Claimant Count Briefing Feb 2020

Introduction

This briefing contains the January data relating to the standard Claimant Count and the November data for the "alternative" claimant count (see note in section 3). It also contains the latest available data on Universal Credit, other DWP benefits, NEETs, Participation, job postings and business start-ups & stocks.

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.

For more information about any of the data in the briefing or to be added / removed from the distribution list, please contact:

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Claimant Count Briefing Feb 2020

1. ***KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA***

- According to the <u>standard</u> claimant count there were 6,905 claimants of JSA or UC (out of work and required to seek work) in January, giving a rate of 2.3% in Cumbria. This compares to 2.9% nationally, but the rates in Barrow (3.2%) and Copeland (3.0%) are above the national average. The claimant count rose by 255 from December which is an increase of 3.9% compared to 1.8% nationally. The count rose in every district with particularly steep rises in Eden and South Lakeland (9.5% and 9.3% respectively). The standard claimant count in Cumbria is 1,040 higher than a year ago, a rise of 17.7% compared to a national rise of 22.0%. These changes are 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 6,757 claimants in November 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 rose by 75 from October but is 60 lower than a year ago. Barrow (3.1%) has the highest rate in Cumbria, in line with the national average while South Lakeland has the lowest (1.1%);

- In November 1,145 people joined the claimant register (<u>alternative</u>) whilst 1,096 left it (balance of +49), the second successive month where more people joined than left. This follows 6 months where off flows exceeded on flows. Allerdale is the only district where more people left the register than joined;

- There were 18,650 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria in January (both in and out of work and also including those not required to seek work), a rise of 416 from December and 6,452 more than a year ago;

- There were 15,724 households claiming Universal Credit in Cumbria in November, a rise of 489 from October and a rise of 5,852 from a year ago;

- There were 47,377 people of working age claiming some form of DWP benefit in Aug 2019 which is 16.0% of the working age population, compared to 17.3% nationally:

- There were 422 young people classed as NEET in November (276 NEET and 146 whose status was Not Known and who are counted as NEET), a fall of 19 from November but 55 more than the same month last year. This gives a NEET rate of 4.3%, which compares to 6.1% nationally and 6.7% for Cumbria's statistical neighbours;

- There were 2,695 job postings in January, a rise of 934 from December and 794 more than the same month last year. The highest volume of postings was for science, research, engineering & technology professionals (275), followed by caring personal services (241) and health professionals (235);

- There were 404 business start-ups in the quarter October-December, a fall of 76 from the previous quarter;

- There were 194 new Companies House incorporations in January, 68 more than in December and 13 more than a year ago;

- There were 31,389 active companies in Cumbria in January, 9 more than in December.

2. *NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW*

- The UK employment rate was estimated at a record high of 76.5%, 0.6 percentage points higher than a year earlier and 0.4 percentage points up on the previous quarter.
- The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 3.8%, 0.2 percentage points lower than a year earlier and 0.1 percentage points lower than the previous quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate was estimated at a record low of 20.5%, 0.4 percentage points lower than the previous year and 0.3 percentage points lower than the previous quarter.
- Estimated annual growth in average weekly earnings in the 3 months to December 2019 for employees in Great Britain slowed to 2.9% from 3.2% last month for total pay (including bonuses) and to 3.2% from 3.4% for regular pay (excluding bonuses).
- In real terms (after adjusting for inflation), annual growth in total pay is estimated to be 1.4% and annual growth in regular pay is estimated to be 1.8%.
- There were an estimated 810,000 vacancies in the UK for November 2019 to January 2020; this is 7,000 more than the previous quarter but 50,000 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 – January 2020

	Male		Female		All Persons		Monthly Change (all persons)			Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
United Kingdom	715,880	3.4	508,660	2.4	1,224,535	2.9	21,745	1.8	0.1	220,865	22.0	0.5
North West	96,605	4.3	65,930	2.9	162,535	3.6	2,420	1.5	0.1	24,320	17.6	0.5
Cumbria	4,175	2.8	2,730	1.8	6,905	2.3	255	3.9	0.1	1,040	17.7	0.4
Allerdale	955	3.3	670	2.3	1,625	2.8	50	3.1	0.1	25	1.6	0.0
Barrow in Furness	830	4.1	460	2.2	1,290	3.2	35	3.0	0.1	295	29.6	0.7
Carlisle	985	3.1	640	1.9	1,625	2.5	45	2.9	0.1	360	28.4	0.5
Copeland	780	3.7	460	2.2	1,240	3.0	30	2.4	0.1	0	-0.2	0.0
Eden	265	1.7	210	1.4	475	1.5	40	9.5	0.1	135	39.4	0.4
South Lakeland	355	1.2	295	1.0	650	1.1	55	9.3	0.1	225	53.8	0.4
LDNPA	115	1.0	100	0.9	215	0.9	15	6.5	0.1	65	42.7	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 - January 2020

	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	3,725	224,750	160,435	158,480	139,390	116,585	113,385	110,315	100,725	85,615	1,224,535
NW	410	30,350	22,430	22,520	19,120	15,325	14,905	13,755	12,400	10,020	162,535
Cumbria	20	1,360	970	855	765	580	605	620	585	480	6,905
Allerdale	0	325	220	185	190	140	155	135	145	115	1,625
Barrow	0	305	180	165	130	95	110	115	105	85	1,290
Carlisle	5	320	255	215	160	165	125	145	120	105	1,625
Copeland	0	240	160	160	145	105	105	110	115	95	1,240
Eden	0	70	65	50	70	35	40	55	45	40	475
South Lakeland	5	95	90	85	75	40	70	65	60	50	650
LDNPA	0	25	20	25	30	30	25	15	25	15	215
	Claimant Rate 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	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.9
NW	0.3	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.6
Cumbria	0.2	4.0	3.6	3.3	2.9	2.2	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.6	2.3
Allerdale	0.0	4.9	4.3	3.7	3.6	2.8	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.8
Barrow	0.0	5.9	4.4	4.1	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	3.2
Carlisle	0.2	4.0	4.0	3.5	2.5	2.7	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.7	2.5
Copeland	0.0	5.2	4.0	4.2	3.8	2.9	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.2	3.0
Eden	0.0	2.2	2.5	2.1	2.7	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.5
South Lakeland	0.2	1.5	2.0	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.1
LDNPA	0.0	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.9

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 _quarterly – next release will be April 2020 for data up to February 2020_)

Figure 3: Alternative Claimant Count - November 2019

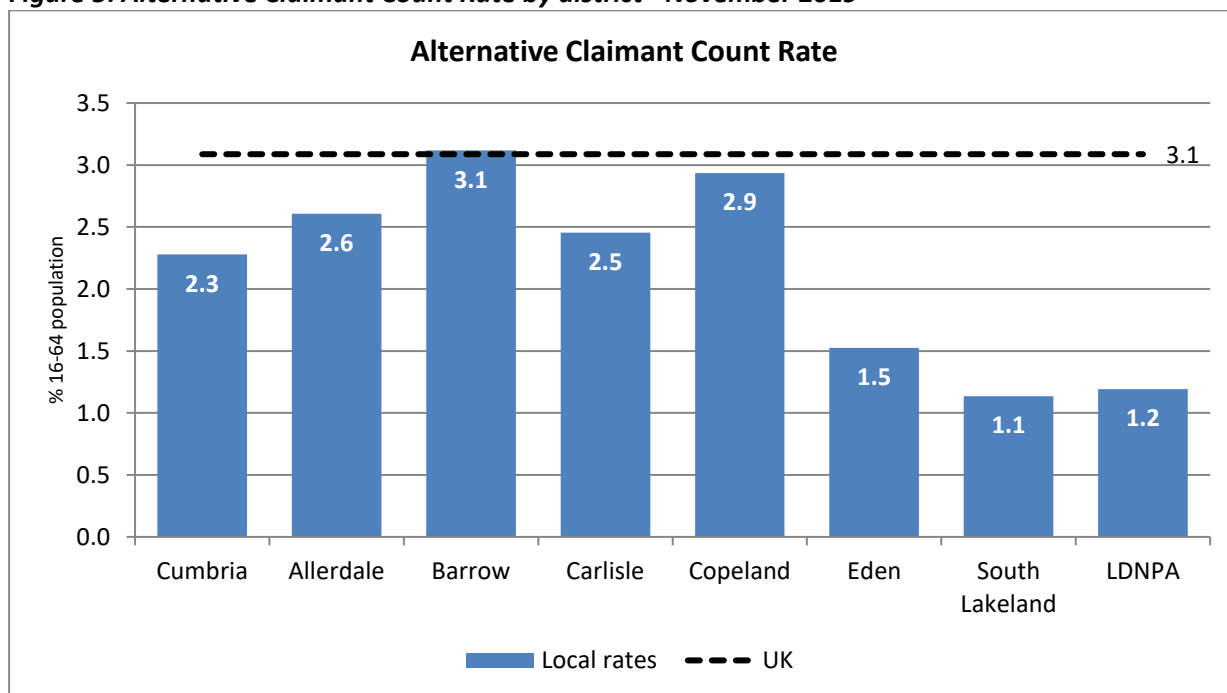|	Male		Female		All Persons		Monthly Change (all persons)			Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
Great Britain	660,666	3.3	588,628	2.9	1,249,295	3.1	9,336	0.8	0.0	55,078	4.6	0.1
Cumbria	3,745	2.5	3,011	2.0	6,757	2.3	75	1.1	0.0	-60	-0.9	0.0
Allerdale	820	2.9	684	2.4	1,504	2.6	-6	-0.4	0.0	-144	-8.7	-0.2
Barrow in Furness	770	3.8	501	2.4	1,276	3.1	7	0.6	0.0	-73	-5.4	-0.2
Carlisle	878	2.7	728	2.2	1,615	2.5	18	1.1	0.0	162	11.1	0.2
Copeland	705	3.4	512	2.5	1,220	2.9	33	2.8	0.1	-121	-9.0	-0.3
Eden	247	1.6	219	1.4	469	1.5	13	2.9	0.0	22	4.9	0.1
South Lakeland	314	1.1	363	1.2	679	1.1	2	0.3	0.0	101	17.5	0.2
LDNPA	132	1.1	150	1.3	281	1.2	5	1.8	0.0	33	13.3	0.1

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

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

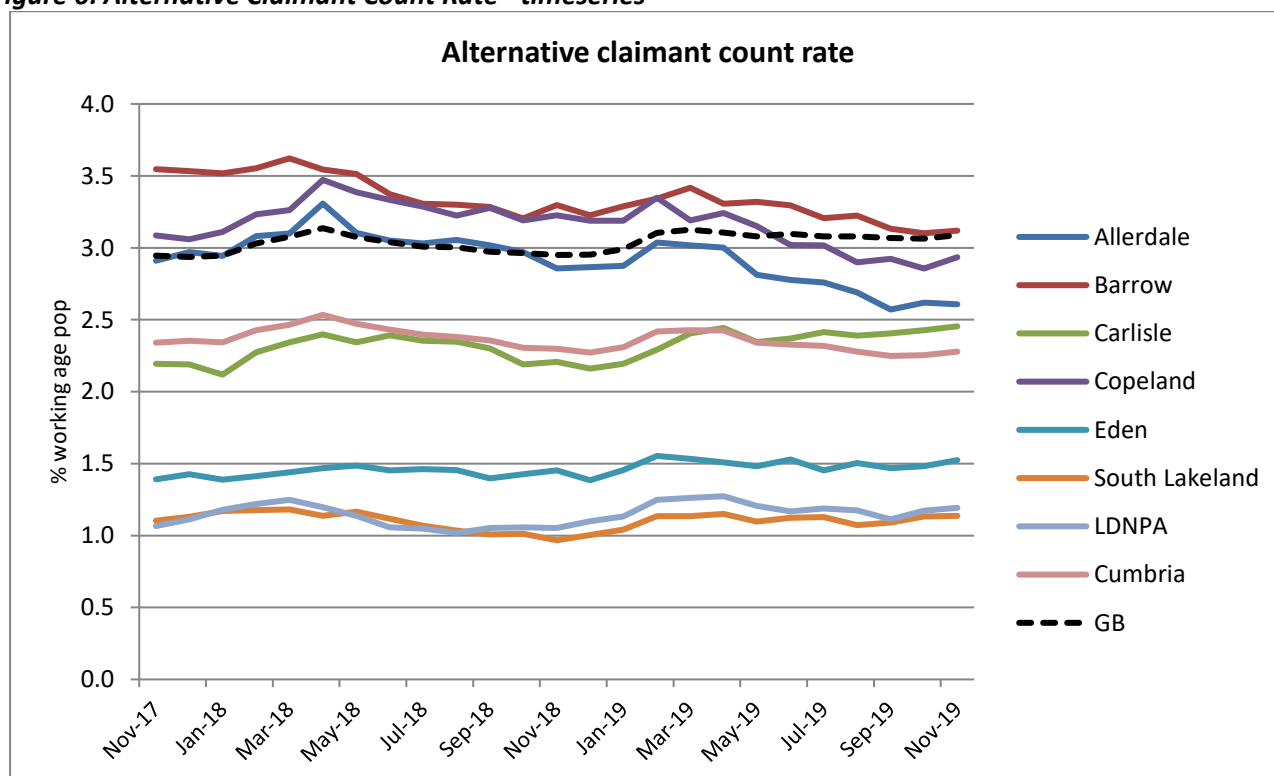|	Alternative Claimant Count by Age										
	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total
GB	3,410	202,908	154,900	163,222	150,268	128,559	123,312	114,880	103,599	104,237	1,249,295
Cumbria	20	1,169	865	868	731	639	593	630	601	633	6,757
Allerdale	0	265	193	184	165	142	132	152	134	140	1,504
Barrow	0	281	174	145	127	102	107	101	124	111	1,276
Carlisle	9	249	233	232	164	186	134	144	121	145	1,615
Copeland	5	232	134	159	130	104	104	117	124	118	1,220
Eden	0	62	53	58	63	40	47	55	38	53	469
South Lakeland	7	82	81	87	78	67	71	69	64	68	679
LDNPA	0	24	25	37	32	37	31	35	32	24	281
	Alternative Claimant Rate by Age										
	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+	Total
GB	0.2	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.9	3.1
Cumbria	0.2	3.4	3.2	3.4	2.7	2.4	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.3
Allerdale	0.0	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.2	2.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.6
Barrow	0.0	5.5	4.3	3.6	3.5	2.9	2.3	1.9	2.6	2.7	3.1
Carlisle	0.4	3.1	3.6	3.8	2.5	3.1	1.8	1.8	1.5	2.1	2.5
Copeland	0.4	5.0	3.3	4.2	3.4	2.9	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.9
Eden	0.0	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.5
South Lakeland	0.3	1.3	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.1
LDNPA	0.0	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.8	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.2

