

Introduction

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, this briefing excludes datasets where the time delay in publication means that the available figures pre-date the virus outbreak. It therefore contains June data from the standard Claimant Count and Universal Credit registers (both counts taken on **11th June**). The briefing also contains June data for job postings, May data for business start-ups and June data for the active company count, together with June data for the furlough and self-employment support schemes.

For more information about any of the data in the briefing or to be added / removed from the distribution list, please contact Ginny Murphy, Senior Analyst, Cumbria County Council / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory. Email: ginny.murphy@cumbria.gov.uk Tel: 07826 859026. Copies of this and previous briefings can be found on the Observatory website: www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk.

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1. KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA

- There were 14,065 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) on 11th June, a rate of 4.7% of the working age population. This compares to 6.3% nationally. The claimant count has fallen by 410 since May and has fallen in all parts of the county. It is likely that some of this fall is due to furloughed workers who had been claiming top-up benefits and have now returned to work;
- Compared to the pre-pandemic situation in March, the count is 7,130 higher with the highest increases in South Lakeland (258%) and Eden (174%) and also in the Lake District National Park (407%), well in excess of the county and national increases (103% and 107% respectively). (NB: LDNPA residents are also included in their relative district figures);
- The claimant rate in Cumbria fell by 0.1 to 4.7% in June and remains below the national rate of 6.3%. Nationally the rate also fell by 0.1 percentage points;
- Since March, the claimant count rate has risen in Cumbria from 2.3% to 4.7%, an increase of 2.4 percentage points compared to a national increase of 3.3 percentage points;
- There were 34,219 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria on 11th June (in work, out of work and those not required to seek work), a rise of 928 (2.8%) from May and a rise of 14,437 since March (73%). The biggest percentage increases since the pre-pandemic position in March have been in South Lakeland (161%) and Eden (131%) and in areas within the Lake District National Park (206%) (NB: LDNPA residents are also included in their relative district figures). These compare to a national increase since March of 81%;
- There have been particular increases since March in UC claimants claiming whilst in work (up by 6,816, 113%) and among those searching/planning/preparing for work (up by 6,762, 85.3%). In contrast, the increase for those with no working requirements has been 858 (15%);
- The number of UC claims that were started in April, rose from 1,058 in March to 8,630 in April, a rise of 716% compared to a national increase of 582%. On a per capita basis, UC claim starts increased from 0.4% of the working age population in March to 2.9% in April (up by 2.5ppt). It

appears to be those in the 25-34 year old age group that have been most impacted – the rate of new claims for this age group rose from 0.6% in March to 4.9% in April (up 4.2ppt);

- There were 1,664 job postings in June, a fall of 1,189 (-42%) from February before the lockdown began but an increase of 313 (23%) since May. The highest percentage falls in postings from Feb to June were in the Lake District (-73%) and in Allerdale (-68%);
- In June there were 8 claimants per new job posting compared to an average of 3 for the 12 months to March 2020;
- Since Feb there have been significant falls in job postings in all sectors with arts, entertainment & recreation, accommodation & food and construction most impacted. However, in the most recent month there have been some signs of recovery with several sectors posting increases in postings;
- HMRC data shows that 73,400 "employments" held by Cumbrian residents had been furloughed at least once up to the end of June 2020. This is an increase of 9,400 since May. The highest number of furloughed employments was in South Lakeland at 18,700 and the lowest in Copeland at 6,800;
- The furlough rate was 32% in Cumbria compared to 31% nationally. South Lakeland (40%) and Eden (39%) have the two highest furlough rates in the UK whilst at the other end of the scale, Copeland (22%) and Barrow (23%) have two of the lowest rates nationally;
- HMRC data shows that there had been 18,200 claims under the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme by the end of June, totalling £50.4m. The take-up rate was 73% compared to 75% nationally. South Lakeland had the highest take-up rate at 75% and Copeland the lowest at 71%;
- There were 107 business start-ups in May, a rise of 32 from April but 57 fewer than the same month last year. There were increases in most part of Cumbria, the exceptions being Eden and South Lakeland which continue to show a fall in start-ups;
- There were 229 new Companies House incorporations in June, a rise of 71 from May and 52 more than the same month last year. However, some of this apparent recovery (and indeed the previous decline) could be due to Companies House not processing registrations at the height of lockdown and so the data should be treated with caution;
- There were 31,180 active companies in Cumbria at the end of June, 194 more than in May, a rise of 0.6% v a rise of 1.6% nationally.

2. NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW

- The UK employment rate was estimated at 76.4%, 0.3 percentage points higher than a year earlier but 0.2 percentage points down on the previous quarter.
- The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 3.9%, 0.1 percentage points higher than a year earlier but largely unchanged compared with the previous quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate was estimated at 20.4%, 0.4 percentage points lower than the previous year but 0.2 percentage points up on the previous quarter.
- The total number of weekly hours worked was 877.1 million, down a record 175.3 million hours on the previous year and down a record 175.1 million hours on the previous quarter.
- Growth in average total pay (including bonuses) among employees slowed sharply in March to May to be negative (at negative 0.3%) for the first time since April to June 2014; regular pay growth (excluding bonuses) slowed to 0.7%.
- Single month growth in average weekly earnings for May 2020 was negative 1.2% for total pay and 0% for regular pay.
- Pay declined more in industries where furloughing was most prominent, many of these being the lowest-paying industries, in particular accommodation and food service activities.
- In real terms, total pay growth for March to May was negative 1.3% (that is, nominal total pay grew slower than inflation); regular pay growth was negative 0.2%, the difference being driven by subdued bonuses in recent months.
- Pay estimates are based on all employees on company payrolls, including those who have been furloughed under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS).

3. STANDARD CLAIMANT COUNT (released monthly) – count taken 11th June 2020

Important note: The phased nature of the UC rollout means that standard claimant count trends over time and between areas can be misleading as a broader span of people are required to seek work than under JSA. In addition, an easing of UC claimant conditions in response to COVID-19 means that more people have been able to apply for UC than previously and in some (not all) cases, those who have been furloughed or are self-employed have been included in the “searching for work” category and are therefore also included in the claimant count. It is not possible to identify the extent of this.

Figure 1 shows the change in claimants from last month and from a year ago. This shows that there was a decrease of 410 claimants in June from May, to a total of 14,065 in Cumbria. This is a monthly fall of -2.8% compared to -1.3% nationally. There were falls in all of Cumbria’s 6 district and in areas within the Lake District. The claimant rate in June in Cumbria was 4.7% which is below the national rate of 6.3% and a fall of 0.1 from May but 2.6ppt higher than a year ago.

Figure 1: Standard Claimant Count – June 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
UK	1,588,820	7.6	1,036,655	5.0	2,625,475	6.3	-35,865	-1.3	-0.1	1,490,030	131.2	3.6
Cumbria	8,545	5.8	5,515	3.7	14,065	4.7	-410	-2.8	-0.1	7,620	118.3	2.6
Allerdale	1,680	5.9	1,175	4.1	2,855	4.9	-90	-3.1	-0.2	1,245	77.5	2.2
Barrow	1,340	6.6	745	3.6	2,085	5.1	-15	-0.8	0.0	900	75.9	2.2
Carlisle	2,160	6.7	1,285	3.8	3,445	5.2	-55	-1.5	-0.1	1,950	130.3	3.0
Copeland	1,245	5.9	770	3.7	2,015	4.8	-60	-2.9	-0.1	790	64.4	1.9
Eden	730	4.7	555	3.6	1,285	4.2	-20	-1.6	-0.1	895	228.3	2.9
South Lakeland	1,390	4.7	985	3.3	2,375	4.0	-170	-6.6	-0.3	1,840	343.3	3.1
of which LDNPA	655	5.5	450	3.8	1,105	4.7	-40	-3.5	-0.2	935	546.8	4.0

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

Note: LDNPA is a “best-fit” comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of population within NP. LDNPA data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 2 shows the change in claimants from March which is treated as the baseline pre-COVID-19 position. This shows that there are 7,130 more claimants than in March, an increase of 103% compared to a national rise of 107%. However, the increase was significantly above the national average in South Lakeland at 258% and Eden at 174%, and also for residents in the Lake District National Park where the number of claimants is 407% higher than March (albeit from a low starting base).

Figure 2: Standard Claimant Count – Pre Lockdown in Mar - June 2020

	Male		Female		All Persons		March-June Change		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	All persons		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% Chg	Rate Chg
UK	1,588,820	7.6	1,036,655	5.0	2,625,475	6.3	1,356,850	107.0	3.3
Cumbria	8,545	5.8	5,515	3.7	14,065	4.7	7,130	102.9	2.4
Allerdale	1,680	5.9	1,175	4.1	2,855	4.9	1,260	79.2	2.2
Barrow	1,340	6.6	745	3.6	2,085	5.1	845	68.0	2.1
Carlisle	2,160	6.7	1,285	3.8	3,445	5.2	1,715	99.4	2.6
Copeland	1,245	5.9	770	3.7	2,015	4.8	775	62.8	1.9
Eden	730	4.7	555	3.6	1,285	4.2	820	174.4	2.7
South Lakeland	1,390	4.7	985	3.3	2,375	4.0	1,715	258.4	2.9
of which LDNPA	655	5.5	450	3.8	1,105	4.7	890	407.3	3.8

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

Note: LDNPA is a “best-fit” comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of population within NP. LDNPA data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 3 shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group in Cumbria in June. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups except for 16-24 year olds in Barrow where the rate is above the national average.

