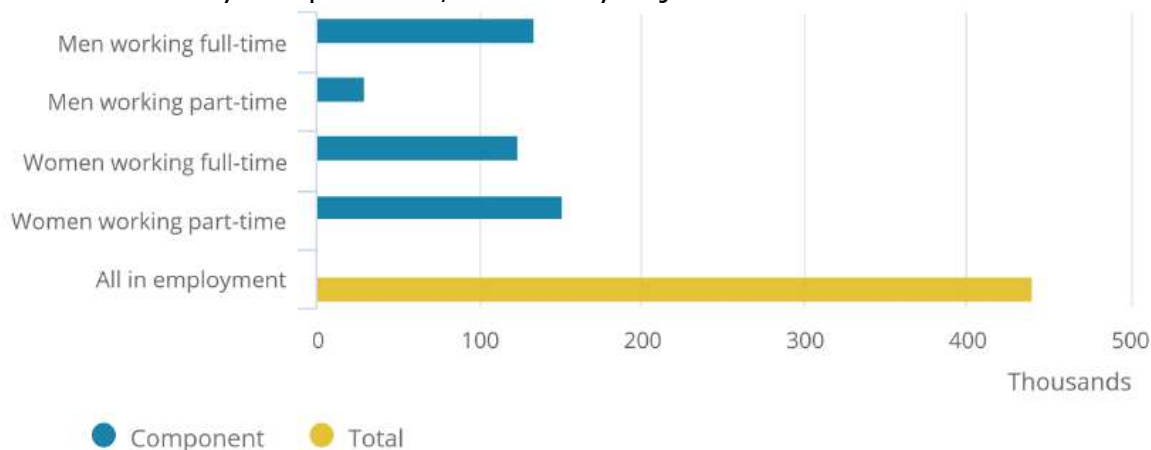
- 75.6% of people aged from 16 to 64 years were in work, the joint highest employment rate for people since comparable records began in 1971
- 80.0% of men aged from 16 to 64 years were in work, the joint highest employment rate for men since February to April 1991
- 71.3% of women aged from 16 to 64 years were in work, the 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 February to April 2018, there were 32.39 million people in work, 146,000 more than for November 2017 to January 2018 and 440,000 more than for a year earlier.

Fig 3.5 shows how the estimates for full-time and part-time employment by sex for February to April 2018 compare with those for a year earlier. The annual increase in the number of people in employment (440,000) was mainly due to more people in full-time employment (259,000).

Fig 3.5: Changes in people in employment in the UK between February to April 2017 and February to April 2018, seasonally adjusted.



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

Comparing the estimates for employees and self-employed people for February to April 2018 with those for a year earlier:

- employees increased by 473,000 to 27.42 million (84.7% of all people in work)
- self-employed people increased by 9,000 to 4.81 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.

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.

Comparisons of public and private sector employment over time are impacted by changes to the composition of these sectors. For example, if a publicly owned body is privatised, public sector employment will fall and private sector employment will increase by an equivalent amount. This is known as a reclassification effect.

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

For March 2018:

- there were 5.36 million people employed in the public sector, 10,000 more than for December 2017
- there were 27.04 million people employed in the private sector, 136,000 more than for December 2017

16.5% of all people in work were employed in the public sector (the lowest proportion since quarterly records began in 1999) and the remaining 83.5% worked in the private sector

Between March 2017 and March 2018, public sector employment fell by 102,000 and private sector employment increased by 542,000. These annual changes have been impacted by the reclassification of English housing associations, which are included in the private sector from December 2017 but are included in the public sector between September 2008 and September 2017. Excluding the effects of this reclassification, public sector employment increased by 42,000 and private sector employment increased by 398,000 between March 2017 and March 2018. For March 2018, there were 1.64 million people employed in the National Health Service (30.6% of all people employed in the public sector) and there were 1.51 million people employed in public sector education (28.2% of all people employed in the public 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 November 2017 to January 2018 and February to April 2018, the number of people in employment increased by 146,000 (as explained in Section 4 of this statistical bulletin) but total hours worked decreased by 4.1 million to 1.03 billion. This decrease in total hours worked reflected a fall in average weekly hours worked by full-time workers.