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

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

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

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 population 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 – November 2019

	Allerdale	**Barrow**	**Carlisle**	**Copeland**	**Eden**	**South Lakeland**	**LDNPA**	**Cumbria**	**GB**
On-flow	261	198	275	199	78	122	47	1,145	184,454
Off-flow	265	197	260	182	68	118	42	1,096	176,427
Balance	-4	1	15	17	10	4	5	49	8,027

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

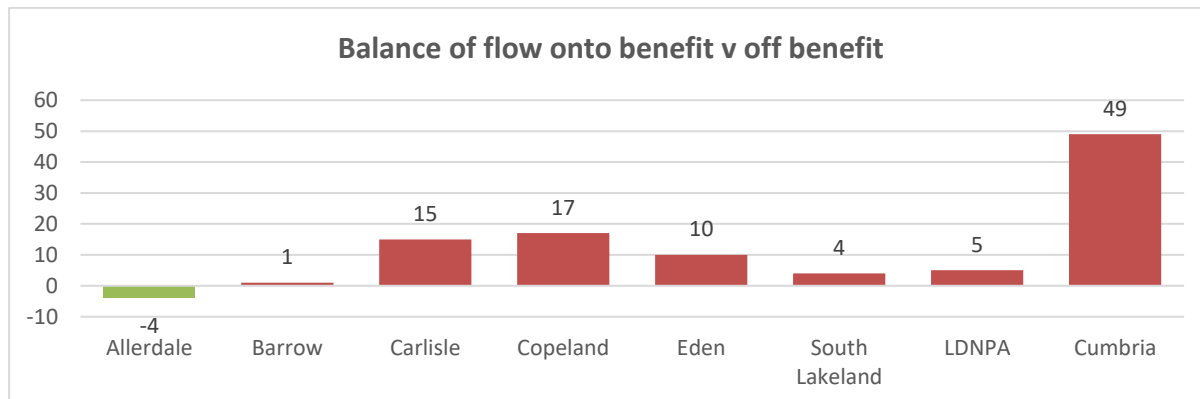*Figure 8: Flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count – November 2019*

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note:
LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of population within NP
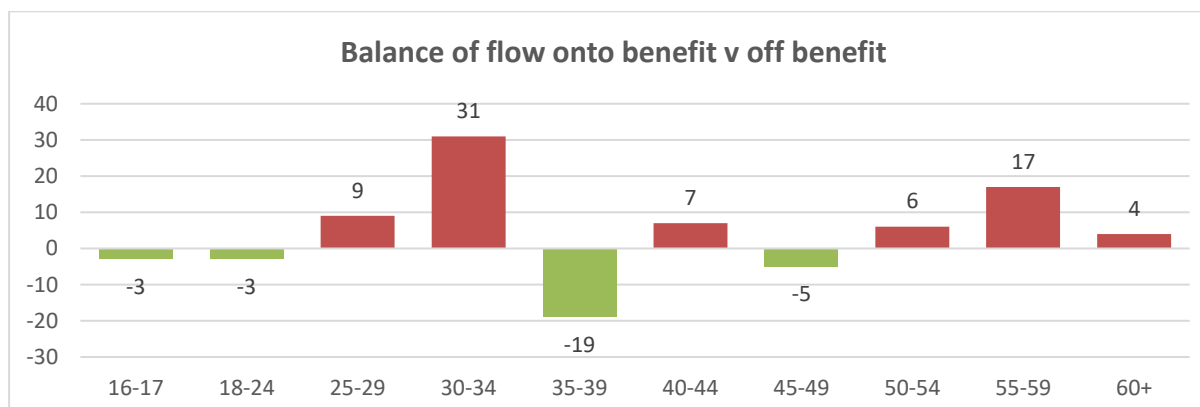
The following 3 charts show the balance of on and off flows by district and age group in November 2019 and over time (red columns indicate more people joined the claimant register than left it whilst green columns indicate the opposite).

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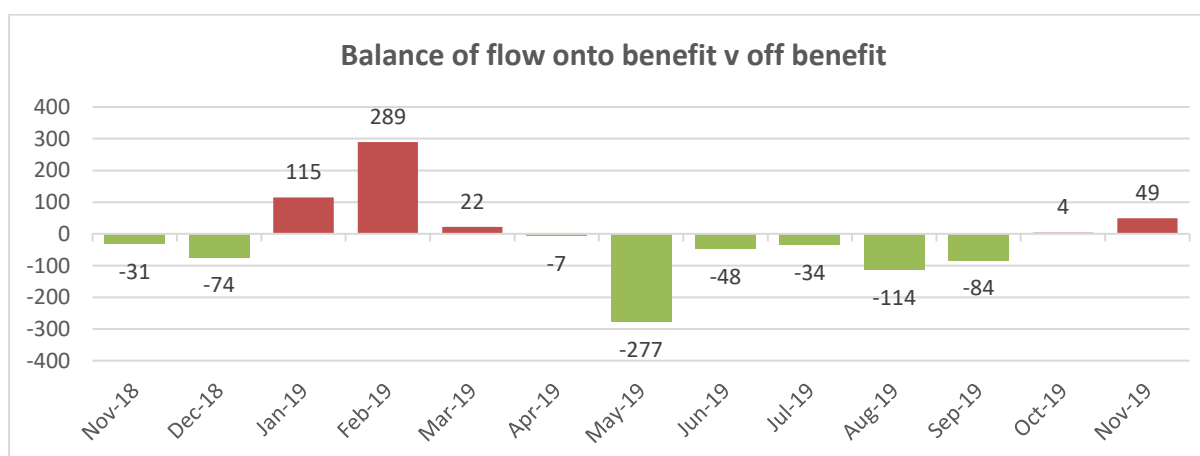

Balance of flow onto benefit v off benefit

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

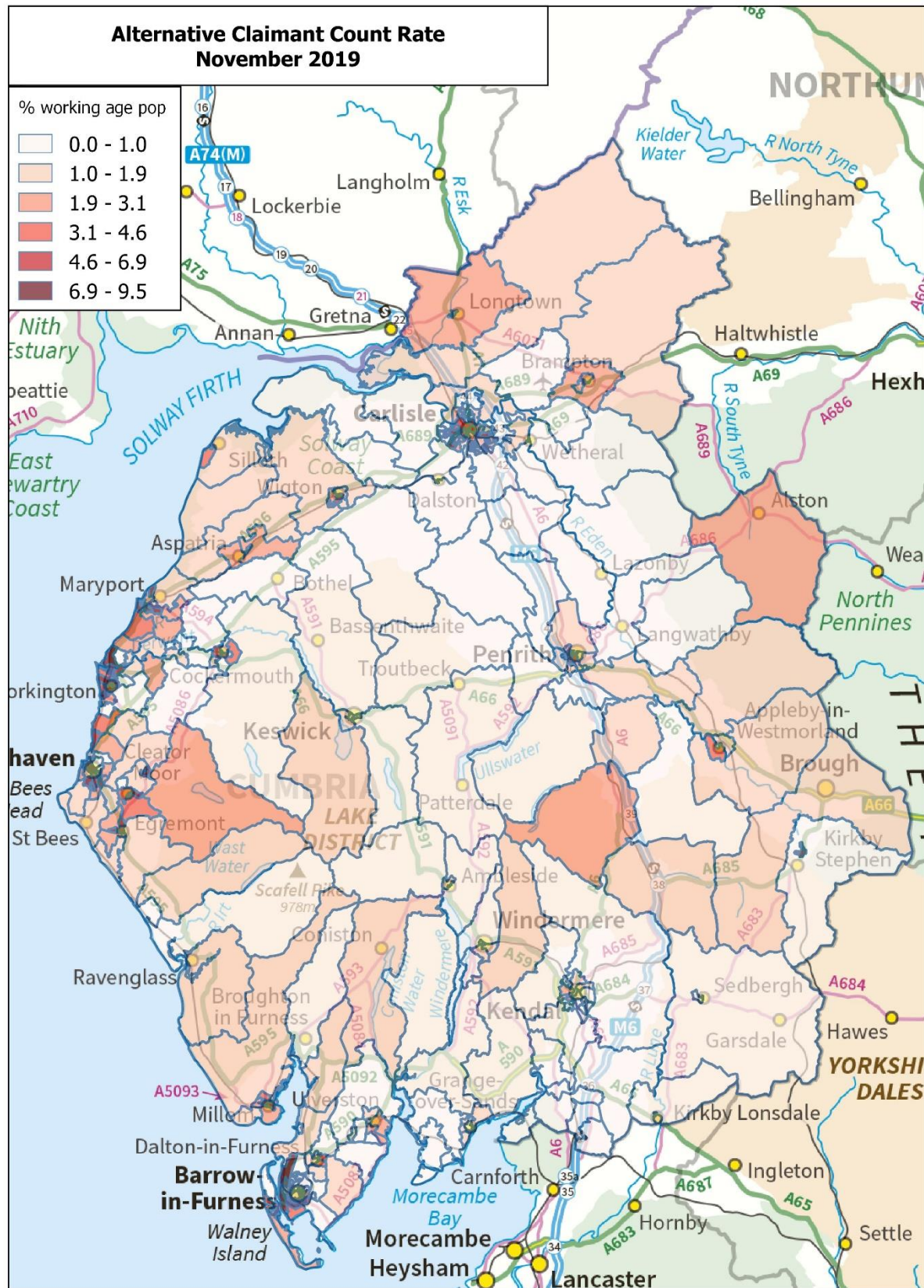*Figure 10: Balance of flow on and off the Alternative Claimant Count by age – November 2019*

Balance of flow onto benefit v off benefit

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

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

Balance of flow onto benefit v off benefit

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

Figure 12: Alternative Claimant Rate (by LSOA)

**Alternative Claimant Count Rate
November 2019**

% working age pop
- 0.0 - 1.0
- 1.0 - 1.9
- 1.9 - 3.1
- 3.1 - 4.6
- 4.6 - 6.9
- 6.9 - 9.5

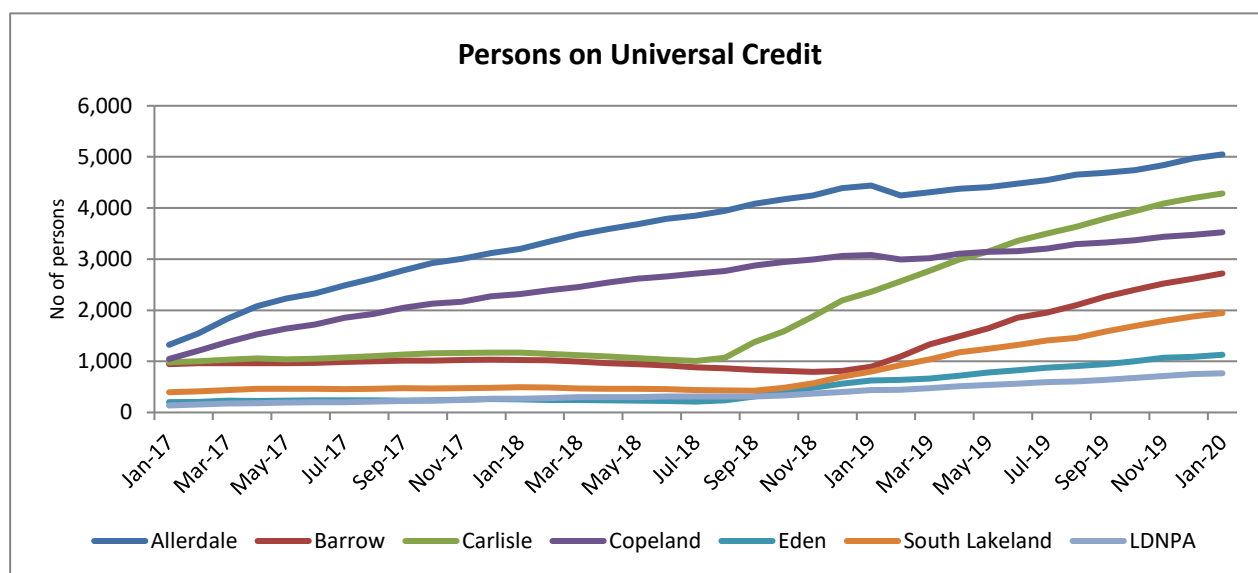© Crown copyright and database rights 2011, Ordnance Survey Licence 100019596 Cumbria County Council

4. OTHER BENEFITS

4a. Universal Credit

Universal Credit (UC) is a single monthly payment for people in or out of work which replaces existing benefits including Housing Benefit, Child Tax Credit, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance. UC is being rolled out across the country and the majority of new claims are now for UC. However, the Government has delayed the "managed migration" phase which transitions claimants on legacy benefits onto UC. *Note: due to the phased rollout, care should be taken when comparing areas or change over time.*
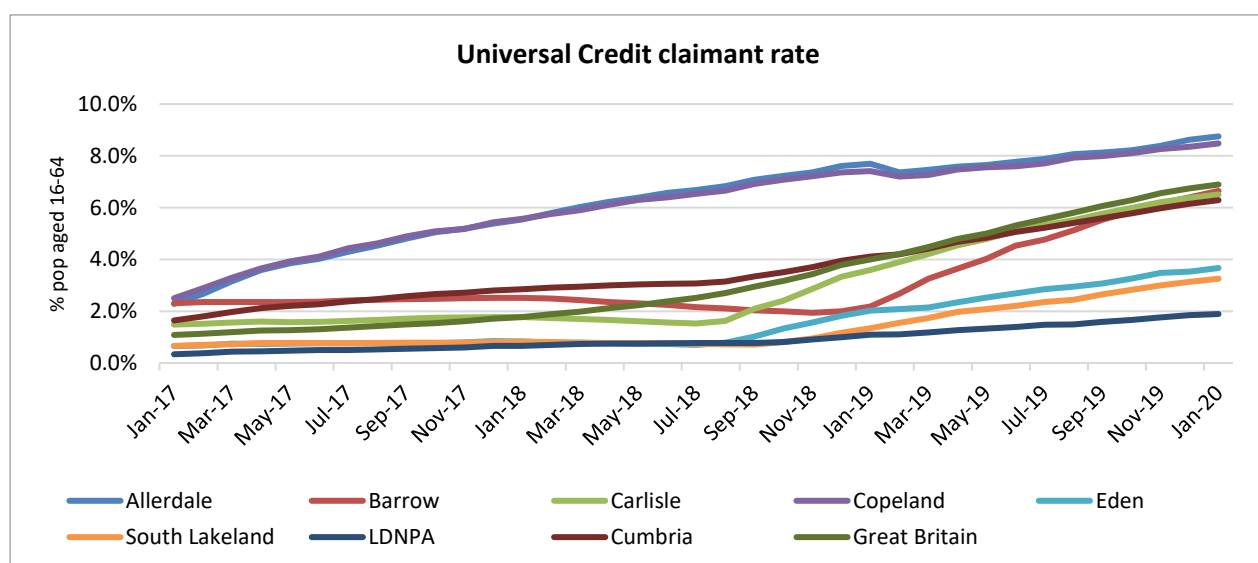
In Jan 2020 there were 18,650 people on Universal Credit in Cumbria (both in work and out of work). This is a rise of 416 from the previous month and 6,542 more than a year ago. The highest numbers of UC claimants were in Allerdale (5,049) and Carlisle (4,284).

