

Employment and Skills Briefing (April 2015)



Neil Brown
Policy and
Intelligence
Officer

The following information summarises the DWP (Central England Group) [State of the Group Report April 2015](#) and provides a focus on East Midlands through District level / local authority / LEP data.

National data is also covered, providing a context for regional and local employment and skills.

JSA Unemployment (claimant count)

The seasonally adjusted JSA Register (Central England Group) currently stands at **149,900**. This is **down 4,500 (2.9%)** from the previous month (March), continuing a downward trend from Summer 2012.

Unemployment Rate

When seasonally adjusted, the national claimant count reduced by 2.6% over the past month. The register fell by 3.7% in the East Midlands (49,700), the second highest fall (North West recorded a fall of 4.2%).

The ILO Unemployment* Rate for the East Midlands is 4.9%, down 0.5% from the previous quarter. For the UK it is: 5.6% (down 0.3% from the previous quarter).

Employment Rate

UK: 73.4% (for the period December 2014 to February 2015) **up 0.5%** from the previous quarter.

East Midlands: 74.4%, up 0.7% from the previous quarter.

Vacancies

ONS statistics show 743,000 UK job vacancies available at any one time for the period January to March 2015.

This was up 124,000 on a year earlier and is the highest level recorded since comparable records began in 2001.

New JSA Claims (on-flows) Rate

Seasonally adjusted on-flows (the number of people making new claims to Jobseeker's Allowance) in the Central England Group totalled 109,700 over the three-month period January to March 2015, down 22.2% on the corresponding period a year ago.

In the **East Midlands based districts**, unadjusted on-flows are **up by 12.6% from the previous quarter**, and down by 21.5% on the corresponding period 12 months ago.

Stopping JSA Claims (off-flows) Rate

Seasonally adjusted off-flow rates (the number of people stopping JSA claims) in the Central England Group are down 7.7% from the previous quarter, and 21.3% on the same period last year. In the **East Midlands based districts**, they are **down by 16.9% from the previous quarter** and 23% on the same period last year.

Age and Duration of the Unemployed

The number of people who have been claiming for more than 6 months (Central England Group) has fallen by 38% over the past year to 67,110; almost back to pre-recession levels.

Youth Unemployment

The Central England Group continues to see significant reductions in its 18-24 register. The current total of 38,925 is the lowest ever recorded since comparable records began in 1985.

In the **East Midlands based districts**, the number of young people (18-24) claiming for more than 6 months has fallen by 55% since March 2014.

**ILO Unemployment is different from the claimant count, which measures only those people who are claiming unemployment-related benefits (JSA since 1996). The claimant count is normally the lower measure because some unemployed people are not entitled to claim unemployment-related benefits, or choose not to do so.*

Employment and Skills Briefing (April 2015)

JSA Claimant Count (unadjusted): Local Enterprise Partnerships (East Midlands) February to March 2015

Local Enterprise Partnership	Feb 2015	March 2015	Change	
	number	number	change	% change
Greater Lincolnshire	15,485	14,761	-814	-5.3
Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire	29,071	27,933	-1,138	-3.9
Northamptonshire	7,965	7,792	-173	-2.2
South East Midlands	17,975	17,506	-469	-2.6
Leicester and Leicestershire	10,684	9,971	-713	-6.7

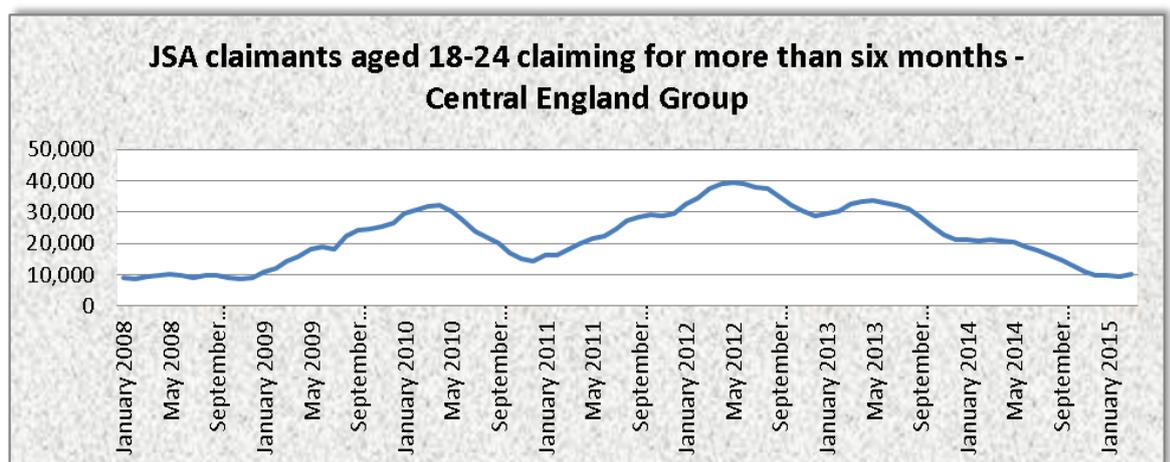
Skills: Qualification levels in the East Midlands

Data on the qualification levels of the working age population is currently available for the year to December 2013.