For February to April 2018:

- people worked, on average, 31.8 hours per week, 0.3 hours fewer than for November 2017 to January 2018, 0.4 hours fewer than for a year earlier and the lowest since September to November 2012

- people working full-time worked, on average, 36.9 hours per week in their main job, 0.4 hours fewer than for November 2017 to January 2018, 0.6 hours fewer than for a year earlier and the lowest since April to June 2011
- people working part-time worked, on average, 16.4 hours per week in their main job, 0.2 hours more than for November 2017 to January 2018 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, February to April 2013 to February to April 2018.



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics.

3.6 Workforce Jobs

What is Workforce Jobs?

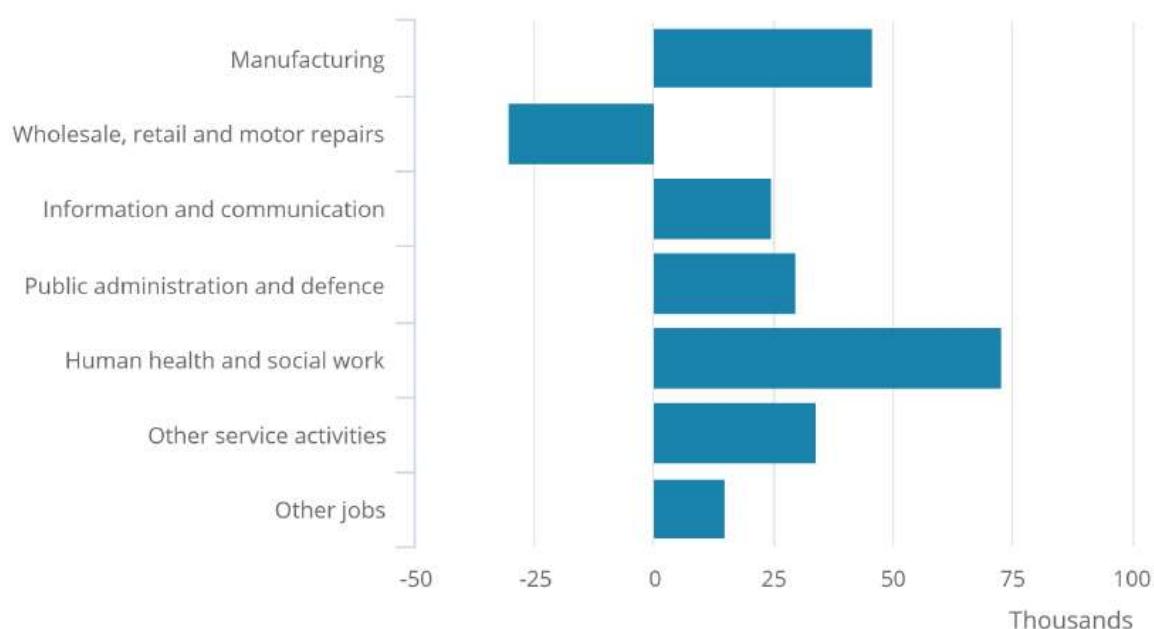
Workforce jobs measures the number of filled jobs in the economy. The estimates are mainly sourced from employer surveys. Workforce jobs is a different concept from employment, which is sourced from the Labour Force Survey, as employment is an estimate of people and some people have more than one job.

Commentary

For March 2018, there were 35.18 million workforce jobs, 123,000 more than for December 2017 and 193,000 more than for a year earlier.

Fig 3.7 shows changes in the number of jobs by industrial sector between March 2017 and March 2018.

Fig 3.7: Changes in the number of jobs in the UK between March 2017 and March 2018, seasonally Adjusted.



Source: Office for National Statistics

Looking at a longer-term comparison, between June 1978 (when comparable records began) and March 2018:

- the proportion of jobs accounted for by the manufacturing and mining and quarrying sectors fell from 26.4% to 7.9%
- 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 April 2018 in nominal terms (that is, not adjusted for price inflation):