Figure 3: Standard Claimant Count / Rate by Age Group in Cumbria - June 2020

Claimant Count and Rate by Age - June 2020												
	Aged 16-24		Aged 25-34		Aged 35-44		Aged 45-54		Aged 55+		Total	
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate
UK	522,185	7.3%	729,595	8.1%	540,995	6.5%	462,735	5.0%	369,330	4.6%	2,625,475	6.3%
Cumbria	2,875	6.5%	3,865	7.4%	2,645	5.0%	2,515	3.4%	2,155	3.0%	14,065	4.7%
Allerdale	575	6.7%	745	7.3%	555	5.4%	525	3.6%	455	3.3%	2,855	4.9%
Barrow	520	7.8%	570	7.1%	375	5.2%	335	3.3%	285	3.2%	2,085	5.1%
Carlisle	705	6.9%	1,020	8.1%	675	5.4%	570	3.7%	475	3.2%	3,445	5.2%
Copeland	400	6.7%	580	7.5%	365	5.0%	340	3.3%	330	3.2%	2,015	4.8%
Eden	235	5.7%	335	6.8%	245	4.7%	255	3.1%	215	2.6%	1,285	4.2%
South Lakeland	435	4.9%	625	7.0%	440	4.2%	495	3.2%	385	2.4%	2,375	4.0%
of which LDNPA	175	5.4%	270	7.9%	240	6.0%	230	3.7%	195	2.9%	1,105	4.7%

Source: ONS (data are rounded). LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

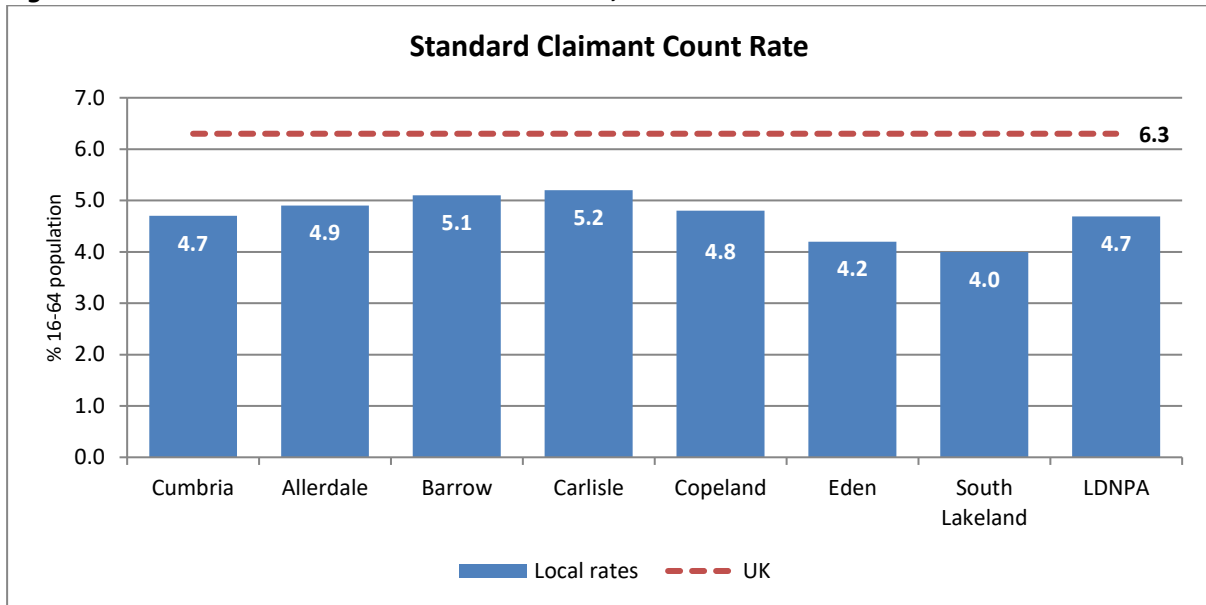
Figure 4 shows how the claimant rates by age have changed between March and June.

Figure 4: Standard Claimant Count Rate – March-June 2020

Claimant Rate by Age - March v June 2020												
	Aged 16-24		Aged 25-34		Aged 35-44		Aged 45-54		Aged 55+		Total	
	March	June	March	June	March	June	March	June	March	June	March	June
UK	3.4%	7.3%	3.7%	8.1%	3.2%	6.5%	2.5%	5.0%	2.5%	4.6%	3.0%	6.3%
Cumbria	3.1%	6.5%	3.7%	7.4%	2.5%	5.0%	1.6%	3.4%	1.5%	3.0%	2.3%	4.7%
Allerdale	3.7%	6.7%	4.3%	7.3%	3.0%	5.4%	1.9%	3.6%	1.8%	3.3%	2.8%	4.9%
Barrow	4.7%	7.8%	4.1%	7.1%	3.2%	5.2%	2.0%	3.3%	1.9%	3.2%	3.0%	5.1%
Carlisle	3.2%	6.9%	4.3%	8.1%	2.7%	5.4%	1.7%	3.7%	1.7%	3.2%	2.6%	5.2%
Copeland	3.9%	6.7%	4.4%	7.5%	3.3%	5.0%	2.0%	3.3%	2.2%	3.2%	3.0%	4.8%
Eden	1.6%	5.7%	2.2%	6.8%	1.9%	4.7%	1.2%	3.1%	1.1%	2.6%	1.5%	4.2%
South Lakeland	1.2%	4.9%	2.1%	7.0%	1.2%	4.2%	0.8%	3.2%	0.7%	2.4%	1.1%	4.0%
of which LDNPA	0.8%	5.4%	1.5%	7.9%	1.5%	6.0%	0.6%	3.7%	0.6%	2.9%	0.9%	4.7%

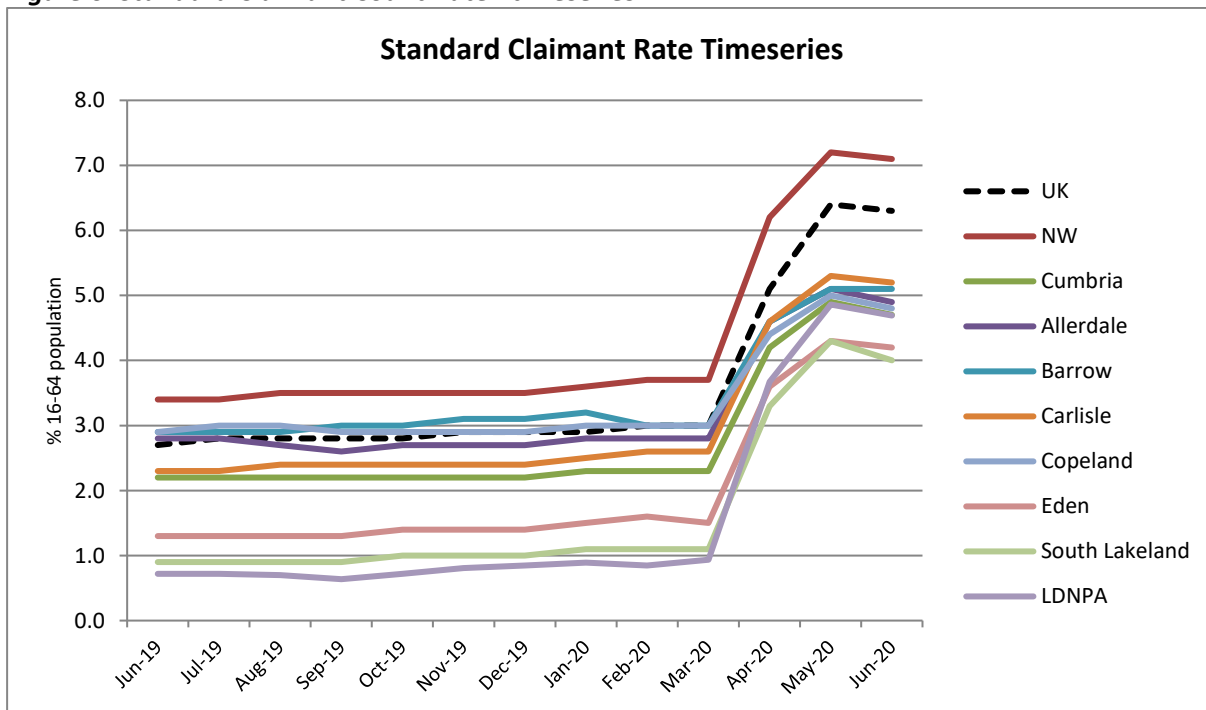
Source: ONS. LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 5: Standard Claimant Count Rate – districts, June 2020



Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 6: Standard Claimant Count Rate - timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP

4. UNIVERSAL CREDIT (released monthly) – count taken 11th June 2020

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.**

Universal Credit – Stock of Claimants

On 11th June 2020 there were 34,219 people on Universal Credit in Cumbria (both in work and out of work). This is a rise of 925 from May (+2.8%) and 14,437 more than pre-lockdown in March (+73%). The highest percentage increases since March have been in South Lakeland (161%), Eden (131%) and for those living within the Lake District National Park (+206%).

Figure 7: Universal Credit claimants – June 2020 and change from March 2020

	Male		Female		All Persons		Monthly Change (all persons)			Change from March (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
Great Britain	2,691,668	7.4	2,763,801	13.0	5,456,655	13.5	200,987	3.8	0.5	2,445,136	81.2	6.0
Cumbria	16,391	6.7	17,822	11.2	34,219	11.5	928	2.8	0.3	14,437	73.0	4.9
Allerdale	3627	9.0	4231	13.4	7,860	13.6	144	1.9	0.3	2,671	51.5	4.6
Barrow	2323	7.2	2466	11.4	4,795	11.7	130	2.8	0.3	1,852	62.9	4.5
Carlisle	3969	7.0	4135	11.9	8,107	12.3	266	3.4	0.4	3,499	75.9	5.3
Copeland	2416	8.9	2671	12.1	5,084	12.2	68	1.4	0.2	1,387	37.5	3.3
Eden	1351	4.0	1516	8.9	2,867	9.3	119	4.3	0.4	1,627	131.2	5.3
South Lakeland	2708	3.5	2796	8.9	5,505	9.2	202	3.8	0.3	3,397	161.1	5.7
of which LDNPA	1285	3.5	1246	10.3	2,531	10.7	104	4.3	0.4	1,704	206.0	7.2

