

Introduction

This briefing contains the <u>November</u> data for Cumbria relating to the standard Claimant Count and the <u>August</u> data for the "alternative" claimant count (see note in section 3). There are several different measures of joblessness and claimant unemployment. Each has merits and caveats but care should be taken not to make comparisons between measures as they use different methodologies, population denominators and cover different time periods. In particular, the figures used in the national media are survey based measures of joblessness for which there are no local reliable equivalent measures and therefore they should not be compared with the claimant data contained here.

1. KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA

- According to the <u>standard</u> claimant count there were 6,730 claimants of JSA or UC (out of work and required to seek work) in November, giving a rate of 2.3% in Cumbria. This compares to 2.9% nationally, but the rates in Barrow (3.1%) and Copeland (3.0%) are above the national average. The claimant count rose by 205 from October with rises in every district. The standard claimant count in Cumbria is 1,155 higher than a year ago, a rise of 20.7% compared to a national rise of 27.9% but this is heavily influenced by the rollout of Universal Credit which draws more people into the count than was the case under JSA;
- According to the <u>alternative</u> claimant count there were 6,902 claimants in August 2019 (JSA, UC out of work and required to seek work, plus a modelled estimate of the additional claimants who would be brought into the count as a result of Universal Credit where the rollout is not complete). This gives a rate of 2.3% in Cumbria compared to 3.1% nationally. The count fell by 10 from July and by 93 from a year ago, a fall of -1.3% compared to a rise of 5.7% nationally. Barrow (3.3%) was the only district with a rate above the national average;
- There were 17,855 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria in November (both in and out of work and also including those not required to seek work), a rise of 717 from October and 6,884 more than a year ago;
- There were 14,210 households claiming Universal Credit in Cumbria in August, a rise of 448 from July and a rise of 5,797 from a year ago;
- There were 464 young people classed as NEET in October (249 NEET and 215 whose status was Not Known and who are counted as NEET), a fall of 108 from September. This gives a NEET rate of 4.7%, which compares to 13.6% nationally and 12.0% for Cumbria's statistical neighbours (NB: this time of year is an unreliable indicator of NEET activity as young people are still making post Year 11/12 choices and other parts of the country record very high levels of Not Knowns due to different approaches to tracking activity);
- There were 2,283 job postings in November, a fall of 55 from October but 467 more than the same month last year. The highest volume of postings was for science, research, engineering & technology professionals (271), followed by health professionals (227);
- There were 493 business start-ups in the quarter to end October, a fall of 5 from the previous quarter (-1.2% compared to a fall of -5.5% nationally). However, it is 80 more than the same period last year.



2. NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW

- The UK employment rate was estimated at 76.2%, 0.4 percentage points higher than a year earlier but little changed on the previous quarter; despite just reaching a new record high, the employment rate has been broadly flat over the last few quarters.
- For August to October 2019, an estimated 1.28 million people were unemployed. This is 93,000 fewer than a year earlier and 673,000 fewer than five years earlier.
- The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 3.8%, 0.3 percentage points lower than a year earlier but largely unchanged on the previous quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate was estimated at 20.8%, 0.2 percentage points lower than a year earlier but largely unchanged on the previous quarter.
- Estimated annual growth in average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain slowed to 3.2% for total pay (including bonuses) and 3.5% for regular pay (excluding bonuses); the annual growth in total pay was weakened by unusually high bonus payments paid in October 2018 compared with more typical average bonus payments paid in October 2019.
- In real terms (after adjusting for inflation), annual growth in total pay is estimated to be 1.5%, and annual growth in regular pay is estimated to be 1.8%.
- There were an estimated 794,000 vacancies in the UK for September to November 2019; 20,000 fewer than last quarter and 59,000 fewer than a year earlier.



3. STANDARD & ALTERNATIVE CLAIMANT COUNTS

Important note: The phased nature of the UC rollout means that standard claimant count trends over time and between areas can give a misleading impression of labour market conditions and so this data should only be used as an administrative measure of claimants under the arrangements currently in place in each area. The quarterly "alternative" claimant count (section 3b) which includes modelling of the impact of UC, should be used for labour market monitoring as it "smooths out" the discontinuities between areas and over time.