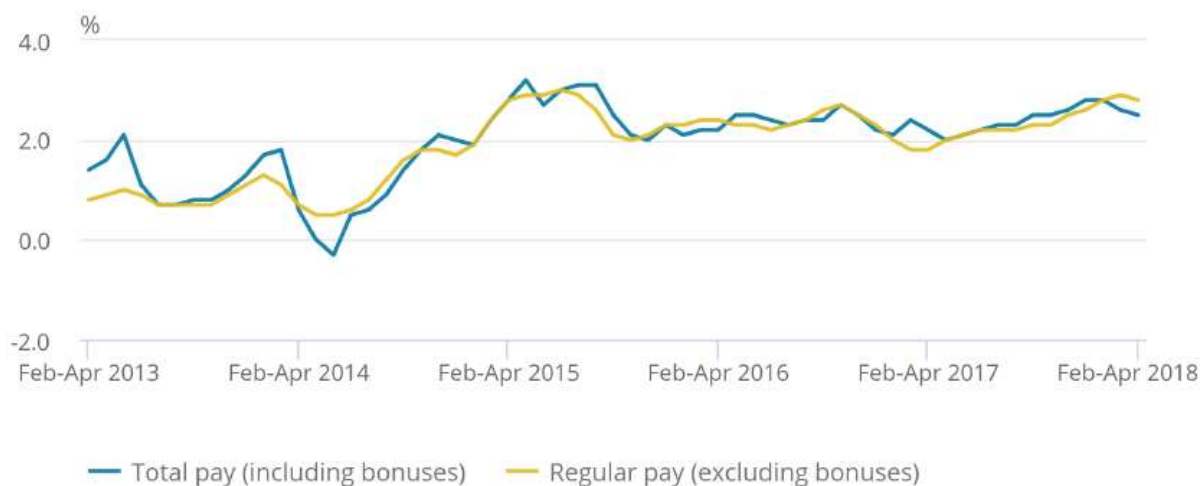
- average regular pay (excluding bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £484 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, up from £472 per week for a year earlier
- average total pay (including bonuses) for employees in Great Britain was £516 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, up from £504 per week for a year earlier

Between February to April 2017 and February to April 2018, in nominal terms, regular pay increased by 2.8%, slightly lower than the growth rate between January to March 2017 and January to March 2018 (2.9%).

Between February to April 2017 and February to April 2018, in nominal terms, total pay increased by 2.5%, slightly lower than the growth rate between January to March 2017 and January to March 2018 (2.6%).

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 nominal average earnings annual growth rates, seasonally adjusted February to April 2013 to February to April 2018.



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

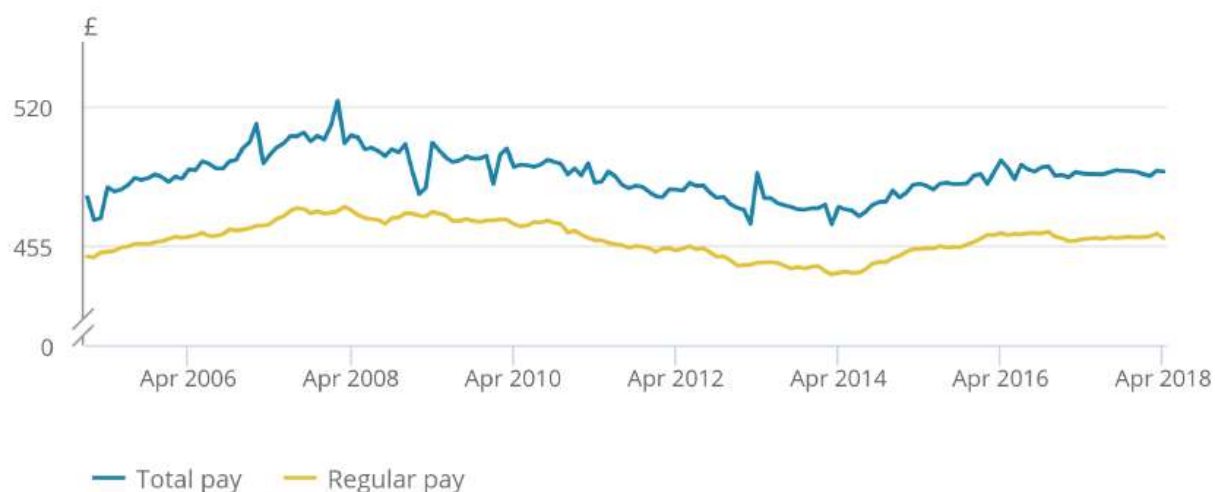
Looking at longer-term movements, average total pay for employees in Great Britain in nominal terms increased from £376 per week in January 2005 to £516 per week in April 2018; an increase of 37.1%. Over the same period, the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) increased by 34.7%.

For April 2018 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 £490 per week before tax and other deductions from pay, £32 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 April 2018.



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

Between February to April 2017 and February to April 2018, in real terms (that is, adjusted for consumer price inflation), regular pay for employees in Great Britain increased by 0.4% and total pay for employees in Great Britain increased by 0.1%.