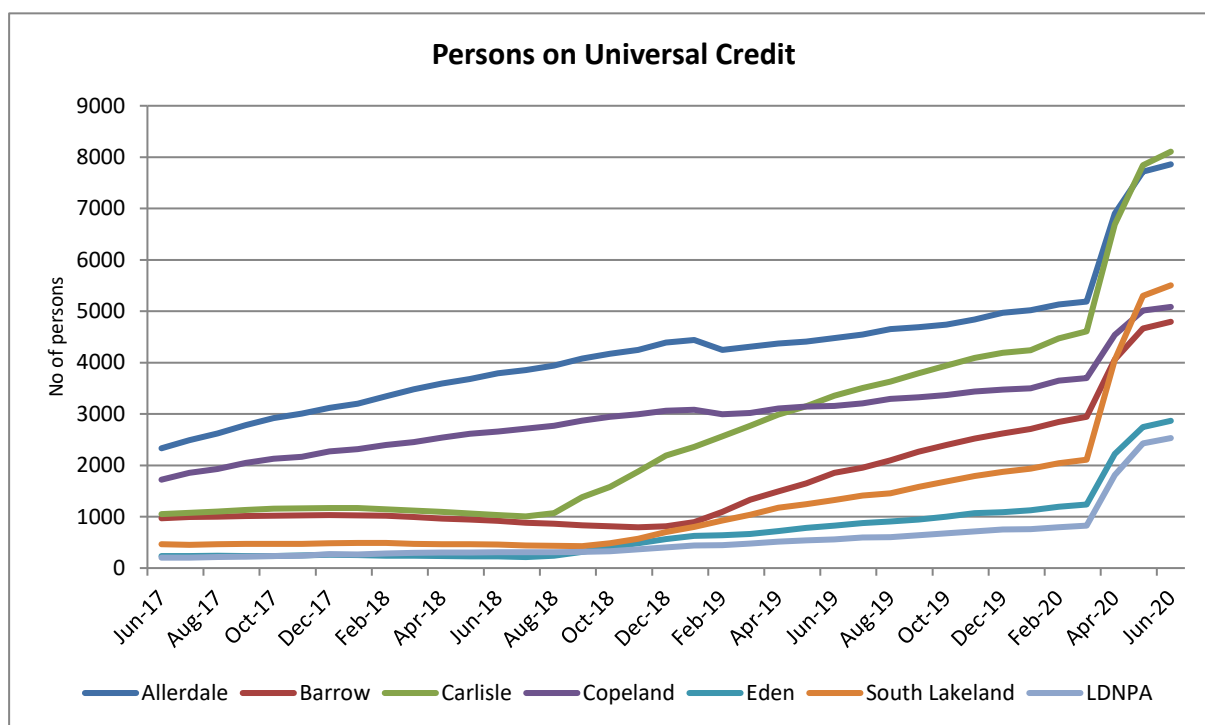
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, totals may not sum): LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 8: Universal Credit claimants by age – June 2020

Universal Credit Claimant Count and Rate by Age - June 2020												
	Aged 16-24		Aged 25-34		Aged 35-44		Aged 45-54		Aged 55+		Total	
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate
UK	890,271	12.8%	1,686,881	19.3%	1,275,478	15.7%	942,121	10.6%	661,463	8.5%	5,456,207	13.5%
Cumbria	5,704	12.8%	10,568	20.2%	7,598	14.3%	6,036	8.1%	4,307	5.9%	34,216	11.5%
Allerdale	1,239	14.4%	2,323	22.9%	1,749	17.2%	1,464	9.9%	1,085	7.8%	7,860	13.6%
Barrow	1,053	15.9%	1,566	19.4%	951	13.2%	726	7.2%	497	5.5%	4,795	11.7%
Carlisle	1,386	13.6%	2,686	21.4%	1,848	14.8%	1,313	8.5%	883	5.9%	8,108	12.3%
Copeland	825	13.8%	1,583	20.4%	1,075	14.6%	856	8.4%	742	7.2%	5,084	12.2%
Eden	435	10.5%	858	17.4%	635	12.1%	551	6.8%	392	4.7%	2,867	9.3%
South Lakeland	765	8.7%	1,551	17.3%	1,341	12.8%	1,122	7.3%	726	4.5%	5,501	9.2%
of which LDNPA	297	9.2%	668	19.7%	627	15.6%	535	8.8%	404	5.9%	2,531	10.8%

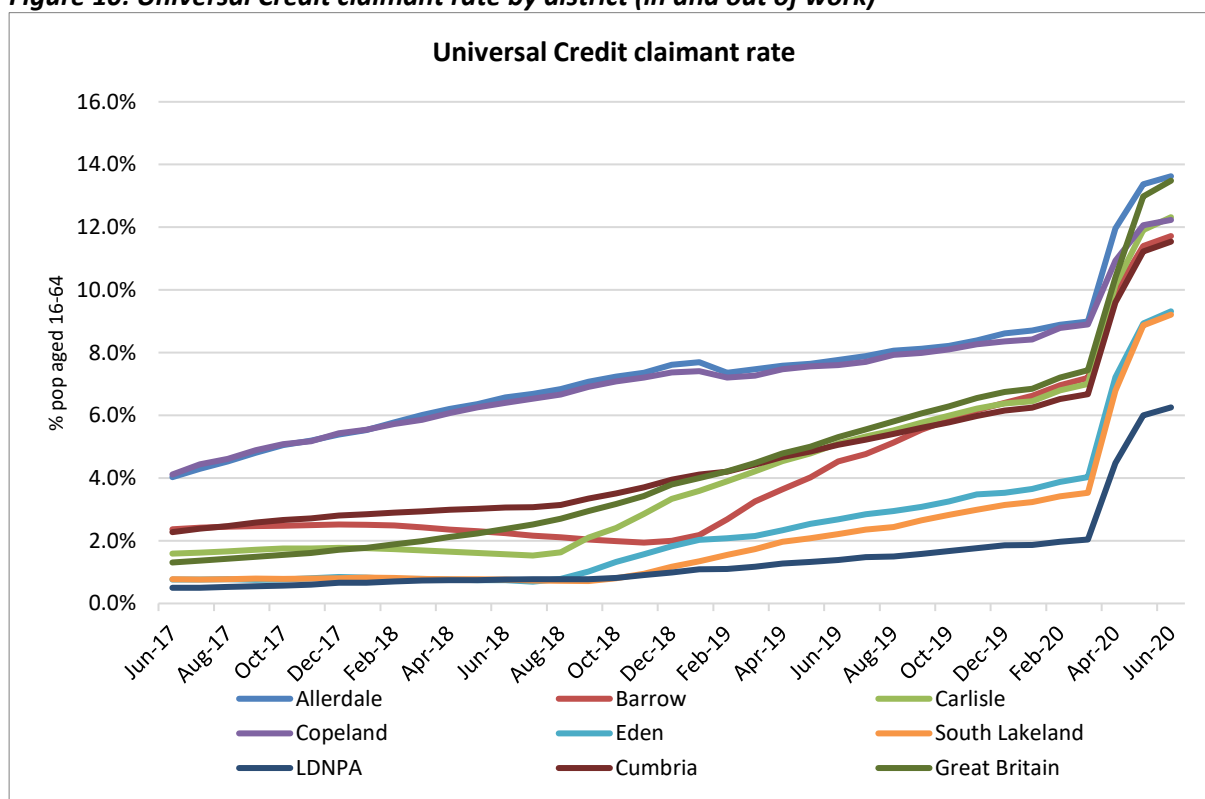
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, totals may not sum): LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 9: Universal Credit claimants by district (in and out of work)



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

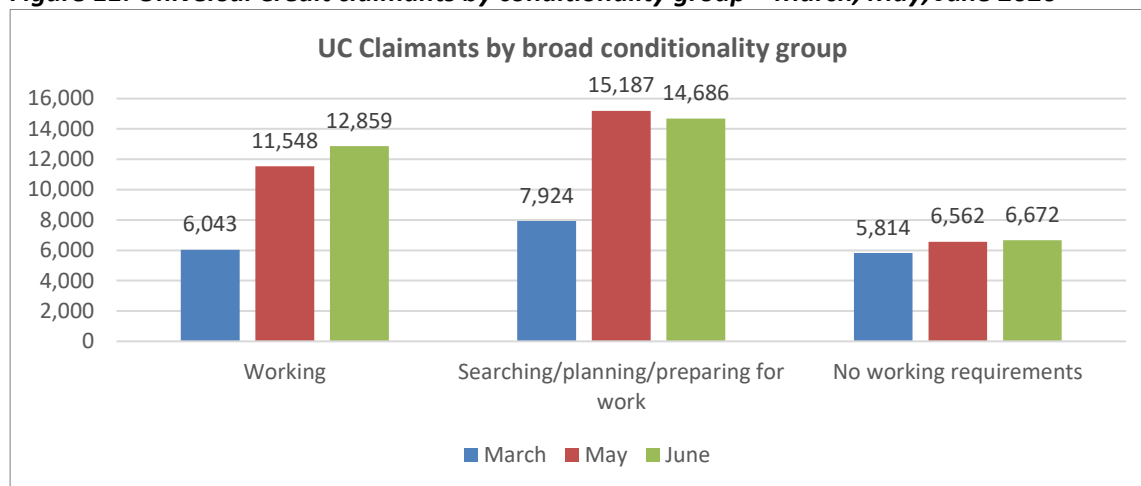
Figure 10: Universal Credit claimant rate by district (in and out of work)



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. Overall in Cumbria, the majority of claimants are in the working conditionality group and in the searching/planning/preparing for work categories – these two groups have seen 113% and 85% increases respectively in the number of claimants compared to a rise of 15% in those with no work requirements.

Figure 11: Universal Credit claimants by conditionality group – March, May, June 2020



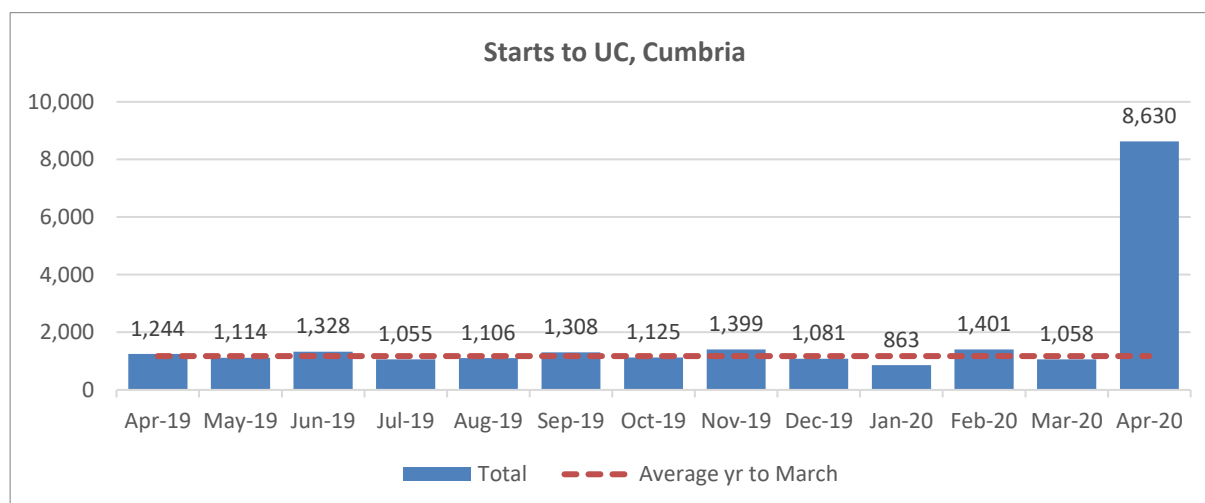
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note: Conditionality is based on an individual's circumstances on the count date (2nd Thursday)

Starts on Universal Credit

The data presented so far relate to the stock of Universal Credit claimants at a point in time (ie the total number of people claiming at the time of the count, irrespective of how long they have been claiming). The following data relate just to those who started claims in the period. This sub-set of data is only released quarterly and is not quite as up to date as the monthly data on claimant stocks (April is the latest). Geographic analysis is based on the JCP offices to which the original claim was made.