3a. STANDARD CLAIMANT COUNT (released monthly)

Figure 1: Standard Claimant Count - November 2019

	Male		Fema	le	All Pers	All Persons Monthly Ch			_	Annual Change (all persons)			
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg	
United Kingdom	701,635	3.4	507,625	2.4	1,209,260	2.9	25,365	2.1	0.1	263,630	27.9	0.6	
North West	95,425	4.2	66,415	2.9	161,840	3.6	2,395	1.5	0.1	30,510	23.2	0.7	
Cumbria	3,990	2.7	2,740	1.8	6,730	2.3	205	3.1	0.1	1,155	20.7	0.4	
Allerdale	900	3.1	660	2.3	1,560	2.7	20	1.4	0.0	-35	-2.1	-0.1	
Barrow in Furness	800	3.9	470	2.3	1,270	3.1	55	4.5	0.1	320	33.8	0.8	
Carlisle	965	3.0	655	2.0	1,625	2.5	35	2.1	0.1	460	39.4	0.7	
Copeland	745	3.6	485	2.3	1,230	3.0	30	2.6	0.1	-20	-1.4	0.0	
Eden	245	1.6	185	1.2	430	1.4	10	2.6	0.0	115	37.4	0.4	
South Lakeland	335	1.1	285	1.0	620	1.0	50	9.0	0.1	310	100.0	0.5	
LDNPA	100	0.8	95	0.8	190	0.8	20	11.6	0.1	75	65.5	0.3	

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP

Figure 2: Standard Claimant Count / Rate by Age Group in Cumbria - November 2019

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	Claimant Count by Age											
	16-17	18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total	
UK	3,840	227,445	157,665	154,380	135,610	114,280	112,160	109,365	99,480	85,275	1,209,260	
NW	460	30,835	22,100	22,055	18,790	15,305	14,845	13,740	12,485	10,095	161,840	
Cumbria	20	1,360	935	860	725	590	580	590	555	465	6,730	
Allerdale	0	320	215	190	170	135	150	135	125	105	1,560	
Barrow	0	315	185	150	125	90	100	100	110	80	1,270	
Carlisle	5	300	255	220	175	175	125	145	110	100	1,625	
Copeland	5	250	140	160	135	105	105	110	120	90	1,230	
Eden	0	70	60	50	50	35	35	45	40	40	430	
South Lakeland	5	100	80	90	70	45	70	55	50	50	620	
LDNPA	0	20	20	25	30	25	20	20	15	15	190	
					Claim	ant Rate l	by Age					
	16-17	18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total	
UK	0.3	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.9	
NW	0.3	4.8	4.4	4.6	4.1	3.7	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.6	
Cumbria	0.2	4.0	3.5	3.3	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	2.3	
Allerdale	0.0	4.8	4.2	3.8	3.3	2.7	2.2	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.7	
Barrow	0.0	6.1	4.5	3.8	3.4	2.5	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.1	3.1	
Carlisle	0.2	3.7	4.0	3.6	2.7	2.9	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.6	2.5	
Copeland	0.4	5.4	3.5	4.2	3.6	2.9	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.1	3.0	
Eden	0.0	2.2	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.3	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.4	
South Lakeland	0.2	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.4	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	
LDNPA	0.0	0.8	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.8	

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP



3b. ALTERNATIVE CLAIMANT COUNT (released <u>quarterly – next release will be Jan 2020 for data up to Nov 2019</u>)

Figure 3: Alternative Claimant Count - August 2019

	Male		Fema	ile	All Pers	ons		thly Cha	_	Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
Great Britain	671,999	3.3	590,556	2.9	1,262,555	3.1	19,782	1.6	0.0	68,504	5.7	0.2
Cumbria	3,884	2.6	3,022	2.0	6,902	2.3	-10	-0.1	0.0	-93	-1.3	0.0
Allerdale	890	3.1	710	2.4	1,603	2.8	-14	-0.9	0.0	-184	-10.3	-0.3
Barrow in Furness	803	3.9	544	2.7	1,341	3.3	27	2.1	0.1	24	1.8	0.1
Carlisle	882	2.7	715	2.1	1,591	2.4	1	0.1	0.0	90	6.0	0.1
Copeland	734	3.5	505	2.5	1,242	3.0	-32	-2.5	-0.1	-125	-9.1	-0.3
Eden	257	1.7	212	1.4	469	1.5	19	4.2	0.1	43	10.1	0.1
South Lakeland	316	1.1	340	1.1	652	1.1	-17	-2.5	0.0	54	9.0	0.1
LDNPA	128	1.1	143	1.2	270	1.1	-2	-0.7	0.0	40	17.4	0.2

