

Employment and Skills Briefing (January 2015)



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

National data is also covered, providing a context for regional and local employment and skills, using the ONS Labour Market Reports (January 2015).

JSA Unemployment (claimant count)

The seasonally adjusted JSA Register (Central England Group) currently stands at **167,900**. This is **down 6,900 (3.9%)** from the previous month (December), continuing a downward trend from Summer 2012.

Employment Rate

The employment rate for working age people in the UK was 73.0% for the period September to November 2014 (unchanged from the previous quarter).

East Midlands: 73.7%, down 0.2% from previous quarter.

Unemployment Rate

The (seasonally adjusted) JSA unemployment rate for the Central England Group is currently **2.0%** (compared to 3.0% a year ago).

The ILO Unemployment* rate for the UK is: 5.8%. For the **East Midlands it is 5.5%**, (129,000).

Prior to the recession (2007/08), the rate for the UK was 5.2%.

Vacancies

Around 700,000 new vacancies were received across the **UK** by Universal Job-match service (October to December 2014), up 127,000 on a year earlier.

New JSA Claims (on-flows)

Unadjusted on-flows for the Central England Group are down by 22% for the year and 8.8% for the quarter.

In the **East Midlands** *unadjusted* on-flows were down by 7.8% on the previous quarter, and down 22% on the corresponding period 12 months ago (Oct-Dec 2013).

Stopping JSA Claims (off-flows)

Seasonally adjusted off-flow rates (the number of people stopping JSA claims) in the Central England Group are down 6.2% from the previous quarter, and 19.7% on the same period last year.

In the **East Midlands** they are down by 6% from the previous quarter and 22% 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 69,915.

The 25-49 age band is the largest unemployed group; 56.7% of all claimants in Central England (compared to UK: 56.8%).

Youth Unemployment

The number of young people (18-24 years old) who have been claiming for more than six months (Central England Group) fell by 1,095 to 9,630 in the last month.

In the **East Midlands** the number of young people claiming for more than 6 months has fallen by 56% since December 2013.

**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.

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Employment and Skills Briefing (January 2015)

JSA Claimant Count (unadjusted): Local Enterprise Partnerships (East Midlands), November to December 2014

Local Enterprise Partnership	November 2014	December 2014	Change	
	number	number	change	% change
Greater Lincolnshire	15,115	15,058	-57	-0.4
Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire	28,002	27,042	-960	-3.4
Northamptonshire	6,988	6,728	-260	-3.7
South East Midlands	16,361	15,673	-688	-4.2
Leicester and Leicestershire	10,688	10,172	-516	-4.8

Workforce by Sector, Central England Group, October 2013 to September 2014

Industry	October 2013 – September 2014		Change
	Numbers	% of total workforce	Change in last year as % of total workforce
Agriculture and fishing	75,100	1%	-3.7%
Energy and water	101,800	2.0%	2.0%
Manufacturing	764,600	13%	0.5%
Construction	378,800	7%	-1.8%
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	1,104,100	19%	2.1%
Transport & communications	490,400	9%	6.4%
Banking, finance & insurance	789,200	14%	3.4%
Public administration, education & health	1,692,300	30%	2.3%
Other services	302,200	5%	12.0%



Employment and Skills Briefing (January 2015)

Potential redundancies notified by employers in East Midlands (November 2014)

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	6	3	253	123
Midland Shires*	9	1	543	295
Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	6	0	467	0
<i>Central England</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3,922</i>	<i>1,730</i>

*Includes Derbyshire

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.