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

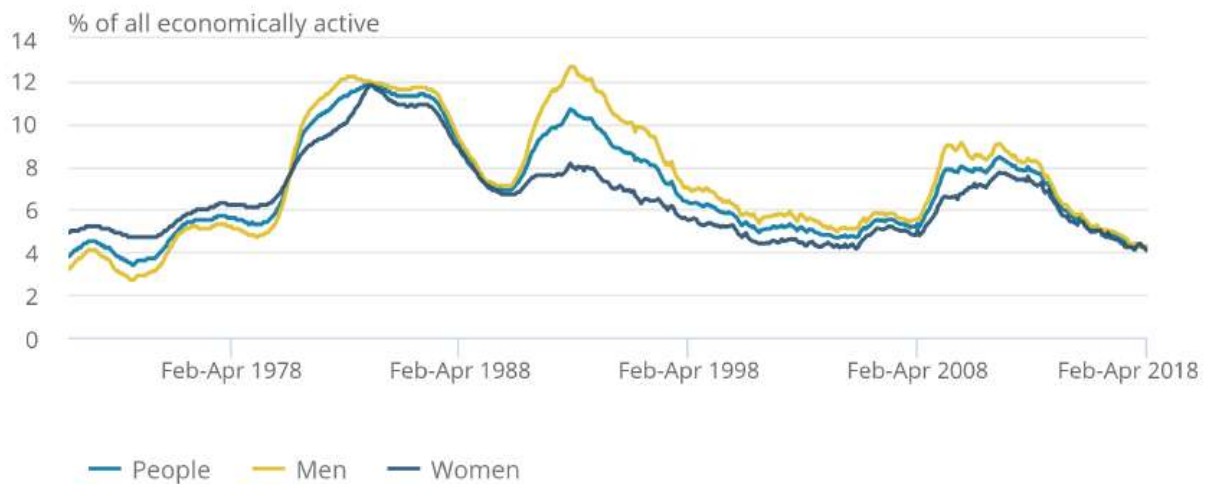
What is unemployment?

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 the economically active population (those in work plus those seeking and available to work) who are unemployed 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 economic downturn of the early 1980s. The unemployment rate for people for the latest time period, February to April 2018, was 4.2%, the joint lowest since 1975.

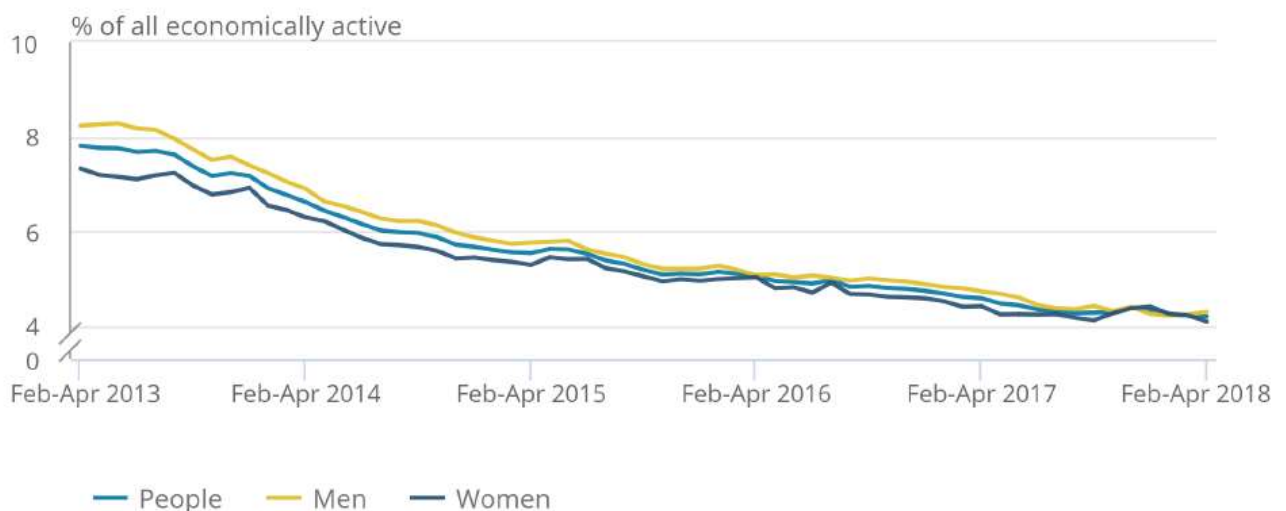
Fig 3.10: UK Unemployment rate (aged 16 and over), seasonally adjusted, January to March 1971 to February to April 2018.