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP

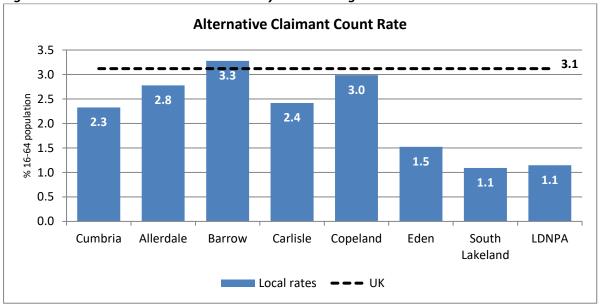
Figure 4: Alternative Claimant Count / Rate by Age Group in Cumbria - August 2019

Figure 4: Alternative Claimant Count / Rate by Age Group in Cumbria - August 2019													
	Alternative Claimant Count by Age												
	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total		
GB	59,037	150,771	158,415	163,015	147,773	126,511	123,602	118,476	107,558	107,398	1,262,555		
Cumbria	380	875	932	847	741	624	623	642	620	624	6,902		
Allerdale	72	208	213	198	179	145	157	165	136	145	1,603		
Barrow	74	210	185	151	125	128	115	106	125	119	1,341		
Carlisle	88	208	249	201	170	155	119	142	130	134	1,591		
Copeland	95	151	150	158	140	85	128	111	117	109	1,242		
Eden	24	40	61	52	58	46	43	61	37	49	469		
South Lakeland	25	55	81	85	69	68	65	62	75	65	652		
LDNPA	0	20	26	27	30	40	30	31	47	29	270		
				Į.	Alternativ	e Claiman	t Rate by	Age					
	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total		
GB	2.1	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.1		
Cumbria	1.9	3.6	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.4	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.3		
Allerdale	1.8	4.5	4.1	4.0	3.4	2.9	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.8		
Barrow	2.6	5.6	4.5	3.8	3.4	3.6	2.4	2.0	2.6	2.9	3.3		
Carlisle	2.0	3.5	3.9	3.3	2.6	2.6	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.9	2.4		
Copeland	3.7	4.4	3.7	4.2	3.7	2.4	2.7	2.0	2.2	2.3	3.0		
Eden	1.2	1.9	2.4	2.2	2.2	1.7	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.5		
South Lakeland	0.6	1.2	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.1		
LDNPA	0.0	1.1	1.6	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.1	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.1		

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP



Figure 5: Alternative Claimant Count Rate by district - August 2019



Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP

Alternative claimant count rate 4.0 3.5 Allerdale 3.0 Barrow % working age pop 2.5 Carlisle Copeland 2.0 Eden 1.5 South Lakeland LDNPA 1.0 Cumbria 0.5 - GB 0.0 Apr-18 May-18 Jun-18 Jul-18 Aug-18 Sep-18

Figure 6: Alternative Claimant Count Rate - timeseries

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP



Alternative Claimant Count -flows on and off the register

A useful indicator of the amount of churn within the labour market comes from the flow of people on and off the claimant register.