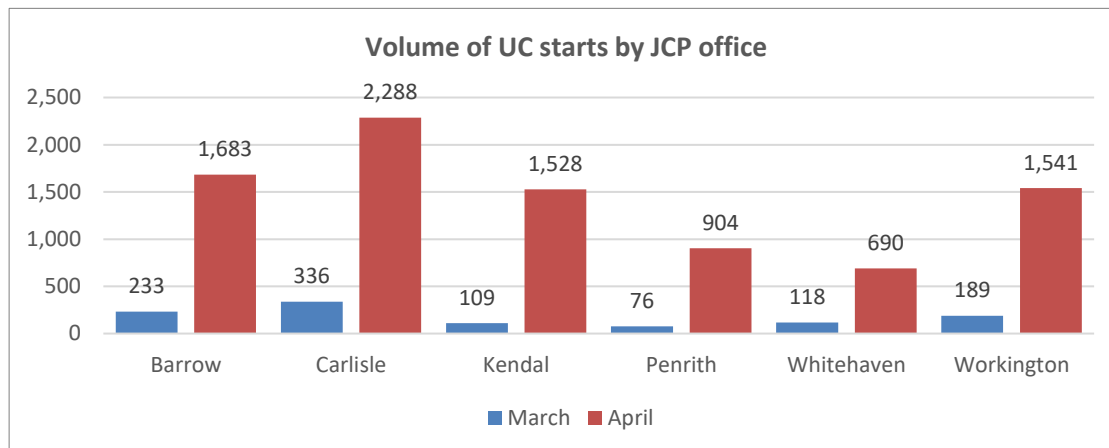
These data show that in March there were 1,058 starts to UC in Cumbria (similar to the monthly average of 1,041 for the previous 12 months). In April this rose to 8,630 – a rise of 7,572 from March which is an increase of 716% compared to the national increase of 582%. The Carlisle JCP office saw the highest volume of additional starts but the highest proportionate increases were in starts arising from claims made to the Penrith and Kendal offices (note that starting volumes here were small).

Figure 12: Monthly starts to Universal Credit – April 2019-April 2020



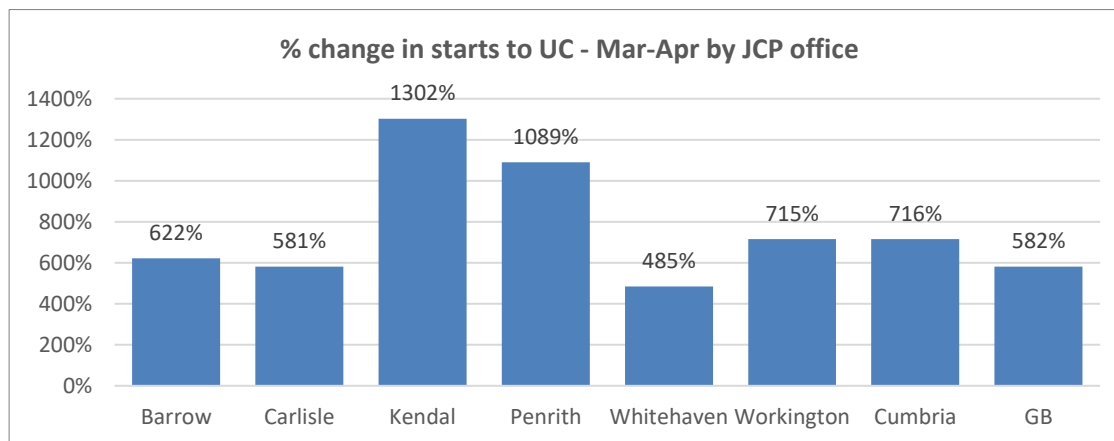
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 13: Starts to Universal Credit by JCP office – Mar-April



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

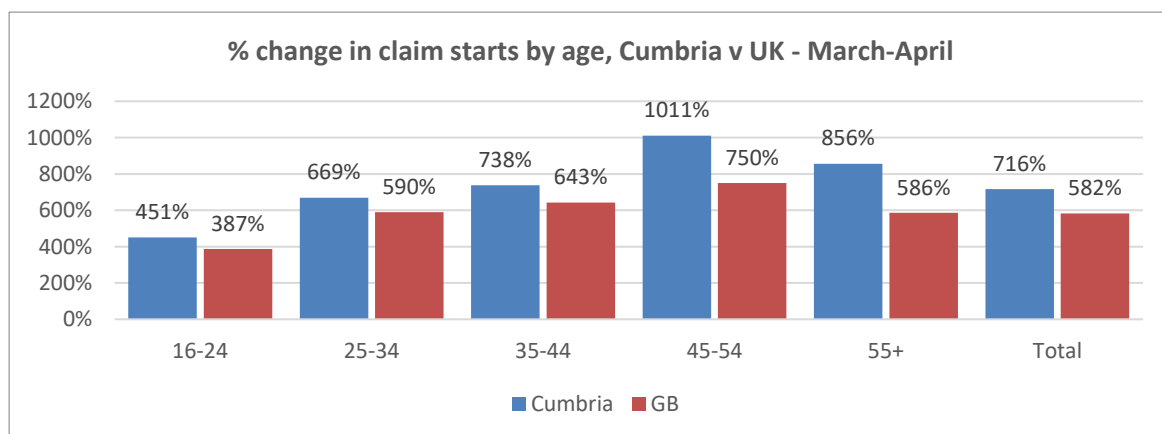
Figure 14: % change in UC starts by JCP office – Mar-April 2020



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

There has been much interest in which age groups are being impacted the most by the pandemic in labour market terms and it's a mixed picture in Cumbria. The % increase in claim starts was higher across all age groups in Cumbria's working age population than nationally and was particularly high among 45-54 year olds (up 1,011%).

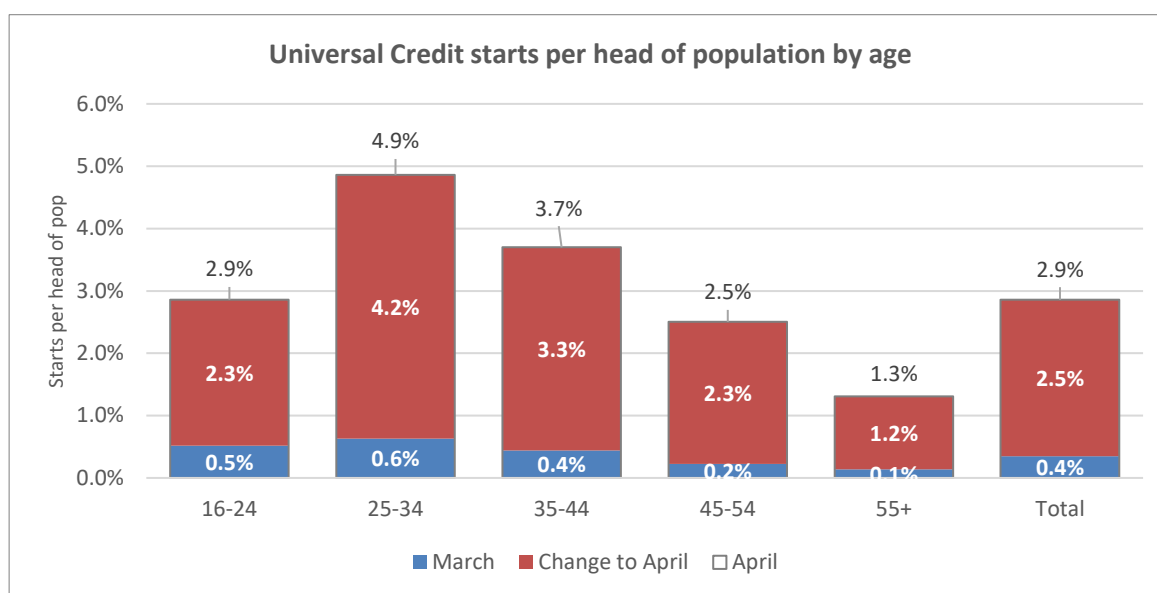
Figure 15: Change in starts on Universal Credit by age group



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore.

However, the % increases in volumes are from low bases and so it is more meaningful to look at the rate of new claims by age group and how these rates have changed. This shows that in March, prior to the pandemic, 0.4% of the working age population in Cumbria started a UC claim (which is similar to the monthly average for the previous 12 months). The claim start rate was highest for those aged 25-34 (0.6%) and lowest for those over 55 (0.1%). In March however, the claim start rate increased and 2.9% of the working age population in Cumbria started a UC claim (up by 2.5ppt). The claim start rate increased the most for those aged 25-34 (up by 4.2ppt to 4.9%) suggesting that in fact it is this group that suffered the most immediate impact. Note: these data are only to mid-April, further data up until mid-July will be released in August.