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, February to April 2013 to February to April 2018



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

For February to April 2018:

- the unemployment rate for people was 4.2%, the joint lowest since 1975
- the unemployment rate for men was 4.3%, lower than for a year earlier (4.7%)
- the unemployment rate for women was 4.1%, the joint lowest since comparable records began in 1971

For February to April 2018, there were:

- 1.42 million unemployed people, 38,000 fewer than for November 2017 to January 2018 and 115,000 fewer than for a year earlier

- 767,000 unemployed men, 10,000 more than for November 2017 to January 2018 but 73,000 fewer than for a year earlier
- 649,000 unemployed women, 47,000 fewer than for November 2017 to January 2018 and 41,000 fewer than for a year earlier

Looking at unemployment by how long people have been out of work and seeking work, for February to April 2018, there were:

- 833,000 people who had been unemployed for up to six months, 63,000 fewer than for a year earlier
- 214,000 people who had been unemployed for between six months and one year, 35,000 fewer than for a year earlier
- 369,000 people who had been unemployed for over one year, 17,000 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.

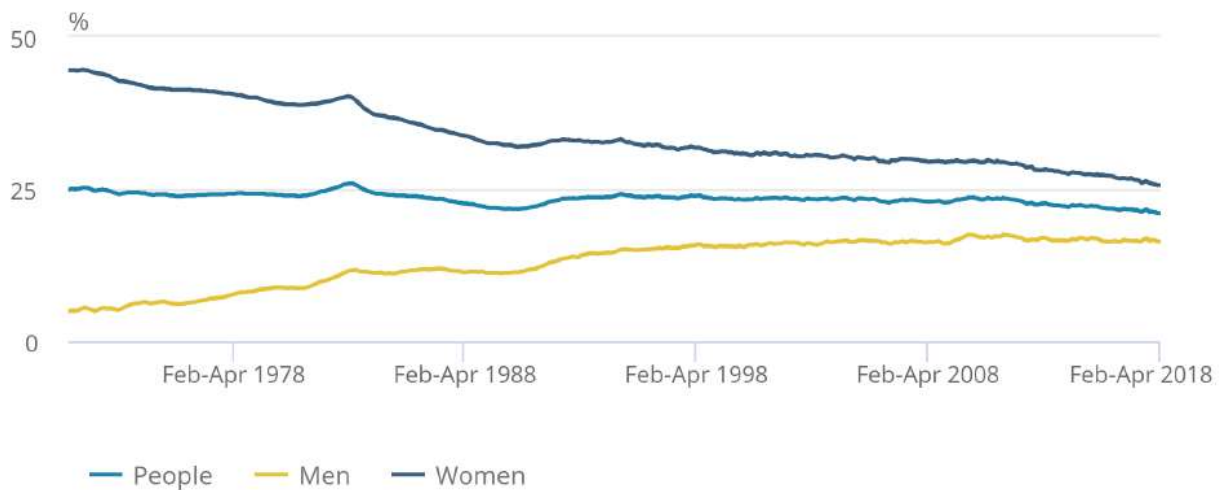
Commentary

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 February to April 2018:

- the economic inactivity rate for people was 21.0%, lower than for a year earlier (21.5%) and the joint lowest since comparable records began in 1971
- the economic inactivity rate for men was 16.3%, lower than for a year earlier (16.5%)
- the economic inactivity rate for women was 25.6%, lower than for a year earlier (26.5%) and the joint 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 February to April 2018



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 February to April 2018



Source: Labour Force Survey: Office for National Statistics

For February to April 2018, there were 8.65 million people aged from 16 to 64 years not in work and neither seeking nor available to work (known as economically inactive). This was:

- 72,000 fewer than for November 2017 to January 2018
- 200,000 fewer than for a year earlier the lowest since March to May 2000

Looking in more detail at the 8.65 million people aged from 16 to 64 years who were economically inactive for February to April 2018, the two largest categories

were students (26.8% of the total) and people looking after the family or home (23.4% of the total):