Figure 13: Universal Credit claimants by district (in and out of work)

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 14: Universal Credit claimant rate by district (in and out of work)
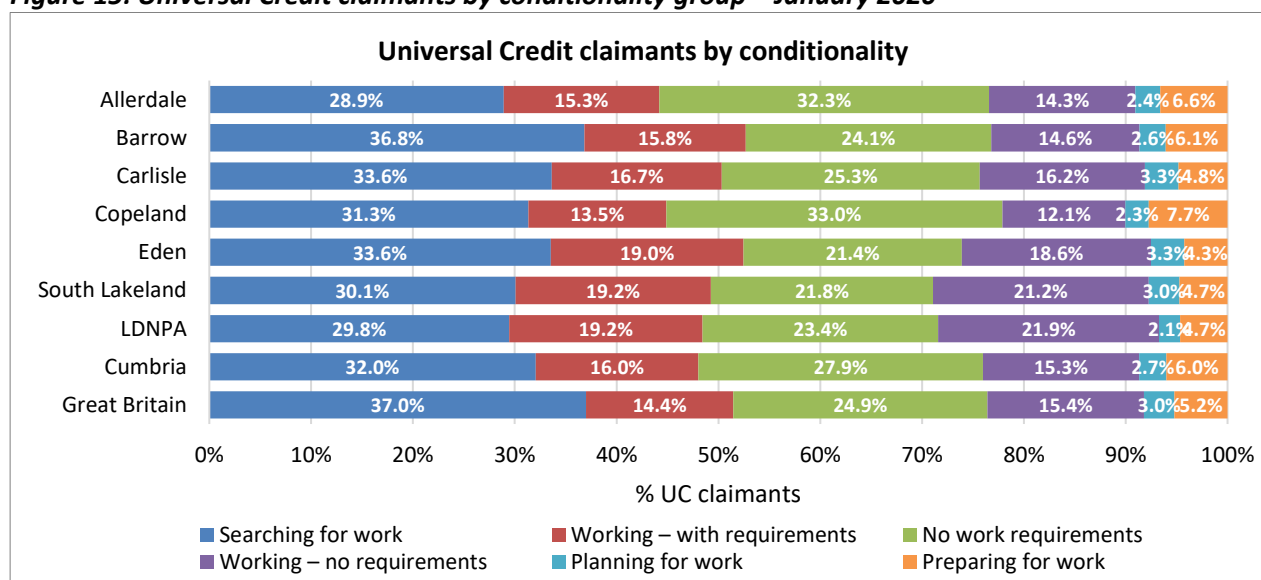

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Universal Credit claimants are placed in a conditionality group based on their circumstances and work capability and this determines what is expected of them during their claim. An outline of the conditions for each group is shown below.

Searching for work	Not working or with very low earnings. Claimant required to take action to seek work or more/better paid work.
Working – with requirements	In work but could earn more or not working but has partner with low earnings
No work requirements	Not expected to work at present. Health or caring responsibilities prevents claimant from working or preparing for work.
Working – no requirements	Individual or household earnings over the level at which conditionality applies.
Planning for work	Expected to work in the future. Lone parent / lead carer of child aged 1.
Preparing for work	Expected to start preparing for future even with limited work capability at present or child aged 2.

Overall in Cumbria, 32.0% of UC claimants are in the searching for work group which compares to 37.0% nationally. This varies between districts from 36.8% in Barrow down to 28.9% in Allerdale. Allerdale and Copeland have the highest proportions of claimants with no work requirements which is to be expected in those areas where UC has been rolled out the longest.

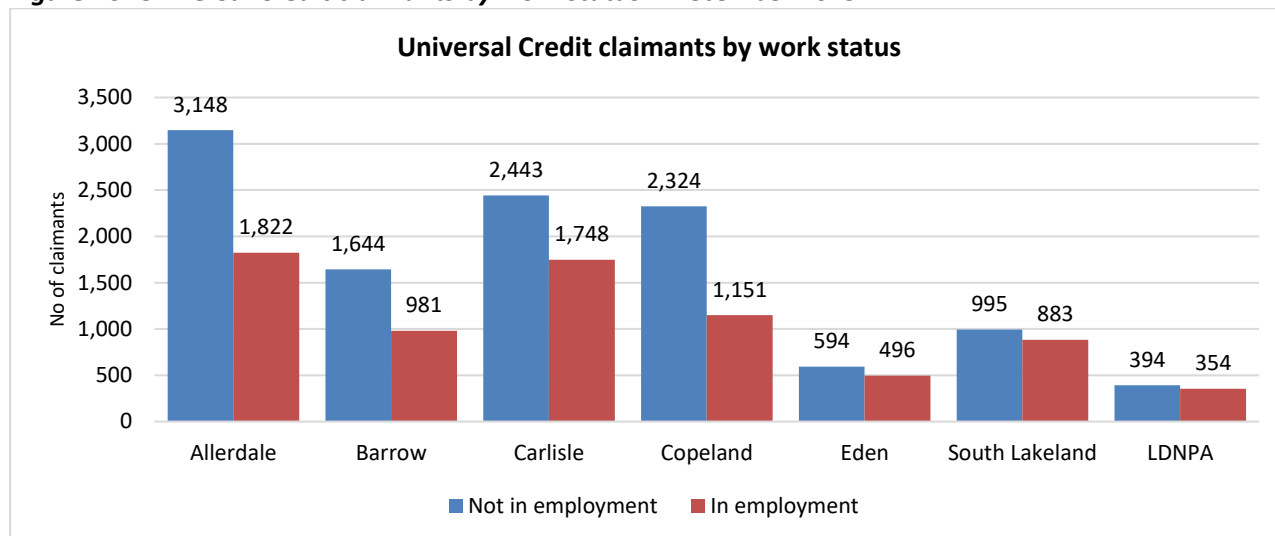**Figure 15: Universal Credit claimants by conditionality group – January 2020**

Universal Credit claimants by conditionality

	Searching for work	Working – with requirements	No work requirements	Working – no requirements	Planning for work	Preparing for work
Allerdale	28.9%	15.3%	32.3%	14.3%	2.4%	6.6%
Barrow	36.8%	15.8%	24.1%	14.6%	2.6%	6.1%
Carlisle	33.6%	16.7%	25.3%	16.2%	3.3%	4.8%
Copeland	31.3%	13.5%	33.0%	12.1%	2.3%	7.7%
Eden	33.6%	19.0%	21.4%	18.6%	3.3%	4.3%
South Lakeland	30.1%	19.2%	21.8%	21.2%	3.0%	4.7%
LDNPA	29.8%	19.2%	23.4%	21.9%	2.1%	4.7%
Cumbria	32.0%	16.0%	27.9%	15.3%	2.7%	6.0%
Great Britain	37.0%	14.4%	24.9%	15.4%	3.0%	5.2%

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note: Conditionality is based on an individual's circumstances on the count date (2ⁿᵈ Thursday)

UC claimants are further categorised by employment status. This status is determined by whether the claimant received any employment earnings in the month prior to the count data.

61.2% (11,148) of UC Claimants in Cumbria are classified as not in employment and 38.8% (7,074) as in employment which is broadly similar to the national proportions, although Eden and South Lakeland, together with the LDNP area, have higher than average proportions of UC claimants in employment (45.6%, 47.1% and 47.4% respectively).

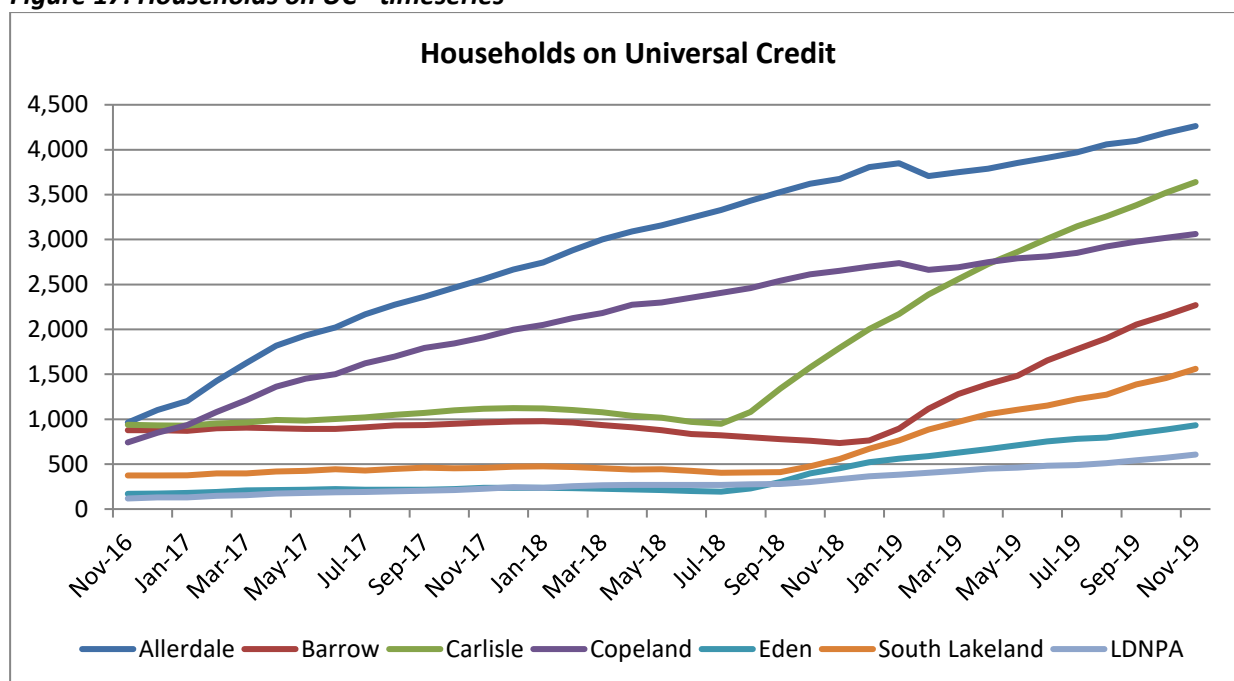***Figure 16: Universal Credit claimants by work status – December 2019***

Universal Credit claimants by work status

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore
Note 1: Employment status stats are a month in arrears of the main release.
Note 2: Employment status is determined by whether the claimant had employment earnings recorded within their completed UC assessment period closest to the count date (2nd Thursday). They may not be in employment on the count date itself.