Figure 16: Change in start rate on Universal Credit by age group



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore. Rate is % resident population in age group

Figure 17: Starts on Universal Credit by age group

New Starts on Universal Credit (all conditionality groups)							
	Mar-20		Apr-20		Change from Mar		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
16-24	225	0.5%	1,239	2.9%	1,014	451%	2.3%
25-34	334	0.6%	2,568	4.9%	2,234	669%	4.2%
35-44	232	0.4%	1,943	3.7%	1,711	738%	3.3%
45-54	163	0.2%	1,811	2.5%	1,648	1011%	2.3%
55+	111	0.1%	1,061	1.3%	950	856%	1.2%
Total	1,058	0.4%	8,630	2.9%	7,572	716%	2.5%

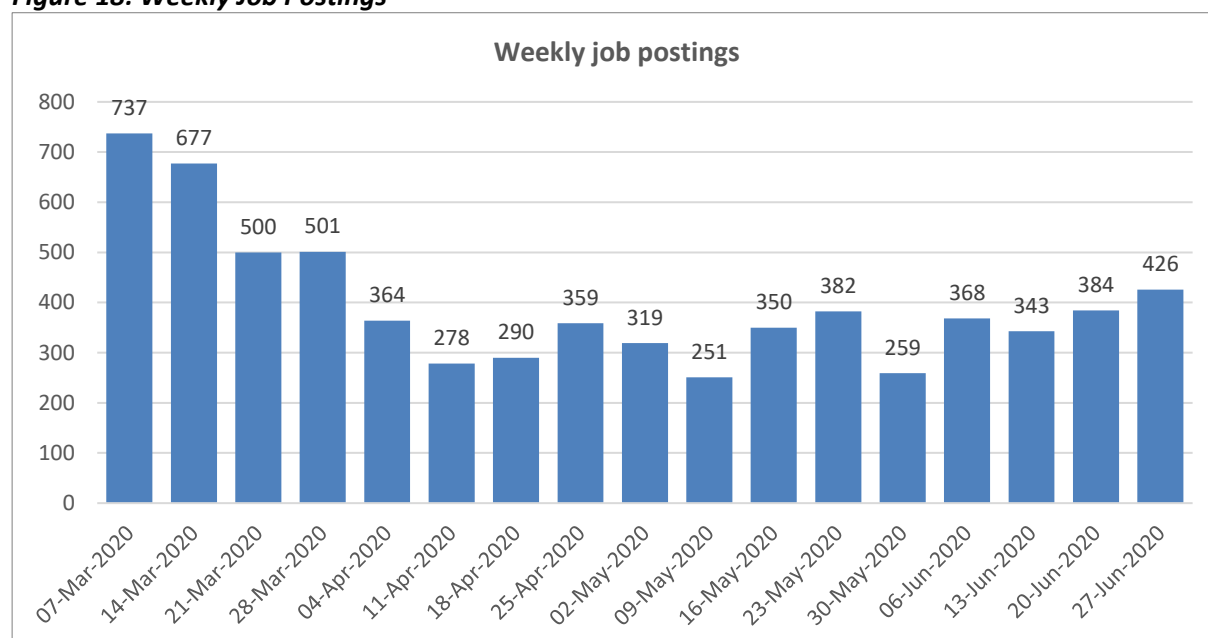
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore. Rate is % resident population in age group

5 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 June 2020 there were 1,664 job postings in Cumbria which is 313 more than in May (+23%), following the small increase of 44 the previous month. However, the level remains significantly below that seen in February which was the last complete month before the COVID-19 “lockdown” commenced. The fall in job postings since lockdown which began in March is evident in the following chart which shows there were 737 postings in the first week of March compared to 368 in the first week of June.

Figure 18: Weekly Job Postings

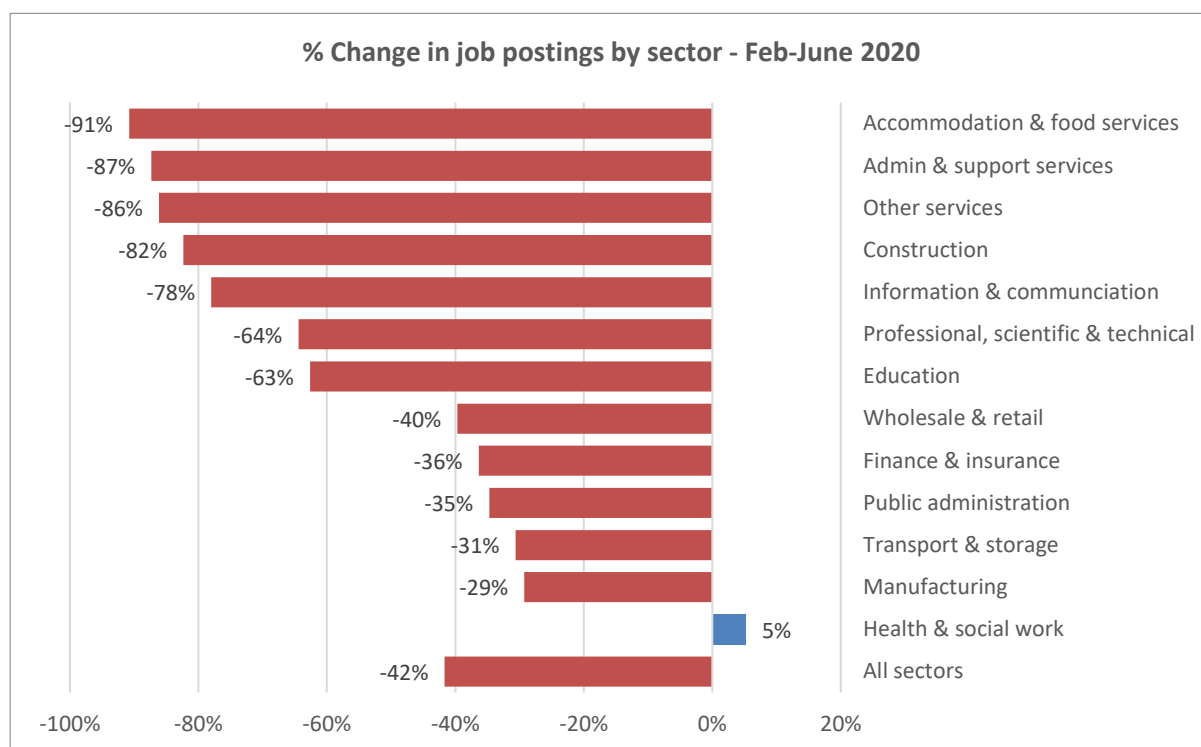


Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies)

The fall in postings can also be assessed by sector. Compared to the pre-lockdown month of February, there have been large falls in most sectors with accommodation & food services, admin & support services, other services and construction the most heavily impacted (down 91%, 97%, 86% and 82% respectively). Health & social care is the only sector where postings remained stable.

Despite the large downturn in job postings since February, there are signs of improvement in the most recent full month’s data (June) with a month on month increase of over 300 postings (+23%) several sectors showing slight increases in postings compared to May, although these are mostly accounted for by 4 sectors – health (+112), public admin (+33), wholesale & retail (+26) and manufacturing (+18). There are still no signs of the hospitality industry starting to recruit again – vacancies are running at just 10% of the levels seen in February.

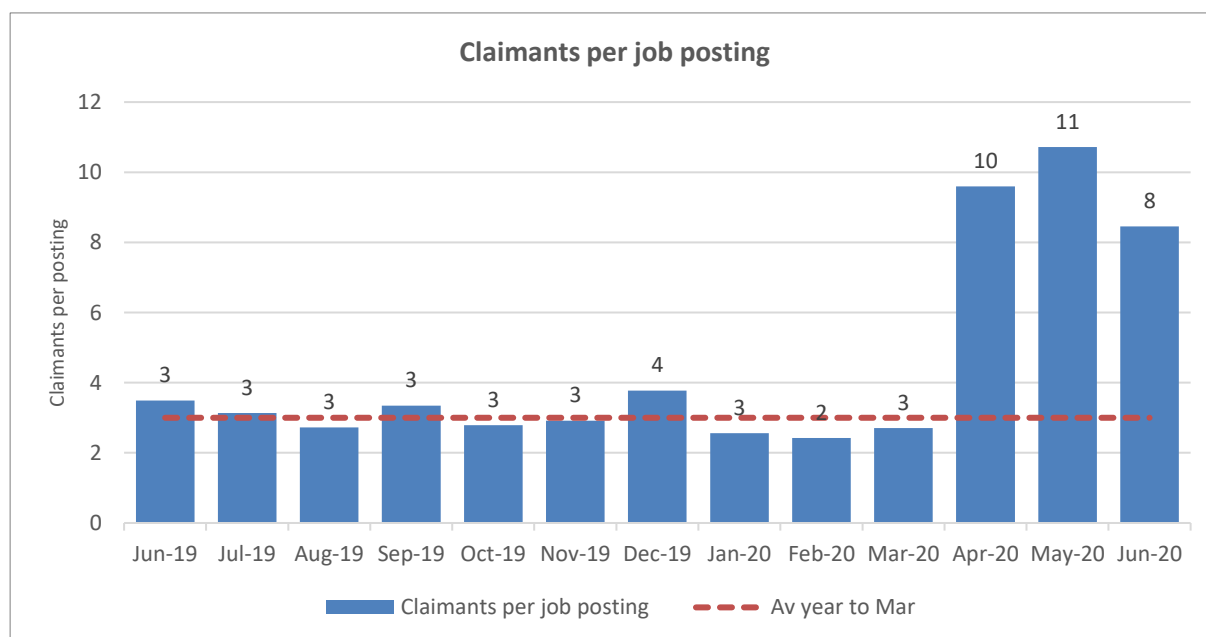
Figure 19: Change in postings by sector – Feb-June 2020



Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies) Note: Sectors with fewer than 25 postings in Feb not included.

As vacancy levels have fallen and claimant numbers have risen, there's been a corresponding shift in the ratio of claimants to vacancies – from an average of 3 claimants per posting in the 12 months to March, up to a level of 8 claimants per posting in May, demonstrating the challenges facing those seeking work in a stalled jobs market.