This shows that people in the Central England Group have generally lower levels of qualifications than the national average although there is some variation to this at District level

(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



Employment and Skills Briefing (January 2015)

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:

Occupation	Jobseeker volumes	Percentage of Total
Sales and retail assistants	46,435	41.1%
Senior officials in national government	10,945	9.7%
Other goods handling and storage occupations	10,375	9.2%
General office assistants/clerks	6,745	6.0%
Labourers in process and plant operations	2,380	2.1%
Packers, bottlers, canners, fillers	1,660	1.5%
Retail cashiers and check-out operators	1,390	1.2%
Care assistants and home carers	1,325	1.2%
Van drivers	1,325	1.2%
Cleaners, domestics	1,300	1.1%
Kitchen and catering assistants	1,115	1.0%
Labourers in other construction trades	1,085	1.0%
Customer care occupations	1,040	0.9%
Bar staff	1,025	0.9%
Labourers in building and woodworking trades	940	0.8%

Vacancies notified to Universal Jobmatch

DWP no longer provide vacancy statistics for Central England Group from Universal Jobmatch as the data is not sufficiently robust.

Employment and Skills Briefing (January 2015)

UK Labour Market, January (ONS)

Key Points for September to November 2014

- Comparing the estimates for September to November 2014 with those for June to August 2014, employment continued to rise and unemployment continued to fall.
- There were 30.80 million people in work. This was 37,000 more than for June to August 2014.
- The proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 in work (the employment rate), was 73.0%, unchanged from June to August 2014.
- There were 1.91 million unemployed people. This was 58,000 fewer than for June to August 2014.
- The unemployment rate was 5.8%, lower than for June to August 2014 (6.0%).
- There were 9.09 million people aged from 16 to 64 who were out of work and not seeking or available to work (known as economically inactive).
- The proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 who were economically inactive (the inactivity rate) was 22.4%.

For full report please click [here](#)

UK Economy (2014)

The UK's economy grew by 2.6% last year, the fastest pace since 2007 and up from 1.7% in 2013, official figures have shown.

Figures from the ONS show the economy grew by 0.5% in the final three months of 2014.

This was a slowdown from 0.7% growth recorded in the previous three months.

The ONS's chief economist, Joe Grice, said it was "too early to say" if this slowdown would persist.

"The dominant services sector remains buoyant while the contraction has taken place in industries like construction, mining and energy supply, which can be erratic," he said.

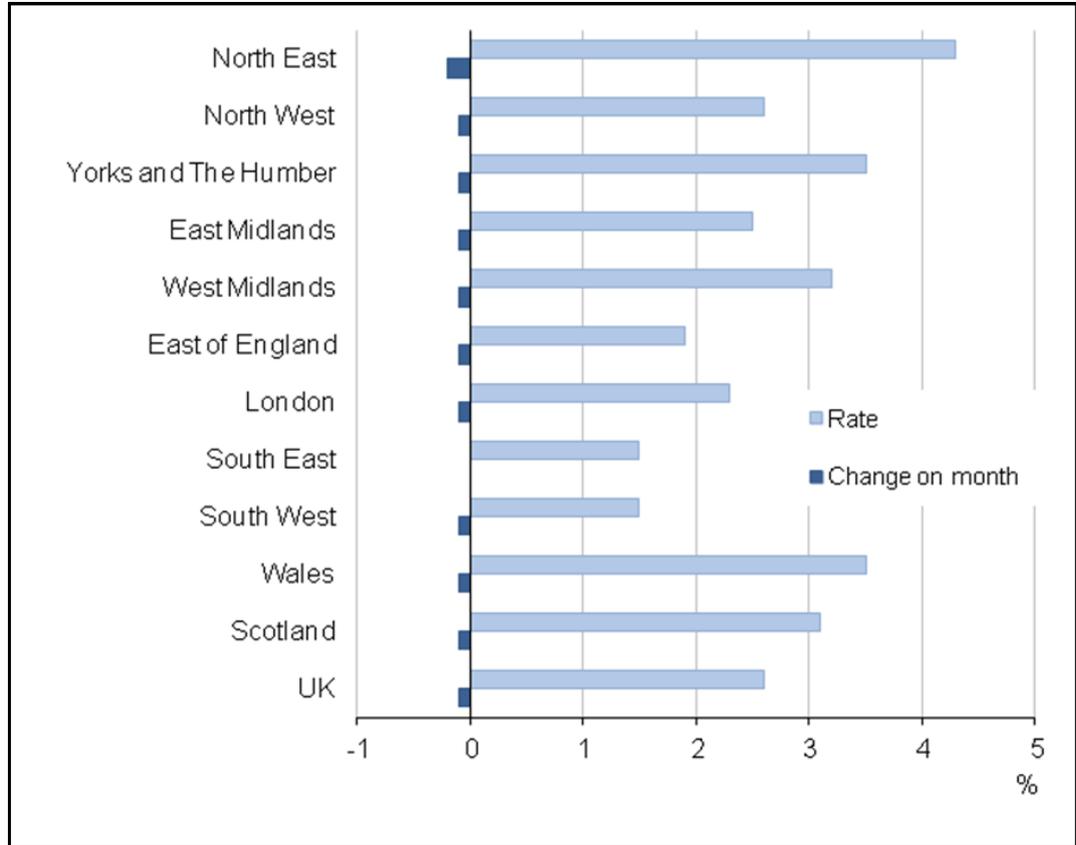
Regional Labour Market, January (ONS)