Data for households on Universal Credit are now released for individual months but there is a delay in publication compared to the data on persons. In November 2019 there were 15,724 households on Universal Credit in Cumbria (18,650 persons), a rise of 489 from the previous month and 5,852 more than a year ago.
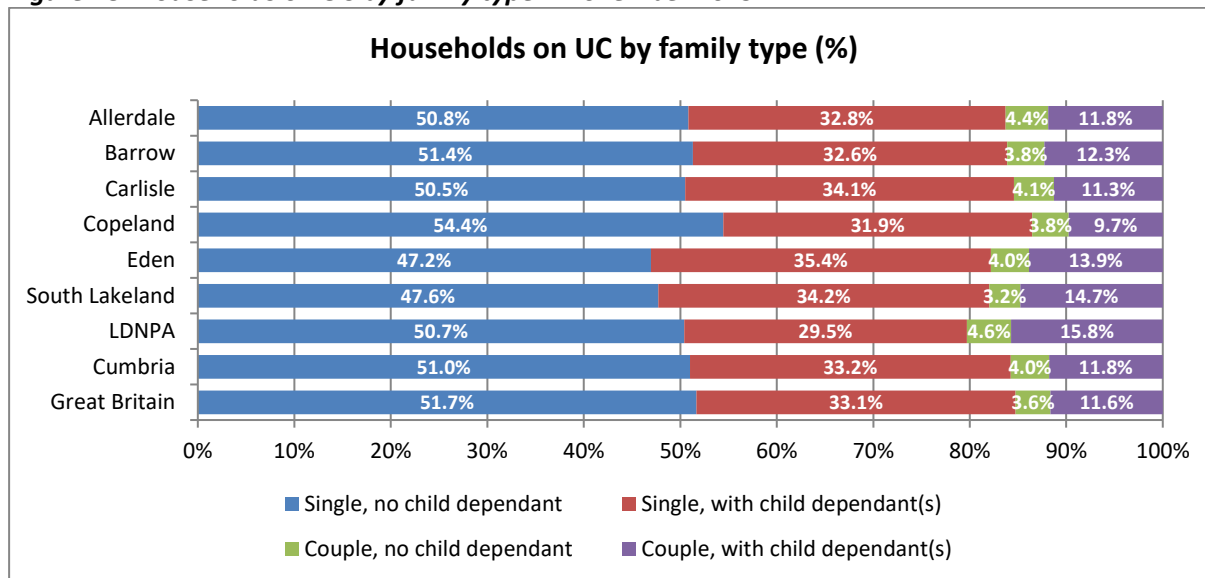
Figure 17: Households on UC - timeseries

Households on Universal Credit

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

The highest proportion of households (51.0%) were single households with no child dependants followed by 33.2% single households with child dependants. This is influenced by the rollout as different "gateway" conditions apply at different stages of the rollout.
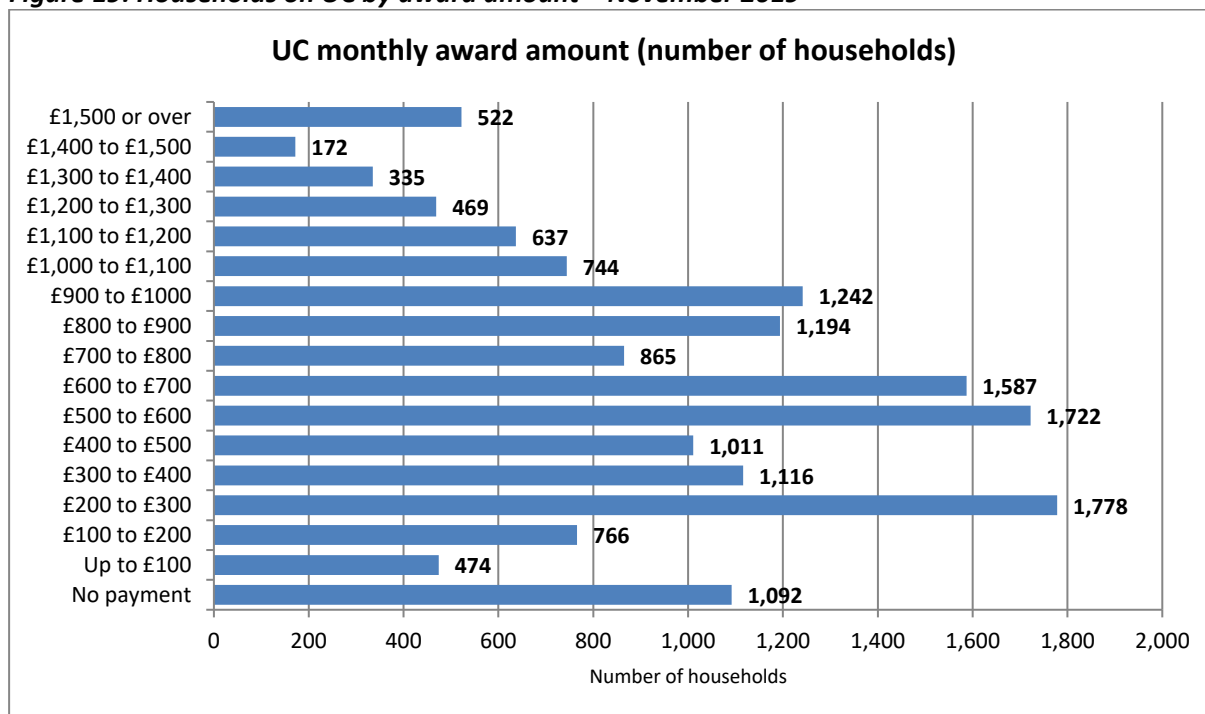
Figure 18: Households on UC by family type – November 2019

Households on UC by family type (%)

Area	Single, no child dependant	Single, with child dependant(s)	Couple, no child dependant	Couple, with child dependant(s)
Allerdale	50.8%	32.8%	4.4%	11.8%
Barrow	51.4%	32.6%	3.8%	12.3%
Carlisle	50.5%	34.1%	4.1%	11.3%
Copeland	54.4%	31.9%	3.8%	9.7%
Eden	47.2%	35.4%	4.0%	13.9%
South Lakeland	47.6%	34.2%	3.2%	14.7%
LDNPA	50.7%	29.5%	4.6%	15.8%
Cumbria	51.0%	33.2%	4.0%	11.8%
Great Britain	51.7%	33.1%	3.6%	11.6%

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Of the 15,724 households in Cumbria on UC in November 2019, 1,092 had not received a payment (6.9%). This may be because the award amount has not yet been calculated or because the household did not qualify to receive a payment in the month.
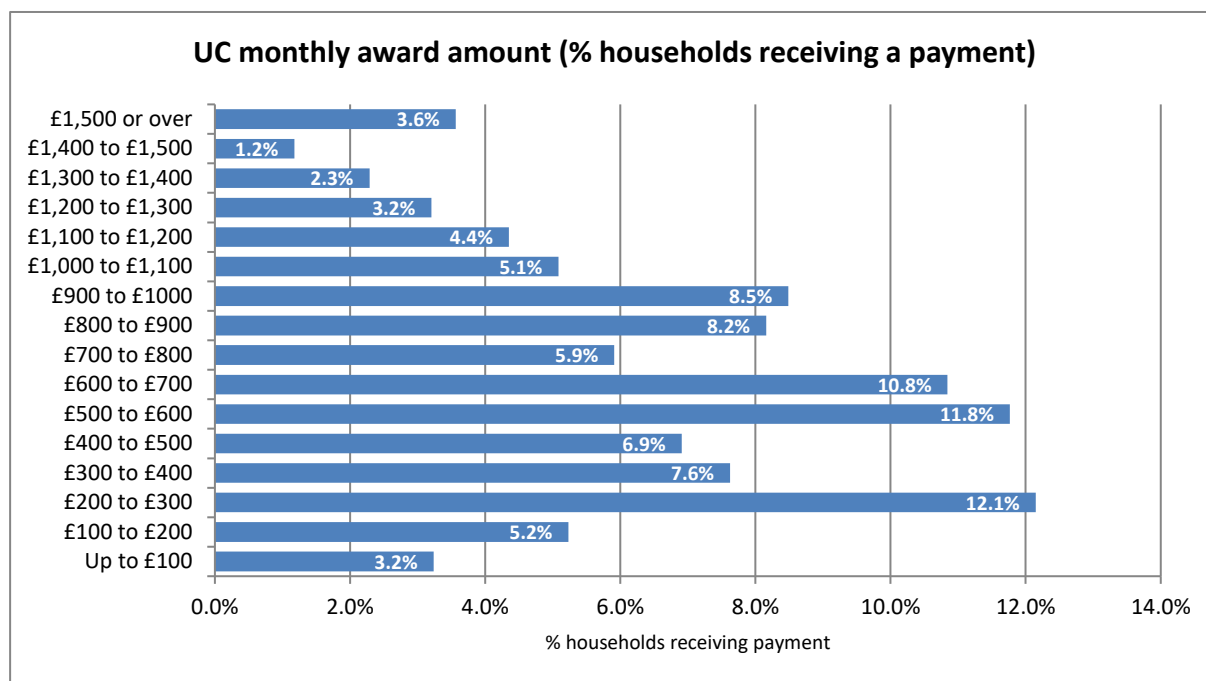
Figure 19: Households on UC by award amount – November 2019

UC monthly award amount (number of households)

Award amount	Number of households
£1,500 or over	522
£1,400 to £1,500	172
£1,300 to £1,400	335
£1,200 to £1,300	469
£1,100 to £1,200	637
£1,000 to £1,100	744
£900 to £1000	1,242
£800 to £900	1,194
£700 to £800	865
£600 to £700	1,587
£500 to £600	1,722
£400 to £500	1,011
£300 to £400	1,116
£200 to £300	1,778
£100 to £200	766
Up to £100	474
No payment	1,092

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Of those households that did receive a payment, these ranged from under £100 (3.2% of households receiving a payment) up to £1,500 or more (3.6% of households).

Figure 20: Households on UC by award amount – November 2019

UC monthly award amount (% households receiving a payment)

Award band	%
£1,500 or over	3.6%
£1,400 to £1,500	1.2%
£1,300 to £1,400	2.3%
£1,200 to £1,300	3.2%
£1,100 to £1,200	4.4%
£1,000 to £1,100	5.1%
£900 to £1000	8.5%
£800 to £900	8.2%
£700 to £800	5.9%
£600 to £700	10.8%
£500 to £600	11.8%
£400 to £500	6.9%
£300 to £400	7.6%
£200 to £300	12.1%
£100 to £200	5.2%
Up to £100	3.2%

% households receiving payment

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

4b.   All Working Age DWP Benefits

DWP has introduced a "Benefit Combinations" statistical series which provides Working Age and Pension Age statistics on the number of individuals claiming a DWP benefit in total (ie only counting each individual once even if they claim multiple benefits) and showing the key combinations of benefits claimed. Where claims are at a household level (UC, PC and HB) both the main claimant and partner (if applicable) are included as separate individuals – this differs from other publications where figures show the number of claims regardless of whether for a single person or a couple.
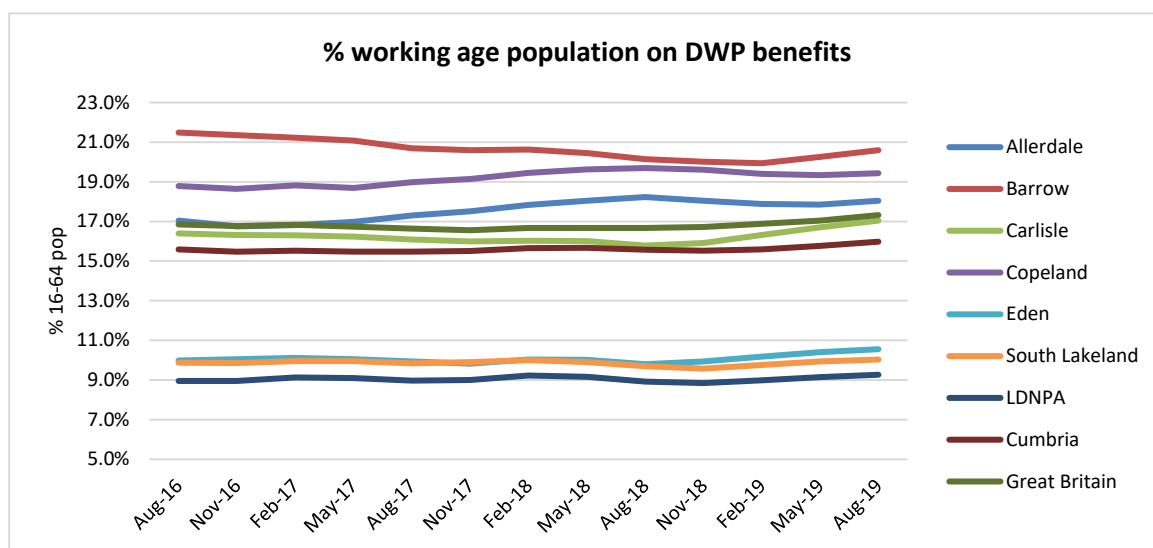
- AA=Attendance Allowance
- BB=Bereavement Benefit
- CA=Carer's Allowance
- DLA=Disability Living Allowance
- ESA=Employment and Support Allowance
- HB=Housing Benefit
- IB=Incapacity Benefit

- IS=Income Support
- JSA=Jobseeker's Allowance
- PC=Pension Credit
- PIP=Personal Independence Payment
- SDA=Severe Disablement Allowance
- SP=State Pension
- UC=Universal Credit
- WB=Widow's Benefit

HMRC administered benefits such as Tax Credits and Child Benefit are NOT currently included.

The analysis here is for those of working age (currently defined as 16-64 years).

In August 2019, 47,377 people of <u>working age</u> in Cumbria were receiving one or more of the above DWP benefits, representing 16.0% of the working age population. This compares to 17.3% nationally. The highest claimant rate in Cumbria was Barrow where 20.6% of the working age population were in receipt of DWP benefits. The Cumbria rate in Aug 2019 was 0.2 up from the previous quarter and 0.4 up from a year earlier.

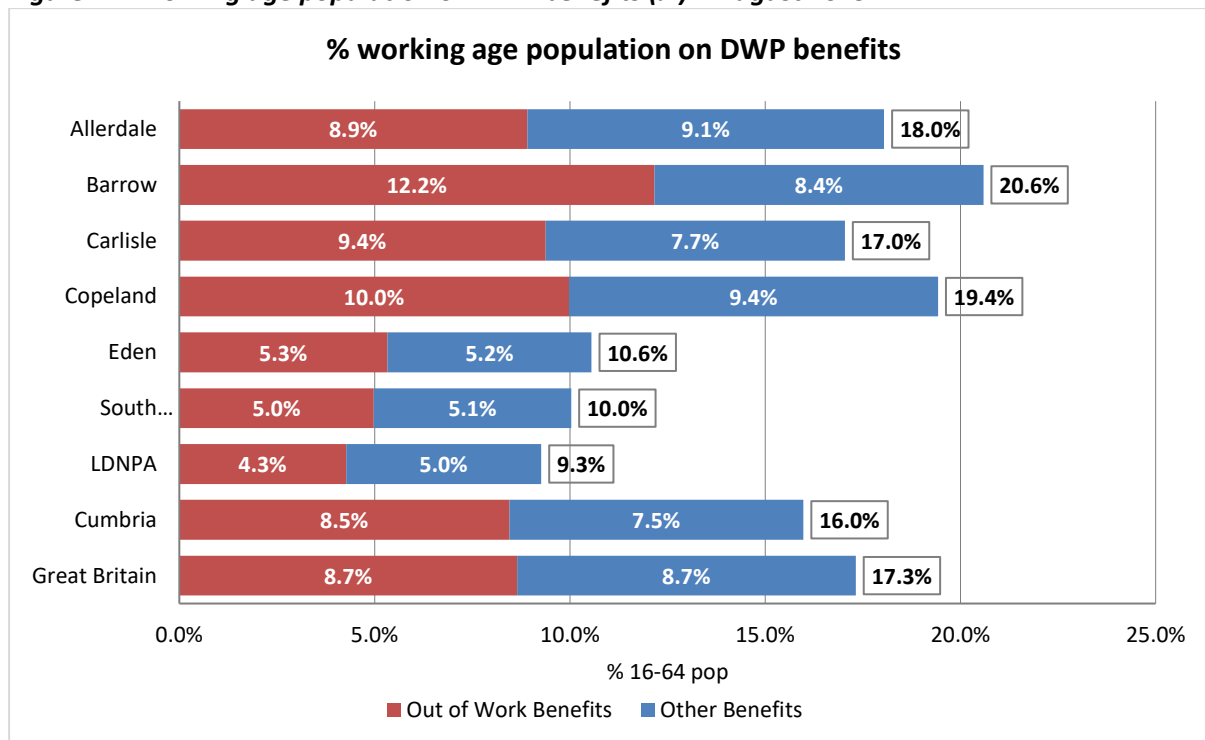**Figure 21: % working age population on DWP benefits (%) – timeseries**

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note:

Within the group of working age persons on DWP benefits, just over half were in the "out of work" category meaning they were claiming ESA, Universal Credit (in the searching, preparing or planning for work groups), JSA, Pension Credit (out of work) or Income Support (for something other than incapacity). This group represents 8.5% of the working age population in Cumbria compared to 8.7% nationally. The rate is highest in Barrow at 12.2%.