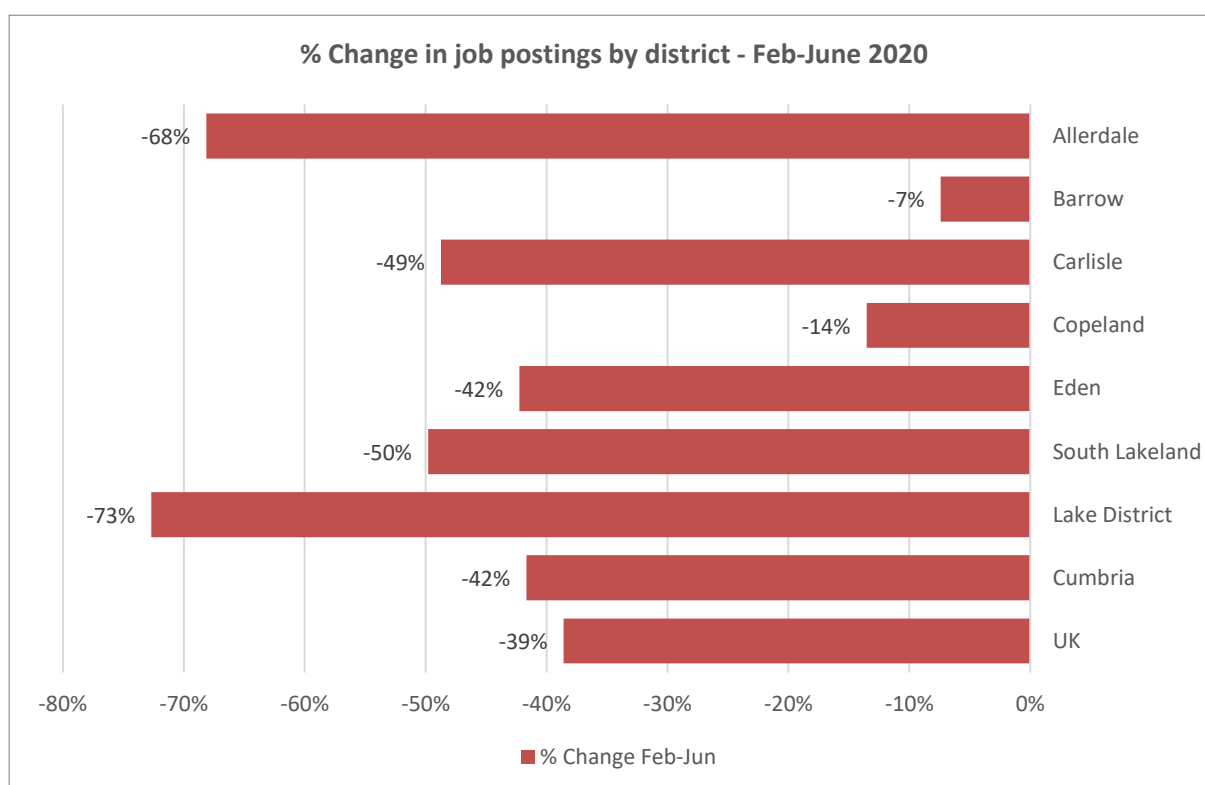
Figure 20: Claimants per job posting



Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies) / ONS Claimant Count

There were some variations by location of job postings between Feb and June. Barrow experienced the smallest percentage decline (-7%) followed by Copeland (-14%) with both areas seeing a relatively strong recovery in volumes in June. At the other end of the scale, Allerdale has shown the biggest percentage decline since Feb (-68%) followed by South Lakeland (-50%). Postings mentioning locations in the Lake District fell by 73% between Feb and June but there were signs of improvement in June with an increase in postings compared to May.

Figure 21: Change in postings by location – Feb-June 2020



Source: Labour Insight (Burning Glass Technologies) Note: Lake District comprises postings mentioning the towns of Keswick, Windermere, Ambleside, Broughton in Furness or Coniston.

6. JOB RETENTION SCHEME & SELF EMPLOYMENT INCOME SCHEME

6a. Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS)

On 15th July HMRC released updated statistics on the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) which provides support to employers who have been unable to undertake their normal activities through the COVID-19 period. The next release of these statistics will be on 21st August 2020.

Important methodological notes:

An employer is defined as a Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Scheme. Some organisations operate multiple payrolls and in other situations, a group of companies may pool their payrolls together under one PAYE scheme. This means the employer count does not match other published data on the business base.

An employment is defined as anyone who meets the scheme criteria set out within the published guidance. If an employee has jobs with more than one employer and has also been furloughed by more than one employer, they will be counted in these statistics once for each employment that has been furloughed. The employment is assigned geographically to the residential address of the employee which may not be the location of the job.

Data relate to the number of “employment” furloughed at least once by 30th June and do not represent the current number of furloughed jobs. HMRC do not publish data on the type of job or characteristics of the furloughed employee or employers below regional level.

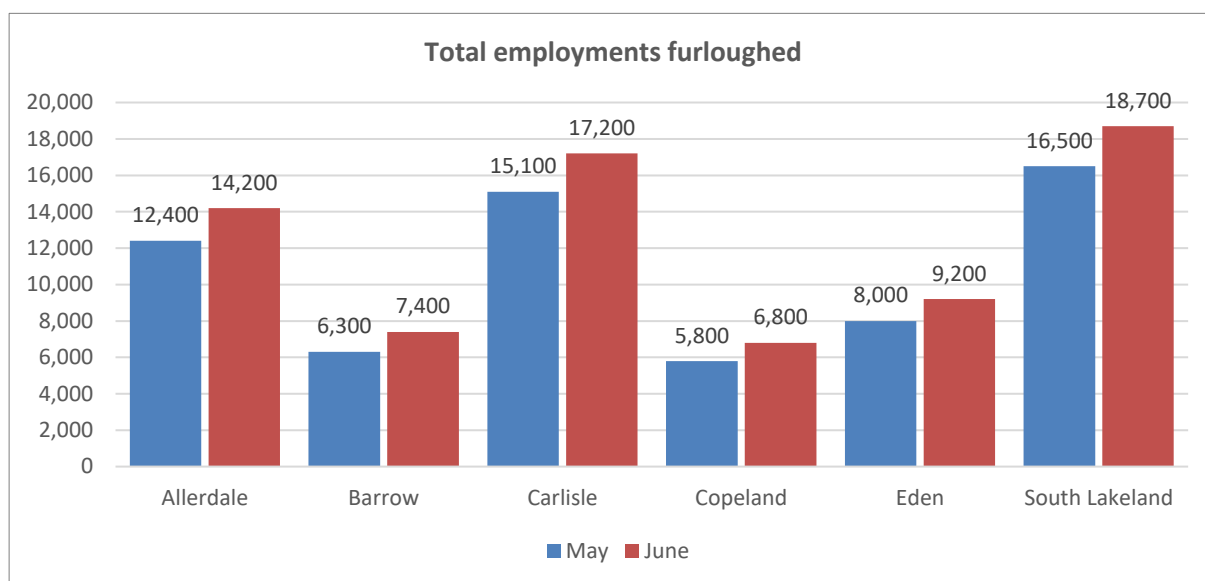
Key national findings

- 9.4 million employments had been placed on furlough, an increase of 678,000 compared with claims made until the end of May;
- 1.14 million employers had made at least one CJRS claim. This is an increase of 75,000 over claims made to the end of May;
- the total claimed was £26.5 billion at the end of June, representing an additional £9.0 billion in support claimed since the end of May;
- employees of small and micro-sized employers were more likely to have been furloughed than those working for medium-sized and large employers: 57% of employments at employers with 5 to 9 employees had been furloughed against just 19% at employers with 250 or more employees;
- the accommodation & food services sector has had the highest proportion of employers furloughing at least some staff (87%) and the highest proportion of total employments furloughed at 73%;
- based on employees’ residential address, the proportion of employments furloughed ranges from 29% in the South East and East of England, and Wales to 32% in the West Midlands;
- the local authority with the highest proportion of employments furloughed was South Lakeland at 40% and the lowest was Boston in Lincolnshire at 20%;
- by age, employees aged 17 were most likely to be furloughed. 61% of employments with a female employee aged 17 were furloughed, the equivalent figure for males was 58%;
- across the age bands and by gender, employments with male employees aged 41 to 49 were least likely to be furloughed (28%), while for females, employments where the employees were aged 41 to 57 were the least likely to be furloughed (23%).

Key Cumbria findings

- By 30th June 2020, 73,400 “employments” held by Cumbrian residents had been furloughed at least once, an increase of 9,400 from the end of May. The highest number of these was for employees resident in South Lakeland (18,700) and the lowest in Copeland (6,800).
- South Lakeland and Eden have the highest furlough rates of 377 local authorities in the UK at 40% and 39% respectively.

Figure 22: Job Retention Scheme – total employments furloughed at least once



Source: HMRC NB: data relate to employments furloughed at least once up to the end of the period and are measured at place of employee residence

In response to feedback, HMRC have introduced a measure of “take-up rate” based on an estimate of the number of eligible employments in each area. This shows that Cumbria’s overall take-up rate is marginally above the UK at 32% (UK 31%). However, there is wide variation within the county – South Lakeland has a take-up rate of 40% and Eden 39% which are the two highest rates in the UK. At the other end of the scale, Copeland has a rate of 22% and Barrow’s is 23% which put them amongst the 5 lowest take-up rates in the UK.

Figure 23: Job Retention Scheme take-up rates

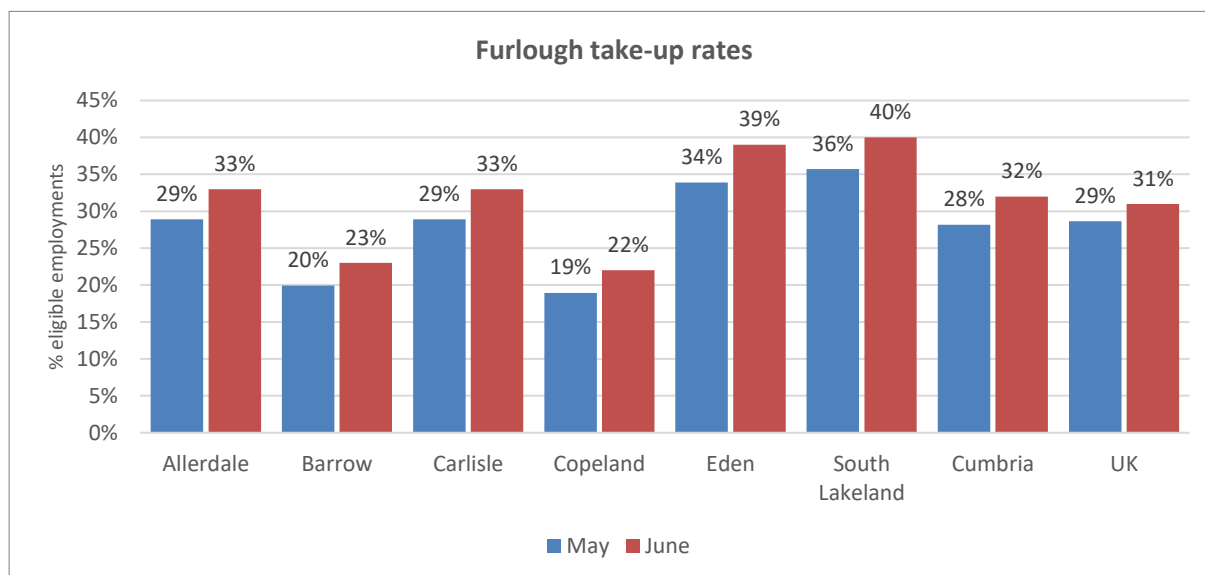


Figure 24: Job Retention Scheme – counts and take-up rates

Employments Furloughed									
	Eligible Employments	May-20		June-20			Change May - June		
	No	No	Rate	No	Rate	Rank (out of 377)	No	%	Rate
UK	30,353,200	8,696,000	29%	9,373,900	31%	n/a	677,900	8%	2%
Cumbria	227,200	64,000	28%	73,400	32%	n/a	9,400	15%	4%
Allerdale	42,900	12,400	29%	14,200	33%	29	1,800	15%	4%
Barrow	31,600	6,300	20%	7,400	23%	372	1,100	17%	3%
Carlisle	52,200	15,100	29%	17,200	33%	29	2,100	14%	4%
Copeland	30,600	5,800	19%	6,800	22%	376	1,000	17%	3%
Eden	23,600	8,000	34%	9,200	39%	2	1,200	15%	5%
South Lakeland	46,200	16,500	36%	18,700	40%	1	2,200	13%	4%

Note: Data measure employments furloughed at least once and are allocated to place of employee residence

More information on CJRS data <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/coronavirus-job-retention-scheme-statistics-july-2020>

6b. Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)

On 15th July HMRC released experimental statistics on the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme which provides support for self-employed individuals whose business has been adversely affected by Coronavirus (COVID-19). The next release of these statistics will be on 21st August 2020.