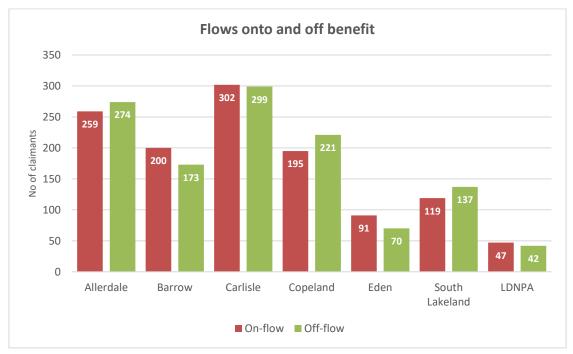
On-flow: the number of people claiming in a month who were not claiming in the previous month Off-flow: the number of people no longer claiming in a month who were claiming in the previous month

Figure 7: Flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count – August 2019

	Allerdale	Barrow	Carlisle	Copeland	Eden	South Lakeland	LDNPA	Cumbria	GB
On-flow	259	200	302	195	91	119	47	1,172	204,712
Off-flow	274	173	299	221	70	137	42	1,172	183,359
Balance	-15	27	3	-26	21	-18	5	0	21,353

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP

Figure 8: Flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count – August 2019

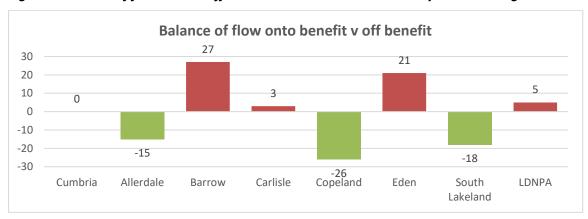


Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP



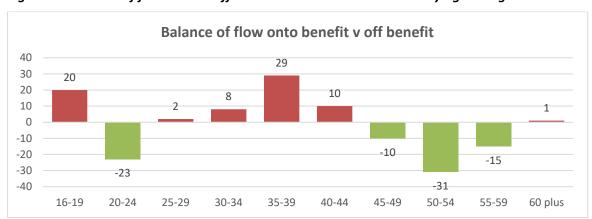
The following 3 charts show the balance of on and off flows by district and age group in August 2019 and over time (red columns indicate more people joined the register than signed off whilst green columns indicate the opposite).

Figure 9: Balance of flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count by district – August 2019



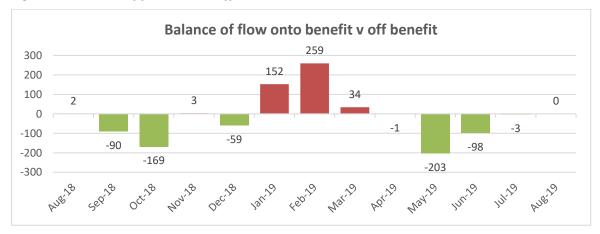
Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP

Figure 10: Balance of flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count by age – August 2019



Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum

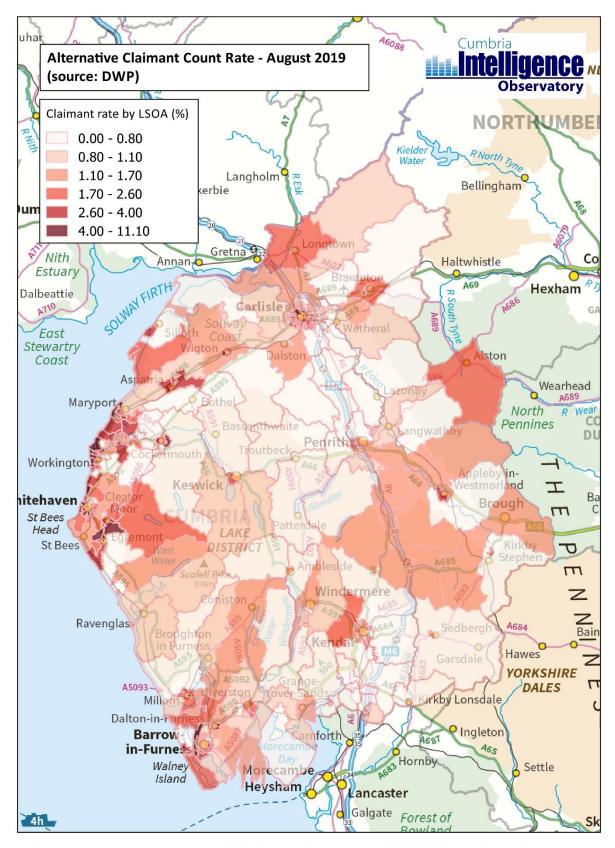
Figure 11: Balance of flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count – timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum



Figure 12: Alternative Claimant Rate (by LSOA)



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