- The employment levels for the North East, **East Midlands** and Scotland, are all at record highs, with many other regions close to record highs. Despite this, the rates are below previous records, due to increasing population levels.
- The Claimant Count for December 2014 compared with November 2014, is showing decreases in the count for both men and women across all regions of the UK.
- The unemployment rates in the **East Midlands**, the East of England and London remained unchanged (for period September to November 2014).

For full report please click [here](#)

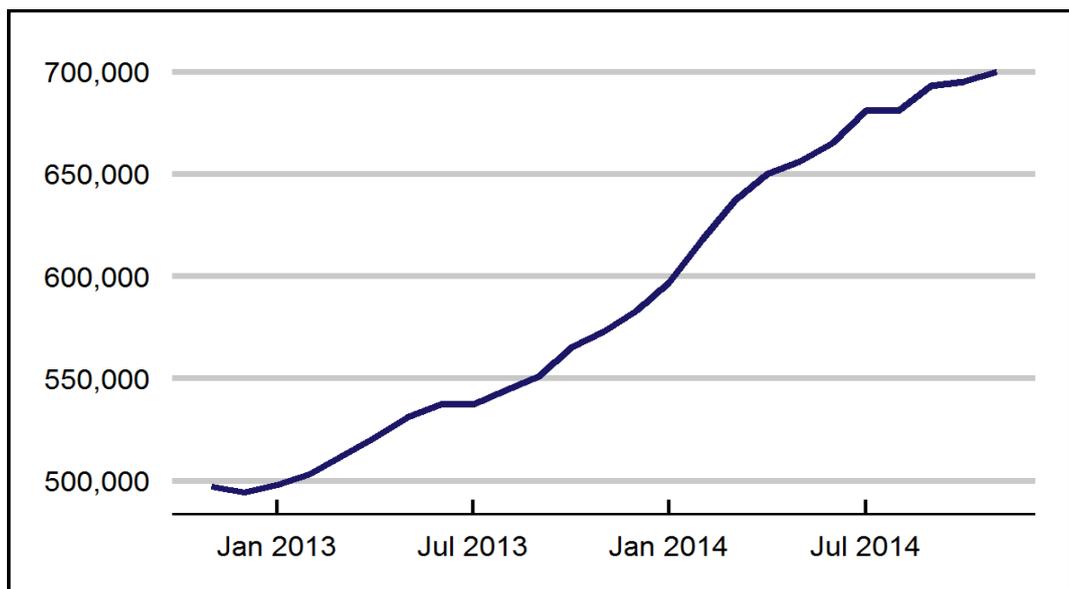
Employment and Skills Briefing (January 2015)

Chart: UK & Regional Unemployment Rates, September 2014 to November 2014



Source: ONS

Chart: Vacancies, Whole Economy (UK) Survey



Vacancies (in the ONS survey of the whole economy) rose more slowly in January 2015, to 700,000. As the number of vacancies is quite volatile, and frequently revised, the Office for National Statistics uses a three-month average.

Source: ONS & CESI