Key national findings

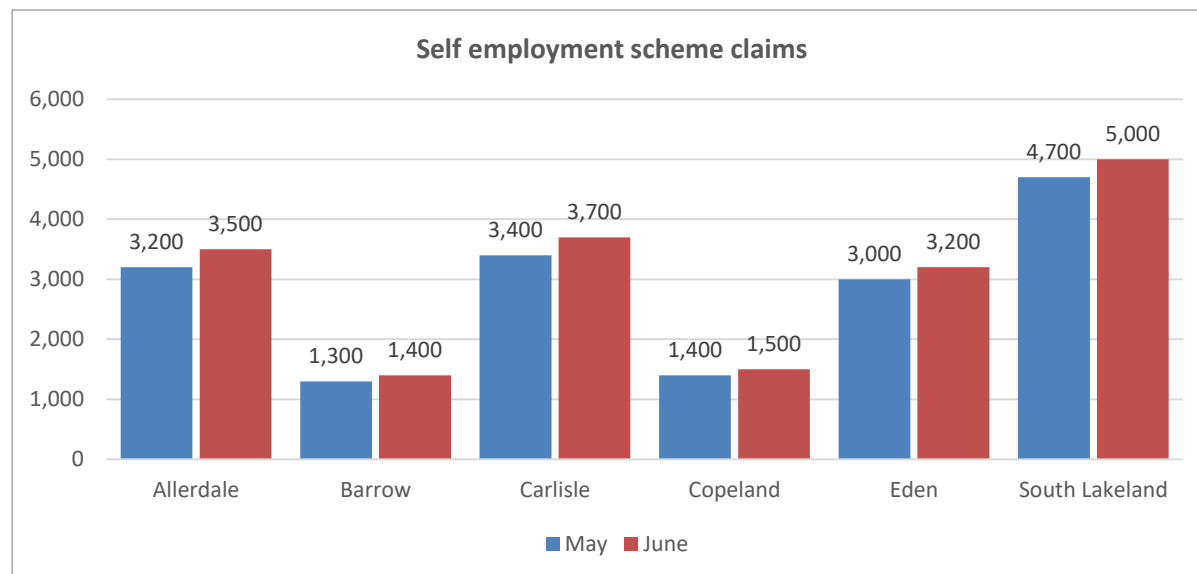
- 3.4 million self-employed individuals were identified as potentially eligible for the SEISS scheme. This means that they met the income and trading activity criteria for the scheme based on Self-Assessment returns from 2018-19 and earlier years. However, some of these businesses will not have continued trading since 2018-19 or will not have been adversely affected by Coronavirus so will not be eligible.
- By 30th June 2.6 million of the potentially eligible population (75%) had claimed a SEISS grant with the value of these claims totalling £7.4 billion. This compares to 2.4 million claims made and £7 billion claimed by 31st May, as published in the statistics in June.
- The average value per claim was £2,900.
- Around two-thirds of the potentially eligible population are male (2.3m)
 - A lower proportion of potentially eligible females have claimed a SEISS grant (70%) compared to males (78%).
 - The average claim for females is also lower at £2,300 compared to the average claim for males of £3,200.
- Around 90% of claimants are aged between 25 and 64 and take-up of the grant in those age groups is at or above 75%. No one age group dominates and claims are evenly spread.
- The sector with the highest number of potentially eligible individuals and the highest proportion of claims is the construction industry. By 30 June, construction workers had made 867,000 claims for SEISS totalling £3.1bn.
- The two regions with the highest number of claims are London (484,000) and the South East (373,000), reflecting their relative sizes.

Key Cumbria findings

The release shows that there were estimated to be 24,800 potentially eligible self-employed people in Cumbria, of whom 18,200 (73%) had made claims by 30th June totalling £50.4m. This is an increase of 1,300 claims since May. The highest volume of claims came from residents in South Lakeland (5,000) which also had the highest take-up rate in Cumbria (75%). The lowest take-up rates were in Copeland (71%) and Eden (72%).

None of the data on sectors, age or gender are available for local areas.

Figure 25: Self-Employment Income Scheme - eligible/claims by district



Source: HMRC

Figure 26: Self-Employment Income Scheme

	Potentially eligible	May-20		Jun-20		Change May-June		
	No	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
UK	3,399,000	2,380,000	70%	2,553,000	75%	173,000	7.3%	5%
Cumbria	24,800	16,900	68%	18,200	73%	1,300	7.7%	5%
Allerdale	4,800	3,200	67%	3,500	73%	300	9.4%	6%
Barrow	1,900	1,300	70%	1,400	74%	100	7.7%	4%
Carlisle	5,100	3,400	68%	3,700	73%	300	8.8%	5%
Copeland	2,100	1,400	67%	1,500	71%	100	7.1%	4%
Eden	4,400	3,000	67%	3,200	72%	200	6.7%	5%
South Lakeland	6,600	4,700	71%	5,000	75%	300	6.4%	4%

Source: HMRC

More information on SEISS data <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/self-employment-income-support-scheme-statistics-july-2020>

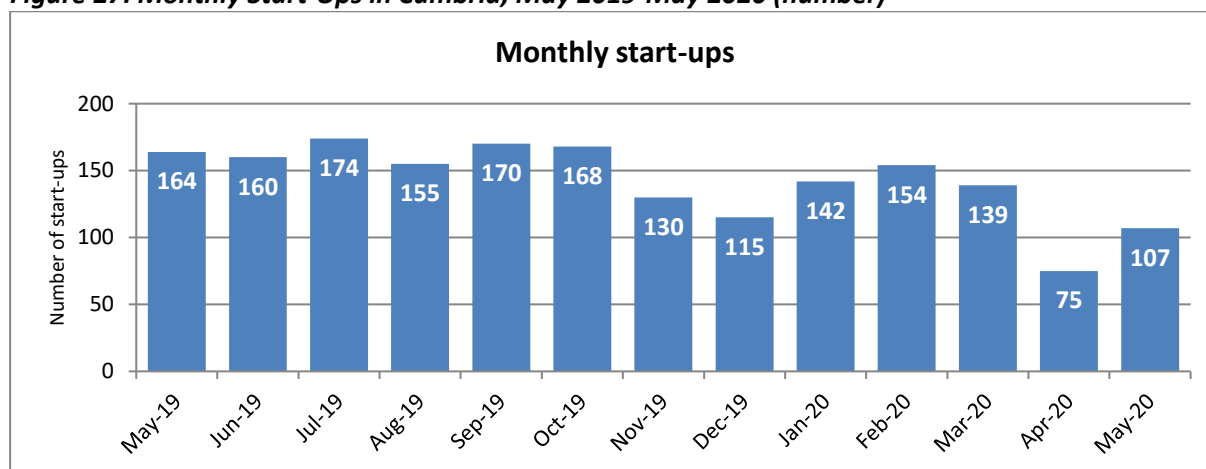
7. BUSINESS START-UPS AND STOCKS

7a. Business start-ups

The following data are from BankSearch, a service 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 107 business start-ups in Cumbria in May 2020, a welcome increase of 32 from April (+43%) but still 57 fewer than the same month last year (-35%). Nationally the number of start-ups also rose by 35% in May.

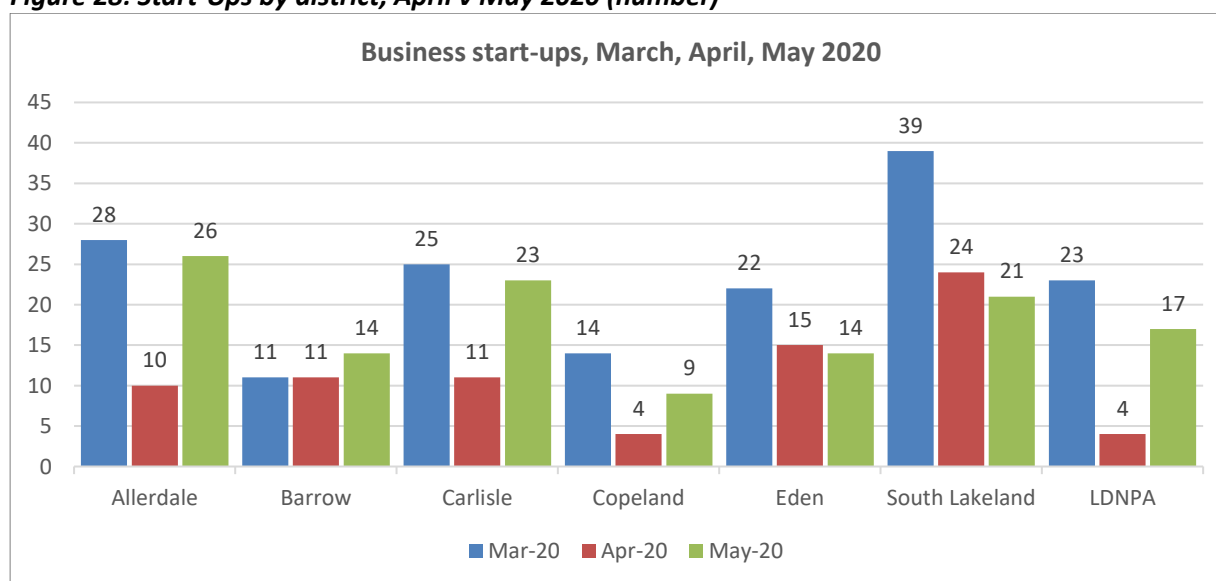
Figure 27: Monthly Start-Ups in Cumbria, May 2019-May 2020 (number)



Source: BankSearch Note 1: LDNPA area is a "best-fit" comprising wards with 50%+ of area within NP. Note 2: LDNPA starts are also counted in the relevant district.

Examining start-ups in March, April and May by district shows that there has been a recovery in some areas but less so in others. Eden and South Lakeland have shown continued decline in start-ups but all other areas, including the Lake District, have shown an increase in May which is encouraging.