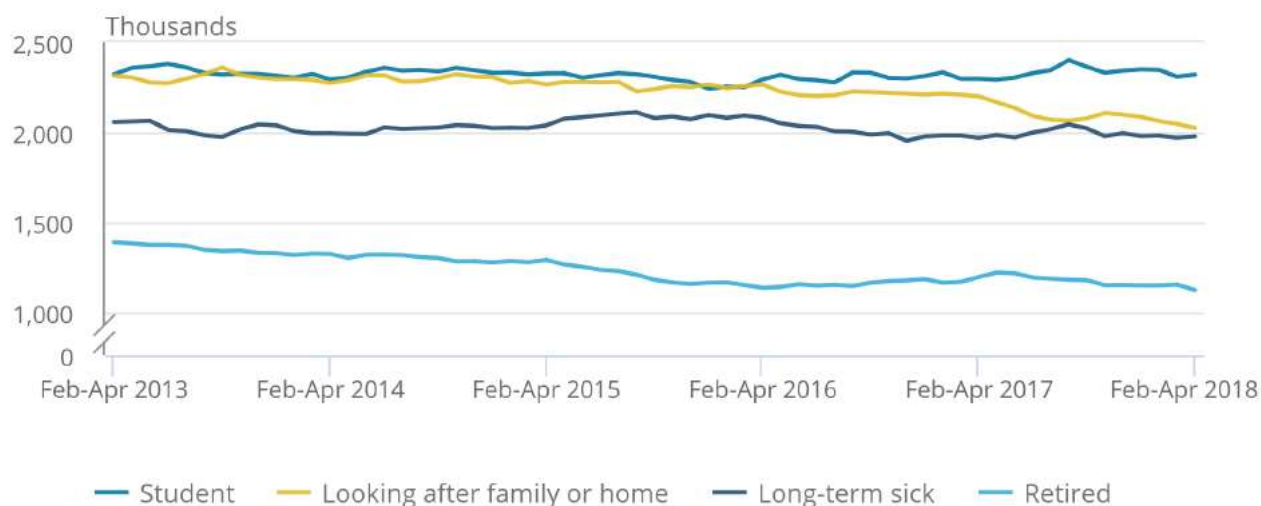
- there were 2.32 million people who were not looking for work because they were studying, 23,000 more than for a year earlier
- there were 2.03 million people who were not looking for work because they were looking after the family or home, 175,000 fewer than for a year earlier and the lowest since comparable records began in 1993

The third and fourth largest categories were long-term sick (22.9% of the total) and retired (13.0% of the total):

- there were 1.98 million people who were not looking for work due to long-term sickness, little changed compared with a year earlier
- there were 1.13 million people who were not looking for work because they had retired, 72,000 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 265,000 over the five-year period from February to April 2013 to February to April 2018. This reflects ongoing changes to the State Pension age for women, resulting in fewer women retiring between the ages of 60 and 65 years.

Fig 3.14: Economic inactivity by main category in the UK (aged 16 to 64), seasonally adjusted, February to April 2013 to February to April 2018.



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

3.10 Young People in the Labour Market

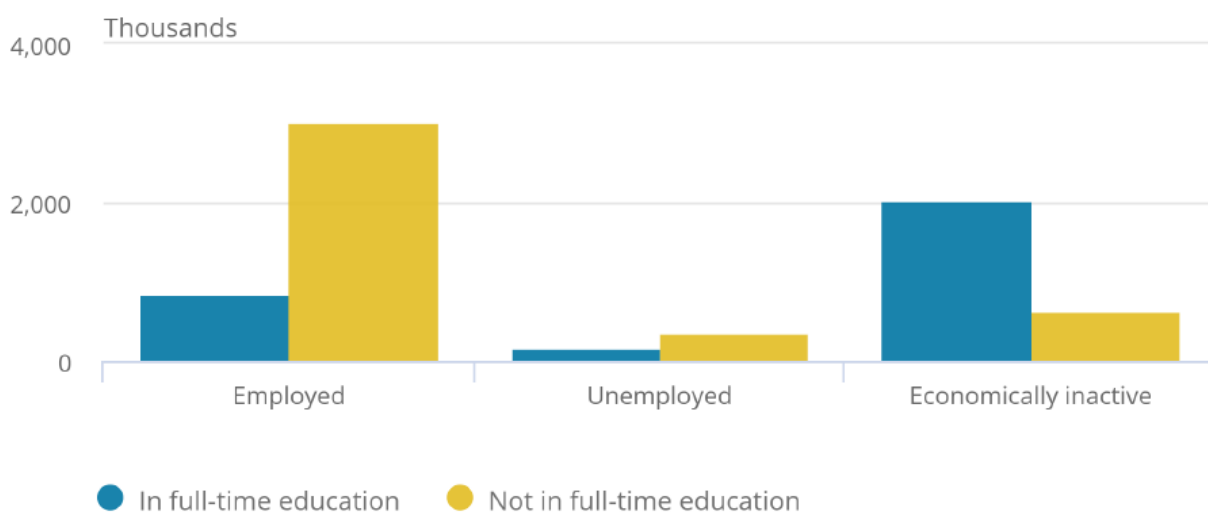
It is a common misconception that all people in full-time education are classified as economically inactive. This is not the case as people in full-time education are included in the employment estimates if they have a part-time job and are included in the unemployment estimates if they are seeking part-time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