Those in the "other benefits" category were claiming some other combination of benefits (including those in work but in receipt of a benefit such as UC). This group represents 7.5% of the working age population in Cumbria compared to 7.5% nationally.
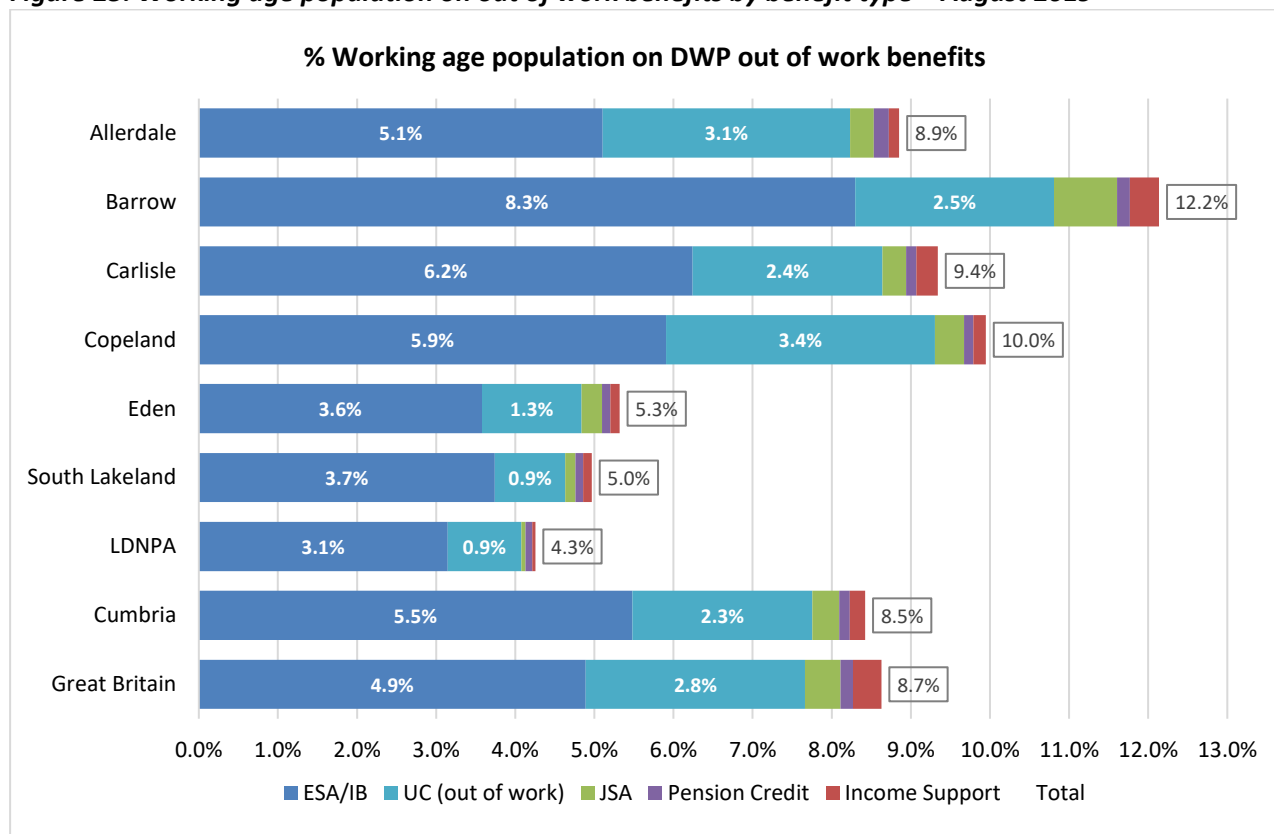
Figure 22: Working age population on DWP benefits (%) – August 2019

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note: Figures in the boxes are the total of the two categories.

Focussing just on those in the "out of work" category people, which represents those closest to being available to the labour market, the biggest group, 16,246, was those claiming a combination of Employment Support Allowance and Incapacity Benefit. This represents 5.5% of the working age population in Cumbria compared to 4.9% nationally. This group was particularly large in Barrow where 8.3% of the working age population is claiming ESA/IS.

Figure 23: Working age population on out of work benefits by benefit type – August 2019

% Working age population on DWP out of work benefits

	ESA/IB	UC (out of work)	JSA	Pension Credit	Income Support	Total
Allerdale	5.1%	3.1%				8.9%
Barrow	8.3%	2.5%				12.2%
Carlisle	6.2%	2.4%				9.4%
Copeland	5.9%	3.4%				10.0%
Eden	3.6%	1.3%				5.3%
South Lakeland	3.7%	0.9%				5.0%
LDNPA	3.1%	0.9%				4.3%
Cumbria	5.5%	2.3%				8.5%
Great Britain	4.9%	2.8%				8.7%

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note: Figures in the boxes are the total of all the categories.

KEY: ESA with Incapacity Benefit, Universal Credit (in the searching, preparing or planning for work groups), JSA, Pension Credit (out of work) or Income Support (for something other than incapacity).
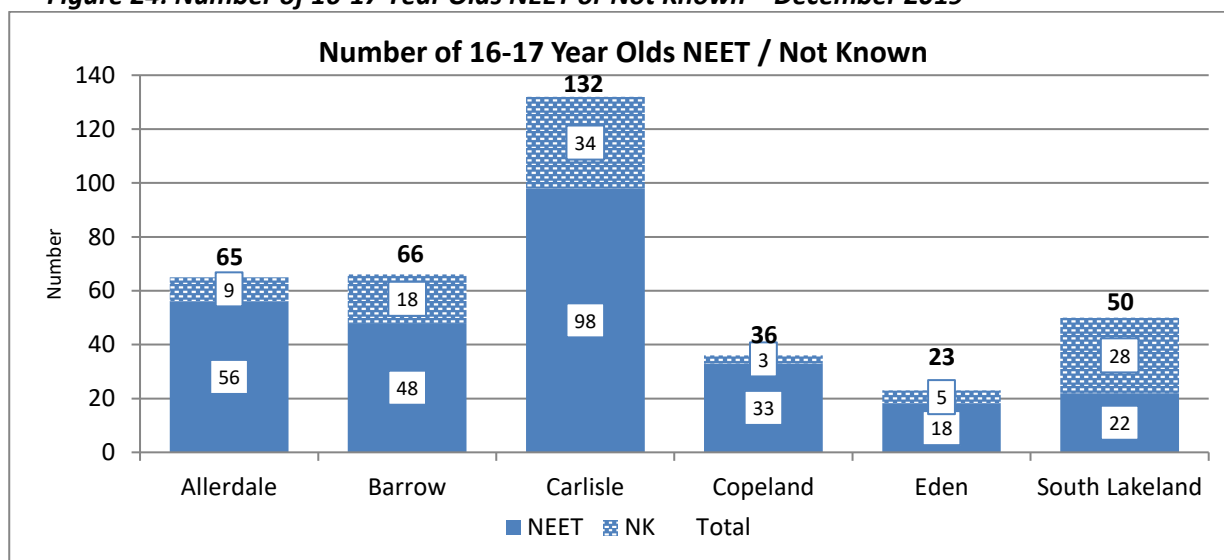
5.   NEETs & PARTICIPATION

5a.   Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Young people are described as NEET if they are not in any form of education, employment or training. Those whose status is Not Known at the time of follow up are now also classed as NEET.
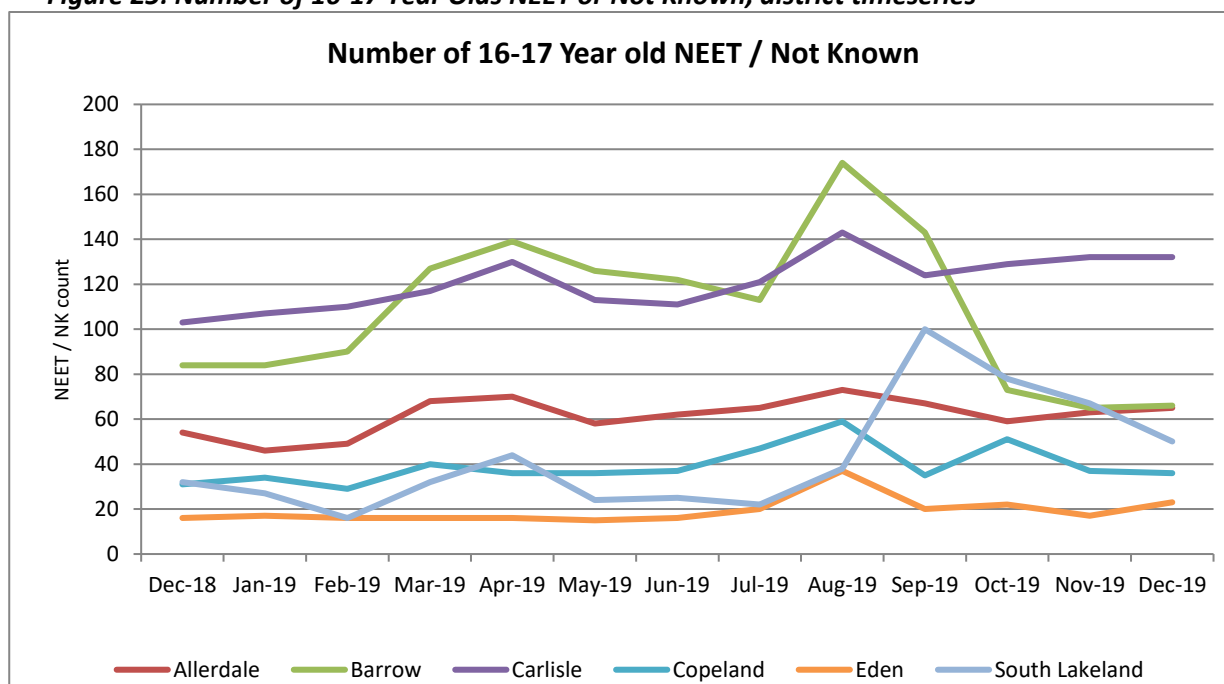
In Dec 2019, there were 422 16-17 year olds classed as NEET in Cumbria (276 NEET and 146 whose status was Not Known), a fall of 19 from the previous month but up 55 from a year ago. The highest number was in Carlisle (132) followed by Barrow (66) and Allerdale (65). There is a great deal of monthly variation relating to academic year activity and therefore care should be taken when viewing monthly data.

Figure 24: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known – December 2019

Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory Note: district totals may not sum to county total.

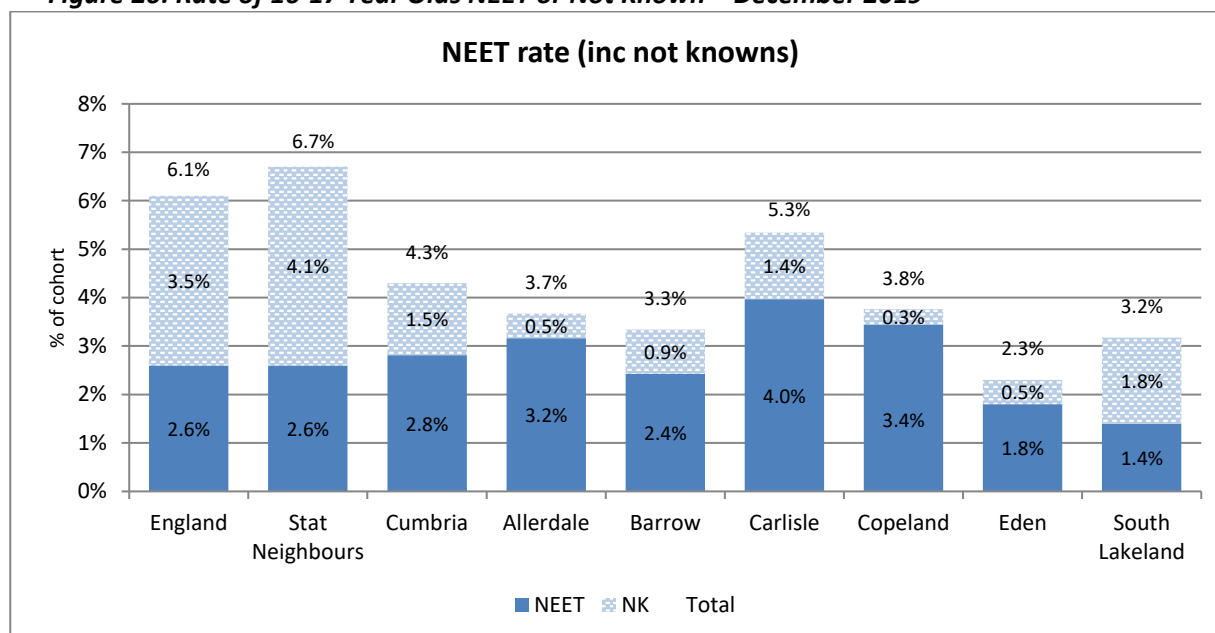***Figure 25: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, district timeseries***