Figure 28: Start-Ups by district, April v May 2020 (number)



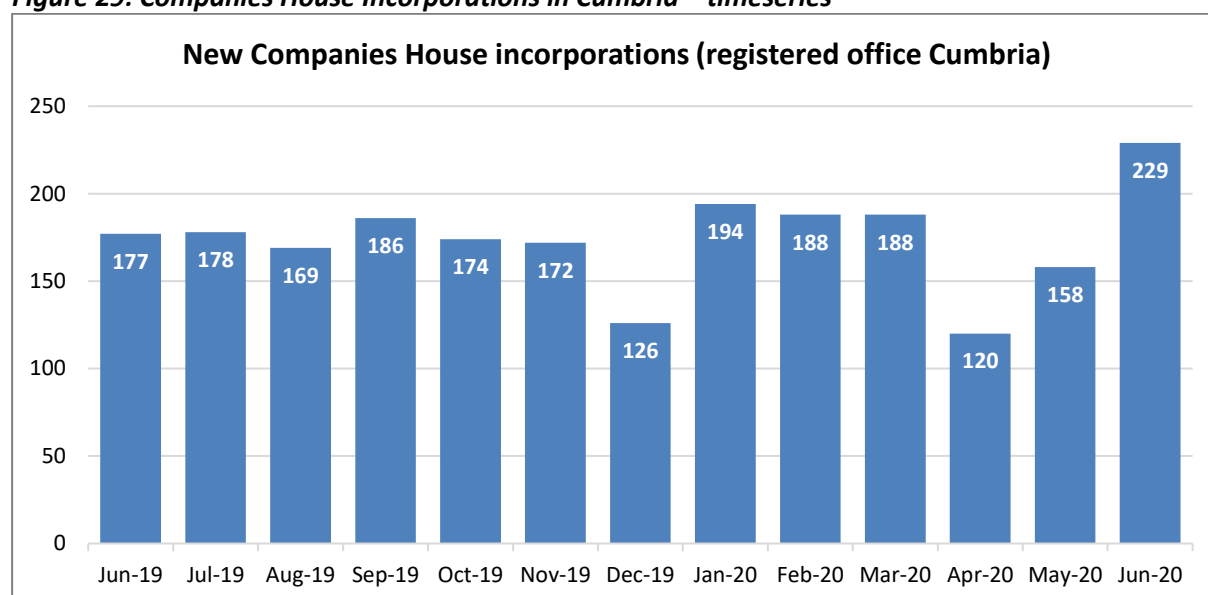
Source: BankSearch

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.

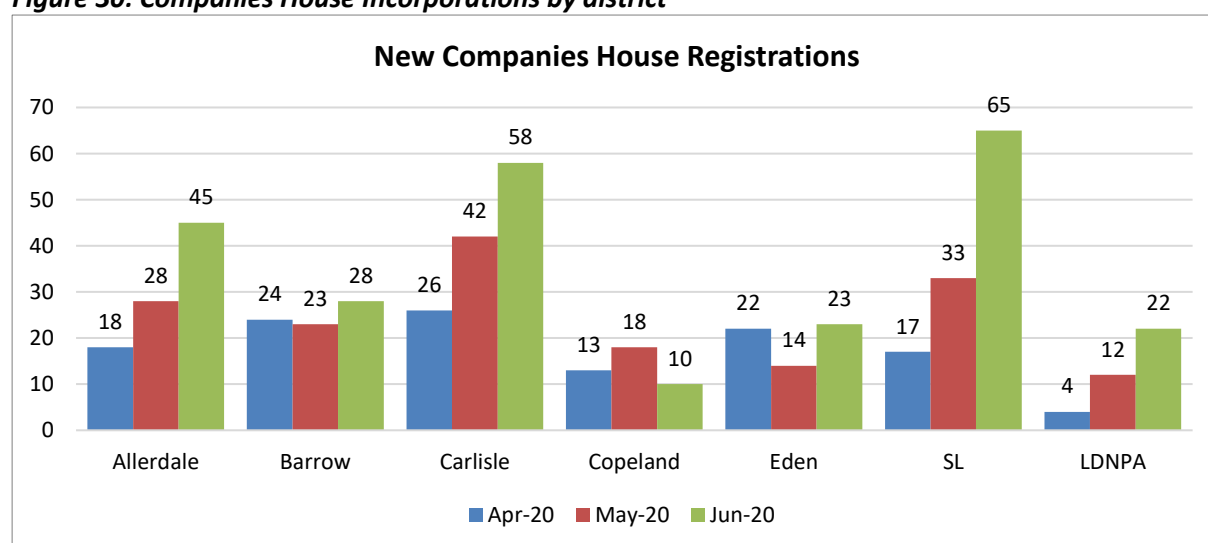
These figures are a month more recent than the start-up data and show that there were 229 new Companies House incorporations in June 2020, a welcome rise of 71 since May and 52 more than the same month last year. However, some of this apparent recovery (and indeed the previous decline) could be due to Companies House not processing registrations at the height of lockdown and so the data should be treated with caution. It was a slightly mixed picture though with 1 fewer registrations in Barrow and 8 fewer in Eden but rises in all other districts.

Figure 29: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria – timeseries



Source: BankSearch, data relate to registered office address.

Figure 30: Companies House Incorporations by district



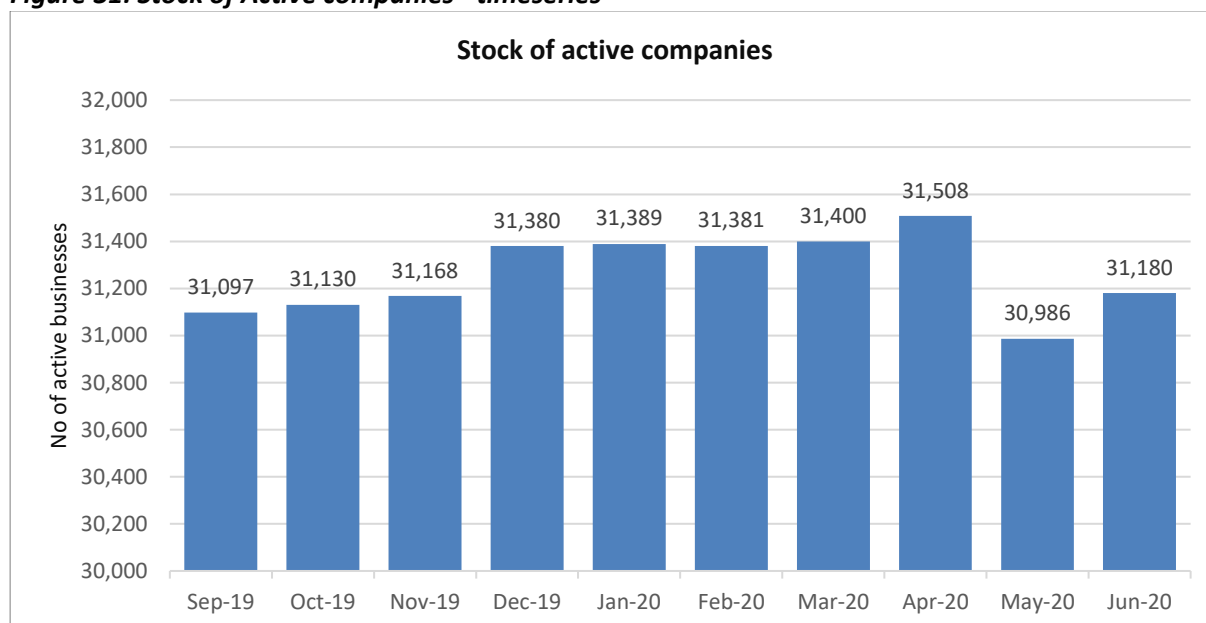
Source: BankSearch Note 1: LDNPA area is a "best-fit" comprising wards with 50%+ of area within NP. Note 2: LDNPA starts are also counted in the relevant district. Note 3: Data relate to registered office address.

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. At the end of June 2020 there were 31,180 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, an increase of 194 (0.6%) from the previous month. The highest number of active companies was in South Lakeland (8,884).

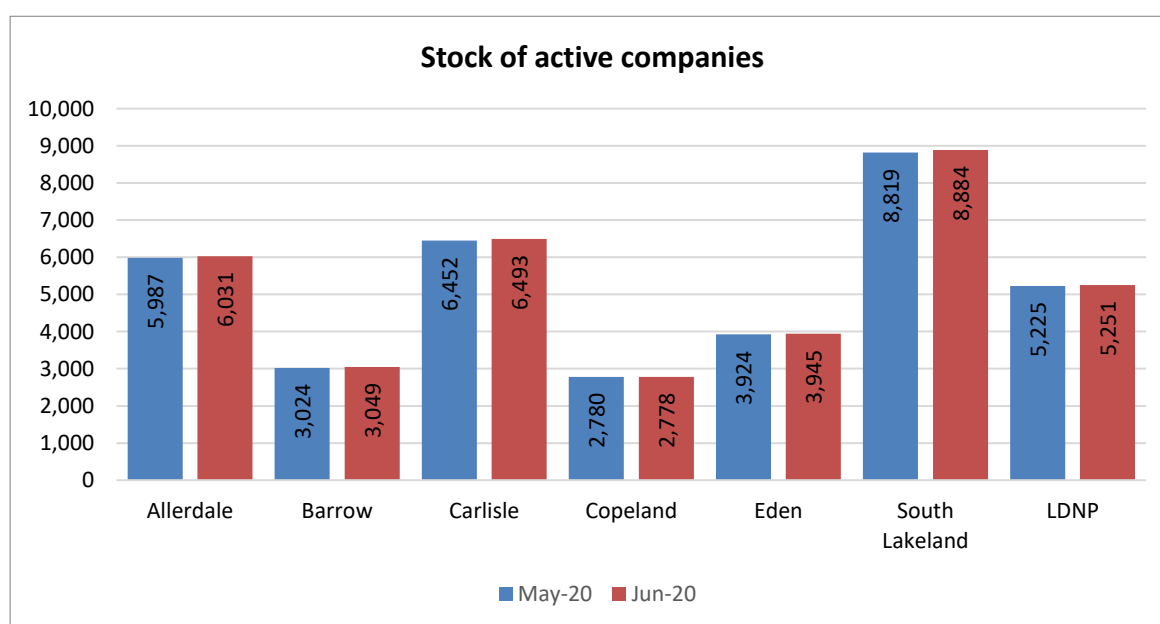
As with the previous Companies House registrations data, it is difficult to know to what extent changes in the active business count are being influenced by the pausing/resumption of activity at Companies House rather than by business activity but we will continue to monitor trends.

Figure 31: Stock of Active companies - timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Figure 32: Stock of Active by district – May v June 2020



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)