Commentary

For February to April 2018, for people aged from 16 to 24 years, there were:

- 3.87 million people in work (including 863,000 full-time students with part-time jobs)
- 520,000 unemployed people (including 166,000 full-time students looking for part-time work)
- 2.65 million economically inactive people, most of whom (2.03 million) were full-time students

Fig 3.15: Young people (aged 16 to 24 years) in the UK labour market for February to April 2018, seasonally adjusted



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

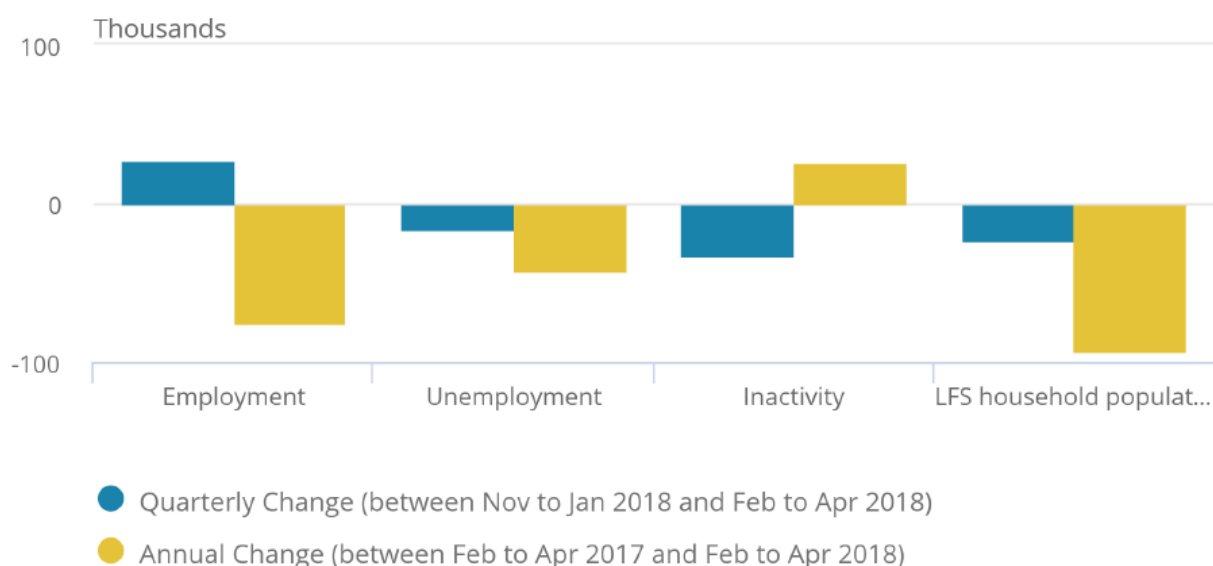
Notes:

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 February to April 2018, for employment, unemployment and economic inactivity for people aged from 16 to 24 years compare with the previous quarter (November 2017 to January 2018) and the previous year (February to April 2017). The chart shows that, while the overall UK household population is increasing, it is falling for those aged from 16 to 24 years.

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 February to April 2018, the unemployment rate for 16- to 24-year-olds was 11.9%, lower than for a year earlier (12.5%).

The unemployment rate for those aged from 16 to 24 years 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 February to April 2018, the proportion of people aged from 16 to 24 years who were in full-time education increased substantially from 26.2% to 43.5%.

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?