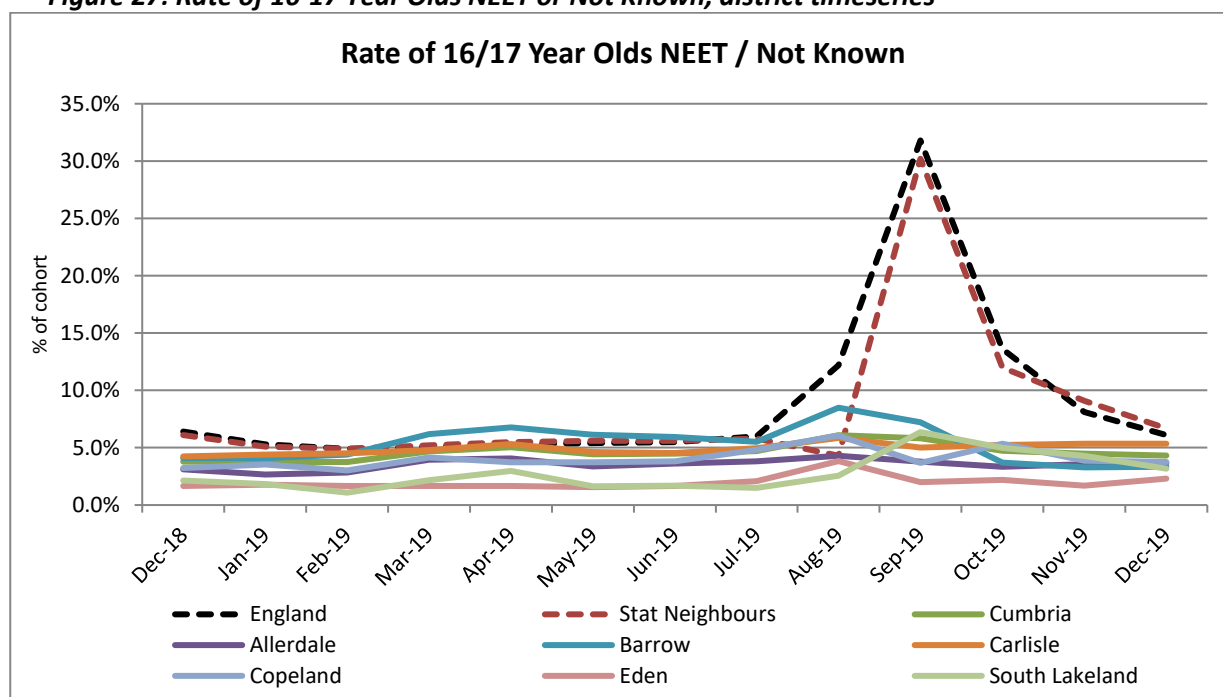*Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory*

The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 4.3% in Dec 2019 compared to an England rate of 6.1% and an average rate of 6.7% for Cumbria's 10 statistical neighbours. The highest local rate was in Carlisle (5.3%). The NEET rate in Cumbria was unchanged from last month but up 1.1 from the same month last year. The average rate for the last 12 months in Cumbria was 4.7% compared to 9.1% nationally.

Figure 26: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known – December 2019

Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

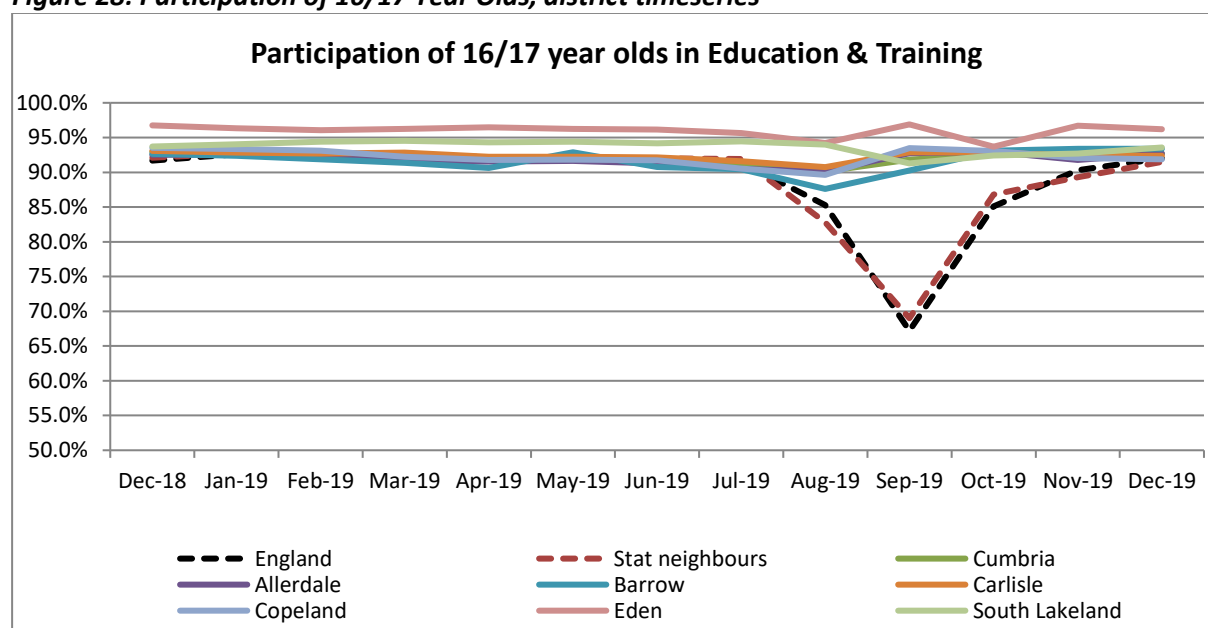*Figure 27: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, district timeseries*

Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

5b. Participation

The Education & Skills Act 2008 introduced a requirement for young people to remain in education or training until at least their 18th birthday and a duty on local authorities to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate. As part of the tracking process that produces the NEET data, participation data is also produced at county level on a monthly basis.
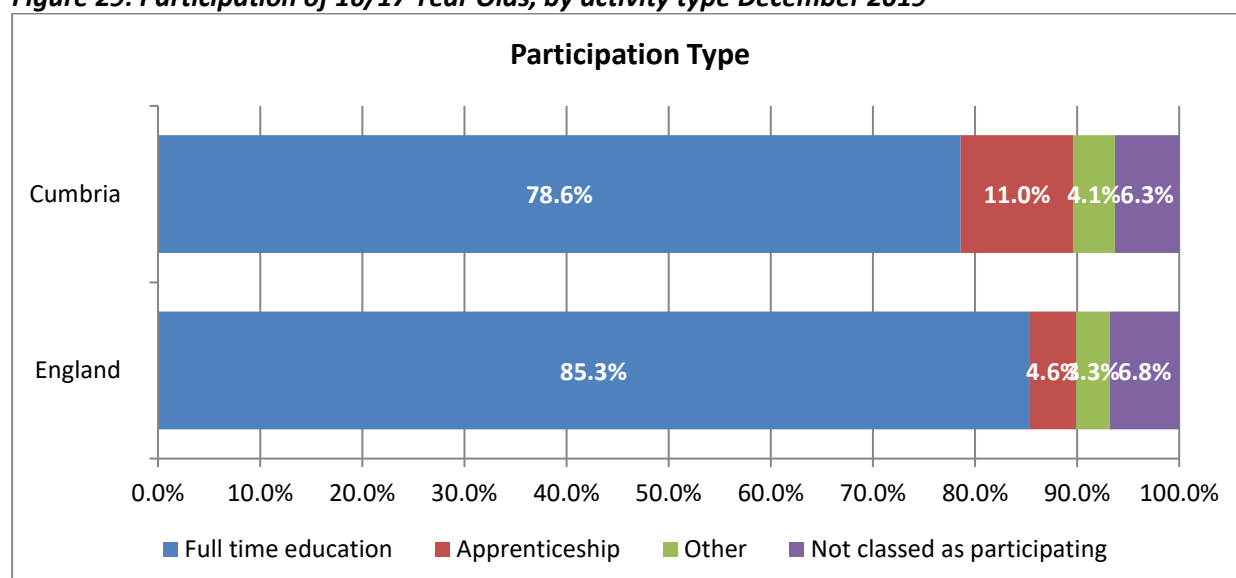
In Dec 2019, 92.7% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement, the majority through full time education or training (78.6%) or by undertaking an apprenticeship (11%). This compares to 91.9% nationally who were deemed to be participating. Average data for the past 12 months shows Cumbria performing above the national average – 92.0% v 88.7%.

Figure 28: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, district timeseries

Source: NCCIS

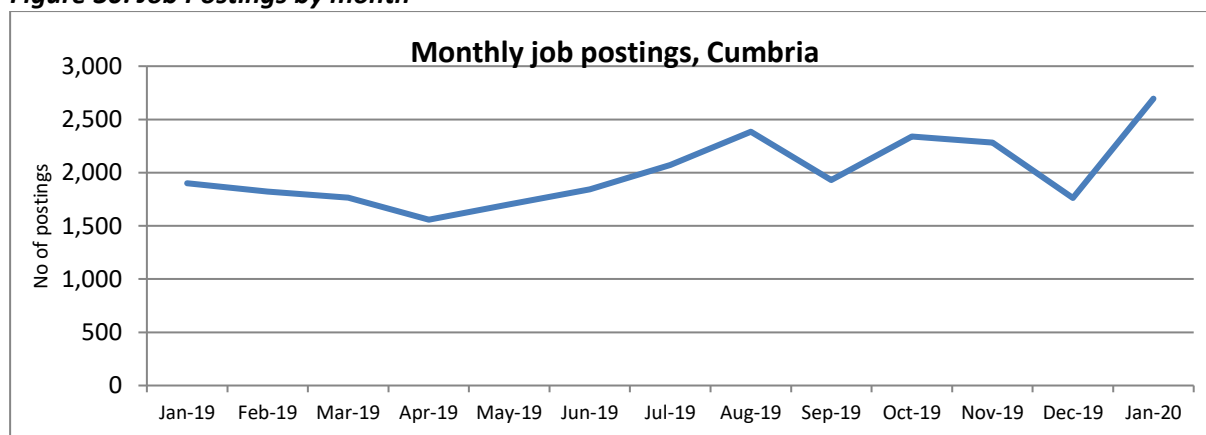*Figure 29: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, by activity type December 2019*

Source: NCCIS (district data not available)

6.   JOB POSTINGS

The following data are drawn from Labour Insight, an interactive tool which delivers real time access to job postings from a range of sources including job boards, employer sites, newspapers, public agencies etc. Data extraction and analysis technologies mine and code data from each job listing to provide analysis on industries, occupations, skills and qualifications. The tool will inevitably not capture all vacancies and in particular is likely to under-represent vacancies in sectors which typically do not utilise online or formal recruitment methods. It may also over represent the situation in those sectors which make widespread use of recruitment agencies and "bank" workers.

In Jan 2020 there were 2,695 job postings in Cumbria which is 934 more than were placed in the previous month and 794 than placed in the same month last year.
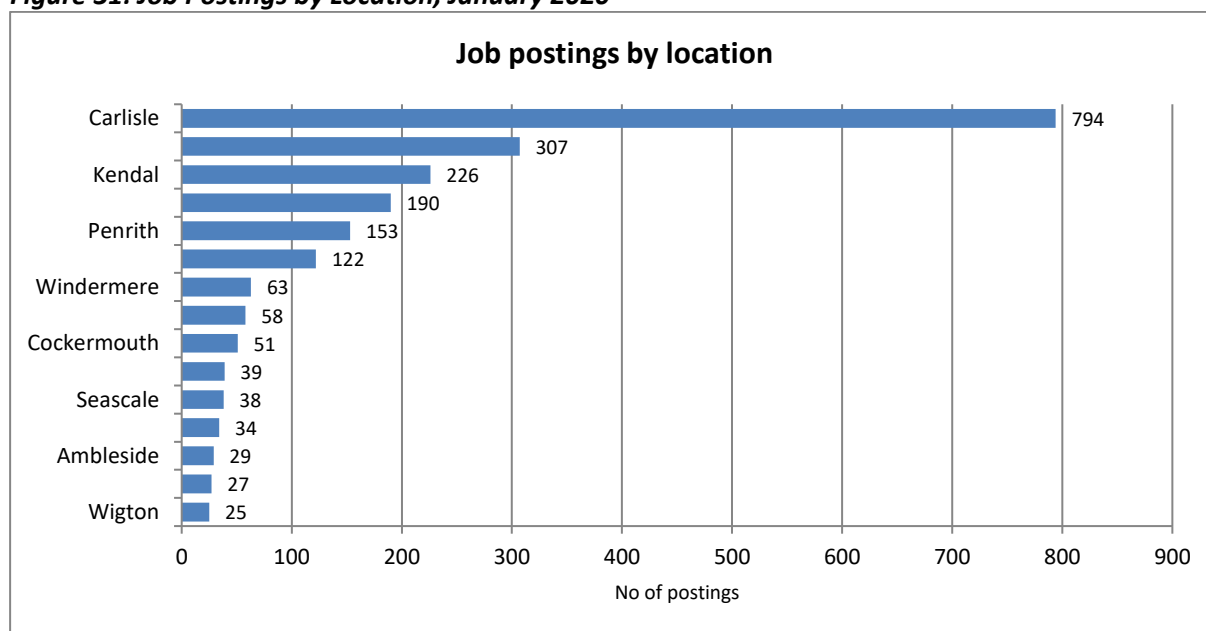
Figure 30: Job Postings by month

Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies)

Location of job postings

Geographically the highest number of postings was for opportunities in Carlisle where there were 794 postings in the quarter, 35% of all the postings in Cumbria. The next highest areas were Barrow (307), Kendal (226) and Workington (190).