(East Midlands District data below):

District	NVQ level 4+	NVQ level 3+	NVQ level 2+	NVQ level 1+	% No Quals
Leicestershire & Northamptonshire	31.4%	53.0%	70.0%	82.7%	10.5%
Midland Shires*	27.9%	50.6%	69.5%	83.2%	10.2%
Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	29.2%	52.6%	69.5%	82.8%	10.7%

*Includes Derbyshire



As of March 2015



Employment and Skills Briefing (April 2015)

Potential redundancies notified by employers in East Midlands (March 2015)

This data should be treated as an indicator of redundancies that are due to occur where employers have announced at least 20 job losses at a single site (via HR1 notifications)

District	All employers notifying redundancies	Public sector employers notifying redundancies	All potential job losses	Public sector potential job losses
Leicestershire & Northamptonshire	9	3	757	141
Midland Shires*	9	2	744	334
Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	9	0	357	0
<i>Central England</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>3011</i>	<i>876</i>

*Includes Derbyshire

Jobs Sought by Occupation (Central England Group)

Over the past 3 months, jobseekers who have made new claims in the Central England Group have registered for work in the following top 15 occupational areas

It is worth noting that the SOC code for 'senior officials in national government' is '1111' and it is possible this accounts for the strangely high volumes for this occupation (i.e. people may be typing this in to complete a mandatory field instead of don't know')

Occupation	Jobseeker volumes	Percentage of Total Jobseekers
Sales and retail assistants	50,145	42.8%
Senior officials in national government	12,535	10.7%
Other goods handling and storage occupations	11,270	9.6%
General office assistants/clerks	6,485	5.5%
Labourers in process and plant operations	2,145	1.8%
Packers, bottlers, canners, fillers	1,780	1.5%
Van drivers	1,235	1.1%
Retail cashiers and check-out operators	1,225	1.0%
Care assistants and home carers	1,165	1.0%
Cleaners, domestics	1,160	1.0%
Kitchen and catering assistants	945	0.8%
Labourers in other construction trades	915	0.8%
Customer care occupations	885	0.8%
Bar staff	860	0.7%
Labourers in building and woodworking trades	835	0.7%

Employment and Skills Briefing (April 2015)

UK Labour Market, April (ONS)

Main points for the 3 months ending February 2015

- Comparing the estimates for the 3 months ending February 2015 with those for September to November 2014, employment continued to rise and unemployment continued to fall.
- There were 31.05 million people in work, 248,000 more than for September to November 2014 and 557,000 more than for a year earlier.
- The proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 in work (the employment rate) was 73.4%, the highest since comparable records began in 1971.
- There were 1.84 million unemployed people, 76,000 fewer than for September to November 2014 and 416,000 fewer than for a year earlier.
- The proportion of the economically active population who were unemployed (the unemployment rate) was 5.6%, lower than for September to November 2014 (5.8%) and for a year earlier (6.9%).

For full report please click [here](#)

Regional Labour Market, April (ONS)

- The employment rate in Great Britain was highest in the South East (77.0%) and lowest in Wales and the North East (69.8%).
- The unemployment rate in Great Britain was highest in the North East (7.7%) and lowest in the South East (4.2%).
- The inactivity rate in Great Britain was highest in Wales (25.5%) and lowest in the South West and the East of England (19.4%).
- The headline Claimant Count rate in Great Britain was highest in the North East (4.0%) and lowest in the South East and the South West (1.3%).
- The **East Midlands** had the highest proportion of jobs in the production sector, at 13.7%, whilst London had the lowest proportion, at 2.9%. For the service sector, London had the highest proportion, at 91.8%, whilst Wales had the lowest proportion, at 78.0%.

For full report please click [here](#)

Employment and Skills Briefing (April 2015)

UK Regions: Workforce Jobs by broad industry group and by region, December 2014, (seasonally adjusted)



Source: ONS

In the **East Midlands**, as of December 2013, 13.8% of Workforce Jobs were in Production, and 79.2% in Services. A year later (as of December 2014), 13.7% of Workforce Jobs were in Production, and 78.6% in Services, so a very similar split by broad Industry Group across the two years, which is reflective of regions across the UK as a whole.

Workforce jobs changes (by sector) between December 2013 and December 2014, seasonally adjusted (UK)