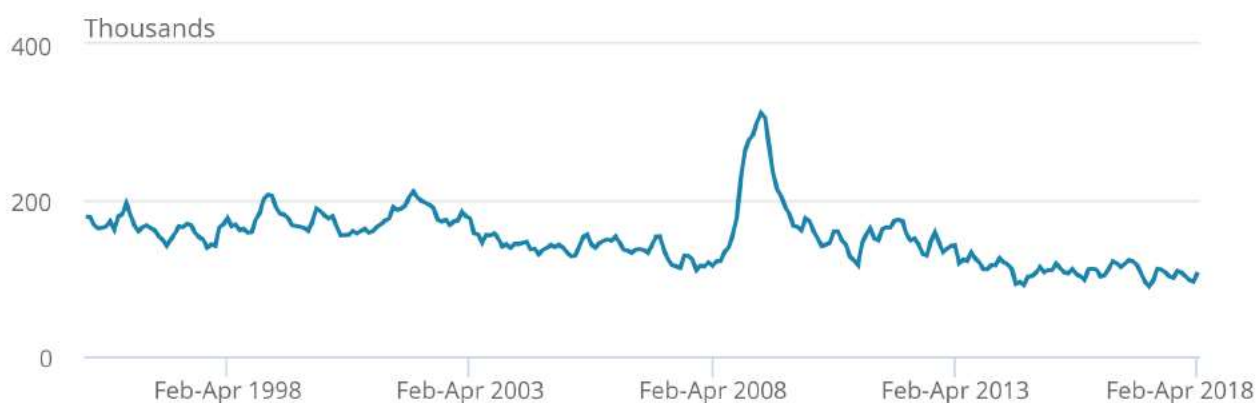
The redundancies estimates measure the number of people who have been made redundant or have taken voluntary redundancy.

Commentary

For February to April 2018, 107,000 people had become redundant in the three months before the Labour Force Survey interviews, little changed compared with November 2017 to January 2018 but 18,000 more 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 February to April 2018.



Source: Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

3.12 Vacancies

What are vacancies?³⁰

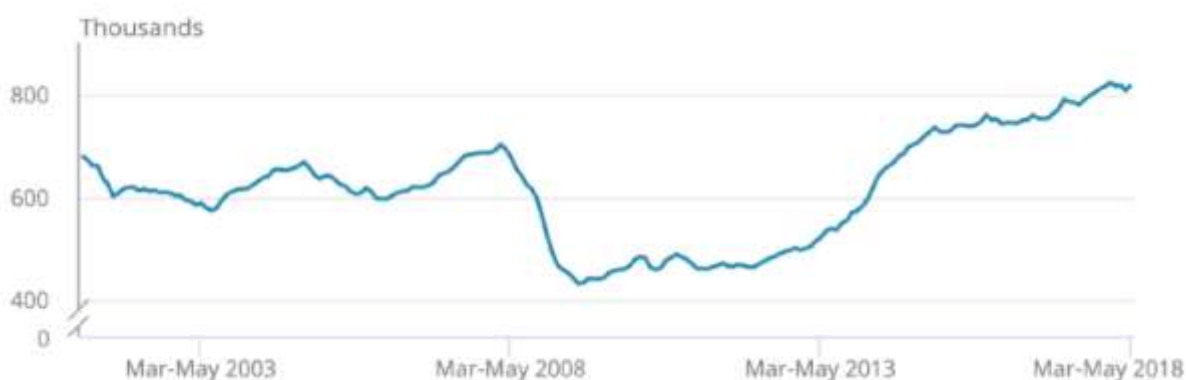
Vacancies are defined as positions for which employers are actively seeking to recruit outside their business or organisation.

Commentary

There were 818,000 job vacancies for March to May 2018, little changed compared with December 2017 to February 2018 but 33,000 more than for a year earlier.

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

Fig 3.18: Number of vacancies in the UK, seasonally adjusted, April to June 2001 to March to May 2018



Source: Vacancy Survey, Office for National Statistics

There were 727,000 job vacancies in the services sectors for March to May 2018, accounting for 88.9% of all vacancies. Looking at services in more detail, the

³⁰ These vacancies are different from those used in the Cornwall section, which are not official statistics.

sectors with the largest number of job vacancies were wholesaling, retailing and repair of motor vehicles (133,000) and human health and social work (130,000). There were 2.7 job vacancies per 100 filled employee jobs for March to May 2018. The industrial sector showing the largest vacancy rate was accommodation and food service activities (4.0 vacancies per 100 filled employee jobs). The industrial sectors showing the smallest vacancy rates were construction, and public administration and defence (both 1.6 vacancies per 100 filled employee jobs).

Notes:

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

Economic Growth Service.

If you would like this information
in another format please contact:

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