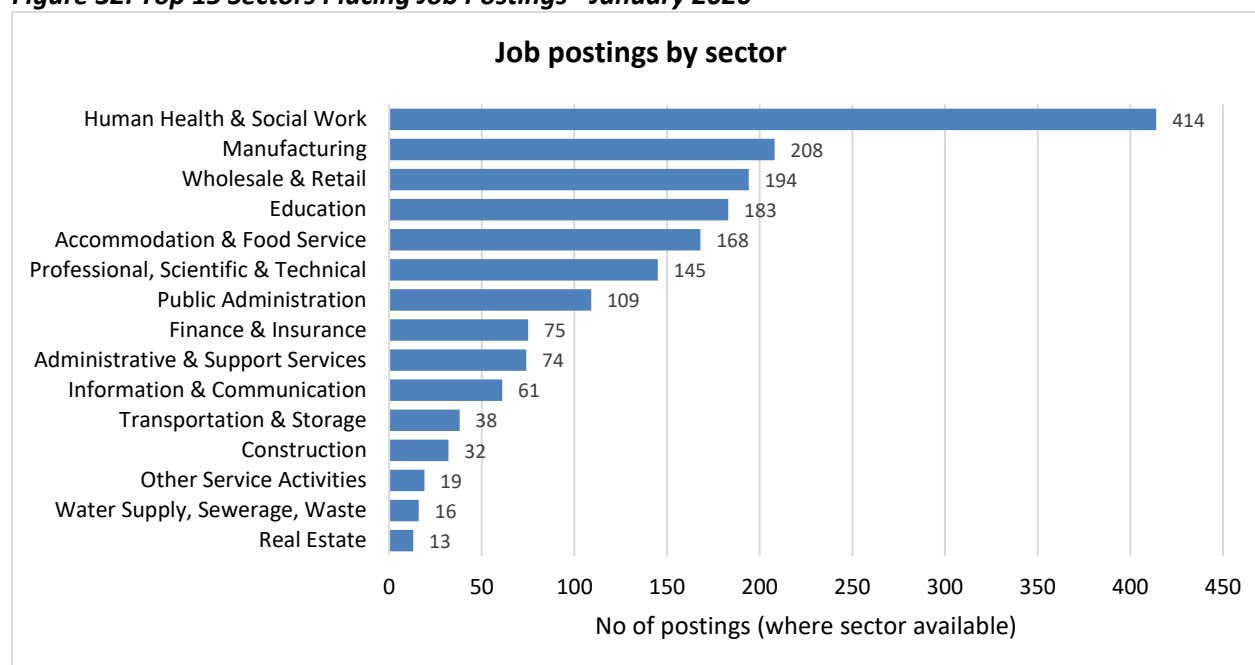***Figure 31: Job Postings by Location, January 2020***

Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies) NB: may not sum to county total as district could not be coded for all postings

Sector of job postings

The highest number of postings was in the human health & social work sector (414 postings) which represented almost a quarter of postings where a sector could be identified (23%). The next most common sectors were manufacturing (208, 12%) and wholesale & retail (194, 11%).

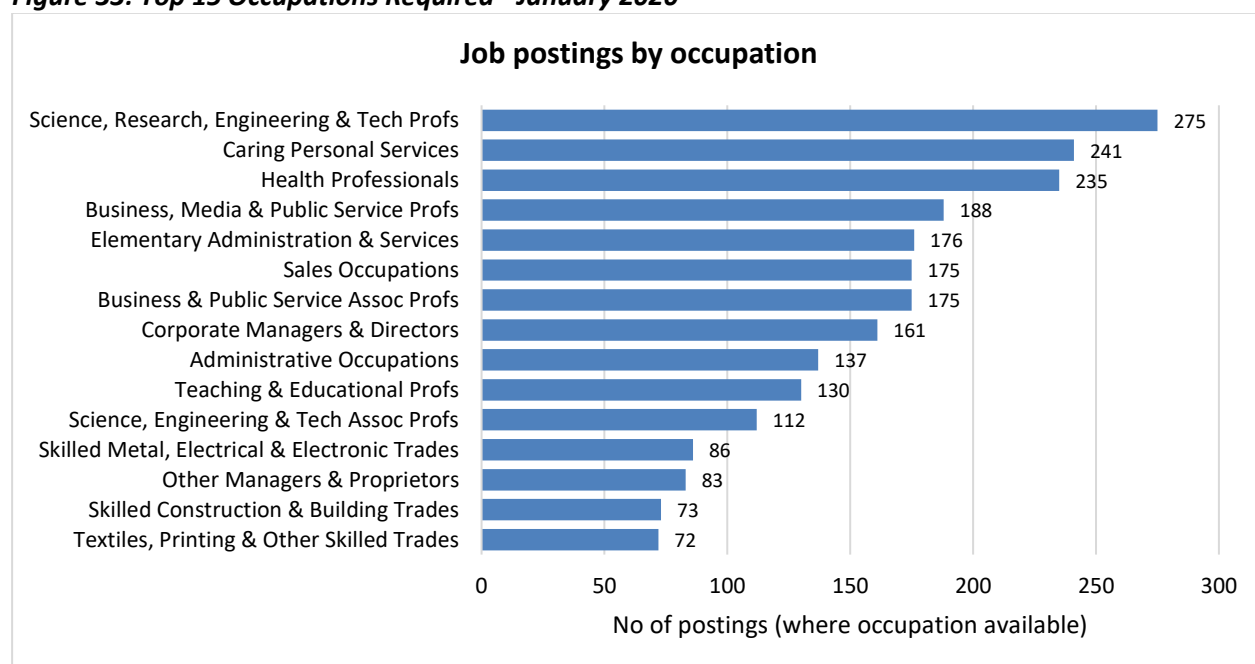*Figure 32: Top 15 Sectors Placing Job Postings - January 2020*

Job postings by sector

Sector	No of postings
Human Health & Social Work	414
Manufacturing	208
Wholesale & Retail	194
Education	183
Accommodation & Food Service	168
Professional, Scientific & Technical	145
Public Administration	109
Finance & Insurance	75
Administrative & Support Services	74
Information & Communication	61
Transportation & Storage	38
Construction	32
Other Service Activities	19
Water Supply, Sewerage, Waste	16
Real Estate	13

No of postings (where sector available)

Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies)

Occupation of job postings

The most common occupations specified were science, research, engineering & technical professionals (275, 10%), caring personal services (203, 9%) and health professionals (235, 9%)

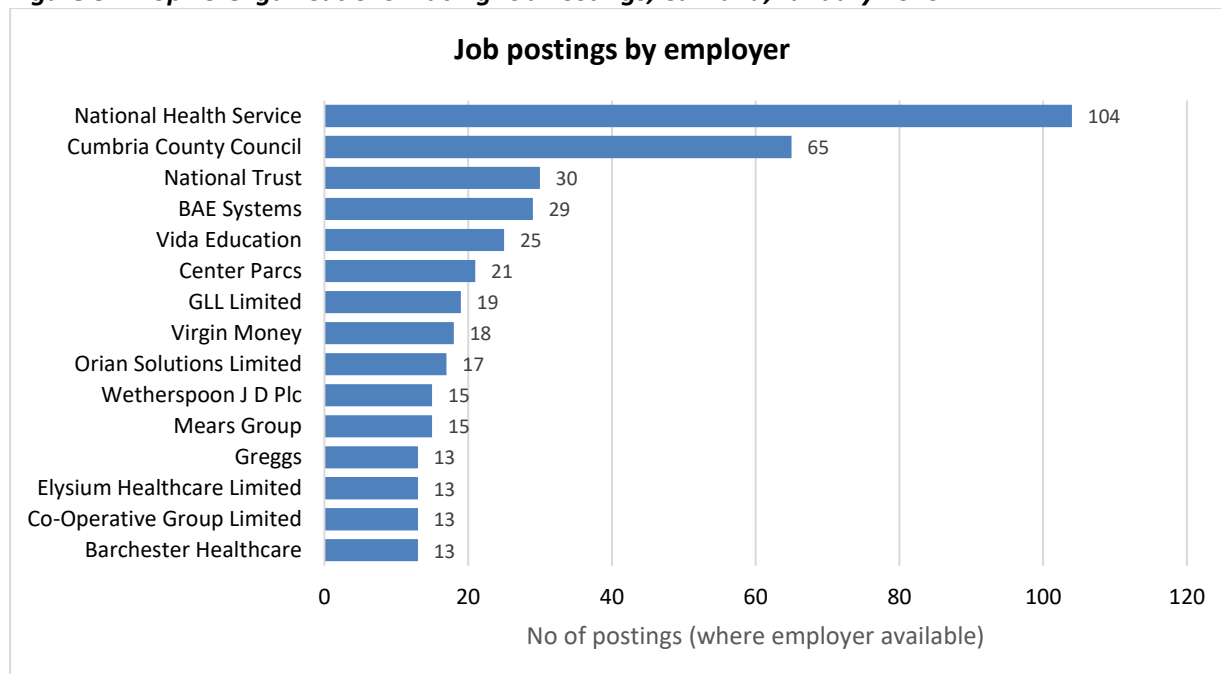*Figure 33: Top 15 Occupations Required - January 2020*

Job postings by occupation

Occupation	No of postings
Science, Research, Engineering & Tech Profs	275
Caring Personal Services	241
Health Professionals	235
Business, Media & Public Service Profs	188
Elementary Administration & Services	176
Sales Occupations	175
Business & Public Service Assoc Profs	175
Corporate Managers & Directors	161
Administrative Occupations	137
Teaching & Educational Profs	130
Science, Engineering & Tech Assoc Profs	112
Skilled Metal, Electrical & Electronic Trades	86
Other Managers & Proprietors	83
Skilled Construction & Building Trades	73
Textiles, Printing & Other Skilled Trades	72

No of postings (where occupation available)

Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies)

Organisations placing job postings

The organisation placing the most job postings was the NHS with 104 postings (7%) followed by Cumbria County Council with 65.

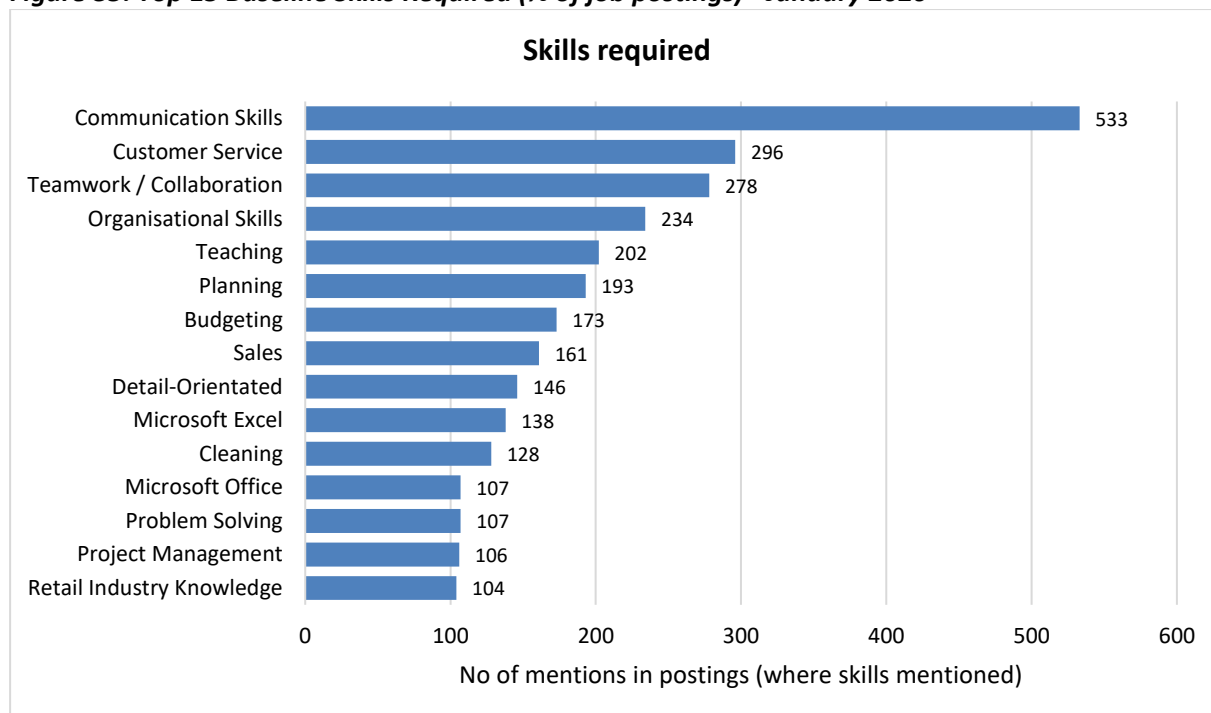*Figure 34: Top 15 Organisations Placing Job Postings, Cumbria, January 2020*

Job postings by employer

Employer	No of postings
National Health Service	104
Cumbria County Council	65
National Trust	30
BAE Systems	29
Vida Education	25
Center Parcs	21
GLL Limited	19
Virgin Money	18
Orian Solutions Limited	17
Wetherspoon J D Plc	15
Mears Group	15
Greggs	13
Elysium Healthcare Limited	13
Co-Operative Group Limited	13
Barchester Healthcare	13

No of postings (where employer available)

Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies)

Skills mentioned in job postings

The most common skills mentioned in job postings were communication which was mentioned 533 times (33% of all postings), customer services skills (296, 18%) and teamwork (278, 17%).

Figure 35: Top 15 Baseline Skills Required (% of job postings) - January 2020

Skills required

Skill	No of mentions
Communication Skills	533
Customer Service	296
Teamwork / Collaboration	278
Organisational Skills	234
Teaching	202
Planning	193
Budgeting	173
Sales	161
Detail-Orientated	146
Microsoft Excel	138
Cleaning	128
Microsoft Office	107
Problem Solving	107
Project Management	106
Retail Industry Knowledge	104

No of mentions in postings (where skills mentioned)

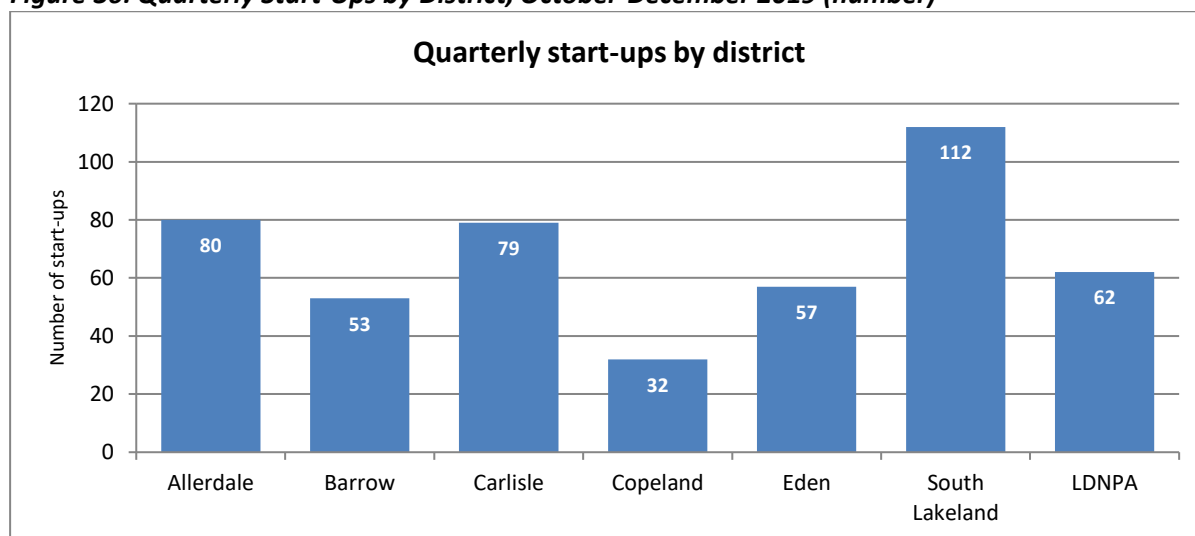*Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies)*

7.   BUSINESS STARTS AND STOCKS

7a.   Business start-ups

The following data are from BankSearch, a survey which collects data from Barclays, Co-operative Bank, HSBC, Lloyds Banking Group, Royal Bank of Scotland Group, Santander and TSB Bank. A 'Start-up' reflects the opening of a first current account from a small business banking product range by a business new to banking or previously operated through a personal account. The data exclude businesses operating through personal accounts, those without banking relationships or those banking with other institutions.

There were 413 business start-ups in Cumbria in the quarter Oct-Dec 2019. This is a fall of 86 from the previous quarter, -17.2% compared to a fall of 9.5% for England. Start-ups fell in all districts during the quarter, except in Allerdale where there was no change.

Figure 36: Quarterly Start-Ups by District, October-December 2019 (number)

Source: BankSearch   Note: LDNPA area is a "best-fit" comprising wards with 50%+ of area within NP

The number of starts varies throughout the year and levels in the winter are generally lower than the rest of the year. The volume of starts this winter is similar to the same time the previous year.

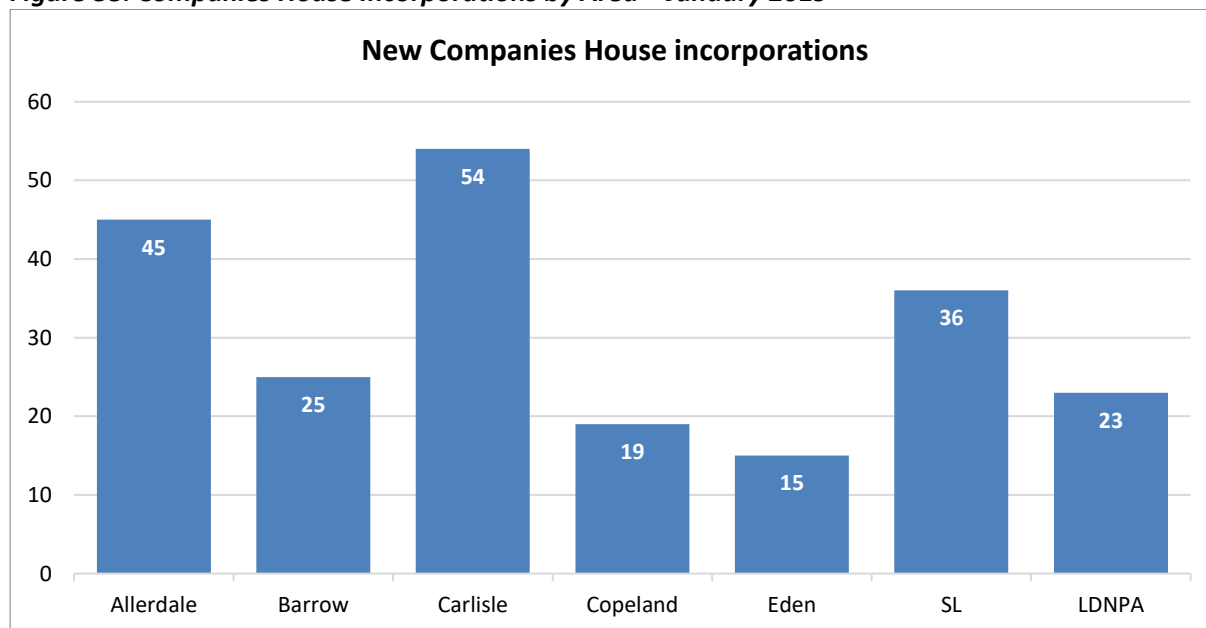***Figure 37: Monthly Start-Ups in Cumbria, December 2018-2019 (number)***

Source: BankSearch

7b: New Companies House Incorporations

These data represent new entries on the Companies House database where the registered office is Cumbria. NB: a change of name, address, merger or other changes can result in a new record and therefore these figures do not necessarily represent newly formed business.
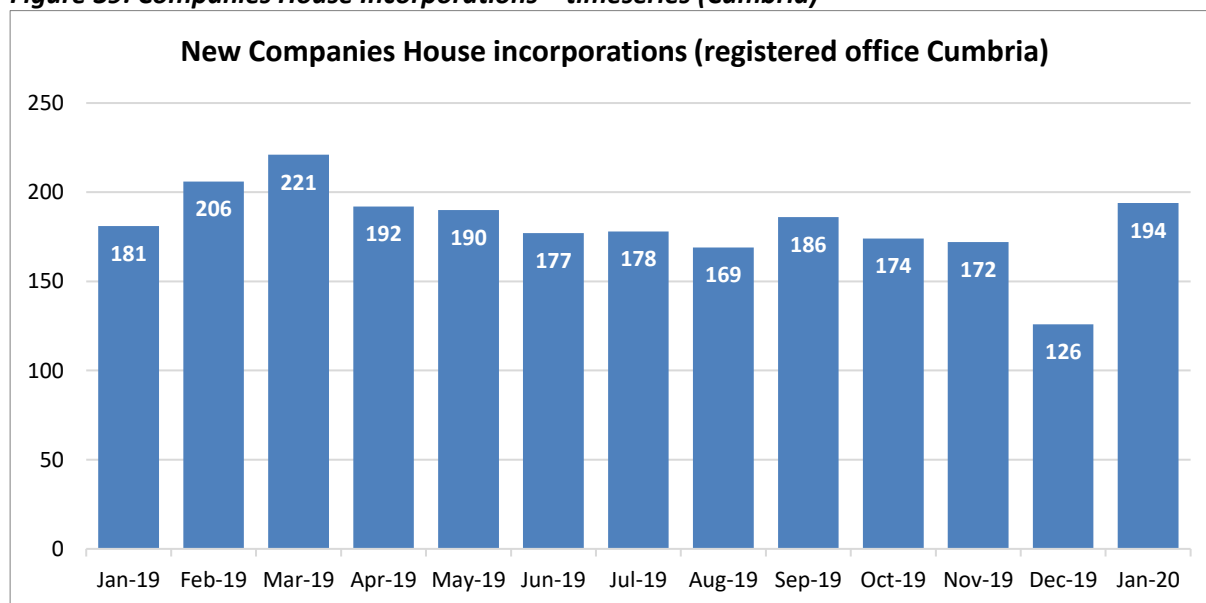
There were 194 new Companies House incorporations in Jan 2010, a rise of 68 from the previous month and 13 more than the same month the previous year. The highest numbers were in Carlisle (54) and South Lakeland (36).

Figure 38: Companies House Incorporations by Area – January 2019

Source: BankSearch extracted from Companies House Note: Data relate to registered addresses

Figure 39: Companies House Incorporations – timeseries (Cumbria)

Source: BankSearch extracted from Companies House Note: Data relate to registered addresses

7c. Stock of Active Companies

These data are extracted from the FAME database of over 5 million active companies (including unincorporated businesses) and measure those with a registered office or primary trading address in Cumbria. In January 2020 there were 31,389 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, a rise of 9 from the previous month. The highest number of active companies is in South Lakeland (8,933).

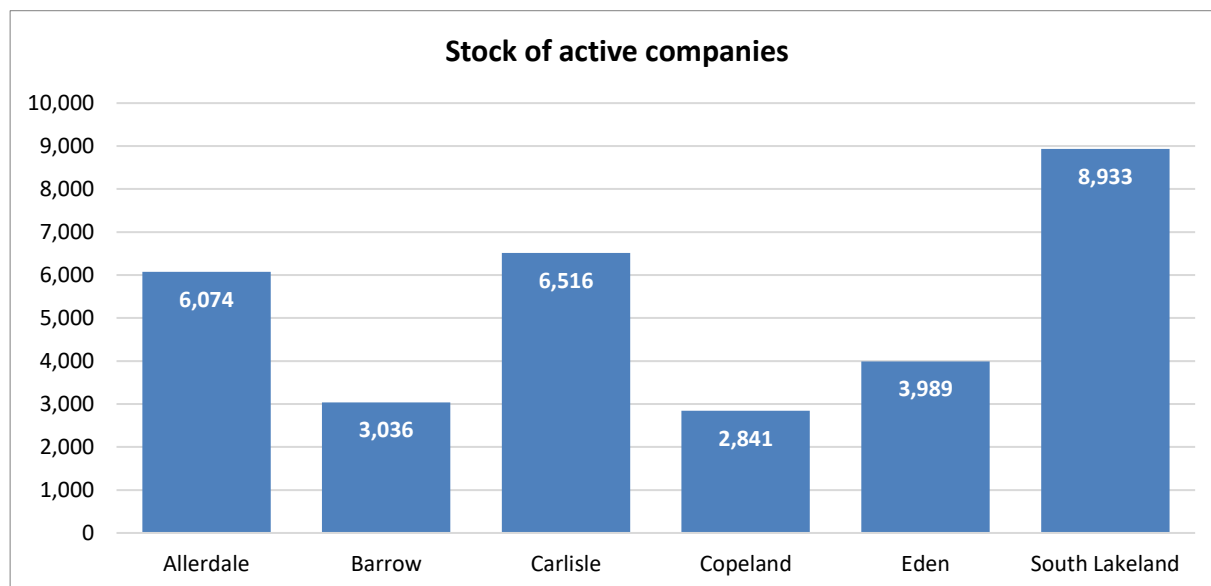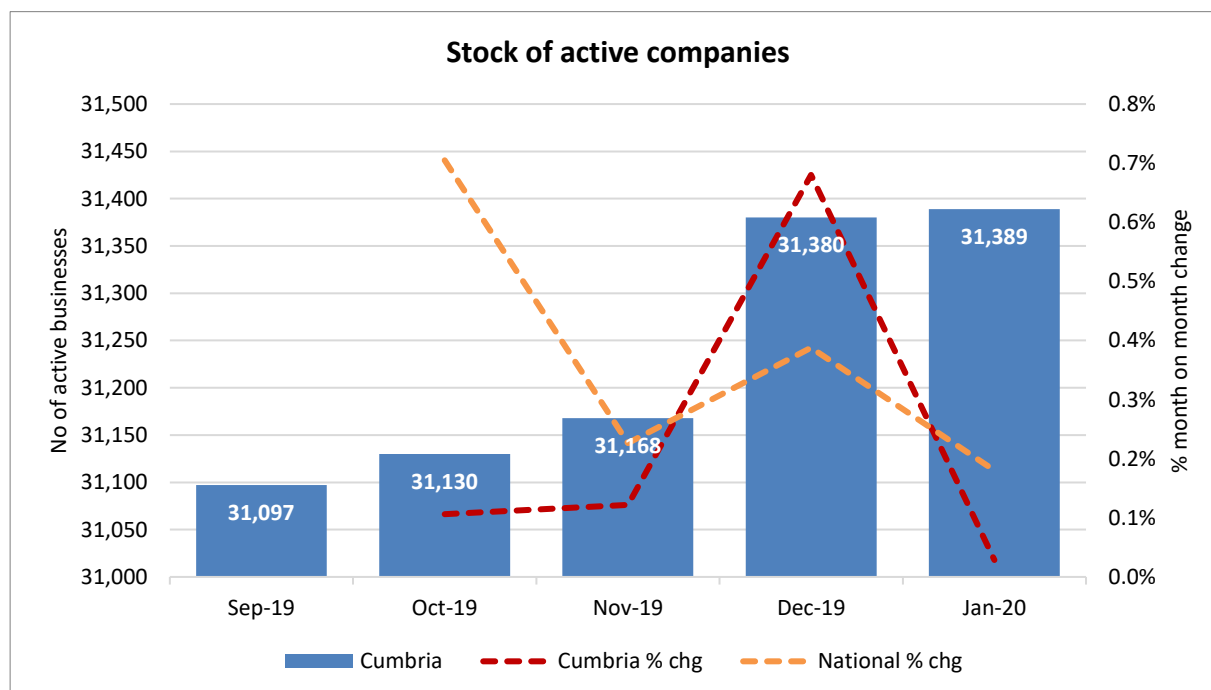**Figure 40: Stock of Active companies – January 2020**

Figure 41: Stock of Active companies – timeseries

Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)